



## Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Program

Washington SFI State Implementation Committee  
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### Washington SFI® Implementation Committee (SIC) Meeting Highlights February 6, 2013

#### SIC Meeting Attendance

Dennis	Dart	American Forest Management
Kevin	Arneson	Boise Cascade Company
Brad	Holt	Boise Inc.
Jim	Hansen	The Campbell Group LLC
Allen	Estep	Department of Natural Resources
Steve	Witherspoon	Georgia Pacific
Harry	Bell	Green Crow
John	Ison	Green Diamond Resource Co.
Dave	Backstrom	Green Diamond Resource Co.
Darrell	Alvord	Hampton Tree Farms
Julie	Stangell	Hancock Forest Management
Dan	Thomas	International Forestry Consultants
Kathy	Troupe	Longview Fibre Paper & Packaging, Inc
Patrick	Raymond	Olympic Resource Management
Lee	Spencer	Plum Creek
George	Cave	Port Townsend Paper Corp.
Peggy	Norcutt	Port Townsend Paper Corp.
David	Marshall	Sierra Pacific Industries
Eric	Haller	Simpson Lumber Co., LLC
Erik	Davis	Stimson Lumber Co.

Doug	Hooks	Washington Forest Protection Association
Terry	Alexander	Weyerhaeuser
Mark	Petruncio	Yakama Nation
Doug	Olney	Yakama Forest Products

Meeting was called to order at 09:00

Anti-trust Reminder

The minutes from the October 10, 2012 SIC meeting were reviewed and approved.

Updates on Participant Activities

- WA Department of Natural Resources: surveillance audit planned for May of the Northeast and Southeast Regions
- American Forest Management: moving 15,000 acres of certified lands from International Forestry Consultants certificate to American Forest Management certificate on next audit
- Port Townsend Paper: recertification audit in December with 1 OFI
- Boise Inc.: no activity planned for 2013
- Yakama Forest Products: had a fibre sourcing audit in October with 1 NP
- Boise Cascade Company: now a publicly traded company, procurement audit last year
- Green Diamond: recertification audit in April
- Olympic Resource Management: June audit for Pope Columbia Tree Farm
- Yakama Nation: renewal audit for land management and wood procurement in September
- Weyerhaeuser: recertification audit this summer on 2 tree farms in OR and 1 in WA
- Stimson Lumber: audit this summer on the inland operations
- Sierra Pacific Industries: surveillance audit in March
- Hampton: recertification audit in June
- The Campbell Group: audit of 2 tree farms this August
- Hancock Forest Management: due to the Forest Capital lands acquisition, Hancock is evaluating audit companies for their certification program, looking to have one certificate in the west and planning on a recertification audit in June
- Stimson Lumber Co.: recertification audit in November on milling facilities in south and paper mill in Tacoma

Climate Change Adaptation Strategies Presentation: USDA Pacific Wildland Fire Science Laboratory (Seattle)

Speakers: **Dave Peterson** is a Research Biologist with the U.S. Forest Service Pacific Northwest Research Station in Seattle and is Affiliate Professor in the School of Environmental and Forest Sciences, University of Washington. He directs the Fire and Environmental Research Applications team which conducts research on fire science and climate change. He has conducted research on fire ecology and climate change throughout the western United States, has published over 200 scientific articles and three books, and as a contributing author for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change was a co-recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007. He recently completed the forest sector report for the 2013 National Climate Assessment and is author of the forthcoming book "Climate Change and United States Forests." Dave lives and works on his family's tree farm in Skagit County, Washington.

**Jessica Halofsky** is a research ecologist with the University of Washington. Jessica's research interests include fire and disturbance ecology, vegetation dynamics, and climate change (ecosystem impacts and adaptation). Jessica helped to lead a project involving a vulnerability assessment and development of a climate change adaptation plan for Olympic National Forest and Park. She is currently working on several climate change science and adaptation projects in the Pacific Northwest.

Some captions from Dave's presentation (Climate change in PNW forests, can we adapt?):

- Potential climate change effects: Longer, warmer growing seasons, Altered forest growth and ecosystem productivity, Intense droughts, Longer and more severe fire seasons, Increased insect and disease, Shifts in species composition, Invasive species range expansion, Less snow more rain, Increased winter flooding, Less snowpack, Earlier snowmelt, Lower summer streamflows, Increased stream and lake temperature, Increased risk to aquatic ecosystems and fish
- Possible climate change adaptations: Increase resilience to fire and insects, Increase resilience at large spatial scales, Alter seed transfer guidelines, Implement early detection/rapid response to disturbances

Some captions from Jessica's presentation (climate change and road management):

- Future projections of flood risk in WA: floods in western WA are expected to increase in magnitude due to the combined effects of warming and increasingly intense winter storms, flood risk in eastern WA is projected to reduce due to loss of spring snow cover
- Key road-related sensitivities to climate change at Olympic National Forest and Olympic National Park: Ditch or culvert plugging and water diversion, Fill slope failures, Stream-adjacent road failure, Foundation scour, Erosion and scour at pipe outlets
- Current management actions may still be appropriate under changing climate: Removing unstable roads, Relocating roads out of valley bottoms, Correcting culvert fish passage barriers, Increasing size and number of drainage structures, Replacing culverts with bridges, where appropriate
- Make robust decisions: Strive for decisions that can accomplish objectives across a range of climate and effect projections, Prioritize "no regrets" actions and projects with high probability of success/impact, "Robustness" as a criterion for (Identifying options, Evaluating tradeoffs among options, Final decision)

Helpful Publication Links:

*Adapting to Climate Change at Olympic National Forest and Olympic National Park*, [http://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/pubs/pnw\\_gtr844.pdf](http://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/pubs/pnw_gtr844.pdf)

*Responding to Climate Change in National Forests: A Guidebook for Developing Adaptation Options*, [http://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/pubs/pnw\\_gtr855.pdf](http://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/pubs/pnw_gtr855.pdf)

*Effects of Climatic Variability and Change on Forest Ecosystems: A Comprehensive Science Synthesis for the U.S. Forest*

*Sector*, [http://www.usda.gov/oce/climate\\_change/effects\\_2012/FS\\_Climate1114%20opt.pdf](http://www.usda.gov/oce/climate_change/effects_2012/FS_Climate1114%20opt.pdf)

*Forest Adaptation Resources: Climate Change Tools and Approaches for Land Managers*, [http://www.nrs.fs.fed.us/pubs/gtr/gtr\\_nrs87.pdf](http://www.nrs.fs.fed.us/pubs/gtr/gtr_nrs87.pdf)

Climate Change Resource Center at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/ccrc/>

### 2013 SIC Budget Review

- Have a good positive fund balance due to generous contributions by SIC members.
- The proposed budget reflects the SIC Chair's primary objectives of landowner and public outreach and logger training.
- SIC membership discussion on budget and possible additions to budget
- Motion to increase to \$6000 the expenditure for "Other non-forestry publications". Idea is to evaluate the opportunity to place ads with the National Education Association, Hunting Digest and Tribal Newspaper. Motion seconded and approved.

- Motion to fund the Northwest Natural Resources Institute with \$1000. Motion seconded and approved.
- Motion to fund the educational opportunities at Cispus Learning Center (Association of Washington School Principals) and Camp Chaparral (Yakama Indian Nation) for \$500 each (\$1000 total). Motion seconded and approved.
- Motion to approve \$2500 funding for support of the Boy Scouts of America (statewide). Motion seconded and approved.
- Motion to approve \$2500 funding for National Society of American Foresters (Conference Scholarships) and \$1000 support to the WA SAF meeting in April. Motion seconded and approved.
- Motion to fund the booth expenses for the Wood Solutions Fair at \$1300. Motion seconded and approved.
- Motion to approve 2013 budget as discussed. Motion seconded and approved.

#### American Tree Farm System Update

- American Tree Farm System update. Harry Bell from Green Crow is on the WA ATFS Board to liaison between ATFS and SIC. ATFS' budget was approved at their last meeting.
- The National ATFS organization is conducting a pilot project within 5 states to evaluate a fee schedule to maintain ATFS certification. Preliminary surveys show that there could be a significant drop in landowners maintaining ATFS certification. This could have a negative effect to SIC members and forest stewardship efforts overall.
- The pilot program has a draft fee tier system in which maintaining ATFS certification would require an annual \$99 membership fee. There are lower annual membership fees, however those memberships do not constitute ATFS certification.
- Boise Cascade Company finds the ATFS system important enough for their business to maintain several staffed auditors that are available to conduct audits on ATFS certified lands.
- The WA SIC feels that maintaining or increasing the amount of ATFS certified lands is very important to the SIC membership.
- Can the SIC or SFI Inc. weigh in with an opinion or discussion to the National ATFS on impacts a fee system might have to landowner certification through ATFS?
- Eric Haller will contact SFI Inc. to see if they are aware of this pilot program and see if they have already or will comment on this initiative at the National level. He'll also see how we could coordinate our efforts with SFI at the State ATFS level.
- Next WA ATFS meeting is scheduled for 4/9/2013.

#### Other Business

- The SIC landowner brochure is done. 1500 have been printed and shipped to Longview Fibre and are available to SIC members. Contact Kathy Troupe.
- Lee Spencer of Plum Creek will be the next SIC Chairperson and Tami Smith of Nippon Paper will be the Vice Chairperson. Thanks to Eric Haller of Simpson Lumber Co. in filling the Chairperson role for the last year.

### **Next Washington SIC Meeting**

June 5, 2013

9:00 a.m. to Noon

Port Blakely Tree Farms in Tumwater