Date: October 5, 2007

From: Teresa Loo

To: Darrell Alvord

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Bold Print: In attendance at the October 3, 2007 WA SIC meeting.

Highlights from WA SIC October 3, 2007 mtg.
Introductions
Two guests from WA Dept. of Labor and Industries joined the meeting as guests and presenters: Tom Ford, Logging/Wood Products Safety Specialist, and Steve Poppe, Region 4 Logging Safety Consultant.

Safety in Riparian Zones
Tom Ford and Steve Poppe were invited to the SIC meeting to bring their concerns over forest worker safety to the attention of the SIC, as well as to educate themselves on the SFI standards and audit process. Tom and Steve discussed their concerns regarding cutting decisions made on the ground that could result in unsafe conditions for forest workers. They sited as an example a recent conversation they had with a landowner about an unsafe situation in a riparian zone. The landowner said that the unit was cut in this way to comply with SFI standards. Members of the SIC explained that the SFI standards 1) never trump safety and are not in conflict with safety, 2) include requirements to use BMPs and abide by regulations, and 3) aren’t prescriptive to the level of specifying which trees to cut nor which trees to leave. Steve thought that the message of safety was well accepted among executives and middle management, however the message was being lost somewhere between middle management and on-the-ground operations. There was also some concern that more emphasis was being placed on SFI implementation than on safety. The SIC thanked both Tom and Steve for informing us of what they are experiencing in the field. The SIC acknowledged that individual participants should take Steve and Tom’s message back to their organizations and work to improve the understanding of the alignment of SFI requirements and safety, as well as the importance of safety by operational staff.

Updates on Participant Activities
- Boise: completed surveillance audit of W Oregon lands last year, Louisiana this year
- ORM: completed surveillance audit last August
- Hancock: surveillance audit scheduled for May 2008
- Weyerhaeuser: completed SFI and ISO 14001 audits last July for WA & OR
- DNR: completed surveillance audit last June for Cascade and South Puget Sound regions
- Stimson: completed surveillance audit recently, recertification audit next year
- Rayonier: completed surveillance audit early June
- Port Blakely: completed surveillance audit in May
- PLS: completed surveillance audit this summer
- WFFA: cosponsor of WTFP with WFPA
- Washington Alder, etc.: working on completion of initial certification audit
- Canyon Lumber: completed first certification audit in July.
- Longview Timber: anticipate initial certification audit next summer
- Penguin/Seefeld/PB Lumber: completed surveillance audits this year
- Hampton: completed surveillance audits of the Oregon tree farm and SW WA tree farm using PWC Canada
- West Fork: completed 15th year of HCP effectiveness monitoring
- Plum Creek: completed recertification audit last fall
- Georgia-Pacific: completed surveillance audit last July
Update on Species Accounts
Bruce Livingston has teamed up with John Gammon (DNR Natural Heritage Program) to look into options for developing and distributing information on species and habitats to forest landowners. Bruce and John have been in contact with several helpful people that have experience in developing and distributing this type of information. The WA SIC species accounts received positive reviews as did OFRI’s guidebook, “Identifying Priority Plants & Animals and Their Habitats”. Maine and New Hampshire are implementing a web-based application that will enable the public to access information on species. Bruce and John will meet with others in the coming weeks to discuss options for distributing and/or making data available to forest landowners. One idea is to the development of a TRAX-like process that would inform landowners of G1/G2 species and habitats as part of the FPA process.

Action Item: Bruce Livingston will continue to explore options and report back to the SIC.

Contractor Training
Brad Holt presented a Memorandum of Understanding for SFI Logger Training between WA, OR, ID and MT. The MOU is the result of on-going discussions between several states to address the issues that face certified contractors that work across state lines. The MOU contains standards for interstate recognition of SFI qualified logging professionals and other contractors. After review of the MOU and discussion, Brad moved to accept the MOU, Bill Howard seconded it. The motion carried with 2 dissensions.

Steve Barnowe-Meyer volunteered to present the SFI portion of the upcoming WCLA training course in Chehalis on November 13th. Thanks, Steve!

Teresa Loo voiced concern that the WA SIC recommendations for contractor training might be misinterpreted to include subcontractors. Upon discussing, there wasn’t wide-spread concern among SIC members over the risk of misinterpretation so the topic was tabled.

Annual SFI Meeting
The annual SFI meeting in Utah was attended by several members of the WA SIC. Julie Stangell presented the highlights. President and CEO, Kathy Abusow and Vice President of Market Affairs, Karen Brandt, delivered an energized message that SFI, Inc. is ready to move forward. Three key areas of focus were identified:

1. Marketing, need for greater awareness of SFI
2. Increase awareness of program integrity and credibility
3. Inclusion of wider stakeholder circle, reaching out to conservation community

SFI’s marketing messages will address the program’s independence, SFI’s single standard across North America, the diversity of its board, chain of custody and label use. Approximately $2.5 million has been raised from member companies to fund the marketing efforts.

Advertising / Public Relations
The WA SIC advertising and public relations plan to target architects and builders has yet to be implemented. The WA SIC has budgeted for this plan which includes becoming an annual contributor to the AIA/WA and advertising in both the AIA – Seattle and BIAW monthly newsletters. SFI, Inc. has a new print ad that is available to SICs.

Action Item: Julie Stangell will continue to work with Patti Case to implement the advertising plan to target builders and architects.

Small Landowner Outreach
Monica Warren gave the SIC a review of the Forest Owners Field Day held in Cle Elum in June. Monica volunteered to host the WA SIC booth, which was strategically located next to the
Washington Tree Farm Program booth. Monica reports that the field day attracted an estimated 1,000 people. Many of the people she talked to were unaware of what SFI was or how it related to the WTTP. Monica concluded that having the WA SIC present at the event was well worth the SIC’s support in terms of educating small landowners on SFI and certification, and encouraged the SIC to continue to support these types of programs. Thanks to Monica for volunteering her time and thanks to Patti Case at Green Diamond for donated Douglas-fir seed packs as give-aways!

**Green Building Standards**

There was a mix of opinions among SIC members about the future direction of the LEED standards with regards to the inclusion of SFI certified wood. Gretchen Nicholas suggested the SIC work with SFI, Inc. to help educate people developing local green building programs.

*Action Item: Teresa Loo will research local green building programs and report back to the SIC next meeting.*

**BMP Compliance Monitoring Trend Analysis**

Steve Barnowe-Meyer presented a Weyerhaeuser analysis of 2006-2007 compliance data from DNR and ODF. The analysis categorized the nature of the non-compliance and compared the 2006-2007 data against previous years. Documentation was the top reason for non-compliance, followed by streamside/riparian zone related activities.

**Verifiable Auditing / Monitoring Program White Paper**

Lislie Sayers presented a draft of the updated white paper which includes several updates by DNR staff. Lislie has requested the SIC members review the paper and submit feedback to her. Teresa will distribute the document via email so members can “track changes” and email suggested edits and comments to Lislie directly. An updated version that includes the SIC feedback will be distributed for review prior to the next SIC meeting in February 2008.

*Action Item: SIC to review white paper and provide feedback to Lislie.*

**2007 Budget Review**

The current budget as of August 31st was reviewed. We are likely to be under-budget for the year because the advertising strategy has not been fully implemented.

*Action Item: Teresa Loo will develop a proposed work plan and budget for 2008 and present them at the next SIC meeting.*

**February 2008 SIC Officer Transition**

The positions of Chair, Co-Chair and Treasurer need to be filled at the next meeting in February. All three positions are 2-year terms and can be re-elected to succeeding terms without limitation. Port Blakely is willing to continue to host the WA SIC meetings after Teresa steps down. If you are interested in one of the open positions please let Teresa know.

**Next Meeting – tentative date, time and location**

Wednesday, February 6, 2008
9:00 AM to Noon
Port Blakely Tree Farms in Tumwater