



TIMBER TALK

Your Voice for South Carolina Timber Harvesting

MAY/JUNE 2015

SC SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY TEACHERS TOUR

The fact is that we are actually planting/growing trees at a higher rate than we are consuming them. Clear cutting is not necessarily a bad thing because foresters are replanting to keep our forests sustainable.

The 2015 SC Sustainable Forestry Teachers Tour marked the sixteenth year for the tour to educate teachers from around the Palmetto State about sustainable forestry, timber harvesting, public and private lands forest management practices and the forest products industry and so much more.

The first Teachers Tour was held in 1996 in cooperation with the Temperate Forest Foundation that offered regional tours around the country. With the urging of several folks like Dean Carson, Joe Young and others, SC developed its own tour that has been going strong since 1999. This year's tour was headquartered out of Moncks Corner.

"Wow! I had no idea" was one of the most offered expressions from the teachers. Twenty-three teachers and Doug Wood, SC Forestry Commission, were on board for the 4-day tour and visited a private tree farmer, forest products industries, a timber



harvesting operation and learned how our sustainable and renewable forest resources are being grown, managed, harvested, reforested, manufactured, managed for wildlife and witnessed the positive socio-economic-enviro impacts our forests provide the Palmetto State.

The four days of on site learning of what our industry offers South Carolina turned out to be an eye opening experience. While down in numbers, but high on quality, this group was enthusiastic, full of questions and engaged right from the start. They came with some preconceived ideas about the industry, but departed with a deeper sense of appreciation, more facts and knowledge, and vastly improved attitudes about sustainable forestry, our timber harvesting and forestry professionals, forest products, forestry practices and how our

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Joe opens 4-day tour

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industry conducts its business as stewards of our state's forest resources.

For three days the prior week at the Harbison Environmental Education Center, Columbia, the teachers learned the basics of forestry, such as how to measure trees, cruise timber, learned about the Sustainable Forestry Initiative, Best Management Practices, Endangered Species, Fire Ecology, Prescribe Burning, heard from various speakers such as State Forester Gene Kodoma, S. C. Forestry Association's Cam Crawford, Rob Drummond, consultant forester Milliken Forestry, Mary Morrison, U.S. Forest Service, Emma Gibbs, International Paper, and James Douglas, SC Forestry Commission Manchester State Forest and learned other aspects related to sustainable forestry, the SC Forestry Commission and other agencies. They also participated in Project Learning Tree activities so they could instruct PLT within their schools.



Gene Kodoma talks SC Forestry.



Prescribe fire at Brownan Forest.

During the four-day tour the teachers traveled via motor coach to various sites to view first hand sustainable forestry, the forest products industry, the Sustainable Forestry Initiative®, private, commercial and public land management goals, professional timber harvesting, forest products, tree farming, wildlife and wildlife habitat management, paper and lumber manufacturing, engineered wood products manufacturing, environmental conservation, while enjoying the fellowship along the way. These teachers now realize and understand how important our industry is to the Palmetto State.

Accurate and scientific information about sustain-

able forestry was presented on the ground and in presentations, unlike the misinformation presented by those whose agenda is anti-forestry.

SCTPA is a proud SC Teachers Tour sponsor and participant. Thanks to all the cooperators who provided tour sites. KapStone's sawmill in Summerville, Georgia Pacific's Alcolu OSB mill, John Spearman's Tree Farm in Lane, Brosnan Forest in St. George, Resource Management Service lands outside Jamestown, Bay Area Forest Products, LLC and Low Country Forest Products, Inc. for timber harvesting site, and International Paper's Georgetown mill.

Thanks to all the wonderful tour sponsors and a host of forest products companies that made the teachers' experience so meaningful.

Thanks to SCFA's Guy Sabin, SCFC's Mike Shealy, Stephanie Kolok and Matt Schnabel for administering the entire tour. Thanks to Dean Carson, retired from the SC Forestry Commission, for again being an important part to help arrange the tour logistics and meal sponsors.

Crad Jaynes, SCTPA President, and Dean Carson visited the teachers the first week in the afternoon and spent the four days with the teachers visiting tour stops, answering questions and helping the teachers understand the real sustainable forestry story.

Monday's opening session for the four day segment began with Guy Sabin and Mike Shealy introducing the program and outlining the week's agenda.

Next Joe Young, Low Country Forest Products, Inc., Georgetown, talked about his fifty-five year career as a timber harvester and how the industry has changed to having professionals who are "business people" and not just "damn ole loggers."

Joe spoke about how timber harvesting had evolved from cutting and hand loading five-foot pulpwood onto short trucks to now being fully mechanized harvesting.

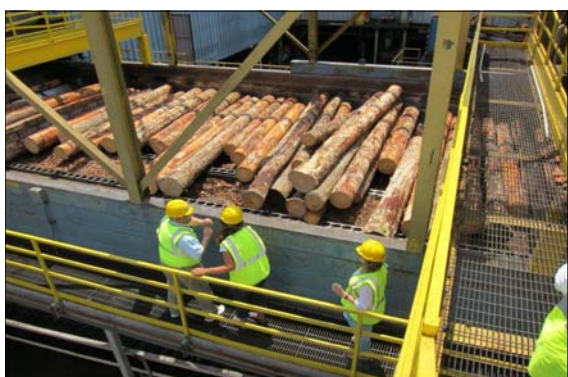
He followed up by talking about how professional loggers are working in the Sustainable Forestry Initiative® in order to further the practice of sustainable forestry. He spoke of how the logging industry is made up of third and fourth generation family busi-

nesses such as his own with his daughters, grandson and son-in-law all being in the business. He spoke of the importance of our nation's rural resource providers such as loggers, farmers and ranchers are dwindling in numbers due to economics, regulations, reduced markets and age.

He spoke about how the industry has changed; he noted the improvements in harvesting equipment technologies and harvesting practices such as compliance with our state's Best Management Practices for timber harvesting.

Joe noted today's professional logger is a professional business-person first in the business of timber harvesting.

Crad spoke briefly to welcome the group and tell them about the tour week. The association provided each teacher with a personalized information folder with an honorary SCTPA timber harvester member certificate, SCTPA and ALC stickers and passed out association caps for their use on the tour. Now it was time to let the tour begin for real.



KapStone Summerville sawmill tour.

Monday afternoon was a tour of KapStone's Summerville sawmill. KapStone did a great job with the sawmill presentation before the groups toured the mill. One of their foresters did a presentation explaining wood procurement. Then it was off to Old Santee Canal Park in Moncks Corner for tours of the park and supper in the museum sponsored by the Edisto Chapter Society of American Foresters.

Tuesday started early as the tour headed to the Tree Farm of John Spearman near Lane. John was not available, but his forester explained the tree farm. Then it was off to Georgia Pacific's Oriented Strand Board mill in Alcolu. The mill was not active due to maintenance, but the teachers got to see the operations without all the heat and noise. They were amazed at the technology used in the control rooms and the processes. Thanks to GP for sponsor-

ing lunch. Next stop was the beautiful Brosnan Forest owned by Norfolk Southern Railroad. The teachers loaded onto vans and the Brosnan foresters toured the teachers through the forest presenting their forest management for wildlife, timber, Red Cockaded Woodpeckers and more. The teachers even got to see a "live" prescribed burn. Brosnan and Norfolk Southern sponsored the evening's supper. Brosnan Forest is not open to the public as it is for Norfolk Southern's employees, customers and meetings, but is a real hidden gem in South Carolina.

Wednesday began early as the tour headed to meet Resource Management Services' Joey Ferguson to see how RMS manages, reforest and harvest



Joey Ferguson talks RMS forest management.

their timber tracts. Thanks to Joey for a great job explaining RMS's sustainable management goals and how the company operates as a Real Estate Investment Trust.

Always the highlight, next stop was the timber harvesting operation of Greg Thompkins, Bay Area Forest Products, LLC, Georgetown, who was thinning and chipping on the same RMS tract.

Greg's operation demonstrated a first thinning using a feller buncher, grapple skidding and a whole tree chipping process. Low Country Forest Products' president Joe Young, and Greg's father-in-law, toured the teachers around the job describing every piece of logging and chipping equipment in an up close and personal way. The teachers even took the opportunity to climb aboard the grapple skidder and feller buncher and see what it looks like from inside the operator's cab.

The teachers were amazed as the logging and chipping job cranked up to full production. Each

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teacher received a bag of clean chips. The teachers were amazed at how mechanized the entire operation was. They were also amazed at how the tract was



Joe explains feller buncher.

cared for while being harvested.

Joe talked about how loggers want to do a good job on the ground because it is a professional responsibility to sustain our forests and the environment. Thanks to Greg and Bay Area Forest Products and Joe of Low Country Forest Products for an excellent stop.

Then it was to Big Bill's Lowcountry BBQ in Georgetown for lunch sponsored by Joe Young and Low Country Forest Products. The teachers viewed the Log A Load For Kids video on the bus. International Paper's Georgetown wood procurement manager Jim Bland met the tour for lunch and then proceeded to the paper mill where they rode through the woodyard to see how trucks were unloaded for roundwood and chips and how the wood is stored and processed. Then they toured the mill to see paper being made.

The evening sponsors' reception and supper was held at Santee Cooper's Wampee Conference Center on the point on Lake Moultrie in Pinopolis. It was a great opportunity to meet and fellowship with guests and sponsors.

One of the highlights was when several teachers offered their thoughts regarding their experience and how their perceptions and knowledge had changed regarding our industry as well as thank the sponsors for their generous contributions.

Many mentioned they did not have any idea about

the forest products industry and sustainable forestry prior to the tour. But now the teachers have new information to promote the facts about our industry. One overwhelming comment heard was, "Wow! I had no idea. My eyes are now open."

Thursday was wrap up day with Dean Carson discussing engineered wood products. He showed various products manufactured with this technology and described the many uses of each as well as some experimental products.

Eddie Longshore of Cox Industries did a presentation on the treated wood and engineered wood products manufactured by their company.

Crad made closing remarks emphasizing the importance of how each teacher is now a stakeholder in sustainable forestry. He talked about being an advocate for sustainable forestry and related personal stories about how being an advocate to others is so important to convey the message, "we're not cutting all the trees."

He related personal stories and experiences where public perception and even a teacher's perception can be skewed from receiving misleading information and the lack of the real knowledge and truths about our industry.

He went on to relate how knowledge, even teacher knowledge about sustainable forestry, timber harvesting and the forest products industry is often swayed in the wrong direction due to the misinformation distributed by environmental obstructionists.

He explained why he calls them "environmental obstructionists" because their agenda is not telling the truth about the real story of sustainable forestry. He said, "Professional loggers are environmentalists. Why wouldn't loggers be? Loggers want to sustain healthy forests because that's where loggers work. Loggers have a vested interest in our healthy forest resources and sustainable forestry just like landowners, foresters and the forest products companies do."

He asked the teachers if they had witnessed the passion our industry's people have for what they do whether it was growing and managing our forests, harvesting timber, or working at a manufacturing facility. They all agreed they had. It's the great passion to do what is right to sustain our renewable and sustainable forest resources that makes what our industry does a

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Big Bill's Lowcountry BBQ

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“sincere passion.”

He thanked the teachers for taking the opportunity to learn about sustainable forestry, professional timber harvesting and the forest products industry so they would be more informed to educate their students with the correct information.

Emphasizing that perception is reality for many people, what they see is what they believe without knowing the facts. Now each teacher has the knowledge and information, he challenged them to go forth, be advocates and preach the gospel of sustainable forestry, professional timber harvesting and the forest products industry.

Every teacher began the tour with individual ideas and perceptions about sustainable forestry, the forest products industry, timber harvesting, forest and land management and reforestation.

After witnessing the passion displayed by our industry’s people about caring for our forest resources, the environment and the jobs each segment does, every teacher had a new found respect for our industry, our mission and its people.

The teachers were a great engaged group. They said they had no idea when they came. Now they have the real idea about what “we” are all about.

Teacher Comments:

I had a misconception of what deforestation was. Additionally the various jobs in the forestry industry surprised me. There was so much information that I am excited to share. The resources were amazing!

It’s good! It’s great! Trees are our only renewable resource! Forestry is good – our number one industry in SC. I will promote sustainable forestry!

I now realize how forestry is sustainable and renewable and how hard the industry works to renew the resource. You can hear about renewable resources, but seeing it makes the difference.

I have such a better understanding of forests, forestry and forest products than I had before. I can’t wait to share what I have learned with my students.

I now realize that forestry is a multi-faceted field and there are many types of careers. I see that people in the field of forestry are extremely passionate about what they do just as most teachers.

I have learned that it is OK to use paper products. The more we use the more we grow. This in turn creates jobs! I learned that we plant more than we use. We need to sustain. I was also fascinated to learn the many career choices in forestry.

I had no idea about how encompassing forestry is. I feel so much more knowledgeable than when I began. My family has land in timber, but until now I wasn’t really interested in it. I am excited about using forestry lessons in my classroom.



See more 2015 Teacher’s Tour photos on page 49.



ALC Washington Report – June 1, 2015

Future Careers in Logging

As of June 1st, the Future Careers In Logging Act, H.R. 1215 and S. 694, had 17 sponsors in the House and 4 sponsors in the Senate. The ALC has put out a request that members contact their respective House and Senate representatives and ask that they cosponsor the Bill.

John Deere has graciously allowed the use of their Bipac site to contact members of congress on this issue. The web address is: <https://www.bipac.net/alert.asp?g=DEERE>.

Right to Haul Act – Highway Bill

On May 23, the U.S. Senate passed a two month extension on the current highway bill that was sent to President Obama for his signature. As of June 1st, the Right to Haul Act has not been re-introduced in either the House or Senate. The ALC is attempting to contact members of Congress who stated they would be willing to re-introduce in mid-March during the fly-in.

Wildfire Funding

The two competing pieces of legislation (the Wildfire Funding Act and the Flame Act Amendment) for wild land firefighting funding appear to have stalled. While both sides of the aisle (and the Hill) seem to agree that reform is needed, there is a question of where the funds will be derived from and the accountability for the use the funds. While the Wildfire Funding Act allows the funds to be derived from a FEMA type account linked to natural disasters, the Flame Act Amendment requests that for every dollar spent fighting wildfires that at least 50 cents also be budgeted for forest management activities that would reduce the threat of catastrophic wildfires. The ALC supports the Flame Act Amendment.

National Forest Management Improvement Act of 2015

On May 27, the House Natural Resources Committee released a draft bill, the National Forest Management Improvement Act of 2015. The legislation will be the

subject of a hearing on Wednesday, June 3, in the Subcommittee on Federal Lands. The general approach of the bill is to provide authorities that the Forest Service can use immediately, without requiring additional forest-level or agency wide planning or assessments. Some of the issues addressed in the bill include: Providing further categorical exclusions for a variety of projects, and to reduce the required analysis of projects developed by collaborative groups; providing expedited authority for salvage, reforestation, and recovery projects on NFS lands impacted by wildfires; requiring the posting of a bond by groups filing suit against collaborative projects; adjusting the uses of Secure Rural Schools Title II funds to create self-sustaining local advisory committees by focusing 50% of that funding to timber management projects, and to use proceeds from RAC projects to fund additional forest management; addressing disposition of revenues from Stewardship contracts to provide 25% revenue sharing with counties, create additional opportunities for additional restoration work, and address fiscal management issues which have disrupted the use of Stewardship contracting in the past; creating a revolving fund which can be used to develop forest management projects, the cost of which can be billed to winning contractors to revert back to the fund for additional project work.

Hearings

On May 14, the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Federal Lands held an oversight hearing on the impact of litigation on forest management, the Forest Service's response to the growing challenge of litigation, and related impacts upon forest health. Subcommittee Chairman Tom McClintock (R-CA) began the hearing by outlining the fact that "Between 1989 and 2008, 1,125 lawsuits were filed against the Forest Service. A quarter century of extremist litigation has placed our forests in extreme distress. Forest Service employees are demoralized and have little incentive to plan meaningful projects."

Further, the Committee found in a 1999 report by the

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National Academy of Public Administration that planning consumed an estimated 40% of the work load at the local level. Today, Forest Service personnel estimate that the amount has grown to 60% of field level employees' time spent solely on planning, which includes environmental analysis and other procedural requirements. Timelines for analysis have also increased from several months to several years for a typical forest management project. Correspondingly, the expense of preparation has also increased dramatically. Line officers who were involved in forest management projects in the 1980's recall 3-6 month timeframes to complete NEPA environmental analyses. Agency data indicates that over the past ten years, timeframes to complete environmental assessments for modest sized forest management projects have increased from 14.7 months to 20.1 months.

Farm Bill

Last year's Farm Bill authorized the use of Designation by Prescription (DxP) as an acceptable method for the Forest Service to specify how forest stands may be treated in timber sales. Initial direction on the use of the Farm Bill authority severely limited the scope of how DxP could be used. On May 20, a new direction was issued that reflects Congress' intent to only restrict its use in tree measurement sales.

Northern Long-Eared Bat

On April 2, 2015, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) announced that it would be listing the northern long-eared bat as threatened, rather than endangered, as it had originally proposed in October of 2013. The listing gives the bat new protections but does not impose all of the requirements that would have been applicable had the bat been listed as endangered. A "threatened" species is likely to become endangered in the foreseeable future, whereas an "endangered" species is currently in danger of extinction.

On the very same day, the Center for Biological Diversity filed a complaint for declaratory and injunctive relief before the US District Court for the District of Columbia, Civ. No. 1:15-cv-00477 requesting that the court, (1) declare that the Service's failure to engage in a public process and prepare either an envi-

ronmental assessment or environmental impact statement analyzing the potential environmental impacts of, and alternatives to, the interim 4(d) rule, prior to adopting it, violated NEPA and is unlawful; (2) vacate the interim 4(d) rule and remand it to the Service; (3) award Plaintiff fees and costs; and (4) grant such other relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Waters of the United States (WOTUS)

On May 27, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers released their final Waters of the United States (WOTUS) rule. According to a press release issued by the EPA, the ruling "Does not create any new permitting requirements and maintains all previous exemptions and exclusions." House Speaker John Boehner release a statement stating, "The administration's decree to unilaterally expand federal authority is a raw and tyrannical power grab that will crush jobs. House Members of both parties have joined more than 30 governors and government leaders to reject EPA's disastrous WOTUS rule. These leaders know firsthand that the rule is being shoved down the throats of hardworking people with no input, and places landowners, small businesses, farmers, and manufacturers on the road to a regulatory and economic hell." Stay tuned!



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MWV, RockTenn Combined Company to be Named WestRock Co. After Merger

Charleston Regional Business Report Staff Report
Published May 19, 2015

The combined company that will be created after the merger of packaging companies MWV and RockTenn Co. will be known as WestRock Co.

The companies have received antitrust approval in the United States for the merger, which was announced in January, and are awaiting other regulatory and shareholder approvals, which are expected next month.

The combined companies create a \$16 billion packaging firm. WestRock will trade on the New York Stock Exchange under the ticker symbol WRK.

“WestRock draws on the strongest elements from each of our legacy names,” said Steve Voorhees, who will be CEO of WestRock Co. “The name speaks to our determination to build on the long track record of success and growth that has been established by both companies.”

Norcross, Ga.-based RockTenn provides packaging and manufactures containerboard and paperboard. It has 27,000 employees in the United States, Canada, Mexico, Chile and Argentina.

MeadWestvaco Corp. provides packaging for the health care, beauty, food and beverage, home and garden, tobacco and agricultural industries and produces chemicals for the automotive, energy and infrastructure industries.

MWV is headquartered in Richmond, Va., and has a presence in the Lowcountry. The firm employs 15,000 people at 125 facilities in North America, South America, Europe and Asia.



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The advertisement features a background image of a large pile of logs. Two inset images show open-top trailers: one on the left with an American flag on its side, and one on the right showing the interior structure.



ALC Washington Report – June 30, 2015

Wildfire Management Act of 2015

On June 15, Senator Maria Cantwell (D-WA) previewed her upcoming wildfire legislation, “The Wildfire Management Act of 2015.” According to Cantwell, the purpose of the Act is to lower the frequency of large wildfires, reduce the number of houses lost to wildfires, make firefighting operations more efficient and safe, restore fire to ecosystems, and bring assistance to people in need after wildfires.

Meanwhile, two competing pieces of legislation (the Wildfire Funding Act and the Flame Act Amendment) for wild land firefighting funding appear to have stalled and Congress does not appear likely to act on a solution to prevent borrowing this year, but could lessen the impact by taking swift action on a supplemental appropriations bill when the agencies exhaust their fire suppression budgets. The American Loggers Council supports the Flame Act Amendment.

The “Resilient Federal Forest Act of 2015”

On June 4th, the Resilient Federal Forest Act of 2015, HR 2647, was introduced by Congressman Bruce Westerman (R-AR) and co-sponsored by Ralph Abraham (R-LA), Paul Gosar (R-AZ), Ann Kilpatrick (D-AZ), Doug LaMalfa (R-CA), Reid Ribble (R-WI), Glenn Thompson (R-PA), Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA), and Ryan Zinke (R-MT). The bill was passed out of the House Natural Resources Committee on June 11 by a vote of 22-15 with Jim Costa (D-CA) being the lone Democrat “yes vote. The bill was passed out of the House Agriculture Committee on June 17 by voice vote with several Democrats supporting, including ranking Democrat Colin Peterson (D-MN). H.R. 2467 focuses on providing new streamlined authorities for the Forest Service and BLM to treat forests before and after catastrophic events, creates more early feral habitat, places new limits on litigation, and creates new mechanisms to fund timber management projects. The American Loggers Council is supporting this legislation.

The “National Forest Ecosystem Improvement Act”

On June 25, Senator John Barrasso (R-WY) introduced S. 1691 the “National Forest Ecosystem Improvement Act.” The legislation includes a 1,000,000 acre annual acreage mandate for ecosystem restoration projects through

mechanical treatments, of which at least 400,000 acres shall be accomplished through commercial thinning and 60,000 acres using even aged management techniques.

The bill allows the Secretary of Agriculture to annually select up to two ecosystem restoration projects per region for binding arbitration in lieu of judicial review. The projects must be developed collaboratively or be included in a Community Wildfire Protection Plan, and the binding arbitration must be included within 90 days. The legislation also requires plaintiffs to post a bond in order to challenge ecosystem restoration projects, similar to H.R. 2647. The similarities between H.R. 2647 and S. 1691 would possibly allow the House and Senate to conference should both bills clear their respective chambers. The American Logger Council is supporting this legislation.

Farm Bill

The Good Neighbor Authority (GNA), reauthorized and expanded in both the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Farm Bill) and the FY 2014 Consolidated Appropriations Act, allows the U.S. Forest Service to partner with States to implement restoration projects across state-federal boundaries. The agreement templates that will be used to carry out projects under the GNA were subject to approval under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA). The PRA process provided opportunities for the Forest Service to develop and improve the agreement templates with state forestry and other partners.

The agreement templates have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget and are ready for use with states to begin implementing projects under GNA. The agreement templates can be found on the Forest Service Good Neighbor Authority webpage.

DOT Releases Truck Size & Weight Technical Report

On June 5, the federal Department of Transportation released the much-awaited “Technical Findings” of its Truck Size and Weight study, anticipated to be the basis for truck weight reform advocacy moving forward. The American Loggers Council continues to support allowing state legal tolerances on the Federal Interstate Highway System.



Help Wanted



On March 3, 2015 Congressman Raul Labrador from Idaho reintroduced the Future Logging Careers Act, H.R. 1215, which would allow the 16 and seventeen year-old sons and daughters of mechanized logging business owners the ability to **legally** work on their parent's logging operations without worrying about penalties and fines from the Department of Labor or OSHA.

A few days later, Senator Jim Risch from Idaho reintroduced a companion bill in the Senate, S-694. Members of the American Loggers Council were in Washington, DC attending their Spring Board meeting and conducted several visits to Capitol Hill on your behalf, requesting support for both of these measures.

As is routine in Washington, once the bills were introduced in the House and Senate, they were referred to committees, where the majority of Bills that are introduced die. Last year during the 113th Congress, we saw these bills die in committee due to a mid-term election year that detracted both the House and Senate from getting much of anything done. This year, with the newly elected 114th Congress, the opportunity again presents itself to get these bills passed in both the House and the Senate.

There are statistics out there that claim that the bill only has a 1% chance of making out of the committee, and that is why we have now posted our **help wanted** sign. Certainly the 60+ representatives from the American Loggers Council did a great job representing you in Washington this past March, but that was only 60 out of an army of thousands! While we believe that there are strength in numbers, those numbers don't mean much if they are not heard from. With close to 10,000 professional timber harvesting businesses being represented by the American Loggers Council, when we voice our concerns and carry our is-

sues to the Hill, then we should be making progress; however, without you being a part of that voice, progress can be exceedingly slow in the making.

We have heard your concerns about labor, and have taken a step to help alleviate some of those concerns. Now we are asking for your help. Please contact your members of Congress, whether it be your Senator, Congressman or Congresswoman, and ask that they support the Future Logging Careers Act and ask them to sign on as a co-sponsor to the Bill. With more co-sponsors, we can raise the level of awareness and importance of the legislation and help bring it out of committee. It is not going to happen unless **you** act. When you have done that, give us a call or send us an e-mail and let us know how they responded, and let's all find out how well we are being represented. Let's see just how serious this Congress is about creating jobs and taking down a few of those help wanted signs.

The American Loggers Council is a non-profit 501 (c) (6) corporation representing professional timber harvesters in 30 states across the US. For more information, visit their web site at www.americanloggers.org or contact their office at 409-625-0206 or email americanlogger@aol.com.



The Endangered Species Act – Second



Growing up in a small rural town in Northern California I have seen first-hand how well intended regulation can destroy jobs once manipulated by the regulatory agencies and the environmental industry. Recently we saw how dwindling populations of the Northern long eared bat pushed Federal Fish and Wildlife to take immediate action. Many of us were to be impacted by this action, which raised the question of the quality of science, the proposed restrictions and the real reason for the decline. This action sent tremors across the wood products industry of our Nation. Industry professionals from across our country began to see first hand what those of us in the Pacific North West have been dealing with for over 25 years.

The Endangered Species Act of 1973 was signed into law by President Richard Nixon on December 28, 1973, it was designed to protect critically imperiled species from extinction as a "consequence of economic growth and development un-tempered by adequate concern and conservation." The U.S. Supreme Court found that "the plain intent of Congress in enacting" the ESA "was to halt and reverse the trend toward species extinction, whatever the cost."ⁱ

The summer of 1990 on the North Coast of California was a time that would change the course of our regional timber industry forever due to a pair of events. The first was Redwood Summer, where a few hundred college students decided to spend their summer vacation in sunny California protesting the nations most stringent forest regulatory system and sampling some of the regions local produce. The second event was the listing of the Northern Spotted Owl as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. Amongst other factors these two propelled the California timber industry into a death spiral, which led to the closure of 84 out of 117 sawmills and reduced the industry by 70% in just 20 years.

In order for any timber harvest in Northern Spotted Owl (NSO) territory to take place survey protocols must be followed to locate and protect the species. This process has evolved over the years and has become very burdensome; however the level of thoroughness has provided some very interesting data, collected mostly by biologists employed on private

land. This data shows that the species is declining on Federal Forests, Parks and areas where management is nonexistent.

While the opposite is true for private landowners that have continued to manage their land and are seeing NSO populations increase. As with all species they need life's essentials to thrive and they are finding that in our managed forests.

More recently the finger has been pointed at the Barred Owl as one reason behind the decline of Northern Spotted Owl, and the solution has been to authorize management of the Barred Owl species by termination. A logical person has to ask how many years this termination policy will take to produce another endangered specie for us to protect. Termination seems like a simple solution because the Barred Owl is not a listed species but it begs the question, what do you do when a federally listed Southern Sea Otter is eating a federally listed Coho Salmon? History has shown that biologists, usually through the help of lawyers, add regulation to the fishing industry and others to make up for this natural process. Currently under the ESA it is not uncommon to shut down timber operations for months to protect potential habitat for species in areas that represent the extreme reaches of their range.

After 40 years of living and working with the Endangered Species Act I think it is time to revisit the actual intent of Congress. If nothing else we need an Endangered Workers Act, designed to protect critically imperiled Humans from extinction as a consequence of overzealous laws and regulations. After a 70% decline in the last 25 years it is time to petition the California State Fish and Wildlife to list the California Logger as an endangered species, but we wouldn't stop there because we would have to add mill workers, log truck drivers, foresters and many other professions specific to the forest products industry. We would also have to look at indirect jobs that have been affected and why whole communities have become dependant on the government for support rather than their own initiative.

This trend is on the move across the Nation, and many

(Continued on page 13)

(Continued from page 12)

states are already seeing the impacts from regulations like these being used for purposes other than their intended use. Perhaps if proper science rather than political science was the determining factor for these listings, the ensuing regulations and restrictions would actually help the species and lead to their recovery. At that point perhaps both the imperiled species and imperiled workers could be removed from their respective endangered list.

¹Wikipedia, Northern Spotted Owl

Myles Anderson is the current President of the American Loggers Council and he and his father Mike own and operate Anderson Logging, Inc. based out of Fort Bragg, CA.

The American Loggers Council is a non-profit 501(c) (6) corporation representing professional timber harvesters in 30 states across the US. For more information, visit their web site at www.americanloggers.org or contact their office at 409-625-0206.



THE STATE Newspaper/Letters to the Editor/June 16, 2015

Crawford: Changes to timber taxes would imperil SC jobs, stifle growth

Columbia, SC - South Carolina's state tree is the distinctive Palmetto, but our pines and certain hardwoods also have a proud history of providing jobs and significant economic contributions since the 1700s. Today, timber is our No. 1 cash crop. But misguided public policy changes in Washington could threaten these vital resources and the benefits they provide us all.

Working forests are planted, harvested and replanted to produce the raw materials for 5,000 products we use every day. These renewable resources on more than 11 million acres of privately owned forestland are part of the state's largest manufacturing industry in terms of wages and salaries. The forestry sector supports 90,000 jobs and provides an annual \$17 billion boost to the state's economy.

The benefits of forests extend well beyond the economy to the environment. These lands filter water and air and provide wildlife habitat, scenic beauty and hunting opportunities for sportsmen.

Most of South Carolina's forests - 88 percent - are privately owned. Of those, 64 percent are owned by families. And we are all able to enjoy the many benefits of forests largely thanks to a fair and reasonable federal tax policy that recognizes the longterm investments and the costs associated with these private owners' responsible land management. These provisions allow landowners to deduct

the annual costs associated with growing healthy, sustainable timberlands, and they help maintain timberland as an attractive and accessible asset class for all types of investors, including those saving for retirement.

Despite clear indicators that these policies are working, a tax reform package introduced in Congress last year - the Tax Reform Act of 2014 - proposed repealing the tax provisions that sustain and promote investments in and sustainable management of timberlands. These proposals would raise taxes on private forestland and flatten our forest economy - perhaps to a devastating degree for many rural South Carolina communities. We stand to lose the many public benefits that privately owned forests provide. It is alarming that a tax policy that is helping rural economies and the environment could end up on a congressional chopping block as lawmakers look to reform the nation's tax code.

It is our hope that Congress will not raise taxes on timberland owners in the name of tax reform.

Cam Crawford
President & CEO
S.C. Forestry Association



Cam Crawford

HOW EUROPE'S CLIMATE POLICIES HAVE LED TO MORE TREES BEING CUT DOWN IN THE U.S.

OAK CITY, N.C. — For the sake of a greener Europe, thousands of American trees are falling each month in the forests outside this cotton-country town.

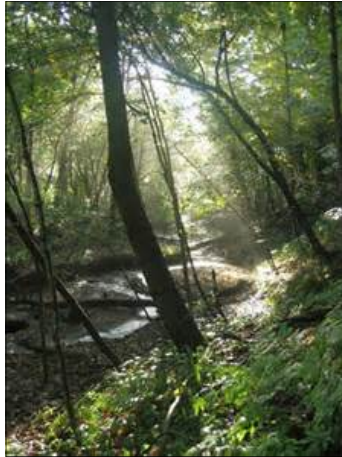
Every morning, logging crews go to work in densely wooded bottomlands along the Roanoke River, clearing out every tree and shrub down to the bare dirt. Each day, dozens of trucks haul freshly cut oaks and poplars to a nearby factory where the wood is converted into small pellets, to be used as fuel in European power plants.

Soaring demand for this woody fuel has led to the construction of more than two dozen pellet factories in the Southeast in the past decade, along with special port facilities in Virginia and Georgia where mountains of pellets are loaded onto Europe-bound freighters. European officials promote the trade as part of the fight against climate change. Burning “biomass” from trees instead of coal, they say, means fewer greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

But that claim is increasingly coming under challenge. A number of independent experts and scientific studies — including a new analysis to be released this week — are casting doubt on a key argument used to justify the cutting of Southern forests to make fuel. In reality, these scientists say, Europe's appetite for wood pellets could lead to more carbon pollution for decades to come, while also putting some of the East Coast's most productive wildlife habitats at risk.

“From the point of view of what's coming out of the smokestack, wood is worse than coal,” said William H. Schlesinger, the former dean of Duke University's Nicholas School of the Environment and Earth Sciences and one of nearly 100 scientists to sign a letter to the Environmental Protection Agency last year asking for stricter guidelines on using biomass to generate electric power. “You release a lot of carbon in a short period of time, and it takes decades to pull that carbon back out of the atmosphere.”

The pellet makers and their supporters dismiss the criticisms, saying their industry will help lower greenhouse gas emissions over time, in part by giving landowners an incentive to plant still more trees. “Healthy markets have contributed to a 50 percent increase in volume of trees since the 1950s, which help offset 15 percent of U.S. carbon emissions annually,” said Gretchen Schaefer, spokeswoman for the National Alliance of Forest Owners, a trade group.



The controversy is prompting renewed scrutiny of a rapidly growing industry that is reshaping Southern landscapes from coastal Virginia to the Gulf of Mexico. All but nonexistent a decade ago, pellet mills have sprung up in seven states to fill galloping demand for renewable fuels to reduce global dependence on coal and petroleum.

What is biomass?

Biomass fuels use energy from plants — corn, used to make ethanol, but also hemp, wood, sugar cane and even yard waste — to produce electric power. Burning plant matter as fuel also releases carbon pollution into the atmosphere, but that carbon can be reabsorbed by new crops, especially in the case of fast growers such as hemp and switchgrass.

The popularity of wood pellets as a fuel is being driven largely by government policies. Facing mandates to cut back on coal, European governments are offering generous subsidies to utility companies that switch to biomass and other renewables. The price break makes wood pellets — easily twice as expensive per ton as coal — affordable. For formerly coal-dependent countries such as Britain, wood pellets are an especially attractive option because they can be burned in the country's existing coal-fired power plants without significant modifications.



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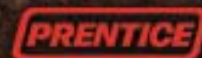


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PELLET MILLS WILL RESULT IN MORE SOUTH CAROLINA FORESTS, NOT FEWER

By Dr. Tom Straka
Forestry Professor, Clemson University
The State Newspaper
June 8, 2015

History shows what to expect from an expanding forest industry – unabashed dedication to its own self-interest. That self-interest is sustainable forest management to ensure long-term timber supply. That self-interest is why environmental groups' concerns that an expanding wood pellet industry will threaten S.C. forests are at best overblown.

The industry's earliest history was dominated by lumbermen who cut and ran, leaving land stripped of virgin trees. That essentially is what environmentalists say will happen with pellet mills: They will run out of waste wood and begin to wipe out stands of small hardwood trees ("Groups fear loss of S.C. forests," June 3)

But these early lumbermen were followed by professional foresters and timber-based industries, which reforested the South and produced today's splendid forests. There is no reason to think professional foresters won't continue to produce these splendid forests as new mills move into South Carolina.

For more than a century, timber has been the raw material for one of the state's most crucial manufacturing sectors. The industries involved have strongly supported well-managed, productive forests to ensure their own supply of raw materials. The notion that this new type of mill would foul its own nest is contrary to forest industry's track record.

Timber supply is a lot more than current wood inventories and mill demands. The pine plantations and hardwood stands that are today's timber supply were regenerated decades ago. They represent investments by an earlier generation, and much of the economic motivation of those forest owners was timber price expectation. An appreciation of conservation or commitment to the environment does motivate some, but most forest regeneration requires that expectation of long-term financial return.

While some environmentalists see pellet mills as leading to forest devastation, others see a new market for what was waste wood and non-merchantable small trees. Some areas of South Carolina long have

experienced limited markets due to distance from the pulp and paper mills and oriented strand board plants. Forest Owners who are discouraged by poor timber markets do not tend to regenerate forests for their children and grandchildren. Vibrant timber markets throughout the state will lead forest owners to actively invest in sustainable forest management.

One main reason pellet mills are not likely to cause the kind of forest and wildlife problems that alarm environmentalists is the planning that goes into the mill location decision. The pattern of pellet mill loca-



tions is not random, but based on current and future timber supply projections. These expensive mills are not located where the owners expect to deplete the local timber supply. To

the contrary, they are located near underutilized timber supplies, and the owners will strongly support sustainable forest management not just for the right reasons, but also for their own long-term survival.

Wood pellet mills provide a market for wood waste (much of it left over from large trees as they are cut into lumber) and non-merchantable small trees. Active forest management requires thinning of forest stands as they mature. In many parts of the state, there is no market for this thinned wood. Adding value to larger trees or providing a market for small trees raises future price expectations for forest owners, so they invest more in reforestation.

The intricacies of timber supply and demand will define the changes to the timber market as wood pellet mills continue to expand. The fear that the state's forests are threatened is unfounded. There will be market adjustments – raw material for pellet mills can also be raw material for paper and OSB mills – and this will increase timber demand and price. Forest owners will be the beneficiaries. They'll respond by investing more in forestry. It is even reasonable to project some marginal agricultural lands will be converted into forest. In the long run, there will be more trees in South Carolina, rather than fewer.



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COALITION ANNOUNCES BIOMASS101 CAMPAIGN

Leading forestry associations plan to correct the record on false and distorted coverage of bioenergy.

Washington, D.C. – May 27, 2015 – A leading coalition of forest owners, wood suppliers and manufacturers of pulp and paper goods announced today the creation of Biomass101.org, a clearinghouse for scientifically sound information on carbon-neutral bioenergy. Biomass101 is an effort jointly produced by the American Forest & Paper Association, American Wood Council, Forest Resources Association, and National Alliance of Forest Owners.

“With biomass becoming a more prominent part of the national renewable energy discussion, Americans deserve a conversation that is honest, accurate, and reliable,” said Chuck Fuqua, Executive Director for Strategic Communications at the American Forest & Paper Association.

“As the leading coalition of experts who care about and depend upon the sustainability of American forests, we are in a uniquely authoritative position in the conversation on the carbon benefits of forest bioenergy,” said Gretchen Schaefer, Vice President for Communications at National Alliance of Forest Owners.

Biomass101.org will include blog posts, infographics, videos and other digital media content that corrects false or distorted information in the press. The effort will also have a robust social media presence.

“It is essential that leading publications get the basic facts on biomass right to ensure objective analysis. As the hands-on stewards throughout the life cycle of forestry and forest products, we should be a central voice in the discussion and make sure that coverage is accurate and fair-minded,” said Neil A. Ward, Vice President of Public Affairs at the Forest Resources Association.

“When we encounter coverage that is not factual or objective, we feel obligated to correct the record so that the public receives balanced and unbiased information,” said Heather Stegner, Communications Director at the American Wood Council.

#

AF&PA

The American Forest & Paper Association (AF&PA) serves to advance a sustainable U.S. pulp, paper, packaging, and wood products manufacturing industry through fact-based public policy and marketplace advocacy. AF&PA member

companies make products essential for everyday life from renewable and recyclable resources and are committed to continuous improvement through the industry’s sustainability initiative - Better Practices, Better Planet 2020. The forest products industry accounts for approximately 4 percent of the total U.S. manufacturing GDP, manufactures over \$200 billion in products annually, and employs approximately 900,000 men and women. The industry meets a payroll of approximately \$50 billion annually and is among the top 10 manufacturing sector employers in 47 states.

www.afandpa.org | [@ForestandPaper](https://twitter.com/ForestandPaper)

AWC

The American Wood Council (AWC) is the voice of North American wood products manufacturing, representing over 75 percent of an industry that provides approximately 400,000 men and women with family-wage jobs. AWC members make products that are essential to everyday life from a renewable resource that absorbs and sequesters carbon. Staff experts develop state-of-the-art engineering data, technology, and standards for wood products to assure their safe and efficient design, as well as provide information on wood design, green building, and environmental regulations. AWC also advocates for balanced government policies that affect wood products.

www.awc.org | [@woodcouncil](https://twitter.com/woodcouncil)

Forest Resources Association Inc.

The Forest Resources Association Inc. is the only nonprofit trade association representing wood supply chain interests at the national level, advocating public policies and operational improvements that promote the safe, efficient, and sustainable harvest of forest products and their transport from woods to mill. FRA members are wood consumers, wood suppliers, timberland owners and managers, and businesses providing products and services to forest resource-based industries.

www.forestresources.org | [@forestresources](https://twitter.com/forestresources)

National Alliance of Forest Owners

NAFO is an organization of private forest owners committed to advancing national policies that promote the economic and environmental benefits of privately-owned forests. NAFO membership encompasses more than 80 million acres of private forestland in 47 states. Working forests in the U.S. support 2.4 million jobs.

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Quarterly Report to the States

April 1, 2015 – June 30, 2015

The ALC Board of Directors has requested that a quarterly report be generated from the ALC office, highlighting the events and activities of the American Loggers Council. Our hopes are that you will use these reports to inform your members on how the American Loggers Council is working on their behalf to benefit the timber harvesting industry.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee held one conference call during the quarter, on May 28, 2015. During the meeting, reports were given on the activities of the committees and the work that they had been doing as reported below.

Legislative Committee

The ALC Legislative Committee, chaired by Jim Geisinger, discussed the activity, or lack thereof on some of the issues that the ALC was currently engaged in. As of June 30, there has not been a reintroduction of the Right to Haul Act in Washington. Also, there have been no new cosponsors on the Future Careers in Logging Act.

Fire funding legislation appears to have stalled in both the House and Senate and there is no immediate “fix” in sight for the practice of “fire-borrowing” by the US Forest Service.

The ALC has been active in endorsing two bills that were introduced in June that would offer more tools in the toolbox for the US Forest Service, including the National Forest Ecosystem Improvement Act, S. 1691 and the Resilient Federal Forest Act of 2015, H.R. 2647. Both bills appear to be on a fast-track with possible late July votes in both the House and Senate. Both bills address some of the issues and thoughts that the American Loggers Council took to the Hill in late March to discuss with their Congressional delegates.

Communications

The ALC Communications Committee, chaired by Brian Nelson reported for the period that:

1. The Facebook social media page continues to increase in “likes”,
2. The monthly ALC Washington reports are being completed and distributed to members,
3. The monthly “As We See It” editorials are being completed and distributed,

The ALC web site has been down for approximately two months due to the web site host going out of business and not letting anyone know what was happening. Danny has been working with McCullough Creative to try and reestablish and ALC web site, but the process has proceeded very slow. The company that was hosting the web site also held the domain name, so it is possible that when the ALC web site reemerges, the domain name will be changed.

Biomass

The ALC Biomass Committee, co-chaired by Richard Schwab and Larry Cumming have not met during the quar-

(Continued on page 23)

(Continued from page 22)

ter, but co-chair Richard Schwab reported that they would be prepared to present a report in September.

Membership

The ALC Membership Committee, chaired by Myles Anderson, have set goals for both membership and sponsorship in 2015 and have already surpassed sponsorship targets set for 2015.

Danny Dructor has been in contact with Frank Stewart with the West Virginia Forestry Association, Scott Dane with the Associated Contract Loggers and Truckers of Minnesota, and Paul Lyskava with the Pennsylvania Forest Products Association. Frank Stewart believes that the West Virginia loggers will be ready to join the American Loggers by late September. Scott Dane stated that he will attend the Summer Board of Directors meeting in Duluth, Minnesota, and Paul Lyskava is trying to contact loggers in Pennsylvania and arrange a meeting with some of the ALC leadership.

Travel

Travel in the 2nd Quarter of 2015 included a May trip to South Lake Tahoe, California where Danny Dructor met with members of the Federal Timber Purchasers Committee as well as Washington, DC and Regional employees of the US Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management.

Danny traveled to Hot Springs, Arkansas on June 18-19 to visit with attendees of the In-Woods Expo, including members of the Arkansas Timber Producers Association and many of the ALC sponsors who were exhibiting at the show.

Danny traveled to Tallahassee, Florida DC in late June to visit with 1st Vice President Richard Schwab and to visit potential sites for the 2016 Annual Meeting.

Myles Anderson traveled to both Idaho and Montana to make presentations to the Associated Logging Contractors, Inc. (Idaho) and the Montana Logging Association annual meetings.

Other Highlights

Danny has stayed in contact with Senator McCain's office in support of the Flame Act Amendment and has visited with Congressman Raul Labrador's staff on the Future Careers In Logging Act. He continues to work with sponsor representatives who are engaged in some of the advocacy efforts of the ALC and Hatton-Brown Publications and Loggers World Magazine to spread the word about the upcoming annual meeting in Eureka, California.

Danny received notice that after 12 years of service on the Sustainable Forestry Board Resources Committee, he would be retired due to the fact that there are no longer any logger interests sitting on the Board. He was told that if an issue came up that needed input from the logging community, that he would be contacted through the "Logger Forum."

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PROMINENT FORESTRY ADVOCATE MOONLIGHTS AS KEYBOARDIST FOR THE ROLLING STONES

By John Schmid
Milwaukee, Wisconsin Journal Sentinel
June 22, 2015

If any industry could use a prominent advocate, it's forestry — because nothing grates on the ears of a forester like hearing someone say they won't buy a book because it'll kill a tree.

And few, if any, fit the role of forestry spokesman-at-large as well as Chuck Leavell, easily the world's most recognized tree farmer.

Leavell's tree plantation occupies 2,900 acres in Georgia. He has written books on woodland management, testified on logging legislation before Congress and likes to quote legendary Wisconsin conservationist Aldo Leopold.

And he has one other noteworthy credential: He plays keyboards for the Rolling Stones.

Leavell has been touring, recording and singing backup with Mick Jagger and Keith Richards since 1982. The band has had a keyboardist since its first gig in London in 1962, but Leavell has held the role longer than all three of his predecessors combined. He also has evolved into the band's musical director, writing out each night's set list on tour.

True, Leavell missed the Stones at their counter-cultural zenith in the 1960s and '70s. But he wasn't available in those years anyway: The Alabama native owns a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award for his pioneering Southern rock work as a member of the Allman Brothers Band.

Ahead of the Stones' show on Tuesday at Milwaukee's Summerfest, Leavell took time for a series of email interviews with the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. The gray-bearded rocker shared his views on the economics of forestry; explained why he thinks Leopold is so revered; and addressed — sort of — whether the current Stones' tour will be the last ("until the next one").

"I never mind explaining to those that have mis-

understandings about forestry practices that the U.S. is a great example of sustainable forestry," Leavell said.

Leavell champions the idea of renewable, working forests, an idea that Wisconsin foresters helped establish early in the last century — always planting more than they cut. He marvels at the thousands of "gifts of the forest," from timber for homes and churches to Keith Richards' guitars and his own maple-and-spruce grand piano.



From the Stones' June 9 tour stop in Atlanta, not far from his rural farm near Macon, Leavell said: "Here in Georgia, we plant, manage and grow 40% more trees than we harvest. And when we harvest, we do it in a careful and thoughtful way. There are good, sound and strong guidelines that most all loggers follow."

Common misperceptions about tree farming often go unchallenged, an issue that Leavell addressed by writing the 2001 book "Forever Green." According to his autobiography, he wrote that book during Stones' tour stops in the late 1990s after he "discovered how much misinformation there is in the general public about the forest industry."

To those who think that cutting trees is inherently bad, Leavell reminds that unmanaged forests are older, drier, less healthy and more vulnerable to forest fires.

The Native Americans knew that," he said. "Early Europeans and other earlier cultures and societies knew that."

And to those who discourage the use of paper for the sake of trees, Leavell also has a ready response, which he includes in green type below the signature line of his emails:

"Notice: It's OK to print this email. Paper is a biodegradable, renewable, sustainable product made from trees. Growing and harvesting trees provides jobs for millions of Americans, and working forests are good for the environment, providing clean air, clean water, wildlife habitat and carbon storage. Thanks to improved forest management, we have more trees in America today than we had 100 years ago."

(Continued on page 27)

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From rocker to tree-hugger

Musicians' involvement with environmental causes is nothing new, but Leavell's interest goes far deeper than most. He and his wife, Rose Lane, were named National Outstanding Tree Farmers in 1999 by the American Tree Farm System, which honors renewable practices. He has been recognized by the Georgia Conservancy and the National Arbor Day Foundation, and was named an honorary forester by the U.S. Forest Service.

Leavell's midlife conversion to tree-hugger came after his wife inherited a large tract of land in central Georgia from her grandmother, whose family had held it for generations.

As it turned out, Lane's inheritance came at a time when Leavell was unemployed, "without a prospect on the horizon."

The Allman Brothers had broken up amid scandals and acrimony. Their recording company failed. A few of the Brothers joined Leavell's band, Sea Level, which won acclaim but struggled to break even. The call from the Stones, which came out of the blue, was still off in the future.

And so Leavell became a tree farmer out of necessity. He began with Christmas trees but advanced quickly into loblolly, longleaf and slash pines as well as some hardwoods. He took classes to become a certified forester and learned to repair the tractor. Along the way, he needed to understand wildlife, habitats and the balances of biodiversity.

In Wisconsin, the industries that grew out of the state's vast timberlands remain among the state's biggest employers, including logging, furniture, paper mills and printing.

Not surprisingly, part of Leavell's conversion included becoming familiar with the work of Leopold, whose book "A Sand County Almanac" was published in 1949 but remains required reading in forestry schools in Wisconsin and elsewhere.

Leavell still quotes Leopold frequently in his emails and books. Asked why Leopold is so revered, Leavell wrote: "Because he 'got it.' He had a deep understanding of nature and the incredible way that the big picture fits together.

"Nature is infinite — and constantly changing." Leavell spreads that message at every opportunity.

"My children's book, 'The Tree Farmer,' is an attempt to help children learn about these issues from

a very young age," he said.

Also, in 2009, he co-founded Mother Nature Network, which attracts more than 10 million visits a month from more than 200 different countries.

A lifetime of music

It's all a jarring contrast to Leavell's more glamorous life of swank hotels and pulsating concerts in sold-out stadiums.

His bandmates, though, are well aware of his tree obsession. "Oh, God, Chuck's talking about trees again," Keith Richards once said. And at this month's show in Atlanta, Jagger introduced Leavell to 50,000 fans as an "amazing guy who's a local tree farmer."

At 63 and a grandfather, Leavell is young by Stones standards. Jagger and Richards are both 71. Charlie Watts is 74.

But Leavell played "Satisfaction" and "Nineteenth Nervous Breakdown" in his high school band, which did so well he never went to college.

He found no end of studio work in Muscle Shoals, Ala., one of the South's recording capitals, and then in Macon, Ga., before the Allman Brothers invited him to join as the numerical replacement for founder Duane Allman, who died in a 1971 motorcycle crash.

Like each of the other Brothers, he's branded with a tattoo of a "magic mushroom" on his right calf, all from the same San Francisco tattoo artist.

Leavell's best-known contribution to the Allman Brothers is a bouncy instrumental called "Jessica." Over the years, he's played with the Marshall Tucker Band and Eric Clapton, shared a stage with the Grateful Dead and The Band, and counts the Grammy Award-winning Train single "Drops of Jupiter" among his studio work.

There are three Stones left from the 1962-era band: lead singer Jagger, guitarist Richards and drummer Watts. Guitarist Ronnie Wood replaced Mick Taylor who replaced Brian Jones. Bassist Darryl Jones replaced Bill Wyman in 1993.

Leavell, sometimes called the "sixth Stone," is the heir to Ian "Stu" Stewart, who co-founded the band in 1962 when he was the first to respond to an advertisement in Jazz News posted by Brian Jones, seeking bandmates for a rhythm and blues group. Everyone else came after those two, including Jagger and Richards.

Stewart added a defining sound to "Honky Tonk Women," "Brown Sugar" and "Dead Flowers," among

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many others. Nicky Hopkins and Billy Preston rotated into the keyboards role while Stewart increasingly became tour manager and glorified roadie until his sudden death in 1985.

For those last three years of his life, Stewart became a mentor to Leavell, teaching him how to sprinkle keyboard riffs into the Stones' anthems.

Speaking in his Scottish brogue, Stewart told Leavell, "Make 'em sound like diamond tiaras, Chook, diamond tiaras."

Stewart's guidance is a point of pride to Leavell, who quotes Richards in his book:

"Chuck is our direct link to Stu," Richards said. "Without that continuity, the Stones would not be the Stones."

Beetle Plague Spurs Canadians on U.S. Lumber-Mill Buying Spree

By Christopher Donville & Willem Marx
Bloomberg Business
June 23, 2015

In the 60 years since Bob Jordan III joined his family's North Carolina sawmill business, he hasn't seen anything quite like the Canadian invasion of the South's lumber industry.

"You didn't have people coming in from the outside -- we never had this before," Jordan, 82, president of closely held Jordan Lumber & Supply Inc., said about an estimated C\$2 billion (\$1.62 billion) wave of Canadian investment. "Over 50 percent of the lumber in a certain part of the South is being produced by the Canadian mills."

Western Canadian lumber producers have good reason to be looking to the southeast corner of the continent. Chased from their home forests by rising costs and a plague of tree-killing beetles, West Fraser Timber Co., Canfor Corp. and Interfor Corp. have been on a buying spree, doubling the number of mills they own in the South since 2009 to about 34. The Canadians are drawn by the region's 210 million acres of fast-growing forests and expanding housing markets from Texas to Virginia to Florida, according to Brooks Mendell, president of Forisk Consulting, an Athens, Georgia-based timberland researcher.

Mountain Pine Beetles

Since the late 1990s, the grain-of-rice-sized mountain pine beetle has attacked and killed more than 700 million cubic meters of pine trees in the inland forests of

British Columbia, Canada's top lumber-producing province. That's equivalent to about 700 million standard telephone poles.

Pines Devastated

"The current estimate is that 60 percent of mature pine in B.C. has been killed or will be killed by the end of the decade," Rodger Hutchinson, a West Fraser vice president, said June 5 in a Bloomberg Television interview in Vancouver.

Warmer winters, a result of climate change, allowed beetle populations to get out of control in British Columbia's lodgepole pine forests, as well as in neighboring Alberta and parts of the U.S. West. While British Columbia sought to halt the outbreak, it also encouraged lumber makers like West Fraser and Canfor to accelerate harvesting to get the value out of the dead trees before they rotted.

"For B.C. lumber producers to stay in the lumber business, they really have to purchase mills in areas that have fiber," or raw timber, Paul Jannke, a lumber specialist at Forest Economic Advisors in Westford, Massachusetts, said June 11 by phone.

While West Fraser helped lead the Canadian charge into the U.S. South, Vancouver-based Interfor has been especially active this year.

Stocks Outperform

Billing itself as the world's fastest-growing lumber maker, Interfor last week completed the purchase of a mill in Monticello, Arkansas. It was the third Southern mill the company acquired this year, raising its total to nine.



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The Toronto Stock Exchange's forest products index has risen 25 percent in the past year, compared with a 1.3 percent drop in the composite index. West Fraser, with a 36 percent increase, has been the top performer in the past year, outpacing Interfor's 35 percent rise and Canfor's 14 percent gain.

"Fiber supply is why the Canadians are going down South," Paul Quinn, a Vancouver-based analyst at RBC Capital Markets, said in an interview.

Pine trees in Canada take 60 to 80 years to grow to maturity, while southern yellow pine typically goes from seedling to the lumber mill in about 25 years, according to Mark Kennedy, a Calgary-based analyst at Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce.

'Close Proximity'

"Sawmills in this region are in close proximity to end-customer demand for lumber," Kennedy said in a June 2 note.

Interfor sees further opportunities in the U.S. South, where it now has more than 40 percent of its total lumber capacity, according to Chief Executive Officer Duncan Davies.

"We continue to believe it's an area where we're going to continue to invest both in organic opportunities at the facilities that we own and, hopefully, in continuing to grow our platform," Davies said May 1

on an earnings conference call.

Davies wasn't available to comment on the company's U.S. expansion, Interfor spokeswoman Karen Brandt said. Canfor didn't respond to questions about its Southern strategy.

"We still have a very long way to go in terms of industry consolidation," West Fraser's Hutchinson said.

So far, the invasion of the South has gone smoothly, with the Canadians relying on local managers and established logging crews to achieve productivity targets.

Northern Invaders

"I'm sure there's been resistance in pockets of the South," said RBC's Quinn, who estimates the Canadians have poured about C\$2 billion into their Southern operations since the early 2000's through acquisitions and mill modernizations. "The Canadians are smart companies. They're doing the right things."

For the time being, at least, further consolidation won't involve Jordan Lumber, which was started by Bob Jordan's father in 1939.

"I used to get a phone call about every two weeks" from prospective buyers, Jordan, a former lieutenant governor of North Carolina, said in the interview. "Then I finally said, call me back in 3015."

Company taking closer look at wood-pellet possibilities

By Sammy Fretwell
The State Newspaper
June 4, 2015

ABENGOA ENERGY CROPS

A Company interested in building a wood pellet export terminal in Charleston and a pellet mill near Winnsboro will spend \$3.8 million to research the types of trees that can be burned for electricity production.

Abengoa Energy Crops, whose proposal for the terminal is under fire from environmentalists, announced the research plan during a joint announcement Wednesday (June 3) with Clemson University. The research will look at developing certain trees as feedstock for biomass plants, Clemson said in a news release.

Biomass plants burn wood and wood pellets to make electricity. Pellet mills rely on limbs and other types of waste wood to make pellets that can be burned in biomass plants. Green organizations say some mills threaten forests by using whole trees, which could clear-cut parts of the landscape.

Clemson researchers say the study is in part to find a sustainable source of biomass material. The research will examine how well different hardwoods and conifers would work as sources of biomass energy.

Environmentalists say a new Charleston terminal could increase the number of mills to supply the facility. More mills could cause large swaths of forests to be chopped, environmentalists say. Forest industry officials dispute that. ASXDZ

ENDANGERED SPECIES:

To block GOP reform bills, Boxer threatens 'hand-to-hand combat'

Corbin Hiar, E&E reporter

Published: Thursday, May 7, 2015

Fish and Wildlife Service Director Dan Ashe told senators yesterday that he supports overhauling a landmark environmental law that his agency is tasked with enforcing but suggested that reform bills introduced so far this session aren't up to that task.

"I do believe that the Endangered Species Act should be reauthorized, and I think there could be room for improvement of the law," he said in an unprompted moment after responding to a series of questions from Environment and Public Works Committee members about his \$1.6 billion budget request and local issues.

Ashe noted that the legislation that was the basis for the last significant reform of the ESA in 1988 was a thoroughly bipartisan affair. "I think it's possible to bring people of good will together, and we could do the same thing," he said.

None of the nine endangered species-related bills that the committee went on to consider, however, has support from lawmakers on both sides of the aisle (E&E Daily, May 4).

The bill that came the closest to garnering bipartisan support was S. 1081, a measure introduced by Sen. Cory Booker (D-N.J.) to prohibit the use of body-gripping traps on national wildlife refuges. After Booker highlighted the way leg traps, neck snares and other gripping devices have inadvertently killed or maimed endangered species, pets and children on public lands, Chairman James Inhofe (R-Okla.) remarked that his presentation was "a wake-up call."

The rest of the bills, which are more directly related to aspects of the ESA and the species it applies to, were largely condemned by Democrats and wildlife advocates. S. 112, S. 292, S. 293, S. 468, S. 655, S. 736, S. 855 and S. 1036 were all introduced by Republicans without any Democratic co-sponsors.

"We will have hand-to-hand combat on the floor if these bills get that far," Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.), the ranking member of the committee, said to Inhofe. She went on to describe the measures as "really a backdoor repeal of the Endangered Species Act."

Boxer also noted that the Natural Resources Defense Council



and more than 20 other wildlife advocacy groups had signed a letter to senators urging them to oppose the measures.

The groups claimed that the bills would "undermine the essential protections of the [ESA] by obstructing the listing process, prioritizing short-term economic gains above conservation in all cases, hindering development and use of the best available scientific research, squandering agency resources, and chilling citizen enforcement of the Act."

Boxer expressed a willingness to work with Inhofe to reform the ESA. But she added, "If we don't moderate these radical bills, then we're going to have to get all of the people out there in this country motivated to weigh in against what the Republicans are trying to do here today."

In response to questions from Democratic lawmakers, Ashe cast doubt on the need for many of the bills. The biggest challenge FWS faces in its efforts to recover imperiled species, he emphasized, is a lack of adequate funding (Greenwire, May 6).

Few lawmakers stuck around for a second panel of witnesses that included David Bernhardt, an industry lobbyist who served as Interior Department solicitor under President George W. Bush, and Gordon Cruickshank, an Idaho county commissioner speaking on behalf of the National Association of Counties. Both of them argued that the ESA should be reformed to empower local conservation efforts.

Inhofe apologized to the panel, which also included Don Barry, the head of conservation programs at the environmental group Defenders of Wildlife, for the committee members' lack of participation. But he assured them that the missing lawmakers were well represented by the staffers sitting quietly behind their empty chairs.

Furthermore, Inhofe said, "I can assure you that your testimony will be very seriously taken into consideration on the acts that we are putting together for the future."

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Asked after the hearing about the potential for a markup of the targeted endangered species-related bills, Inhofe said he'd like to advance some of them "very soon." But he told reporters that he wants to speak with Boxer and the bill authors before singling out any dates or bills.

Inhofe also suggested that any broader ESA overhaul legislation that his staff puts together would likely address the law's "lack of transparency."

More 'kabuki drama'?

While Ashe told reporters he was open to working with Inhofe on reauthorizing the ESA, he disputed the need to enshrine new transparency provisions in the law.

For example, referring to S. 292, Texas Sen. John Cornyn's "21st Century Endangered Species Transparency Act," he said, "Mr. Cornyn's bill calls for us to publish all of our underlying basis for decisions on the Internet. But we largely do that today."

Ashe noted that FWS already has to comply with a section of the law that requires the agency to pub-

lish notices of its proposals in the classified section of local newspapers (Greenwire, March 2).

"When people see that today, they go, 'What's a newspaper?'" he said to reporters. "So 20 years from now, if we put a provision in that says, publish it on the Web, we may not even have a Web to publish on."

In general, the Republican-backed ESA reform bills just "add a lot of process and new requirements that would be new causes of legal action that would make it more difficult to conserve species," he said. "Individually and collectively, they certainly don't hit the bar."

Ashe went on to question whether the GOP bills were a real first step toward updating the ESA for the first time in over 25 years.

"Are people trying to drive to a bipartisan consensus, or are we just playing the same kabuki drama around the politics of Western public lands?" Ashe asked, before offering his own take. "I would say the latter."

S.C. JOINS LAWSUIT AGAINST EPA, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Staff Report

colanews@scbiznews.com

Columbia Regional Business Report

June 30, 2015

Attorney General Alan Wilson joined eight other state Attorneys General in a lawsuit filed Tuesday against a pair of agencies they say unlawfully expands the federal government's regulatory reach over local streams, lands and farms.

The lawsuit, filed in U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Georgia, says the "Waters of the United States" rule extends the reach of the Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to an untold number of small bodies of water. That includes roadside ditches and short-lived streams where way may flow once every 100 years, a release said.

"The results of this rule will carry a tremendous cost to our state, our economy, and our families," Wilson said. "Road project mitigation costs alone could range from \$180,000 to \$2.8 million or fines of \$37,000 per day.

"The EPA's proposed expansion would bring many roadside ditches, small ponds on family farms, water features on golf courses, and storm water systems under extremely burdensome federal regulation. We need more reliable, affordable energy options, not less reliable and more costly ones."



Joining Wilson are the attorneys general of West Virginia, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Utah and Wisconsin. They say the rule violates the Clean Water Act, the Administrative Procedure Act and the U.S. Constitution.

The complaint asks a federal judge to declare the rule illegal and issue an injunction to prevent the agencies from enforcing it. It also requests agencies to draft a new rule that complies with the law and honors states' rights, the release said. Similar complaints were filed Monday in Bismarck, N.D., Columbus, Ohio, and Houston, Texas, involving eighteen other states challenging the same rule.



RECENT ACTION ON FOREST RESOURCES ASSOCIATION POLICY PRIORITIES

- **Northern Long-Eared Bat**
- **H-2B Guestworkers**
- **Hours-Of-Service Restart**
- **WOTUS**
- **Biomass Carbon Accounting**
- **Estate Tax Repeal**

Northern Long-Eared Bat

The restrictions the Fish & Wildlife Service's interim final 4(d) rule imposes have been in effect now for a week—and numerous questions remain about landowners' and wood buyers' responsibilities. The confusion even extends to government authorities, with some requiring landowners and operators to suspend forest management activities in certain jurisdictions until August 15. FRA is working with allied associations to seek clarification and to provide a reality check on policies' real-world impacts. The public comment docket on the 4(d) rule is open until July 1, and FWS expects to issue a final 4(d) rule by the end of 2015.

On Capitol Hill, NLEB-related legislation sponsored by Sen. John Thune (R-South Dakota) was the subject of a public hearing in early May. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell's office is well aware of concerns around the listing and may look to move legislation addressing these concerns later this year. More at http://www.forestresources.org/page.asp?content=fra_policy_priorities&g=FRA#bat

H-2B Guestworkers

On April 29, the Department of Homeland Security followed up the crisis it had created in temporarily shutting down H-2B Guestworker visa processing by issuing yet another Interim Final Rule governing the H-2B program, accompanied by a "final" Wage Rule, covering wage rate determinations. Neither rule proved favorable. While litigation continues, affected sectors—including FRA—are pursuing short-term means to improve some aspects of the two rules:

- restoring the "returning worker exemption" (from the 66,000-worker annual cap) and
- enabling the use of more detailed data in determining allowable Guestworker wage rates.

Success in either—through terms in a larger Appropriations bill—would not kick in until October 1, 2015 and even then would probably need annual renewal. In the meantime, Rep. Andy Harris (R-Maryland) is preparing to re-introduce his more comprehensive H-2B reform legislation, which would provide a comprehensive long-term solution, once Congress finds political will for major immigration reform. More at http://www.forestresources.org/page.asp?content=fra_policy_priorities&g=FRA#1_guestworkers

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Hours-Of-Service Restart

On May 13, the full House Appropriations Committee passed a measure that would retain the current suspension of the Hours-Of-Service “Restart” provision unless the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration’s “study” of the provision’s impacts—now in progress—justifies the current structure of the Restart by some quite specific metrics. FRA had outlined the burdens the Restart provision lays on forest products trucking in letters to all House Appropriators on May 12, urging them to support language requiring the more robust study provisions. Once the full Appropriations bill passes on the House floor—considered likely—FRA will join allies in advocating identical language in the corresponding Senate bill. More at http://www.forestresources.org/page.asp?content=fra_policy_priorities&g=FRA#6_FMCSA

WOTUS

Both Houses of Congress are taking aim at the Waters of the U.S., or WOTUS, rule—EPA’s regulatory effort to clarify which water bodies fall under federal permitting jurisdiction. Forest and farm interests strongly criticized the proposed rule as being vague and as expanding federal authority. Just before the House recessed in late April, it passed an Energy and Water Appropriations measure which contained language blocking implementation of the rule in FY 2016. On May 12, the House passed HR 1732, requiring EPA to withdraw the current rule package and propose an alternative. Legislation blocking the rule is also pending in the Senate and may have enough support to pass that chamber.

Meanwhile, a “final” version of the original WOTUS rule is now under review at the White House, with release expected this spring. More at http://www.forestresources.org/page.asp?content=fra_policy_priorities&g=FRA#waters_US

Biomass Carbon Accounting

Sen. Angus King (I-Maine) has introduced legislation (S 1284) directing EPA to assume that forest biomass emissions do not result in overall carbon accumulations in the atmosphere, in EPA’s regulation of facilities using biomass as a fuel source. In order to qualify for this “carbon neutral” designation, it would be necessary to demonstrate that forest carbon stocks are stable or increasing, based on Forest Inventory & Analysis data; with forest biomass derived from mill residuals, harvest residuals, or forest management activities qualifying. FRA supports the bill. More at http://www.forestresources.org/page.asp?content=fra_policy_priorities&g=FRA#7_biomass

Estate Tax Repeal

Legislation (HR 1105) to eliminate the federal estate tax passed the House in mid-April. In the Senate, Sen. John Thune (R-South Dakota) has sponsored a similar estate tax repeal bill, S 860, which currently has 35 cosponsors and awaits action in the Senate Finance Committee. FRA is communicating to Congress our support for quick action on this legislation. More at http://www.forestresources.org/page.asp?content=fra_policy_priorities&g=FRA#tax_repeal

Published May 14, 2015 by Forest Resources Association, Washington, D.C.



QUINN, MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION WORKING TOGETHER ON BUSINESS LICENSE ISSUE

By Chris Cox
ccox@scbiznews.com
Published May 6, 2015

Rep. Rick Quinn, R-Cayce, and the Municipal Association of South Carolina continue to work together on an agreement over the current structure of business license fees, a problem Quinn has sought to address through a bill he submitted in February.

The measure, H.3490, would change how business license taxes are calculated and cap the tax for each business at \$100. The bill is an attempt to both streamline and reform the present system, which Quinn has described as “grossly unfair and an outrageous assault on small business.”

Quinn and his supporters have met several times in recent months with Municipal Association representatives to address the problems outlined in an economic impact study on the current system, which the legislator touted Wednesday during a Statehouse press conference.

“We have been working with (them) for a number of months now to address a lot of the problems that were brought up in this report,” said Reba Campbell, Deputy Executive Director of the Municipal Association. “There wasn’t anything in there that was really surprising in terms of their problems with consistency, their problems with process. We recognize that as an organization and have worked a lot with our cities to try and get them to streamline processes.”

The report by The Citadel economics professor Russell Sobel calls the current system damaging to the state’s economy and local government. A lack of efficiency and issues with neutrality and fairness are its biggest detriments, Sobel said, all while making South Carolina uncompetitive relative to its neighboring states.

“It’s not just a matter of being business friendly,” he said. “It’s a matter of creating economic growth and creating job opportunities for the citizens of South Carolina as well as improving the quality of life and the cost of living for our residents.”

Campbell said the municipal association is training business license officials on better processes, and last year rolled out a standard application form a business can use in any city, should the city choose to accept it. There have also been discussions on standardizing the classes of businesses, making it easier for them to know from city to city what they will be charged.

From our perspective, we feel like we’ve made a lot of progress in understanding what the issues are in the business community,” Campbell said. “When we first started talking about this ... the two things that kept coming back just about every time were consistency and rate.”

Quinn acknowledged he and his supporters, which include the S.C. Home Builders Association, the National Federation of Independent Business and the S.C. Chamber of Commerce, are trying to “find some middle ground” with the municipal association. But he said the organization is essentially neglecting potential growth that the current system is driving away.

“I understand why they’re trying to defend the integrity of the revenue they collect,” he said. “I understand that there’s difficult laws in place. But what I think they’re missing is, they’re really killing themselves when it comes to economic development because many companies now are moving out into unincorporated areas of counties that don’t have a business license fee.

“If you look at the county of Lexington, that’s what’s driven the industrial park they have now. I think in the long run, if they are reasonable to reform, they’re going to find that it actually helps the economies in their towns.”

Since the costs of state and federal taxes are included in the fee calculation, cities are literally taxing the money businesses use to pay taxes, Quinn said in a release earlier this year. The fees can hurt small startup businesses that may need to operate a year or more before they see a profit, he said.

Under the current system, cities and towns across South Carolina collect more than \$300 million annually in business license fees, Quinn said.

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"I have had personal conversations with people that used to be in small business, tried to make a go of it, and this is one of the many things that caused them to have to close," he said. "That entrepreneurial spirit is what we're trying to defend."

But the \$100 cap remains the biggest opposition from the municipal association, which Campbell said would eliminate a substantial part of most cities' budgets and force cuts to the services businesses count on. She said about every city in the state derives between 25% and 50% of its general fund

budget from business licensing.

The measure was slated to be discussed Wednesday by the House Ways and Means Committee, where the bill has been since Feb. 3, but the meeting was cancelled. It appears unlikely the bill could get passed through during this legislative session, which ends June 4, but Quinn remains steadfast in igniting reform.

"We're not going to stop," he said. "We're going to work hard to get this done."

SENATE REPUBLICANS RELEASE INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN

SC Chamber of Commerce, Chamber Biz, May 12, 2015

After failing to set an infrastructure funding bill for debate, the Senate Republican Caucus asked business leaders to be patient as they were working on a proposal. Last Thursday, 18 senators stood together to release their proposal, which has three parts: highway funding, income tax reduction and South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) reform. The proposal was released during a press conference led by Senate Majority Leader Harvey Peeler (Cherokee) who said, "The key elements of our plan are reforming and modernizing the DOT, establishing solid long-term funding to make our roads safe and a tax cut plan that makes South Carolina more competitive."

The Senate Republican Caucus plan would ultimately provide \$800 million in additional recurring revenue using diverse means, including an increase in the gasoline tax by 4 cents per year for three years (12 cents total), increasing the \$300 sales tax cap on vehicles to \$600, raising driver's license fees and car registration fees, instituting a fee for hybrid/electric vehicles and implementing a road user fee for commercial vehicles over 26,000 lbs. The plan also reforms the governance of the South Carolina Department of Transportation, enabling the governor to nominate the members of the SCDOT Commission. The Secretary of Transportation would nominate the SCDOT Secretary. Both the Commissioners and Secretary would go through the same screening and confirmation process, and SCDOT Commissioners would still represent each congressional district.

The plan also cuts income taxes by 1 percent across all brackets. The cut would be phased-in over five years with a circuit breaker in years when state revenue does not meet expectations.



Timber Talk

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SCTPA / 9-18-14



South Carolina Timber Producers Association TIRE PROGRAM DEALERS



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Andrews Tire Service	309 North Morgan Ave	Andrews	SC	29510	(843) 264-5269
Jim Whitehead Tire	2641 Shop Road Ext	Columbia	SC	29209	(803) 776-4888
Black's Tire Commercial Center	1501 Third Avenue	Conway	SC	29526	(843) 248-2835
Black's Tire Commercial Center	208 North McArthur Ave.	Dillon	SC	29536	(843) 774-7391
Dr. Tire	565 Railroad Ave SE	Estill	SC	29918	(803) 625-2201
Black's Tire Commercial Center	1705 East Palmetto St. (Exit 170 Off I-95)	Florence	SC	29506	(843) 669-2233
Black's Tire Commercial Center	620 North Coit St. (Exit 164 Off I-95)	Florence	SC	29501	(843) 678-4124
Hill tire	2719 High Market St.	Georgetown	SC	29440	(843) 546-4196
Corporate Tire	130 Sunbelt Ct.	Greer	SC	29650	(864)915-9999
Jim Whitehead Tire	2118 Airport Road	Greer	SC	29650	(864) 849-0060
Soggy Bottom Logging	2782 Rocky River Road	Heath Springs	SC	29058	(803) 287-5976
INMAN TIRE SERVICE INC	11841 Asheville Hwy	Inman	SC	29349	(864) 472-2001
The Tire Shop	1018 S Jonesville	Jonesville	SC	29353	(864) 674-5260
Morrell Tire Service	306 S Richardson St	Latta	SC	29565	(843) 752-7511
Hill Tire	116 E Railroad Ave	Moncks Corner	SC	29461	(843) 761-8266
Black's Tire Commercial Center	1280 3rd Avenue South	Myrtle Beach	SC	29578	(843) 626-7402
Hill tire	7120 Rivers Avenue	N. Charleston	SC	29406	(843) 863-8200
Black's Tire Commercial Center	2415 Highway 17 South	North Myrtle Beach	SC	29582	(843) 272-3875
Interstate Tire Service	1851 Easley Hwy	Pelzer	SC	29669	(864) 947-9208
Drum's Tire & Battery	817 W. Main St.	Rock Hill	SC	29732	(803)328-2461
Hill tire	1715 Old Trolley Road	Summerville	SC	29485	(843) 873-1271
Hill tire	506 Robertson Blvd.	Walterboro	SC	29488	(843) 549-1199
Baucom Services	9611 Morgan Mill Road	Monroe	NC	28110	(704) 753-4264
Jim Whitehead Tire	1920 Cherry Road	Augusta	GA	30916	(706) 738-5126
A-1 Tire	1445 Bowman hwy	Elberton	GA	30635	(706) 213-8471
Modern Tire	293 W Howell Hwy	Hartwell	GA	30643	(706) 376-8888
The Tire House	608 South Main St	Wrens	GA	30833	(706) 547-2320

Wit and Wisdom Wednesday

From Jane Jenkins Herlong
Edgefield, SC
June 3, 2015

I rarely send jokes but this one made me laugh! I hope this brings a smile to your face!

Jacob age 92, and Susan, age 89, living in Florida are all excited about their decision to get married. They go for a stroll to discuss the wedding, and on the way they pass a drugstore. Jacob suggests they go in.

Jacob addresses the man behind the counter: "Are you the owner?"

The pharmacist answers, "Yes."

Jacob: "We're about to get married. Do you sell heart medication?"

Pharmacist: "Of course we do."

Jacob: "How about medicine for circulation?"

Pharmacist: "All kinds."

Jacob: "Medicine for rheumatism?"

Pharmacist: "Definitely."

Jacob: "How about suppositories?"

Pharmacist: "You bet!"

Jacob: "Medicine for memory problems, arthritis and Alzheimer's?"

Pharmacist: "Yes, a large variety. The Works."

Jacob: "What about vitamins, sleeping pills, Geritol, antidotes for Parkinson's disease?"

Pharmacist: "Absolutely."

Jacob: "Everything for heartburn and indigestion?"

Pharmacist: "We sure do."

Jacob: "You sell wheelchairs and walkers and canes?"

Pharmacist: "All speeds and sizes."

Jacob: "Adult diapers?"

Pharmacist: "Sure."

Jacob: "We'd like to use this store as our Bridal Registry."





SCTPA Member Alert Baldwin Filter Discount Program



SCTPA's Baldwin Filter Program is effective for our Member Discount Program. Program is available for active dues paid members to receive a **45% discount** on Baldwin Filters. Per Jesse Gonzalez, SCTPA's Baldwin representative, this program is available to all association active dues paid members.

This association is proud to partner with Jesse Gonzalez and Baldwin Filters to provide a cost savings program for members. Program effective until notification by Jesse and Baldwin Filters.

A logger member who is using our program, compared the Baldwin Program to what they had spent the previous year on filters and figured their business would save \$ 20,000 in the program. Now that's real money!

The program will require members to purchase filters from Baldwin Warehouse Distributors (WD) and wherever Baldwin WD's have branch locations. Local retail outlets selling Baldwin Filters are not included. Only Baldwin WD's are to be used for the member discount. Active dues paid membership verification is required to qualify for the member discount.

If you have any questions, contact the association office.

Baldwin Filter Program

1. Baldwin Filter discounted pricing to active SCTPA members.
2. SCTPA members select from list of participating Baldwin Warehouse Distributors (WD).
3. SCTPA member pricing wherever Baldwin WD's have branch locations.
4. SCTPA informs Baldwin district sales manager of member choices in order to complete Baldwin internal paperwork.
5. Members complete credit application/other with Baldwin Warehouse Distributor(s).
6. Baldwin WD's will adjust filter inventories to match up with SCTPA member's usage.
7. SCTPA member can contact SCTPA office and request their Member Verification Form be faxed or emailed to Baldwin WD to receive filter discount. Member verification can be forwarded to the member as well. Baldwin WD can contact SCTPA for Member Verification Form at 803-957-9919, 1-800-371-2240, bcjpaw@windstream.net, or Crad Jaynes cell 803-530-5874.
8. Baldwin WD will take care of obsolete Baldwin filters annually on a swap out (if filters are clean, re-saleable and can be put back in the WD inventory).

Thank you for the opportunity to service your member's filter requirements with Baldwin Filters through our Baldwin Warehouse Distributor network in your service area.

Jesse Gonzalez
Baldwin Filters
Charlotte, NC
704-451-2466 Office/Cell / jgonzalez@baldwinfilter.com

SCTPA Baldwin Filter Warehouse Distributors

BRANCH MANAGER	STREET ADDRESS	CITY, STATE ZIP			
Fred Heitman	7350 Industry Drive	Charleston SC 29418			
Truck Pro / CR&W		843-767-7600	800-832-9001	Fax 843-767-4965	
Mike Pilotte	5130 Rivers Avenue	N. Charleston, SC 29406			
Fleet Pride		843-747-1547	800-726-0578	Fax 843-744-5342	
Larry Duncan	1308 Upper Asbury Ave.	Charlotte, NC 28206			
Truck Pro / CR&W		704-334-7276	800-832-6219	Fax 704-334-7270	
Ron Johnson	2330 Tipton Drive	Charlotte, NC 28206			
Truck Pro		704-596-2761	800-274-1256		
John Gasiiecki	3740 Jeff Adams Drive	Charlotte, NC 28206			
Fleet Pride		704-596-6964	800-852-5846	Fax 704-596-3735	
Todd Johnson	233-H Interstate North Dr.	Charlotte, NC 28206			
Stone Truck Parts		704-887-1111	800-279-6385	Fax 704-887-1116	
David Crouch	550 Old Dairy Drive	Columbia, SC 29201			
Truck Pro / CR&W		803-799-4010	800-922-2225	Fax 803-256-3802	
Gene Lane	1631 Shop Road	Columbia, SC 29201			
Fleet Pride		803-799-4812	800-922-1267	Fax 803-799-2833	
Jamie Cathcart	1137 White Horse Road	Greenville, SC 29605			
Fleet Pride		864-277-8362	800-922-6850	Fax 864-299-1831	
Zack Raines	1144 White Horse Road	Greenville, SC 29605			
Truck Pro		864-422-1800			
bcj/SCTPA/7-22-13					

U.S. Chamber Statement on EPA's Final Clean Water Rule



'The Chamber is reviewing the substance of the final rule and evaluating the best options available to prevent this flawed rule from negatively affecting our nation's economy,' Says Kovacs

WASHINGTON, D.C. — May 27, 2015 - U.S. Chamber of Commerce Senior Vice President of Environment, Technology, & Regulatory Affairs William Kovacs issued the following statement today on the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) final Clean Water Rule, which was originally referred to as "Waters of the United States":

"Over the last 13 months, it has become clear that the EPA's proposed rule would significantly broaden federal regulatory jurisdiction over private activities on land and in waterways, wetlands and drainage ditches, and fundamentally change the scope and extent of long-standing state delegated Clean Water Act programs. Since issuing the proposed rule for public comment in April 2014, the agencies have somehow maintained that the proposal will have no significant regulatory or economic impact, and in fact the agency is simply 'clarifying' the current state of federal jurisdiction over waters. Such statements fly in the face reality."

"Despite appeals from constituents and lawmakers across the country; countless business owners, farmers and industry leaders; and the Small Business Administration, the EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers failed to conduct any meaningful regulatory or economic impact analyses prior to issuing a final rule that redefines 'waters of the U.S.' Additionally, by expanding federal jurisdiction of the Clean Water Act, the Clean Water Rule could significantly impact a por-

tion of our economy by slowing or stopping numerous projects across the nation.

"The Chamber filed lengthy public comments identifying exactly how the proposal could affect businesses of all sizes, including local municipalities, and requested the agencies convene a small business review panel to study and evaluate those impacts. Numerous state, local and business stakeholders and the Small Business Administration (twice) echoed that request, to no avail. The agencies' failure to consider these impacts renders the rulemaking procedure fundamentally flawed.

"The Chamber is reviewing the substance of the final rule and evaluating the best options available to prevent this flawed rule from negatively affecting our nation's economy."

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is the world's largest business federation representing the interests of more than 3 million businesses of all sizes, sectors, and regions, as well as state and local chambers and industry associations.

Contact: Blair Latoff Holmes
(202) 463-5682
www.uschamber.com @USChamber
www.freeenterprise.com



Release

from the South Carolina Forestry Commission



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Doug Wood, Director of Communications
803-968-1576 CELL | 803-896-8820 OFFICE
DWood@scfc.gov

SC State Forester to receive prestigious Gifford Pinchot Medal

Kodama honored for lifelong commitment and contributions to North American forestry

South Carolina State Forester Gene Kodama has been selected to receive the Society of American Foresters' Gifford Pinchot Medal. One of the most esteemed forestry awards in the nation, the medal is presented every two years to a forestry professional in recognition of exceptional contributions to the administration, practice and development of forestry in North America.

Nominees for the Gifford Pinchot Medal must have demonstrated exemplary actions that further the field of forestry by making an indelible mark on the profession and being a person of action.

Endorsements for Kodama's nomination came from multiple state, national and international leaders in forestry and the forest products industries who pointed out a variety of contributions. Kathy Abusow, president and CEO of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative, wrote in her testimonial, "Gene led the South Carolina Forestry Commission to third-party certification of its five state forests to both the SFI Standard and the American Tree Farm Standard, highlighting that state forests are responsibly managed. By advancing the cause of forest certification, Gene has added to South Carolina's reputation as a sustainability leader in the global marketplace."

SAF will present the Gifford Pinchot Medal to Kodama at its national convention in Baton Rouge, La., Wednesday, Nov. 4.



SC State Forester Henry "Gene" Kodama



###

Gifford Pinchot is widely credited as being America's first forester and the father of the conservation movement in North America. In 1892 Pinchot began the first systematic forest management plan in North America on the Biltmore estate in North Carolina. Seeing a need for a national resource management organization, Pinchot brought about the establishment of the Forest Service in 1898 with the help of President Theodore Roosevelt. The National Forest system and forest policy as we know them today are a result of Pinchot's efforts. In addition to establishing the Forest Service, Pinchot founded the Society of American Foresters in 1900. He served as its president from 1900-08 and again from 1910-11. He was elected an SAF Fellow in 1918. Gifford Pinchot brought a professional approach to all his endeavors, the Forest Service, natural resource conservation, and the SAF. His actions have left an indelible mark on the profession of natural resource management.



SCTPA Partners with Hearing Associates of South Carolina



SCTPA is proud to partner with Allied Supplier Member Hearing Associates of South Carolina in Aiken, SC to provide hearing testing services to our members.

Hearing Associates can provide onsite hearing testing service using their mobile testing trailer as well as at their Aiken office. Hearing Associates can come to your office, shop or designated location to perform hearing testing for employees. Trey Welsh is their CAOHC Certified Technician who administers the mobile testing.

Hearing Associates will provide a 25% discount for hearing aids to active dues paid members. SCTPA must verify with Hearing Associates the member is active. A member discount for hearing testing is being discussed.

Cara Serby is the Practice Manager and Dr. Sherri Little is Doctor of Audiology. Hearing Associates is located at 39-A Varden Drive, Aiken, SC and can be contacted at 803-641-6104. Their website is HEARINGASSOCIATESOFSC.COM

OSHA standard 1910.95 is the Occupational Noise Exposure regulation. Loggers are required to provide a Hearing Conservation Program for employees exposed to noise levels of 85 – 110 decibels per eight-hour period. Even though logging equipment has improved tremendously over the years with enclosed cabs and reduced engine and machine noise levels, there are still noise exposures. Generally, while the loud noise exposure is reduced, it is the exposure to high frequency noise levels that may not be detected that may cause hearing problems.

1910.95(c)(1)

The employer shall administer a continuing, effective hearing conservation program, as described in paragraphs (c) through (o) of this section, whenever employee noise exposures equal or exceed an 8-hour time-weighted average sound level (TWA) of 85 decibels measured on the A scale (slow response) or, equivalently, a dose of fifty percent. For purposes of the hearing conservation program, employee noise exposures shall be computed in accordance with appendix A and Table G-16a, and without regard to any attenuation provided by the use of personal protective equipment.

A Hearing Conservation Program should be effective consisting of five areas:

1. Sound level measurements.
2. Audiometric testing and evaluation.
3. Hearing protection.
4. Education.
5. Recordkeeping.

Sound level measurements should be performed to determine the noise level exposures. This assists in determining the type of hearing protection employees need for their different job responsibilities. Insurance companies can provide testing for sound level measurements, the SC Department of Labor has a program to measure noise levels or employers can take their own measurements using a calibrated sound level meter.

Employers should provide hearing testing at least once per year. The first test is called the baseline test. This determines the employee's hearing threshold – the level at which they can just hear a tone presented at each frequency. Then each year thereafter, the annual test is conducted. The results are compared to the baseline to measure changes in hearing. If there is significant change at certain frequencies, known as a Standard Threshold Shift (STS), the employee and incident is recorded on the OSHA-300 Forms.

Employees should be provide adequate hearing protection for the level of noise exposure. This can be in the form of formable, disposal ear plugs, hard rubber plugs, ear muffs, customized hearing protection, etc.

Education is considered to be one of the most important aspects of the hearing conservation program. OSHA requires specific topics be covered in safety sessions on an annual basis.

Recordkeeping is important because should OSHA perform an inspection under Logging Regulation 1910.266, written documentation proves the testing and training were conducted. Employers should keep all employee test results, sound level measurements and records of education sessions including who attended (employee signs roster) and topics covered.

Hearing loss is painless, progressive, permanent and preventable!

House panel wants to spend \$220M of surplus on roads

By Chuck Crumbo
ccrumbo@scbiznews.com
Published June 2, 2015



The S.C. House Ways and Means Committee wants to spend about half of some \$415 million in extra tax revenue on roads and bridges.

The panel voted Monday 23-0 to put \$220 million of surplus funds on transportation projects. About \$150 million of the funds would be directed to counties to cover the cost of road repairs. Another \$70 million would be used to build an interchange on Interstate 26 and improve roads and infrastructure for the Volvo auto plant that's planned to be built in Berkeley County.

Altogether, the state expects to collect about \$415 million in surplus revenue, which is the result of South Carolina's growing economy. About 25% of the money is earmarked for certain programs, while the Legislature has to figure out what to do with the rest.

Besides funding roads, the House panel opted to use the additional funds to pay down debt and expand tax credits for special needs children, said Chairman Brian White, R-Anderson. "This bill addresses critical needs while maintaining a theme of fiscal responsibility and prudent budgeting," White said.

The measure goes before the full House for a vote and then to the Senate, which is mired in a debate of infrastructure spending with just a day remaining in the current session of the General Assembly.

The committee's panel meshes with a recommendation from the S.C. Chamber of Commerce, which has spearheaded efforts to persuade the Legislature and Gov. Nikki Haley to spend more money on the state's roads.

The state Department of Transportation estimates that South Carolina faces an annual shortfall of \$1.5 billion to pay for roads and bridges.

"As the General Assembly debates how to spend this additional ... revenue, it is imperative that a majority of it be allocated to South Carolina's most pressing need: Our state roads and bridges," said Ted Pitts, president and CEO of the S.C. Chamber of Commerce.

"The business community started the legislative session hopeful that the General Assembly would achieve a sustainable, comprehensive funding plan for infrastructure. Though not comprehensive or sustainable, this investment would be another step towards bringing our infrastructure to a suitable condition versus doing nothing."

Haley also has urged the Legislature to spend surplus funds on transportation needs, as well as on paying down debt.



Timber Talk

*Your Voice for South Carolina
Timber Harvesting*

Contact Crad Jaynes at
1-800-371-2240 or bcjpaw@windstream.net

SC Roads Deep in the Red

By: Rick Todd and Bill Ross

South Carolina is a red state politically. What's red-der are our road budget and consequential citizen anger.

We accept much of what Americans for Prosperity stands for. But on funding our road system – the government's largest capital program – user fees work. AFP's sponsors depend on this critical infrastructure for their industries to function and compete.

For all practical purposes in our state, because of population density and traffic patterns, the "government" is the only entity that can provide roads and bridges. And our citizens get the connection between good roads and adequately set, fairly apportioned, efficiently levied, and dedicated road user-fees.

This group is sacrificing political and public credibility by spewing patently false misinformation, hot rhetoric, and gas-tax-demagoguery. And they are taking on, and increasingly alienating their best allies in the process.

This week their noise compelled one of their true conservative senate champions to post: "To all my conservative constituents and the rest of those in South Carolina who continue to receive the annoying Robo calls from AFP that are telling half-truths or in some cases outright lies I apologize as do my fellow senators. We cannot control them. If you would like to call or email them you can do so at (name and phone number of the AFP staffer). I am sure they would love to hear from you. Ask them their plan to fix our crumbling roads."

Staring at a road system that's crumbling from decades of neglect and choked from growth, the tide of public outrage is not with "the system," but with our state legislature's fear-based inability to address the problem.

Our sister states have far better roads and bridge conditions, funded by "gas taxes" more than double

ours. Their economies are competitive, and politicians haven't been thrown out of office because of it. But ours may be if they continue to avoid the inevitable and not do their job.

Screeches that revenues will be used for bike paths, walking trails, and "mass transit" couldn't be further from the truth. Just because our DOT must adhere to federally-mandated long-range planning and suffer the process of seeking all "stakeholder"

input does not mean that any of it must be funded. Quite the contrary, the vast majority of our General Assembly is loath to – and far from – funding such unrelated programs.

Our DOT and legislature are among the best in the nation with minimal diversions of these revenues to non-highway-related purposes. We are polar opposites of our federal counterparts.

SC isn't Washington. Political gridlock that prevents bad policy is good. But when it comes to highway gridlock due to political gridlock, citizens view that as government dysfunction.

It's been a generation since our citizens agreed to pay more for the use of our road system. At that time it was brokered by the Reaganesque Republican Governor Carroll Campbell, and led to tremendous economic development.

The road to prosperity is literally a good road system. Governor Haley has inherited this situation, and wants to minimize the burden. But some net pain at the pump is necessary to eliminate it from our commerce and commutes.

This is the job of the people's legislature.

Rick Todd is President & CEO of the SC Trucking Association and Bill Ross is Executive Director of the South Carolina Alliance to Fix Our Roads. They are life-long SC natives, and active in the broad based industry and highway user Coalition for Road and Bridge Improvements.





WSRI UPDATE

“Improving wood supply operations through research”
Summer 2015

Dear WSRI Members, FRA Members, and Friends:

Welcome to the third issue of the **WSRI UPDATE**, a quarterly E-Newsletter designed to keep you up to date on what’s happening at the Wood Supply Research Institute – where we are *“improving wood supply operations through research.”* Foresters and loggers who want to be added to the mailing list to directly receive the WSRI quarterly e-newsletter should contact WSRI Executive Director Jim Fendig at fendig@bellsouth.net

WSRI Leadership Changes

Crad Jaynes President and CEO of the South Carolina Timber Producers Association was elected the Chair of the Wood Supply Research Institute at its April 2015 Annual Meeting. “Crad will bring excellent leadership and association management skills to WSRI over his two year term,” noted outgoing Chair Danny Norman Senior Portfolio Manager- Brazil, of Resource Management Service. Norman was also recognized and honored at the Meeting for his past two years of service as WSRI Chair.

(Below: Crad Jaynes – Left, Jim Fendig – Center and Danny Norman – Right)



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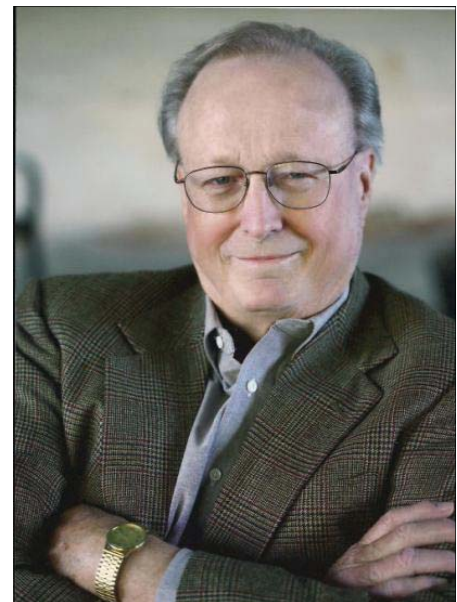
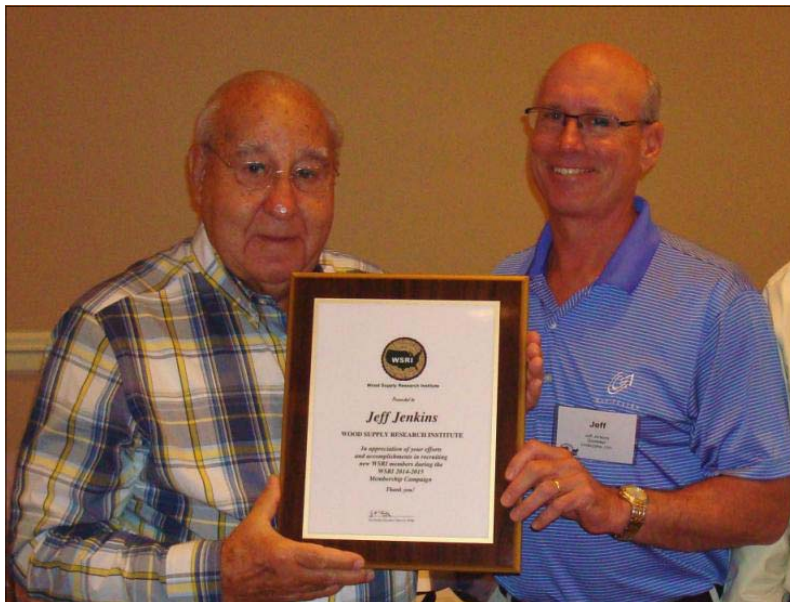
Jim Fendig, WRSI Executive Director also noted, “We look forward to Crad’s leadership to guide WSRI through a transition period this fall and in early 2016 when I retire and a new WSRI Executive Director is hired and put into place at the 2016 WSRI Annual Meeting. The WSRI Executive Director job description and request for applications will be distributed in September 2015.”

In addition David Hudnall, Corporate Forest Resources Environmental Manager LP, was elected Chair of the WSRI Technical Committee.

WSRI National Awards

Jeff Jenkins of Glatfelter and Don Taylor of Sustainable Resource Systems LLC both received WSRI National Membership Awards at the April WSRI Annual Meeting. In making the Awards WSRI Executive Director Jim Fendig noted, “Both Jeff and Don have excelled in their efforts to recruit new WSRI members over the last year. We are very grateful for their outstanding membership recruiting efforts.”

(Below: Jim Fendig – Left, Jeff Jenkins – Right.....Don Taylor – Far Right)



Danny Norman, WRSI Chairman also noted, “New members are the lifeblood of any organization and we appreciate the excellent effort Jeff and Don made to bring new members into our organization.”

WSRI Annual Meeting Research Presentations

- **Logging Cost Index Verification** - The objective of this Project was to assess accuracy of the original Logging Cost Index as well as the representativeness of the logger sample. This Project, awarded in 2013, was carried out by the University of Georgia (UGA) and now has replaced the original Logging Cost Index reported by Stuart & Grace of Mississippi State annually for some 10 years. The new Logging Cost Index is reported quarterly in TIMBER MART-SOUTH. Seven logging cost components were researched for three years and they tracked very closely with the original Stuart & Grace Logging Cost trend lines. Accuracy of Logging Cost estimation had an average deviation of 0.1% (+/- 3.9%). Conclusion: The UGA Logging Cost Index appears to be reasonably accurate measure of logging input cost changes. Variability in logging production is still the major driver of logging cost changes.

(Continued on page 47)

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- **Factors Affecting Fuel Consumption and Harvesting Cost** - Tom Gallagher of Auburn University presented the results of this Research Project, funded jointly by WSRI and The National Council of Air and Stream Improvement (NCASI), to collect and analyze fuel consumption levels on felling, skidding, and loading operations in fourteen states. The Study was able to derive fuel consumption data across a range of conditions, types of equipment, and other variables including a variety of harvesting types, average tree size, and various geographic and ground conditions that impact harvesting costs.

Both Projects will be posted on the WSRI web page www.WSRI.org

WSRI Facebook Page Update

Since its launch in October 2014 the WSRI Facebook Page has received 100+ likes (followers). We encourage all foresters and loggers with an interest in the wood supply chain to check out the WSRI Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/woodsupplyresearchinstitute> and to click the “like” and “follow” buttons so you can keep abreast of the latest wood supply research developments.

Research Project Selection Process

- WSRI receives proposals from anyone year round. **We encourage you to submit a research proposal that will improve wood supply chain operations!**
- Proposals format is a brief three part email communication. 1 - Name of Project & background of need, 2 - Expected deliverables, and 3 - How Project data might be used. Send proposal to fendig@bellsouth.net .
- Proposal will be reviewed by WSRI Technical Team. Selected proposal will be sent to potential researchers with request for RFP’s. A final research project selection will be made by the Technical Team and sent to WSRI Board for approval.
- Completed research Project is made available on the WSRI web site—<http://wsri.org/> and through a Technical Release published by FRA.

WSRI Editorial Board Briefings

WSRI continues on an ambitious schedule of Editorial Board Briefings with major Forestry and Logging Magazines. Recent briefings have been conducted with the Editors of the ***Louisiana Forests and People and Louisiana Logger Magazines, Great Lakes TPA Magazine, Virginia Forests, Forest Business Network E-Newsletter, and the Maine Forest Products Council E-Newsletter***. Past briefings have resulted in articles and coverage in the Journal of Forestry, Forest Business Network E-Newsletter, and Great Lakes TPA magazine and other magazines/newsletters. **Also as a direct result of an editorial briefing Buck Vandersteen, Executive Director of the Louisiana Forestry Association requested and was granted a time slot at the National Council of Forestry Association Executives Meeting in July to speak to his peers about the value association membership in WSRI.** Additional Editorial Briefings over the summer are now being scheduled.

(Continued on page 48)

(Continued from page 47)

WSRI Ads

The WSRI Board again offers special thanks to DK Knight of Hatton-Brown Publications for developing color and black and white WSRI public service advertisements. Also for volunteering to run the WSRI adds for three months (complimentary!) in *Timber Harvesting* and *Southern Loggin' Times*.

 <p>Wood Supply Research Institute <i>"Improving wood supply operations through research"</i></p> <p>Are you interested in taking part to improve the efficiency, productivity and profitability of your forest management or timber harvesting and transportation operations?</p> <p>WE CAN HELP!</p> <p>Please visit: www.wsri.org or contact: WSRI Executive Director Jim Fendig fendig@bellsouth.net 912-598-8023</p>	 <p>Wood Supply Research Institute <i>"Improving wood supply operations through research"</i></p> <p>Are you interested in taking part to improve the efficiency, productivity and profitability of your forest management or timber harvesting and transportation operations?</p> <p>WE CAN HELP!</p> <p>Please visit: www.wsri.org or contact: WSRI Executive Director Jim Fendig fendig@bellsouth.net 912-598-8023</p>
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We also are grateful and offer thanks to other WSRI partners including *Timber Mart-South, Kentucky Forest Industries Association, Louisiana Forestry Association, Virginia Forestry Association, Michigan Association of Timbermen, Timber West Magazine, South Carolina Forestry Association, RISI and Virginia Forest Products Association* who have also run these WSRI "public service" ads in their publications. Please help us out by running the WSRI public service ads in your publications or newsletters.....contact Richard Lewis at rlewis7575@aol.com for camera ready copies of the ads.

With best wishes,

Crad

Crad Jaynes, WSRI Board of Directors Chair.

Jim

Jim Fendig, WSRI Executive Director

The Wood Supply Research Institute (WSRI) is a joint project of professional loggers, forest landowners, wood consuming mills, educators, and manufacturers that facilitates and funds research to promote and improve efficiency in the wood supply system.

Teachers Tour 2015

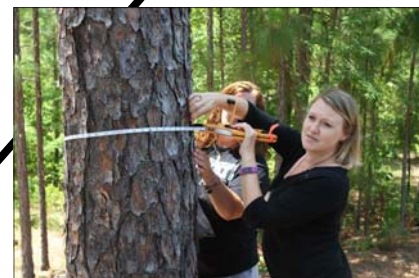


Photo Gallery



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JOHN DEERE

440B, 540B, 548B, 648B, 648G, 648GII, 648GIII, 748GII, 748GIII, 643, 643D, 643G, 843G, 843H, 653E, 753 & 848

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WWW.WWTRACTOR.COM

843.761.8220



Mark Your Calendar

JULY 2015

24 – 25 American Loggers Council, Summer Board Meeting, Duluth, MN

AUGUST 2015

12 & 13 2-Day TOP SFI Training Class, Georgetown. Contact Sally Tucker, SC Forestry Association, 803-798-4170, for registration.

25 Newberry District Meeting, Farm Bureau, Wilson Blvd, 7 p.m.

27 SCTPA Board of Directors Meeting, SC Forestry Commission Headquarters, 10:00 a.m., Columbia.

District meeting dates may be changed. Meeting notices will be mailed prior to scheduled meeting.

Meeting dates will be posted on SCTPA website ... www.sclloggers.com.

Members & Non-Members are encouraged to attend our district meetings to know what the issues are affecting the industry.

Need SFI Trained DVD Class or other training?

SCTPA can provide the New DVD Training Module for SFI Trained status. SCTPA is an approved DVD training class facilitator and will be scheduling classes during the year. Other training programs are available 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.

SCTPA Board of Directors

Chairman: Billy McKinney

Highland Timber Co., LLC.
Union
Cell 864-429-6939

Vice Chairman: Joseph "BoBo" Seckinger

Seckinger Forest Products, Inc.
Hampton
Cell 803-571-0019

Secretary-Treasurer: Robby Crowder

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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.