

## **Notes from SRWCOWG Steering Committee Planning Meeting – November 1-2, 2005**

The SRWCOWG Steering Committee completed a very productive planning meeting in Minnesota. Members who were able to participate included Jake Eaton (Potlatch), Steve Pottle (Boise), Judd Isebrands (Environmental Forestry Consultants), Erik Schilling (NCASI), Tom Houghteling (Minnesota Power), Lynn Wright (WrightLink Consultants) and John Stanturf (USFS). Bill Berguson hosted the planning meetings at the University of Minnesota, Natural Resources Research Institute (NRRI) offices in Duluth, Minnesota.

### Key Points discussed and decisions made included the following:

- Erik Schilling, a new employee at NCASI who assumed the responsibility of being the SRWCOWG treasurer, gave the financial report.
- Lynn Wright will continue to manage the web site and produce our Newsletter through 2006.
- The Committee unanimously accepted the offers from the US Poplar Council and the Canadian Poplar Council to combine annual meetings at the Pasco venue.
- The Committee discussed ways to boost our membership. We will attract many from Canada as a result of joining with the PCC
- The date for the 2006 biennial meeting was set for September 25-28, 2006.
- September 25 will be set aside as a meeting day for the individual organizations, registration, and a reception.
- The venue will be the Pasco, WA Red Lion with plenary sessions on 9/26 and 28, 2006.
- The field day for the meeting will be spent in Oregon at the Potlatch, Boise, and Greenwood industrial plantations on 9/27/2006.
- We will have an optional field tour on 9/29/06 to tour western WA and OR phytoremediation activities.

### Action Items:

- The Steering Committee members will send Jake Eaton contact information for potential new members and sustaining sponsors
- Jake will put out a formal invitation to join the SRWC OWG.
- Jake will prepare a letter of invitation to the PCC, USPC, IUFRO task on Temperate Short Rotation Forestry, IEA, and the SAF Agroforestry working group.
- Steve will make the venue reservation at the Red Lion and check on the government rate.
- Steve will pre-reserve busses for the 9/27 field tour and excursion.
- Erik will issue a letter to our current Sustaining Sponsors asking for their continued support for the working group and to make the \$500 commitment for 2005.
- Judd will look into possibilities for the Friday optional phyto tour and Jake will help organize.
- Jake will contact Reini Stettler regarding the key note address.

## **2006 Short-rotation Woody Crops Operations Working Group Meeting Preview:**

### Proposed Plenary Session Topics

1. Carbon sequestration and the structure/functions of carbon trading markets-
  - a. Canadian perspective-Kyoto signatory
  - b. Latest research on sequestration in soils and wood fiber
  - c. Carbon market perspectives-is there money to be made?
2. Phytoremediation
  - a. Clean up of contaminated sites with trees-poplar and willow
  - b. Riparian buffers that intercept nutrient rich run off
3. Bioenergy
  - a. Market effects of higher oil and coal prices on bioenergy feasibility
  - b. Wood pellets
  - c. Most feasible conversion technologies
  - d. Economics of different feed stocks
  - e. Willow-harvesting systems, commercial development
4. Barriers and drivers to SRWC development
  - a. Policy issues
  - b. Biodiversity (incl. native vs non-native)
  - c. Wildlife issues
  - d. Economics
5. Production Systems, Wood quality
  - a. Silviculture and cultural systems
  - b. Harvesting and processing
6. Genetics and Tree Improvement
  - a. Update on poplar genomics
  - b. Barriers to using GE technology-timeframes, costs and barriers to the use of GM poplars in the US
  - c. Operational tree improvement strategies
  - d. Poplar genetics and plantation programs in China-Species, GM trees, products
7. Environmental Certification
  - a. Plusses and minuses of certification
  - b. Market impacts-real world economic realities

### Proposed Field Tour Ideas

#### Potlatch Site:

Nitrogen Use Efficiency Study  
Irrigation study  
Poplar genetics trial  
Other hardwoods  
Solid Wood plantations  
Drip Irrigation station  
Central processing site for lumber & chips

Boise Cascade Site  
Harvesting with in-field chipping

GreenWood Resources Site  
To be determined

Possible visit to local winery at end of day