

# Center for Sustainable Forestry at Pack Forest



University of Washington

College of Forest Resources

## Newsletter

December 2004

### *Field Notes Editor*

- Mason McKinley (Pack Forest)

### *Pack Forest Steering Committee:*

- John Calhoun - Chair (Pack)
- Dr. Dave Peterson (USFS PNW)
- Dr. Don Hanley (CFR - WSU)
- Dr. Bruce Lippke (CFR)
- Dr. Bob Edmonds (CFR)
- Brian Boyle (CFR)

### Current Highlights:

- Forest Operations at Pack Forest receive certification under the Sustainable Forestry Initiative® program.

## College Lands Manager's Message - John Calhoun

As we develop the programs and operations at the Center for Sustainable Forestry at Pack Forest, it is satisfying to note accomplishments as they occur. This month we can take some pride in completing certification of sustainability for the Pack Forest forest operations through the Sustainable Forest Initiative® (SFI) program. Mason McKinley, Duane Emmons and Jeff Comnick deserve much credit for achieving this goal. It seems fitting that the rich history of quality management and demonstration at Pack Forest continue with the reaching of this milestone.

Continued compliance and improvement required under SFI certification presents a challenge to the foresters at Pack

Forest. Not only are they now charged with managing this outstanding College asset in support of the purposes and programs of the Center for Sustainable Forestry at Pack Forest, they are also challenged with transforming management from an "experienced based" management style to a "policy based" management style.

Much of the quality of forest management historically has been the result of long tenured forest managers applying skills and knowledge gained from intimate familiarity with the Pack Forest property. This system works extremely well but does not provide the third party certification of sustainable forest management practices that are required to

assure the public of careful stewardship and sustainable practices. With SFI certification a set of written policies are in place that can be measured against actual practices and procedures carried out on the forest. Forest managers now have the added challenge of integrating into everyday practices the policies adopted with SFI certification.

Fortunately, we now enjoy the best of both worlds; long tenured expert foresters on staff and a set of guiding policies that ensure sustainable practices.

With SFI certification in place Pack Forest is now poised to provide sustainable support for the programs and activities of the Center for Sustainable Forestry at Pack Forest.

## Forest Certification at Pack Forest – Dean Bruce Bare

The College is extremely proud that its forest operations at Pack Forest have been recognized for 'green' certification using the standards espoused by the Sustainable Forestry Initiative. This places Pack Forest among a handful of university forests that have been so recognized. More importantly, reaching this milestone allows our forest products to flow into the stream of commerce that is increasingly demanding such recognition. And, it is dramatic evidence that the College not only talks about sustainable forestry but, indeed, practices it on its own lands.

Certification of our sustainable forest management program allows Pack Forest to offer a new form of expertise to a growing number of large and small forest owners in Washington. We believe that this demonstration of field and office practices indicative of sustainable forestry will attract a large array of traditional as well as new users to our research and demonstration facility. As our new Center for Sustainable Forestry grows its research and outreach programs, we are confident that 'green' certification will offer tangible evidence of how modern forestry is conducted in Washington State.

This achievement also provides a direct link to the academic programs of the College. Our new undergraduate curriculum in Environmental Science and Resource Management, coupled with our professional Masters of Forestry, sets the standard for professional education for the next generation of natural resource managers and scientists. Both curricula emphasize natural resource and environmental sustainability as foundational building blocks and seek to strike the proper balance of the triple bottom line.



# Sustainable Forestry Initiative<sup>®</sup>

Let us know if you want to be added or removed from our mailing list.

We do appreciate your questions, ideas and feedback.

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