

Continuing Forestry Education – Important Notice to Foresters and Intern Foresters March 2009

The Board of Licensure of Foresters recently voted to accept courses approved by the Society of American Foresters (“SAF”) for continuing forestry education (“CFE”) as meeting the continuing education requirement for foresters and intern foresters as set out in Chapter 80 of the Board rules. The link to the SAF’s “Continuing Forestry Education” website is <http://www.safnet.org/education/continuingeducation.cfm>

What does this mean for you?

Licensees are required to complete 12 contact hours (which includes a minimum of 8 contact hours of Category 1 education) of continuing forestry education during the two-year period ending on December 31 of each even-numbered year. The Board’s vote to accept the SAF educational programs means that licensees will be able to check the SAF website to locate programs of interest and be assured that satisfactory completion of the education will be accepted as meeting the continuing education requirement for renewal. The decision to accept the SAF continuing forestry education programs does not mean that the SAF programs are the only opportunity to complete the continuing education requirement. Educational programs/sessions that satisfy the forestry education categories defined in Chapter 80 of the Board’s rules will still be accepted.

What does this mean for organizations/sponsors?

As noted above, organizations/sponsors of forestry educational programs may continue to offer programs that meet the requirements of Chapter 80. The Board’s action does, however, provide an opportunity for organizations/sponsors to apply for CFE Credits for their educational events through SAF. Organizations/sponsors may apply for CFE approval through the state CFE coordinator. The coordinator for Maine is Andy Fast, Extension Educator, Forest Resources, UNH Cooperative Extension – Belknap County, 36 County Drive, Laconia, NH 03246-2900 – email: afast@ceunh.unh.edu Additional information on this process is available at the SAF website: http://www.safnet.org/education/cfe_credit.cfm