



Roundtable on Sustainable Forests

A Partnership for the Future

Transitioning to the Future: Reflection and Direction

Date Friday, November 5, 2010

Time 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Draft Agenda

Meeting Objectives

- Understand trends and issues that defined the role of the RSF and shape the future role of the RSF
- Clarify the leadership path and direction of the RSF
- Outline and clarify the content of the FY 2011 Work Plan

Location: Meridian Institute, 1920 L Street NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC

Access numbers: 866-809-9680

Passcode: 5634128#

Friday, November 5, 2010

8:30 am **Welcome, Introductions, and Opening Remarks**

Sarah Walen, Meridian Institute; and Joel Holtrop (by phone), Jim Hubbard, USDA Forest Service; Richard Brinker (by phone); and Jim Finley, Sustainable Forests Partnership, Roundtable Co-Chairs

8:40 am **Agenda Review**

Sarah Walen, Meridian Institute

8:45 am **Evolution and Accomplishments of the RSF**

Sarah Walen, Meridian Institute

Eric Norland, National Institute of Food and Agriculture and Co-Chair of RSF Communications and Ruth McWilliams, Catamount Lodge & Forest LLC

- Origin of the RSF, the niche that it has filled, and its accomplishments
- Questions of clarification

9:00 am Sensing and Feedback: An Overview of Responses to Recent RSF Survey

Sarah Walen, Meridian Institute

- Mission and objectives
- Proposed 2011 RSF activities
- Questions of clarification

9:10 am Participant Observations and Reflections

Sarah Walen, Meridian Institute

- Evolution and accomplishments
- Additional feedback

9:30 am The World is Changing – How Might the RSF Change?

Sarah Walen, Meridian Institute, Graham Cox, Audubon New York, Co-Chair of Communications and Outreach Work Group; Nadine Block, Sustainable Forestry Initiative; Colin Donohue, National Network of Forest Practitioners; and Michael Washburn, Washburn Consultants

- Changes in society, science and technology influencing forests
- Opportunities that could shape the direction and activities of the RSF in the next 3 – 5 years
- Questions, answers, and Discussion

10:30 am Direction for Small Group Discussion

Sarah Walen, Meridian Institute

Participants will be divided into 3 pre-assigned groups. They assign a lead, note taker and reporter, and are to respond to the questions below. Groups will be asked to prepare for 5 minute report back to the full group.

How might key issues influencing forests, and other insights from the earlier discussion....

- Impact the activities of the RSF today?
- Direct and focus the RSF?
- Establish a role and direction niche for the RSF?

10:35 am Break and Transition to Small Group Discussion**10:45 am Small Group Discussion****12:00 pm Lunch****12:45 pm Small Group Report Back**

Sarah Walen, Meridian Institute

- Report back
- Questions and answers

- 1:15 pm** **Confirming and/or Redefining the Role and Direction of the RSF**
Sarah Walen, Meridian Institute and Jim Finley, Sustainable Forests Partnership, Roundtable Co-Chair
- Based on current ideas about the role of the RSF, how might the mission of the RSF change, if at all?
 - Do the four thematic areas of work need to be revised? If so, how?
 - Do the objectives of the RSF need to be revised? If so, how?
- 2:00 pm** **Outlining the 2011 RSF Work Plan**
Sarah Walen, Meridian Institute
- Review of potential focus areas and activities
 - Discussion on specific efforts or projects
- 2:45 pm** **Break**
- 3:00 pm** **Accomplishing the 2011 RSF Work Plan**
Sarah Walen, Meridian Institute
- How can the RSF accomplish its Work Plan with the current level of stakeholder interest?
 - Within existing resources, how should the RSF prioritize its efforts?
 - Assuming an ongoing role for the Communications and Outreach Work Group in 2011, is there any need to revisit its proposed areas of focus? What redirection might be appropriate?
- 4:00 pm** **Strategy for Continued Leadership of RSF**
Jim Finley, Sustainable Forests Partnership and Roundtable Co-Chair and Sarah Walen, Meridian Institute
- In view of the discussion on RSF role and direction, does the RSF leadership structure still make sense? (Co-Chair, ELT, Core Group)
 - What, if any, changes might be made to Core Group composition and role?
 - What are the next steps for assuring continued leadership for the RSF and its Core and Work Groups?
 - How do we take our discussion to our stakeholders to expand participation in the RSF?
 - Discussion
- 4:45 pm** **Closing Comments and Next Steps**
Joel Holtrop (by phone) and Jim Hubbard, USDA Forest Service; Richard Brinker (by phone); and Jim Finley, Sustainable Forests Partnership, Roundtable Co-Chairs
- 5:00 pm** **Adjourn**