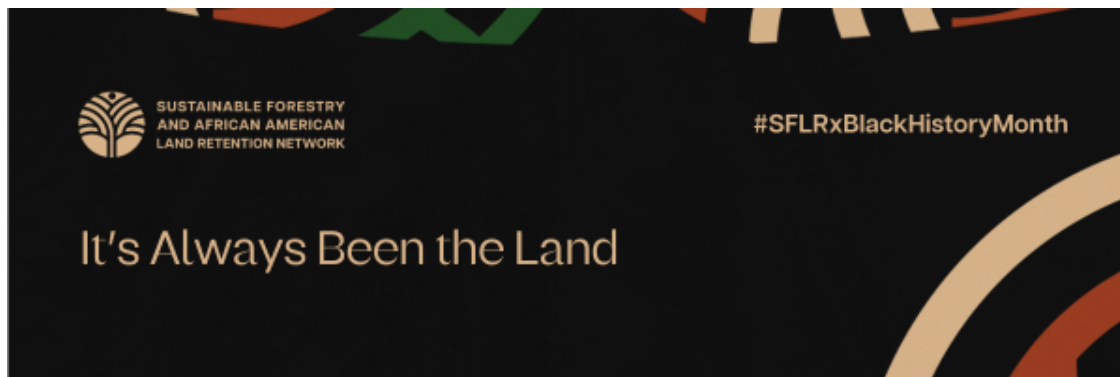




Happy Black History Month, and welcome to a special edition of the Legacy and the Land Chronicle.

This month holds deep meaning for our work and our community. Black History Month is a time to honor the stories, struggles, and resilience of African American people across generations, and at SFLR, it's also a moment to reflect on one undeniable truth: **It's Always Been the Land.**



It's Always Been the Land

When we began thinking about what our theme should be for Black History Month, it quickly became clear that it had to center on the land. Because when you look back — and when you look at where we're headed — it has always been the land.

Land has been the foundation of self-determination, food access, economic stability, and community resilience. It's also been the site of loss for African American families. At SFLR, our work exists at the intersection of that history and the future we're committed to building, one where African American and underserved rural landowners have the tools, resources, and support to retain their land, steward it sustainably, and pass it on.

This month, as we reflect on Black history, we also recommit ourselves to protecting landownership and ensuring that land continues to be a source of strength for generations to come.

Warmly,
Bethaney

Roots to Resilience Empowering Land Legacies

Sustainable Forestry & Land Retention Project Expands in North Carolina

Our partner site, **Roanoke Cooperative**, has announced that forest landowners in three additional North Carolina counties are now eligible to participate in its **Sustainable Forestry and Land Retention Project**.

Woodland owners in Franklin, Washington, and Wilson counties can now take part in this nonprofit program, which supports families in northeastern North Carolina as they implement healthy forestry practices and increase the asset value of their land, benefiting both current owners and future heirs.

"The continued expansion of this program is the direct result of the successes it is achieving for and with the forest landowners that it was established to assist. Sustainable forestry practices have a tremendously positive impact on forests and surrounding habitats and, in turn, they provide a stronger financial foundation for the families who own them," said SFLRP Director Alton Perry.

[Learn more about the expansion](#)

Events On The Horizon



Upcoming Webinar: Navigating EUDR for the U.S. Forest Products Value Chain

The **National Alliance of Forest Owners (NAFO)** and the **American Forestry & Paper Association (AF&PA)**, will co-host an EUDR webinar on **February 12 at 2:30 EST**.

The webinar will cover:

- The current state of the EUDR, including amendments made in December 2025
- Compliance obligations across the U.S. forest products supply chain
- Policy advocacy efforts and what's ahead for EUDR implementation

This is a good opportunity to learn more about how global policy developments may impact forest markets and operations in the U.S.

[Register here](#)



Tax Tips for Forest Landowners: 2025 Tax Year

The USDA has shared its annual tax tips for forest landowners, and it's a helpful resource to check out as you prepare for the 2025 tax year.

This guidance can be useful for:

- knowing the tax classification of your forest ownership
- understanding timber sale income
- deducting operating expenses
- planning for long-term forest management and inheritance considerations

Staying informed about these details can make a meaningful difference in protecting the value of your land.

[Check out the tax tips here](#)

Closing Reflections

As we move through Black History Month, we invite you to follow us on social media for our **It's Always Been the Land** campaign. Feel free to share any of our content throughout the month with your networks, helping us spread the message that land has always been, and continues to be, central to our collective legacy.

With gratitude,
The SFLR Team



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