



TROPICAL
FOREST
FOUNDATION

TROPICAL FOREST FOUNDATION TRAINING IN REDUCED IMPACT LOGGING AROUND THE GLOBE

Keister Evans, President
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Since its beginning in 1990, the Tropical Forest Foundation has undergone remarkable growth and progress every year, and the past one and one half years is no exception. Following in brief are a few of TFF's more recent accomplishments and continuing programs:

- The reduced impact logging project for the Congo Basin region (and based in Gabon) is fully funded and now underway! This regional program joins the TFF Indonesia/Asia Pacific, Brazil, and Guyana programs – achieving TFF's commitment to provide RIL training in all of the major tropical forested regions in the world.

The Congo Basin project is being conducted in partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Society, thus strengthening attention to the needs of wildlife. The International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) contributed \$950,000 in funds specifically for this project. Other pledges and commitments include logging equipment from Caterpillar, tires from Firestone, chainsaws from Stihl and the contribution of a demonstration and training area from a concession of the company SEEF, with processing facilities in Libreville and a concession area in Mont Christal where facilities are available for lodging and training of students and instructors.

- The TFF Board continues to receive strong reports of accomplishment, advances and ongoing programs from the project directors in Brazil, Guyana and Indonesia/Asia Pacific.
- A firm partnership has been established between TFF and Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University (VT) which is already proving to strengthen and expand TFF programs and educational outreach.
- TFF also continues to pursue opportunities in carbon sequestration through the application of improved forestry practices in tropical regions. This activity is a natural offshoot of existing TFF programs in sustainable forest management.
- TFF has released and posted the *Tropical Forest Foundation Standard for Reduced Impact Logging (TFF RIL Standard)* on its website (www.tropicalforestfoundation.org). Also on TFF's website is an **article** authored by Art Klassen, TFF's Project Director for Indonesia/Asia Pacific. This article has been endorsed by the Board of Directors as the vehicle best presenting a clear understanding of the Standard, the significance of this accomplishment and its benefits to both the forests and the industry.

- Linking progress towards sustainable forest management with preferred market access has become increasingly attractive to producers and buyers alike. The Tropical Forest Foundation TFF has taken an important step in developing and offering a market oriented program that sets out to stimulate improvements in forest management while at the same time providing strong market assurances regarding the legality and origin of forest products from participating forest companies.

Learn more about the market-linking and other TFF programs, its Board of Directors and leadership, and access TFF newsletters by visiting www.tropicalforestfoundation.org.

In summary – TFF has a strong global presence resulting from effective on the ground projects and programs, at the direction of the highest caliber of participants on the TFF Board of Directors. The development and administration of TFF’s programs are made possible through annual contributions and support.

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