



Harry A. Morrison  
Chairman NM Tree Farm Committee  
51 Ravens Ridge Rd.  
Santa Fe, NM 87505  
(505) 983-2064  
[forester4life@aol.com](mailto:forester4life@aol.com)

## TREE FARM BULLETIN, September 2008

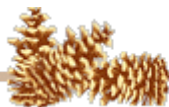
Greetings,

The New Mexico Tree Farm Committee recently received news from the national office that the Tree Farm System has received approval from the PEFC (Programme for the Endorsement of Forestry Certification) as a creditable sustainable forestry program. Certification of forest management operations has become all the rage in the last ten years or so. Many users or sellers of wood products want assurances that the product has been harvested in a sustainable manner. They can then advertise this and reassure their customers that they are concerned about the environment. Once the certification is in place, a Tree Farmer selling forest products will be able to certify that the products have been managed and harvested sustainably. This part of certification will have limited impact on New Mexico Tree Farmers. There is a very limited market for wood products in New Mexico at the moment and the buyers of wood products are small firms selling locally where certification is not an issue.

Another developing issue is carbon credits. Everyone is aware of the debate about global warming and the effect that CO<sub>2</sub> released by human activity has on the environment. Forests, of course, trap carbon so there is a developing market where forest landowners may be paid to maintain their forest as "carbon sinks". The money would come from industries that emit carbon buying credits from landowners who trap carbon. To sell a credit the forest land would have to be certified. If this market develops here, Tree Farm properties would qualify to sell credits.

This is all very complicated and controversial. I thought it important for our members to be aware of this development since if you read the news carefully you will see a lot on climate change, proposed "cap and trade" legislation and the like.

I have included an announcement of an upcoming event in Albuquerque which Tree Farmers are welcome to attend to learn more about the latest information on climate change and how it affects our Southwestern forests.



## **WORKSHOP ANNOUNCEMENT:**

### **NEW MEXICO FORESTRY AND CLIMATE CHANGE WORKSHOP**

November 20, 2008, 8:15 am—5:00 pm  
Albuquerque Grand Hotel  
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Workshop website: [www.forestguild.org/nmfccworkshop.html](http://www.forestguild.org/nmfccworkshop.html)

### **WORKSHOP GOAL**

The goal of the workshop is to provide foresters and other natural resource professionals with information about climate change's projected impacts on New Mexico's forests to incorporate into their management decision making. Forest managers, researchers, landowners, students, activists, and the general public are encouraged to attend.

### **WORKING GROUP APPROACH**

We've organized four working groups, each comprised of researchers and forest managers focusing on one of New Mexico's dominant forest types (bosque, piñon-juniper, ponderosa pine, and mixed conifer/aspen). Leading up to the workshop, each working group is developing a presentation about the projected impacts of climate change on their assigned forest type, including practical on-the-ground knowledge and management considerations for use by resource managers. The presentations will occur sequentially, with each followed by 30 minutes for open discussion, so all workshop attendees can participate in all sessions. The workshop will also include a plenary overview session about climate change and New Mexico's forests as well as a luncheon with guest speaker(s).

### **WORKSHOP REGISTRATION**

Registration for the daylong event will cost \$40 before October 15 (\$45 after October 15) and includes a luncheon with a guest speaker(s), morning and afternoon coffee breaks/refreshments, and a conference packet. Register online at [www.forestguild.org/nmfccworkshop.html](http://www.forestguild.org/nmfccworkshop.html). Information is available at this website about discounted hotel rooms.

For more information about this workshop, please contact:

Howard Gross  
The Forest Guild  
505-983-8992, x42  
[howard@forestguild.org](mailto:howard@forestguild.org)

