Is forestry a large business in NC?
Yes. It is the number one value added industry in the state. For every person working inside a sawmill, paper mill or biomass plant there are 5 persons on the outside. Loggers, truckers, equipment companies, fuel companies and others.

How does a person typically find a job in logging?
Historically by word of mouth as most jobs at in their community. The type of training we have seen has been completely on the job and it takes a long time to work with someone on all aspects of safety, equipment operation and maintenance and production.

How is this Training with Pitt Community Colleges different?
We will giving our trainees everything they need to be exposed to in a 16 week period. There will be about 20% indoor and 80% outdoor instruction. We will start with the basics and work up. We be working on real live logging sites that we control and can go step by step.

Will the students do real live logging?
You better belief it. There is no better way to learn logging than actually doing it. The difference here is that we provided the basic training and close supervision that stresses the safe and correct way to operate equipment.

Who is helping sponsor the training?
We have a strong group of sponsors including our NC Assn of Professional Loggers, Pitt Community College, CAT Forestry, Pioneer /Gregory Poole Equipment, NC Agromedicine Institute, Golden Leaf Foundation, The NC Rural Center, and NC Biofuels Center

How long is the training and what will be taught?
The 16 week program will cover safety, CPR/First Aid, individual OSHA certification maintenance and repairs, operating and finally working as a logging team to cut and load logs on real jobs.

What type of equipment will be used?
We will be training on new CAT Forestry skidders, fellerbunchers, and log loaders. I brought some photos to show you.

How does someone sign up for the classes?
We have all the signup information at www.ncloggers.com or persons can contact Pitt Community College at 252-493-7528

Is there a cost for the program?
There is an initial tuition fee that is reimbursed when students graduate. All personal protective clothing and uniforms are provided except safety boots.

How does someone reach employers after they graduate?
We will help graduates with job placement by setting up interviews with job fairs and bringing employers in to talk with them about openings.

What type of person would be interested in these jobs? We are hoping that workers displaced from construction, landscaping, agriculture and those returning from military service would be interested in a new career. We are also looking young persons who want to find a job in their own community.