

TREELINE

NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH CAROLINA FORESTRY ASSOCIATION



FORESTRY DAY MOVED UP TO MAY 17TH!

FFPAC Raffle Still June 5, 2018

Due to unforeseen scheduling conflicts, the NCFA's Forestry Day in the Legislature has been moved forward in the calendar to May 17, 2018.

The 2018 session gets underway on May 16th so NCFA members will be reaching out to their elected officials right out of the starting blocks of the 2018 session. Forestry Day is a great opportunity to put important issues both at the state and local level before lawmakers that represent our membership.

The Friends of Forestry PAC Reverse Raffle will take place on June 5, 2018 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Raleigh, NC. The event starts at 6:00 p.m. and the first ticket will be drawn at 6:30 p.m. and the last 10 will be drawn by 8:45 p.m.

Room rates are \$129. The cutoff date for room reservations at the reduced rate is May 16th.

The NCFA's Board of Directors will meet on June 6, 2018 at 9:30 a.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn.

If you have any questions about Forestry Day, the Reverse Raffle or the Board Meeting, please contact Chris Brown at (800) 231-7723 ext. 3 or cbrown@ncforestry.org. ■

NCFA EXECUTIVE VP SEARCH UPDATE

After thoughtful consideration, the Executive Vice President Search Committee has elected to enlist the services of Anderson & Associates, a professional executive resourcing firm, to assist in providing a more comprehensive search process.

As a result, the process of filling the Executive Vice President position may be delayed slightly past the original goal of having a new Executive Vice President in place by April 1, 2018. ■

WEYERHAEUSER'S BOB EMORY WINS GOVERNOR'S TOP AWARD

The Weyerhaeuser family and the conservation community gathered at the North Carolina History Center in New Bern in February to thank Bob Emory for his tireless dedication to forestry, the forest products industry, and North Carolina's coasts.

Michael Regan, the Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, provided the highlight of the evening when he honored Emory with the Order of the Long Leaf Pine Award and led the reciting of North Carolina's State Toast on behalf of Governor Roy Cooper.

The award is the most prestigious award conferred by the Governor. It recognizes individuals who have performed exemplary service to the State of North Carolina and their communities that is above and beyond the call of duty.

Bob Emory is certainly one of those individuals.

Several speakers took advantage of an open microphone opportunity to provide their perspective on Emory and thank him for impacting their life and/or organization. The range of professionals was impressive.

When a career forester attracts leaders of land trusts, conservation commissions, the governor's office, and national forestry organizations, you know the individual was visionary in his approach to his field. A common thread among the compliments forwarded was Emory's calm, thoughtful approach to the issues before him. Emory was applauded for always putting the goal of long-term sustainability and health of the forest and its surrounding natural resources above any other interests. This paved the way for compromises that successfully promoted conservation of the forest resource that satisfied the majority of stakeholders.

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(l-r) Bob Emory and Michael Regan pose for a photo after Emory was awarded the Order of the Long Leaf Pine.

FOREST MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE DISCUSSES WHITE PINE BLISTER RUST

The NCFA's Forest Management Committee met in Raleigh in February for its first quarter meeting. The top agenda item for the committee was to learn more about White Pine Blister Rust and the existing ban on the planting of currants and gooseberries (*Ribes* species).

As part of a legislative mandate to all state agencies to review their existing rules, regulations and guidance documents, the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (NCDA&CS) Plant Industry Division reached out to the NCFA to gauge the membership's opinion on this ban and possible impacts if the ban was lifted.

The ban is set to be reviewed in July as part of the process. NCFA staff assigned the review to the members of its Forest Management Committee, chaired by Tony Doster with Resource Management Services.

White Pine Blister Rust is an important disease of Eastern White Pines (*Pinus Strobus*) caused by a non-native fungus known as *Cronartium ribicola*, which requires both white pines and currants to be present in order to complete its life cycle. The rust first

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NORTH CAROLINA FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

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Tom Inman	Allen Whitesell
Lynn Jenkins	Lori Worley
James Jeuck	

SUBMIT NEWS TO THE NCFA

Events, news items, press releases, job opportunities should be sent to Chris Brown at cbrown@ncforestry.org or by calling (800) 231-7723 ext. 3.

A private, non-profit organization, the NCFA promotes healthy, productive forests by supporting the efforts of landowners, the forest products industry, and related groups that responsibly manage and/or use forests. ■

POLITICAL NEWS & REGULATORY ISSUES

NCFA REPORTS TO JOINT LEGISLATIVE ENERGY POLICY COMMISSION

The NCFA participated in a report to the Joint Legislative Energy Policy Commission in February at the North Carolina General Assembly. The NCFA combined efforts with the North Carolina Forest Service and the North Carolina Department of Agriculture for one of the four presentations heard by the commission.

The Energy Policy Commission, led by co-chairs Representative John Szoka and Senator Paul Newton, invited the NCFA to present information pertaining to the forest products industry, namely markets, and any industry initiatives that related to domestic energy production.

Clay Altizer, a PH.D. Utilization Forester with the North Carolina Forest Service, was asked to report on industrial pellet production generated in North Carolina for the global marketplace. Robert Hosford with the North Carolina Department of Agriculture updated the commission on the Port of Wilmington and the exporting of pellets. The duo did an excellent job of demonstrating that the emerging market of industrial pellets is just four percent of the forest products footprint in North Carolina. Sawtimber and pulpwood are still the top market shares overall.

NCFA's Senior Director of Communications Chris Brown and NCFA President-Elect/Treasurer Perry Hunt provided an overview of the forest products industry, stressing to the commission that a strong forest products markets produces healthy and productive forests.

Brown highlighted the role North Carolina forest products industry has played throughout the state's history in providing the global economy with products from the forests, noting that North Carolina led the production of naval stores during colonial times. He also noted that North Carolina's forests are overwhelmingly privately owned - about 85% of the forests. Markets provide the incentives for these forestland owners who invest private funds into an endeavor that has many public benefits. He also provided some an overview on the forest resource in the state and the forest products industry marketplace.

Perry Hunt of Hunt Forest Resources, LLC, then stepped up and detailed his personal experiences working with forest landowners to realize their economic returns on their forestland investments with examples. He also explained how one of his company's ventures, East Coast Firewood, LLC, provides a niche market for forestland owners for materials that would be left on the landscape in most cases.

Brown concluded the presentation by highlighting a few areas where the General Assembly could make a positive difference for forestry. Those areas included Transportation (weight tolerance), Present Use Value Tax, Forest Development Fund, Responsible Public Policy, and Military Partnerships as pertains to conservation easements.

The commission maintains a website and all of the presentations made that day are online. The NCFA appreciated the opportunity to participate in the information session and will continue to keep our elected officials up-to-date on forestry and the forest products industry throughout the year.

A special thanks to Perry Hunt for taking time away from his business commitments to travel down to the General Assembly and share his knowledge and experiences with our elected officials. It is important that our lawmakers hear from the people directly involved in our industry. Thanks Perry! ■

MAPS MATTER - HAVE WE SAID THAT BEFORE?

The battle over voting maps continues in North Carolina as decisions have been made in lower courts and then bumped by the United States Supreme Court. Yes, it is confusing when the debate continues on both the Congressional maps for North Carolina (13 Representative seats) and the State maps (170 districts (50 State Senate seats, 120 State Representative seats).

The issue remains on who drew the maps and is there a biased designed into the districts. In both cases, the maps were drawn by a Republican majority-led General Assembly that was established in the 2010 elections. Also in both instances, the maps were challenged in court by Democrats with nearly the same results.

In the Congressional map debate, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled two weeks ago in favor of a Republican request to put a hold on a lower court decision to redraw the (continued on page 3)



Hands on Wildlife Segment! The NCFA's Amy Juliana took forestry education on the road with stops in Scurlock Elementary School and Harnett Primary School in February. Juliana reached over 250 students with these stops. Thanks again to the NC SFI Implementation Committee for sponsoring the creation of a wildlife station!

REMINDER TO SMALL FACILITIES ABOUT AIR PERMIT EXEMPTIONS

The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) would like to remind owner/operators of small facilities across the state that they might now qualify for a permit exemption for air quality requirements. If you have a small facility, you may be eligible to request a Permit Exemption under 15A NCAC 02Q .0102 or to request Registration for your facility under 15A NCAC 02D .0202. If you have questions or want to find out if your company is on this eligibility list, please contact Chris Brown at the NCFA at (800) 231-7723 ext. 3. ■

Maps Matter...(from page 2)

Congressional maps as they are currently constructed. This means that the districts that were in place for last election (2016) will be in place for this election (2018) until the court has time to properly review decision made by the lower court.

In the North Carolina State maps debate, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in late February that all but 11 of the 170 legislative districts will stand for the 2018 election. The 11 districts only impact six of the state's 100 counties and will most likely not impact the overall majority the Republicans now enjoy in the State House of Representatives and State Senate. The Republicans have a 35-to-15 advantage in the State Senate and a 75-to-45 edge in the State House of Representatives.

John Davis, a political analyst who has presented to the NCFA membership on numerous occasions, stated this about the current situation.

"I have used a simple formula to forecast likely legislative majorities in North Carolina for many election cycles: Maps + Money = Majority. This week's ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court, allowing all but 11 of 170 GOP-drawn maps to stand for the 2018 legislative races, along with the likelihood that GOP candidates will have all the money they need to run effective campaigns, means Republican majorities are likely during the 2019-2020 session of the North Carolina General Assembly." - *an excerpt from the John David Political Report, 2.9.18.*

The current legislative maps were drawn after the 2010 election and while some revisions have taken place, the next major redrawing of legislative districts in North Carolina is scheduled for 2020. So once again, if the historical tradition of the majority party having the majority say in the map drawing continues, whoever is in control in 2020 will impact future elections. ■

CLA CELEBRATES YEAR OF GROWTH IN WILMINGTON

The Carolina Loggers Association (CLA) celebrated a successful 2017 as over 200 forestry professionals traveled to the Hilton Riverside in Wilmington in February for the association's annual meeting.

Unseasonably warm weather greeted the group for a Friday night reception out on the terrace overlooking the U.S.S. Battleship North Carolina that is docked across the waterway. Saturday morning's brief business meeting included a brief report on how the association has increased membership over the past year and remains in positive financial health.

Major Freddy Johnson of the North Carolina Highway Patrol Division of Motor Carriers and his staff Sergeants Kendall Jackson and Ken Snead led off the morning speaking portion with a review of weights and procedures in the logging truck world. Major Johnson has been a tremendous asset to the forest products industry community since he was appointed to his new position in the Spring of 2017. He has attended several meetings of the NCFA's Safety, Logging and Transportation Committee in addition to other forestry events.



Major Freddie Johnson

Major Johnson message is simple.

There are a lot of accidents on our roadways involving trucks and there is no way his staff can stop them all through simple enforcement. It has to be a team effort. He continues to applaud the efforts underway at the NCFA, CLA and the Team Safe Trucking group.

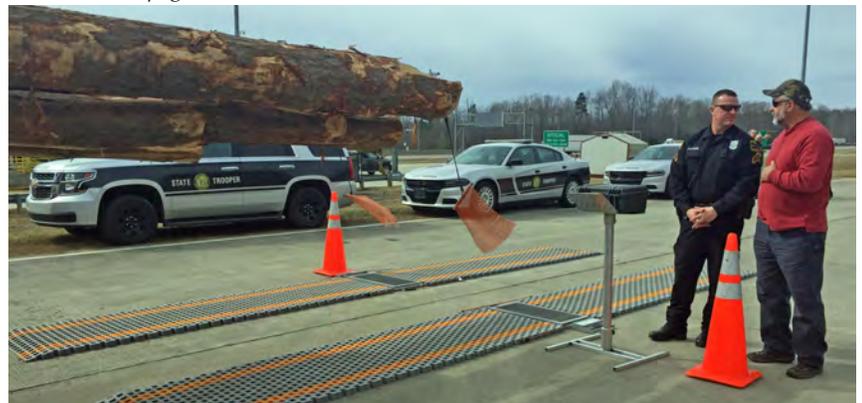
Statistically, since 2015, there have been 26,000 crashes on North Carolina's highways. A total of 691 of those involved a log truck, and 25 of those accidents have involved a fatality. Major Johnson freely admits that log truck drivers are not always responsible for the crash.

Frequently distracted or uninformed drivers make decisions that put a log truck in their path, but log truck drivers have to be aware that this is their reality. North Carolina currently ranks seventh overall in fatal crashes on its highways. This is a North Carolina Top-10 that no one should be pleased with. In terms of ticketed log truck violations, the top offenses is focused in four areas 1) size and weight, 2) functioning lighting, 3) worn out tires, 4) brakes out of compliance.

As proof of the Highway Patrol's commitment to a stronger partnership, the Patrol held a demonstration on the new weigh in motion (WIM) scales that have been deployed recently throughout the state in the middle of February to further investigate claims of higher than normal discrepancies in weight recordings by the Patrol.

The advantage of this new WIM system allows more trucks to roll through a weight stop than the smaller portable PAT scales that go under each axel.

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(l-r) Sergeant Kendall Jackson and NCF member Bruce Evans observe the WIM scales in action during a demonstration in Hillsborough in February.



PROLOGGER MODULE 18 CLASS SCHEDULE

Module 18 classes have started for the 2017-18 year. If you are going to host a Module 18 class, please send the information and a flyer (if available) to cbrown@ncforestry.org so we can update our online schedule at www.ncforestry.org and our e-mail newsletter, ZipLine, in a timely fashion. Thanks again to all of our member companies that host these continuing education sessions.

3/12 Monday	.....Lampe & Malphrus	.....4:30 p.m.	.....Smithfield, NC
3/22 Thursday	.....Lucky Clay Farm	.....5:00 p.m.	.....Norwood, NC
3/23 Friday	.....Halifax CC	.....1:00 p.m.	.....Weldon, NC
4/10 Tuesday	.....Domtar Plymouth	.....6:00 p.m.	.....Plymouth, NC
4/12 Thursday	.....Weyerhaeuser Training Center	.....5:30 p.m.	.....New Bern, NC
4/13 Friday	.....McDowell Tech	.....8:00 a.m.	.....Marion, NC
4/13 Friday	.....Chatham County Ag	.....1:00 p.m.	.....Pittsboro, NC
4/19 Thursday	.....Forsyth Ag Center	.....6:00 p.m.	.....Winston-Salem, NC
4/20 Friday	.....Edwards Wood Products	.....12:00 p.m.	.....Liberty, NC
5/16 Wednesday	.....College of Albemarle	.....6:00 p.m.	.....Elizabeth City, NC
5/18 Friday	.....Domtar Marlboro Mill	.....12:00 P.M.	.....Bennettsville, SC
Pre-register with Matt Krawiec (843) 454-8969			
6/26 Tuesday	.....Roaring River VFD	.....5:30 p.m.	.....Roaring River, NC



The NCFA will be hosting three offerings of the ProLogger Base Course in 2018. The base course is a two-day program that is mandatory for all professional loggers who would like to earn ProLogger status. If you are interested in becoming a ProLogger, you must complete this course and then maintain in good standing by taking a continuing education component, namely training modules. Please contact Chris Brown (800)

231-7723 ext. 3 or at cbrown@ncforestry.org if you would like to register for the next class.

Date	Community College	Location
March 21-22, 2018	.....Wayne CC	.....Goldsboro, NC
May 30-31, 2018	.....Montgomery CC	.....Troy, NC
September 11-12, 2018	.....McDowell Tech CC	.....Marion, NC

TST MEETS IN MYRTLE BEACH

Team Safe Trucking (TST) met in Myrtle Beach in February to provide an update on the program and some of the additional projects on the horizon. There were several excellent presentations on the importance of a logging company doing its due diligence during the hiring process to ensure the driver(s) they select are quality employees. Just putting someone behind the wheel is a terrific gamble that could have dire consequences.

"My hat is off to the 50+ attendees who demonstrated their desire to work together to improve safety and profitability within the forest industry's products transportation segment by attending this latest meeting," stated Forestry Mutual's Jimmie Locklear.

The meeting also highlighted the new Team Safe Trucking safety module, TST Owner/Driver, that is now available online. Module 1 provides some basic information on the FMCSA rules and regulations that apply to log truck drivers and log truck driver managers. To access this module, please go online at www.teamsafetrucking.com and click the option for online training. You will need to create a free access account.

Other modules in the pipeline include Module 2 - Behind the Wheel - In-woods and on-the-road driving safety, Module 3 - Problems on the Road & Mill Safety - on-the-road and mill driving safety.

If you have any questions about Team Safe Trucking or would like to be more involved in the program, please contact Jimmie Locklear, Business Development Manager with Forestry Mutual Insurance Company at (910) 733-3300. ■

CLA Meeting...(from page 3)

The demonstration included representatives from the NCFA, CLA and several members of both organizations. The A-Ha moment of the exercise came when the troopers realized that suspension systems that are common on log truck trailers can wear out if they are not properly maintained and cause an improper weight reading if the suspension system locks in a position too much to the left or right.

Going forward, if the Patrol measures a log truck on the WIM system and the truck is overweight, the trooper will employ his smaller portable PAT scales to reweigh the truck.

The discussion moved then to the small portable PAT scales. There is the long standing dilemma of which scale is more accurate - the logger's scale in the woods, the Patrol's PAT scales, or the mill's in-ground platform scale?

The truly frustrating scenario is when a truck is below 88,000 pounds in woods, over 90,000 pounds on the Highway Patrol's PAT scales, and then under 88,000 pounds on the mill's scales.

At this point, we still do not have a great way of reconciling this discrepancy in a timely and productive manner. It is estimated that less than five percent of all appeals on weight ticket disputes are granted in a given year.

Sergeant Jackson explained that the Patrol's current weigh procedure actually encourages a lighter measurement figure since the troopers will round down on all measurements and then provide an additional percentage off the total weight.

As the lead officer on the weights section, Sergeant Jackson spends considerable amount of time training officers on how to maintain the accuracy of their portable PAT scales. Consequently, he is confident in the scales accuracy.

"It is never our intention to over-weigh a truck," stated Sergeant Jackson, "and I can assure you that our PAT scales are always accurate."

As anyone involved in the forest products industry would expect, there was some reluctance in the audience to accept the assessment of the PAT scales.

ProLogger Bobby Goodson pointed out that he has owned and operated in-woods scales for years. He has noticed during this time that whenever he moves his scales, he has to take the time re-calibrate him. Goodson questioned how the PAT scales could stay accurate when they are pulled in and out of troopers vehicles continuously.

"I am a firm believer that the scales in the ground at any mill are more accurate than portable scales," stated Bobby Goodson during the somewhat lively discussion.

Sergeant Jackson assured Goodson and the audience that the North Carolina Highway Patrol is committed to be accurate and spends considerably more time than other states on weighing accuracy.

"We have the history to prove what we do in terms of service to our equipment," stated

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WILSON COUNTY FOREST LANDOWNERS RECEIVE UPDATES

The Wilson County Forest Landowners Association met in February to hear updates on forestry issues from the NCFA, the NCFs and North Carolina State University Extension Forestry. Over 45 people were in attendance.

The NCFA's Senior Director of Communications Chris Brown led off the speaking portion of the program by providing an overview of the top issues facing forest landowners and the forest products industry.

The North Carolina Forest Service's Dillan Howard updated the audience on the NCFs activities in the county. The county totaled 36 harvest operations in 2017 with 24 of those being final harvests, totaling over 640 acres. NCFs staff wrote over 60 forest management plans for landowners.

The dynamic professor duo of Rajan Parajuli and Mark Megalos provided a view of timber markets and how they can impact forest management decisions.

Special thanks to NCFA members Dwight Batts and C.D. Barrett for inviting the NCFA to their annual meeting. ■



(l-r) Dillan Howard, Jonathan Murray, and Brandon Webb provided an update on NCFs activities in the Wilson County area at the Wilson County Forest Landowners Organization. Webb is the Wilson County Rangers and Howard is an Assistant County Ranger. Murray is the District 5 Assistant District Forester.

CLA Meeting...(from page 4)

Sergeant Jackson. "We do more than any other state in the country. We are not out here to over weigh."

Dr. Scott Barrett, a professor with Virginia Tech, provided an overview of a study that he is overseeing on the statistics involving log truck accidents. This information is critical to assessing what types of training could be developed to address the top problem areas. Dr. Barrett is using data from Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) and the Motor Carrier Management information System (MCMIS).

Dr. Shawn Baker of Forisk Consulting, Dr. Joseph Conrad of the University of Georgia, and Justin Rose of Beaufort Community College addressed the audience with informative information on the forest products industry. Baker provided an overview on how competitive forest products is when it comes to truck driver wages and benefits with an emphasis on North Carolina. Conrad detailed a recent survey he conducted with Georgia loggers and what is adversely impacting their operations. Trucking and production quotas were one and two. Rose highlighted the ongoing professional truck driving program at Beaufort Community College. The program has run two years now, graduating 38 drivers and 18 with a focus on log truck driving.

The meeting concluded that evening with various awards and a live auction that will be featured in next month's TreeLine. ■



ROLLOVER ACCIDENTS ARE PREVENTABLE

Each year, truck drivers are killed or severely injured due to rollovers. Most, if not all, rollovers are preventable. In a small number of cases, rollovers occur due to the actions of other vehicles on the road. The majority of rollovers are the result of driver error.

Rollovers occur when a vehicle is operated at conditions (*most often excessive speed*) that make a vehicle lose its stability. Unlike over the road box trailers, log trailers have a higher center of gravity than a normal truck load. It takes just 0.4 gravitational force (GF) or less to cause a rollover in a log truck. Compare this to a car that must exceed 1.3 GF, a pickup truck that needs to exceed 1.1 GF or 0.8 GF for a sport utility vehicle (SUV) to rollover. The point is that it is extremely easy to exceed the gravitational force on a log truck. These are the areas where rollovers occur:

- Excessive speed for road conditions
- Drifting off the pavement onto a soft shoulder
- Making a tight corner
- Striking a curb
- Running into a ditch
- Entering or exiting onto a ramp at excessive speeds
- Going around a curve too fast
- Speed is the number one cause of rollovers
- Speed is the number one cause of rollovers



Billy Albertson of Holmes Logging

Speed is the number one reason for rollovers. The definition of excessive speed is any speed too fast for the road and weather conditions. A recent survey reported that in a five year period, close to 75% of log truck accidents across the country occurred on clear weather days. Add rain, ice, sleet or snow to the equation, and traveling the safe and correct speed gets trickier. **PLEASE SLOW DOWN** and adjust to weather and road conditions.

It's important to note that the weight of the load on a trailer can shift when a driver drifts off the pavement onto a soft shoulder. Sometimes the driver over reacts and jerks the steering wheel back to overcorrect, resulting in a rollover. So what can you do?

- 1) Load a trailer properly:
 - Heavy logs on the bottom
 - Loader operator should distribute the weight evenly throughout the bunks
 - Make sure tie downs/binders/straps are tight before leaving the deck
 - Check tie downs/binders/straps along the route as they will loosen
- 2) Drive Smart:
 - Slow down when entering or exiting onto highways
 - Use caution when turning or changing lanes
 - Follow speed limit signs going into curves and adjust your speed to the weather conditions
 - Keep the tires on the pavement
 - Do not let cell phones or CB radios distract you
 - Give yourself extra time so as not to feel rushed
 - Keep following distances so you have time to react to traffic changes

If you have any questions about this article or truck safety in general, please call Forestry Mutual Insurance Company at (800) 849-7788. ■

LANDOWNERS

TREE FARM BOARD MEETS IN HIGH POINT



The North Carolina Tree Farm Program's Board of Directors met in High Point in February. The North Carolina Tree Farm Program now has over 1,100 Certified Tree Farmers across the state.

Please check out what is going on with the program at www.nctreefarm.org.

NC TREE FARM INSPECTOR TRAINING

The North Carolina Tree Farm Program is offering two Inspector Training Workshops for forestry professionals who are interested in volunteering with the program. CFE credits will be provided. You must preregister.

March 27 - Cumberland County Extension Office - Register by 3/20

301 East Mountain Drive, Fayetteville, NC 28306
10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided.

April 10 - East Carolina Agriculture and Ed Center - Register by 4/3

1175 Kingsboro Road, Rocky Mount, NC 27801
10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided.

If you have questions, please contact Leslie McCormick with the N.C. Tree Farm Program at (919) 917-8646 or nctreefarm@gmail.com. ■

SOUTHERN PINE BEETLE UPDATE

According to Rob Trickel with the North Carolina Forest Service, if you believe southern pine beetle is a pest of the past, you are in for a big surprise. Recent mapping of the southeast shows the majority of outbreaks are on federal lands that are not actively managed for a variety of reasons, including lack of funding. On the Homochita, Beinville, Tombigbee, Taladega Oakmulgee RD, and Oconee National Forests combined, there are 5,799 SPB spots totaling 12,027 acres.

Over most of south, management practices including wider space planting, thinning (precommercial, noncommercial, commercial), and understory burning can take much of the credit for minimal beetle activity.

In North Carolina, District 9 picked up 54 spots totaling 222 acres during aerial surveys in an aerial survey last year. Some of these were on private lands, but many were on federal lands.

Southern Pine Beetle Prevention Program cost-share funds are still available for landowner assistance to complete pre-commercial thinning on their properties. At the last check, there are over \$260,000 available to fund new projects.

If you want to learn more about southern pine beetle, there is a very informative archived webinar you can watch online by clicking here. It takes less than an hour to watch and is rated 4.5 stars out of 5 by those who have watched it.

If you have any questions, please contact Rob Trickel, NCFs Forest Health Branch Head, at (919) 857-4858 or rob.trickel@ncagr.gov. ■

Forest Management Committee...(from page 1)

appeared in the United States around 1905. Historically, the decision was made to sacrifice currants in favor of White Pines, with the hope of breaking the disease cycle and preventing further spread of rust.

Leah Roberts of the NCDA&CS provided an excellent summary of the issue for the committee, providing a historical perspective as well as the current situation and enforcement procedures.

It became clear early on that lifting the ban was not something the committee was comfortable with.

Several points were discussed during the committee's consideration, including the economic impact that White Pines play in western North Carolina for both landowners and sawmills that rely on a healthy supply of the species. Members also pointed to the ecological impact White Pines are currently playing on the landscape by filling the whole left by a dwindling Hemlock population.

It was also noted that a tremendous expense of capital and labor had been expended in the 1930's to limit the range of the Ribes species. If the ban was lifted and the Ribes returned, it would virtually be impossible to replicate the efforts done by Depression Era work crews of the 1930's.

After a hearty discussion, the committee voted unanimously for keeping the current ban in place and will make a formal recommendation to the NCFa Board of Directors to submit comments that highlight the importance of the White Pine species to the forest products industry in North Carolina and the NCFa supports maintaining the current regulations.

In other business, Tom Gerow of the North Carolina Forest Service presented an update on a newly released Water Quality Interpretive Guidance Letter that is designed to provide direction for NCFs staff as well as landowners, foresters and ProLoggers.

Last year, the Forest Management Committee raised points about how of ditch obstructions were evaluated by NCFs field staff.

Gerow noted that much of the guidance is a simple matter of putting down in print what has been practiced in the field. By putting into a document, the NCFs is hoping to remove the most commonly encountered gray areas that may have been out there among field staff, the forest products industry and landowners.

Committee Chair Tony Doster complimented Gerow for his efforts on the guidance letter.

"Tom, you did an awesome job on this project," stated Doster. "We really appreciate the work you put into this issue that first came up in this committee and you have provided a solution. That is what this committee is all about. We applaud the Forest Service's good judgement."

The committee also heard updates on forest health from Rob Trickel of the NCFs and on the Present Use Tax program from Mark Megalos of North Carolina State University Forestry Extension. ■

NC ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION SET FOR MARCH 17, 2018

The North Carolina Arbor Day Celebration 2018 will take place on Saturday, March 17, 2018 at the State Farmers Market in Raleigh, NC. The event is hosted by North Carolina State University, Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources. The event from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and is free. There will be exhibits, demonstrations, and hands-on activities! ■

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY HONORS BRITTON WITH TOP AWARD

The Northampton County Forestry Association, which dates back to 1971, held its Annual Meeting in Jackson in February. Under the expert direction of NCFSA County Ranger Rodney Black and his top-notch staff, the meeting attracted 21 different forest products industries and over 175 people. The highlight of the meeting is the presentation of the Landowner of the Year Award. In an area that is rich in forestry tradition and pride, it is always a challenge for Black to select a winner out of a group of over achieving forest landowners.

This year's winner was W.J. Britton. Since 2003, Britton has completed forest harvest on 10 different tracts, covering over 250 acres. He has replanted each acre with genetically improved seedlings to ensure better returns on future harvests. Britton has 12 forestry management plans written by the NCFSA for his properties.

Black updated the crowd on the forestry achievements for Northampton County in 2017. The county, which totals 224,000 forested acres, planted 1,800 acres on 32 different tracts. He and his crew did site prep on 500 acres over seven tracts and wrote 62 management plans. Black also noted that he conducted 35 active logging operations and only found one non-compliance issue.

"The loggers are doing a great job out there for our landowners," stated Black. "We appreciate that."

The featured speakers for the evening were Dr. Bob Bardon and Dr. Rajan Parjuli of North Carolina State University Forestry Extension. Parjuli provided an overview on how supply and demand can impact not only the price for stumpage, but also how prices can impact forest inventories. Coming out of a recent economic slump, Parjuli noted that the standing mature timber has not only created a healthy supply of saw timber available, but it also has reduced the amount of new plantings since the acreage is occupied. Bardon outlined the proper steps in order for forest landowners to achieve their forest management goals and best profits in a timber sale. ■

2018 SFTE REGISTRATION IS OPEN

The NCFSA and its partners will once again be delivering the Sustainable Forestry Teachers Experience (SFTE) in 2018.

The SFTE is a multi-day residential program designed to educate participants about the field of forestry and the forest products industry through a series of presentations and tours.

The dates and locations are: June 18-21, 2018 - Piedmont Experience, Southern Pines, NC; June 25-28, 2018 - Coastal Plains Experience, New Bern, NC; July 23-26, 2018 - Mountain Experience, Asheville, NC (FULL)

Space is limited to 40 participants per workshop and preference will be given to science educators and individuals who have not participated in an experience in previous years.

For more details on our voucher program, please contact the NCFSA's Education Programs Manager Amy Juliana at (800) 231-7723 ext. 2 or ajuliana@ncforestry.org. ■



(l-r) Northampton County Forestry Association President Dr. Robert Outland presented W.J. Britton with the 2018 Landowner of the Year Award alongside of County Ranger Rodney Black.

Weyerhaeuser's Bob Emory... (from page 1)

A Virginia Tech graduate, Emory started his career like any other forester, managing and procuring timber. Through his work with Weyerhaeuser, Emory became involved with issues impacting forestry operations in coastal regions early in his career.

Namely, the Parker Tract.

In the early 1990's, the Southern Environmental Law Center attempted to make the case that Weyerhaeuser was turning a wetland forest stand known as the Parker Tract within the Green Swamp into an upland by converting it to a pine plantation. The Parker Tract had been purchased by Weyerhaeuser in the late 1960's. Some environmentalist also argued that mechanical site preparation was not normal silviculture.

Through a coalition of Weyerhaeuser, other forestry related businesses, and associations including the NCFSA and AF&PA, the Parker Tract dispute led to the development of a site preparation guidance document that resolved the dispute and has helped maintain a degree of peace on forestry operations being practiced in this manner ever since.

Emory's experience with the Parker Tract essentially led him to his role as the Southern Timberlands Environmental Affairs Manager at Weyerhaeuser. Emory was responsible for managing legal compliance, forest certification and regulatory issues including the Endangered Species Act and the Clean Water Act for Weyerhaeuser's land holdings.

In addition to his position with Weyerhaeuser, Emory enjoyed his time of service on the Board of Directors for the North Carolina Coastal Land Trust. He also spent more than 20 years serving on the North Carolina Coastal Resources Commission, including seven years as the commission's chair. The commission establishes policies for the North Carolina Coastal Management Program and designates areas of environmental concern, adopts rules and policies for coastal development within those areas, and certifies local land use plans.

Emory also served on the NCFSA's Forest Management Committee, Board of Directors and Executive Committee during his career. Emory is one of the NCFSA's resident experts with impeccable credentials. His knowledge and expertise is one of the association's key assets.

And while there were plenty of people outside the Weyerhaeuser circle there to celebrate with Bob, the Weyerhaeuser family was out in full force. Emory noted that different people in the crowd during this retirement party represented different time periods within his Weyerhaeuser career. He called out nearly each one - thanking them.

"I always was called the Weyerhaeuser's guy," stated Emory when he addressed the group gathered. "When I would walk into meeting or conference, I would hear people whisper to one another, that's the Weyerhaeuser guy. I liked that. I was always proud to be a Weyerhaeuser employee. We had a great team and that's probably why I stayed around as long as I did. I enjoyed being a part of the Weyerhaeuser team. Thank You." ■



(l-r) Braxton Davis, Director of the North Carolina Division of Coastal Management (DCM), Tancred Miller, DCM Assistant Director, Merrie Jo Alcoke, Director of Governors Eastern Regional Office, Bob Emory, and Mike Lopazanski, DCM Assistant Director posed for a photo at the ceremony.

TREE LINE

MARCH 2018



Bob and Lindy Emory pose for a photo after Bob was presented with the Order of the Long Leaf Pine during a retirement ceremony in New Bern.

April 25, 2018 Log A Load Golf Tournament, Watford Golf Club, Rock Hill, SC Click here for flyer
 August 3-4, 2018 Colony Tire Sporting Clays Miracle Shoot at Rose Hill Farm, Nashville, NC
 October 18, 2018 Log A Load Golf Tournament, River Landing Golf Course, Wallace, NC
 If you have an event you would like to share, please forward to Chris Brown at cbrown@ncforestry.org

LOG A LOAD EVENTS

MAY
 5/3-6 APPALACHIAN LUMBERMAN'S MEETING, MYRTLE BEACH, SC
 5/4 SLTC MEETING, CABELAS, GARNER, NC - 9:30 A.M.
 5/8 PRIMARY ELECTION DAY
 5/8-9 FMIC BOARD MEETING, JECKYLL ISLAND, GA
 5/16 NC GENERAL ASSEMBLY OPENS 2018 SESSION
 5/16 NCFE FORESTRY DAY, RALEIGH, NC - 9:30 A.M.
 5/17 FRA APP REGION MEETING, RICHMOND, VA
 5/24-25 NC AG EXPORT EXPO, GREENSBORO, NC
 5/30-31 PROLOGGER BASE COURSE, MONTGOMERY, CC - TROY, NC

APRIL
 4/16-18 FRA ANNUAL MEETING, NEW ORLEANS, LA
 4/18 NC SFI SIC MEETING, RALEIGH, NC - 9:30 A.M.
 4/26 ACE - NC CHAPTER MEETING, DUNN, NC - 9:00 A.M.
 TBD NCFE FORESTRY & ENVIRONMENTAL CAMP, GREENSBORO, NC



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