

# Annual Report CY 2010



*“Setting the Standard in Logging Professionalism”*

Minnesota Logger Education Program  
301 W. 1<sup>st</sup> Street ▪ Suite 510 ▪ Duluth, MN 55802 ▪ (218) 722-5442

---

May 2011

## **Preface**

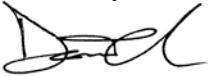
Despite continued economic challenges in the timber industry, 2010 was a successful year for MLEP. This annual report summarizes the program services and activities of the Minnesota Logger Education Program (MLEP) for calendar year 2010.

The Minnesota Logger Education Program is a logger-initiated program that was established in 1995 to provide assistance to Minnesota's logging community through educational programming. This objective is accomplished by partnering with numerous groups to identify needs and facilitating the development, design, delivery and evaluation of programs which focus on sustainable forest management, transportation, safety and business management. MLEP, which is based in Duluth, MN, is a 501(c)(3) organization. It is governed by a thirteen-member board of directors and employs an Executive Director and a part-time Executive Assistant.

To date, MLEP has sponsored 657 workshops focused on sustainable forest resource management, business management, professional operations and safety. Participation within the training and education programs exemplifies MLEP's overall support and success with a total combined attendance of 15,819 including 13,487 loggers and 2,332 public and private sector natural resource managers.

MLEP's program services and success would not be possible if not for the support of our members and the dedication and commitment of our partners. We greatly appreciate their continued support and contribution to MLEP's success.

Sincerely,



David T. Chura  
Executive Director

## **Minnesota Logger Education Program 2010 Board of Directors**

*Kit Hasbargen, President*  
*Hasbargen Logging, Inc.*

*David Hughes*  
*Hughes Timber, Inc.*

*Bruce ZumBahlen*  
*Minnesota Forestry Association*

*Rod Enberg, Vice-President*  
*Enberg Logging*

*Seth Johnson*  
*Johnson Logging, Inc.*

*Craig Turnboom, Secretary*  
*Turnboom Logging*

*Kelly Kimball*  
*Kimball Logging, Inc.*

*Bill Fleischman, Treasurer*  
*Izaak Walton League*

*Jim Marshall*  
*UPM – Blandin Forestry*

*Charlie Blinn*  
*University of Minnesota*

*Tom McCabe, Jr.*  
*McCabe Forest Products*

*Gordy Dobbs*  
*Dobbs Logging, Inc.*

*Bob Tomlinson*  
*DNR Division of Forestry*

## Membership

MLEP membership is comprised of logging business owners (large and small), wood dealers and associate members. 2010 membership totaled 541 reflecting: 158 small logging business owners, 270 large logging business owners, 6 wood dealers, 66 associates, and 40 new logger applicants.

### Historical Membership Breakdown

<b>Logging Businesses</b>						
<b>Applicants</b>						
Small	24					
Large	15					
Wood Dealer	0					
Total Applicants	40					
<b>Members</b>						
	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
Small	158	144	146	105	99	100
Large	270	288	305	296	297	310
Wood Dealer	6	7	6	5	5	6
Total Members	435	456	438	456	407	401
<b>Associate Members</b>						
	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
Paid Memberships	66	66	64	66	61	63
Mill Individuals	74	75	74	75	75	68
Other Individuals	51	49	51	49	46	41
Total Individuals	125	119	125	119	121	103
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>541</b>	<b>522</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>522</b>	<b>468</b>	<b>464</b>

### Program Services / Activities

In 2010, the Minnesota Logger Education Program delivered a variety of workshops and training formats to logging and natural resource professionals and landowners.

### Professional Training and Continuing Education Classes and Evaluations (CY 2010)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Attended</u>	<u>Overall*</u>	<u>Learned**</u>
January 13, 2010	Detroit Lakes	Truck Weight Compliance	0		
January 20, 2010	Owatonna	Truck Weight Compliance	0		
January 27, 2010	Arden Hills	Truck Weight Compliance	0		
February 17, 2010	St. Cloud	Truck Weight Compliance	0		
February 24, 2010	E Grand Forks	Truck Weight Compliance	0		
March 10, 2010	Marshall	Truck Weight Compliance	0		
March 12, 2010	Alexandria	Truck Weight Compliance	1		
March 24, 2010	Rochester	LogSafe - OSHA - Defensive Driving	15	3	3.3
March 24, 2010	Bloomington	Truck Weight Compliance	0		
March 25, 2010	Mankato	Truck Weight Compliance	0		
March 30, 2010	Bemidji	Anderson Lubricants	28		
March 30, 2010	Baudette	LogSafe - CPR/First Aid	19	3.4	3.2
March 30, 2010	Baudette	LogSafe - OSHA - Fire Safety	29	3.4	3
March 31, 2010	I Falls	LogSafe - CPR/First Aid	24	3.6	3.4
March 31, 2010	I Falls	LogSafe - OSHA - Electrical Safety	31	3	2.7
April 1, 2010	I Falls	LogSafe - CPR/First Aid	24	3.4	3.4
April 1, 2010	I Falls	LogSafe - OSHA - Electrical Safety	19	3.5	3.2
April 6, 2010	Tower	Logger Conference Day One - MLEP	157	3	
April 6, 2010	Tower	LogSafe - OSHA, Logger Conf. Day One	146	3.3	3.1
April 7, 2010	Tower	LogSafe - CPR/First Aid	68	3.7	3.6
April 7, 2010	Duluth	Truck Weight Compliance	7		
April 8, 2010	Two Harbors	LogSafe - CPR/First Aid	20	3.7	3.5
April 8, 2010	Two Harbors	LogSafe - OSHA - Defensive Driving	23	2.8	2.8
April 13, 2010	Walker	Logger Conference Day One - MLEP	151	2.9	
April 13, 2010	Walker	LogSafe - OSHA, Logger Conf. Day One	147	3.3	3.1
April 14, 2010	Walker	LogSafe - CPR/First Aid	74	3.8	3.7
April 14, 2010	Alexandria	Truck Weight Compliance	1		
April 15, 2010	Sandstone	LogSafe - CPR/First Aid	14	3.9	3.7
April 20, 2010	Grand Rapids	LogSafe - CPR/First Aid	21	3.7	3.6
April 20, 2010	Grand Rapids	LogSafe - OSHA - Fire Safety	24	3.2	3.1

April 21, 2010	Cloquet	EAB	18	3.9	3.8
April 21, 2010	Grand Rapids	LogSafe - CPR/First Aid	16	3.6	3.5
April 21, 2010	Grand Rapids	LogSafe - OSHA - Fire Safety	16	3.3	3.2
April 21, 2010	Rochester	Truck Weight Compliance	1		
April 22, 2010	Sandstone	LogSafe - CPR/First Aid	10	3.6	3.3
April 23, 2010	I Falls	Landview	19	3.8	3.3
April 23, 2010	Duluth	Oversize/Overweight Permitting	12		
April 24, 2010	Grand Rapids	GPS & Landview - Hybrid Class	25		
April 28, 2010	I Falls	Fluids & Filters	19	3.6	3.3
April 28, 2010	Brainerd	LogSafe - CPR/First Aid	22	4	3.9
April 28, 2010	Brainerd	LogSafe - OSHA - Electrical Safety	21	3.3	3.2
May 4, 2010	Cloquet	Brake Inspector Qualification	22	3.4	3
May 4, 2010	Bemidji	LogSafe - CPR/First Aid	22	3.5	3.3
May 4, 2010	Bemidji	LogSafe - OSHA - Defensive Driving	16	3	2.8
May 5, 2010	Grand Rapids	EAB	34	3.2	3.3
May 5, 2010	Bemidji	LogSafe - OSHA - Defensive Driving	8	3.7	3.4
May 6, 2010	Bemidji	EAB	17	3.4	3.4
May 11, 2010	Grand Marais	Business Management - AM	13	3	2.9
May 11, 2010	Sandstone AM	LogSafe - OSHA - Fire Safety	16	3	3
May 11, 2010	Sandstone PM	LogSafe - OSHA - Fire Safety	8	3.6	3.4
May 12, 2010	Cloquet	LogSafe - CPR/First Aid	21	3.8	3.7
May 12, 2010	Cloquet	LogSafe - OSHA - Fire Safety	35	3.4	3.2
May 13, 2010	Cloquet	LogSafe - CPR/First Aid	17	3.9	3.9
May 18, 2010	Northome	LogSafe - CPR/First Aid	23	3.8	3.7
May 19, 2010	Bigfork	LogSafe - CPR/First Aid	25	3.8	3.7
June 2, 2010	Bemidji	Fluids & Filters	18	3.4	3.3
June 29, 2010	Hallock	Truck Weight Compliance	1		
August 16, 2010	Grand Rapids	Fluids & Filters	21	3.3	3.2
August 31, 2010	Cloquet	FMG (2 days)	81	3.1	3
September 8, 2010	Rochester	FMG SE MN (2 days)	11	3	2.9
September 14, 2010	Cloquet	Intermediate Stand Treatments	38		
September 25, 2010	Kellogg	Healthy Fields & Forests	3		
September 28, 2010	Bemidji	Brake Inspector Qualification	26	3.5	3.2
September 29, 2010	Brainerd	Brake Inspector Qualification	19	3.5	3.3
September 29, 2010	Arden Hills	Truck Weight Compliance	2		
October 5, 2010	I Falls	LogSafe - CPR/First Aid	23	3.6	3.5
October 5, 2010	I Falls	LogSafe - OSHA - Electrical Safety	9	3.4	3.2
October 6, 2010	Bemidji	LogSafe - CPR/First Aid	19	3.3	3.4
October 6, 2010	Bemidji	LogSafe - OSHA - Defensive Driving	14	3.4	2.6
October 6, 2010	Mankato	Truck Weight Compliance	0		

October 12, 2010	Cloquet	LogSafe - CPR/First Aid	22	3.8	3.5
October 12, 2010	Cloquet	LogSafe - OSHA - Fire Safety	24	3.5	3.2
October 14, 2010	Brainerd	LogSafe - CPR/First Aid	20	3.9	3.8
October 14, 2010	St. Cloud	Truck Weight Compliance	0		
October 20, 2010	Bemidji	Truck Weight Compliance	10		
October 23, 2010	Duluth	How to Use GPS Receiver	0		
October 27, 2010	Carlton Cty	Thinning Small Stands Red Pine	1		
October 27, 2010	Alexandria	Truck Weight Compliance	0		
November 2, 2010	Proctor	Drug/Alcohol Recognition for Supervisors	3		
December 7, 2010	Hibbing	LogSafe - CPR/First Aid	17	3.9	3.9
December 7, 2010	Hibbing	LogSafe - OSHA - Electrical Safety	12	3.3	3.3
December 31, 2010	Online	Online Advanced Landview	1		
December 31, 2010	Online	Online Biomass Harvesting Guidelines	10		
December 31, 2010	Online	Online DOT Audit Training	2		
December 31, 2010	Online	Online Hazmat Training	6		
December 31, 2010	Online	Online Intro to Landview	2		
December 31, 2010	Online	Online MNDOT CMV	8		
<b>Total/Average</b>			<b>1,922</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>3.3</b>

**Total Participants            1,922**

*\* Overall, the training was:*

Not Valuable		Very Valuable	
1	2	3	4

*\*\* I believe I learned:*

Very Little		A Great Amount	
1	2	3	4

**Program Activity Highlights**

- Successfully delivered and administered Department of Labor and Industry LogSafe training.
- Certified four new logging businesses and recertified fourteen logging businesses as Minnesota Certified Master Loggers.
- Partnered with MFI and TPA to conduct a FMG survey and 2 focus groups. This direct input was the foundation for MLEP’s comments regarding FMG revision.
- Drafted and distributed a variety of safety resources and materials to assist employers with monthly safety meeting requirements and OSHA compliance (<http://www.mlep.org/trainingsafety.htm>).

- Facilitated MMLC Standard revision process and working group which included a national request for comments and draft revisions of the MMLC Standard, audit assessment decision criteria and other program documents & processes.
- Assisted the development of an online/computer-based Forest Management Guidelines training package scheduled for completion in June of 2011.
- Distributed quarterly training record reports to public land managers, mills and others as appropriate.
- Provided national guidance for implementation of SFI logger certification requirements in the SFI 2010-2014 Standard.
- Secured \$10,000 grant request from the AgStar Foundation for Rural America for development and delivery of online Forest Management Guideline (FMG) training – June 2010.
- Secured \$9,803.50 grant from the Forest Protection Reserve program for Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) workshops and online training – January 2010.
- Implemented MLEP social media outreach
  - GiveMN.org (<http://givemn.razoo.com/story/Minnesota-Logger-Education-Program>) for online donations and marketing.
  - MLEP Facebook page (<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Minnesota-Logger-Education-Program/149152883925>)
- Secured \$2,000 from the Minnesota Forest Resources Council (MFRC) for online FMG training.
- Authored and distributed 2009 annual report of MLEP activities.
- Authored and distributed 2009 annual report of MMLC activities.

### **Minnesota Master Logger Certification**

Often, the only forest management advice a family forest owner receives is from a logger who approaches the landowner to procure wood. While many loggers are very experienced and have a professional approach to wood procurement, the Minnesota Logger Education Program (MLEP) believes that a well-trained and experienced logger with a broader vision of forestry can provide family forest landowners with sustainable forest management information. MLEP developed the Minnesota Master Logger Certification (MMLC) program to address the challenge of providing certified fiber from family forestlands to the marketplace.

Minnesota Master Logger Certification, administered through the MLEP, is a performance-based program for loggers that recognizes training, experience, and the application of sound business and sustainable logging practices. Logger certification has been recognized as a way to independently verify the harvest, safety and business practices of participant loggers against specific standards designed to ensure forest are managed and harvested responsibly. MMLC has been endorsed by Time Inc. as meeting the requirements of their Certified Sustainable Forestry program.

Many Minnesota loggers already meet the standards and criteria required for certification, but they do not have a way to authenticate that to their customers. Loggers who become certified are able to provide certified wood to the market place. This means loggers and mills in Minnesota

will be in a strong position to provide certified wood from family forestlands to customers like Time Inc. that require certified wood in the products they purchase.

A working group representing the broad forestry community was established in early 2005 to develop the MMLC program and its policies, as well as set-up the certifying board. The program is comprised of eight areas of responsibility such as “Protection of Water Quality and Soils”, “Adherence to Site Specific Harvest and Management Plans” and “Compliance with Regulations Applicable to Logging Operations.” Each responsibility area includes measurable performance standards and practices.

A logger participating in the program undergoes a third-party audit of his or her business practices and harvest sites. Independent auditors who have been trained on the MMLC standard conduct field audits on a sample of sites the applicant has harvested within the last 12 months. The logging business and harvest practices are evaluated against 138 practices in eight major areas of responsibility. Based on their findings, the auditors provide the certifying board a recommendation for or against certification. An eight member certifying board, which represents a broad range of forestry interests, reviews the audits and recommendations and makes the final determination on whether the applicant’s business can be certified. To be certified, a logging business must pass all eight areas of the MMLC standard on all audited sites.

Once a logging business is certified, the certification status is good until the next recertification audit which will occur within five years. During any given year, the certified business may be randomly selected for recertification. As each year passes, the probability that the business will be selected for recertification increases. No Minnesota Certified Master Logger will go longer than five years without being recertified.

### **Why is Certification Needed?**

Several mills in Minnesota and across the country have been asked to meet a target that more than 80% of the resource going into their product be certified. Minnesota has about 15.6 million acres of timberland. Of that 15.6 million, 37% is controlled by family forest landowners and these family forests provide 26% of the timber harvested each year. Logger certification addresses this challenge by providing certified wood from family forestland to the market place. This means loggers and mills in Minnesota will be in a strong position to provide certified wood from family forestlands to customers like Time Inc.

A detailed annual report for the Minnesota Master Logger Certification program is available.



## **CY 2010 MLEP Revenue and Expenses**

MLEP's activities are funded by membership fees, training fees and grants.

### **Support**

Membership fees	\$157,269
Training / Program fees	\$21,413
Grants	\$83,200
Misc.	\$14,164
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$276,046</b>

### **Expenses**

Management and General	\$34,602
Program Services	\$251,192
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$285,794</b>

### **Staffing**

David Chura, Executive Director

Chris DeRosier, Executive Assistant