

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Twin Cities Campus

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Sustainable Forests Education Cooperative Member Organizations:

Ainsworth Engineered USA

Association of County Land
Commissioners

Blandin Foundation

Boise Cascade

County Land Departments

Aitkin
Beltrami
Carlton
Cass
Clearwater
Crow Wing
Hubbard
Koochiching
Lake
Pine
St. Louis

MN Center for Environmental
Advocacy

MN Chippewa Tribes

Fond du Lac
Grand Portage
Leech Lake
White Earth

MN DNR

Division of Forestry
Wildlife Mgmt Section

MN Forest Resources Council

MN Forest Stewardship Program

The Nature Conservancy,
Minnesota Chapter

Potlatch

Red Lake Tribal DNR

Sappi Fine Paper

Soil and Water Conservation
Districts

Aitkin County
Carlton County
Crow Wing County
Itasca County
Koochiching County
Wadena County
South St Louis County
(CCLNS Joint Powers Board #3)

St. John's University Arboretum

University of Minnesota
-Natural Resources
Research Institute

UPM – Blandin Paper Mill

USFS National Forests
Superior
Chippewa

22 October 2007

Dear SFEC members and Supporters,

This is the first electronic issue of the SFEC monthly newsletter! Although I like having something to hold in my hand, the obvious plusses to an electronic newsletter (ease of preparation and mailing, less demand on Stephanie Oberg's time, low cost) make this a wise move – please let us know if you like it. We will continue to mail hard copies of the newsletter to those who prefer that.

Fall telecommuting

As mentioned this summer, because SFEC was unable to hire a temporary replacement, I am telecommuting 80% time from Birmingham, England, where my husband is teaching in the fall semester of U of MN Duluth's annual Study in England Program. Telecommuting is going quite well with the fast-speed wireless connection we have in our flat. I've also communicated with some of you by telephone as specific projects warranted. (FYI: The time difference between Birmingham and Minnesota is +6 hours.)

Maternity leave

What may come as a surprise is that I will start maternity leave sometime in November (due date 23 November). As approved by my supervisor, Ron Severs, I plan to take 6 weeks of paid maternity leave, and then an additional 6 weeks of unpaid leave. I will be doing some work during this time because of the 6th Forest and Wildlife Research Review (16 January at UMD) and the MN SAF meeting, so I won't be out of touch. Since I think most of you are already parents, please feel free to dispense any parenting advice you think I should have. The little one will probably come with me to the February MN SAF meeting and looks forward to meeting you!

New SAF CFE rules

For the past year or so I have served on a national SAF subcommittee charged with helping the Certification Review Board (CRB) refine and update the Society's Continuing Forestry Education (CFE) guidelines. There are some fairly significant, and in my opinion good, changes in store for us, including a more formalized process for requesting CFE credits for an educational event.

It is hoped that the Certification Review Board will approve these new guidelines in time for them to go into effect 1 January 2008. I will provide a summary of the important changes after CRB approval. If you or any of your staff is an SAF Certified Forester and you would like the full revised document, please let me know and I will send it to you. (I expect that the national SAF staff also plans to do this, but I am happy to oblige.)

Birch workshop

The September Birch workshop ([Case Studies in Ecological Silviculture: Paper birch management success & economic risks](#)) was a success! This was the second Minnesota workshop using the lens of ecological silviculture and ecological classification systems to focus discussion in the field and classroom; the first was the Jack Pine workshop coordinated by the Headwaters Chapter of MN SAF in February 2007. The 64 participants and speakers suggested ideas for future ecological silviculture workshops, including mixed-pine management, northern hardwoods, and coping with invasive insects and diseases in boreal forests.

Attendance numbers:

MN DNR Forestry – 23	Tribal Forestry – 3	SWCDs – 1
County Land Depts – 21	MN DNR Wildlife - 2	Wisconsin – 3
US Forest Service – 4	MN DNR Eco Resources – 1	
Forest Industry – 3	The Nature Conservancy – 1	

6th Forest and Wildlife Research Review

You are invited to the 6th Forest and Wildlife Research Review on 16 January 2008 at the University of Minnesota Duluth! You will hear keynote presentations from [Dr. Jim Bowyer](#), [Dovetail Partners](#), and [Mr. Bill Berguson](#), [UMN Natural Resources Research Institute](#), on bioenergy and the bioeconomy, and Minnesota's capacity to produce forest-derived biomass. Other presentations will cover multiple-stakeholder research and policy initiatives, climate change impacts on northern forests, forest wildlife, and NIPF landowner land management. The agenda and on-line registration should be up on the SFEC website by mid-November.

Biomass Harvesting Guidelines

The [Biomass Harvesting Guidelines](#) were approved by the Minnesota Forest Resources Council in May 2007, and the training curriculum is in development. Training sessions begin in Spring 2008. SFEC and the Minnesota Logger Education Program will continue collaboration with the MFRC to deliver training. If you recall, the initial training effort for the MN Voluntary Forest Management Guidelines in 1999 and 2000 was huge: over 1000 natural resource manager training days and 29 training sessions. To gauge the need for Biomass Guidelines training, I will be contacting you over the next few months for an estimate of your staff attendance.

Best wishes for a great fall and early winter!

Sincerely,



Louise Levy, Coordinator