

Wisconsin Master Logger Certification



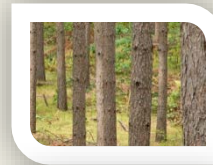
INTRODUCTION



Why a Master Logger Certification Program?



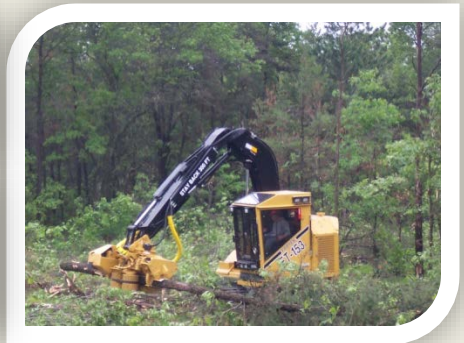
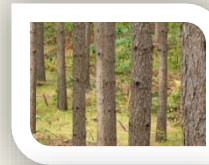
- Started late 1990's by Maine loggers
- Operate in an environmentally responsible manner
- Certification Program with harvesting standards
- Referenced to major forest land certification systems worldwide



What Does a Master Logger Certification Program Do?



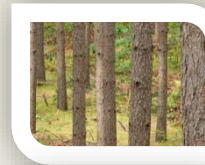
- Emphasizes that loggers are professionals
- Recognizes training and experience
- Adherence to sound business practices
- Sound silvicultural/environmental practices
- Ethics
- Compliance with government regulations



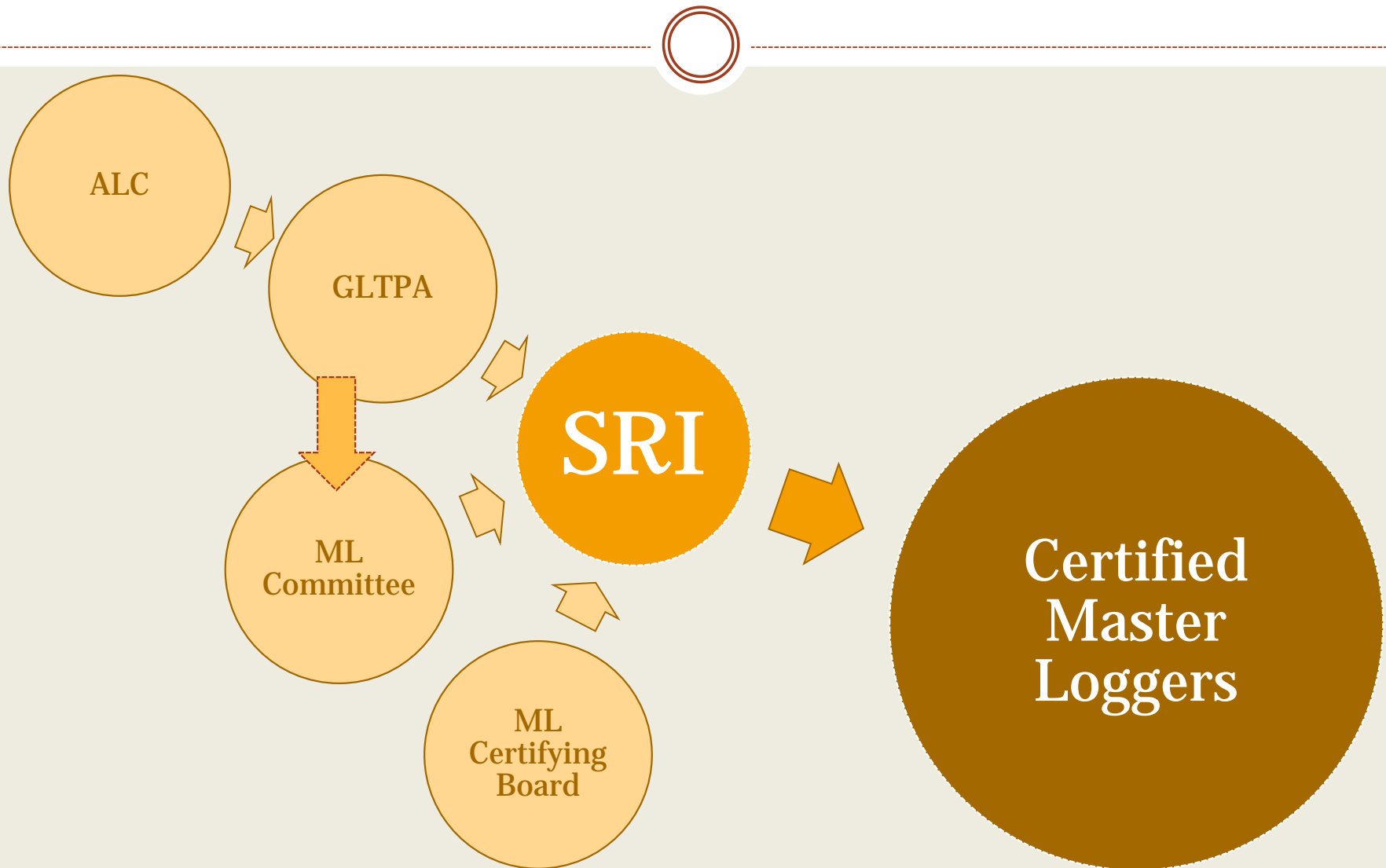
How are Master Logger Certification Programs Structured?



- Sponsored nationwide by American Loggers Council
 - Each has an ALC-approved template
- Currently operating in Wisconsin, Michigan, Missouri, & in the Northeast
- Wisconsin MLC is administered by Sustainable Resources Institute, Inc.
 - Started in 2003.



Wisconsin Master Logger Certification Program Structure



Wisconsin Master Loggers



Current

55

Other MLC Membership Numbers

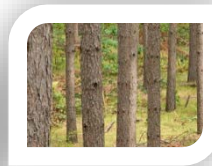


- **Michigan** **33**
- **Missouri** **11**
- **Northeast** **101**
(CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT, NY)

Master Logger Eligibility Requirements



**CORPORATE STRUCTURE
&
COMPLIANCE WITH SEVEN AREAS OF
RESPONSIBILITY**



Corporate Structure Requirements



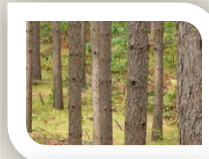
- **Own a logging business**
 - A sole proprietorship, a partnership, or a corporation that purchases stumpage and/or controls on-site timber harvesting operations.
- **Be an independent contractor**
- **Own or operate in-the-woods harvesting equipment**



Seven Areas of Responsibility



1. Protect Water Quality and Soils
2. Comply with Government Regulations
3. Observe Silviculture/Utilization Standards
4. Maintain Training & Qualifications
5. Practice Aesthetic Management
6. Follow Landowner Management Plans or Harvest Plans
7. Follow Sound Business Practices



Protection of Water Quality and Soils



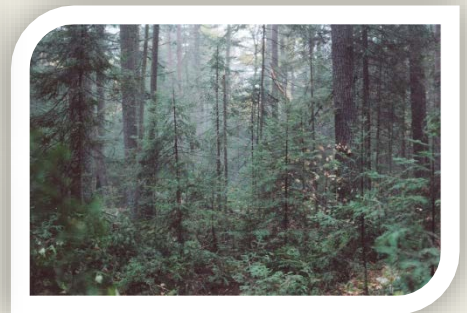
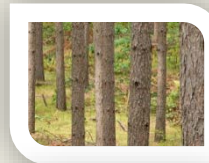
- Roads and landings and skid trails
- Stream crossings and RMZ's
- Steep slopes and wetlands (soils)
- Hazardous substance spills



Compliance with Government Regulations



- County cutting notices
- Tax Law cutting notices and reports
- OSHA safety requirements
- Endangered/threatened resources
- Water regulations
- Workers compensation



Observe Silviculture and Utilization Standards



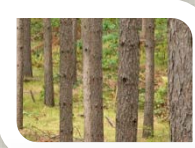
- Contract specifications
- Sustainable forestry practices
- Encourage interaction with foresters



Maintain Training and Qualifications



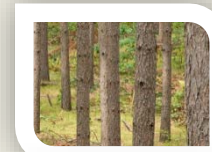
- SFI training standards
- Monthly OSHA safety meetings
- Forest health training and updates
- One fully trained person must be on-site



Practice Aesthetic Management



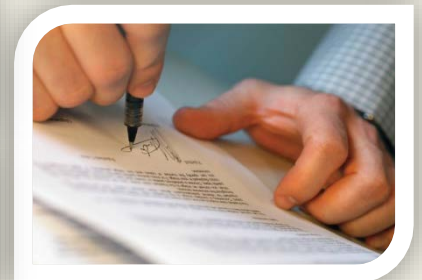
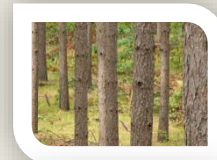
- Identify opportunities
- Follow landowner goals per harvest contract
- Sensitive areas
 - Stump height restrictions
 - Root wads and boulders
 - Clean landings, etc.



Follow Landowner Management Plans



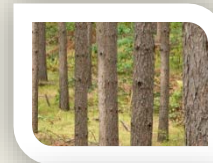
- Written contract
- Management plan or harvest plan
- Signed by both parties
- Pre-harvest meeting with landowner
- Close-out meeting with landowner



Follow Sound Business Practices



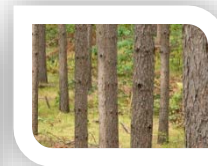
- Contracts with landowners and subcontractors (signed by both)
- All changes or extensions to contracts written and initialed by both parties
- All insurances in place
- Participate in Logging Organizations



How Does the Process Work?



**APPLICATION
INTERVIEW
VERIFICATION
CERTIFICATION
RECERTIFICATION**



Application

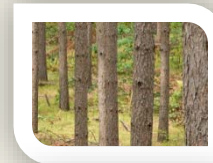


- **Logger applies**
- **Eligibility is determined**
- **Identification number assigned for confidentiality**
- **Manuals & verification documents are provided**

Initial Interview



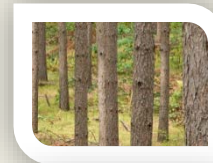
- Basic eligibility
- Employee and subcontractor relationships
- Insurance coverage
- OSHA and SFI Training
- Provide information/answer questions about MLC



Field Verification



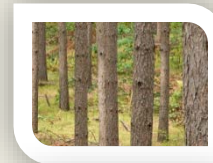
- Applicant submits 5 sales
- MLC Administrator selects 3 sales (1 active)
- Field audit team assigned to applicant
- Auditors (2) complete field audits on 3 sales
 - Applicant encouraged to accompany



Certification Process



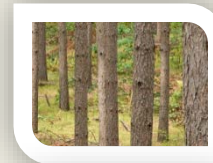
- Interview & Audits are reviewed by the Wisconsin Master Logger Certification Board.
 - Made up of individuals representing different sectors of society that have a stake in Wisconsin's forests.
 - From both Wisconsin and out-of-state.
 - Certifying Board decisions must be unanimous.



Re-Certification Process



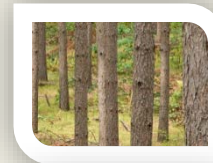
- Master Loggers are expected to maintain MLCP standards in all of their work.
- Annual re-certification process.



Complaint Process



- Complaint is filed with WIMLC Administrator
- Administrator determines if a field investigation is necessary.
 - If yes, a field verifier completes an audit.
- ML Certification Board reviews the complaint & audit
 - Board determines next steps: warning, probation, expulsion



Current WIMLC Certifying Board



Representative	Company/Representing	Sector
Charlie Blinn	Dept. of Forest Resources, University of MN	University (out of state)
John DuPlissis	College of Natural Resources, UW-Stevens Point	University
Robert Mather	Department of Natural Resources	WIDNR
Gordy Mouw	NewPage Corp.	Primary Industry
Rep. Jeff Mursau	Wisconsin State Assembly - 36th District Committee on Natural Resources, Chair Committee on Forestry, Chair	Government
Warren Suchovsky	Suchovsky Logging	Master Logger (Michigan)
Clyde Samsel	Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association	Landowner

Program Excellence



GREEN TIER

Green Tier



- Green Tier is a voluntary program administered through the DNR. The DNR works with groups who conduct their business *beyond* compliance efforts and continually look for ways to improve.
- Green Tier/Wisconsin Master Logger Certification Charter reinforces focus on sustainability

Questions?

