



Sustainability / National Scale

Educating Landowners about the Concepts and Practices of Sustainable Forest Management	
Place-Based Example	<p>The university-based Sustainable Forests Partnership (SFP) is developing state-specific educational materials for private forest landowners using the National Association of State Foresters' <i>Stewardship Handbook</i> and the Montreal Process Criteria & Indicators framework</p>
Discussion	<p>Description: The National Association of State Foresters (NASF), in 2005, developed "A <i>Stewardship Handbook for Family Forest Ownerships</i>" using the Montreal Process Criteria & Indicators (MP C&I) as a framework and suggesting seven principles private forest owners can follow as they practice stewardship. SFP member institutions have created state specific educational materials to supplement the NASF handbook. The educational materials step down use of the C&I to local stewardship principles landowners can use to clarify their ownership goals. Auburn University, Oregon State University, and Pennsylvania University completed Phase I in the summer 2007 and Cornell University and Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University are currently completing Phase II. The educational materials were developed independently and represent five unique approaches. Each product is developed in collaboration with forest landowners and state agency natural resource professionals. State forestry personnel, extension agents, and woodland owner associations are disseminating the materials to the public.</p> <p>Context: The MP C&I are most effective when used at multiple scales including the local level where forests and land ownerships vary by state. For example, much of Oregon's forests are federally owned and managed as compared to Pennsylvania where much of the forest is owned and managed by 760,000 private landowners. State-specific educational materials address the more local concerns and forest management dynamics such as invasive plants, fire prevention, and carbon sequestration. The educational materials developed in this project can easily be duplicated and customized by other states.</p> <p>Value: The MP C&I provide a framework for developing state-specific landowner educational tools. The project demonstrates MP C&I can be applied at the local level. In addition, the project is a model of landowner, state agency, and university collaboration to create forest stewardship principles the public understands and can apply to their land. The project as well as educational materials are available on the web and can be replicated by other states. In addition, project results and materials are being presented at national extension education and natural resource conferences.</p>
Key Resources and Web Links	<p>All educational materials are available at http://sfp.cas.psu.edu/CI.html Also the Alabama Stewardship Handbook is available at: https://fs.auburn.sfwsp/plm/stewardship/stewardship</p>
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