Master Logger Certification Committee Update American Loggers Council

2016 Annual Meeting Panama City, FL

Many states have implemented the American Loggers Council Master Logger Certification Program and have been progressing well. Some states report ALC Certified Master Loggers are realizing benefits.

Now eighteen states have approved MLC templates. Other states are encouraged to submit a template for approval by the MLC Committee.

The ALC Master Logger Certification program is voluntary, not mandatory. If all ALC states had an approved MLC template, whether the program is implemented or not, this would enhance the ALC MLC's position as a mechanism to certify wood as being sustainably harvested by certified logging professionals to concur with the SFI Standards, Chain of Custody processes and other Forest Certification Systems.

No reports or comments from MLC approved states regarding any changes or updates and no new templates have been submitted since the 2015 Annual Meeting in Eureka, CA. ALC MLC states are reminded if a revision is made to the state's program, the MLC Committee request an update be forwarded to the committee chairman. The committee would appreciate any updates that may have been initiated for a MLC state.

The ALC's National Master Logger Certification© template provides guidance for Seven Areas of Responsibility for performance standards. Each ALC member state develops its state template according to state laws, practices, regulations and criteria to meet the national template's performance standards.

The ALC Master Logger Certification© Committee has the responsibility of reviewing submitted state templates to assure established processes are included for implementation, administration, third party verification, accountability and enforcement. The committee then can approve or return the template for recommended revisions. The committee also reviews approved state template revisions to assure MLC objectives are maintained.

The ALC MLC program is a true third-party certification system via audits of a logger's business and on the ground practices for the Seven Areas of Responsibility required under the ALC Master Logger Certification Program National Template. States must have an approved state ALC MLC template to qualify for the designation of ALC Master Logger Certification.

ALC's Master Logger Certification program is part of the new five year strategic plan and will be discussed in Panama City at the 2016 ALC annual meeting.

Logger certification continues to gain importance within sustainable forest management and forest products certification systems. The important point is the American Loggers Council MLC program has led the charge.

ALC states and its logger members must support ALC's "logger owned and logger controlled" program. ALC and its member states must continue to be the leaders in professional logger certification.

Respectfully submitted, Crad Jaynes Chairman Master Logger Certification Committee