Bold Print: In attendance at the November 8, 2006 WA SIC meeting.

Highlights from WA SIC Nov. 8, 2006 Mtg.

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Introductions
Deborah Baker from Georgia-Pacific joined the SIC meeting as a guest.

Update on Species Accounts
Angela Stringer led a discussion on the work to date on the species fact sheets. After the brief on the process and issues surrounding the development of the fact sheets, the SIC agreed that posting the existing 14 fact sheets on the WA SIC website after minor edits were completed would be the final step in this project. The SIC thanked Angela and the Center for Sustainable Forestry at Pack Forest for their work.

Action Item: Teresa Loo will contact the WA Natural Heritage program to encourage the development of easy to use fact sheets.

Action Item: Angela Stringer will incorporate the edits she receives from the SIC.

Website Maintenance
Alicia Robbins has left the Center for Sustainable Forestry at Pack Forest to pursue a Ph.D. at the UW. She has offered to maintain the WA SIC website for a small fee ($25/hour) and the SIC has accepted the offer. It is estimated that maintaining the website will take no more than 2-3 hours per quarter.

Contractor Training
Brian Kernohan led a discussion on contractor training and presented a draft of SIC recommendations based on the SIC discussion at the June 7, 2006 meeting. After discussing which contractors should be included in the recommendations, it was agreed that specific types of contractors should not be listed in the recommendations and that each participant organization should decide independently which contractors require training.

Action Item: Brian Kernohan will redraft SIC contractor training recommendations.

Inconsistent Practices
No updates.

Regeneration Assessments
The Minnesota SIC has implemented a forest land survey which includes regeneration information. The survey serves as an example of what one SIC is doing to satisfy the regional regeneration assessment indicator.

Updates on Participation Certification Activities
- Pacific Lumber & Shipping: to undergo a certification audit mid-November.
- Port Blakely: underwent recertification audit of their lands in WA and OR last May.
- Forest Capital Partners: recently completed internal audits.
- Nippon Paper Industries: beginning process of becoming certified.
- Rayonier: underwent surveillance audit last summer.
- Pack Forest: underwent surveillance audit prior to last SIC meeting, updating 50 year management plan, looking into FSC certification.
- Stimson: completed internal audit.
• Longview Fibre: planning to undergo certification audit July 2007.
• Hampton: recently underwent surveillance audit of OR operations.
• Weyerhaeuser: recently underwent surveillance audit.
• Georgia-Pacific: opting for continuous audit option.
• Penguin/Seefeld/PB Lumber: underwent audit this summer.
• DNR: eastside lands recently certified.
• Boise Cascade: eastern Oregon operations recently audited.
• Simpson: recertification audit last month.
• Hancock: surveillance audit scheduled for end of November.

Transition to SFI, Inc.
No discussion.

2006 Annual SFI Conference in Toronto
Several representatives from WA attended. Regional or joint SIC meetings among neighboring states were brought up as a potential opportunity to share information and collaborate.

Forest Owners Field Day
On behalf of the WA SIC, Teresa Loo manned a tabletop presentation on SFI and certification at the September 16th field day at the Pilchuck Tree Farm. The event was well attended and the presentation received much interest.

DNR’s Role in Supporting Certification
Clay Sprague, Senior Policy Advisor from the Office of the Commissioner of Public Lands, joined the SIC meeting at the request of Pat McElroy to receive suggestions from SFI participants on how DNR can better support certification efforts. Clay will write up the suggestions made at the SIC meeting, review them with Vicki Christiansen, and then follow up with the SIC.

Update from WFFA
Rick Dunning, Executive Director of the Washington Farm Forestry Association briefed the SIC on WFFA’s recommendations to the Washington Tree Farm Program and the Northwest Natural Resource Group’s FSC marketing assistance to small forest landowners.

Budget
The SIC reviewed the budget to date, and agreed to wait until the next meeting to discuss the 2007 work plan and budget.

Action Item: Teresa Loo will develop a draft work plan and budget for 2007 and present it at the next meeting.

Next Meeting – tentative date, time and location

Wednesday, February 7, 2006
9:00 AM to Noon
Port Blakely Tree Farms in Tumwater