## COOPERATIVE INITIATIVES FOR FAMILY FORESTS: A CONTINENTAL CONGRESS



BLUE MOUNTAIN CENTER NOVEMBER 4 TO 6, 1999 BLUE MOUNTAIN LAKE, NEW YORK

## **APPENDIX**

from a meeting sponsored by the



of the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy

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## AGENDA

#### COOPERATIVE INITIATIVES FOR FAMILY FORESTS: A CONTINENTAL CONGRESS BLUE MOUNTAIN CENTER NOVEMBER 4 TO 6 BLUE MOUNTAIN LAKE, NEW YORK

#### **Goals for the meeting:**

- 1. Gain an understanding of common features and vision among the different participants and groups.
- 2. Identify common principles the groups can support.
- 3. Build a framework for providing outreach and assistance to groups.
- 4. Develop structures for collaboration and information sharing.
- 5. Learn more about what is happening out there: what are the successes, threats and opportunities?
- 6. Enjoy the opportunity to meet others developing models for forest owner cooperation.

#### Some Key Questions

- 1. Why are these groups all forming, many independently?
- 2. Are these groups succeeding? How?
- 3. What are common features and principles?
- 4. In what ways do these groups differ?
- 5. What are the unmet needs of these groups?
- 6. How can these gaps be filled?
- 7. Where do opportunities for collaboration exist?
- 8. What are the roles of organizations such as CFRC, CDS, NWF, RCPA, and NEFF?
- 9. What is missing (government involvement, private sector, organization, resources)?

#### Agenda

### November 4 (Optional)

3:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Tour of family forests in the Adirondacks Dinner "So you want to sell 1 million board feet?" Presentation by Jim Birkemeier, Timbergreeen Forestry and founder of the Sustainable Woods Cooperative
8:00 p.m.	Open discussion on Sustainable Forestry Cooperatives with forest owners from the Adirondacks.
November 5	
7-8:30 a.m. 8:30 a.m.	Breakfast Tour of Adirondack Family forests morning field tour continues (optional)
12:30 – 1:30 p.m.	Lunch
2:00 p.m.	Summit meeting opens Introduction and setting of goals for the meeting
3:00 p.m.	Models of cooperation between family forest owners Community Forestry Resource Center Cooperative Development Services Sustainable Woods Cooperative Vermont Family Forests Hiawatha Sustainable Woods Cooperative
4:00 p.m.	check-in, social hour
6:00 p.m.	Dinner
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.	Models of cooperation continues Maine Low Impact Forestry Project – Geoff Zentz Wisconsin Family Forests – Eugene and Pat Reis, Clyde and Janet Samsel Chiseled Edge – Mike Schluender Roberts Hillside Orchard – Doug Roberts Residents Committee for the Protection of the Adirondacks – Peter Bauer Massachusetts Department of Environmental Management – Paul Catanzaro Headwaters Sustainable Woods Cooperative – Greg Nolan/Mike Schluender Cooperative Development Institute – Lynn Benander Timbergreen Forestry – Jim Birkemeier Blue Mountain Center – Cali Brooks National Wildlife Federation – Stacy Brown New England Forestry Foundation – Jim Heyes/Charlie Thompsohn

	Wildlife Conservation Society – Heidi Kretzer Ontario Woodlot Owners Association – Lynn McIntyre Snowy Pines Reforestation – Greg Nolan Hancock County Planning Commission – Ron Poitras
November 6	
9 a.m.	<ul> <li>Important issues</li> <li>Forest certification – challenges, needs and possible solutions</li> <li>Financing cooperative efforts</li> <li>Marketing – where does it fit in?</li> <li>Collaborating with land trusts</li> </ul>
12 p.m.	Lunch
1 p.m.	<ul> <li>Where to go from here?</li> <li>Identifying common principles</li> <li>Developing a framework for collaboration, information sharing</li> <li>Developing a framework for providing assistance and outreach – how can we work together</li> </ul>
5 p.m.	Adjourn
6 p.m.	Dinner

Everyone is welcome to stay Saturday night at the Blue Mountain Center

## TOURS

November 5, 1999

#### Mr. Joe Tennyson and Family Buttermilk Hill Farm – Specialty Custom Sawing



The tours started with a visit to the home of Joe Tennyson and his family located in Chestertown, New York. Joes operates a solar kiln, does his own logging, and runs a Wood-mizer sawmill. His family has owned the property since his grandfather bought the land in 1919. There are now 400 acres remaining of an original 1,000 acres of which some lands have gone to the state. Joe is retired from the postal service. He primarily mills hardwood into specialty lumber. Joe air dries the wood to 15% moisture content

and then uses the solar kiln to reach 8%. His main machine is a 350 John Deere dozer, and he does all of the logging during the winter to keep the logs cleaner. He also uses an arch to lift the logs during skidding. His self-designed solar kiln is based on a library book which helped Joe determine the proper sun angle and orientation of the roof. His lands include a lot of eastern hemlock and maple.





Joe does business with local wood workers including a boat builder who needs specialty sizes including large sizes such as twenty foot lengths. By doing the sawing himself, Joe is able to turn a tree with a \$50-100 stumpage value into a \$1,000 worth of lumber products. Joe has tried some black walnut plantings, but he is having some problems with leader damage from tip moths. The eastern hemlock are starting to develop agilid insect problems which are moving into the area from Southern New England.



Part of the tour of Joe's land included a Game of Logging (GOL) demonstration by Jim Beeman of the Hiawatha Sustainable Woods Cooperative (HSWC). Jim also owns his own logging

business that operates in southern Minnesota and Wisconsin. Jim demonstrated the GOL felling techniques including the use of wedges in order to accomplish directional felling.



Concluding discussions following the tour of Joe's land and Jim's logging demonstration included comments from Phil Guillery of the Community Forestry Resource Center. Phil shared insights into the role of certification in private land management. Phil emphasized the importance of having long-term management plans and how certification requires plans be designed for up to 100 year management timelines. Also certification encourages the use of ecological classification systems to replace traditional concepts of site index and covertypes. Certification and good management also places high priority on meeting the objectives of the landowner.

Jim Birkemeier, a SmartWood Certified Resource Manager, added to the discussion of certification. Jim mentioned the importance of conducting localized, site-specific management at a scale of less than whole stand levels which traditional only consider one covertype at a time. In Jim's region there is a need to reduce stocking levels in order to achieve productive growth rates. He determines the cutting rates by determining the expected death that will occur before the next cutting cycle occurs. The question he asks himself in the woods is: will this tree live until the next harvest? If the answer is no, the tree gets cut now; if the answer is yes, the tree stays and it reevaluated at the next cutting cycle. The basic premise of Jim's management design is to let health trees continue to increase in size and value.

#### John Sullivan Kipp Mountain Tree Farm



The second land tour was of John Sullivan's land, Kipp Mountain Tree Farm, located on Ben Culver Road in Chestertown, New York. John provided information regarding the history of his land. The 300-acre Sullivan tree farm is a one-time family farm that was predominately pasture, which has been reforested over the past 100 years. Until the early 1950's, the woods remained untouched; then an intensive logging operation was begun which removed most of a large quantity of white pine from the property.

Further small harvests took place during the 1960's, but in 1978 the property was registered with the National Tree Farm System and a 20-year management plan was developed. These steps allowed the property to qualify for favorable treatment under New York's Forest Tax Law – and began a 20-year effort to improve the quality of the woodlands.

Management goals are long-term sustainable wood production, recreational esthetics and wildlife habitat. During the past 20 years, four small harvests have been completed; no further treatment is scheduled until 2014.



There are eight stand types identified in the management plan. The trail first took the tour through a stand of mixed softwood including eastern hemlock, balsam fir, white cedar, and white pine. Treatment of this area will include a harvest of the lower-grade species in order to favor the growth of the high-quality white pine. The next stand is a 15-acre white cedar swamp. There are no harvests planned for this unit due to poor markets for white cedar and the landowners intention to protect this area for its high wildlife habitat value.

The next part of the tour included an area of mixed hardwoods dominated by small beech, polesized hard maple, and scattered other species. The stand is 30 acres is size. Management for this area is intended to favor removal of mature trees and lower-quality species such as beech.

Other stands along the tour included an extensive areas of softwood dominated by hemlock and a 90 acre stand with white pine sawtimber. The property includes an old sawmill site from the 1950's as well as the site of a woodworking shop and equipment lot. There is a trail on the land that winds to the top of Kipp Mountain. The trail is popular for hiking and includes a clifftop view overlooking the southern Adirondacks.

Some areas of the property are still recovering from the heavy harvests done a half-century ago and a later diameter-limit harvest. Overall the property is recovering well though because it is a good site for white pine and fair for hard maple and red oak. Further management work will favor these species.



Given continued management, the landowner plans to have the property continue to provide valuable harvests of high-quality white pine and hardwoods for his grandchildren. Meanwhile, the development of good markets for lower grade sawlogs and less valuable species will make improvement work more economically viable; should such markets develop, the management plan could be revised to provide an accelerated program of treatment.

Following the tours, the group broke for lunch at a local restaurant. Following lunch, David Brynn of Vermont Family Forests shared a presentation and slide show explaining the work of his group and their successful efforts with Middlebury College.

Following David's presentation, the group headed back to the Blue Mountain Center to meet with the other groups who were just arriving. After everyone got settled in, the conference officially opened and introductions began.

#### Appendix 3 Participants

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Steve Wolfe Cooperative Development Services 30 West Mifflon Street Madison, WI 53703(608) 258-4393

## **Blue Mountain Center**

Blue Mountain Lake, NY



*Contact:* Blue Mountain Center P.O. Box 109 Blue Mountain Lake, NY 12812-0109 (518) 352-7391

#### Description:

The Blue Mountain Center is a working community of writers and artists and exists to provide a peaceful and comfortable environment in which guests are able to work, free from the distractions and demands of normal daily life.

#### Available Upon Request:

Instructions for application for artists residency program (brochure) Blue Mountain Center history (booklet)

## **Cooperative Development Services**

Madison, WI



#### Contact:

Cooperative Development Services 30 West Mifflin Street, Suite 401 Madison, WI 53703 (608) 258-4396 fax: (608) 258-4394

#### Description:

Cooperative Development Services (CDS) is a private, nonprofit corporation. Founded in 1986, CDS provides professional business development and planning services to cooperatives and communities.

#### Available Upon Request:

Cooperative Development Services (overview sheet)

Cooperative Development Services (brochure)

"Business Planning for Cooperatives" by Walden Swanson and Mary Myers

"Cooperation Works" by E.G. Nadeau

"Rural Development Powerbook" by Cooperative Development Services

# Federation of Southern Cooperatives/Land Assistance Fund

Epes, AL



#### *Contact:* Federation of Southern Cooperatives/Land Assistance Fund PO Box 95

Epes, AL 35460

#### Description:

FSC/LAF links minority landowners, and provides support and education to members and landowners to help them manage their land.

#### Available Upon Request:

The Minority and Limited Resource Landowner Forestry Project Overview

Cry of the Hawk (newsletter)

## **Headwaters Forestry Cooperative**

Long Prairie, MN



*Contact:* Snowy Pines Reforestation Rt. 3 Box 95 Browerville, MN 56438 (320) 594-6317

Chiseled Edge 140 6<sup>th</sup> St. E. Browerville, MN 56438 (888) 732-6958 (tel/fax)

#### Description:

Snowy Pines Reforestation is a *Forest Stewardship Council* Chain-of-Custody certified sawmill. Chiseled Edge is also Chain-of-Custody certified and is a fine furniture manufacturer. Both organizations are members and founders of the Headwaters Forestry Cooperative.

#### Available Upon Request:

"Chiseled Edge makes furniture that lasts" (newspaper article)

"Natural resources could drive economic growth in county now and in the future" (newspaper article)

"Planting trees, managing forests could produce new wealth for Todd County" (newspaper article)

## Hiawatha Sustainable Woods Cooperative

Fountain City, Wisconsin



*Contact:* Hiawatha Sustainable Woods Cooperative P.O. Box 248 Fountain City, Wisconsin 54629 (608) 687-8430 (608) 687-8193 email: <u>hswc@rconnect.com</u>

#### Description:

Hiawatha Sustainable Woods Cooperative (HSWC) is a timber management, processing, and marketing cooperative of local forest owners. The purpose of the HSWC is to maximize the long-term aesthetic, ecological, economic, and recreational benefits from our areas forest resource.

#### Available Upon Request:

Brochure – including Mission Statement and Membership Application Quarterly Publication – Spring 1999 Quarterly Publication – Summer 1999 Quarterly Publication – Fall 1999 Lumber price list Special order information

## Maine Low Impact Forestry Project

Ellsworth, Maine



#### Contact:

Maine Low Impact Forestry Project Hancock County Planning Commission RFD 4 Box 22 Ellsworth, ME 04605 (207) 667-7131 fax: (207) 667-2099 email: <u>hcpc@acadia.net</u> website: <u>www.acadia.net/hcpc/home.html</u>

#### Description:

The Maine Low Impact Forestry Project is a group of loggers, foresters and woodlot owners interested in developing and promoting the methods and technologies of Low Impact Forestry. The Maine Low Impact Forestry Project is also helping to connect land owners and practitioners of low impact forestry with emerging markets for sustainably harvested forest products

The mission of the Low Impact Forestry Project is to encourage:

- a long term management perspective
- a view of the forest as an eco-system
- less destructive logging practices
- high value markets for products harvested using low impact methods
- management for multiple objectives including social and community values and
- productivity of the forest, broadly defined

#### Available Upon Request:

10 Guiding Principles for the Downeast Low Impact Forestry Cooperative

Options for Small Landowner Forestry Cooperative Organizations for Eastern Maine

"An Introduction to Low Impact Forestry" (brochure)

"Low Impact Forestry: Principles, Goals, Guidelines, and Standards."

"Low Impact Logging: Comparison of Current Logging Systems."

## **Massachusetts Family Forests**

#### Support offered by:

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Management



*Contact:* Paul Catanzaro – Service Forester MA DEM 1048 North Rd. Westfield, MA 01085 (413) 532-6872 e-mail: paul.catanzaro@state.ma.us

#### Available Upon Request:

Landowner recruitment letter (August, 1999)

9/25/99 Landowner Cooperative Exploratory Meeting Summary

Massachusetts Family Forests: A Cooperative Approach to Conservation and Development (proposal for Phase I of the Ford Foundation)

Massachusetts Forest Cutting Practices Act (bulletin, 5 p.)

Forest Land Taxation in Massachusetts (bulletin, 5 p.)

Massachusetts Forestry Best Management Practices Manual (booklet, 56 p.)

The Forest Stewardship Source Book: Information and Services for Massachusetts Woodland Owners (booklet, 50 p.)

## National Wildlife Federation

Montpelier, VT



*Contact:* National Wildlife Federation Northeast Natural Resource Center 58 State St. Montpelier, VT 05602 (802) 229-0650 fax: (802) 229-4532 website: <u>http://www.nwf.org/northeast</u>

## Northeast SmartWood Initiative

Richmond, VT



SmartWood Certified Forestry Goodwin Baker Building 61 Millet Street Richmond, VT 05477 (802) 434-5491 fax: (802) 434-3116 email: <u>info@smartwood</u> website: <u>www.smartwood.org</u>

#### Description:

The National Wildlife Federation partners with SmartWood through its Northeast Natural Resource Center. NWF/SmartWood has certified more than 880,000 acres of northeastern U.S. forestland, and 15 companies for chain-of-custody.

#### Available Upon Request:

Northeast Certification News, Winter 1999 (newsletter) SmartWood Resource Manager Certification Model: Questions and Answers SmartWood Information (one page sheet)

"Quality Not Quantity: Community and Economic Benefits from MDC Forestry at the Massachusetts Quabbin Reservoir Watershed" (25p., bound)

"Practical Conservation Through Certified Forestry" – SmartWood Certified Forestry informational folder (8 p., bound)

SmartWood Certification Program: Northeast Regional Guidelines for the Assessment of Forest Management (Draft – Oct., 1999, 35 p.)

Northeast Natural Resource Center brochure

## **New England Forestry Foundation**

Groton, MA



*Contact:* New England Forestry Foundation P.O. Box 1099 Groton, MA 01450 (978) 448-8380 email: <u>neff@neforestry.org</u> website: <u>www.neforestry.org</u>

#### Description:

The New England Forestry Foundation is a non-profit organization that promotes conservation and sustainable management of private forest lands through forest management demonstration, land conservation assistance, and participation in regional forest policy issues.

#### Available Upon Request:

New Growth Fall 1999 (quarterly newsletter)

The Timberline (magazine)

"Our Forests are our Past and our Future" (brochure)

## Ontario Woodlot Owners Association



*Contact:* Wade Knight, Executive Director

Ontario Woodlot Association 275 County Road 44, R.R. #4 Kemptville, Ontario, KOG 1J0 (613) 258-0110 FAX (613)-0207 e-mail: <u>info@ont-woodlot-assoc.org</u> web site: <u>www.ont-woodlot-assoc.org</u>

#### Description:

Since its inception in 1992, the Ontario Woodlot Association (OWA) has provided a collective voice for the woodlot owner and operator. The Association is a provincially based, non-profit organization with a strong membership and a network of regional chapters that expand across the province. The Association promotes sustainable forest practices of private woodlots to ensure their viability for future generations.

Our strong central body allows the Association to express the concerns and lobby for the interests of our membership. Co-operation, partnerships and the sharing of information have been the keys to the success of our Association.

Not all issues are provincial issues. What makes the Ontario Woodlot Association unique are our regional chapters. With eleven chapters across the province, the Association prides itself on its local representation. The OWA is a "grass roots" organization that represents and works with the woodlot owners and operators of Ontario" private land forest.

One of the concerns for woodlot owners in Ontario is the high taxation of woodlots. The Association has recently been successful in lobbying the provincial government to provide a separate tax assessment class for woodlots for owners who prepare and manage their property in accordance with an approved management plan. By participating in the program the woodlot owner is taxed at a lesser rate. The Association views the preparation and implementation of this management plan as an important component in practicing sustainable forestry on private land woodlots in Ontario one of the first steps in working towards forest certification.

Co-operation, partnerships and the sharing of information have been the keys to the success of the Association. The OWA and its members are committed to promoting and practicing sustainable forestry practices and have the support of the government and forest industry.

#### Available Upon Request:

The S&W Report – newsletter for the Ontario Woodlot Association membership Private Land Forestry Code of Practice Code of Practice for Small Sawmill Operations A Guide to ... The Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program (MFTIP)

## **Residents' Committee to Protect the Adirondacks**

North Creek, NY



*Contact:* Residents' Committee to Protect the Adirondacks PO Box 27 North Creek, NY 12853-0027 (518) 251-4257 fax: (518) 251-5068 email: <u>RCPA@netheaven.com</u>

#### Description:

The Residents' Committee to Protect the Adirondacks addresses the environmental issues affecting the Adirondack Park and its residents.

#### Available Upon Request:

Special Report: The Champion Lands Sale

Adirondack Voices (newspaper)

The Park Report: Newsletter of the Residents' Committee to Protect the Adirondacks

RuralAction

Trimble, OH



*Contact:* Rural Action PO Box 157 Trimble, OH 45782 (740) 767-4938 email: **rural3@frognet.net** 

#### Description:

Rural*Action* provides support to communities through leadership and education towards the goal of rural renewal.

Available Upon Request:

Rural*Report* (newsletter)

Monday Creek Restoration Project Newsletter

"Call Before You Cut" (brochure)

Mushroom Harvest (brochure)

## Samsel Ltd.

Hancock, WI



*Contact:* Samsel, Ltd. W10420 Beechnut Dr. Hancock, WI 54943 (715) 249-5602 fax: (715) 249-5452 email: <u>samsaw@wirural.net</u>

#### Description:

Samsel Ltd. manufacturers and sells wood products including band sawn softwoods and hardwoods and mouldings. They also sell logging tools, logging supplies, lumberyard supplies, saws, and safety equipment. Samsel Ltd. has applied for Forest Stewardship Council Chain-of-Custody certification and is a founding member of the Wisconsin Family Forests.

#### Available Upon Request:

Samsel Ltd (brochure)



## **Sustainable Woods Cooperative**

Spring Green, Wisconsin

#### Contact:

Sustainable Woods Cooperative P.O. Box 430 Spring Green, WI 53588 (608) 588-9163 email: <u>swc@mhtc.net</u>

#### Description:

Sustainable Woods Cooperative is a timber management, processing, and marketing cooperative of local forest owners whose purpose is to maximize the long-term aesthetic, ecological, and economic benefits from our area timber resource by means of environmentally responsible forestry practices, sustained yield harvesting, and locally-based value-added manufacturing of *Forest Stewardship Council* certified wood products.

#### Available Upon Request:

Letter of Introduction Questions and Answers on the Sustainable Woods Cooperative Board of Directors (October, 1999) Proposed Business Plan (June 1999) Cooperative Membership Application and Stock Subscription (form) Gift Donation Form Membership Welcome Letter Cooperative Shares Certificate (form) Loan Investment Option (form)Price List Order Forms Credit Application (form) Log Grading and Scaling form SWC brochure

## **Timbergreen Forestry**

Spring Green, Wisconsin



#### Contact:

Timbergreen Forestry S11478 Soeldner Road Spring Green, WI (608) 588-7342 email: Jim@timbergreenforestry.com website: www.timbergreenforestry.com

#### Description:

Timbergreen Forestry works with other forest owners to grow large high quality crop trees that give many benefits from careful management. Timbergreen is certified by the Forest Stewardship Council and provides services and information regarding forest management planning, harvest assistance, low-impact harvesting, and full-utilization and value-added wood products.

#### Available Upon Request:

"Full Vigor Forestry: Sustainable Forest Management from the Landowners Point of View" (booklet, 60p.)

Timbergreen Forestry (brochure)

## **Vermont Family Forests**

Bristol, VT



#### Contact:

Vermont Family Forests PO Box 254 Bristol, VT 05443 (802) 388-4969 email: vff@together.net

#### Description:

Vermont Family Forests (VFF) is a not-for-profit forestry education and outreach program. Its mission is to promote the careful cultivation of local family forests for economic and social benefit while protecting the ecological integrity of the forest community as a whole.

#### Available Upon Request:

Vermont Family Forests: An Update

Continuous Forest Inventory Plots (data sheet)

"Calculating the Allowable Cut" by David Brynn, Addison County Forester

Vermont Family Forest Management Plan Template

VFF Log Grades for Hardwood Factory Grade Logs

## White Earth Land Recovery Project

Ponsford, MN



*Contact:* White Earth Land Recovery Project 32033 E. Round Lake Rd. Ponsford, MN 56575-9250 (218) 573-3448 fax: (218) 573-3444 website: <u>www.nativeharvest.com</u> and <u>www.welrp.com</u>

#### Description:

The mission of the White Earth Land Recovery Project is to facilitate recovery of the original land base of the White Earth Indian Reservation, while preserving and restoring traditional practices of sound land stewardship, language fluency, community development, and strengthening our spiritual and cultural heritage.

#### Available Upon Request:

White Earth Land Recovery Project (letter, 2 pages)

White Earth Land Recovery Project (brochure)

Native Harvest (catalog)

White Earth Land Recovery Project 1998-1999 Tenth Anniversary Annual Report

White Earth Land Recovery Project Quarterly Newsletter

## Wisconsin Family Forests, Inc.

Hancock, Wisconsin



*Contact:* Wisconsin Family Forests P.O. Box 99 Hancock, Wisconsin 54943 email: <u>samsaw@wirural.net</u> website: <u>www.1wisconsin.com/familyforest/</u>

#### Description:

The purpose of the Wisconsin Family Forests, Inc. is to create alliances of landowners to promote sustainable forests.

#### Available Upon Request:

"We Believe..." Mission Statement Bylaws of the Wisconsin Family Forests, Inc.

Membership form (also on website)