



# TIMBER TALK

*Your Voice for South Carolina Timber Harvesting*

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2014

## AS WE SEE IT ...

AMERICAN LOGGERS COUNCIL

NOVEMBER 2014



### PERCEPTION



Perception is complex constructions of simple elements joined through association and is subject to the influence of learning. Perception can result from a catastrophic event or a description provided by someone you trust.

When it comes to professional timber harvesters, perception is all over the board. Absent education, a bad or false perception will linger forever. There are many people in this country that would be content if trees were never harvested again; they are comfortable in their perception that boards come from the lumber yards, not from the forest.

The United States has more forested acres today than 100 years ago; this can be credited to

many factors including our industries interest in sustainability. Few people understand this and education is needed to change this perception. Our industry has done a poor job of educating the public whether by word or deed. During this same period the environmental industry has

done a great job distorting the facts and fueling their coffers on people's emotions.

If in fact environmental standards were the leading factor governing fiber purchase, the public would demand a halt to fiber importation into this country. The general public seems to like the idea of the regulatory environment we are burdened with as they approve of all these layers of Government oversight. The market place proves that they are equally concerned with the cost of

***The public needs to recognize we operate under the most stringent rules anywhere in the world.***

the products we produce. This leaves our industry trying to figure out how to cover the cost associated with these regulations and continue to compete in a worldwide market. Many simple things can be done to help the public better understand how our industry supplies fiber to the market place in an environmentally sound manner. The public needs to recognize we operate under the most stringent rules anywhere in the world.

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Loggers are stubborn people, overly optimistic, and for some odd reason relish doing things others say can't be done. Forty years ago working harder could bring about positive results, but that is not necessarily true anymore. Loggers today spend too much time concerned with where the next job will come from, instead of what all businesses should be concerned with, whether or not it makes good business sense to take it. Our concern over "surviving" until the next job or logging season distract us from the real need to educate the public in order to retain our "social" license to operate.

Perception can be influenced through education and it is up to us because we understand what it takes to harvest timber in this country. First, we need to insure that our fellow loggers all have the best business tools to deal with the environment we are working in. Second the timber harvesting community needs to educate everyone we come in contact with on exactly what it is that we do, the quality of our work, and the reasons we do it. No one else is going to do this for us, so we must be proactive when it comes to educating others and don't let these opportunities slip by. We, after all, are the ones that cut down the trees, making it is easy to point a finger at us and call us the bad guys. The public needs to understand that we do it while meeting burdensome environmental regulations and all of the other associated rules and regulations that go into operating a business in this country. We

are a lucky industry because we work with renewable resources that if managed correctly will be around forever, not all industries can say the same.

With the holidays upon us I hope it gives the timber harvesting community time to think about where our industry is, and where we are going. I hope that consideration will be given to educating others this coming year on exactly what it is we do out in the woods each and every day. We can be a community that cuts down trees or we can be a dedicated industry of environmental stewards working hard to sustain a renewable resource and provide jobs that ensure livelihoods to families and communities. Perception means a lot to children and adults seeking more information on this subject and we need to do a better job of educating everyone, including those we work for, on what it is we do.

Happy Holidays.

*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](http://www.americanloggers.org) or contact their office at 409-625-0206.*

## Wood pellet-maker investing \$110M in Greenwood County

Staff Report

gsanews@scbiznews.com

Published Dec. 15, 2014

***Portuguese wood pellet manufacturer Portucel S.A. is adding 70 jobs at a new facility in Greenwood County's Emerald Road Industrial Corridor.***

***Hiring will begin in January.***



Portucel — a forest, pulp, paper and energy company — is Europe's largest producer of woodfree uncoated paper, a S.C. Department of Commerce statement said today. The company has total paper capacity of 1.5 million tons annually and eucalyptus pulp capacity of 1.3 million tons. Production is based at three mills in Portugal.

The operation in Greenwood County will be the company's first in South Carolina. Portucel's new facility is expected to have a production capacity of 460,000 tons annually when fully operational.

The state Coordinating Council for Economic Development has approved a \$150,000 grant to assist with road, site and infrastructure work. There are also job development credits related to the project.



# SCTPA 2015 ANNUAL MEETING

## ON THE REBOUND!

Our 2015 Annual Meeting will be held February 6 -8 at the Springmaid Beach Resort & Conference Center, 3200 South Ocean Boulevard, Myrtle Beach, SC.

*On The Rebound!* That's our theme for this meeting. You may ask why? Our economy is recovering in the forest products industry and particularly in the timber harvesting segment where professional loggers and wood suppliers find their services in high demand. Why? ... Well the economic attrition caused many logging businesses to go out and now, there is a reduction in the number of timber harvesting businesses and an influx of new businesses or businesses expanding their operations to meet the wood supply demands of current and growing wood receiving markets.

We are excited to be back meeting at the impressive Springmaid Beach Resort and Conference Center, Myrtle Beach. Our standard rooms are connected to the conference center. Other rooms with a king size bed or one and two bedroom suites are located across the property with easy access to the conference center.

SCTPA will utilize the second and third floors of the conference center. The second floor will be for registration, exhibitors and speaker presentations. There is plenty of room for exhibitors. We'll also utilize the parking lot for outside exhibitors with equipment, trucks and trailers.

The third floor will be used for the Friday night reception, Saturday breakfast and lunch and Sunday's prayer breakfast. The third floor has a panoramic view of the beach and Atlantic Ocean.

Marlin's is the on-site restaurant and Barnacles restaurant is located on Springmaid Pier adjacent to the resort.

Our featured Saturday luncheon speaker will be Myles Anderson, Anderson Logging, Inc., Fort Bragg, California. Myles is President of American loggers Council and co-owner along with his father Mike of Anderson Logging, Inc. in Fort Bragg, California.

California is absolutely a 360-degree turn from what we in SC know about. It is incredible the amount of red tape, regulations and environmental pressures Anderson Logging has to deal with to harvest timber in California. Myles will relate to our folks what it is like to do business in the, as his father Mike

says, "The Peoples Republic of California." And you think we got issues. "You Just Don't Know!"

On Saturday morning, we are excited to have Wendy Farrand of WFarrand Consulting of Limerick, Maine. Wendy has been in the logging business and knows our industry from the ground up. Her acclaimed workshops have been presented to Logger Associations in the Northeast, Lake States, Oregon, Washington and other states around the country. She is a board member of the Northeast Loggers Association.

With emphasis of loggers being in demand, new loggers are starting up, other businesses are expanding and the wood supply demand to receiving markets has put the timber harvesting segment under pressure. Not that this is a bad thing. But ... there is a need for labor, trucking and production capacity. So how will you meet the demands?

Wendy will present ... *How To Build A Kick@#% Logging Team...* as it takes a "Team" to make the business work. This hour and half session will provide insights into new and innovative ways to build a "great" logging team.

Returning on Saturday morning will be Attorney Rob Moseley of Smith Moore & Leatherwood in Greenville. He was invited back due to not being able to get into his full presentation regarding Subcontract Trucker Relationships due to time restraints. Rob is one of the foremost trucking attorneys nationwide. He will detail the liabilities of using a subcontract hauler and how general contractors can protect themselves from inherent liabilities.

**Saturday afternoon will feature a TOP session to view the required SFI Training DVD to obtain the SFI Trained status for the annual period of July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015.**

Friday's schedule will be a board of directors meeting, afternoon registration and evening welcome reception with food and entertainment. Friday's Welcome Reception entertainment will feature the No Holds Barred Band-DJ-KJ Mix.

Saturday features general session speakers, luncheon with speaker, association business session, board member elections and awards and Saturday evening

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free. We'll also have our prize drawings for the Honda ATV or Pioneer and Honda Generator and free stay at Springmaid Beach Resort.

Our Silent Auction will be available with a variety of nice items for bidding. Please donate an item. The prize drawings and silent auction help the association financially.

Exhibitors will be on hand with their products and services. And of course there will be plenty of door prizes. We'll draw a winner for another gun or nice item on Saturday during the business session.

**Discounted Carolina Opry** tickets for the Saturday evening show February 7th are available for \$28 each and can be ordered with your meeting registration. That's a \$15 per ticket savings.

Sunday morning's prayer breakfast will feature The Pine Ridge Boys for an uplifting and faithful southern gospel service.

**Contact the Springmaid Beach Resort directly to make** your room reservations. SCTPA's room reservation code is 1081CD. Call Springmaid Beach Resort Reservations at 1-877-283-3284 **Room block cut off is January 1, 2015.**

Registration, sponsor and exhibitor packages will be forwarded. Check out Springmaid Beach Resort at [SpringmaidBeach.com](http://SpringmaidBeach.com).

Our meeting is a casual family atmosphere. We encourage everyone to bring your family and employees. Dress is business casual. We ask that attire suited for a business meeting is worn.

Go ahead now and block the dates to join us February 6 – 8 for our 16th Annual Membership Meeting. Brenda and I look forward to seeing you in Myrtle Beach.

Yours truly,

***Crad Jaynes***

President & CEO

ANNUAL MEETING SPONSORSHIP & EXHIBITOR INFORMATION & REGISTRATION PACKAGES WILL BE MAILED TO ALL REGULAR MEMBERS AS WELL AS ALLIED SUPPLIER & ALLIED SUPPORTING MEMBERS & NON-MEMBERS.

**... Springmaid Beach Resort Reservations ...  
Call Reservations Direct @ 1-877-283-3284  
SPECIFY SCTPA CODE NUMBER 1081CD  
Room Block Rates Expire January 1, 2015.**

## Proposed SCTPA Bylaws Amendment

This proposed amendment is to amend Article III. Board of Directors, Section 2. Number, Tenure and Qualifications of the current SC Timber Producers Association bylaws.

The amendment establishes the Board of Directors will be constituted of eleven (11) board members as opposed to the previous nine (9) board members.

The proposed amendment is presented to the membership as published in this November / December 2014 *Timber Talk* issue.

Bylaw amendment recommendation will be presented to the membership for vote on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of February 2015 at the Annual Membership Business Meeting at Springmaid Beach Resort Conference Center, Myrtle Beach, SC. Upon approval by majority vote of the membership present the amendments will be installed into the bylaws.

## 2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINATIONS NEEDED

Three Board of Directors Seats will need to be elected at our February 7, 2015 Annual Membership Meeting at the Springmaid Beach Resort & Conference Center, Myrtle Beach, SC.

The board term for Seat 6 served by Tommy Barnes, Ideal Logging, Inc., Seat 7 served by Danny McKittrick, McKittrick Timber, LLC, and Seat 9 served by Joe Young, Low Country Forest Products, Inc., expiring December 31, 2014.

Nominations are welcomed for the three seats. These expiring board members, at this time and as of this Timber Talk issue, have not indicated as to whether any one or all will run for re-election. However, nominations are encouraged regardless to be submitted for these board seats.

Board member elections will be conducted during the Member Business Session of the Membership Meeting convening at noon on Saturday, February 7, 2015.

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

Board members are responsible to attend board meetings and local district meetings. Plus, promote professional timber harvesting in SC, seek SCTPA members, represent the association at events where needed and promote the association. One board meeting is conducted at the annual meeting with bi-monthly meetings held in Columbia beginning in February each year.

Any member solely and directly engaged in the logging business and in good standing with paid dues as of December 31, 2014, may be nominated for any of the upcoming seats. Any member regardless of location is eligible for nomination. Logger members are encouraged to enter your name or the name of another logger member as an eligible candidate.

To enter your name for nomination or to nominate someone else, please contact the Nominations Committee or SCTPA office no later than January 15, 2015.

Thanks for your assistance in this important association process.

### Nominations Committee

*Chairman, Rickey Chapman, Chapman Timber, Inc., Newberry*

Office/Home 803-276-0717 ■ Fax 803-276-5310 ■ Cell 803-924-0082 ■ [betsylee48@yahoo.com](mailto:betsylee48@yahoo.com)

*Robby Crowder, Land & Timber, LLC, Greenwood*

Office 864-223-0542 ■ Fax 864-223-1581 ■ Cell 864-941-6052 ■ [rlcrowderjr@gmail.com](mailto:rlcrowderjr@gmail.com)

*Donnie Lambert, Leo Lambert Logging, Inc., Georgetown*

Office 843-264-8839 ■ Fax 843-264-2277 ■ Cell 843-340-8408 ■ [DonnieLeoLambert@gmail.com](mailto:DonnieLeoLambert@gmail.com)



# 16<sup>TH</sup> SCTPA Annual Membership Meeting

## MEETING AT A GLANCE

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6

- 1:00 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting... Members & Guests Welcome  
3:00 p.m. Registration Desk... Open Until 8:00 p.m.  
7:00 p.m. Welcome Reception... Food, Music & Dancing with a *DJ!*

### Conference Center

- Live Oaks Bldg  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7

- 6:30 a.m. Member & Guests Breakfast  
6:45 a.m. Registration Desk Opens  
8:00 a.m. General Session  
Welcome, Invocation, Antitrust Statement & Announcements  
Speaker: Wendy Farrand, WFarrand Consulting, Limerick, Maine  
“How To Build A Kick@#% Logging Team” Workshop  
Morning Break  
Speaker: Rob Moseley, Smith Moore Leatherwood, Subcontract Trucker Relationships & Inherent Liabilities to General Contractor & How to Protect Yourself  
8:30 a.m. Ladies Breakfast  
11:45 a.m. Break for Luncheon  
12:00 p.m. Membership Luncheon & Business Meeting  
12:45 p.m. Chairman’s Welcome, Board of Directors Introductions & Announcements  
Speaker: Myles Anderson, Anderson Logging, Inc., Fort Bragg, CA, & American Loggers Council President, “Logging in the Peoples Republic of California – You Just Don’t Know!”  
Business Session: Chairman’s Report, Financial Report, Bylaws Report, Board Elections, Awards & Special Presentations, Door Prizes & Prize Drawings  
2:45 p.m. Afternoon Break  
3:00 p.m. Workshop: SFI Trained TOP DVD Module for SFI Training For July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015 SFI Trained Status  
5:00 p.m. Adjourn  
Saturday Evening On Your Own. Enjoy Your Evening!  
DISCOUNTED CAROLINA OPRY TICKETS Available At Registration Desk.

### Conference Center

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

- 8:00 a.m. Prayer Breakfast  
9:00 a.m. Special Guest: *Pine Ridge Boys*  
10:05 a.m. Silent Auction Announcements & Final Comments  
10:30 a.m. Adjourn Meeting

### Conference Center

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

### Silent Auction Bidding Hours - Conference Center

Friday, 5:00 – 9:30 p.m. Saturday, 7:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Sunday, 7:00 – 9:00 a.m.

### EXHIBITOR HOURS - CONFERENCE CENTER

Friday, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. Saturday, 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Sunday, 7:30 – 9:30 a.m.

PARKING LOT FOR EQUIPMENT, TRUCKS & TRAILERS

***THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR 2015 ANNUAL MEETING!***

# 2015 ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION

## February 6 - 8, 2015

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE. COMPLETE ALL INFORMATION BELOW.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Badge Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Contact #: Work \_\_\_\_\_ Home \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/Guest Name \_\_\_\_\_ Badge Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Please list any additional names & badge names separately or on the back. Thanks!**

	Early Registration	After January 15, 2015
	#                      \$	#                      \$
<b>Member *</b>	_____ @ \$ 185 = _____.	_____ @ \$ 215 = _____.
<b>Member Spouse *</b>	_____ @ \$ 85 = _____.	_____ @ \$ 95 = _____.
<b>Active Member Employee **</b>	_____ @ \$ 90 = _____.	_____ @ \$ 100 = _____.
<b>Active Member Employee Spouse</b>	_____ @ \$ 70 = _____.	_____ @ \$ 80 = _____.
<b>SATURDAY, FEB. 7 ONLY</b>	_____ @ \$ 170 = _____.	_____ @ \$ 190 = _____.
<b>Non-Member</b>	_____ @ \$ 225 = _____.	_____ @ \$ 245 = _____.
<b>Non-Member Spouse</b>	_____ @ \$ 90 = _____.	_____ @ \$ 95 = _____.
<b>Children - Per Child – Age 6 – 18</b> <small>Children Under 6 – No Charge</small>	_____ @ \$ 35 = _____.	
<b>Discounted Carolina Opry Tickets</b> <small>Saturday Evening Show, FEB. 7, 7 p.m. Tickets Are Non-Refundable Save \$ 18.00 Per Ticket</small>	_____ @ \$ 28 Per Person = \$ _____.	
<b>TOTAL \$ DUE &amp; PAID \$</b>		_____.

\* Please Refer to Member & Active Member Employee Descriptions Below \*

**Return Completed Registration & Check Payable To: SC Timber Producers Association (SCTPA)**

Members \* = Active Members, Allied Supplier Members & Allied Supporting Members with Paid Dues.  
**Active Member Employee \*\* = Active Logger, Wood Dealer or Trucker Member Sponsored Employees Only** not an owner, partner or corporate officer of active member's business. Supervisors & employees are encouraged to attend.  
**All other Non logger, dealer or trucker active members use member registration rates per person attending.**  
 Call SCTPA if questions.

**RESERVE YOUR ROOMS DIRECTLY WITH SPRINGMAID BEACH RESORT.**  
**CALL RESERVATIONS 1- 877- 283- 3284 OR 843-315-7100 ... REFER TO GROUP # 1081CD**  
 ... OR ... Use Springmaid Beach Reservation Form. ROOM BLOCK CUT-OFF IS JANUARY 1, 2015.  
*Direct Room Inquiries to Springmaid Beach Resort. Springmaid Beach Room Cancellation Policy Applies.*

SCTPA Cancellation Policy: Full refund if written cancellation received by January 1, 2015. 50% refund if written cancellation request received by January 10, 2015. NO REFUND after January 10, 2015.

**Additional Names for Annual Meeting Registration & Name Badges:**

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**2015 Annual Meeting Registration Credit Card Payment**

Total Registration Fees \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Carolina Opry Fees (If Applicable) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**Credit Card Fee \$ 5.00**  
**Total Amount Charged \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Credit Card Used: **VISA**      **MASTERCARD**      **DISCOVER**  
(Circle Card Used)

Card Holder Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Verification Number on Back of Card: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Three or Four Digit Number on Back of Card)

Card Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Billing Address Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

I agree to pay according to the Terms & Conditions of the Card Used.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name



## 2014 Logger Activist Award Nomination

Nominations for SCTPA's **2014 Gene Collins Logger Activist of the Year Award** are being sought. Award will be presented at the 2015 Annual Membership Business Luncheon and Meeting convening at noon, Saturday, February 7, 2015 at the Springmaid Beach Resort & Conference Center, Myrtle Beach, SC.

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

You may nominate a SCTPA Logger Member or yourself. Contact the Nominations Committee or SCTPA office by January 15, 2015. Thank you for your nomination.

### Nominations Committee

*Chairman, Rickey Chapman, Chapman Timber, Inc., Newberry*

Office/Home 803-276-0717 ■ Fax 803-276-5310 ■ Cell 803-924-0082 ■ [betsylee48@yahoo.com](mailto:betsylee48@yahoo.com)

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## 2013 Logger Activist Award Nomination

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

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*Use Additional Pages If Needed*



## LOGGING MATS

**Double-Bolted Ends  
Full  
2-Inch x 8-Inch x 16-Foot  
Oak Mats**

**Contact  
MAC's Farm Supply  
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Round O, SC 29474  
843-835-5050  
Mac McClendon**



Mats in shown photos are not actual MAC's Farm Supply products & shown for viewing purposes only.

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Adairsville, GA Columbus, GA Savannah, GA  
Andrews, SC Cuthbert, GA Simpsonville, SC  
Atlanta, GA Dothan, AL Troy, AL  
Aynor, SC Grovetown, GA Walterboro, SC  
Braselton, GA Ladson, SC West Columbia, SC

229-888-1212



Albany, GA North Carolina  
Alabama South Carolina  
Florida Tennessee  
Georgia The Caribbean

229-888-1900



## ALC Washington Report – November 25, 2014



### 2014 Election and the 114<sup>th</sup> Congress

Republicans picked up eight Senate seats this election cycle and is poised to pick up a ninth seat when Louisiana Senator Mary Landrieu (D-LA) squares off against Congressman Bill Cassidy (R-LA) in a December 6 runoff election. Republicans also picked up twelve seats in the House. Republicans will control both chambers of Congress for the first time in a decade.

Congressman Steve Southerland (R-FL) was one of only two Republican Congressmen who failed to win their seats in the House. Congressman Southerland introduced the Right to Haul Act, H.R. 5201, on July 24, 2014, which allows state legal weight tolerances on the Federal Interstate Highway System, which the ALC supported. The ALC will be looking for another sponsor to reintroduce the bill when the 114<sup>th</sup> Congress convenes in January.

Congressman Rob Bishop (R-UT) will chair the House Natural Resources Committee with the retirement of

*(Continued on page 12)*



**WORKING TOGETHER TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE  
TIMBER INDUSTRY IN SOUTH CAROLINA**



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*(Continued from page 11)*

Congressman Doc Hastings (R-WA). Congressman Raul Grijalva (D-AZ) has been selected as the next Ranking Member on Natural Resources.

Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) will chair the Senate Energy and natural Resources Committee as well as the Senate Interior Appropriations Subcommittee, which funds the Department of Interior, Forest Service and other agencies.

In the meantime, the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress is currently scheduled to be in session for just two more weeks before adjourning for the year. Work left to be done includes passing a spending bill to fund the government when the current Continuing Resolution expires on December 11<sup>th</sup> to avoid another government shutdown.

### **Senate Committee Passes Misguided Wyden O& C Bill**

On November 13<sup>th</sup>, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee passed an amended version of Senator Ron Wyden's (D-OR) "Oregon and California Land Grant Act of 2014," S. 1784, by a vote of 15-7. While the Committee struggled to establish a quorum, there were enough present to pass the Bill out of Committee. Extensive comments were submitted by the counties and the forest products industry as to the language in the Bill, which serves only to set aside an additional 1.8 million acres for permanent protection in the form of wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, old growth protections, and a number of other special conservation areas while subjecting the limited acreage that remains open for forest management to the same regulatory paralysis and litigation that stymies management today.

The ALC joined in with the American Forest Resource Council, the Associated Oregon Loggers, and Douglas Timber Operators opposing the Bill with comments sent directly to Chairman Mary Landrieu (D-LA) and Ranking Member Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) who both ended up voting in favor of the Bill.

Senator Wyden has promised to attach his proposal to a must-pass tax or spending bill in the waning days of the Lame Duck Congress, but his chances of making that happen are unclear. The ALC will continue to work with members of the House of Representatives to try and prevent the passage of this legislation in its current form. The House passed a bipartisan bill to restore balance to management of O&C lands in September 2013, sponsored by Congressmen Peter DeFazio (D-OR), Kurt Schrader (D-OR) and Greg Walden (R-OR) in 2013, but it appears that Senator Wyden has no interest in negotiating with the House.

### **U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Reopens Comment Period On Proposed Listing Of The Northern Long-Eared Bat**

On Tuesday, November 18, 2014, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS), the agency responsible for determining whether land-based wildlife species should be listed for protection under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), announced that it was reopening the comment period on its proposal to list the Northern Long-Eared Bat (NLEB) as endangered. The public comment period has now been extended for the third time from November 18, 2014 to December 18, 2014, although the deadline for FWS to make a final decision on listing the NLEB remains April 2, 2015.

### **EPA Releases Revised Draft of the Framework for Assessing Biogenic CO2 Emissions from Stationary Sources**

On November 19th, Janet G. McCabe, Acting Assistant Administrator for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a memo emphasizing the critical role that America's forests play in addressing carbon pollution in the United States by removing nearly 12 percent of total greenhouse gas emissions each year from the atmosphere. EPA plans to propose revisions to the PSD rules that will exempt from the Best Available Control Technology (BACT) requirement GHG emissions from waste-derived feedstocks and from non-waste biogenic feedstocks derived from sustain-

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(Continued from page 12)

able forestry practices. For non-waste biogenic feedstocks to be exempt from BACT requirements, EPA plans to allow permit applicants to demonstrate that these feedstocks come from sustainably managed lands. EPA plans to issue additional PSD BACT guidance related to biomass feedstocks.

### **Forest Inventory Analysis**

The ALC has joined in with other industry and for-

est-related organizations requesting that the Forest Inventory Analysis (FIA) be fully funded in 2015 as part of an omnibus appropriations bill. The data and information collected by FIA serves as the basis for: identifying trends in forest ownership; assessing fish and wildlife habitat; evaluating wildfire, insect, and disease risk; predicting the spread of invasive species; determining capital investment in existing forest products facilities and selecting locations for new forest product facilities; and identifying and responding to priorities identified in State Forest Action Plans.



## **FMCSA to immediately suspend restrictions in restart provision**

By Jami Jones, Land Line managing editor  
December 16, 2014

**W**ith the anticipated signing of the giant government spending bill by the president, many in the trucking industry are wondering when the changes to the voluntary 34-hour restart provision will be felt on the road.

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration issued a statement, saying the agency would immediately suspend the requirement that each restart contain two 1 a.m. to 5 a.m. overnights and the prohibition on using the provision more frequently than once every seven days.

“When the president signs the 2015 budget bill into law, the provision which suspends enforcement of the restart restrictions in the hours of service rule will become effective. FMCSA is preparing a Federal Register notice that will also be posted on our website, to advise the public that it is suspending enforcement of the restart restrictions as required by law. We are also working to ensure that the 12,000 state and federal motor carrier enforcement personnel are prepared to revert back to the previous restart,” the release stated.

The changes to the voluntary 34-hour restart come thanks to an amendment introduced by Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine. The Collins amendment would suspend the overnight provisions and the restriction on using the restart once every seven days while the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration conducts a comprehensive study – with input from the Office of Inspector General – to see if these changes are truly justified.

The amendment also contains a lengthy detailing of how the study will be conducted, peer reviewed and approved by the Department of Transportation Office of Inspector General.

The Owner-Operator Independent Drivers Association backed the amendment and thanked Collins for her leadership on the issue.

“OOIDA and small-business truckers applaud the House and Senate for rejecting scare tactics and misinformation and maintaining the bipartisan hours-of-service provision,” said OOIDA Executive Vice President Todd Spencer in a press release.

“Small-business truckers know from personal experience that current restart restrictions compromise safety by forcing them onto the roads during the most congested and dangerous hours of morning traffic. While this isn’t the final word on the restart restrictions, OOIDA and our members thank Sen. Collins for her commitment to safety and her tenacity in fighting for sound policy.”

While the suspension will be immediate, there could be hiccups in roadside enforcement OOIDA cautioned. The Association recommends drivers keep a copy of FMCSA’s statement and the upcoming Federal Register notice with them in the event they encounter roadside enforcement unaware of the change.



### Experience Matters



Logging equipment can come in all different sizes, shapes, colors and ages. Equipment can be old, new, dirty or clean. Machines can cut down trees, skid them, process them and put them on a truck, but one thing they all have in common is that they need a skilled operator to make them productive.

Daily costs may vary across the country depending on what kind of logging is taking place but production is what drives cost, and everyone must be concerned with cost of production. Cost can be measured per ton or thousand board feet, but in either case production is the most important factor and it can be tracked right back to the quality and experience of employees operating the equipment.

Logging has shifted towards mechanization across the country and employing and retaining experienced equipment operators is a necessity, however they are also a necessity to the construction, oil and gas, and any other industry whose business requires the use of heavy equipment.

Anyone who has operated equipment knows what level of coordination and concentration is required to run an excavator or a bulldozer, but what about a processor that falls, limbs and bucks a tree to very tight tolerances. Tolerances that if not met may result in penalties, and loss of revenue. Are the people that are operating these highly sophisticated and expensive machines compensated more than someone that operates an excavator on a highway project?

A little research on the Bureau of Labor Statistics paints a pretty clear picture of where we have been. The data is a little sketchy prior to 1999 so let's use that as a starting point for comparison. In 1999 the mean annual income for a logging equipment operator was \$25,390. Fast forward to 2013 and the mean annual income for the same operator was \$34,700. The Bureau of Labor Statistics also had an inflation calculator and when the 1999 wage of \$25,390 was plugged in out came a 2013 wage of \$35,502, showing that we

have not even kept up with inflation. We are paying operators less today than we were in 1999 and the equipment is much more complex to operate.

For comparison a construction equipment operator in the same tables was making \$34,760 in 1999 and \$48,605 in 2013. Good, hardworking productive employees are going to go where they are best compensated for their work; this is why we constantly hear about logging companies trying to train new equipment operators in house. Conversations are abundant about the rising cost of fuel, insurance, and equipment but what we should be talking about is how we can pay our employees more so that they will stay in the forest products industry. Hard working men and women have a distinct trait that cannot be taught, and if not appreciated and compensated for those traits, they often go somewhere else.

In a fantasy world we could simply print money as is the case with our Federal government. The change in SIC code 901 for federal employee's shows the median annual income in 1999 was \$43,600 and in 2013 it rose to \$71,700. Inflation during the period would put their 1999 wage at \$60,950 in 2013. Next time a federal employee tells you how hard they are working you can remind them that they are getting well compensated for that work.

Loggers are being asked to increase production as our economy slowly improves. As the number of inexperienced people entering the work force grows; so will our exposure to accidents and possibly poor public perception of the industry. Productivity losses resulting in higher production costs may also be experienced unless we train and retain good employees. Our industry will be much better served by keeping the experienced employees we currently have and augmenting them with new, trained, professional and reliable employees. How this industry deals with their employees

*(Continued on page 15)*



(Continued from page 14)

will, for good or bad, reflect on each of us. If we do not work together to attract and retain employees with pay rates that are comparable to similar trades, we will continue to lose good people to higher paying industries.

*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](http://www.americanloggers.org) or contact their office at 409-625-0206.*



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**December 2, 2014**

## **SFI® Community Comes Together to Celebrate the People's Tree at the U.S. Capitol**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** — The Capitol Christmas Tree, also known as the People's Tree, is being lit today thanks to people like Jim Scheff. He harvested the towering 88-foot-tall white spruce from the Chippewa National Forest in northeastern Minnesota. Scheff won the Logger of the Year Award from the Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Inc. (SFI) Minnesota Implementation Committee.

The People's Tree is chosen every year by the U.S. Forest Service. It is a powerful symbol of the relationship between the American people and the land. The tree stopped in 30 communities en route to the Capitol in time for the start of the Christmas season.

School kids, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts and adults all had a chance to see the Christmas tree and take part in Christmas craft workshops. The tour was also a chance to tell the SFI story about the integral

role sustainable forest management plays in maintaining healthy forests and providing wildlife habitat, recreational opportunities and thriving communities.

An SFI Implementation Committee from Minnesota will also place two ornaments on the Capitol Christmas tree today to celebrate the warmth and good will of the holiday season. The ornaments will mark the contribution sustainable forestry makes to communities across America. SFI Implementation Committees across North America bring people together to work for the future of forests.



(Continued on page 16)

*(Continued from page 15)*

Professional loggers like Scheff are a big part of sustainable forestry. They are using and influencing best management practices aimed at protecting water and other key parts of the forest environment. Scheff is a member of the Minnesota Logger Education Program and a Minnesota Certified Master Logger. These two programs provide the training and certification needed to meet the requirements in the SFI Standard for Qualified Logging Professionals and Certified Logging Professionals.

SFI's logger training requirements and support of programs like Minnesota Logger Education Program help to ensure loggers have the training needed for safe, productive and environmentally responsible timber harvesting. In 2013, more than 7,500 loggers and resource professionals took part in SFI sponsored training aimed at continuous improvement.

"We were honored to be a part of this annual Christmas tradition. Keeping America's forests as healthy, sustainable working forests is a gift that generations to come will enjoy," said Kathy Abusow, President and CEO of SFI Inc.

#### **About Sustainable Forestry Initiative Inc. (SFI)**

SFI Inc. is an independent, nonprofit organization that is solely responsible for maintaining, overseeing and improving the internationally recognized Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) program. Across the United States and Canada, about 250 million acres are certified to the SFI forest management standard. In addition, the SFI program's unique fiber-sourcing requirements promote responsible forest management on all suppliers' lands. SFI chain-of-custody certification tracks the percentage of fiber from certified forests, certified sourcing and post-consumer recycled content. SFI on-product labels identify both certified sourcing and chain-of-custody claims to help consumers make responsible purchasing decisions. SFI Inc. is governed by a three-chamber board of directors representing environmental, social and economic sectors equally. Learn more at [www.sfiprogram.org](http://www.sfiprogram.org) and [www.sfiprogram.org/Buy-SFI](http://www.sfiprogram.org/Buy-SFI).

#### **About The Capitol Christmas Tree**

The tradition of the Capitol Christmas Tree, or The People's Tree, began in 1964 when Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives John W. McCormack (D-MA) placed a live Christmas tree on the Capitol lawn. This tree lived three years before succumbing to wind and root damage. In 1970, the Capitol Architect asked the U.S. Forest Service to provide a Christmas tree. Since then, a different national forest has been chosen each year to provide The People's Tree. This national forest also works with state forests to provide companion trees that are smaller Christmas trees for offices in Washington, D.C.

#### **SFI Media Contact**

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August 6, 2014

## International Registration Plan (IRP) Update

**To: State Trucking and/or Motor Carrier Association Executives:**

I am reaching out to provide information from the International Registration Plan (IRP), primarily addressing an upcoming change that will impact your membership.

**Full Reciprocity Plan:** On January 1, 2015, the new IRP Full Reciprocity Plan (FRP) goes into effect. This major change to the Plan impacts the distance reporting and registration authority for all inter-state motor carriers registered under IRP including new and expanded operations. Cab cards for both first-time registrants and renewing carriers will display all jurisdictions and the vehicle's appropriate registration weight.

This change, the most far-reaching since the IRP first went into effect, will give most interstate carriers more operational flexibility than they have had in the past. The FRP will reduce the number of permits carriers have needed to buy and fees they have paid for added states. IRP registrants renewing for an effective date of January 1, 2015 and beyond will be registered under FRP as will any new registrants registering for the first time on January 1, 2015 or after. For example, a carrier whose current registrations expire on March 31, 2015, they will renew under FRP effective April 1, 2015.

For many years the reporting of estimated distance for first time registrants and expanded operations has been a challenge in IRP. Many options have been explored over the years to address this matter and with the passing of the FRP Ballot, the membership has approved the concept of "Full Reciprocity" to simplify the process. The FRP changes how distance and registration fees for first-time registrants are determined and it also eliminates the estimating of distance for expanded operations of existing carriers.

First-time registrants will pay fees based on the base jurisdiction's average per vehicle distance chart. Re-

newing carriers will pay fees based solely on their actual operations during the distance reporting period.

This change will ultimately benefit your membership, as it eliminates the requirement for existing carriers to pay fees over 100% when adding jurisdictions during the registration period or expanding their operations into jurisdictions where they had no actual operations during the distance reporting period.

To learn more about FRP and how it impacts your membership, information including a questions and answers document, is available on the IRP website at <http://www.irponline.org/?page=FullReciprocity>. Please consider providing this link to your membership so they are informed about changes.

**Partnering with IRP:** There are many other programs and initiatives of interest in the IRP community. IRP, Inc. is interested in continuing and building on our partnership with industry. By partnering with and providing information to organizations like yours, together we can improve commercial motor vehicle registration processes, compliance, and, ultimately, highway safety. To learn more about IRP, visit our website at [www.irponline.org](http://www.irponline.org). The website contains a lot of information about IRP and other motor carrier related programs and initiatives. Additionally, the website provides resources for carriers to find jurisdictional specific requirements, IRP registration fees data and information on many other topics.

I welcome the opportunity to talk with you about IRP and how we may be able to partner to provide more information to your membership. I can be reached at (502) 845-0398 or [tadams@irpinc.org](mailto:tadams@irpinc.org). Please let me know if you have any questions or desire additional information on FRP or any other IRP motor carrier services topics.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
**Tim Adams**  
CEO  
IRP, Inc.





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# IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON CHANGES TO THE INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION PLAN (IRP)

**EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2015**, the Full Reciprocity Plan (FRP) will change the IRP to make the Plan more efficient, more equitable and more flexible for its member jurisdictions and registrants by granting full reciprocity for all apportioned vehicles in all IRP member jurisdictions and removing from the Plan any provisions related to estimated distance.

Any registrant whose registration year begins on or after January 1, 2015, would be subject to the FRP. For the example of an April 1, 2015 renewal, they would register under full reciprocity.

- IRP fees would be calculated the same way they are now. A carrier would pay on the basis of where its vehicle traveled in the preceding year.
- A carrier would pay fees only to the jurisdictions it operated in; however, the carrier would be registered to travel in all IRP member jurisdictions.
- A new IRP account would be registered in all member jurisdictions and pay fees to each based on the Average per Vehicle Distance chart. At renewal, the carrier only pays fees to the jurisdictions its vehicles traveled in the preceding year.

## ***What would the FRP do?***

- All member jurisdictions are listed on the registration card
- Eliminates guess work for new carriers
- Eliminates 1st year estimated distance on renewal
- Eliminates 2nd year estimated distance on renewal and associated over 100% penalty
- Fairly assesses fees based on actual operations
- Eliminates add jurisdiction transaction

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# NEWS

**Wood Supply Research Institute: improving wood supply operations through research**

**Support Services: Forest Resources Association, 1901 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Suite 303, Washington, DC 20007 Ph: 202-296-3937**

Release: Immediate

Contact: Jim Fendig (912) 598-8023 [fendig@bellsouth.net](mailto:fendig@bellsouth.net)

## **WSRI Requests Suggested Research Projects**

Washington, DC – “WSRI is now accepting suggestions from members and others for research projects focused on improving the efficiency, productivity, profitability or business relationships within the wood fiber supply chain,” announced WSRI Executive Director Jim Fendig.

Danny Norman, WSRI Chairman noted, “WSRI logger, landowner, and wood consuming company members are committed to seeking better ways of cooperatively improving the productivity and efficiency of the wood fiber supply chain operations to guarantee the continued existence of a US based forest and paper industry.”

Fendig requested that the suggestions for research projects adhere to the following guidelines:

- Be brief, consisting of three paragraphs with the first paragraph establishing background information for project consideration.
- The second paragraph should state expected project deliverables.
- The third paragraph should state how final project data might be used.

Please submit your suggested research projects to WSRI Executive Director [fendig@bellsouth.net](mailto:fendig@bellsouth.net) by January 15, 2015.

After receipt the following actions on suggested research projects will be taken:

- The WSRI Technical Committee will review all suggested research projects and will identify a priority research project.
- Qualified research organizations will be asked to submit proposals to conduct the research project.
- The Technical Committee will select the successful proposal and enter into an Agreement with the winner to conduct the Research Project.
- The Technical Committee will be responsible for overseeing research project to a successful conclusion.
- Research projects can take up to two years to complete but normally take 12 months before being completed and published.

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.

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# DEAD WOOD AND SNAGS - LOOK UP!

Bryan Wagner

Overhead hazards in the logging woods have wreaked havoc to our forest industry for years. Many wives have become widows by their men being struck by fallen or thrown objects from above. Dead trees and snags are a major issue for our overall safety in the woods. An overhead hazard incident or being struck from above can prove to be catastrophic. Usually a 'struck-by' incident involves the upper body which include the head; neck and the spinal column. As an industry, we have seen a rise in incidents involving dead trees and snags. Whether the job is fully mechanized or a manual operation using chainsaws, the risk from above is present. Many of the recent incidents have involved logging crews with mechanized felling equipment. With that said, dead trees and snags affect everyone in the woods. I feel the best way to address this issue is to push awareness to this problem. Forest industry owners and management people should constantly keep employees aware of the dangers and consequences of the overhead hazards that lurk in their work place. Risk must be identified and dealt with to prevent a loss. Please take the time to have a safety briefing with your crew on **OVERHEAD HAZARDS. LOOK UP!!**

- Use approved and well maintained personal protective equipment (PPE) for head protection.
- Look and scan at least 50 ahead on your ground path. Look for vines that could affect standing timber.
- Look and scan for at least 100 feet ahead for all overhead hazards, especially dead trees and snags.
- Do not place your body under anything that can fall due to gravity or the loss of hydraulic pressure.
- Maintain at least two tree lengths from all felling areas. (300 feet or 100 yards)
- Be visible, wear high visibility clothing.
- Maintain communication with everyone in the work area.
- Never walk into a work area with running or moving equipment until the equipment is stopped, engine cut-off and the hydraulic attachments grounded.

start and maintain your crew's awareness to overhead hazards and possibly death from above. Let's focus a little deeper on how to deal with the risk from dead trees and snags on our logging jobs. The life you save may be your own!!



- Dead trees and snags shall be removed when at all possible.
- If the situation is too dangerous, isolate and flag the affected area, no one is allowed near the hazard.
- Use mechanical means to remove dead trees and snags. Never attempt to manually remove such hazards when the mechanical option is available!
- If mechanical help can't access the area of the deadwood, assess the situation. Is the tree stable enough to put on the ground manually? Your 5-part felling plan will help you make a good decision!!
- If the tree can be safely cut, I recommend you make your face-notch "belt-high". Using a higher than normal face-notch lets the timber-cutter stand erect while making his back-cut. The simple fact of this technique is less spinal column exposure. Being "bent-over" in a standard felling position exposes the spinal column from your head to your tail bone, if you stand up, that exposed area is reduced by half. Looking up is also easier if you are standing.
- Generally speaking, don't force a dead tree. Hitting a wedge in a dead tree may cause debris to fall from its top. I usually cut the tree with its front lean, this will give you the option to make an accurate path of fall, one side or the other. It is very important that you avoid hitting adjacent timber in fear of thrown or flying objects from above.
- What type of a back-cut are you going use? I usu-

The Heads Up for Hazards program is a great way to

*(Continued on page 25)*



(Continued from page 24)

ally will recommend using a conventional back-cut on dead trees. Dead trees are dead FIBER! The controlled-release back-cut will not work effectively if the decayed hinge breaks, again use your felling plan.

- ESCAPE from the falling snag! Eyes to the sky!!
- **REVIEW** rule number 3. **DO NOT MANUALLY FELL DEAD TREES AND SNAGS IF MECHANIZED EQUIPMENT IS AVAILABLE!**

The risk of dead trees and snags has always been present in the logging woods. Dead wood has accounted for many injuries and deaths in our industry. The use of good and well maintained PPE helps reduce injury from above. More importantly, if the employee is trained to recognize and properly deal with a situation, his PPE will become his second line of defense. Good decisions lead to reduced risk. Lessened risk prevents or lessens the chance of an injury. Until next time **LOOK UP AGAIN!**



## SCDOT hits most road funding targets

Staff Report  
colanews@scbiznews.com  
Published Dec. 8, 2014

The S.C. Department of Transportation says it has surpassed most target goals on projects funded through Act 98, a state law that provides additional funding for bridge, resurfacing and mainline interstate projects.

Act 98 was passed by the General Assembly in 2013 to provide an annual appropriation of \$50 million to the Transportation Department.

The law requires the agency to transfer an equivalent amount to the S.C. Transportation Infrastructure Bank to finance an estimated \$550 million on existing mainline interstate.

New transportation plan pegs state's needs at \$70.45B

Fixing the interchange at interstates 85 and 385 in Greenville County is the largest Act 98 project. The \$231 million contract awarded earlier this fall is the second-largest project in state history.

The goal is to reconfigure the interchange to im-

prove safety and efficiency for the nearly 200,000 vehicles that use it daily.

The Transportation Department also reported that two interstate projects in the Midlands funded through Act 98 have been accelerated.

Preliminary work has begun on the widening of an 11-mile stretch of Interstate 20 to six lanes in Lexington County between U.S. Route 378 and Longs Pond Road. The agency expects to award a contract on this project, which it's estimated will cost \$154.7 million, in March 2016.

The Transportation Department has expected it would later this month award an estimated \$37.8 million contract for the widening of Interstate 77 in Richland County.

Plans call for expanding a 2.6-mile stretch of the highway from four to six lanes between I-20 and Killian Road.

The agency reported that 17 of the first 20 road surfacing projects worth \$36.3 million were originally scheduled for completion in 2014. The projects included 211 road segments totaling 131 center-line miles that are complete and open to traffic.

The Transportation Department also has received bids on 28 bridge repair projects totaling \$19 million. Two of the projects have been completed and are open to traffic.

For 2015, the state Transportation Commission approved \$41.1 million of projects that are scheduled to begin shortly and be completed during the year.

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## Comments Submitted Opposing the ESA Listing of the Northern Long-Eared Bat

Re: Docket # FWS-R5-ES-2011-0024

Thank you for reopening the public comment period, concerning the proposal to list the Northern Long-Eared Bat (NLEB) for protection under the Endangered Species Act (ESA).



The 55 forest products associations signed on to these comments agree with the points raised in the November 5, 2014 letter to U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Director Dan Ashe, submitted by the Midwest Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies (MAFWA) and other regional coalitions of state forestry and wildlife officials, and urge you to strongly consider the evaluation and recommendations of that letter in reaching your decision on listing the Northern Long-Eared Bat.

Specifically, the undersigned agree with MAFWA's following points:

- the difficulty of understanding and projecting White-Nose Syndrome (WNS)-related mortality trends or the means by which White-Nose Syndrome spreads throughout regional populations;
- commonly deployed forest management practices have actually been a key factor in developing NLEB habitat throughout the Bat's wide range;
- conventional forest management and timber harvest inflict only negligible harm, while significantly contributing to conserving NLEB habitat;
- across the NLEB's range, many state and federal agency partners are al-

ready implementing conservation actions to slow the spread of WNS and protect the NLEB while at the same time implementing normal forest management activities.

The listed associations support MAFWA's suggestion that, if an ESA listing is imposed, protection be limited to a "threatened" designation and that guidelines support the continuation of normal forest management on forest lands containing current or potential NLEB habitat.

When a species is listed as "threatened," the ESA does not specify what activities are prohibited but instead, as the MAFWA letter points out, Section 4(d) of the statute authorizes the Service to issue a special rule to apply the "take" and other prohibitions of ESA section 9 as appropriate. This would allow the Service to recognize that normal forest management activities cause negligible "take" of the NLEB and therefore should be expressly excluded from prohibited activities with respect to the NLEB. This is a reasonable course of action, as is the additional suggestion that the Service "engage with the states to develop this 4(d) rule." Such engagement is will be essential to developing strategies that will effectively protect both the bat and avoid unnecessary disruption to working forests and the forest products industry.

As the MAFWA letter reiterates, and the Service seems to agree, current forest management norms have nothing to do with NLEB's observed decline. Effective conservation measures will consist of developing and implementing a cure for White-Nose Syndrome, accompanied by educational measures to protect identified NLEB hibernacula from disturbance in the meantime. The Service's efforts and assets would be much more effectively deployed to those ends than in attempting to impose a new regulatory regime on sustainably managed forestland.

Alabama Forestry Association  
American Forest & Paper Association

*(Continued on page 29)*

(Continued from page 28)

American Loggers Council  
American Walnut Manufacturer's Association  
Appalachian Hardwood Manufacturers, Inc.  
Arkansas Forestry Association  
Arkansas Timber Producers Association  
Black Hills Forest Resource Association  
Empire State Forest Products Association  
Federal Forest Resource Coalition  
Florida Forestry Association  
Forest Landowners Association  
Forest Resources Association  
Great Lakes Timber Professionals Association  
Hardwood Federation  
Hardwood Manufacturers Association  
Hardwood Plywood and Veneer Association  
Indiana Hardwood Lumbermen's Association  
Intermountain Forest Association  
Intermountain Roundwood Association  
Kentucky Forest Industries Association  
Kitchen Cabinet Manufacturers Association  
Lake State Lumber Association  
Maine Forest Products Council  
Maple Flooring Manufacturers Association  
Massachusetts Forest Alliance  
Michigan Association of Timbermen  
Minnesota Forest Industries

Michigan Forest Products Council  
Minnesota Timber Producers Association  
Mississippi Forestry Association  
Missouri Forest Products Association  
Montana Wood Products Association  
National Alliance of Forest Owners  
National Hardwood Lumber Association  
National Wood Flooring Association  
New Hampshire Timberland Owners Association  
North Carolina Forestry Association  
Northeastern Loggers' Association  
Ohio Forestry Association  
Oregon Women in Timber  
Penn York Lumbermen's Club  
Pennsylvania Forest Products Association  
Professional Logging Contractors of Maine  
South Carolina Forestry Association  
South Carolina Timber Producers Association  
South Dakota Family Forest Association  
Southeastern Lumber Manufacturers Association  
Texas Forestry Association  
Treated Wood Council  
Virginia Forest Products Association  
Virginia Forestry Association  
Western Hardwood Association  
Wisconsin Paper Council  
Wood Component Manufacturers Association



# ***Timber Talk***

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# LEGISLATURE SEEKS POLITICAL MAP TO FIXING S.C. ROADS

By Chuck Crumbo, scbiznews.com  
Published Dec. 4, 2014

More than a month before the 121st General Assembly convenes, legislators are offering ideas on how to fix and fund South Carolina's highway system.

On Wednesday, the chairman of a special House committee that he expects to have a bill ready sometime in January. The first regular session of the General Assembly will be held Jan 13.

Also on Wednesday, state Sen. Larry Grooms, R-Berkeley, pre-filed a bill that would increase the gas tax by 2 cents per gallon each year for 10 years while lowering the state's income tax by 2 cents on the dollar.

And state Sen. Nikki Setzler, D-Lexington, filed a bill that would create a fund for the expansion of interstate highways in the State Infrastructure Bank. The measure is expected to provide \$60 million a year from sales tax on cars and trucks.

Just when the House committee's bill will be filed hasn't been determined, said state Rep. Gary Simrill, R-Rock Hill.

"January," Simrill said in answering a question from committee member state Rep. Bill Hixon, R-Aiken, about a timeline for the bill's introduction. "But I don't want us to be planning a press conference at this point."

When House Speaker Jay Lucas asked him to chair the bipartisan panel, which began its work in September, he didn't want to be "rushed to produce a bill," Simrill said.

'Fix it first'

The language of the bill is a work in progress. However, Simrill said he expects key components of the measure will include establishing the Department of Transportation as a cabinet agency, reorganization of the State Infrastructure Bank, and ceding thousands of miles of roads that the state owns to local governments.

The special committee is taking a "fix it first, fund it second" approach in bolstering state Transportation Department, Simrill said.

By "fix it first," Simrill said the panel wants to find ways that the SCDOT can shed some of the roads it's

tasked with maintaining. South Carolina is the 40th largest state in terms of area, but has the fourth-largest highway system with more than 41,000 miles of roads.

"DOT is managing more roads than states two or three times our size," Simrill said.

One idea being explored is the devolution of about 18,000 miles of roads that have no state purpose to the counties. For example, one road on the list that would be ceded has 55 homes on it and ends as a cul-de-sac at the edge of a marsh.

The panel also is looking to streamline the Transportation Department's operation by making it a cabinet agency run by the governor with the Legislature given budget oversight, Simrill said.

Another idea is to increase the size of the board running the State Infrastructure Bank to provide greater representation across the state, Simrill said.

The present structure allows the two most powerful members of the General Assembly – the House Speaker and Senate Pro Tem – to each appoint two members of the seven-member board. Two other members are appointed by the governor and the seventh member is chairman of the S.C. Transportation Commission.

Simrill said the panel hasn't settled on how many members should be on the board. One possibility would be to have a member from each of the state's seven congressional districts or its 16 judicial circuits.

Simrill thinks streamlining SCDOT administration and broadening regional representation on the infrastructure bank will make road funding fairer and improve the state's credibility, especially in working with local government.

The infrastructure bank, which has the authority to borrow money, would work from a priority list drawn up by the SCDOT on which projects to fund.

The Transportation Department uses money collected from state and federal programs to pay for projects.

## Political challenges

Finding enough money to fix the roads offers political and economic challenges.

Although there are more cars and trucks on the roads, proceeds of the state's 16.75-cent-per-gallon gas tax have been relatively flat in recent years because vehicles are getting better gas mileage. A one-cent increase in the gas tax would raise about \$32

*(Continued on page 31)*



(Continued from page 30)

million, according to the SCDOT.

Although many of the state's business leaders favor raising the gas tax, which is the third lowest in the nation, Gov. Nikki Haley has vowed to veto any measure that would raise it.

Presently it appears there aren't enough votes in the House to override a veto, Simrill said. "It takes 43 members of the House to sustain a veto and I've had over 50 members who've told me they are not for an increase in the gas tax. That's a political reality."

With a hike in the gas tax apparently on the sidelines, Simrill said the panel is looking for other ways to fund the shortfall.

One idea that was being studied called for zeroing out the flat-rate gas tax and removing the sales tax exemption on fuel. A year ago that seemed like an attractive idea as the price of regular gasoline hovered at more than \$3 a gallon. But with the price of gas falling to around \$2.50 a gallon, there'll be less money collected.

The legislature may have to look at a "hybrid" of money sources for the roads with dollars coming from the general fund, gas tax and sales tax, Simrill said. Additionally, the legislature might look at increasing fees for driver's licenses and vehicle registrations to generate money for the roads.

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November 14, 2014

(Via e-mail)

Water Docket  
Environmental Protection Agency  
Mail Code 2822 T  
1200 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.  
Washington D.C. 20460

Attention: Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OW-2011-0880

**Re: Comments on Proposed Definition of Waters of the United States  
(WOTUS) ("Proposal") (79 Fed. Reg. 22,188 (April 21, 2014))**

To Whom It May Concern:

The undersigned forest products industry associations and forest landowners offer the following comments on the WOTUS Proposal published by the Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (together, the agencies). The agencies are soliciting comments on a Proposal that redefines WOTUS under all Clean Water Act (CWA) programs. The proposed regulations broaden the scope of CWA jurisdiction beyond constitutional and statutory limits established by Congress and recognized by the Supreme Court. In addition to raising serious legal issues, the Proposal fails to provide clarity or predictability and raises practical concerns with regard to how the rule will be implemented. The Proposal will result in duplicative and incongruent regulatory requirements that are inconsistent with the purpose and structure of the CWA and have not been adequately considered by the agencies. We request that the agencies withdraw the Proposal, consult with stakeholders, and work to revise the Proposal to resolve these important issues.

**I. The Proposal Expands Clean Water Act Jurisdiction Beyond Current Rules**

**A. The Change from "Wetlands" to "Waters" and the Expansive Definitions of "Tributaries," "Adjacent," and "Neighboring" Expand CWA Jurisdiction**

Under the existing WOTUS rule, *wetlands* adjacent to "waters of the United States" are explicitly listed as "waters of the United States." In the Proposal, however, "*all waters*, including wetlands, adjacent to" the waters covered by the first five categories of the proposed definition, *i.e.* traditional navigable waters through tributaries, are defined as WOTUS. In addition to changing "wetlands" to "all waters," the Proposal expands the concept of adjacency considerably. Current regulations define "adjacent" as "bordering, contiguous, or neighboring," and state that "[w]etlands separated from other waters of the United States by man-made dikes or barriers, natural river berms, beach dunes and the like are 'adjacent wetlands.'" See, e.g., 33 C.F.R. § 328.3 (c). The Proposal, however, (1) states that "[w]aters, including wetlands, separated from other waters of the United States by man-made dikes or barriers, natural river berms, beach dunes and the like are 'adjacent waters,'" and (2) adds a definition of "neighboring" that may expand CWA jurisdiction over "adjacent" waters beyond what a court might have otherwise interpreted to be "bordering, contiguous, or neighboring."

Specifically, the Proposal defines "neighboring" to include waters located within the riparian area or floodplain of a traditional navigable water or its tributary, "or waters with a shallow subsurface hydrologic connection or confined surface hydrologic connection to such a jurisdictional water." Agency staff have asserted in outreach meetings that there is a geographic limitation on the subsurface connection, but it is not in the proposed rule



(Continued from page 32)

text itself. A “floodplain” is an area that, among other things, “is inundated during periods of moderate to high water flows,” although the definition does not reference a particular year flood interval but leaves it to the agencies’ “best professional judgment” to determine the appropriate area or flood interval. “Riparian area” is defined as “an area bordering a water where surface or subsurface hydrology directly influence [*sic*] the ecological processes and plant and animal community structure in the area.” Because interpretation and application of these vague and expansive concepts is left in the hands of individual regulators and ultimately the federal courts, the rule provides us with no clarity or certainty.

### **B. The “Significant Nexus” Provisions Significantly Expand CWA Jurisdiction**

Aside from the waters discussed above that are *per se* jurisdictional, the Proposal also includes “significant nexus” provisions that allow the agencies to determine on a case by case basis, that waters that are not traditional navigable waters, are not tributaries to traditional navigable waters, and are not “adjacent” to either (so-called “isolated waters”) are WOTUS. Further it provides that the significant nexus can be found based not only on the effect of the particular water at issue, but also the effect in combination with other similarly situated waters located in the same region. These provisions expand existing CWA jurisdiction and do not provide certainty or clarity—two of the agencies’ stated goals for the rulemaking.

### **II. The Changes and Definitions in the Proposal Could Subject Mills and Forest Owners to Arguments that Any Waters on Their Property are WOTUS**

Since under the Proposal all waters, not just wetlands, are WOTUS if they are adjacent to a traditional navigable water or its tributary, and since “adjacent” means within the floodplain or within a riparian area - - an area with a surface or subsurface hydrological influence on a jurisdictional water -- many wetland areas, ponds, ditches, ephemeral drainages, and other water features that are located anywhere in the vicinity of a traditional navigable water or tributary system could arguably be considered WOTUS unless covered by an exemption.

Water is an important component of forest products manufacturing, and member manufacturing facilities are typically sited near water resources. Further, mills may have numerous “isolated waters” on their property. Accordingly, under the Proposal, those facilities are susceptible to unfounded claims by regulatory agencies or third parties that waters on their property are WOTUS.

Forestry operations occur on vast areas of land, often where rainfall is plentiful and where various water features (*e.g.*, wetlands, ditches, and ephemeral drainages) dot the landscape. Under the proposal, many previously non-jurisdictional water features will categorically be WOTUS under the new definitions of “tributary” and “adjacent.” Forest landowners will be vulnerable to unfounded claims by regulators or third parties that waters on their lands are WOTUS and therefore subject to regulatory controls not previously applicable to these features.

### **III. The Agencies Should Clearly Exempt Waters on Manufacturing Facilities Used for Commercial Purposes**

The broad language of the Proposal would leave mills subject to unwarranted claims of jurisdiction for water bodies on mill property that are part of the commercial activities on that property. The final rule needs to unequivocally avoid that result, for three reasons:

- (1) Treating such water bodies as subject to federal jurisdiction and covered by the various requirements of the CWA would be contrary to decades of agency practice in application of the CWA. It also would be contrary to both the agencies’ stated intentions with respect to the Proposal and the reasonable expectations of those who own and operate industrial and other commercial facilities.
- (2) Treating such water bodies as WOTUS would greatly interfere with the operation of industrial and other commercial facilities, imposing excessive costs, regulatory delays, and other constraints. In many cases, literal application of CWA requirements to such a water body could render its use for commercial purposes difficult or impossible.

(Continued on page 34)

(Continued from page 33)

(3) Most importantly, treating such water bodies as WOTUS would do little, if anything, to further the goals of the CWA, and it would impose excessive regulatory burdens on both facility operators and CWA permitting and enforcement authorities. A prohibition on discharge of fill material into, or dredging fill material out of, a water body without a permit makes no sense when that water body was created for the purpose of storing water containing suspended solids, or of settling solids out of that water, for example. Water quality standards designed to protect aquatic life in, or to assure the aesthetics of, a natural water body serve no purpose if applied to a water body that is part of an industrial operation. Maintaining healthy aquatic organisms in a water body may be the opposite of what is needed in ponds used to store water to be used for commercial purposes, such as for cooling water or for water used to process food or manufacture drugs. If EPA were to claim WOTUS jurisdiction over such ponds, EPA and state agencies would take on a tremendous burden of having to develop new water quality standards that would be appropriate for such uses, as well as issue CWA section 402 or section 404 permits for discharges into or activities related to maintenance of those waters—and for little or no regulatory benefit.

Finally, a number of existing exemptions (e.g., the exemption for artificial lakes and ponds) should be clarified to ensure that certain waters on manufacturing sites are not subject to CWA jurisdiction. As described above, there is no environmental benefit in regulating such waters, and their regulation would subject owners and operators of manufacturing facilities to needless costs and resource expenditures.

#### **IV. Impacts on Forest Management**

The Proposal will have a number of significant consequences for forest owners, including uncertainty whether water features on forest lands are jurisdictional; new or additional permitting obligations; new requirements to meet water quality standards or total maximum daily loads (TMDLs); and increased exposure to citizen suit litigation. The Proposal does not serve the agencies' goal of providing clarity as to whether a given parcel of land contains WOTUS. For-

est owners cannot reliably predict whether a seemingly isolated waterbody on their land will be deemed as lying within a "riparian area" or "floodplain" of jurisdictional water. Nor can they confidently distinguish between an excluded erosional feature and a jurisdictional ephemeral tributary. Given the ambiguity and lack of clarity in the proposal, forest owners will be put in a position of trying to account for extensive tributary systems, riparian areas, floodplains, and the extent of subsurface hydrologic connections that extend far beyond the boundaries of their lands. This may not be possible for landowners who are carrying out normal silvicultural activities that do not produce sufficient financial returns to justify the analysis. As a result, forest owners could lose the ability to manage lands and may seek other less benign uses for their land.

The Proposal also poses a significant problem for forestry operations subject to best management practices. Categorical designation of ditches and ephemeral streams, in particular, will cause considerable confusion as to how forest owners are to implement best management practices like buffers along roadside ditches. Moreover, despite existing exemptions in CWA Sections 404(f) and 402(l) for certain activities in the forest, the Proposal's expansion of WOTUS could mean that non-stormwater discharges of pollutants into newly jurisdictional ditches and ephemeral drainages could be considered unlawful discharges without an NPDES permit, thereby potentially triggering daily penalties.

The expansion of jurisdiction under the Proposal could also trigger new obligations under CWA Section 303 relating to water quality standards and TMDLs. For example, an impaired waters listing and the regulatory restrictions resulting from the TMDL process could negatively impact private forest owners, who must comply with any resulting land use restrictions and may see a reduction in their property values.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Cf. *Barnum Timber Co. v. EPA*, 633 F.3d 894 (9th Cir. 2011).

Finally, forest owners have long had to defend against citizen suits such as the "forest roads" case that took almost a decade to resolve. The Proposal would invite similar citizen lawsuits against forest landowners

(Continued on page 35)

(Continued from page 34)

seeking to halt operations. Given the vague terms in the proposal, citizen plaintiffs could find any number of ways to allege that a given silvicultural activity results in a direct discharge to some water feature that is purportedly a WOTUS. Regardless of whether such allegations have any merit, they cost time and money to resolve and they disrupt forestry operations.

\* \* \*

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Proposal. If you have any questions, please contact Jerry Schwartz (202-463-2581; [jerryschwartz@afandpa.org](mailto:jerryschwartz@afandpa.org)) or Chip Murray (202-742-0742; [cmurray@nafoalliance.org](mailto:cmurray@nafoalliance.org)).

Sincerely,

Kitchen Cabinet Manufacturers Association  
Alabama Forestry Association  
Allegheny Hardwood Utilization Group, Inc.  
American Forest & Paper Association  
American Loggers Council  
Appalachian Hardwood Manufacturers, Inc.  
Arkansas Forestry Association  
Arkansas Timber Producers Association  
Associated Logging Contractors- Idaho  
Associated Oregon Loggers, Inc.  
Association of Consulting Foresters  
Black Hills Forest Resource Association  
California Forestry Association  
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Idaho Women in Timber  
Intermountain Forest Association  
Kentucky Forest Industries Association  
Labor Management Committee  
Louisiana Forestry Association  
Massachusetts Forest Alliance  
Michigan Association of Timbermen

Michigan Forest Products Council  
Minnesota Forest Industries  
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North Carolina Forestry Association  
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Northeastern Retail Lumber Association  
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Oregon Forest Industries Council  
Oregon Small Woodlands Association  
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Professional Logging Contractors of Maine  
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South Carolina Forestry Association  
South Carolina Timber Producers Association  
Southeastern Lumber Manufacturers Association  
Tennessee Forestry Association  
Tennessee Paper Council  
Texas Forestry Association  
The Great Lakes Timber Professionals Association  
The Northeast Master Logger Certification Program  
The Trust to Conserve Northeast Forestlands  
Treated Wood Council  
Virginia Forest Products Association  
Virginia Forestry Association  
Washington Forest Products Association  
West Coast Lumber & Building Material Association  
West Virginia Forestry Association  
Wisconsin County Forests Association  
Wisconsin Paper Council

## OSHA Announces New Requirements for Reporting Severe Injuries

The U.S. Occupational Safety & Health Administration has announced new requirements, effective January 1, 2015, requiring employers:

- to notify OSHA of work-related fatalities within 8 hours; and
- to notify OSHA of work-related in-patient hospitalizations, amputations, or losses of an eye within 24 hours.

Although the new rule maintains the exemption for any employer with 10 or fewer employees from the requirement to keep records of worker injuries and illnesses, these small employers are nonetheless required to comply with these new reporting requirements.

\*\*\*\*\*

"OSHA will now receive crucial reports of fatalities and severe work-related injuries and illnesses that will significantly enhance the agency's ability to target our resources to save lives and prevent further injury and illness. This new data will enable the agency to identify the workplaces where workers are at the greatest risk and target our compliance assistance and enforcement resources accordingly."

— Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health, Dr. David Michaels

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration's revised recordkeeping rule includes two key changes:

First, the rule updates the list of industries that are

exempt from the requirement to routinely keep OSHA injury and illness records, due to relatively low occupational injury and illness rates. The previous list of industries was based on the old Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system and injury and illness data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) from 1996, 1997, and 1998. The new list of industries that are exempt from routinely keeping OSHA injury and illness records is based on the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) and injury and illness data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) from 2007, 2008, and 2009. Note: The new rule retains the exemption for any employer with ten or fewer employees, regardless of their industry classification, from the requirement to routinely keep records.

Second, the rule expands the list of severe work-related injuries that all covered employers must report to OSHA. The revised rule retains the current requirement to report all work-related fatalities within 8 hours and adds the requirement to report all work-related in-patient hospitalizations, amputations and loss of an eye within 24 hours to OSHA.

Establishments located in States under Federal OSHA jurisdiction must begin to comply with the new requirements on January 1, 2015. Establishments located in states that operate their own safety and health programs (State Plan States) should check with their state plan for the implementation date of the new requirements. OSHA encourages the states to implement the new coverage provisions on 1/1/2015, but some may not be able to meet this tight deadline.

The final rule will allow OSHA to focus its efforts more effectively to prevent fatalities and serious work-related injuries and illnesses. The final rule will also improve access by employers, employees, researchers and the public to information about workplace safety and health and increase their ability to identify and abate serious hazards.

More at [www.osha.gov/recordkeeping2014](http://www.osha.gov/recordkeeping2014), and on OSHA's Fact Sheet at <https://www.osha.gov/recordkeeping2014/OSHA3745.pdf>.

# WSRI UPDATE FOR SPRING OF 2015

Unlike the Northern Fir tree that enters dormancy in the winter of 2014 yet goes about a dormant metamorphic activity in preparation for growth in the Spring of 2015 and beyond, WSRI Management is actively preparing for the future. A recap, ring by ring, follows:

## RESEARCH:

There are currently three Projects being completed and will be presented at the April Annual Meeting.

- FACTORS AFFECTING FUEL COST, Tom Gallagher, Auburn University
- VALIDATING SOUTHERN LOGGING COST INDEX, Dale Greene, Shawn Baker, Richard Mei, University of Georgia
- DEVELOPING WESTERN LOGGING COST AS BASIS FOR COST INDICIES, Beth Dodson, Todd Morgan, Steve Hayes, Josh Meek, University of Montana

There is one new Project being introduced by the Technical Team Chaired by Crad Jaynes that addresses a review and expansion of the first WSRI Project, TRUCK TURN TIME STUDY. The new project will include all key factors in the supply chain that affect turn times / cost from the stump to the mill and return, Region by Region, not just at the mill and down South as in the first Project. This Project will be comprehensive and far reaching yet promises to be helpful to each segment of WSRI membership across the Country.

## GROWTH:

The current marketing Program, led by Richard Lewis, is in full swing with the publication of WSRI NEWSLETTERS, Facebook Advertising and soon, WSRI Media Briefings with Hatton Brown and the Northern Logging publication to start with.

RESULTS: WSRI and its Research are becoming better known through these efforts and several new members have been signed up and inquiries about WSRI and research are increasing. These activities will be reported on by Lewis during the Business Session.

## BUSINESS & ANNUAL MEETING PREP:

WSRI, like each of you, is proceeding with budget formation and a business Plan for 2015. An Annual

dues survey is necessary to determine expected revenue and to determine how much research can be afforded in 2015 & beyond.

Preparation for the WSRI Annual Meeting on April 27<sup>th</sup> in Nashville is in the beginning stages as this is written on Thanksgiving Day. Rick Meyer is providing the liaison between FRA and WSRI to assure that there is a smooth flow of activity between the two groups. There were several attendees last year that indicated their preference that Presentations and WSRI business sessions be separated. Early planning will take this into consideration with separate sessions for the business portion for the WSRI Board in the early morning with three presentations after the business session before lunch. This takes into consideration the FRA Executive Committee meeting planned after lunch in which the WSRI Board has several members involved and the WSRI members that want to make it a one day meeting yet see the presentations that they paid for with their dues.

## DEALING WITH A CHANGING WORLD:

The Forest Products business is constantly changing with personnel changes as well. The WSRI Board of Directors has many new members brought about by member company's personnel changes. These new members will be introduced at the spring meeting and familiarized with the WSRI business at hand. Future WSRI business strategy and management will be discussed and voted on so good attendance by Board members is encouraged! WSRI Board meetings are open to the public and all interested parties are invited. Those that are just interested in the research presentations are invited to that portion of the meeting.

The WSRI Meeting precedes the Annual FRA meeting and WSRI members are encouraged to attend both meetings if possible. Full meeting details and registration materials for both groups will be forthcoming.

Jim Fendig  
WSRI Executive Director



Wood Supply Research Institute



P.O. Box 811 • Lexington, SC • 29071  
803-957-9919 • Fax 803-957-8990 • bcjpaw@windstream.net  
www.scloggers.com

## **Southern Loggers Cooperative Allendale, SC Fuel Depot Now Open**

SC Timber Producers Association and Southern Loggers Cooperative (SLC) are partnering in a pilot program to locate SLC fuel depots around the state. These depots will serve members of Southern Loggers Coop and SCTPA. The SLC depots provide savings for “On Road” and “Off Road” diesel fuel purchases.

**The SLC fuel depot located on U.S. Hwy 301 in Allendale, SC is OPEN and serving SLC and SCTPA members.** Allendale is the second SC depot along with the Georgetown, SC depot.

SCTPA and SLC will hold a grand opening for this depot in the near future. We are excited about this opportunity to help member businesses in logging, agricultural and forest products trucking and other qualified businesses that can be SLC members.

Southern Loggers Cooperative was started ten years ago by loggers and other business people to do something about the rising costs associated with logging, trucking and farming with an emphasis on reducing fuel costs. Now SLC operates 25 depots, including Allendale, providing fuel savings to its members. Likewise SLC being a cooperative has other beneficial member programs such as tires, etc. Southern Loggers Cooperative members receive a Cooperative dividend payment at the end of SLC’s fiscal year based on the total gallons purchased by the SLC member.

SCTPA is very proud to work with Southern Loggers Cooperative in this endeavor in South Carolina to provide fuel costs savings to SLC and SCTPA members, plus other SLC benefits.

SCTPA encourages our members in the Allendale and surrounding areas to join Southern Loggers Cooperative and SCTPA. If you are not a SCTPA member, you should be. SCTPA is dedicated to representing and servicing loggers, wood suppliers and forest products truckers and is a charter member of the American Loggers Council.

If you are not a SCTPA member, visit [www.scloggers.com](http://www.scloggers.com) for a member application and view the information. SCTPA has member discount programs for Baldwin Filters (45% member discount) and Cooper Tire’s Roadmaster brand truck and trailer tires, plus other member benefits. Visit [www.southernloggers.com](http://www.southernloggers.com) for Southern Loggers Cooperative information

Again, SLC and SCTPA are pleased to have the second SLC fuel depot in Allendale, SC.

Best regards,  
Crad Jaynes, SCTPA President

# SCTPA TIRE PROGRAM

## COOPER TIRE'S ROADMASTER BRAND TRUCK / TRAILER TIRE PROGRAM



SCTPA is proud to partner with Cooper Tire & Rubber Company and its designated tire dealers for SCTPA to offer Cooper's Roadmaster Brand commercial truck / trailer tires discount program.

**ROADMASTER TIRES ARE THE SCTPA ENDORSED TRUCK / TRAILER TIRES.**

**Qualified Member Loggers owning trucks and trailers and Member Unmanufactured Forest Products (UFP) Truck Owners can purchase Roadmaster Truck and Trailer Tires at member prices at participating designated tire dealers.**

- Qualified Members are: Logger and UFP Truck Owner Member.
- Categories in good standing with Paid Current Dues.

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

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

We are excited to partner with Cooper Tire and their Roadmaster Brand to offer these savings to qualified members.

For a participating Roadmaster Dealer, contact SCTPA,  
Or contact Clayton Krebs, Cooper Territory Manager, 419-306-9534.

Designated Dealers Should Contact SCTPA's Crad Jaynes  
For Active Member Verification.  
Office 803-957-9919, Fax 803-957-8990, Cell 803-530-5874,  
Email [bcjpaw@windstream.net](mailto:bcjpaw@windstream.net)

SCTPA / 9-18-14





## 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

## Young Loggers Buck the Trend, Grow Business

Entrepreneurs Will and Wes Coleman are doubling harvesting capacity in an industry seeing fewer young workers.

Logging crews are aging, and struggling to attract young people to the profession. Even NPR has picked up the story, reporting on June 16th about the looming shortage of loggers in the American workforce. But not all the news is bad.

Enter Will (26) and Wesley (24) Coleman of Richburg, SC. This entrepreneurial duo are not only logging, but are growing their own new business. They formed Coleman Brothers Logging, LLC in December 2012 along with a third owner, Katherine Suaso. Together, they have been steadily increasing their pulpwood and saw timber harvesting in and around Chester County, which is used in everyday products like paper and furniture.



The company has had lots of help from Ideal Logging, Inc., which provides Coleman Brothers with a steady supply of tracts requiring first thinnings or final harvesting. Ideal's Tommy Barnes, a Board member of the South Carolina Timber Producers Association, has been a mentor and a source of encouragement to Will and Wesley, who got their start working for Tommy and his business partner, David Cox, at Ideal.



"They're hard-working guys," says Tommy Barnes, who himself started his business in his late 20s. "I've known them all their lives, and you don't find many young people who are dedicated to logging. They deserve a chance."

In June, Coleman Brothers Logging was able to purchase a used TigerCat skidder and feller/buncher with a loan from Natural Capital Investment Fund's Logging Initiative.

Running the equipment we purchased with the NCIF loan, we doubled our loads in the first week," says Will Coleman. "We really appreciate the chance to show we can make it on our own."

Rick Larson, Senior Vice President for NCIF, is confident that the financing provided will help the company move to the next level. "They convinced us this new equipment will help them work more profitably. And, the fact that Ideal stands behind them is extremely important."

NCIF launched its Logging Initiative with support from CEI, a leading Community Development Corporation (CDC) and Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI), and the U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities, two organizations that share NCIF's commitment to the forest products industry and loggers in particular. The job creating and sustainability aspects of this work made it an ideal recipient of New Markets Tax Credit financing. The program funds equipment purchases by existing certified loggers who can't raise all the financing they need from traditional sources.

Well-equipped, responsible loggers are essential for healthy forests and a healthy forest products industry. "The opportunity is there for young hard-working loggers to grow a business and, with the right help, they will succeed," says Larson.

- See more at: <http://www.conservationfund.org/our-conservation-strategy/major-programs/natural-capital-investment-fund/young-loggers-buck-the-trend-grow/#sthash.Swoz6fr7.dpuf>

# Speaker Lucas: Financial fix for roads unlikely in 2015

By Bill Poovey  
bpoovey@scbiznews.com

South Carolina's new House speaker, Republican Jay Lucas of Darlington, said he does not expect lawmakers will approve a plan this year to pay for repairing S.C. roads.

"I would not foresee that being done this year," Lucas said after speaking at the Greenville GOP's First Monday lunch meeting. Lucas in fall formed an ad hoc panel that has studied the state's road needs.

Lucas said the road problem, with a projected cost of tens of billions of dollars, is complicated and data provided by the state Department of Transportation is not trustworthy.

"We need to do something about it," Lucas said without describing a solution. "It not only affects you and the people who drive through this state, but it is absolutely a business concern."

He said "getting our hands around the scope of the problem was tremendously important in the off-season and that's what we've done and I think once you know what the problem is it is easier to figure out a way to solve it."

Lucas said there is still consensus building to be done "so we won't actually have a bill that will fix what we see are the problems. Now, we've also got to get buy-in from the Senate and the governor and the locals, so that's a more difficult problem."

He said there needs to be better coordination of funding and "we need to find local governments a funding source. There is no easy answer. We want to work with the governor. We want to work with the Senate to come up with a solution to this problem. There are no easy answers to this issue."

Lucas said lawmakers also have a tough time getting information from DOT. "I don't think we can trust the numbers that DOT gives us," he said.

Lucas said that by lawmakers asking questions "we've made them look and at least try to give us estimates about how many local roads do we have, how many roads do we have that are shorter than a mile, how many roads do we have that aren't eligible for state funding? Those are questions that we have that we readily didn't get the answer to, and maybe I shouldn't have said don't trust them. It's not that I don't trust them. It's not that I think they are lying to me. It's just I do not think they have a grasp of the scope of the problem."

Lucas said the state is spending \$1.5 billion a year "simply managing the decline of the system. We asked DOT what it would take to just not have the system decline and crumble into nothing, what it would take to just keep it where it is now, and that figure is \$400 million a year. We asked the business community what they wanted with regard to their roads and they said if we could spend \$700 million to \$800 million more a year that would give us a C-plus, D-minus system. DOT will tell you they need \$1.5 billion a year to 2040."

Lucas said the "cost of doing nothing is actually huge. If you take a road and it is in fair shape and you need to preserve it, we can do that for \$11,000. You can take a road that has gotten in poor shape and you need to rehab it you are talking \$160,000 a mile. Take a road that absolutely has to be replaced like most in my district and you are talking \$250,000 a mile."

The speaker said there are 41,000 miles of roads and 62% of those are in the state system, compared with 22% that are maintained by most other states. Of the 41,000 miles, 18,000 are local routes of a mile or shorter, and 10,000 miles are roads not eligible for state or federal funding.

"If you live on one of those roads in South Carolina you will probably end up getting your road paved once every 135 years," he said. "We are not going to be able to get to it."

In other remarks at the GOP meeting, Lucas said the 124 House members are about to become more ethically accountable. Lucas said he will be "extremely disappointed" if at least 15 of 19 ethics bills developed by a panel that he organized are not approved this year.

A lawyer, Lucas as speaker pro tem was elected speaker in December as successor to Bobby Harrell, R-Charleston, who resigned after pleading guilty in a misconduct case. Lucas has changed House rules, relaxing some of the previous speaker's controls, creating new ad hoc committees and encouraging more input from members.

"We want to restore the credibility in the House," he said at the lunch meeting. The package of House ethics measures includes providing support for whistleblowers, requiring new income disclosure by lawmakers and ending their use of Leadership Political Action Committees. "Ethics to me is the most important issue we are taking on in the House," Lucas said.

He said another priority is reducing criminal domestic violence. "We are going to increase penalties," Lucas said. "We rank second in the nation for women being killed by men," Lucas said. "That 68% of those folks were actually murdered by a husband or boyfriend. We have 36,000 annual reports of domestic violence each year. We have to change that."



January 7, 2015



## SFI® Works to Ensure the Health and Future of Our Forests with the Launch of the New SFI 2015-2019 Standards and Rules

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** - The decisions we make every day directly affect the health and future of our forests. The launch of the new Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI) 2015-2019 Standards and Rules marks an important advancement to support better decision making all along the supply chain and to promote sustainable forest management. When a Fortune 500 company sources forest products, a landowner makes a forest management plan or a consumer buys copy paper, they can all make the right choice for our forests by choosing SFI.

"The future of our forests depends on credible, transparent and auditable standards to enable sustainable resource use for today and generations to come. Our work starts with the SFI standards, but SFI is so much more - it's a community that stands together for the health and future of forests," said Kathy Abusow, President and CEO of SFI Inc. "SFI plays a central role in strengthening the vital link between healthy forests, responsible purchasing and sustainable communities."

A major change to the structure of the SFI 2015-2019 Standards and Rules is the establishment of three stand-alone standards:

- **The SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard** promotes sustainable forestry practices based on 13 Principles, 15 Objectives, 37 Performance Measures and 101 Indicators. These requirements include measures to protect water quality, biodiversity, wildlife habitat, species at risk and forests with exceptional conservation value.
- **The SFI 2015-2019 Fiber Sourcing Standard** promotes responsible forestry practices based on 14 Principles, 13 Objectives, 21 Performance Measures and 55 Indicators that address the 90 percent of the world's forests that are not certified. These fiber sourcing requirements include measures to broaden the conservation of biodiversity, use forestry best management practices to protect water quality, provide outreach to landowners and utilize the services of forest management and harvesting professionals. Because it directs how SFI Program Participants procure fiber from non-certified land, this standard encourages the use of responsible forestry practices.
- **The SFI 2015-2019 Chain of Custody Standard** tracks the percentage of fiber from certified forests, certified sourcing and recycled content through production and manufacturing to the end product. Organizations can use physical separation, average percentage or volume credit methods to track and communicate their chain of custody claims. The SFI Chain of Custody standard is applied globally.

"The revised SFI standards will continue to serve as a proof point for responsible forestry in North America," said Lawrence Selzer, Chair of the SFI Board of Directors and President and CEO of The Conservation Fund. "These standards are shaped by the people and communities who put them into practice every day."

Forests certified to the SFI Forest Management Standard cover more than a quarter billion acres/100 million hectares, stretching from Canada's boreal forest to the U.S. South. This scale means that the new stan-

*(Continued on page 45)*



*(Continued from page 44)*

dard is set to have an ever-growing impact on forestry practices in communities across North America. Endorsement by the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) increases SFI's international recognition.

The SFI standards are updated every five years to incorporate the latest scientific information and to respond to emerging issues. As part of this update, comments were received during two 60-day public comment periods and input was gathered from 12 public workshops across the United States and Canada. Approximately 10,000 stakeholders were invited to submit comments. Participants included public and private landowners, forest sector representatives, indigenous communities, conservation groups, industry representatives, academics and government officials. The responses to comments are posted on the [SFI website](#).

Independent oversight was provided at each stage of the revision process by the SFI External Review Panel, a distinguished group of independent experts representing conservation, professional, academic and public organizations, operating at arm's length from SFI.

"The SFI External Review Panel's role was to ensure the standard revision process was transparent, objective and credible. We reviewed the responses to every public comment that was submitted. This focus on transparency is a major strength of the SFI program," said Robin Morgan, Chair of the SFI External Review Panel and Deputy Director of Recreation, Heritage and Volunteer Resources at the USDA Forest Service.

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### **About Sustainable Forestry Initiative Inc. (SFI)**

SFI Inc. is an independent, nonprofit organization that is solely responsible for maintaining, overseeing and improving the internationally-recognized Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) program. Across the United States and Canada, more than a quarter billion acres/100 million hectares are certified to the SFI Forest Management Standard. In addition, the SFI Fiber Sourcing Standard directs how SFI Program Participants procure fiber from non-certified land, encouraging the use of responsible forestry practices. SFI Chain-of-Custody Standard tracks the percentage of fiber from certified forests, certified sourcing and recycled content through production and manufacturing to the end product. SFI on-product labels help consumers make responsible purchasing decisions. SFI Inc. is governed by a three-chamber [board of directors](#) representing environmental, social and economic sectors equally. Learn more at [www.sfiprogram.org](http://www.sfiprogram.org) and [www.sfiprogram.org/Buy-SFI](http://www.sfiprogram.org/Buy-SFI).

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# Mark Your Calendar

## January 2015

1 Happy New Year! Best Wishes for A Great 2015!

## February 2015

6 – 8 SCTPA 2015 Annual Meeting, Springmaid Beach Resort & Conference Center, Myrtle Beach, SC. Contact SCTPA office for meeting information.  
24 Newberry District Meeting, Farm Bureau, Wilson Blvd, Newberry, 7 p.m.

## March 2015

5 SCTPA Board of Directors Meeting, SC Forestry Commission Headquarters, Columbia, 10 a.m.  
11 & 12 SFI Trained 2-Day Timber Operations Professional (TOP) Classes, Saluda Shoals Park Conference Center, Bush River Road, Columbia. Contact Sally Tucker, SC Forestry Association for registration, 803-798-4170.  
19 – 21 American Loggers Council Spring Board of Directors Meeting & Legislative Visits, Washington, DC.

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

Meeting dates may be changed. Meeting notices are mailed prior to the scheduled meeting.

### 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  
Office 864-429-6939  
Cell 864-429-6939

**Vice Chairman: Bobo Seckinger**  
Seckinger Forest Products, Inc.  
Hampton  
Office 803-943-9600  
Cell 803-571-0019  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Robby Crowder, Secretary/Treasurer**  
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Greenwood  
Office 864-223-0542  
Cell 864-941-6052

**Danny McKittrick**  
McKittrick Timber, LLC  
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Office 803-283-4333  
Cell 803-320-1739

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Chapman Timber Company  
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Office 803-276-0717  
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**Joe Young**  
Low Country Forest Products, Inc.  
Georgetown  
Office 843-546-1136  
Cell 843-833-0475

**Donnie Lambert**  
Leo Lambert Logging, Inc.  
Georgetown  
Office 843-264-8839  
Cell 843-340-8408

**Billy Walker**  
Walker & Walker Logging, LLC.  
Laurens  
Office 864-374-3514  
Cell 864-923-0385

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

**Crad Jaynes**  
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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.