



# TIMBER TALK

*Your Voice for South Carolina Timber Harvesting*

July/August 2011

## AMERICAN LOGGERS COUNCIL HITS HOME RUN IN CINCINNATI

August 2, 2011 – Hemphill, TX.



Members of the American Loggers Council (ALC) held their summer Board of Directors meeting on July 30, 2011 in Cincinnati, Ohio, for the purpose of providing value and advocacy for the professional timber harvesters that the Council represents.

With a faltering housing market and high unemployment numbers, the timber harvesting industry across the United States has been hit especially hard. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 47,300 Americans work in the logging industry today, down from 73,300 just ten years ago.

With these numbers in mind, the ALC Board has agreed to embark on a new path to bring recognition to the professional men and women in the industry, while remaining the largest national advocacy group for loggers in Washington, DC.

Board members unanimously agree that the goal of the American Loggers Council is to provide a unified, national voice for professional loggers across the United States, and board members laid out new targets and objectives towards obtaining that goal. Some of the highlights included: modernizing the



current logo to reflect the people and the values that the organization represents; thus the word “Logger” is now the focus, redeveloping the ALC website to be current and user friendly and reflective of ALC platforms on federal issues impacting the industry, taking more opportunities to visit leaders in Washington, DC, and encouraging loggers from all across the country to become involved and engaged with the American Loggers Council and the issues that are impacting their businesses.

The Board also approved changes to the ALC communi-

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cations program where by the organization will more effectively communicate position statements on industry issues to both loggers and the general public. The more personal "As I See It" Presidents messages will continue, but will be augmented with more frequent, "As We See It", news releases that will provide definite information, of a National scope, on current activities the ALC is pursuing in Washington DC. This shift is designed to educate more loggers on ALC activities and keep our national focus in the forefront.

During the meeting, current legislative issues were discussed, with the priority being on the need to pass the bipartisan Silviculture Regulatory Consistency Act (S 1369) working its way through the U.S. House (H.R. 2451) and Senate (S.1369). If passed, this bill would codify the 35 year practice of allowing the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to exempt timber harvesting activities from National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit requirements. Recent activity in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals has put those exemptions in jeopardy.

The Board unanimously approved Master Logger Certification® programs for both Florida and Georgia. Southeastern Wood Producers Director Tommy Carroll was on-hand to accept the honor.

During afternoon discussions, mechanisms to sustainably fund the organization were discussed, and those options will be reviewed again during the next scheduled meeting in late September. ALC President Matt Jensen stated that he was "extremely pleased with the input and outcome from all of the Board members," and that he "looked forward to the upcoming meeting in September and encouraged everyone's participation."

John Dorka, Executive Director for the Ohio Forestry Association was present at the meeting to listen and learn more about the activities and programs of the ALC, while considering options that the Ohio loggers might have to become involved with the American Loggers Council.

Other guests at the meeting included Mike Duncan, Joe Allen, Nick Leitze and Jason

Koskinen with Caterpillar Forest Products, who not only sponsored the meeting, but presented informative sessions on the global perspective and opportunities for the industry, as well as updates on Tier 4 engines and requirements for timber harvesting equipment.

Following the business meeting, Caterpillar Forest Products hosted the entire group at the Great American Ball Park in Cincinnati where the Cincinnati Reds blew out the San Francisco Giants. ALC Executive Vice President Danny Ductor commented that "yesterday's meeting was very much like that ball game. We had nine innings in which to try and win the game to bring the focus of this organization to the forefront of the loggers needs. I am very excited about the changes that the leadership of this organization has recommended. We hit a home run in every inning and we will win this game."

For more information about the American Loggers Council, or their upcoming annual meeting, you can contact their office at 409-625-0206 or send an email to [americanlogger@aol.com](mailto:americanlogger@aol.com).



*The ALC group at the Great American Ball Park in Cincinnati, hosted by Caterpillar Forest Products*

# **SOUTH CAROLINA TIMBER PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION 2011 ANNUAL REPORT**

## **American Loggers Council Annual Meeting September 30, 2011 Minocqua, Wisconsin**

Crad Jaynes, President & CEO

**S**CTPA entered its 12th year at our “Forests For Our Future” Annual Meeting in Myrtle Beach, SC, January 2011. Attendance was great considering the economic status of our state’s professional logging industry. But attendance was enhanced by the presence of America’s Swamp Logger Bobby Goodson as a speaker.

SCTPA was proud to welcome American Loggers Council’s President Matt Jensen as a featured speaker. His insight into the ALC’s positions and initiatives with the U.S. Congress and nationwide on timber harvesting and environmental issues affecting professional timber harvesting across the country provided the SC audience a better perspective of what the American Loggers Council is accomplishing for our nation’s professional loggers. Matt discussed his Wisconsin logging operations and shared photos to show our South Carolina audience how cut-to-length logging is performed.

At our 2011 annual meeting, the 2010 Logger Activist of the Year Award was presented to Walker & Walker Logging, LLC, Laurens, SC, for their outstanding timber harvesting business plus their sincere commitment to community involvement, sustainable forestry education and support of SCTPA and their profession. President’s Awards were presented to SC State Forester Gene Kodama for his efforts to improve and promote sustainable forestry and Williams Forest Products, Inc., Rock Hill, SC, for their outstanding support as a wood dealer member.

Steady pulpwood production to pulp/paper mills and other smaller wood products markets have remained steady while solid wood products markets have remained at reduced levels. Due to economic challenges, logger attrition has continued with several operations leaving the business due to age, retirement and economic failure.

However, there seems to have been a slight increase in start up timber harvesting operations over the year. Based on information available, while the

logger population has decreased, the capacity to produce wood still appears to be adequate. While the number of logging businesses has decreased there are still many professional businesses operating with the capacity to expand and meet future production opportunities.

South Carolina’s legislative session was calm for timber harvesting issues. SCTPA supported the Tort Reform Bill passed capping punitive damage awards and cleaning up tort issues to make SC more business friendly. Also, SCTPA supported the Prescribed Burning Bill defining negligence and gross negligence regarding liabilities associated with this silvicultural treatment to help landowners and those performing prescribed burns. Unfortunately this bill did not pass and will be taken up in the second session January 2012.

SCTPA testified to legislative committees on behalf of the SC Forestry Commission’s budget requests. SCFC’s budget has been hammered in recent years creating a substantial reduction in the agency’s ability to meet its mission of protecting SC forests, wildfire fighting capacity and promoting forest products industry economic development. The forest products

industry is SC’s number one manufacturing sector. SCTPA supported Unemployment Insurance Tax Relief reforms to reduce the tax burden on small businesses.

SCTPA continued its activities with the SC Biomass Council, Statewide Trucking Task Force, SFI State Implementation Committee, Timber Operations Professional Training Program, Timber Equipment Applications Management Committee and organizations such as the SC Forestry and SC Trucking Associations and State Transport Police. SCTPA joined the Enrich SC coalition representing timber harvesting to partner with forestry, agricultural, wildlife and natural resource organizations to promote these segment’s importance to the SC General Assembly and state agencies.

SCTPA, representing unmanufactured forest products trucking, participated in the Ticketing Aggressive Cars & Trucks (TACT) Committee consisting of statewide stakeholders including SC Trucking Association, state and federal agencies, trucking industry participants and law enforcement agencies to initiate a program to better educate the motoring public about sharing the highways with “big trucks.”

SCTPA has assisted in the activation of the SC Intrastate CMV Numbering System for trucking that includes unmanufactured forest products trucking to coincide with the Comprehensive Safety Analysis

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federal trucking program. The SCDOT intrastate number will be effective October 1, 2011.

Events in our pulpwood markets occurred as RockTenn purchased the Smurfit Stone Container Florence, SC mill and AbitibiBowater, Catawba, SC, emerged from its Chapter 11 filing. Georgia Pacific purchased the former Grant Forest Products OSB mill in Alcolu, SC and has projected a 2011 fourth quarter startup that will increase market availability.

SCTPA continued its participation in the SC Teachers Tour, a weeklong sustainable forestry teachers' education program. Thirty teachers participated in our June tour with member Low Country Forest Products, Inc, Georgetown, providing the timber harvesting tour stop. Other tour stops included a paper mill, sawmill, private and state forests, tree farm and REIT property to exhibit sustainable forestry practices. The association continued presenting its sustainable forestry and professional timber harvesting education program in schools statewide.

SCTPA representatives, Danny McKittrick, Billy McKinney, Tommy Barnes and Crad Jaynes, visited our South Carolina U.S. House and Senate delegation during the ALC March board meeting in Washington, DC to promote woody biomass utilization, the revised renewable biomass definition, ALC positions, reversal of the EPA Boiler MACT ruling and increased gross vehicle weights on interstates. Crad participated in the DC meeting with the U.S. Department of Transportation and Federal Motor Carriers Safety Administration for increasing GVW on interstates and discussing Comprehensive Safety Analysis program issues impacting professional loggers.

SCTPA continued supporting the Wood Supply Research Institute for wood supply chain research projects. SCTPA president participated on the WSRI Project Technical Team and remains a WSRI board member as well as SCTPA chairman Danny McKittrick. SCTPA board member Tommy Barnes and association president attended the WSRI annual meeting in Panama City, FL.

Environmental interest groups have raised issues regarding bottomland hardwood logging along rivers and swamp logging. While their outcry has somewhat cooled, there is the distinct possibility these groups will continue to push an agenda of making our Timber Harvesting Best Management Practices statutory rather than voluntary as they are now despite an over 95 percent BMP compliance level for logging. But these groups would like to further restrict and/or virtually eliminate hardwood and swamp logging statewide. This would not only affect our state's logging and forest products industry, but would adversely affect private property rights for landowners to harvest their timber.

A recent issue with potential impact on timber harvesting is the SC Supreme Court ruling authorizing the Department of Health & Environmental Control to have regulatory authority over isolated wetlands under the state's Pollution Control Act. While our BMP's are implemented around isolated wetlands this ruling could pose new challenges to loggers and landowners.

Another BMP issue is timber harvesting in designated floodplains regulated by counties under Federal Emergency Management Administration jurisdiction. Despite having timber harvesting BMP's, floodplains are regulated by each county under FEMA direction and federal law. This has raised concerns as to the amount of timber that can be harvested due to FEMA designating timber harvesting as a "development activity." This will be closely monitored and the SC Forestry Commission BMP Chief is working with counties, FEMA and state agencies to clarify this issue.

The renewable energy sector for producing energy from woody biomass has become more prevalent. Many companies have made inquiries and a few have announced wood using energy plants to be located in state. However, there has been no ground broken. But the feeling is this activity will be occurring soon. Loggers, wood suppliers and landowners will welcome these alternative markets.

South Carolina's approved ALC Master Logger Certification program is still pending implementation. SCTPA's President Crad Jaynes continues serving as the ALC National Master Logger Certification Committee Chairman.

As South Carolina's professional timber harvesters, wood suppliers and timber truckers continue to face economic, market and operational challenges, timber harvesting and wood supply business professionals will survive and be situated to meet future opportunities for improved economic, production and market conditions.

SCTPA is proud to be THE association representing, servicing and advancing the professionals harvesting, producing and trucking South Carolina's sustainable forest resources.





## **Training for Controlled Substance & Alcohol Use Trucking Regulations CFR 38 – 382.307 & 382.603**

Many members have received notices from various DOT training providers regarding the Supervisor Training for Controlled Substances & Alcohol Use under Trucking Regulations CFR Part 38 - 382: Controlled Substances & Alcohol Use & Testing.

This training requirement is not new. It has been in the Federal Interstate and SC Intrastate Unmanufactured Forest Products Trucking Regulations for some time.

Supervisors and/or company officials supervising drivers, a safety sensitive position, are required to take Reasonable Suspicion Training.

The Trucking Regulations applicable are:

### **CFR Part 38 – 382: Controlled Substances & Alcohol Use & Testing**

#### **CFR 38 – 382.307 – Reasonable Suspicion Testing**

**38 – 382.307(c)** - The required observations for alcohol and /or controlled substances reasonable suspicion testing shall be made by a supervisor or company official who is trained in accordance with Regulation 38 – 382.603.

The person who makes the determination that reasonable suspicion exists to conduct an alcohol test shall not conduct the alcohol test of the driver.

#### **38 – 382.603 – Training for Supervisors**

Each employer shall ensure that all persons designated to supervise drivers receive at least 60 minutes of training on alcohol misuse and receive at least an additional 60 minutes of training on controlled substance use.

The training will be used by the supervisors to determine whether reasonable suspicion exists to require a driver to undergo testing under Regulation 38 – 382.307.

The training shall include the physical, behavioral, speech, and performance indicators of probable alcohol misuse and use of controlled substances. Recurrent training for supervisory personnel is not required.

It appears DOT training providers are now pushing this and have been able to acquire business information in order to forward the notices. These companies are "training providers." It is not known if the Federal Motor Carriers Safety Administration is promoting this training or not. But, please note, the training is required.

SCTPA has purchased the Helping Supervisors Recognize Substance Abuse Training Program developed by USiS. This is an approved training program for the above regulations.

The program takes about 2.5 hours to conduct. Attendees will receive a training completion certificate that can be filed and will certify the training was completed. If a trucking business is audited by State Transport Police, then this training must have been met and documented as to that fact. Several members who have been audited were cited for not receiving this training.

SCTPA has scheduled a few classes to present this training for members. There will be a small fee for members, much less than the training providers charge. Non-members may attend, and will incur a higher

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fee.

SCTPA will conduct this training class prior to the Fall District Meetings around the state. If the district meeting location can accommodate the class prior to the district meeting, it will be held there. Training class time will be from 4:00 until 6:30 p.m.

If the district meeting location cannot accommodate the workshop prior to the evening district meeting, then another location will be determined and class scheduled for another date.

If a member cannot attend the workshop, then SCTPA and member can make arrangements to present the program at another time. Just notify SCTPA and arrangements can be made for a later training date.

District Meeting and Training Notices will be forwarded prior to the meeting and training class.

If you have any questions regarding the regulations or training, please feel free to contact the SCTPA office.

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## **HELPING SUPERVISORS RECOGNIZE SUBSTANCE ABUSE SCTPA TRAINING PROGRAM**

### **TRAINING CLASSES SCHEDULED AS OF SEPTEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup>**

Tuesday, October 11, Front Porch Restaurant, Richburg, 4 – 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, October 13, Longhorn Steakhouse, Walterboro, 4 – 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, October 20, Blue Ocean Restaurant, Clinton, 4 – 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, November 1, Bill's Low Country BBQ, Georgetown, 4 – 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, November 8, Cross Creek Timber Office, Easley, 4 – 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, November 10, Palmetto Pulpwood & Timber Office, Florence, 4 – 6:30 p.m.

Monday, November 14, Hall's Restaurant, Lugoff, 4 – 6:30 p.m.

- Class Pre-Registration Required.
- Pre-Registration Deadline Is 2 Days Prior to Training Class.
- RSVP Required To SCTPA - 803-957-9919, 1-800-371-2240, Fax 803-957-8990, Crad Cell 803-530-5874.
- \$ 20 / Person SCTPA Active Members.
- \$ 60 / Person Non-Members.
- Cash or Check Payments Accepted at Training Class.

District Meeting at 7 p.m. will follow the training class at above locations.



## SC SUPREME COURT RULES ON ISOLATED WETLANDS

### SC DHEC Given Regulatory Authority

The South Carolina Supreme Court has ruled the SC Department of Health & Environmental Control now has jurisdiction over the state's isolated wetlands. This is a reversal of the Georgetown County Circuit Court's ruling and DHEC's previous operating procedure.

The ruling rendered was the result of a lawsuit filed against a developer on Pawleys Island by the Georgetown County League of Women Voters. The suit was filed over a 0.332 acre lot of which 0.19 acre was an isolated wetland that had been filled. Isolated wetlands are denoted as not having a direct connection to other waters or wetlands.

The Corps of Engineers does not regulate isolated wetlands due to no connectivity to other waters. So there was no permitting requirement for filling isolated wetland through the Corps.

Now via this ruling, before any isolated wetland area is filled, a permit must be obtained through DHEC that has the authority to issue such permits under the SC Pollution Control Act.

As part of the ruling, and this is disturbing, the court granted and ruled the act has a "private right to action." This means, a private person or group has the ability to bring a lawsuit if they observe violations of that law. In other words, if another person feels there is a violation and perhaps could even say they were losing some kind of environmental benefit or impact, say for esthetics, they can bring a lawsuit. The Supreme Court's opinion was this opens the door for private citizens to enforce its terms.

How does this impact sustainable forestry, timber harvesting, reforestation, forest road building, for Best Management Practices.

SCTPA communicated with SC Forestry Commission's BMP Chief Guy Sabin. Guy indicates, "From a BMP standpoint, we do not distinguish

between jurisdictional and isolated wetlands for compliance. Forestry practices are common in jurisdictional wetlands and typically follow the same procedures in isolated wetlands. This decision will clarify enforcement authority by DHEC if a BMP violation occurs in an isolated wetland. I don't really see a big change here since we still considered isolated wetlands to be waters of the state for purposes of the SC Pollution Control Act. To my knowledge we have never had DHEC enforcement on silvicultural violations in an isolated wetland. This will impact landowners who had plans to fill isolated wetlands, but that is not really a forestry practice. I'm not sure DHEC regs cover drainage or conversion of a wetland like the Clean Water Act does, so DHEC may be limited to action based on discharge of pollutant. Issues related to fill or conversion of wetlands normally go to the Corps, and water quality issues to DHEC."

It appears the thought at DHEC Water Quality Division is forestry and agricultural activities should be able to continue the same as they do in jurisdictional wetlands. DHEC is not positioned now to take on this additional regulatory and administrative burden. And they do not desire to restrict or

*This means, a private person or group has the ability to bring a lawsuit if they observe violations of that law.*

permit forestry activities. However if this leads to new

state regulations, hopefully DHEC will include exemptions for silviculture and agriculture.

However, caution is needed due to the authority DHEC has been given. There could be more to come from this later as far as regulatory activities for forestry.

There is speculation there will be legislation presented next session beginning January to clarify DHEC's isolated wetlands jurisdiction. SCTPA is supporting a coalition of organizations including SC Forestry Association, SC Farm Bureau, SC Manufacturers Alliance, Home Builders Association and others to draft legislation for this issue. Such legislation may attempt to at least restrict, limit or remove DHEC's isolated wetlands authority.

SCTPA will continue communications with SCFC's Guy Sabin and SC Forestry Association's Cam Crawford to monitor this issue.



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# AS I SEE IT ...

AMERICAN LOGGERS COUNCIL

PRESIDENT MIKE WIEDEMAN, ENTERPRISE, OREGON



AMERICAN  
**LOGGERS**  
COUNCIL

## September 2011

The American Loggers Council's (ALC) summer meeting was held July 30 in Cincinnati, Ohio. There was a very full agenda with committee reports on Government Relations, Transportation, Communications and Master Logger Certification©.

One of the notable highlights to the Government Relations Committee was that both the House and the Senate introduced legislation to amend the Clean Water Act to specifically exempt silvicultural activities from the NPDES permitting process. ALC representatives had visited with members of Congress on this issue during the spring Board of Directors meeting and Fly-In held in Washington, DC last March, and have continued that dialogue over the past three months, joining in with the Forest Roads Coalition and other forestry organizations seeking solutions to the issue.

Board members also agreed to submit comments to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) asking that they do not make any changes in the current guidance documents on how the FMCSA would treat implements of husbandry. Under proposed changes to the guidance documents, implements of husbandry could be treated as a commercial motor vehicle subject to all the regulations that are currently imposed on highway use motor vehicles, including obtaining a CDL for operators.

The Master Logger Committee and ALC board approved Master Logger Certification© templates for both Florida and Georgia. Congratulations to the Southeastern Wood Producers for the work that they put into the process. There are now seventeen states that have ap-



proved templates and several of those states that have implemented the Master Logger Certification© program.

The main focus at the summer meeting involved the strategic plan for the American Loggers Council stemming from work done by the Executive Commit-

tee over the past three months. I would like to thank our friends at John Deere for all of their efforts in assisting the ALC Executive Committee during the strategic planning process and for helping the ALC realize the potential we all have working as a team to bring value to all of those that we represent.

There were several recommendations presented from those efforts and passed by the ALC Board of Directors. The first was to modernize the ALC logo for purposes of rebranding and reintroducing the council. Secondly, to completely redevelop the ALC website to improve the quality of information found on the site and making it more attractive and user friendly with even video messages a possibility. Another communication recommendation was to have a quarterly report from the ALC Executive Vice President to state and regional member associations as well as sponsors updating them on the issues ALC is working on their behalf. The column like this one will still continue with the President's personal message but will also be complimented with the title "As We See It," providing information on current national issues from points of view across the US.

Having a larger presence in Washington DC was also recommended, allowing for ALC executives and members to travel to DC when important issues arise.

Several financial recommenda-

tions were approved by the ALC board that set a path for long term goals, growth and sustainability for the Council.

With all of the recommendations passed at the summer meeting I am very pleased and excited about the steps ALC has taken to better serve our nation's loggers and those that support us. The American Loggers Council continues to be the largest organization representing professional loggers at the national level and our goal remains "providing a unified, national voice for professional loggers across the United States."

Caterpillar Forest Products hosted and sponsored the summer meeting in great fashion, including a trip to The Great American Ball Park, while ALC members from across the country attended. I would like to thank Mike Duncan and Nick Leitze with Caterpillar Forest Products for two very interesting presentations on the global outlook and opportunities for the forest industry and tier 4 engines. One of the benefits that we all have by participating in ALC activities is the insight that we gain when our sponsors bring their global expertise to the table for all of us to share.

Our industry has faced many challenges over the past twelve months, and I would like to personally thank our board members and staff for all of their efforts to address those challenges. Being a part of such a great group of people that volunteer their time for the good of all of us in the forest products industry has truly been an honor and a privilege.

Being raised by a father that carried a chain saw for a living, a true "lumberjack," providing for his family in an honorable fashion, and my siblings and I never going without, is

*(Continued on page 11)*

## 2012 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING NOTICE

**TO: Members of the South Carolina Timber Producers Association, Inc.**  
**WHEN: Noon, Saturday, February 4, 2012**  
**WHERE: Crown Reef Resort Conference Center**  
**2913 South Ocean Blvd, Myrtle Beach, SC 29577**

Be it known to all members, this is the official call to the Annual Membership Business Meeting of the South Carolina Timber Producers Association, Inc. to be conducted at the above specified time and location.

At the Association Business Session, members will:

- Be provided the Association Annual Financial Report.
- Be presented bylaws amendment recommendations for approval and adoption.
- Elect Board of Directors.

As a member, you should plan to attend the 2012 Annual Membership Meeting. This is a member privilege and wonderful opportunity to get involved in your Association.

You can participate in the decision making process through interaction with the Board of Directors and fellow members. Your vote is needed for the adoption of Bylaws recommendations, if Bylaws changes are needed, and Board of Directors elections.

Your active participation in your association is important plus the sharing of your ideas will help shape the association's future and the timber harvesting industry in South Carolina.

Take advantage of this opportunity to play an active role in SCTPA. Make plans to join your peers **February 3 – 5, 2012 at Myrtle Beach's Crown Reef Resort & Conference Center for your Annual Membership Meeting.**

Annual meeting registration and information packages will be mailed to all categories of active members.

Contact SCTPA for registration, sponsorship, exhibitor, silent auction donation and meeting information. We look forward to seeing everyone at our 2012 Annual Meeting.



***Timber Talk***  
*Your Voice for South Carolina  
Timber Harvesting*

Contact Crad Jaynes at  
1-800-371-2240 or [bcjpaw@windstream.net](mailto:bcjpaw@windstream.net)

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a legacy I would like to honor and continue. The work ethic and integrity of today's professional loggers is a story the rest of the American public needs to hear. We are the real "environmentalists" that have done more good for our nation's forests than any environmental group. When you have "sawdust in your blood" it is hard to imagine doing anything else.

My term, serving as President of the American Loggers Council, has flown by. I hope I have represented my fellow professional loggers in a positive light and pro-

vided some incentive for others to become more involved in our industry; after all, if we don't stand up for the loggers, who will?

*Matt Jensen is the President of the American Loggers Council, which represents logging professionals in 30 states. Matt's operation, Whitetail Logging, is headquartered in Crandon, Wisconsin. For more information please contact the American Loggers Council office at 409-625-0206 or e-mail at [americanlogger@aol.com](mailto:americanlogger@aol.com).*

## 2012 BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINATIONS NEEDED

Two Board of Directors Seats will be elected at our February 4, 2012 Annual Membership Meeting at the Crown Reef Resort Conference Center, Myrtle Beach, SC.

The board terms for Seat 4 served by Clyde Brown, Mt. Bethel Logging, Inc., Newberry, and Seat 5 served by Norman Harris, Harris Timber Co., Inc., Ladson, will expire December 31, 2011.

Board member elections will be conducted during the Member Business Session of the Membership Meeting convening at noon on Saturday, February 4, 2012.

Board members serve four-year terms. Board responsibilities are to establish policies, direct legislative advocacy, guide programs and efforts to improve and benefit the timber harvesting industry, oversee fiscal responsibilities and charge association staff to fulfill the association's duties and daily functions.

Board members are responsible to attend board meetings. One board meeting is conducted at the annual meeting with bimonthly meetings held in Columbia beginning in February each year.

Any member directly engaged in the logging business and in good standing with paid dues as of December 31, 2011, may be nominated for an upcoming seat. Any member regardless of location is eligible for nomination. Members are encouraged to enter your name or the name of another member as an eligible candidate.

To enter your name or to nominate someone else, please contact the Nominations Committee or SCTPA office no later than January 16, 2012.

### Nominations Committee

*Chairman, Billy McKinney, Highland Timber Co., LLC, Union*

Office 864-427-6173 ■ Fax 864-427-6173 ■ Cell 864-429-6939 ■ [Highlandtimber@charter.net](mailto:Highlandtimber@charter.net)

*Tommy Barnes, Ideal Logging, Inc., Edgemoor*

Office 803-789-5467 ■ Fax 803-789-3565 ■ Cell 803-385-7994

*Frampton Ferguson, Ferguson Forest Products, Inc., Luray*

Office 803-625-4196 ■ Fax 803-625-3881 ■ Cell 803-942-1149 ■ [frampton1@Hargray.com](mailto:frampton1@Hargray.com)



## 2011 Logger Activist Award Nomination

Nominations for SCTPA's **2011 Gene Collins Logger Activist of the Year Award** are being sought. Award will be presented at the 2012 Annual Membership Business Luncheon and Meeting convening at noon, Saturday, February 4, 2012 at the Crown Reef Resort Conference Center, Myrtle Beach, SC.

This award recognizes a Professional Logger who has demonstrated an exceptional desire to positively promote and represent the timber harvesting profession by actively participating in association activities, educational efforts, community action, industry advocacy, and engendering the public's trust with commitment to the American Loggers Council Professional Logger Code of Practices and by displaying a commitment to sustainable forestry principles and practices.

You may nominate a SCTPA Logger Member or yourself. Contact the Nominations Committee or SCTPA office by January 16, 2012. Thank you for your nomination.

*Billy McKinney, Chairman, Highland Timber Co., LLC, Union*  
Office/ Home 864-427-6173 ▪ Fax 864-427-6173 ▪ Cell 864-429-6939

*Tommy Barnes, Ideal Logging, Inc., Edgemoor*  
Office 803-789-5467 ▪ Fax 803-789-3565 ▪ Cell 803-385-7994

*Frampton Ferguson, Ferguson Forest Products, Inc., Luray*  
Office 803-625-4196 ▪ Fax 803-625-3881 ▪ Cell 803-942-1149

### 2011 Logger Activist Award Nomination

Nominee Name \_\_\_\_\_

Business Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ SC Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Office \_\_\_\_\_ Home \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Nominated By \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Contact: Office \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Describe nominee's activities: \_\_\_\_\_

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## BIOMASS ENERGY PLENTIFUL AND GREEN, DOE SAYS

By Lauren Craig, August 22, 2011

The nation can vastly increase the amount of energy it gets from biomass-derived sources without jeopardizing – and possibly even helping – the environment, according to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). The DOE's optimistic assessment came with the release of a "2011 U.S. Billion-Ton Update: Biomass Supply for a Bioenergy and Bioproducts Industry," a follow-up to a 2005 biomass assessment.

The DOE said it sought to determine if U.S. agriculture and forest resources can produce at least 1 billion dry tons of biomass annually – enough to displace approximately 30 percent of the country's present petroleum consumption – without impacting other vital U.S. farm and forest products, such as food, feed and fiber crops.

The report is intended to provide the industry, policymakers and the agricultural community with information necessary to help expand renewable energy resources and develop alternative fuels for the U.S. transportation sector.

The 2011 update breaks the data down to the county level, expands on supply curves for individual feedstocks and provides a more rigorous model of resource sustainability, the DOE said. The update focuses on the 2012 - 2030 time period, and toward the implementa-

tion of renewable fuels standards and other initiatives.

The biomass resources identified in the report range from primary and secondary forest biomass, soybean and rice hulls and animal fat to obscure "energy crops" such as eucalyptus. Each feedstock is evaluated for its ability to produce clean, renewable biofuels, biopower or bioproducts.

The report emphasize conventional monoculture, but it also discusses the benefits of using more sustainable growing techniques, such as conservation practices like no-till farming and crop rotation.

According to the report, the feedstock resources identified could produce about 85 billion gallons of biofuels – enough to reach the DOE's goal of replacing approximately 30 percent of the nation's current petroleum consumption. And it could be done in an environmentally sensitive way, the department said.

***"... removing tree portions that are unfit for market in the forest industry can reduce forest fire risk, ..."***

In fact, the DOE said, "in some cases increased production may contribute to environmental improvements. For example, removing tree portions that are unfit for market in the forest industry can reduce forest fire risk, and planting energy crops on marginal lands can reduce soil erosion."

<http://uk.ibtimes.com/articles/20110822/biomass-energy-pleentiful-and-green-doe-says.htm>

### NEW MEMBER SERVICE

#### PARTNERING WITH SUSAN MILLS WALKUP & BANKERS LIFE & CASUALTY

SCTPA is proud to partner with Susan Walkup to offer insurance products through Bankers Life & Casualty Company.

Susan will be available to assist members with Long Term Care, Life Insurance, Annuities, Income Replacement, Senior Hospital Indemnity, Accident Policy, Cancer Policy, and Medicare Products.

Her business philosophy and mission is to help seniors and families, protect their financial security, plan for their futures and is dedicated to finding innovative insurance planning solutions to help clients reach retirement goals.

Susan is the daughter of long time logger member, now retired, George and Sue Mills of Prosperity and sister of long time trucking member Glen Mills, Mills Trucking, Inc., Prosperity. She is a licensed SC agent and has sixteen years insurance industry experience with the last year being with Bankers. Prior to joining Bankers she served in a management position for ten years. She resides in Columbia and has two children, James, 20, and Helen, 18.

Bankers Life & Casualty Company is devoted exclusively to the financial security and retirement needs of seniors and their families. The company was established in 1879 and is headquartered in Chicago, operates over 150 offices servicing 48 states and serves 1.4 million policyholders.

Susan will meet with members anywhere in the state to provide her expertise for the Bankers Life & Casualty products and services.

Her office is located in Columbia. She may be contacted at 803-798-4450, cell 803-600-1936, and email [susan.walkup@bankers.com](mailto:susan.walkup@bankers.com)

SCTPA encourages members to contact Susan to see what services and products she may be able to provide for your financial future.

SCTPA is excited about our partnership with Susan and Bankers Life & Casualty Company.



## ANNOUNCING A NEW BUSINESS PARTNER JIM HUDSON AUTOMOTIVE GROUP

The SC Timber Producers Association has a new business partner: Jim Hudson Automotive Group. So, YOU, as a SCTPA member, have a new business partner.

SCTPA is pleased to announce this partnership and feel this will provide members an excellent opportunity to purchase your Business Fleet Vehicles and Personal Vehicles in an exciting and economically feasible manner.

Jim Hudson Automotive Group operates six, soon to be seven, locations in the Columbia area and is the dealer for **Ford, Buick, Cadillac, GMC, Hyundai, Toyota, Scion, SAAB and Lexus.**

**Mr. Jim Hudson, president of Jim Hudson Automotive Group of Columbia, is offering the member privilege of purchasing your Fleet Vehicles and Personal Vehicles at INVOICE plus available REBATES (excluding Lexus) through his dealership group. The full line of vehicles for personal vehicles to pickups to heavy-duty trucks for all the brands is included in the program.**

Mr. Hudson grew up on a tobacco farm in Turkey, NC. As a first generation dealer, he started with an Oldsmobile dealership in 1980. A self-described workaholic he understands what it takes to start your own business and grow that business. It is his appreciation for small business folks that lead him to the decision to partner with SCTPA for this new benefit program.

**Robby Croft, Fleet & Commercial Sales Department, Lexington store,** is the your contact for this new program. Program is available to all active dues paid members anywhere in the state. Member verification to Robby will be required.

Contact Robby to talk about your next vehicle.

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Toll Free 1-800-817-2824

Cell 803-316-7583

Email [rcroft@jimhudson.com](mailto:rcroft@jimhudson.com)

Again, SCTPA is excited about this program. Give Robby Croft and Jim Hudson Automotive Group the opportunity to help you on your Fleet and Personal Vehicles.

## A SIMPLE EXPLANATION OF BASEBALL

This is a game played by two teams, one out the other in. The one that's in, sends players out one at a time, to see if they can get in before they get out. If they get out before they get in, they come in, but it doesn't count. If they get in before they get out it does count.

When the ones out get three outs from the ones in before they get in without being out, the team that's out comes in and the team in goes out to get those going in out before they get in without being out.

When both teams have been in and out nine times the game is over. The team with the most in without being out before coming in wins unless the ones in are equal. In which case, the last ones in go out to get the ones in out before they get in without being out.

The game will end when each team has the same number of ins out but one team has more in without being out before coming in.



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SCTPA is proud to partner with Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company and Alliance Tire USA and its participating dealers to offer this forestry and truck/trailer tire discount program.

Our Alliance Tire USA Forestry Tire Discount program was renewed January 31<sup>st</sup> and the Goodyear Tire Program is still in effect.

**ALLIANCE TIRE USA AND GOODYEAR ARE THE  
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Qualified Member Loggers and Member Unmanufactured Forest Products (UFP) Truck Owners can purchase Alliance Tire USA Forestry Tires and Goodyear Truck and Trailer Tires from participating tire dealers at discounted prices for the qualified Goodyear and Dunlop tires in the program.

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**Please follow these steps for this valuable member benefit.**

- Members Only Tire Pricing can be obtained by contacting the SCTPA office. The tire pricing is not public and for Member Use Only. Only qualified members can receive the pricing. The tire pricing is not to be disclosed to others by a qualified member.
- Qualified Members cannot purchase tires for a non-member. If such abuse results, member will be terminated from participating in the programs.
- Qualified Dues Paid Members can visit participating dealers.
- The tire dealer or the member **must** contact SCTPA for an official **Member Verification Form** showing the member’s information and membership identification number.
- A Member Verification Form will be provided to the member for use or sent to the tire dealer directly.
- Qualified Member Renewal or New Dues must be paid to be eligible for the program. Prompt dues payment maintains member’s eligibility for the tire discounts.

We are excited to partner with Alliance Tire USA and Goodyear Tire Company to offer these savings to qualified members.

- **For an Alliance Tire dealer, contact Terry Goodwin, 205-901-8326.**
- **For a Goodyear Tire dealer, contact Tony Gunther, 980-322-3464.**



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Goodyear – Tony Gunther, Region Manager  
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## Can We Manage and Use Our Forests Even More to Slow Climate Change?

***Increasing demand for renewable wood products, bioenergy through carbon policies may encourage forest management improvements, slow climate change, finds Environmental and Energy Study Institute***

By Environmental and Energy Study Institute, Press Release, August 25, 2011

WASHINGTON – One approach is to leave forests be - let them grow naturally to maturity and fix carbon in the trees and soils over time. Planting more trees would help, too. However, another approach, proposed in a recent life cycle study, would be to manage our forests more intensively to produce more wood products and bioenergy. Which approach is likely to do more to slow climate change?

August 15, EESI's Climate Change News reported on a new study that found that "the Earth's forests absorb a staggering amount of carbon from the atmosphere each year, an amount equivalent to one-third of annual fossil fuel emissions." The study underscores how important it is to protect and restore healthy forests.

But could forests be managed to do even more to stop harmful climate change?

Over time, mature, unmanaged forests will sequester less and less carbon, and, in a changing climate, they may become vulnerable to more intense wildfires, disease, and pests. Eventually, unmanaged forests may actually release more carbon to the atmosphere than they store.

Another approach would be to establish carbon policies that would increase demand for renewable wood products and bioenergy and encourage forest owners to manage their forests more intensively to produce these products.

The goal would be to steadily displace fossil energy-intensive building materials like steel and concrete with wood, and displace fossil fuel use with renewable woody biomass residues derived from intensified forest management activities and growing wood products industries. Assuring sustainable forestry practices over the long term would be essential. Over time, this approach could cumulatively sequester far more carbon in biomass and displace far more fossil fuel consumption than unmanaged forests will. These are the findings of a recently published study *Life Cycle Impacts of Forest Management and Wood Utilization on Carbon Mitigation: Knowns and Unknowns*

Of course, as the authors acknowledge, slowing climate change is only one of the many things that we rely upon our forests for. We also treasure them for the biodiversity, wildlife, clean water, clean air, beauty, and recreation that they provide. Future climate and forest policies will need to recognize and balance these many priorities. Many forests should be preserved as is for their ecological, wilderness, or other core values. But perhaps, with the right policy incentives and price on fossil carbon emissions, millions of acres of working forests could be managed to a new, higher level of productivity and help even more to slow harmful climate change.

### **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

SCTPA welcomes our New Members.  
Your support is appreciated.

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## WOOD MAGIC FOREST FAIR VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

It's that time of year again! It is time to begin scheduling volunteers for this fall's **Wood Magic Forest Fair** (WMFF) program.

I hope you will consider volunteering your time to help South Carolina's fourth grade students and teachers know the importance of forests and the forest industry to their everyday lives. To learn more about the WMFF, go to our web site at [www.state.sc.us/forest/wmfair.htm](http://www.state.sc.us/forest/wmfair.htm) to view last year's annual report.

The WMFF event planned for 2011 will be **October 3<sup>rd</sup> through 7<sup>th</sup> at Harbison State Forest in Columbia.**

To conduct this program **we need approximately 150 volunteers** from the forestry community to serve as guides, instructors, and helpers. Each volunteer is given a WMFF tee shirt or instructor shirt and the satisfaction that they have helped provide the youth of our state an important pro-active forestry experience.

We are asking you to try to sign up early and try to recruit one (or more) person who has not participated in this great educational event. **To sign up**, first visit the WMFF instructors' web site at <http://www.state.sc.us/forest/woodmagic.htm> to see what days and positions are available. You can also find lesson plans, driving directions, and other information at this site.

Then contact Stephanie Kolok to let her know for which days and positions you would like to volunteer.

We look forward to your continued support of the **Wood Magic Forest Fair** program and hope that we can expand the program back to the successful three events in the future.

Thanks,  
Stephanie Kolok  
WMFF Coordinator  
803-896-8855  
[skolok@forestry.state.sc.us](mailto:skolok@forestry.state.sc.us)



### Report Finds Wood Heat Dominates Residential Renewable Market

#### Consumer demand, not government incentives, driving the most cost-effective residential renewable energy sector

*July 11, 2011* - A report released today by the non-profit group, Alliance for Green Heat, finds that wood heating in America is dominating the residential renewable energy market, and doing so with virtually no government subsidies.

Approximately 13 million wood and pellet stoves are in operation today in about 10% of American homes, saving American families hundreds of millions of dollars in fossil fuel bills. 80% of residential renewable energy comes from wood and pellets, while only 15% comes from solar and 5% from geothermal, according to the US Department of Energy.

"Wood and pellet heating in America proves that low and middle-income families can lead the way, not follow, when it comes to using renewable energy," said John Ackerly, President of the Alliance for Green Heat. "While federal and state subsidies flow to wealthy families to install solar panels, ordinary American families are reducing their reliance on fossil fuels much faster with wood and pellet heating," Ackerly said.

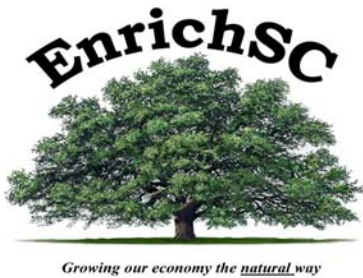
However, the group warns that while wood heat is growing in popularity, many of the stoves and boilers in

operation today are too polluting, and programs to replace old appliances with new ones are badly needed.

The report, "Transforming Wood Heat in America: A Toolkit of Policy Options," found that biomass heating equipment excels at quickly and affordably reducing fossil fuel use, but few states provide incentives for the most modern, clean units. The report concluded that a \$1,000 stove incentive could reduce as much fossil fuel as a \$10,000 solar incentive, drive consumers towards extremely low emitting units, and help ordinary Americans affordably meet their utility bills.

A Wood Heat Task Force comprised of industry, air quality experts, non-profits and foresters helped guide the yearlong study that was partially funded by the US Forest Service. The report found that while emissions were a barrier to widespread use of some existing technologies, wood and pellet harvesting was generally very sustainable. The report's authors interviewed more than 150 stakeholders to assemble a policy toolkit to help local, state and federal officials promote cleaner wood heating in America and maximize its potential as a core renewable energy technology.

The report was released Wednesday, July 13 at a symposium held at the US Forest Service.



**South Carolina's most valuable amenities are her clean water and air, her natural areas, her farms and forests, her wildlife, and her scenic expanses.**

**Our lives are richer because of this legacy.**

Yet the huge contribution these resources make to the state's economy is often ignored. Consider these facts:



✓ The two largest industries in South Carolina are tourism and agribusiness (farming and forestry).

Based on three studies by independent economists, farming, forestry, tourism, and natural resource activities employ about **15 percent (264,000 jobs) of the state's workforce and are credited with as much as one-third (463,000 jobs) of South Carolina's total jobs.**

These studies also show that at least **25 percent of the entire state economy (\$54 billion)** is supported by commerce from these four sectors.

Almost all of these jobs are created a few at a time and do not make headlines. Almost all are created without local- and state-financed incentives/subsidies.

There is no way to accurately calculate how many other clean, well-paying businesses chose to locate in South Carolina because they were positively influenced by our clean air and water, our open spaces, our beauty and our outdoor opportunities. It is significant though. "The abundance of clean water was one of the major factors considered when Fujifilm made the decision to locate its North American manufacturing facility in Greenwood over 20 years ago. An abundance of clean air and water is crucial to manufacturing high-quality products that are free of impurities and imperfections."

— Fujifilm news release



✓ The combined budgets for the five state agencies that are the stewards for our outdoor and natural resources receive less than 1 percent of the entire state budget. Yet, the mission and work of each creates jobs by protecting and promoting the resources

For decades, there have been "Two South Carolinas," the growing urban/suburban areas and the more rural areas, which have stagnated. The good news is that careful attention and wise investment in natural resources, farming, forestry, and tourism would lead to significant revitalization of the most depressed parts of the state.

**Enrich SC** is reaching out to opinion leaders and public officials offer assistance in developing partnerships that will put these four economic sectors front and center in addressing the state's most urgent needs.

**SCTPA Comments: SCTPA is a participating member of Enrich SC along with SC Forestry Association.**

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## LOCAL FORESTS CAN SUPPORT PELLET MILLS

*Editor's Note: This is the fifth in a six-part series that focuses on the growing wood pellet industry in northeastern North Carolina and southeastern Virginia.*

BY THADD WHITE/ROANOAKE-CHOWAN  
NEWS-HERALD

AHOSKIE, N.C.—The southern Atlantic Seaboard has the opportunity to be part of a solution for the need for wood pellets in the European Union.

According to Peter J. Stewart, president and chief executive officer of Forest 2 Market, renewable energy standards in the European Union, specifically the northeastern part of the continent, will provide the opportunity for some facilities in the southern United States to provide wood pellets to help meet the demand for renewable energy.

“The renewable energy standards across the EU, specifically northeastern Europe, require that between 20 and up to 50 percent of electrical power be generated from renewable sources,” Stewart said. “Those sources are wind, water and biomass, and pellets would fall under the last category.”

The demand for renewable energy in Europe, and specifically for wood pellets, has led to Enviva Biomass opening a production facility in Ahoskie while others are planned for southeastern Virginia.

Wood Fuel Developers of Chester has plans for two wood pellet mills, one in Greensville County and the other in Sussex County. Franklin Pellets, a newly formed partnership between Multifuels and CMI, is eyeing the possibility of opening a wood pellet shop within a portion of the now closed International Paper mill in Franklin.

There are various reasons the southern part of the U.S. has become one of the producers of pellets for Europe.

“When you start looking at the world and ask where pellets would come from, Scandinavia, South Africa and Russia would seem logical because they are closer,” Stewart said. “In reality, Scandinavia imports a great deal of their wood. You would then have to go over Scandinavia to get to Russia and that’s not a good option.”

Stewart said Poland and Czech Republic pro-

duce pellets, but most are for their own consumption. South Africa provides difficulty for Eastern Europe as well.

Looking back toward North America, eastern Canada does not have a lot of wood resources and uses many of them themselves, leaving the Atlantic Seaboard of the United States. “You have Maine and then a very populated Eastern Seaboard,” Stewart said. “Next is the U.S. South, which logistically is a good location.”

Brazil is another option, but Stewart said currently it is cheaper to get pellets from the United States.

Stewart said there are five large wood pellet production facilities in the Southern United States with others planned, including the one in Ahoskie and those in southeastern Virginia. Experts estimate the EU will need 20-50 million tons of wood pellets per year by 2030, up from the current use of 10 million tons per year.

“You have a bunch of demand,” Stewart said. “Pellet producers think they will put up a pellet plant and export to Europe. It doesn’t sound all that complicated, but that’s what it is.” He said the demand is the plus side of the economic forecast for wood pellets, but there is also a down side.

“With the pending demand, you would think the price of pellets would be increasing, but right now they are pretty flat,” Stewart explained. “At present, pellets are a break-even business. If the price increases with demand, which is what pellet producers are counting on, they will make a lot of money.”

As for the particular plants in northeastern North Carolina and southeastern Virginia, Stewart said the woodlands in the area would support the facilities.

“It certainly does have the capacity to provide for a couple of facilities,” he said. “If they are large-sized mills, they will take about a million tons a day as opposed to pulp mills, which average 2.5 million tons.”

He said, however, the U.S. South could meet only a fraction of Europe’s overall demand for renewable resources.

Retired forester Chip Burby of Ahoskie said the local Enviva plant would revitalize a dormant timber industry. “It will be a big boom,” he said. “I

*(Continued on page 25)*



(Continued from page 24)

thank the good Lord it happened, because it will be a big plus for this area.”

Burby said there is currently no market to support the local harvesting of hardwood, a fact causing hardship on the industry. “Tracks of timber couldn’t be clear cut because you couldn’t get rid of the hardwood,” he said. “It is definitely a big thing. “The hardwood pulp industry was completely dead,” he added. “This is a great thing for Ahoskie and Hertford County.”

Burby said he believes there is plenty of timber in the area to keep pellet plants producing.

“Timber is a renewable resource and we will be OK,” he said. “We can grow timber in this area because we have the resources.”

As for the United States, Stewart said it is likely to be quite some time before pellets are used in this country for electrical power.

“Unless we have a lot of renewable standards that would push us to biomass, it would be the last product line,” he said. “The first replacement for coal would be wood fuel or bark. That’s the next cheapest, whereas pellets are twice the cost of coal.”

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# GOOD FOREST MANAGEMENT MUCH MORE THAN CERTIFICATION

By Kenneth Norris, Contributing Editor, Pulp & Paper International

NEW YORK, July 19, 2011 (RISI) - Forest certification programs must be more than simply a strict standard. Responsible forestry must account for the fact that, by anyone's definition, forests are a source of economic and social health as well as environmental benefits. It is more than just a product label. Without a "big picture" approach, according to the latest progress report from Sustainable Forestry Initiative, no certification program can reach its full potential.

"The main purpose is responsible forestry," says Kathy Abusow, president of Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) Inc. "I don't think you do certification for the market. You do certification because you care about responsible forestry. From that, you get marketplace benefits."

Forests are dynamic and need to be continually managed; a job that's never done, continues Abusow. Changing climate contexts, business contexts and land ownership demands are forcing forest certification programs to reassess how they will address an increasingly complex landscape. It's a task SFI is gearing up to tackle over the next few years, a change that will build on the organization's existing standards.

"Our indicator for success isn't just how many forests are certified to our standard," says Abusow.

"We are driven by how we are changing responsible forestry, how we are impacting it through our on-the-ground contribution."



Approximately 90% of the world's forests remain uncertified, underscoring the importance of certification programs .

## Benefits of competition

The threat to the world's forests is a large enough problem to accommodate everyone who wants to participate in responsible forestry. But despite the substantial efforts of the major certification programs in the last two decades, approximately 90% of the world's forests remain uncertified, a statistic Abusow mentions frequently to underscore the importance of these programs.

"We do not believe that one program alone can meet the variety of forest contexts nor do they have the capacity to deal with all these global, pressing issues," says Abusow. "There shouldn't be a monopoly on responsible forestry."

Forest certifications programs continue to grow in popularity because of overarching concerns with deforestation and illegal logging, both by the public and the industry. Providing proof legal and sustainable practices help satisfy stricter laws and the demands of a modern, informed consumer.

The SFI program has grown considerably since its inception in 1994, accounting for more than 74 million hectares in North America. It is the largest single forest standard in the world, recognized by the global PEFC standard, with more than 2500 organizations involved in the program. With strong roots in North America, the SFI program is now a non-profit overseen by SFI Inc., an independent organization that draws on equal leadership from environmental, social and economic groups.

The results of having more than one player in the certification market have brought many benefits to the table, creating a healthy competitive environment for each program. In an effort to distinguish the SFI program as one of the best, Abusow points out that taking a leadership position means more than being called a standard. Defining a sustainable forestry initiative requires a multi-point approach that addresses the needs of all the groups involved.

For these goals, SFI is focusing on more inclusive efforts, such as research and community collaboration, in addition to a best-of-class forest certification standard. By adding specific strategic goals, SFI is able to build in the shared objectives with conservation and community parts to improve forestry practices at the local and global levels.

SFI's recent progress report highlights this combined, strategic approach. Research has been a

*(Continued on page 28)*

(Continued from page 27)



"Future forests depend on the economic viability of forests," says Kathy Abusow, president of Sustainable Forestry Initiative, Inc. "Otherwise, you may not have any forests left."

long-standing requirement for SFI program participants. In 2010, SFI program participants invested \$81.4 million for research activities, and since 1995 have invested more than \$1.2 billion.

"We are unique in regard to our standard's requirement for research," says Abusow. "There are very few, if any, forest certification programs that are really looking seriously at forestry research."

To extend SFI research goals, SFI kicked off the "Conservation and Community Partnerships Grant Program" to allow program participants to help direct the needs for research with local conservation groups and community-based organizations. SFI is currently in the second year of the grant programs and Abusow is personally very pleased with the initial level of support and encouragement from existing program participants.

"This continues to be an important focus point for us moving forward," says Abusow, "expanding our partnerships across North American and globally to understand how these sorts of projects can be applied to a broader spectrum of the SFI program participant community."

Recognition of a community network is another focus for SFI. The program is the only standard that also has a network of implementation committees. Currently, there are 37 different implementation committees across North America, traditionally engaged in actions to directly improve forestry prac-

tices "on the ground", including loggers training and landowner outreach.

Active participation in projects with Habitat for Humanity, the Boy Scouts and Canada's Girl Guides are core parts of SFI community network. While they may sound commonplace, these kinds of projects are practical ways to educate generations of stakeholders in responsible forestry, in ways that touch their lives on a daily basis.

### **Economic health**

Forestry's connection with economics is one of the strongest arguments for responsible forestry practices. Critics argue that industry groups only adhere to standards in order to placate the need for "social buy-in." Addressing the marketplace concerns of deforestation and illegal logging are important, but they are not the only reason for certification. Opening the doors to public scrutiny and inviting participation with conservation groups helps improve forestry on the ground and improve sustainability overall.

"I do think the North American forest sector is, and should be, recognized internationally as a leader in terms of managing with multiple values and interests," says Abusow. "Forest certification can't take all the credit for that, right? It's one tool that has contributed, but there are many drivers for change." Companies should be given credit for taking a leadership approach by completing a third-party certification program such as SFI's. As Abusow explains, economic health is being comfortable with the economic services being provided from forests, a result that can only happen if a company is managing them responsibly. If there is no economic return, forests will be converted to a higher economic purpose, especially under private ownership.

"People have to get comfortable with understanding that future forests depend on the economic viability of forests," says Abusow. "Otherwise, you may not have any forests left."



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## IMMIGRATION COMPLIANCE FOR ALL EMPLOYERS IN SOUTH CAROLINA

### SCTPA Partner *Ideal Business Solutions* Can Help Members With This Burden

By: Steve Ivester, President, Ideal Business Solutions

#### Federal Level

The Form I-9 must be completed for each current employee. For a new employee, the form must be completed before the employee starts work.

Typically, the new employee would present an original drivers license and original social security card to the employer several days in advance of starting work, (in case time is needed to locate one of the items). The employer has three days after the employee starts work to complete his portion of the form.

If the social security card is lost, a receipt for a new card request will suffice for two weeks. A current U.S. Passport is acceptable in lieu of both the driver's license and social security card.

The employer should examine the documents to make sure they are genuine and original. Then attach a photocopy to the completed I-9 Form.

E-Verify now gives the employer the peace of mind that the applicant can be hired legally, but it is not a substitute for maintaining I-9 Forms for all employees.

The penalties for knowingly allowing an illegal employee to work can be severe, including the cost of having the individual returned to his country of origin.

An audit of an employer's I-9 Forms can result in a considerable fine for improperly completing the form. Employers should review all I-9 Forms and make any necessary corrections.

Ideal Business Solutions can help employers in this review. Do not "white out" a correction. Initial and date the corrected information. This can help avoid a fine if the auditor sees the employer has made a good faith effort at proper compliance.

#### South Carolina Level

All South Carolina employers regardless of size must comply with the State's amended E-Verify regulations.

Effective January 1,2012, an employer must use only E-Verify to determine if a job applicant may be legally employed.

This verification takes only a few minutes and must be completed no later than three days after the new employee starts work. The employer should make a copy of the result.

Since the South Carolina Immigration Regulations were enacted in 2008, the South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulations have conducted over 6,000 audits.

A business can be completely shut down as a result of the audit. A restaurant in Columbia was completely shut down for 10 days because of non-compliance. Employers should continue to comply with the regulations using E-Verify.

If employers have not registered for E-Verify, employers should not wait until the end of the year to apply for an account. It takes several weeks of training in order to set up your account and receive a Personal Identification Number (PIN) number.

**SCTPA Comments:** *The timber harvesting industry employs more immigrants now. Employers are encouraged to comply with Federal and State Immigration Laws so as not to jeopardize their business operations.*

*Ideal Business Solutions is an SCTPA Allied Supplier Member and can provide many services to members to assist in lessening certain business burdens related to regulatory, payroll, unemployment, human resources, risk management, etc. issues.*

*For information, contact Steve Ivester, Ideal Business Solutions, Greenville, SC, 864-335-4070, [steve@yourhrpros.com](mailto:steve@yourhrpros.com)*

### Need Training & SFI Trained Credits?

SCTPA can provide training programs for members for SFI Trained Continuing Education Credits. Programs offered for safety, driver training, equipment lockout & tagout, hazardous materials spill control on logging sites and forestry aesthetics.

Truck Driver Training Workshops will be scheduled. Watch the Mark Your Calendar section of this newsletter for dates.

Notices for SCTPA workshops & events will be forwarded.

## IRS Makes Announcement About 2011 HVUT Returns due November 30, 2011



July 19, 2011

The IRS has postponed the due date of the 2011 Heavy Vehicle Use Tax (HVUT) for the short taxable period of July 1, 2011, to September 30, 2011. The IRS has indicated that the 2011 HVUT returns are **due on November 30, 2011**. The IRS will start accepting returns on November 1, 2011.

Even though the IRS postponed the due date of the return, Congress still has not extended the HVUT past September 30, 2011. Therefore, there are a few different scenarios of how the tax will be collected for the 2011-2012 tax year:

- **Congress does not extend the tax past September 30, 2011, and the tax is allowed to expire.** If the tax is not extended, taxpayers will file one Form 2290 by November 30, 2011. Taxpayers would be responsible for only 25 percent of the tax.
- **Congress extends the tax past September 30, 2011, and substitutes a longer taxable period for the 2011 short taxable period.** In this scenario, taxpayers who become liable for the highway use tax after June 30, 2011, and before November 1, 2011, will file a Form 2290 for the period July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012 (or the end of the new taxable period, if earlier), by November 30, 2011. Taxpayers would be responsible for 100 percent of the tax due. This scenario would be ideal as taxpayers would file one return and all of the tax would be collected.
- **Congress extends the tax past September 30, 2011, but does not do so until after November 1, 2011.** In this scenario, taxpayers would need to file Form 2290 to cover the shortened tax period by November 30, 2011, and then would need to file a subsequent return to cover the remainder of the tax period (determined by Congress). Due to the significant burden on taxpayers having to file two returns, the IRS is hoping that this scenario does not become a reality.

Regarding vehicle registration issues, the IRS has indicated that states must accept 2010 proof of HVUT payment to renew vehicle registrations filed during the period of July 2011 through November 2011.

For new or used vehicles purchased between July 2011 and November 2011, taxpayers can provide the state with a bill of sale in lieu of the proof of HVUT payment. The bill of sale must be dated within 150 days of the date on which vehicle registration is requested through the state. Previously, this time period was only 60 days. The IRS has communicated this information to the states.

The IRS has indicated that it will notify HVUT taxpayers via postcard of the new filing deadline. Postcards will be sent out within the following three weeks.

### LUMBER TO SOAR IN 2013?

According to Russ Taylor, president of Wood Markets, 2013 to 2015 will see a wild ride in wood products demand and pricing. Reporting from his company's *Global Wood Products: Industry and Markets Conference* in Vancouver on May 10, the well-known market watcher says the consensus among speakers is that while this year and perhaps even next will see only slight market improvements in North America and Europe, things get interesting after that.

"Speakers identified 2013-2015 as the break-out period, when an imbalance in supply and demand will lead to much higher log and lumber prices. The mid-term outlook for OSB and plywood was considered to be more subdued, but rising demand in the mid-term period will allow for more curtailed OSB mills to start up, with im-

proving prices a foregone conclusion."

Taylor adds that every speaker mentioned the role of China as a major factor in causing these higher prices as more traditional markets start heating up. "China's growing appetite for logs and lumber will continue to increase imports from supplying countries." This, coupled with recovering markets in the US and Europe will cause a global bidding war for available resources, many of the speakers predicted.

For logging contractors and sawmills this will likely mean a fast ramp up period when demand takes off, no doubt a welcome rush for many. For the biomass sector this may mean a significant increase in available sawmill residues, but also increased competition for marginal saw timber in some areas.

The second annual Global Wood Products conference took place May 9, 2012 in Vancouver.

# JOHN MALONE OVERTAKES TED TURNER AS LARGEST INDIVIDUAL LANDOWNER IN THE U.S.



By MONTE BURKE

**Land Grab: Media Mogul John Malone recently became the largest individual landowner in the U.S., edging out old friend, Ted Turner.**

*(This article appeared in the March 28 issue of Forbes Magazine)*

When asked about the source of his lust for land, John C. Malone laughs. “My wife says it’s the Irish gene. A certain land hunger comes from being denied property ownership for so many generations.”

Malone, the 70-year-old billionaire chairman of Liberty Media, has well sated that hunger. He started his land feast slowly nearly two decades ago, collecting parcels in Wyoming, New Mexico and Colorado. By the beginning of last year he had nearly 1 million acres. But in the last seven months, as property prices and the cost of borrowing have dropped, the hard-bargaining cable magnate’s land grab shifted into overdrive.

In August Malone bought the 290,100-acre Bell Ranch in northeastern New Mexico, after waiting years for it to drop to what he says was a “rational price.” (The ranch was initially listed in 2006 for \$110 million, then for \$83 million last year. Malone is rumored to have gotten it for closer to \$60 million.) Then in February he made his biggest splash, snapping up 1 million acres of timberland in Maine and New Hampshire for a “fair price.”

With that acquisition Malone became the largest private landowner in the U.S., at 2.2 million acres, according to *The Land Report*, which tracks sales. He surpassed his fellow billionaire Ted Turner, who had

held the title for the previous 15 years. Turner owns 2.1 million acres in the U.S. and has an additional 100,000 acres in South America.

The turnover at the top is fitting. Malone (worth \$4.5 billion) and Turner (worth \$2.1 billion) are long-time acquaintances and business partners. Malone served on the board of Turner Broadcasting in the 1980s and bailed out Turner’s company in 1987. In 2007, through Liberty Media, Malone became the owner of the Atlanta Braves, Turner’s old baseball team. (“I will always think of them as Ted’s team,” says Malone.) The two have neighboring trophy ranches in northern New Mexico (Malone’s 250,000-acre TO Ranch runs east from Turner’s 591,000-acre Vermejo Park Ranch.) And it was Turner, 72, who “first gave me this land-buying disease,” says Malone, when the duo flew a helicopter over Vermejo. Says Turner: “Over the years I’ve shared my experiences with John. I consider him a good friend and have great respect for him.”

So no Hatfield-McCoy here. Malone recently visited Turner, who was “down in the dumps because I still have lots of dry powder and he’s pretty tapped out,” jokes Malone. “I think if it was a race, Ted would concede.”

Turner seems happy to do just that, saying he was glad to see Malone make his latest acquisition. “We’re working toward the same goal—to be stewards of the land and make sure it’s preserved for future generations,” says Turner.

But though their conservation ends may be the same, their means differ. “Ted’s idea of tradition is to go back to pre-European times,” says Malone. Turner famously poisoned a stretch of Cherry Creek—which runs through his Flying D Ranch in Montana—to rid it of the invasive brown and rainbow trout. (He replanted the stream with native

cutthroat trout.) At Turner’s ranch bison roam free over land that’s been cleared of most signs of human habitation.

Malone, on the other hand, says, “I tend to be more willing to admit that human beings aren’t going away.” So he believes that trees can be harvested without damaging the ecology and wildlife. (“I’m not an extreme tree-hugger,” he says.) He will continue the sustainable forestry operation on the Maine and New Hampshire land (purchased from GMO Renewable Resources, a private equity firm). Malone is also looking at wind-power opportunities on the property and will keep the land open for public recreation, a Maine tradition. Malone takes the same “working farm” philosophy with his western properties, like the Bell Ranch, where he raises cattle and horses.

Malone wants to “break even” on his land, but there is more than economics involved. “There’s the emotional and intellectual aspect of walking the land and getting that sense of awe,” he says. “I own it, sort of, for my lifetime.”

Like Turner, he has plans to conserve most of it for beyond his lifetime, through perpetual conservation easements. “But I’m not going to kid myself and think that 500 years from now, with population growth, that the government won’t start putting people on the land,” he says. “But at least I tried.”

## Landowners & Members of the Forbes Billionaires List

1. John Malone: 2.2 mn acres — With this year’s purchase of one million acres in Maine and New Hampshire, became the new top dog. Liberty Media chairman also owns property in New Mexico, Wyoming and Colorado.
2. Ted Turner: 2.1 mn acres — Land in seven states. Strident environmentalist has more than 50,000 bison. Has begun renewable energy



## Judge Denies Suit Against Tahoe Fire Restoration

By SANDRA CHEREB, Associated Press

Saturday, July 16, 2011

The U.S. Forest Service plans to begin restoration work in the Angora Fire area at Lake Tahoe after a federal judge rejected arguments by environmental groups that salvage logging burned areas would harm the rare black-backed woodpecker and other wildlife.

"We are going to go ahead and proceed with work this summer," Cheva Heck, spokeswoman for the Forest Service's Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, said Friday.

The 2007 Angora Fire burned 3,000 acres around South Lake Tahoe and destroyed 250 homes. Forest Service officials said restoration is necessary to prevent a similar fire in the future and reduce the amount of dead and downed trees.

In an order Wednesday, U.S. District Judge Garland Burrell in Sacramento granted the federal agency summary judgment against Earth Island Institute and the Center for Biological Diversity.

The judge rejected claims by the conservation groups that the agency's plan violated national environmental and forest management laws. In particular, the groups argued that the black-backed woodpeckers were identified by the Forest Service as a management indicator species and that the birds prefer a habitat of snags in burned forest.

Burrell's order said the groups failed to show the Forest Service violated those laws in choosing its restoration route. He also said the agency didn't misrepresent facts about the distribution of woodpeckers in the region.

The order cited the agency's environmental assessment that said data indicate the distribution of black-backed woodpecker populations in the Sierra Nevada is stable, and that the conclusion was supported by another study.

Under the Forest Service plan, standing dead and downed wood will be removed on up to 1,400 acres, and trees in live forest areas will be thinned to reduce fuel loads and promote a healthier forest density, Heck said. Nearly 1,200 acres of burned areas will be left untreated as wildlife habitat.

Heck said mechanical equipment will be used to log about 960 acres in areas where the slopes are less than 30 degrees. The agency changed its mind about aerial logging in steeper areas and instead will use hand crews equipped with axes and chain saws.

The project also will involve road and trail work to improve their conditions and minimize erosion.

About 1,200 feet of Angora Creek Channel will be reconstructed through the meadow above Lake Tahoe Boulevard, the agency said, and conifers will be removed from Gardner Mountain Meadow.

The entire effort, estimated at \$7 million, is expected to continue through 2014.

*(Continued from page 32)*

plant (solar) in New Mexico.

3. Red Emmerson: 1.722 mn acres — Runs family-owned timber company Sierra Pacific Industries, founded by father, "Curly." Biggest landowner in California. Recently has begun placing some land in conservation easements.

4. Brad Kelley: 1.7 mn acres — Discount cigarette billionaire owns land in Texas, New Mexico, and Florida, mostly used to propagate rare animal species, like the pygmy hippo and okapi.

5. Irving family: 1.2 mn acres —

Through the timber company, Irving Woodlands, the Canadian family owns forest land in Maine, most of which is sustainably harvested.

6. Singleton Family: 1.11 mn acres — Children of Dr. Henry Singleton, founder of Teledyne, Inc., run ranchland in New Mexico. Avid participants in local rodeos.

7. King Ranch: 911,215 acres — Land in Texas and Florida. Farm sugarcane, vegetables, citrus and pecans. The ranch produced 1946 Triple Crown winner, Assault.

8. Pingree heirs: 800,000 acres — Family's Seven Island Land Com-

pany owns tract of land in Maine bigger than state of Rhode Island. Heirs of David Pingree, a 19<sup>th</sup> century shipper.

9. Reed family: 770,000 acres — Through Simpson Lumber Company, owns timberland in Pacific Northwest.

10. Stanley Kroenke: 740,000 acres — St. Louis Rams and Arsenal owner owns cattle and recreational ranches in Montana and Wyoming.

Source: [The Land Report](#)



## MEMBER REMINDER

# SC Intrastate DOT Numbers Required By October 1<sup>st</sup>

October 1<sup>st</sup> is the deadline for obtaining the SC Intrastate DOT Number for Commercial Motor Vehicles (CMV). This program for Intrastate CMV's is designed to make state roads and high-ways safer.

All Intrastate CMV's are required to be registered in the Motor Carrier Registration Program and display the number on all commercial vehicles. There is no cost to obtain the number.

Registering commercial vehicles through the SCDOT Number system does not subject intrastate commercial motor carriers to additional or different safety requirements. This will allow State Transport Police and law enforcement to efficiently assess and track a commercial motor carrier's safety rating by tying the vehicles in a fleet to a common identifying number. The intrastate number is necessary to comply with the Federal Motor Carriers Safety Administration Comprehensive Safety Analysis Program.

Only those companies doing business solely in South Carolina – intrastate – are required to obtain SCDOT numbers. Companies operating across state lines – interstate – are required to have USDOT numbers.

Commercial Motor Vehicles requiring a SCDOT Number operating in the logging and un-manufactured forest products trucking sectors are:

- CMV has a gross vehicle weight rating or gross combination weight rating, or gross vehicle weight or gross combination weight of 10,001 pounds or more; or
- Is used in transporting hazardous material found by the Secretary of Transportation to be hazardous as defined under federal laws under 49 U.S.C. 5103 and transported in a quantity requiring placarding under regulations prescribed by the Secretary under 49 CFR, Subtitle B, Chapter I, Subchapter C.

SCDOT Intrastate Number is not limited to

“trucking companies.” As defined by law, a “motor carrier” is any commercial enterprise that uses such vehicles in its business operations and as a result it is subject to Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations.

SCDOT Number must be affixed on both sides of the power unity, in a color contrasting with the background of the vehicle, and the numbers must be large enough to be legible from fifty (50) feet from the vehicle. The SC intrastate number will be clearly recognized by the “SC” suffix.

To register online for an Intrastate SCDOT Number, visit Federal Motor Carriers Safety Administration (FMCSA) website located at <http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/>

There is no fee for applying for a SCDOT number. However, a Visa or MasterCard must be provided to ensure a digital signature is on file for the official record.

Applications must be completed in their entirety. Carrier profile updates, including added or deleted equipment or drivers, changes in cargo classification or company officers/ owners, or changes in address or phone numbers of motor carrier, must be done as they occur, but in all cases an update is required every two (2) years.

If there are questions or experience problems completing the online SCDOT

Number process, contact SC State Transport Police 803-896-5500 or email to [scdotnumber@scstp.org](mailto:scdotnumber@scstp.org).

Once the application is processed, a letter assigning the SCDOT Number along with information regarding the display of the number will be forwarded to the applicant.

Failure to register and obtain the SCDOT Number and clearly display the number on all trucks owned or operated by the carrier will subject the carrier to a \$ 100.00 fine per occurrence for operating a CMV without the SCDOT Number displayed.



# LOGGING MUST BE MANAGED RESPONSIBLY

## Protecting Forestland is a Local Issue

David Weintraub  
Be Our Guest  
June 1, 2011

Steve Hensen's recent op-ed about ECO's (Environmental and Conservation Organization) efforts to regulate logging missed the boat about why logging needs local guidelines. Given that at least 75% of WNC's forests are on private land, 97% of logging occurs on private land and there are virtually no regulations that protect against clear-cutting, it is critical that local communities have some way to protect against damage to watersheds, view sheds and loss of habitat.

Protecting forestland couldn't be more urgent with the recent Southern Forest Futures Project report released last week which predicts that the South could lose 23 million acres of forestland over the next 50 years, an area the size of South Carolina.

Many forest landowners have registered with the forestry stewardship program, have consulted with NC Forest Resources and manage their forests in a responsible and environmentally sound way. We applaud their efforts to maintain a good balance between making land ownership financially feasible through intelligent logging practices and insuring that watersheds and sensitive habitats are not damaged. The concern is not with the many landowners who are good stewards, but with out-of-town or out-of-touch developers who simply don't care.

Given that Henderson County (NC) has lost 2000 acres of forestland as a result of clear-cutting in the past two years and given that it is likely that this trend will continue, it's important that logging be done responsibly since poor timbering practices can have a dramatic effect on everything from drinking water to landslides and mudslides on steep slopes.

Unlike development, logging operations are not obligated to follow the sedimentation and erosion rules. Instead, they are allowed to follow lesser standards called best management practices (BMPs). However the agency that enforces these rules, Division of Forest Resources (DFR) has no enforcement powers and with the expected budget cuts, DENR will be even slower to follow-up on water quality problems than they are now.

Henson claims "Placing one-size-fits-all restrictions on private property is a deterrent to forestland owners who need the flexibility to manage according to their objectives and changing market conditions."

The whole idea of allowing local communities to establish their own regulations is to preclude "one size fits all" regulations. Not only do landowners need

flexibility, so do communities. What works in Raleigh will be different than what works on the coast and what makes sense here.

No doubt, this is also true for our distinct communities. What makes sense in Green River is different from the needs of Hendersonville or Edneyville. Vastly different regions call for vastly different regulations, and these differences are best overseen by local officials with knowledge of local topography, their constituencies' specific needs and how best to balance the two.

As many people already know, over 350 acres have been clear-cut in the Green River valley by a Florida developer who planned to turn lush forestland

into an upscale golf course development.

When Wolf's Lair faced bankruptcy, they got approval from the Bankruptcy Court to cut down trees to pay off their

debts. Since DFR had no authority to enforce BMPs, it took many years for DENR to step in and enforce water quality rules, resulting in extensive damage to a tributary that feeds the Green River. Several years later, the logging continues and the stream continues to deteriorate.

A recent study by DFR demonstrates the fallacy of assuming that current rules are adequate for the mountains. According to the study, the greater the topographic slope the lower the BMP implementation, with increasing risk to water quality. No better argument could be made that the mountains need their own guidelines. In the same survey, DFR found that in the mountain region of North Carolina, one in every three logging operations did not implement BMPs and the resulting risk to water quality was around 70 percent.

In his editorial, Hensen cites a Southern Research Station Headquarters report which makes a strong case for better protections. According to the study, "The most imperative water quality concerns in Western North Carolina include unacceptable rates of sedimentation" (resulting from land clearing activities) - precisely one of the concerns that arise from poor logging practices. The report continues, "The region's river basins have some of the most outstanding and diverse aquatic systems within the state. However, the health of these systems is threatened by human actions such as pollution, impoundments, and poorly mitigated land management activities."

Our current elected officials got into office as a result of their pledge of fewer regulations from centralized government. Why then, would Hensen and others impose control by Raleigh and not allow communities to establish guidelines that work for them?

State legislators have to realize for democracy to work best, local governments have to shape their own solutions to uniquely local problems.

*... the South could lose 23 million acres of forestland over the next 50 years.*

# My Turn: Fish, frogs and owls didn't survive the Wallow Fire

Douglas E. Brown  
My Turn



The trees, together with the plants that grow under them and the water that cycles around them, are the basis for the communities in the White Mountains.

The people who come to visit and recreate in the trees; the cattle that harvest the forage under them; the people who work in the woods to harvest them; and the wood mills which process them were the tools that helped to create our rural communities' economy and a healthy forest for the first 70 years of Arizona's statehood.

Then something changed.

Our forests are the greatest fiber producing areas in our state. They produce wood and plant fibers in such abundance that for 70 years it took approximately 25 saw mills and 90,000 head of livestock to barely keep up with its annual production.

For example: the United States Forest Service estimated that from 1986 to 2000 Arizona's forests annually produced 367 million board feet of saw timber. That's a total of 5.5 billion board feet of saw timber from the years 1986 to 2000.

This number does not reflect the plant fibers and other small woody species growth in our forests - just the saw timber.

What a gift. Five and one half billion board feet of trees to give beauty and respite to the White Mountains' visitors, fuel our economies, build our communities, and provide jobs in northeastern Arizona. But since the early 1980s we have been squandering this gift.

How might you ask? Well - in the 1980s radical environmental groups began to engage in lawsuits, with endless appeals and petitions to stop wood and forage harvesting projects in our forests. They became very adept at designating habitat to protect a fish, a frog or an owl in a fashion that made cutting trees or grazing cows under them a crime and a forbidden activity.

They were successful. Their maneuvering caused

every "logline" saw mill around our forests to close. Their successful manipulations of "scientific footnotes" made the cow look like an evil creature that ate fish, frogs and owls. It got to the point that in the years 1996, 1997, and 1998 we harvested nearly zero board feet of saw timber from our forests and ever since we have only been harvesting a very small amount. It has gotten so bad that the United States Forest Service estimated that over 6 billion board feet of timber has been allowed to build up in the Apache-Sitgreaves Forest. Each and every year that number grows by approximately 367 million board feet. This is the approximate equivalent of 240 million gallons of propane sitting in our forest - and growing every year. Is there any question why we are having catastrophic fires in our forest?

The worst part is - it is not over. Our forests are growing today and these lawsuits and appeals have driven off our wood harvesting economy. The infrastructure of small and large diameter wood mills is gone. There are only a couple of small ones left. The range and animal science expertise that used to oversee the day-to-day management of livestock production to harvest the forage that grows daily in our forests has shrunk because many of those ranch families found less dangerous and uncertain areas to produce food in. We are at a breaking point where either we continue to talk about the forest, study the forest and collaborate about the harvest of small diameter trees - or we act. We act by inviting back investment and expertise in the form of wood mills and ranch families. We act by inviting back those "forest engineers" who worked in the woods and understand how to harvest trees and make valuable products for mankind.

It is time to act and everyone should be measured by their actions. Are they stepping aside and demanding fuel reduction and wood harvest activities in our forest? Or are they calling for more small diameter collaboration and talk about what a fish, frog or owl needs?

One thing for sure - most of this generation's fish, frogs and owls - didn't survive the Wallow Fire and its aftermath. Neither did 500,000 acres of pricelessly beautiful trees. We need to ask ourselves - would they have survived a cow or a chainsaw? My lifelong experience tells me yes.

*Douglas E. Brown is an attorney and recent evacuee from Eagar. He was born and raised in northeastern Arizona. His great grandfather operated a sawmill and homesteaded in the White Mountains and his family continues to produce beef in the area.*

## STUDY: POPULATION RISE THREATENS SOUTHERN FORESTS

Associated Press

COLUMBIA, S.C.— Growing populations and increased urbanization could reduce the 200 million acres of forestland in the South by about 10 percent over the next 50 years, according to a U.S. Forest Service study released May 17, 2011.

The multiyear study looks at the impact a variety of factors will have on the future of forests in 13 states stretching from Texas to Virginia.

"The diversity in Southern forests is unparalleled in North America," said Dave Wear, the project leader on the report. But that diversity and the home it provides to a variety of wildlife is threatened by a combination of four primary factors: population, climate change, timber markets and invasive species.

But population growth and the ensuing urbanization are expected to reduce the amount of forestland in the South by as much as 23 million acres—about the size of the state of South Carolina—and stress other resources that forests depend on for survival.

"The growing population reduces the capability of forestry agencies to manage forests," Wear said. About 90 percent of the region's forestland is owned by companies and individuals and the rest is owned and managed by U.S. or local government agencies.

One example of how encroachment of development can damage forests is the use of controlled burns to rejuvenate forests. Land managers are less likely to use that method if homes are too close to the forest. That could create a layer of undergrowth that would promote uncontrollable wildfires that could threaten forests and homes.

Shrinking forests also could affect other resources people depend on, like clean water. The report says an increase in demand brought on by population growth and stress on water supplies caused by climate change and land-use changes could result in more frequent water shortages and lower water quality.

"The full range of forecasts raises concerns about water in the South and strengthens the link between forests and the future availability and quality of water," the summary report says. Another threat is foreign species of plants and insects. Nonnative plants have infested almost 10 percent of the region's forests and can spread rapidly, replacing native plants needed by local wildlife.

The report does not make suggestions for land use or management. Rather, its authors see it as a tool for land managers and others to use as they consider policy changes.

"We're counting on policy-makers ... to implement and act on some of the findings," said John Greis, a resource analyst with the U.S. Forest Service and co-author of the report. "That is our hope."

A later phase of the report will look at issues specific to smaller areas and how different land-management actions would affect the forecasts.

## ENDANGERED SPECIES PAPERWORK TO COST \$206,098,920

Friday, July 22nd, 2011

The headlines question whether Congress and the President can make an agreement on raising the debt ceiling or will America stop paying military servicemen and social security recipients. I have a solution to the dilemma . . . .

On July 12, 2011, the Justice Department and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ("FWS") announced "an historic agreement" which will require the American taxpayers to pay \$206,098,920 to just process the paperwork deciding whether to include over 1000 plants, bugs, worms, and other assorted creatures on the Endangered Species list. None of this money goes to on-the-ground conservation; this taxpayer funding is just to process petitions filed by only two, out of dozens, of radical environmental groups who think newts and moths are more important than the elderly or our children. The average social security beneficiary makes \$21,600 a year and a basic military recruit makes a little over \$15,000 per year. Our elected officials are contemplating not paying these Americans while the Justice Department is readily agreeing to spend an average of \$100,690 per individual species listing and \$345,000 per individual proposed critical habitat designation for over 1053 creatures. And to add insult to injury, the Justice Department has agreed that these two groups "prevailed" in the litigation and will pay their attorney fees in an amount that has not been disclosed. Has America lost its collective mind?

These two settlement agreements are the culmination of what is known as the Endangered Species Act ("ESA") multi-district litigation. This case was formed in 2010 by combining 13 federal court cases filed by either the WildEarth Guardians ("WEG") or the Center for Biological Diversity ("CBD") regarding 113 species. On May 10, 2011, the FWS announced its settlement agreement with the WEG with the promise

*(Continued on page 42)*

## SCTPA 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting February 3 – 5, 2012

Mark your calendar NOW to attend our **2012 Annual Meeting** to be held **February 3 – 5** at the Crown Reef Resort & Conference Center in Myrtle Beach.

Please note our 2012 Annual Meeting will be the First Weekend of February rather than our usual last weekend of January. The schedule change was necessary due to hotel and speaker schedule issues.

We are excited about our 2012 Annual Meeting with our theme *Navigating The Regulatory Waters*.

We are happy to say the 2012 Crown Reef Resort basic room rates are the same as our 2011 annual meeting.

Speakers attending are National Alliance of Forest Owners President Dave Tenny, and former USDA Undersecretary, and Bill Kovacs, Senior Vice President Regulatory Affairs, U.S. Chamber of Commerce will attend. Dave and the NAFO are involved in the efforts to change the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit's ruling regarding runoff from logging roads and loggers having to obtain permits. Bill will present his presentation about how environmental obstructionists are litigating projects in the U.S., how they get paid for the lawsuits and what the tremendous cost is to our nation's businesses. Either professional logger Steve Sherich of Idaho and soon to be President of the American Loggers Council or ALC Executive Vice President Danny Druktor will attend and provide updates on ALC activities and national issues regarding timber harvesting. Don Taylor, Sustainable Resources Systems, LLC, will present results of his Supplier / Consumer Relationship Study funded by the Wood Supply Research Institute.

We are excited Rudy Pelletier or one of his brothers of Pelletier Brothers, Inc., Millinocket, Maine who star in the Discovery Channel American Loggers series will be a speaker for this meeting.

And Bobby and Lori Goodson, Goodson's All Terrain Logging, our 2011 meeting featured speaker from Discovery Channel's Swamp Logger series have indicated they will attend since they enjoyed our meeting this past January.

Bill Sims, Jr., President Bill Sims Company will present his It's All About Behavior Change workshop entitled *Green Beans and Ice Cream, The Definitive Recipe for Employee Engagement, Motivation and Recognition*. He has consulted with Dupont, Coca-Cola, Ford plus other companies in Australia, Kuwait, South Africa, Scotland and the United Kingdom. The workshop explores the role of recognition as it relates to changing employee behavior with a focus on mechanisms needed for successful behavior-based safety recognition.

We'll have our Friday board of directors meeting, Friday evening Welcome Reception with DJ music, food and might even throw in a live auction for a few items on Friday night. Saturday morning starts with our breakfast, then General Session speakers and at noon the Membership Luncheon with a featured speaker followed by the Association Business Session followed by the Bill Sims workshop. Saturday evening is free to enjoy Myrtle Beach with your friends and family. Carolina Opry tickets will be available at discounted prices again. Sunday morning our Prayer Breakfast will feature Sonrise, a great gospel trio from Lexington, SC. Our Silent Auction will be running for nice items and we'll raffle off a unique shotgun, and have our big raffle drawing for an ATV and other prizes.

SFI Trained and SAF Continuing Education Credits are available for attending the annual meeting.

Updates on speakers and the meeting will appear in *Timber Talk* issues. Registration, Sponsorship and Exhibitor information will be forwarded in late September.

Make plans to attend the 2012 Annual Meeting. You'll be glad you did!



## SAFETY ALERT

### Protecting Your Valuable Assets – Your Eyes Questions and Answers



Eye protection  
must be worn

#### Is eye safety at work important?

The eyes comprise a small portion of a person's body but accident data collected in recent years shows that eye injuries in the workplace are very exceedingly common. Statistics confirm this trend. In the United States, there are more than 2,000 eye injuries each day and that 1 out of 10 eye injuries require employees to miss one or more missed workdays to heal. Additionally, more than 10% of injured employees receive some temporary or permanent vision loss.

In recent cases investigated, safety experts believe that the proper eye protection would have lessened the severity or even prevented more than 90% of all these eye injuries.

#### What causes eye injuries?

In the workplace eye injuries can occur from many types of sources. Some of the most common we see are:

- Flying objects (bits of metal, wood, glass),
- Tools,
- Dust particles,
- Chemicals,
- Harmful radiation or
- Any combination of these or other hazards

#### What is my best defense against an eye injury?

There are several things to do that help prevent an eye injury. Each employer must determine the hazard and then provide the proper protection to prevent injuries from those hazards.

First, know the safety hazards - complete an eye hazard assessment of all areas of operations. Then eliminate the hazards before starting work.

Secondly engineer the problem out. Machine guarding, screens, or other engineering controls should be the first choice to prevent the flying debris and dust from injuring an employee.

And third, when all the controls are in place, make sure employees use proper eye protection. Remember, they go on the eyes and not as a decoration on top of the head. Remember that anyone

working in or passing through areas that have eye hazards should wear protective eyewear.

#### What type of safety eyewear is available and what should I wear?

Each employer has a variety of styles and options for safety eyewear. Some forms of protection includes:

- Non-prescription and prescription safety glasses
- Goggles
- Face shields
- Welding helmets
- Full-face respirators

The hazards in your workplace will determine the eye protection you should wear. If your work area has particles, flying objects, or dust, you must at least wear safety glasses with side protection or side shields. In some cases, face shields may be required. If you work with chemicals, you should wear goggles. If you are working near hazardous radiation, such as welding, lasers, or fiber optics, you need special-purpose safety glasses, goggles, face shields, or helmets designed for that task. Lens materials are a matter of personal choice. Glass is less scratch resistant, but heavier than plastic or polycarbonate lenses. Plastic and polycarbonate lenses offer light-weight options but scratch easier. It becomes a personal choice as long as they have the ANSI stamp to show they are safety lenses and are impact resistant.

According to recent changes to OSHA standards, employers are required to provide proper personal protective equipment for their employees. Eye protection definitely falls into this category. Your eyes are a valuable asset and you should take steps to protect them. Do not be one of the thousands of eye injuries reported each year.

## STUNG BY OBAMA, ENVIRONMENTALISTS WEIGH OPTIONS

Leslie Kaufman, New York Times

September 4, 2011

**F**or environmental groups, it was the final hard slap that brought a long-troubled relationship to the brink.

In late August, the State Department gave a crucial go-ahead on a controversial pipeline to bring tar sands oil from Canada to the Gulf Coast. Then on Friday, the Obama administration announced that it was walking away from stricter ozone pollution standards that it had been promising for three years and instead sticking with Bush-era standards.

John Walke, clean air director of the Natural Resources Defense Council, an advocacy group based in New York, likened the ozone decision to a "bomb being dropped."

Walke and representatives of other environmental groups saw the president's actions as brazen political sellouts to business interests and the Republican Party, which regards environmental regulations as job killers and a brick wall to economic recovery.

The question for environmentalists became: What to do next?

"There is shock and chaos here," Walke said, "so I do not know. I can't answer that question." But he added that his group would resume a smog lawsuit against the government that it had dropped because it had been lulled into believing that the administration would enact tougher regulations without being forced to do so by the courts.

Political analysts watching the Obama administration's pullback from the environmental agenda this past month say that in the current climate there is little chance that environmentalists or their allies will ever side with the Republicans.

Still, they say, the president could face political repercussions in subtler but nevertheless corrosive ways: from losing volunteer enthusiasm to tying up his allies in fights with him instead of with his enemies.

"Energy from part of the base will now be directed at communicating with the White House and not with the public about the administration's record," said Daniel Weiss, director of climate strategy at the Center for American Progress, a liberal research group with close ties to the White House.

And Justin Ruben, executive director of MoveOn.org, a 5-million-member online progressive political organization that played a significant role in President Obama's election in 2008, said he was sure that his members would be deflated.

"How are our members in Ohio and Florida who pounded the pavement in 2008 going to make the case for why this election matters?" Ruben said. "Stuff like this is devastating to the hope and passion that fuels the volunteers that made the president's 2008 campaign so unique and successful."

Anthony Leiserowitz, director of the Yale Project on Climate Change Communication, who does extensive work on public perception and the environment, said the real threat to the president's reputation stemming from the ozone decision went far beyond environmentalists.

"It could play into an emerging narrative in his own party that he is caving too quickly to Republican pressure," Leiserowitz said. "It is a dangerous narrative in your own base because it cuts down on enthusiasm and it is a narrative that his opponents will pick up on."



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(Continued from page 37)

that the agreement would help the FWS “prioritize its workload.” That settlement agreement was opposed by the CBD who wanted other species added to the list. The Justice Department obliged the requests of the CBD and on July 12, 2011 filed the second agreement, now pending before the District of Columbia Federal District Court, that would require the FWS to make 1201 decisions on proposed listing and critical habitat designations for 1053 species. The reason that these two numbers are different is because for some of the species, the FWS is committed to make more than one decision. The total cost to the American public for the FWS completing all this paperwork is \$206,098,920, all by FY 2016.

These settlement agreements are being touted by the FWS as a “catalyst to move past gridlock and acrimony” to enable the FWS to “be more effective in both getting species on the [endangered species] list and working with our partners to recover those species.” Really? How can that be, considering the requirements of the agreements and the state of the American budget? For example:

The settlement agreements only include two of the numerous radical environmental groups that have sued over the Endangered Species Act to force more species listings and critical habitat designations. This agreement does nothing to stop the National Wildlife Federation from filing more federal court litigation over species such as the Northern grey wolf; nor does it include Western Watersheds Project’s litigation related to the sage grouse. The Sierra Club is not bound by this settlement agreement and neither is the Natural Resources Defense Council nor the Environmental Defense Fund. Between 2000 and 2010, 455 law-

suits were filed by environmental groups against the FWS alone. It is hard to move past “gridlock” when only two of the numerous groups causing the gridlock are willing to move out of the way (sort of).

The settlement agreements require the FWS to work on a very strict time schedule. At least 94 decisions have to be made by FY 2011 and 61 decisions are to be completed by the end of FY 2012. The entire list of 1205 decisions

***What is even more distressing is that the settlement agreements go far outside the bounds of the original multi-district litigation.***

have to be made by FY 2016. According to a FWS Federal Register notice published November 10, 2010, it costs the agency and the taxpayer a median of \$39,276 per species just to make a “90 day finding” regarding whether the FWS should even continue with a scientific review; \$100,690 per species for the FWS to make a listing decision; \$345,000 for each proposed critical habitat designation and an additional \$305,000 for the FWS to make a final critical habitat designation. Multiplying the FWS’s own numbers by the actions for each species in the settlement agreements brings the cost of the settlement agreements to the American taxpayer to a grand total of \$206,098,920 — just to process the paperwork, that figure excludes the payment of attorney fees to the CBD and WEG. The amount of those payments has not been publically released.

What is even more distressing is that the settlement agreements go far outside the bounds of the original multi-district litigation. The original litigation dealt with 133 species for which the Justice Department agreed that the FWS had failed to follow the procedural ESA requirements. In contrast, the settlement agreements expanded that

number to include 1053 species; 940 of which were not part of a federal court complaint. How can the FWS with any conscience agree to this expansion?

Even more unconscionable is the way the FWS press release describes the settlement agreements. According to the FWS announcement, the settlement agreements and work plan “will enable the agency [FWS] to systematically, over a period of six years, review and address the needs of more than 250 candidate species to determine if they should be added” to the ESA list. But look at the list attached to the settlement agreements and read the settlement agreements themselves. The official species list that has to be considered contains 1053 species, which is 76% more than admitted by the FWS. While technically 1053 species is “more than” 250 candidate species, my children would not get away with that kind of creative factual accounting.

The bottom line analysis of the multi-district settlement agreements is this — the Justice Department and FWS agreed to two settlement agreements that represent an 89% increase over the number of species included in the original litigation; that commits the FWS to spend over \$206,000,000 over the next six years to do the paperwork on 1053 bugs, worms and grasses that two radical groups think are more important than humans in all 50 states; to add to an ESA list that already includes over 2000 species when only 10 have been removed from the list since it was passed in 1969; and the Justice Department has agreed to pay the attorney fees to the two groups for suing in the first place. I would argue that \$206,098,920 plus added attorney fees payments would pay a lot of benefits to deserving Americans including those who are serving this Country. That is where my tax dollars should go.



# Mark Your Calendar

## September 2011

20 Newberry District 2 & Saluda District 1 Meeting, Farm Bureau, Newberry, 7 p.m.

## October 2011

- 3 - 7 Wood Magic Forest Fair, Harbison State Forest, Columbia. Contact Stephanie Kolok, SC Forestry Commission, 803-896-8855, [skolok@forestry.state.sc.us](mailto:skolok@forestry.state.sc.us)  
Volunteers needed for guides, instructors & helpers. Contact Stephanie.
- 7 - 8 Mid-Atlantic Logging & Biomass Expo, Selma/Smithfield, NC
- 11 Helping Supervisors Recognize Substance Abuse Training Class, Front Porch Restaurant, Richburg, 4 - 6:30 p.m.
- 11 Chester/Catawba District 3 Meeting, Front Porch Restaurant, Richburg, 7 p.m.
- 13 Helping Supervisors Recognize Substance Abuse Training Class, Longhorn Steakhouse, Walterboro, 4 - 6:30 p.m.
- 13 Walterboro/Low Country Districts 6, 7 & 8 Meeting, Longhorn Steakhouse, Walterboro, 7 p.m.
- 17 Newberry District 2 & Saluda District 1 Meeting, Farm Bureau, Newberry, 7 p.m.
- 20 Helping Supervisors Recognize Substance Abuse Training Class, Blue Ocean Restaurant, Clinton, 4 - 6:30 p.m.
- 20 Laurens/Greenwood District 5 Meeting, Blue Ocean Restaurant, Clinton, 7 p.m.
- 27 SCTPA Board of Directors Meeting, SCFC Headquarters, Columbia, 10 a.m.

## November 2011

- 1 Helping Supervisors Recognize Substance Abuse Training Class, Bill's Low Country BBQ, Georgetown, 4 - 6:30 p.m.
- 1 Georgetown/Coastal District 9 Meeting, Bill's Low Country BBQ, Georgetown,
- 7 Union Area District 3 Meeting, Midway BBQ, Buffalo, 7 p.m.
- 8 Helping Supervisors Recognize Substance Abuse Training Class, Cross Creek Timber Office, Easley, 4 - 6:30 p.m.
- 8 Easley/Upstate District 4 Meeting, Cross Creek Timber Office, Easley, 7 p.m.
- 10 Helping Supervisors Recognize Substance Abuse Training Class, Palmetto Pulpwood & Timber Office, Florence, 4 - 6:30 p.m.
- 10 Florence/Pee Dee District 11 Meeting, Palmetto Pulpwood & Timber Office, Florence, 7 p.m.
- 14 Helping Supervisors Recognize Substance Abuse Training Class, Hall's Restaurant, Lugoff, 4 - 6:30 p.m.
- 14 Lugoff/Midlands District 10 Meeting, Hall's Restaurant, Lugoff, 7 p.m.
- 29 Newberry District 2 & Saluda District 1 Meeting, Farm Bureau, Newberry, 7 p.m.
- 24 Happy Thanksgiving!

- *Saluda/Edgefield/Aiken District 1 Members and Non-Members invited to attend the Newberry District 2 Meetings due to Saluda meetings discontinued.*
- *Berkeley/Charleston District 8 Members and Non-Members invited to attend the Walterboro District 7 or Georgetown District 9 Meeting due to Moncks Corner meetings discontinued.*
- *Members in the above areas will receive meeting notices for the other district meetings.*

### PLEASE NOTE:

Event & meeting dates may change. Notices are mailed prior to SCTPA events. SCTPA events & meetings qualify for SFI Trained Continuing Education Credits.

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### *Our Mission*

The **Mission** of the *South Carolina Timber Producers Association* is to serve as the voice for timber harvesting and allied timber businesses to advance the ability of its members to professionally, ethically, efficiently, safely, environmentally and profitably harvest, produce and transport timber to meet the timber supply demands of our state by providing continuing educational and training opportunities, distributing timber harvesting, hauling, manufacturing and selling information, representing our members in national and state-wide legislative activities, and aggressively promoting, supporting and conducting programs of state, regional and national advocacy.