

SOUTHERN CENTER FOR SUSTAINABLE FORESTS

**NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY
RESOURCES**

DUKE UNIVERSITY

NORTH CAROLINA'S DIVISION OF FOREST

<http://www.env.duke.edu/scsf/>

Center Co-directors:

Fred Cabbage
Department of Forestry
North Carolina State University
Box 8008, 3120 Jordan Hall
Raleigh, NC 27695-8008
Phone: 919-515-7789
FAX: 919-515-6193
fred_cabbage@ncsu.edu

Dan Richter
Nicholas School of the Environment
Duke University
Box 90328
Durham, NC 27708-0328
Phone: 919-613-8031
FAX: 919-684-8741
drichter@duke.edu

Warren Boyette
NC-DENR-DFR
512 N. Salisbury St.
1616 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1616
Phone: 919-733-2162
FAX: 919-715-5247
warren.boyette@ncmail.net

Southern Center for Sustainable Forests: 2000 Status Report

The Southern Center for Sustainable Forests was established in 1997 by a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) among North Carolina State University, Duke University, and the North Carolina Division of Forest Resources. The Center was established to provide leadership for research, education, and extension to promote economically and ecologically sustainable management of forests in the South. The Center will:

- Foster research regarding the productivity and sustainability of forest practices on private forests and evaluate the effects of intensive and extensive forestry at the landscape scale.
- Improve state, regional, and interdisciplinary cooperation in education and technology transfer of existing and new research efforts to students, forestry professionals, and private landowners.
- Promote open and balanced discussion among interest groups in achieving sustainable forest management.
- Assist in the development and use of appropriate guidelines for sustainable forestry that incorporate economic and ecological principles.

Leadership for the Center is shared among the three co-directors from each organizing institution. The Southern Center for Sustainable Forests has sponsored three well attended conferences on enhancing southern forests. An organizing conference was held on July 17, 1997 in High Point, North Carolina. Individuals representing government, nongovernment, academic, and private organizations attended that meeting. They helped identify important issues regarding southern forests, and proposed actions that the Southern Center could consider to address those issues. A follow-up conference on "Perspectives on Sustainable Forestry for the South" was held on November 12-13, 1998 in Charlotte. Proceedings from that conference are available on the Internet at the Web address of <http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/nreos/forest/feop/sustain.html>. On February 4, 2000, The Southern Center sponsored a conference in Raleigh on forest certification, including presentations from the leaders of all four major U.S. certification systems, Forest Stewardship Council, American Forest and Paper Association, American Tree Farm System, and National Forestry Association. Certified forest owners and mill users spoke as well. Lively break-out discussions occurred among persons interested in each group. The Southern Center has agreed to coordinate a study of FSC and SFI forest certification on member organization lands in 2000 as well.

The Southern Center for Sustainable Forests is serving as the unifying organization that is performing a major study on the "Economic and Ecologic Effects Associated with Wood Chip Production in North Carolina." This study examined the expanding wood products harvesting and processing sector in the state, and its effects on related economic sectors and the environment. This study involved researchers and experts at each of the Southern Center founding organizations, and received advice from a formal advisory board. Results from the wood chip study can foster more informed scientific discussion about the issues associated with wood chip production, environmental protection, and forest management in the South. The study was completed in July 2000. The current versions of the wood chip mill study reports are available at the above Southern Center web address.