



September 1, 2010

2010 - State of the Association Report



Billy Corey, Chairman of the Board,
Tim-Con Wood Products, Roper, NC

History

The NCAPL is marking its third anniversary. The initial twelve loggers who chartered the group in mid - 2007 has grown to 102 logging members and 96 partner members. Our goal is a working group of at least 300 loggers and 100 partner members taking an active role in their business future. A new membership category called "5 star partner" was added in 2009 and will contribute significantly to dues income. Special considerations and services are granted to 5 star partners. Our latest 5-star partner specializes in log exports. The NCAPL now has a promotional video to introduce the association. Visit www.ncloggers.com and look for the YouTube link.

Mission

The NCAPL is a 501 (c) (6) non-profit that functions as a business league. A for-profit LLC was formed in 2009 to manage income unrelated to the primary mission of the NCAPL. Equipment for sale listings, endorsed insurance programs, waste oil pickups, bulk supply purchasing, and procurement consulting are offered at www.loggingservices.biz. Fostering partnerships with other organizations is a strength of the NCAPL. We continue to promote emerging biomass industries and are members of 25x'25.org, NC Association of Agricultural Energy Partners, and support the NC Biofuels Center. Alliances with state forestry associations, landowner groups, regulatory groups, extension services and others are key. Business and policy relationships are the common elements upon which the NCAPL will grow its influence. We also have a new formal alliance agreement with the NC Department of Labor in logging safety.

Officers and the Board of Directors

All officer and board member contact information is available at www.ncloggers.com. Our board recently approved a ratio of one board member per five logging business members and has 17 filled positions.



Legislative

Our federal lobbying efforts support the ALC agenda. State legislative issues were minimal with most focus on the state's financial crisis. NC was one of the first southern states to have renewable energy standards. There has been continued debate on the correct woody biomass definition that aligns with the standards and future clarification by the legislature is likely. One state transportation bill to prevent being blocked by light traffic roads was introduced and lobbied successfully.

Training

The NCAPL received a grant from the USFS Wood Education Resource Center to design a means to perpetuate the HVIP (Hardwood Value Improvement Program) in NC, VA and TN. See www.hardwoodvip.org. We anticipate working with those logging, forestry and extension groups in three states who would have a part in designing and delivering an ongoing program. We also now have a major role in designing and delivering ProLogger training as part of the NC-SFI program. We have continued to discuss, refine and solicit input on a broad based forest equipment operator training program in conjunction with the NC Community College System and have now obtained a major sponsor to provide the equipment. Target start date for this program is Spring 2011.

Master Logger Certification and SFI

The NCAPL Board has not put Master Logger Certification nor SFI endorsement on recent agendas for discussion given other association priorities. Discussion on both these actions will likely occur in early 2011.

Other Accomplishments

We have also initiated the following activities in support of our logging membership:

- Dedicating substantial time and resources to preserving and/or developing wood/biomass delivery markets.

- Expanding our quarterly newsletter

- Growing our discount purchasing and benefits programs

- Hosting a live, in-woods demonstration as part of our annual meeting

- Conducting resource assessment studies for county economic development commissions to support new markets on both brownfield and greenfield sites

- Development of a National Transportation Website www.foresthauling.org through a THAT's Foundation grant.

- Providing a trucking cost calculator and training video via online request to any logging or trucking business.