

New(s)

If you would prefer to receive this newsletter as a PDF file by email in the future, and, or, if you have colleagues that would like to receive this update every three months, please email Tracey (tracey@vt.edu).

IFO Website

The IFO coop website (www.cnr.vt.edu/ifo) has been well received and 245 different people have visited. The cable logging site has had almost 3000 (!) hits and the stream crossing site over 500.

New Member!

Gilbert N. S. Lumber has joined the IFO co-op as a member, which is great news for us. Thanks to Bill Anderson and his colleagues for making that possible. They have a strong interest in improved forest management on steep terrain as well as operator training and turnover issues.

Andy Horcher...



...from the Forest Service San Dimas Technology and Development Center in California has joined us in our PhD program. He was Logging Systems Specialists primarily working in Forest Management and the Inventory and Monitoring Programs. Still a

Forest Service employee, he will be with us at least two years and has a strong interest in helicopter logging and new equipment development.

Bill Lakel...



...formally of Resource Management Service in Chester, VA has joined us as a PhD candidate and instructor. Bill was a district forester managing property for HTRG and Nature Conservancy.

BMPs and SMZs



Mary Yonce and Christine Hodges have started their research work. Mary has summarized and compared state inspection protocols through the South while Christine is taking a closer look at allowable harvesting within the SMZ. You can download their papers from the website under 'current research'. Thanks to the EPA for helping fund that work.



Improved Safety

Tal Roberts and Bob Shaffer have submitted their safety study results to the Forest Product Journal. This was a study funded by the THAT'S Foundation whereby injuries on mechanized logging operations in

the South in 2001 were compared to injuries in 1996 to see if changes in injury type and cause had changed.

Cable and Helicopter Workshop

A four day introductory workshop will be taught at Virginia Tech from March 22 – 25, 2004. If you are interested in participating, contact Dave Waterman at 540-231-5486. Also, a three day stream crossing and road location workshop will be taught by Mike Aust and myself June 7 – 9, 2004.

Doc Walbridge...



Continues to do well, winning another trophy in the Claytor Lake sailing regatta this last summer. Thanks to

Ed Aulrich and a few VT faculty for their kind donations to his scholarship fund. Jump on the website to see who has donated and help 'encourage' those who haven't. We are getting very close to having a named scholarship for him!