

Meeting Summary

Thursday, November 4, 2010

Joint meeting of the Choctawhatchee-Pea-Yellow Rivers CWP and the Conecuh-Sepulga & Blackwater Rivers CWP in partnership with the Alabama Forestry Commission and the Alabama Cooperative Extension System was held in Andalusia, AL.

Janet Wofford, Facilitator with Conecuh-Sepulga & Blackwater Rivers CWP welcomed everyone to the workshop/steering committee meeting. She reminded everyone to sign in and include professional registration numbers for continuing education as well as register for door prizes. The Covington County Forestry Planning Committee, Lisa Harris, and Janet Wofford provided refreshments. Wofford explained about the CWP and how for several years there had been interest expressed for this type of workshop. Both the Choc-Pea-Yellow and Conecuh-Sepulga & Blackwater watersheds are at least 70% forested, thus timber land plays a vital role in the health of these areas. Janet explained about the Alabama Rain Barrel Project display in the room and asked that anyone interested in attending a workshop to sign up or notify Janet or Lisa. Wofford and Harris distributed handouts detailing recent projects in both watersheds.

Mark Sport, ADEM explained the role of ADEM as partner with the Clean Water Partnership and encouraged everyone to register and attend the Nonpoint source conference in Montgomery in January. Participants can register online at the ADEM website: www.adem.state.al.us. Mark also introduced Christy Bise from ADEM. Over the next few months, Mark and Christy will be trading watershed work areas.

Jim Jeter, Alabama Forestry Commission, explained the recently updated publication, Alabama's Best Management Practices for Forestry. Jim went through the guidebook by section and explained potential problems and practices that can alleviate problems such as logging roads, cutting practices, stream bank protection, etc. Copies of the handbook are still available.

Mike Older, Alabama Forestry Commission gave an interesting presentation on how to successfully sell timber. Unfortunately, this is a situation open to confusion and mishandling. Mike stressed the importance of utilizing the skills of a registered forester to assist with timber management plans and transactions such as selling and reforestation. He distributed the recently published guidebook "Selling Your Timber"

Lisa Harris, facilitator, Choctawhatchee-Pea-Yellow Rivers CWP thanked the speakers and opened the floor to questions. Lisa invited everyone to attend the annual ALCWP meeting in Clanton on December 8. The meeting is free, but registration at www.cleanwaterpartnership.org is required. She also explained

about the current progress on the “Water to the Seas” educational cd for classrooms. After this, door prizes of four ALCWP limited water wildlife prints were drawn for and the meeting was adjourned.