



Roundtable on Sustainable Forests

A Partnership for the Future

MEETING SUMMARY

May 26-27, 2004 – Denver, CO

The Roundtable on Sustainable Forests met on May 26-27, 2004, in Denver, Colorado. Attachment A is the meeting agenda, and Attachment B is a participant list. Presentations made at the meeting are available in the *Meeting and Workshop Summary* section of the Roundtable's website, www.sustainableforests.net.

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Co-Chair Jerry Rose of the National Association of State Foresters welcomed everyone to the meeting. He noted that in the last year the Roundtable had achieved its goal of supporting the organization of regional workshops, and he looked forward to additional efforts that engaged even more of the forest sustainability community in the dialogue about sustainable forest management (SFM).

Co-Chair Joel Holtrop, Deputy Chief for State and Private Forestry at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service, also welcomed everyone to Denver. He recognized the achievement of the publication of the National Report on Sustainable Forests—2003 and thanked the Roundtable for their contribution. He also reminded participants that in 2005 the Forest Service would celebrate its centennial anniversary. In addition to a Centennial Congress in Washington, DC, the centennial year will see many regional events geared toward discussions of the role the Forest Service should take in the next century. He encouraged Roundtable participants to become involved in those events. More information is available from regional offices and at the centennial website, www.fs.fed.us/newcentury/.

Mr. Holtrop said that the meeting would generate many ideas concerning where the Roundtable should focus its efforts in the next year. He said that he wanted to begin the day by reminding everyone of things the Roundtable had been working on and should, in his opinion, continue to work on in the future. The included:

- Facilitating sustainability thinking by working with real data and meaningful indicators to advance our collective thinking, as well as serving as a venue for dialogue among people with different world views and different organizational commitments.
- Revisit the dialogue about data. As the National Report shows, there are many areas where we need more and better data, and we need to better understand how to integrate indicators across disciplines.
- Work to improve the indicators themselves by informing U.S. participation in the Montreal Process countries' process to discuss potential revisions to the Montreal C&I,
- Initiating a dialogue on interpreting data by encouraging different people and organizations to share their interpretation of what the data in the National Report mean.

- Carrying the dialogue that has been occurring at the national level to the local and regional levels by building on the connections made and understanding developed during the regional and Tribal forest workshops.

OVERVIEW OF LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE REGIONAL AND TRIBAL WORKSHOPS

Prior to the May meeting, participants were sent a copy of a report entitled *Participant Perceptions of Regional Workshops on Sustainable Forests*. Barbara Wells, a freelance writer and editor formerly with the Northeast-Midwest Institute (and an active Roundtable participant during that time), was contracted by Meridian Institute to survey regional and Tribal workshop participants and to write the report. Ms. Wells was assisted by Jennifer Hayes and Megan Roessing, two USDA Forest Service Presidential Management Fellows.

Co-Chair Jerry Rose presented key messages from the Lessons Learned Project, the purpose of which was to understand whether the regional workshops, when taken as a whole, achieved the purposes for which they were undertaken. Both the *Participant Perception* report and Mr. Rose's presentation are available in the *Meeting and Workshop Summaries* section of the Roundtable's website, www.sustainableforests.net. Please refer to those documents for a more detailed explanation of goals, methodology, and key findings.

The following points were raised in the discussion that followed Mr. Rose's presentation:

- The report has some language about the inability of local government officials to participate. This is a problem. To make change happen at the local level, there needs to be more engagement of local policy-making officials, such as county commissioners and mayors. When approaching these people, it is important not to talk like you are from Washington. Things need to be explained in terms of local events, challenges, and opportunities. The Montreal C&I are a valuable tool, but *how* you do something is sometimes more important than what you actually do.
- It is not clear to me whether participants and other involved thought the workshops met the four goals the Roundtable set forth when embarking on the regional workshops.
- I understood that the regional workshops were a baby step toward those four goals. There was a lot to learn about organizing and starting folks on the discussion about regional C&I. I see those objectives as something to be answered in 5 years, once we've done a lot of follow up and really have traction.
- How are we going to pay for getting operators of family forests involved? In order for sustainability to work in the private family forest sector, it must be an independent commercial enterprise. It has to pay for itself or be subsidized by folks with their paychecks. If it moves just to cost share or another form of welfare agriculture, it will not work.
- I thought the report was fair, based on what I saw at the one regional workshop that I attended. We asked a lot of the folks who attended. The central theme was "we have all of this national data, what is useful here, and what else might need to be put out." My sense that it was too ambiguous for a first step, and it frustrated people. Maybe we shouldn't start off by looking at the toolbox. Rather we should look at what needs to be built by having an open discussion about decisions and problems. It may be too contrived to start the conversation the way we did in the regional workshops.
- The report says that those surveyed were almost equally split between those who think the Montreal C&I are a good model, those that think it needs more work, and those who think it is a bad model. However, the survey sample did not show any trends or groupings, either regionally or among stakeholder groups within those three groups.

- We need to help people see that what they're doing now can be enhanced with improved tools. This is not a revolution. We should not be talking about everything like it is brand new.
- We need to keep in mind that the Montreal C&I is a subset of the larger discussion of sustainability. The national Roundtable should think about to whom the Montreal C&I are targeted and be more strategic in who it tries to engage. In my work, we specifically target planning at the state level.
- The Montreal C&I do not project a desired future condition. They are a tool for reporting on where we are at a single point in time. They help us be comprehensive in our thinking. Lots of participants didn't understand that. The big questions are what are they for and who can use them.
- Don't bring assessment *and* future conditions down at same time and impose it on local folks. Communication with the majority of local private landowners, 95% of whom are or want to be good actors, should be the focus.
- I have had similar experiences with people on the ground thinking that the Montreal C&I approach is too top down. When I organized local meetings to develop local C&I, we dropped the word "Montreal" and talked in local terms. That helped us get quality input. We also learned that if we are going to get local people involved, we had to have meetings in the evenings and on Saturdays.

PANEL ON LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE REGIONAL AND TRIBAL WORKSHOPS

The next agenda item was a panel composed of one steering committee member from each of the regional and Tribal workshops. The panel members were Jim Brooks, Minnesota DNR; Hanna Cortner, Ecological Restoration Institute at Northern Arizona University; Lark Hayes, Southern Environmental Law Center; and Edwin Lewis, Yakama Agency BIA Branch of Forestry. Each panelist was asked to use the following questions to frame their remarks:

1. Which lessons are most applicable to fostering ongoing regional dialogue on sustainable forest management in your region? How would you begin to apply them?
2. How do you think the Roundtable could most effectively address the challenges identified by the lessons learned analysis? What should be its role and focus? Do you perceive additional challenges for the Roundtable in its attempt to catalyze dialogue on sustainable forests at the regional (or sub-national) level?
3. How do you think the USDA Forest Service could address the challenge identified in the lessons learned analysis? Do you perceive additional challenges that were not addressed in the report?

Lark Hayes

Ms. Hayes started the panel discussion. She said that most of the environmental groups who attended the Southern Regional Workshop had participated in the Southern Forest Resource Assessment (SFRA) process for 3 years or more. That stakeholder group did not feel that there had been and discreet, identifiable follow up to the publication to the SFRA, despite the urgency in the SFRA's projections. For example, U.S. timber production is expected to increase by 33% in the relatively near future, and nearly all of that timber will come from the South. In addition, nearly 30 million acres of forest will be lost to urbanization and development, and native forest types would be particularly hard hit. Non-industrial private foresters are not getting the incentives and technical assistance needed to manage their lands sustainably, and no Southern state has a forest practices act or mandatory best management practices. Also, the SFRA did not address the current restructuring of industry lands at order of magnitude not seen in a very long time in the South. Many representatives of environmental groups attended the Southern workshop looking for action-oriented follow up to some of these pressing issues.

Ms. Hayes said that many felt the workshop got on the right track by identifying some specific issues for attention, including non-regulatory incentives for forest landowners. At the same time, many participants from the environmental community were distressed with the message that the Forest Service did not want to lead, did not have a follow-up plan, and had nothing to get on board for.

Regarding the Forest Service's ongoing role, Ms. Hayes expressed her opinion that if the Forest Service is not going to take the lead, then we all, at a minimum, have to collectively take reasonable steps to enable others to act. There are essentially two types of support – in kind and direct financial assistance. In kind support from the Forest Service could take the form of a loaned executive program or something similar to provide technical support and access to decision makers and to help reach out to landowners and state foresters. If folks are serious about enabling people at local levels to do more, there needs to be a meaningful level of direct funding and a more analytic approach to identifying key issues. In addition, the Forest Service could do a lot to help create a “buzz” around key issues in the region. Press conferences and the like help “show the troops” and elevate the importance of an issue.

She said that the Roundtable could support ongoing dialogue in the South by loaning or otherwise making available professional facilitators to assist with organizing follow up. She hoped that people in the South would be able to look at the National Report process and identify some concrete results.

Hanna Cortner

With regard to the lessons most applicable to festering dialogue, Ms. Cortner said that local matters, money talks, and there is often a gap between the promise (i.e. utility) and performance (i.e. applicability at local level) of the Montreal C&I. Responding to the question about challenges for the Roundtable, Ms. Cortner identified scale and two-way communication as important challenges. She said that both scale and the Montreal C&I were extremely important foci for the Western Steering Committee. This led to a tension between the need for standardized data for reporting purposes at the national and international levels and the flexibility of local people to monitor and use sets of C&I for their own purposes.

On the topic of two-way communication, Ms. Cortner said that the Roundtable did a valuable service by fostering regional roundtables and serving as catalyst for the events and discussions. However, the problem is not just how the national Roundtable informs and educates others. It is also how the Roundtable is informed and educated by others. She pointed to a statement in the lessons learned report that says that the Roundtable “still needs to convince many stakeholders how its work in general, and Montreal C&I in particular, will enhance efforts.” Thus, the focus is still on Montreal C&I and top down communication and learning. The Roundtable should beware of the assumption “if we educate they will come.” Ms. Cortner also said that while talking and planning are an important currency at the national and international levels, performance and action are perhaps more important currencies at the local level.

Given the challenges of scale and two-way communication, Ms. Cortner said that the task of fostering dialogue about Montreal C&I as local level may not be a long-term role for the Roundtable. Fostering venues in which and means by which states and locals can engage in monitoring and using C&I frameworks may be. The Roundtable needs to work to separate the two tensions and create more mutually effective mechanisms for two-way communication.

Finally, Ms. Cortner offered her thoughts on how the USDA Forest Service could address challenges and lessons learned. She said that the main challenges are to confront the paradox of leadership versus control and the lesson of “money talks.” She said that the whole process seems to be looking to the USDA Forest Service as the one to provide money and to lead nationally and internationally on the Montreal C&I. But, if one controls dollars and leadership, there is the danger of focusing on your own issues. Furthermore, she said, because of its history and location within the national administration, there is an unwillingness

to entertain ideas that challenge the status quo. For example, as the USDA Forest Service celebrates 100 years, is it likely to address whether it should be same fragmented land management system? Is the USDA Forest Service likely to address whether its research establishment is appropriate to address the issues of scale that confront us or to examining the social, policy, and institutional issues that are rare of sustainable forest management? In her opinion, the USDA Forest Service is not in position to say whether or not its goals, objectives, and management actions are leading toward sustainability.

In the end, Ms. Cortner said she did not have a perfect answer that would deal with the many issues she identified. Perhaps, she said, there should be more leadership from the states. States can act as a mediating institution between the federal and local levels and act as laboratories for experimentation in the development and use of C&I frameworks at the local level. There might also be a need for Congressional appropriation to create a separate organization to so foster and monitor the use of C&I. Finally, everyone involved needs to be careful about analyzing solutions to lessons learned while assuming the same old institution.

Ms. Cortner offered some opinions on additional challenges not addressed by report. She said that the Roundtable's guiding premise that "better data make for better dialogue, which makes for better decisions" needs some qualification. Data alone does not make better decisions, and we have to beware of data for data's sake. In truth, what counts (i.e. relationships and trust) often can't be counted, and you don't get to sustainability with data alone. We need to do what Mr. Holthrop said earlier, to move more toward interpreting the data. Without an evaluative component and benchmarking along the way, we are confronted with the "so what" question. Finally, Ms. Cortner noted the challenge of paying due attention to the politics of sustainability. We need to develop institutional mechanisms for linking agencies, scientists, vested interests, and citizens. We need to confronting the "lords of yesterday," those outdated laws and institutions, that at least in the West are still alive and well. In addition, we need to confront the reality that if sustainability is just rhetoric, it is possible to sustain much that is unsustainable, both ecologically and democratically. Finally, the politics of sustainability will require what we do what we heard repeatedly at the Western workshop – restore trust.

Jim Brooks

Mr. Brooks' began his remarks by describing the Upper Mississippi River Forest Partnership Regional Roundtable. He said that the workshop was different from the others because it focused on a "sub-region" rather than the Northern U.S. The effort was supported by the Upper Mississippi River Forest Partnership and the Lake States Alliance in a variety of ways. The Upper Mississippi has a natural tie to water, watersheds, and water quality as a measure of potential success. The Steering Committee and invited preparers developed a regional database needed to focus on the criteria through breakout sessions during the first day. The second day's work focused on vision and strategy through breakouts. The best-received session was the Cabaret Poster session where people engaged in meaningful dialogue for more than 3 hours. The experience showed that there is a wide variation in backgrounds and thinking within the forestry community, although the general public assumes that it is a homogeneous group.

In response to the question about key lessons for ongoing dialogue, Mr. Brooks described the important role of the Upper Mississippi River Partnership as a multi-state vehicle for dialogue. The Upper Mississippi regional also has a purpose and linkage to other organizations through the Gulf of Mexico hypoxia threat. In addition, there are numerous broad-spectrum groups emerging in each state to work on state and regional solutions.

Regarding challenges for the Roundtable, the greatest challenge is to connect various efforts of disciplines (i.e. forestry, agriculture, pollution control agencies, research and teaching institutions, land-use planning, private practitioners into state-based and regional associations) each focusing on solutions. Regional

guidelines must drive regional issues. This will require forestry efforts to develop workable solutions we can deliver, such as riparian land management, land use planning, best management practices, and the like.

Regarding challenges for the Forest Service, Mr. Brooks said that the agency should continue to support delivery of active, proper forest management and stewardship on non-federal public and non-industrial private forestlands through cost-share programs, training, research and outreach. The agency also needs to develop better bonds of cooperation within USDA units who are supporting the region including NRCS, FSA, FHA etc. Focus more on collaborative connected effort driven by problem solving, rather than programs with no cross-disciplinary connections.

In conclusion, Mr. Brooks said that collaboration and cooperation efforts are larger than and more important than any individual criterion. The solutions are not either-or choices. They are better characterized as multiple-use, both-and.

Edwin Lewis

Mr. Lewis said that the idea of using C&I on Tribal lands came to light a few years ago, when Joel Holtrop attended the Intertribal Timber Council's (ITC). Since then, Jerry Rose has spoken at an ITC national meeting. The ITC participated in the National Report review process, and the ITC board, through its operations committee, has seen the Roundtable as opportunity to get together with many forest managers to find common ground and generally increase awareness about the challenges of managing Indian forests, of which there are approximately 17 million acres.

In December 2003, the ITC also thought it was important to get Tribal forest managers together for a day to increase dialogue on SFM among tribes. Participants learned about thousands of years of traditional environmental knowledge and the spiritual values that play such an important part of forest management in Indian country. Several members of the Western Workshop Planning Committee were present, and the workshop was an important step toward demonstrating to Indian forest managers the value of ongoing dialogue among themselves and with others.

Mr. Lewis said that as we move forward, we should remember that the C&I should serve as a broad assessment, characterized with good data, from which we can have a better dialogue. He said that for Indian forest managers, the process had begun with the engagement of the USDA Forest Service and many state foresters. The dialogue with these parties has been good, and the process has matured to a point where we are all seeing some substance to the Montreal C&I framework.

Regarding the guiding questions for the panel, Mr. Lewis said that many of the lessons were beginning to be internalized and engagement with the Roundtable and the USDA Forest Service continues. He noted that several people were involved in active discussions of examining Indicator 42¹ more closely. He hoped that Tribes would continue to be involved in all regional activities in the future.

Discussion

- The USDA Forest Service's role is a double-edged sword. However, given the context of prominent leadership on various forest sustainability initiatives, the perception is that there is some disproportionate responsibility to see that some follow up happens.

¹ Area and percent of forestland managed in relation to the total area of forestland to protect the range of cultural, social and spiritual needs and values.

- The three regional workshops were an experiment in blending top-down and bottom-up approaches. How far should top-down be pushed. For example, some things, like the National Report and the regional workshops themselves, would not have happened in the absence of the national Roundtable and the USDA Forest Service. Maybe we have carried the top-down part of this as far as it can or should be carried? Maybe the national Roundtable should have a clearly identifiable mission in terms of national and international connections that goes to future national reports? The rest is finding other ways to connect with local interests when there are national interests at stake. Maybe we shouldn't have the expectation that the Montreal C&I will play a central role at sub-national levels.
- I heard all of the panelists say something about money, and money is the tool we use to signal that something is important. While money cannot solve everything, I do not see the USDA Forest Service's role here being in policy or measurement ideas. That has to come from stakeholders on the ground. Where the USDA Forest Service might play a role is in helping to establish trust. Sponsor processes on ground that attempt to nurture trust and generate something of cultural value to society. This is where Montreal C&I falter as a tool for action – it is bad at measuring cultural issues.
- This business of C&I has to do with a long-term report card of how we're doing. This issue of leadership has to do with "if you're going to be a stakeholder, you'd better have a hold of the stake." If the USDA Forest Service is going to be a credible element in this, the national forest system needs to resume as a leader in wood production in this society.
- The USDA Forest Service has wrestled with not taking too much of a role, while trying to make resources available. The regional workshops tried to get in the stream of regional activities and help people improve what they were doing where they were.
- There is a clear need for leadership among "the three Forest Services," and the agency needs to be less defensive. It could be a lot more proactive and creative in management and planning processes. It could be proactive in looking at cultural dimensions of forests and how we can learn from market indicators as we think about forests.
- My impression as a first-time participant is that the FS has a role, an important leadership role, but at a national level. It has to be the organization that pulls together a report card and does the measurement behind that report card. It is not the USDA Forest Service's role to go to regional, state, and local levels and tell folks how to deal with their issues.
- Leadership needs to come from regional foresters, state foresters, and people who represent the USDA Forest Service at the local level, if it is to go anywhere. People at that level can focus on critical issues so that something can get done. National-level organizations can't have an affect on the ground by talking about the West or the South. The practical reality is that you have to deal with problems where they occur. However, a national-level organization can try to bring tools to folks at the local level to show them that things don't always have to be in the same mess.
- What is facilitative leadership by the USDA Forest Service? Is it convening dialogue on each indicator, getting feedback on what is acceptable or not, what needs to be done, and who needs to do it? Such an approach has the potential to show people what their piece is and how each can move forward in a way that makes that trend go in a more desirable direction.
- There is a lot of non-scientific environmental knowledge in Tribal elders. In management, many Tribes are striving to mesh Indian versus "Western" science, and many have a desire and see a need to monitor cultural indicators related to forests.
- The Southern region's request for proposals can, if handled properly, demonstrate shared responsibility by enabling others in an ongoing partnership. This may be a good model for others.
- Some Tribal forest managers are concerned that the Montreal C&I might be something dictated to them.

- It is interesting to hear that folks at the local level, especially Tribes, are doing to merge culture and values and quality of life when you still have to deal with the changing values and conditions of overall society.
- It is interesting that someone identified states as emerging leaders. Empowering them to take a lead role in talking about C&I is not the same as giving them control.
- The leadership issue is a key issue at this workshop, and the need for leadership extends to the political context. There was mention of the report having been delayed for political reasons. The Roundtable needs to think through the next phase of work and its complexity. Is this a good time to move from dialogue to decisions, or is it best to stay in the data?
- If you look at how the Montreal C&I were put together, it was not a top-down process. If you go to people on the ground and ask them to develop a set of C&I, you would probably get something similar. Maybe C&I need to be developed in each place. If so, then everyone, not just the USDA Forest Service, has a leadership role to play. That said, the USDA Forest Service has a key facilitative role to play in making sure that shared leadership happens.
- The Roundtable has to figure out what leadership means 5, 10, and 50 years from now. People are wondering what they're spending their time on. I feel like we're in a crucial time for getting others on board.
- There is going to be a huge turnover in forest leadership in our country in the next decade, and we will see it at all levels of decision-making. How are we preparing that group to carry on these types of discussions?
- We are at a point in conservation history where we have many problems that are beyond administrative remedies. The most troubling problems are cross ownership in nature. Fire is a timely example.
- Part of the challenge is trying to figure out a centralized data repository that all partners could use. Everyone would have the same information and would interpret for themselves what it says.
- Maybe we shouldn't lump things together. In C&I, we need to equate the "C" with a goal-setting function and the "I" with the data function. While goals articulated from top may be sensitive, data from the top is not. We need something like our national economic system that is used by people in specific locations, local media, and local businesses to understand their situation.
- The process of setting goals can be dividing. Maybe the Roundtable should focus on things short of setting goals that are doable with a multi-stakeholder process. You don't necessarily need a goal to decide if a clear trend is acceptable or not.
- Our society has a pluralistic history, and many people resent being told what to do, especially by distant authorities. And we also need to remember that sustainability is long run. The things we think are good today will still have consequences we need to understand and learn from. We should be asking what new things, in terms of management practices, should be tried, and who should try them. We should have the capacity to learn about what is and isn't working.

MINI ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS ON THE LESSONS LEARNED EXERCISE

Following the panel discussion, meeting participants were organized into small groups to discuss and report out on their response to the following questions:

1. What are you going to do with what you have heard today?
2. What is it you would suggest the Roundtable do in its next phase of work?
3. What do you think the USDA Forest Service should do?

Comments from each table are summarized below each question.

1. What are you going to do with what you have heard today?

- Think about developing incentives for SFM.
- Build more understanding and awareness of the principle that individual actions add up to SFM.
- Incorporate C&I into planning efforts and assessments.
- Work on criteria for cultural resources.
- Help individuals realize how what they do adds up to a bigger whole.
- Discuss today's discussions with colleagues to help spread the message and generate enthusiasm for continuing to participate.
- Work more closely with local groups to have access to local government officials.
- Do more to understand values associated with forest resources.

2. What is it you would suggest the Roundtable do in its next phase of work?

- Make a widely advertised public commitment to a 2008 report.
- Thinking about how best to collaborate with stakeholders and use the Roundtable to meet the goal of an improved National Report in 2008.
- Look at trends over time, and present them by region.
- Generally facilitate, communicate, and provide technical assistance to enable partners to also take a leadership role.
- Provide seed money for state reports.
- Continue to co-chair the Roundtable and continue to participate in the international dialogue.
- Coordinate better with other federal and state agencies.
- Lead by example. Show the application of C&I on the national forest system.
- Establish mechanisms for distributing funds to private landowners to assist them in developing indicators at the local level and support best management practices to accomplish the goal of SFM.
- Support quality science behind the indicators and suggest changes to the tool
- Strive to integrate the meaning in the national assessment across forestlands and communities.
- Direct more research toward the social and cultural indicators and the development of data standards and protocols that are useable by people at the local level.
- Sincerely listen to and act on feedback.
- Support more participant travel so that more people can be part of the dialogue.
- Develop a clearer focus, rather than generally increasing funding levels.
- Provide assistance to states for consistent application of the C&I.
- Support regional round tables to bring more players to the table.
- Find ways to fund extension and/or educators to get things like the National Report beyond the esoteric.
- Should not carve out a new chunk of money to fund SFM locally.
- Concentrate on the assessment function and let the Roundtable convene/facilitate the evaluation trends and discussions of options for addressing them.
- Evaluate whether all of the collective actions on forest management by federal and state agencies, industry, private landowners, and others adding us to desirable changes in forest trends.
- Provide incentives for people to use a C&I approach in their work.
- Develop a vision of SFM so that people can understand what it is they are being asked to work toward.
- Play a leading role in coordinating across the USDA.
- Be clear that C&I are a tool for understanding and are not the answer. Many are not clear on this.

3. What do you think the USDA Forest Service should do?

- Help organize dialogues at meaningful scales (e.g., states, watersheds).
- Provide a venue for agencies at all levels to hear stakeholders' ideas and concerns regarding national policy.
- Continue the relationship with ITC and help to facilitate, but not lead, discussions at the regional and local levels.
- Clarify the expectation of participation.
- Help to define what SFM looks like and what assessment trends mean in that context.
- Continue to serve primarily as an inclusive venue for networking, sharing ideas, and engaging in dialogue about interpretation and meaning.
- Serve as an umbrella organization for discussing all C&I, not just the Montreal C&I.
- Help to better define specific challenges behind the "scale" issues often discussed here.
- Avoid the realm of action at the local level. That is not an appropriate role.
- Organize a regional dialogue in the northeastern U.S.
- Feature local perspectives at Roundtable meetings. Allow those from sub-national levels to be heard at national events.
- Develop a clean statement of future work based on what has been accomplished in the past and needs to be accomplished in the future.
- Engage a wider array of federal agencies in Roundtable meetings.
- Up the ante for other federal agencies to provide funding or otherwise contribute.
- Consider the assumption that the C&I need to nest together. We may be using too much time trying to fit everything together from international to national to local.
- Accept and continue to collect data, seek better data, fill data gaps, and address social data.
- Give consumption issues higher visibility.
- Integrate work with the other roundtables and other federal agencies so that local and regional efforts can get more help with local and regional projects.
- Help create an environment in which corporations and philanthropists are willing to invest in sustainability research and development.

Highlights from the discussion that followed the mini-roundtables included:

- I would like to see more discussion around the issue of "defining the endpoint." Regional stakeholders could be brought together to talk about their desired future. That's a local decision. The national Roundtable is not a proper place for that.
- When you think about a regional forester, he or she is focusing on indices of forest health, like fire condition class, and moving toward more land in better classes than worse. I would like to see us move there in terms of the indicators. How do you get to more synthetic indices that carry more normative meaning in them?
- You cannot define an endpoint. SFM is a journey, not a destination. It is different for different owners and at different scales. That's why having a set of key criteria that unify the key elements of SFM is the best we can do. We need to underscore the continuing nature of this.
- The Roundtable is a functional process, and we should think of the endpoint in terms of capacity. One of the criteria is social/institutional. Do we have the capacity to make the decisions we need to make?
- Some USDA Forest Service people feel beaten up because of trying to bring this to local level. The Roundtable and its participants, as leaders, have a responsibility to help the USDA Forest Service take the message back to the local level.
- We do not see lots of the forest management problems the USDA Forest Service has to grapple with as forest issues, but as people issues.

- What condition are we going to sustain? Are we measuring the ball or moving the ball? It is important to keep a clear distinction between assessment and policy applications of the tool. If you mix them, your legitimacy will be questioned. We need to remain on the side of credible information and dialogue about that information, but not to go to advocacy or action.
- In the U.S., we operate at a much higher scale than many countries. The U.S. is a mega-national scale relative to other countries, hence the need to think at the sub-national scales. It is hard to deal with everything from a national perspective only.

CLOSING COMMENTS AND REFLECTIONS ON THE DAY'S DISCUSSION

Mr. Rose said that he had found the days' discussion enlightening, and it appears that many share that opinion. We don't need to think very hard to realize that a single government agency can do everything alone. It will take stakeholders getting involved at various levels of decision making. To this end, we need a mechanism that meshes leadership from stakeholder at all scales and among all interest groups. In addition, we have heard that holding onto tradition is not always the most progressive way to move forward.

Mr. Rose summarized several of the themes that emerged during the day. First, the need for financial, technical, and administrative support seems paramount. Second, we should focus on capturing opportunities and solving problems, not on program implementation. Many said that the health of land and the health of communities and their values are important as you think about long-term sustainability. Also, the framework has been established, and we now need to give it some substance.

Mr. Rose also noted that the tension between top-down and bottom-up approaches continues. He said that from his experience at the international level, he is of the opinion that devolution of some activities to actors outside of government can be a good move. However, improper allocations can result in negative impacts on people's livelihoods and on resource health. We heard today, he said, that the things we need to think about when considering top-down versus bottom-up approaches include enhancing broad decision making by people on the ground, facilitating fair and equitable benefits of forests, reducing impacts of non-sustainable activities, respecting local indigenous communities, attracting investment, and developing appropriate strategies for multiple and sustainable use.

Mr. Holtrop said that he appreciated the day's discussion. He felt that the report on the regional and Tribal workshops was well done and provided a good starting point for the dialogue. He said that he also felt good about the animation quality feedback it engendered. He said that after listening carefully, he felt that the experiment in regional dialogue was a success, and he thanked all of the USDA Forest Service personnel that worked to make them happen. They have spawned several additional regional activities. The Western Forest Leadership Coalition is talking about ways to institutionalize sustainable development. The South is organizing an addition workshop and is developing a request for proposals to enable others. ITC is looking at options for using C&I processes on Indian forestlands, as well as ways to do better job with cultural values and traditional ecology knowledge. It is also clear that there is a need for the national Roundtable to continue in a facilitative, but not dominant, role to keep things moving forward.

Mr. Holtrop also offered some comments on what he heard about the Forest Service's ongoing role. One of the things that came up repeatedly is money. When funding comes largely from one source, it can easily translate into a perception of control. He heard clearly that the Forest Service needs to redouble its efforts to not exhibit too much control. The control issue also highlights the need to continue to challenge other organizations to participate. Long-term efforts will benefit from a perception of multi-stakeholder, broad based support.

Mr. Holtrop said that the Forest Service would continue to support sustainable development and to play a leadership role as appropriate. Playing a strong cross-coordinating role with other federal agencies and within the USDA was mentioned several times. Another important role is ensuring that all aspects and scales of society can take advantage of the work done in the National Report. Finally, we heard that those of us working at the national level need to exhibit more humility about activities at the local, state, and regional levels and figuring out how best to facilitate those activities.

Highlights of responses to the co-chair's closing remarks included:

- Government accountability is big for the Government Accounting Office and the Office of Management and Budget. Consistent sustainability measures across all agencies of sustainability would be useful.
- I wish the role of federal agencies and how they participated had come out more strongly in the lessons learned report.
- Part of good capacity is a leadership succession plan. Are new folks in this process already? Are people ready to volunteer the time and energy it will take? The magnitude of turnover that might happen in the next few years is potentially huge.
- There aren't many Congressional people in these discussions. It makes me think that we're dancing around the politics of what's involved here. Can the Roundtable help to identify appropriate venues for doing so? I've found that when you have a direct line to mayors and governors, things get done.
- There are many mechanisms for reaching local governments. Roundtable participants need to invade those workshops and conferences so that they hear about SFM. If you chip away at outreach strategies today, you could probably make some progress in five years.
- If we want to engage local communities, we have to have a tangible hook. It would be great if we could show how acreage contributes to some larger context. Then we can make linkages.

UPDATE AND DISCUSSION ON THE MULTIPLE PERSPECTIVES EFFORT

Jay West of Meridian Institute presented a status report on the Multiple Perspectives Project, highlighting the many important consensus decisions made by the Multiple Perspectives Task Force during a set of meetings in December 2003 and January 2004. He asked meeting participants to step forward to serve on the Review Committee, a body that would develop the final call for papers and evaluate manuscript proposals for development into full papers. He also asked folks to give their support to seeking funding from sources outside of the federal government.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27

REPORT FROM THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE FORESTERS SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

Austin Short, State Forester for Delaware and Chair of the National Association of State Foresters (NASF) Sustainable Forestry Implementation Committee (SFIC), provided meeting participants with an update on the origin and activities of the SFMIC. Formed in 1999, SFIC serves as NASF's primary link with the Roundtable, develops partnerships with industry, keeps NASF informed of SFM activities in the U.S., and promotes C&I among state forest management agencies. One of the SFIC's largest accomplishments to date has been the publication of the *Principles and Guide for Well-Managed Forests*. Another big effort by state foresters in the Northeast has been achieving consensus on a set of indicators, which are a subset of the Montreal C&I. The USDA Forest Service's Northeastern Area has played a major coordinating role in this effort and continues to support the effort.

In the future, the committee hopes to develop a handbook that focuses on on-the-ground application of the *Principles and Guide*. He also said that hiring a replacement for Jerry Rose to represent the committee and NASF in international and national events would be a major thrust through the summer. At the conclusion of his remarks, Mr. Short gave his colleagues from Massachusetts, Michigan, North Dakota, Arkansas, and Alabama an opportunity to inform participants of sustainability activities underway in their states.

UPDATE ON THE NATIONAL COMMISSION ON SCIENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY

Mr. Bernabo provided a brief history of NCSSF and said that the Commission is half way through its 5-year effort to support research that advances sustainable forestry on the ground. He explained that the Commission's four program areas are synthesis and survey, research and development, tool development, and outreach and education. Seventeen commissioners determine the commission's priorities, and the tension between researchers and practitioners helps to produce useful products. To date, the commission has developed requests for proposals valued between \$1-1.5 million. Mr. Bernabo reviewed NCSSF-sponsored research projects to date and emphasized that NCSSF takes no official position on any forest policy. He ended by saying that he hoped to find more opportunities to interact with the Roundtable in the future.

UPDATE AND DISCUSSION ON THE INTEGRATION AND SYNTHESIS GROUP

Ted Heintz of the President's Council on Environmental Quality gave an update on the work of the Integration and Synthesis Group (ISG). He explained that the ISG emerged from the Roundtable Network, the group that coordinates the work of the forest, rangeland, water, and minerals and energy roundtables. ISG participants include systems ecologists, sociologists, resource management specialists, and others that participate in the four sustainable resource roundtables, along with a few other systems experts.

Mr. Heintz said that the ISG is working to develop a conceptual model that encompasses all of the environmental and natural resource systems on the landscape. ISG is in the process of developing a systems-based framework derived from conceptual models within which indicators used by different groups can be evaluated for consistency and from which more integrated understanding can begin to emerge. The framework responds to the need to integrate information that is organized in indicators and to synthesize a story that can tell us about the sustainability of mixed-resource landscapes.

Mr. Heintz also said that the ISG's work is contributing to the CEQ indicator working group's effort to develop a national system of environmental and natural resource indicators. His presentation included a diagram that explained this hierarchical system in which individual indicators feed upward to a core set of indicators that speak to public values and needs and also inform public discourse. Another diagram showed the interplay between knowledge-based and value-based information, and Mr. Heintz emphasized the need for assessments to address both. Mr. Heintz also said that the indicators, as measures of changes of state, act as the feedback elements in the system, allowing us to learn collectively from our actions.

Key points made during the discussion that followed Mr. Heintz's presentation included the following:

- The National Park Service's "Vital Signs" work is being looked at by the ISG, and the group is trying to get more participation from the Park Service.
- The ultimate vision is a system of indicators similar to our current system of national economic indicators. Information is taken from all over the country and integrated and organized in a way that it can be used reliably by people asking similar questions but at different scales.
- It will be important for users to augment the system with local data.
- More needs to be done to integrate social science information into the system.
- This effort is valuable in that it adds an issue-based focus to C&I. It can allow each stakeholder group to identify what is important, and it also provides a means for thinking about interrelationships among indicators.

UPDATE AND DISCUSSION ON COMMUNITY INDICATOR ACTIVITIES

Tim Mealey of Meridian Institute and Wendy Sanders of the Great Lakes Forest Alliance led a discussion of recent work on community indicators. Mr. Mealey informed participants of the work of the Community-based Collaborative Research Consortium (CBCRC), which grew out of the critique by many environmental groups that collaborative processes do not have positive environmental outcomes. CBCRC participants conduct research on how outcomes of collaborative processes can be measured.

Mr. Mealey said that the CBCRC defines a community-based collaborative as any process taking place at a community scale, including those being organized or run by community members or government agencies of any level at a community scale. He also said that there is a tremendous amount of activity all over the country and a huge body of knowledge and wisdom emerging at community scale. The CBCRC is one effort that is trying to create bottom-up social learning networks to understand and share that knowledge. Another effort is the Collaborative Adaptive Management Network (CAMNet), which focuses on the regional scale and has a more ecosystem-based management approach.

Ms. Sanders said that there is a need to talk about what people see day to day because of forest management decisions. Also, we need to think of forest problems as people problems. This is especially important because rural communities no longer carry the votes necessary to have their issues heard at the national level. That said, talking about communities does not have to mean that we cross the line that separates data and advocacy. People at the local level need information, and that information is often masked in assessments that focus on national-level trends.

Ms. Sanders said that people in communities see a need to talk about the integration of social, environmental, and economic information, and not just each separate, disciplinary silo. To facilitate this, someone needs to take responsibility for trying to nest indicators in a way that data, stories, and public

discourse can flow more smoothly than they do now. Some say that communities are too different in their needs to accomplish such a feat, but it is uncanny how different communities tend to converge when it comes to key data needs. Also, there is an emerging body of work that explores how communities can participate in indicator monitoring, thereby providing higher-resolution data.

A key challenge in achieving a more integrated and nested information system will be to define what an individual community is. Researchers and practitioners around the country are trying to answer this question, and Ms. Sanders asked participants to connect her to local groups who might be interested in joining the discussion. Finally, Ms. Sanders said that if we are truly interested in what happens to people at the local level, more resources need to be dedicated to making that happen.

Highlights from the ensuing discussion included the following:

- There are a lot of people working locally on these issues, and they are interacting with similarly minded people from all around the world. A global caucus of community-level natural resource folks is emerging.
- Even at the county level, there are different communities within that county, and those communities may have very different values. When we do county-level forest planning, we make sure that every one of those communities and their values are at the table. Those communities need to understand their differences. It is a challenge, but it has proven successful.
- You cannot “prove” sustainability at the level of the individual private landowners. That’s where certification systems go awry. What you can do, however, is couch the issue as responsible land management and show private landowners how their actions contribute to the overall sustainability of the timber industry.
- Is raising local issues to national attention a data issue or a political issue?
- To be effective at the local level, we need to talk about sustainable development, not just sustainable forests. Local decision makers balance many factors, and we need to work hard to help them see sustainability as something larger than just forests and as something that can embody community values.
- Local people need a good role model to show what all of this means in practice. The National Forest System could be such an example in many regions. Also, we need to do a better job of identifying key landowners and bringing them to these types of discussions.
- Those who work primarily at the national level need to understand that in many parts of the country local demographics are changing rapidly with migration, immigration, aging, and decreasing acreages in private hands. The resources are changing, but the people who want things from those resources are changing as well.
- There seems to be a lack of thinking “backwards” to our ancestors. Anthropologists are doing a good job of bringing that perspective and reminding us of how communities have interacted historically with resources. Communities possess a shared knowledge and a common goal concerning the well being of their members. In our modern age, such common knowledge and goals are disappearing, but we can about the future by looking back.
- Historical perspectives and traditional knowledge can also show us what we need to do to live with the land, not just on it.
- Our role needs to be more about giving context in places where folks are doing things that contribute to sustainability. Doing so will motivate others. People need to see that what they do is part of a larger effort and contributes to something that includes but is also beyond their immediate area.

Making these connections will drive responsible management by a larger number of people. Alabama and Pennsylvania have programs that employ the power of peers, and these might serve as models.

- Some of us have seen the U.S. population double in our lifetime. The implications for the forestry profession have been tremendous. C&I need to be flexible enough to look forward and to anticipate who will be using the information generated now and with the consequences of decision made now.

UPDATE ON THE UNITED NATION FORUM ON FORESTS (UNFF) PROPOSALS FOR ACTION AND REPORT ON UNFF 4

Al Sample of the Pinchot Institute for Conservation gave an update on the UNFF Proposals for Action and UNFF's fourth meeting. The UNFF formed in 1999 to oversee implementation of process by which countries around the world would prepare their own assessment and report on progress toward implementing the Proposals. Its mission officially ends in 2005, at which time there will be a comprehensive look at what individual countries have done and at what more needs to be done.

For several years, Pinchot has been funded by the USDA Forest Service's Office of International Programs to assess U.S. policies and programs that respond to the Proposals, thereby helping to prepare the U.S. delegation to the UNFF meetings. Mr. Sample said that while most UNFF countries only reported the actions of their central governments, Pinchot has tried to look at programs and activities of federal and state governments, industry, Tribes, the NGO community, and others. Mr. Sample shared his desire to see an evaluation of U.S. programs and activities that respond to the Proposals once the assessment is complete. Pinchot has already convened a series of interagency review workshops to get some feedback, but input from a wider spectrum of stakeholders would be valuable.

Highlights of the discussion that followed Mr. Sample's presentation included:

- Part of what is at stake in these international dialogues is whether there will be a forest convention. U.S. has been in forefront of saying that a convention is not necessary.
- Many countries are where we were in 1905, when the Forest Service was founded. We had some really smart people back then that sat down to establish a legal, institutional, and policy framework that allowed agencies and other organizations to take their own actions. One value of our report to other countries is for them to see our framework and see how to adapt the framework to their particular needs.
- If U.S. was signatory to Proposals, then we must have committed to pursue them. Is this a situation where we let things happen or where we make things happen? Should we use legislative mechanisms like the Farm Bill to shape our response to the Proposals?
- We've seen the earth summit process where Western countries showed up with its environmental concerns at the top of the agenda. What is your gut feeling that after 15 years we are working toward alleviating the disconnect between our environmental concerns and developing countries' social and economic concerns?
 - *Mr. Sample:* The Proposals put a common goal out there for us. Also, we need to remember that we have social and economic concerns, and the developing countries have ecological concerns.
- Who actually sees the country report you produce? Colin Powell, Congress? How much attention does it get in our government?
 - *Mr. Sample:* It gets a lot of attention in the State Department and the USDA Forest Service. Other executive agencies are interested as well. We have not done any Congressional briefings, and we would have to do so in consultation with state and federal forest services. That said, the report tells a hugely positive story about all of the things we're doing collectively. I think any other country would be hard pressed to show a similar response.

Mr. Sample asked Catherine Karr of the USDA Forest Service's International Programs Office offered some comments. She said that participation in the UNFF and responding to the Proposals are voluntary actions. The UNFF is a cooperative, facilitative process that the U.S. chooses to part in because doing so can help to promote SFM internationally.

On the point made earlier about a global forest convention, Ms. Karr expressed her opinion that there is some ambivalence about the "endgame" for UNFF. A global convention will hinge on the collective impression of whether the last 15 years of international and domestic processes have made a difference. The effectiveness of UNFF as a process for promoting and implementing the Proposals will play a large role in shaping, but not determining, the discussion of whether there should be a global agreement.

At UNFF4 a few weeks ago, there was a lot of interest in collaboration with other countries. Social and cultural issues were the main theme, and the discussions were very difficult. For example, the UNFF did not issue a resolution on traditional forest-related knowledge. They did not come to an agreement that would not be seen as a step backwards. In these types of discussions, you see the domestic political issues and how they play on the international processes. UNFF tries to get convergence of 275 countries, so things get hung up on very specific issues.

Jerry Rose said that at UNFF-4, 7 basic thematic areas for SFM were agreed to. There was strong pressure to turn these thematic areas into 7 global criteria, and many on the U.S. delegation were in favor (Mr. Rose pointed out that he was not). He expressed his opinion that domestic stakeholders would be confused and frustrated if the delegation came home with a new set of criteria. While progress was noted in some areas, there was general agreement that the UNFF process did not achieve as much as it could have. The debate on a forest convention will resume before UNFF-5 in May 2005. There is still an open question of whether there will be a role for UNFF after UNFF-5.

One participant active in international processes shared her opinion on some forces that drive international forest discussion. One is elevating forests in the political dialogue within countries and how to do that. The second is the continuing controversy over whether deforestation is slowing or not. A third is raising standards of forestry around the world and leveling the playing field. The fourth is the convention on biodiversity.

NEXT STEPS FOR THE ROUNDTABLE AND CLOSING REMARKS

Tim Mealey asked participants what they saw as key next steps for the Roundtable. Suggestions offered included the following:

- When we work with communities, we must acknowledge the importance of building and maintaining trusting relationships. It's easier to make progress when we come from the standpoint that we can learn a lot from them, in addition to their learning from us.
- Helping link domestic input to the UNFF process and to discussions that occur at the conclusion of the UNFF process.
- It may be difficult for the Roundtable to facilitate that discussion. A great deal needs to be done to educate stakeholders on what has happened thus far and the context of the discussions that are coming in the future. The timing is not good, and the election may change where the U.S. goes in those discussions.
- There is an opportunity for the Roundtable to inform the direction of the extension directors' forestry taskforce in implementing a new line of funding for sustaining the nation's forest and rangeland resources.

CO-CHAIR'S CLOSING REMARKS

Mr. Holtrop said that if there were any doubts that the Roundtable would have anything to do after the publication of the *National Report*, those doubts should be gone. There is a lot to do. He said that he learned a lot from the discussion on communities and that many of the Forest Service's highest priority areas require good relationships with communities to be successful. He was also struck by the fact that global issues are affecting our ability to do the work we want to do at the community, state, and regional levels. When you find out that a log from Brazil can be harvested and shipped to a mill in Georgia cheaper than it could from Alabama or Mississippi, the importance of the global influence on our domestic forest situation hits home.

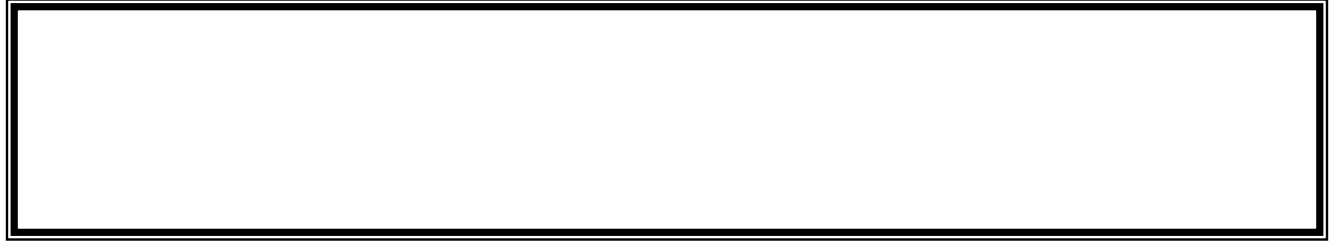
Mr. Holtrop expressed his appreciation to all who attended and especially noted the contribution of the Tribal stakeholders and their contributions. He also thanked the members of the USDA Forest Service's national Leadership Team for their participation as well. Finally, he extended a special thanks to the State Foresters for sharing their insights and opinions, and he hoped that they would continue to participate in the future.

Mr. Holtrop ended his remarks by saying that the USDA Forest Service is committed to its mission of sustainable forests. The agency has public land responsibility, scientific responsibility, and state and private forest responsibility 500 million acres of public lands, plus 70 million acres of urban and community forests. To accomplish its mission the USDA Forest Service works through partnerships, principally through the states, but with many other organizations as well. Mr. Holtrop acknowledged what he heard about bringing the agency together so that it is not seen or experienced as 4 different entities doing separate work. He said that the Forest Service would have having several meetings over the next several months to ensure that the agency is moving forward on sustainability in the right way. Finally, he thanked everyone for allowing him to go back to Washington knowing that so many people from so many backgrounds are working together toward a common goal.

ATTACHMENT A. MEETING AGENDA

ROUNDTABLE ON SUSTAINABLE FORESTS

Denver, Colorado | May 25 – 26, 2004



Tuesday, May 25

8:00 – 9:00 a.m. **Registration and Coffee**

9:00 – 9:30 a.m. **Welcome and Opening Remarks**

Joel Holtrop, USDA Forest Service, and Jerry Rose, National Association of State Foresters, Roundtable Co-Chairs

- Welcome and purpose of the meeting
- Acknowledge the accomplishment of the National Report
- Recognize of the Forest Service’s Centennial Congress

9:30 - 9:40 a.m. **Agenda Review**

9:40 – 10:30 a.m. **Overview of Lessons Learned from the Regional and Tribal Workshops**

Jerry Rose, National Association of State Foresters, will make a presentation on the lessons learned from the Regional Workshops.

10:30 – 10:45 a.m. **Break**

10:45a.m.–12:30 p.m. **Panel on Lessons Learned from the Regional and Tribal Workshops**

Jim Brooks, Regional Forest Manager, Minnesota DNR, Hanna Cortner, Associate Director for Law & Policy, Ecological Restoration Institute Northern Arizona; Lark Hayes, Southern Environmental Law Center; Edwin Lewis, Yakama Agency BIA Branch of Forestry; and Jerry Rose, National Association of State Foresters.

Guiding Questions for Panelists:

1. Which lessons are most applicable to fostering ongoing regional dialogue on sustainable forest management in your region? How would you begin to apply them?
2. How do you think the Roundtable could most effectively address the challenges identified by the lessons learned analysis? What should be its role and focus? Do you perceive additional challenges for the Roundtable in its attempt to catalyze dialogue on sustainable forests at the regional (or sub-national) level?

3. How do you think the USDA Forest Service could address the challenge identified in the lessons learned analysis? Do you perceive additional challenges that were not addressed in the report?

12:30 – 1:30	p.m.	Lunch
1:30 – 2:15	p.m.	Mini Roundtable Discussions on the Lessons Learned Exercise <i>Informal small group, roundtable discussions</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Reflections on the lessons learned exercise➤ How might the learnings from other regions apply to your region's ongoing activities?➤ Based on what we learned from the workshop experience and the efforts of others, where do we go next?
2:15 – 3:30	p.m.	Plenary Session Discussion on Applying the Lessons Learned to Future Roundtable Activities <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Insights from breakout sessions➤ Discussion on how learnings from the regional discussions inform the national dialogue on sustainable forests and affect the future direction of the Roundtable
3:30 – 3:45	p.m.	Break
3:45 – 4:15	p.m.	Closing Comments and Reflections on the Day's Discussion <i>Joel Holtrop, USDA Forest Service, and Jerry Rose, National Association of State Foresters, Roundtable Co-Chairs</i>
4:15 – 5:00	p.m.	Update and Discussion on the Multiple Perspectives Effort
5:00	p.m.	Adjourn
5:30 – 7:00	p.m.	No Host Reception

Wednesday, May 26

7:30 – 8:00	a.m.	Coffee
8:00 – 8:45	a.m.	Report from the National Association of State Foresters Sustainable Forestry Implementation Committee (SFIC) and Highlights of Related State Activities <i>Austin Short, Chair SFIC, and other Members</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Committee report➤ Highlights of related state activities➤ Questions and comments
8:45 – 9:15	a.m.	Update on the National Commission on Science for Sustainable Forestry <i>Chris Bernabo, Program Director, National Commission on Science of Sustainable Forestry</i>

- 9:15 – 10:00 a.m. **Update and Discussion on the Integration and Synthesis Group (ISG)**
Ted Heintz, White House Council on Environmental Quality
- 10:00 – 10:15 a.m. **Break**
- 10:15 – 11:00 a.m. **Update and Discussion on Community Indicator Activities**
Wendy Hinrichs Sanders, Executive Director, Great Lakes Forest Alliance, Tim Mealey, Meridian Institute, and others
- 11:00 – 11:45 a.m. **Mini Roundtable Discussions on Interconnections Between Scales and Across Sectors: Community, Subregional, Regional, and National**
Informal small group, roundtable discussions
- 11:45a.m. – 12:15p.m. **Highlights from Mini Roundtable Discussions**
- 12:15 – 1:15 p.m. **Lunch**
- 1:15 – 2:00 p.m. **Update on the United Nation Forum on Forests (UNFF) Proposals for Action and Report on UNFF 4**
Al Sample, Pinchot Institute for Conservation
Jerry Rose, National Association of State Foresters
- 2:00 – 2:45 p.m. **Updates on Other Activities Related to Sustainable Forests**
- 2:45 – 3:30 p.m. **Next Steps for the Roundtable and Closing Remarks**
Jerry Rose, National Association of State Foresters and Roundtable Co-Chair
 - Direction from the Regional Workshop experience
 - ISG and multiple perspectives
 - Future Roundtable leadership
- 3:30 p.m. **Adjourn**

Attachment B. Participant List

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