



TIMBER TALK

Your Voice for South Carolina Timber Harvesting

September/October, 2013

ALC Holds Annual Meeting

Close to 200 attend Annual Membership Meeting in Marksville, Louisiana



Hemphill, Texas (October 3, 2013) – The American Loggers Council (ALC) recently held its 19th Annual Meeting in Marksville, Louisiana., on Sept. 26 – 28 and had close to 200 attendees including loggers, and sponsors that have helped support the work of the Council over the past twelve months.

“I am proud of the supportive efforts that all of our members, committees and sponsors have put forth over the past twelve months,” said ALC President Travis Taylor. “We’re excited about the progress that has been made and look forward to extending those efforts as we head into 2014. We are confident that we are headed in the right direction with our goal of being the national hub for logger information exchange, linking local, state and regional organizations around the country.”

The three day conference included swamp tours, technical sessions, business meetings and awards presentations where North Carolina logger Bobby Goodson and Caterpillar Forest Products President Kevin Thieneman received the President’s award for their efforts and accomplishments over the past twelve months and New Hampshire businessman Jeff Eames with Fort Mountain Companies received the prestigious Timber Harvesting “Logging Business of the Year Award.”



Kevin Thieneman(l), Bobby Goodson (r)
Photo by M. Crouse

The Board of Directors and Membership meetings were held on September 28th and included committee reports from the legislative, transportation, biomass, communications, membership, Master Logger and nomination committees.

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The legislative committee gave updates on efforts by the Council to support legislation favorable to the timber harvesting community while the transportation and biomass committee reported on those issues that were impacting those two sectors of the industry. The biomass committee recommended that the ALC create a position statement on the bene-

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fits of utilizing woody biomass to be delivered to the EPA, as well as a position on the economic impacts of over-regulation to the timber harvesting industry.

During the closing President's dinner on Saturday night, newly elected logger and businessman Brian Nelson from Cornell, Michigan was introduced as the new President of the American Loggers Council, with California logger Myles Anderson, Florida logger Richard Schwab, and Mississippi logger Ken Martin filling the Vice Presidents and Secretary/Treasurer positions on the Executive Committee. Mr. Nelson stated in his remarks that "I plan on keeping the momentum that we have built up during Travis' administration moving forward," and "that there are still many issues that we should focus on as we start to experience economic recovery within the industry."

ALC Executive Vice President Danny Dructor wrapped it up in a brief statement by thanking Travis Taylor for his past twelve months of leadership under adverse conditions and looks forward to his continuing input into the Council as well as working with Brian Nelson to ensure that the American Loggers Council will continue to be "the national voice for professional timber harvesters."



ALC Board of Directors Meeting
Photo by Mike Crouse – Loggers World

HATS OFF TO PORTLAND INT. AIRPORT ...

Oregon Wild, American Civil Liberties Union, sue Portland International Airport for violating US free speech provisions after refusal to display anti-logging poster reading "Welcome to Oregon, Home of the Clearcut!"



Original Headline:

Portland Airport Sued Over Anti-logging Ad

PORTLAND, Oregon, September 27, 2013 (Associated Press) – Oregon Wild, ACLU sue to get anti-logging ad placed at Portland airport

A conservation group and the American Civil Liberties Union have sued to get an advertisement against federal logging legislation placed at Portland International Airport.

The Port of Portland, which manages the airport, turned down the ad as "political." It's aimed at legislation to increase logging on federal forests, particularly the Western Oregon tracts known as the O&C lands.

The suit filed Thursday in Multnomah County says the airport's refusal violates free-speech provisions of the U.S. and state constitutions.

The city-owned Eugene Airport accepted the ad, which mimics a picture postcard and depicts a hillside denuded by logging.

"Welcome to Oregon, Home of the Clearcut!" it reads. In Eugene, city officials cited a ruling from the Oregon Court of Appeals against the Portland transit agency TriMet in a similar case involving ads about dams on the Klamath River. The state Supreme Court is now considering that case.

The ad is sponsored by environmental groups, including Oregon Wild, a plaintiff in the suit.

The group's executive director, Sean Stevens, said in a statement Friday the airport "cannot reject advertising from conservationists who opposed clear-cutting simply because it makes the logging industry and some politicians uncomfortable."

The O&C lands were railroad lands in the 19th century now held by the federal government. A House bill would turn over a million acres of them to a state-appointed trust to be managed primarily for timber production and revenue for counties. Opponents of the bill say it would lead to widespread clearcuts and environmental damage.

The airport contends that federal law allows it to restrict ads about religion or politics, and it does so "in order to maintain a neutral and welcoming atmosphere for all of our visitors," spokesman Steve Johnson said in a statement Friday.

The airport said political expression is allowed in specific locations under a permit program.



SOUTH CAROLINA TIMBER PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION
2013 ANNUAL REPORT
American Loggers Council Annual Meeting
Marksville, Louisiana

Crad Jaynes, President & CEO

SCTPA entered its 14th year at our “Moving Ahead” Annual Meeting in Myrtle Beach, SC, February 2013. Despite the still recovering industry and economy the attendance was outstanding.

SCTPA proudly welcomed several outstanding speakers. Dr. Dale Greene, University of Georgia’s Center for Forest Business presented his Wood Supply Research Institute project entitled Logging Costs and the results of his Logger Survey for Georgia and South Carolina. South Carolina Forestry Association President Cam Crawford related the issues to be encountered in the SC General Assembly affecting the Palmetto State’s forest industry. Deb Hawkinson, President of Forest Resources Association provided her “Pulpwood & Politics” presentation at the Saturday luncheon to highlight the importance of our industry being involved in the political process for legislation at the national level affecting sustainable forestry, timber harvesting, wood supply and the forest products industry. G. Kent Mangelson of the American Society for Asset Protection provided a ninety minute presentation entitled “How loggers Can Save Thousands in Taxes and Become Invincible to Lawsuits” focusing on business structure for lawsuit protection and prevention, reducing liability insurance costs, minimizing taxes and creating successful estate and business succession plans.

At our 2013 annual meeting, our 2012 Logger Activist of the Year Award was presented to Danny McKittrick, McKittrick Timber, LLC, Heath Springs, SC for their outstanding timber harvesting business, their sincere commitment to community involvement, sustainable forestry education and support of SCTPA and their profession. Rickey Chapman, Chapman Timber, Inc., Newberry, Robby Crowder, Land & Timber, LLC, Greenwood and Joseph “BoBo” Seckinger, Seckinger Forest Products, Inc., Hampton were elected to the board of directors. SCTPA President’s Award was presented to Joe Dunn and S. C. Dunn & Sons, Inc., Pickens for their outstanding support of SCTPA and the timber harvesting and forest products industry in South Carolina.

The winter was relatively wet, but this summer has been a tremendous challenge due to the excessive summertime rainfalls. One member said, “It’s really only rained twice this summer. The first time was for 27 days straight and the second time was for

33 days straight.” A very true statement. At times there was probably more equipment moving on low-boys than wood moving on trailers. Loggers and mills have felt the pressure as wood inventories dropped due to the reduced deliveries. But it’s looking better now for the industry.

Steady pulpwood production to pulp/paper mills and other smaller wood products markets have remained steady while solid wood products markets have increased production due to the economic recovery and demand for solid wood products. Despite the economic recovery and continued economic challenges such as fuel costs, logger attrition has continued. It may have slowed somewhat as the number of logging businesses is down. But it appears there is an increase in start-up operations whether it involves a new business or a business expansion. Based on information available, while the logger population has decreased, the capacity to produce wood still appears to be adequate for now.

South Carolina’s legislative session was fairly active for forestry issues. Several key issues were; Stopping the Discrimination Against SC Certified Wood, Infrastructure Funding for Bridges and Roads, Truck Weight Increase on State Roads, SC Forestry Commission Budget, and Enhanced Liability Protection for Forest Landowners. SCTPA testified to legislative committees on behalf of the SC Forestry Commission’s budget requests. The truck weight issue pertains to allowing the purchase of a permit for unmanufactured forest products (UFP) trucks to haul 90,000 pound GVW on state roads, not interstates. A somewhat controversial issue, the bill was patterned after the new NC law that allows 90,000 pounds. SCTPA has participated with SCFA in meetings with the House subcommittee, railroads, SCDOT and law enforcement. SCTPA supported the entry of the bill into the General Assembly. The bill has been revised for concerns issued by the railroad interests, but at this point nothing will happen until the legislature reconvenes in January 2014. There are concerns SCDOT will post more bridges thus further impacting UFP trucking haul distances, delivery rates being subject to revisions and the additional impact on our already needy road system. One of the best legislative actions was the funding increase for SCDOT.

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Great support and work from the business community helped move this through the legislature and was a shot in the arm for SCDOT to receive additional funding of \$141.4 million dollars committed to bridges, rural roads and highway funding and \$500 million in bonding for infrastructure projects. The SC Forestry Commission received a favorable budget increase. SCTPA thanks the SC Forestry Commission and SC Forestry Association for our "partnership" to make good things happen for South Carolina forestry.

SCTPA continued its activities with the SC Biomass Council, Statewide Trucking Task Force, SFI State Implementation Committee, Timber Operations Professional Training Program, Timber Equipment Applications Management Committee and organizations such as the SC Forestry and SC Trucking Associations and State Transport Police. SCTPA continued representing timber harvesting in coalitions to promote forestry, agricultural, wildlife, natural resources and Agri Business to promote these segment's importance to the SC General Assembly and state agencies for economic development.

SCTPA continued its participation in the SC Teachers Tour, a weeklong sustainable forestry education program. This year's June tour was tremendous with thirty-six participants. SCTPA arranged the timber harvesting stop at the jobsite of John Doolittle of Charles K. Doolittle, Inc., Newberry. SCTPA and CKD, Inc. sponsored the stop. Other tour stops included the Congaree National Park, Fort Jackson for public forests, Canfor Southern Pine's Camden sawmill, IP's Eastover paper mill, Norbord South Carolina, Inc's Kinards oriented strand board mill, Billy Cate's Tree Farm, Harbison State Forest, Sumter National Forest and a consultant forester's management tract to present sustainable forestry practices and forest products. The association continued presenting its sustainable forestry management and professional timber harvesting education program in schools.

SCTPA representatives, Danny McKittrick, Billy McKinney, Tommy Barnes and Crad Jaynes, visited our South Carolina U.S. House and Senate delegation during the ALC April board meeting in Washington, DC to promote woody biomass utilization, the revised renewable biomass definition, ALC positions, supporting further actions to prevent forest and logging roads from having to have runoff permits and increasing gross vehicle weights on interstates to the state allowed GVW on in-state roads to be used on the interstate system within the state.

SCTPA continued supporting the Wood Supply Research Institute for wood supply chain research

projects. SCTPA president serves as Technical Team chairman and remains a WSRI board member as well as SCTPA chairman Danny McKittrick. SCTPA's president attended the WSRI annual meeting in Jacksonville, FL.

Statewide district meetings were conducted in the Fall and Spring to keep attendees updated with national and state legislation, ALC activities, regulations and local issues.

Emphasis for producing energy from woody biomass has continued with an increased interest in developing wood pellet facilities in state. The feeling is there will be increased activity in these alternative markets in the near future. Loggers, wood suppliers and landowners will welcome these alternative markets.

South Carolina implemented the new training format for SFI Training in our Timber Operations Professional (TOP) program. The SFI Training uses a DVD format for the annual training period of July 1 – June 30. This new format was well received with many wood companies, SCTPA, SCFA and others providing workshops. The new 2-Day program is offered for the initial SFI Trained status in SC and has received positive comments.

SCTPA's President Crad Jaynes continues serving as the ALC National Master Logger Certification Committee Chairman.

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

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

Respectfully submitted,

Crad Jaynes
President & CEO





"Thank You"

As I look back on the events of the 19th Annual American Loggers Council Meeting recently held at the Paragon Casino Resort in Marksville, Louisiana, I can't help but make a comparison between it and the government shutdown debacle that is currently going on.

The ALC has accomplished many things over the past 19 years thanks in large part to the dedication of some of the finest loggers this country has to offer. We as loggers are notoriously independent, but to see so many different personalities come together from all corners of this great country to try and make this industry better for everyone is truly inspiring and goes to show the character that we have in this industry. Our elected officials in Washington D.C. could learn a lesson or two from those in our industry on how to resolve issues for the greater good of all, not just themselves or their party.

Regardless of one's political views I can't imagine anyone believes that all the arguing and political jockeying is good for the country as a whole. If nothing else, just think of how our Veterans, who risked their lives to protect the freedoms that we all enjoy, feel when they are turned away from THEIR memorials. That is just wrong in every sense of the word!!!!!!!!!!!!

I will get off my soap box now and get back to the issue at hand. I have set some goals for my term as President of the ALC as is customary with each year's incoming president.

1. To continue working on the issues that affect all of our businesses such as Clean Water Act legislation, Federal Forest management or lack there of, and overreaching governmental regulations to name a few.

2. To work on the Child Labor Laws issue to try and get the same exemption for our immediate family members that our counterparts in agriculture are afforded. With the rising age of loggers in this country we need to start training the next generation of loggers to take over our businesses or logging as we know it will fail to exist.

3. To see more of the ALC sponsors involved on committees because many of the issues that affect our businesses also affect theirs, either directly or indirectly, and their input is valued.

4. To do a better job of improving our image and getting our message out to those who don't understand our industry. We must educate the policy makers and the general public on what we do and the benefits of it. If we don't someone else surely will and their version likely won't be favorable to us. We must be ambassadors for our industry-because if we don't who will?

5. To address the issue of logging capacity. While there has been a lot of discussion on this subject lately I don't believe there has been any effort to get all parties involved in the supply chain together to start the dialogue. I realize there is no simple answer to this but we must start somewhere.

I am honored and humbled to be named the 20th President of the American Loggers Council and I will do everything I can to represent the professional timber harvesters of this great country. I'm sure there will be many challenges along the way but with the support I've been shown so far I'm sure we will prevail.

Brian Nelson is the current President of the American Loggers Council and he and his brother David and father Marvin own and operate Marvin Nelson Forest Products, Inc. based out of Cornell, Michigan.

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





AMERICAN LOGGERS COUNCIL

Quarterly Report to the States
July 1, 2013 – September 30, 2013

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

Board of Directors Meetings

The ALC Board of Directors and Executive Committee met in Denton, Texas on July 27, 2013. Reports were presented from the Legislative, Transportation, Communications, Membership, and Master Logger Certification Committees, as well as an update from the Executive Committee.

A second face-to-face Board of Directors meeting was held on September 28, 2013 during the ALC Annual meeting. New business included discussion of a National Logger Discount Program and seeking volunteers to take Bob Luoto's position on the Sustainable Forestry Board. There were also recommendations from the Biomass committee requesting that the ALC write position paper on the benefits of woody biomass utilization and submit to the EPA, as well as writing a position statement on the impact that regulations are having on logging businesses.

The Board also approved the 2014 budget as well as renewing the service agreement for association management with Daniel J. Dructor – Consultant.

Legislation

With Congress in gridlock and on their scheduled August recess, there was little significant activity in Washington, DC during the quarter. The ALC continued to field telephone calls from several Congressional delegates offices and stayed engaged on the most recent CWA/Forest Roads issue. The ALC did submit a letter of support for

H.R.1526 and was quoted in Chairman Hasting's press release just prior to the Bill being considered in the House.

Communications

There have been monthly "As We See It" columns produced in July, August and September, with the highlight on logging capacity authored by Mark Turner. The ALC office received many follow-up calls on Mark's editorial stating that he had "hit the nail on the head" when it comes to both profitability and succession in the logging industry. Jim Peterson with the Evergreen Foundation also authored an editorial that received much attention titled, "The Invisible Workforce."

A press release was issued as a follow-up to activities during the Dallas Board of Directors meeting hosted by Peterbilt and distributed to all of the major trade publications.

Monthly "Washington Resource" reports, authored by ALC's Washington Liaison Frank Stewart have been distributed to ALC membership.

The ALC web site and both the ALC Facebook® and Twitter® pages continue to be updated on a fairly regular basis, and the number of visits and "friends" continues to grow. Mike Beardsley from the Professional Logging Contractors of Maine continues to do a yeoman's job on updating the Facebook page. During the quarter, the ALC added a "logger events" section to the web site home page where members can submit their scheduled meetings for posting.

The Media Planet project has been "shelved" indefinitely. Lack of funding for the project has caused Media Planet to back off of the project.

Membership

Activity within the membership committee has

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slowed as all goals and targets have either been met or exceeded for 2014. The latest sponsor to support the ALC is Barko Hydraulics.

We would like to welcome Scott Schoeneck Trucking, LLC as our latest Individual Logger Member category supporter.

Master Logger Certification Committee

The ALC submitted comments during the first comment period for the SFI Standards review process. Those comments included deleting the “de minimis” language for wood purchased by SFI Program participating mills from non-SFI trained loggers and replacing with an amount not to exceed 3%.

Travel

Travel in the 3rd Quarter of 2013 was limited to a trip to speak at the Texas Logging Council Annual Meeting, and a return trip to Marksville, Louisiana in preparation for the Annual Meeting.

Washington Resource

Frank Stewart has taken the Executive Director position with the West Virginia Forestry Association, but will continue to produce a Washington Resource report through the end of the year.

Annual Meeting

Much of the work during the quarter was focused on the Annual Meeting.

The ALC 19th Annual Meeting was held in Marksville, Louisiana on September 26-28, 2013. There were approximately 190 attendees, including many sponsors and supporters of the Council. Bobby Goodson and Kevin Thieneman received the President’s awards for 2013, and Jim Hourdequin with The Lyme Timber Company was the guest speaker at the luncheon. Brian Nelson assumed the duties of Travis Taylor as President of the ALC for the next twelve months and outlined his goals for the upcoming year.

The meeting was deemed a success following the business meeting on Saturday, and all attendees were rewarded with some special entertainment from hypnotist Doc Holiday on Saturday night.

Senate Hearing, Bill on Independent Contractor Status

On November 12, Senator Bob Casey (D-Pennsylvania), Chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Employment and Workplace Safety, held a hearing on Payroll Fraud: Targeting Bad Actors Hurting Workers and Businesses, with witnesses suggesting that federal legislation should address perceived abuses in independent contractor misclassification, both as an employee-rights issue and as a business competitiveness issue. FRA submitted a Statement for the Record, arguing the importance of independent contracting for U.S. wood supply chain management.

Later that day, Senator Casey introduced the Payroll Fraud Prevention Act of 2013 (S 1687). This bill appears to be very similar to the Department of Labor’s much-delayed Right To Know Under the Fair Labor Standards Act rulemaking. It calls for “every employer or enterprise” to notify “each new employee and new non-employee” of his or her classification (presumably in writing). As with the “Right To Know” proposal, the bill creates a practical requirement for a business using independent contractors to inquire deeply enough into a contractor’s business, out of due diligence, to violate the arms-length criteria that characterize contract relationships; and—in publishing the required notification—creating a document that could become the basis for litigation challenging the classification. The bill also lays out an aggressive fines schedule for businesses found to have misclassified personnel under Department of Labor criteria.

The November 12 hearing featured the case of a carpenter who had been involuntarily “switched” from employee to contractor status and probed the consequences of losing the statutory protections available to employees. What neither witnesses nor interrogating Senators mentioned was that current law already regulates this abuse, by denying “switchers” the protection of the Section 530 “safe harbor.” In any case, Senator Casey insisted that additional enforcement measures are called for, and not only referenced his own bill (which focuses on DOL-related misclassifications) but stated that Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio) planned to introduce legislation focusing on IRS-related misclassifications, similar to former Sen. John Kerry’s Fair Playing Field Act—essentially a repeal of Section 530.

Although Sen. Johnny Isakson (R-Georgia), the Subcommittee’s ranking Republican, pointed out that over-regulation of independent contracting can inflict serious damage on the economy, it appears all businesses that rely on the right to contract freely may expect serious challenges from Senate Democrats through 2014. FRA and the Coalition to Promote Independent Entrepreneurs will be advocating to block any policy that threatens independent contractor status.

Reprinted from Forest Resources Association Bulletin of November 20, 2013.

Master Logger Certification Committee Update American Loggers Council 2013 Annual Report Marksville, Louisiana

Many states have implemented the American Loggers Council Master Logger Certification Program and have been progressing well. Some states report that ALC Certified Master Loggers are realizing benefits in the supply chain.



Now eighteen states have approved MLC templates: Idaho, Maine, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Washington, Oregon, California, Arkansas, Louisiana, South Carolina, Vermont, Michigan, Missouri, Georgia and Florida with subsidiary states Massachusetts,

Connecticut and Rhode Island partnering with the Maine Northeast Master Logger Certification Program.

Other states have been reluctant to move forward with preparing and submitting a state template for MLC approval. With SFI's recognition of Certified Logger Programs, ALC states are encouraged to submit a template for approval by the MLC Committee.

The ALC Master Logger Certification program is voluntary, not mandatory. But if all ALC states had an approved MLC template, whether the program is implemented or not, this would enhance the ALC MLC's position as a mechanism to certify wood as being sustainably harvested by certified logging professionals to concur with the SFI Standards, Chain of Custody processes and other Forest Certification Systems.

Unity within the ALC ranks is needed and a consensus of ALC MLC states would show the support for raising the professional timber harvesting bar and show support for professionalism and sustainable forestry practices nationwide.

The Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) is now in the process of reviewing the 2010 – 2014 Standards for revisions to be incorporated into the 2015 – 2019 Standards. There are two areas the MLC Committee feels the American Loggers Council may want to offer comments.

1. Address the "deminimus" volume of wood SFI participating companies can receive from "untrained loggers and wood suppliers." SFI companies can now receive untrained wood via the standard currently in place. While this amount probably varies widely by company, this allows for those wood suppliers to deliver volumes without having to be SFI Trained. Therefore this allows a competitive advantage for untrained wood suppliers. A firm volume should be inserted into

the standard or this minimum volume be eliminated altogether thus having all volumes come from SFI Trained suppliers.

2. Address the SFI logger training process to perhaps obtain some consistency for states to go by for logger training programs. This area is probably very difficult to address because of the variations in logger and wood supplier training programs nationwide. Some states have continuing education hours that must be met within a given period of time and some do not. Some states conduct training classes, some use DVD based training programs and others may use another methodology. SFI logger training programs are overseen by the SFI State Implementation Committees. So the approach used within any given state is directed by the SIC. Perhaps the ALC might offer a recommendation for the minimum number of continuing education hours for logger/wood supplier training programs. Again, this is difficult to address due to the variations. For example, South Carolina has changed from requiring 12 hours of SFI continuing education every three years via class programs and approved training courses to an annual SFI Trained status using a training DVD which covers the SFI required training topics of the current SFI Standard. As previously mentioned, this may be difficult to address, but the MLC Committee wanted to bring this topic forward for discussion.

At the July ALC board meeting in Dallas, Texas, both points of interest were discussed. It was determined ALC would present a recommendation to the SFI board the "deminimus" volume received by SFI participating companies be set at a specific percentage number. It was agreed the percentage to be recommended by ALC be 3 percent (3%) of volume purchased.

The logger training point was discussed with no action taken. Due to the complexities and varieties of training programs throughout the nation, this is a difficult issue to approach. Further investigation into this will be conducted.

Since the Dallas summer board meeting the MLC Committee has received three updates from states. Reports for the Wisconsin MLC and Great Lakes Regional Michigan MLC were received. Alabama responded there was no activity to report. Thanks to these respondents.

No reports or comments from other MLC approved states regarding any changes or updates since the Dallas meeting have been received. ALC MLC states are reminded if a revision is made to the state's program, the MLC Committee request an update be forwarded to the committee chairman. The committee would appreciate any updates that may have been initiated for a MLC state.

The ALC's National Master Logger Certification® template provides guidance for Seven Areas of Respon-

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sibility for performance standards. Each ALC member state develops its state template according to state laws, practices, regulations and criteria to meet the national template's performance standards.

The ALC Master Logger Certification© Committee has the responsibility of reviewing submitted state templates to assure established processes are included for implementation, administration, third party verification, accountability and enforcement. The committee then can approve or return the template for recommended revisions. The committee also reviews approved state template revisions to assure MLC objectives are maintained.

The ALC MLC program is a true third-party certification system via audits of a logger's business and on the ground practices for the Seven Areas of Responsibility required by the ALC Master Logger Program. And the state must have an approved state ALC MLC template to qualify for the designation of ALC Master Logger Certification.

Logger certification continues to gain importance within forestland management and forest products certification systems. The important point is the American Loggers Council MLC program has led the charge.

ALC states and its logger members must support ALC's "logger owned and logger controlled" program. ALC and its member states must continue to be the leaders in professional logger certification.

Respectfully submitted,

Crad Jaynes
Chairman
Master Logger Certification Committee

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MLC Reports As of September 3, 2013

Wisconsin Master Logger Certification Program August 2013 Report

PROGRAM STATUS

Total Current Wisconsin Master Loggers	55
Total Number of New Applicants in 2013	2
New applicants certified	1
New applicants yet to be acted on	2
Total Master Loggers to be Recertified in 2013	55

CURRENT PROGRAM BENEFITS

- Wisconsin DNR Green Tier Charter membership signed into effect April 16, 2012
- Secura Insurance is offering a 20% discount to Master Loggers on insurance coverage excluding worker compensation insurance
- Burnett and Washburn County Forest Bond and Payment Incentive clause specific to Master Loggers
- Marketing tool directed at private landowners by giving them the assurance of harvesting done to an accepted and recognized standard
- Time, Inc. recognizing wood harvested from private land by Master Loggers as certified (New Page and Verso)
- Some mills give preference to Master Loggers for contracts
- Master Logger Program has functioned as an arbitrator on complaints
- WIMLC website for marketing, information, and outreach (wimlc.com)
- Any Certified Master Logger can sign up for FSC® Chain of Custody for any wood they harvest from FSC® certified lands. In 2012, five loggers took advantage of this program.
- Recognized by the WI SFI Implementation Committee as the official SFI Master Logger Certification program for Wisconsin

Great Lakes Regional Michigan Master logger Certification Program August 2013 Report

PROGRAM STATUS

Total Current Michigan Master Loggers	32
Total Upper Peninsula Master Loggers	28
Total Lower Peninsula Master Loggers	4
Total Number of New Applicants in 2013	0
New applicants certified (Upper Peninsula)	1
New applicants certified (Lower Peninsula)	1

CURRENT PROGRAM BENEFITS

1. Secura Insurance is offering a 20% discount to Master Loggers on insurance coverage excluding worker compensation insurance
2. Some mills will pay a bonus for wood harvested from non-certified private land
3. Preference by some private landowners
4. Master Logger Program has functioned as an arbitrator on complaints
5. Program has been pro-active in being part of Michigan Biomass Harvesting Guidelines
6. MIMLC website for marketing, information, and outreach (mimlc.com)
7. Time, Inc. recognizing wood harvested from private land by Master Loggers as certified (New Page and Verso)
8. Recognized by MI SFI State Implementation Committee as the official SFI Master Logger Certification Program for Michigan

2014 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING NOTICE



TO: Members of the South Carolina Timber Producers Association, Inc.
WHEN: Noon, Saturday, February 8, 2014
WHERE: Springmaid Beach Resort & Conference Center
3200 South Ocean Blvd, Myrtle Beach, SC 29577

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

At the Association Business Session, members will:

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

As a member, you should plan to attend the 2014 Annual Membership Meeting. This is a member privilege and wonderful opportunity to get involved in your Association.

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

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

Take advantage of this opportunity to play an active role in SCTPA. Make plans to join your peers **February 7 – 9, 2014 at Myrtle Beach's Springmaid Beach Resort & Conference Center for your Annual Membership Meeting.**

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

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S.C. TIES FOR NO. 5 IN HEAVY EQUIPMENT THEFTS

Staff Report

colanews@scbiznews.com

Published Oct. 10, 2013

South Carolina tied with neighboring Georgia for fifth place in the National Insurance Crime Bureau's annual report of heavy equipment thefts in 2012, which was released today.

Law enforcement agencies in South Carolina and Georgia reported 595 heavy equipment thefts each in 2012, according to the organization, which co-produced the report with the National Equipment Register.

The heavy equipment category includes machines like mowers, tractors, loaders, backhoes and generators that are towed to a worksite.

South Carolina and Georgia were sandwiched between No. 4 California and No. 7 Tennessee.

Texas ranked first with 1,401 reported thefts, the bureau said.

Although nationally heavy equipment thefts dropped 7% from 2011's numbers, South Carolina reported thefts increased 8.2% over 550 incidents reported the previous year.

Two South Carolina cities – Walterboro and Orangeburg – also ranked in the top 10 in the number of heavy equipment thefts per capita, the report said.

In Walterboro, there were 21 heavy equipment thefts or 5.4 incidents per 10,000 inhabitants – ranking the Colleton County community No. 1 in the country, the bureau. Orangeburg ranked No. 3 with 4.76 thefts per 10,000 inhabitants.

Headquartered in Des Plaines, Ill., the crime information bureau is a not-for-profit organization supported by more than 1,100 property and casualty insurance companies and self-insured organizations.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

SCTPA welcomes our New Members & Restart Members
Your support is appreciated.

McMillan Logging, *Olar*
Great Woods Companies, *Darlington*
Rhoden Forestry Products, LLC, *Brunson*
Coleman Brothers Logging, LLC, *Richburg*
DRS Logging & Forestry Services, *Pamplico*
East Coast Chippers, *Lugoff*

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SCTPA 2014 ANNUAL MEETING

LOG ON!



Our 2014 Annual Meeting will be held February 7 - 9 at the Springmaid Beach Resort & Conference Center, 3200 South Ocean Boulevard, Myrtle Beach, SC.

Log On! is our focus. Our industry is feeling the effects of the economic recovery and is moving forward with improvements in business relationships and culture, benefiting from the opportunities of stable and growing markets to increase the wood supply.

We are excited to be meeting at the impressive Springmaid Beach Resort and Conference Center, Myrtle Beach. The complex completed a \$6.5 million renovation of guest rooms and facilities last year. 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 Jim Hourdequin, CEO of The Lyme Timber Company. Jim will present "How Lyme Timber Company Respects Their Logging Contractors." Jim says, "Without profitable loggers, our company is not profitable."

Brian Nelson, Nelson Logging & Chipping, and new American Loggers Council President will speak on Saturday morning. Other Saturday morning general session speakers will be Don Taylor, Sustainable Resource Systems, to discuss the results of his and RISI's WSRI project dealing with "What Will It Take to Recover Logging Capacity." Attorney Rob Moseley, Smith Moore & Leatherwood, will discuss the Compliance Safety Accountability (CSA) program and subcontract trucking relationships. Rob is one of the foremost trucking attorneys nationwide. Consultant forester Mike Wetzal, Richardson, Bell, McLeod & Wetzal, will provide an insight into a Logging Lawsuit to emphasize the importance of safety and performing necessary due diligence work.

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, 2013 – June 30, 2014.

After the SFI TOP DVD class, a session will be presented by a diesel engine expert to discuss the new engine regulations for off-road equipment and the impacts this will have on loggers and logging equipment. This will be very informative session due to the severe impacts of the new regulations.

Friday's schedule will be a board of directors meeting, afternoon registration and evening welcome reception with food and entertainment.

Saturday features general session speakers, luncheon with speaker, association business session, board member elections and awards and Saturday evening free. We'll also have our prize drawings for the Honda ATV 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 8th are available for \$25 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 1037R7. Call Springmaid Beach Resort Reservations at 1-877-283-3284 **Room block cut off is January 6, 2014.**

Registration, sponsor and exhibitor packages will be forwarded. Check out Springmaid Beach Resort at 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 7 – 9 for our 15th 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 1037R7

Room Block Rates Expire January 6, 2014.

2014 ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION February 7 – 9, 2014

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, 2014	
	#	\$	#	\$
Member *	_____ @	\$ 185 = _____.	_____ @	\$ 210 = _____.
Member Spouse *	_____ @	\$ 85 = _____.	_____ @	\$ 95 = _____.
Active Member Employee **	_____ @	\$ 90 = _____.	_____ @	\$ 100 = _____.
Active Member Employee Spouse	_____ @	\$ 65 = _____.	_____ @	\$ 75 = _____.
SATURDAY, FEB. 8 ONLY	_____ @	\$ 165 = _____.	_____ @	\$ 185 = _____.
Non-Member	_____ @	\$ 220 = _____.	_____ @	\$ 245 = _____.
Non-Member Spouse	_____ @	\$ 85 = _____.	_____ @	\$ 95 = _____.
Children - Per Child – Age 6 – 18 <small>Children Under 6 – No Charge</small>	_____ @	\$ 35 = _____.		
Discounted Carolina Opry Tickets <small>Saturday Evening Show, FEB. 8, 7 p.m. Tickets Are Non-Refundable Save \$ 15.00 Per Ticket</small>	_____ @	\$ 25 Per Person = \$ _____.		
		TOTAL \$ DUE & PAID \$ _____.		

* 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.

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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, 2014. 50% refund if written cancellation request received by January 10, 2014. NO REFUND after January 10, 2014.

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Reservation Form

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CODE# 1037R7 Arrive 02/06/14 Depart 02/09/14

Reservation must be received by 1/06/14 to qualify for the special rates extended to your group.

Rates are available 2 days prior and after the event, based upon availability Check-in any time after 4:00pm across the street from the Hotel.

Reservation made by _____ or Confirmed by _____

MANDATORY POLICY: You are required to give us your address/telephone number to receive your confirmation in the mail. We also cannot guarantee any reservation that does not have a credit card number, money order or check along with this form.

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SHARING ROOM WITH _____		NUMBER OF PERSONS IN ROOM _____
SIGNATURE _____		DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER _____
Reservation made by _____		or Confirmed by _____

MONTH	DAY	YEAR

ARRIVAL DATE

Check in time: After 4:00pm
Check out time: Before 11:00am

MONTH	DAY	YEAR

DEPARTURE DATE

Room Guarantee: 1st night deposit is required to secure your reservation, via Credit Card or Check. If making your deposit by check, please allow 45 days for check to clear. **CANCELLATION POLICY:** If reservation is cancelled more than 14 days prior to your scheduled arrival date, there will be a \$25.00 administrative fee, **if reservation is cancelled within 14 days of your arrival date, the first nights deposit is the cancellation fee.** PLEASE DO NOT SEND CASH! MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Spring Maid Beach Resort OR GIVE CREDIT CARD INFORMATION BELOW:

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EXPIRATION DATE _____ VISA MASTERCARD DINERS CLUB

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Signature _____ Amount _____

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Any questions (Pam) Sales office phone number-1-843-315-7003.

2014 Annual Membership Meeting

February 7 – 9, Springmaid Beach Resort & Conference Center, Myrtle Beach

MEETING AT A GLANCE

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Conference Center

- 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!

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Conference Center

- 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: Brain Nelson, President American Loggers Council, ALC Updates
 - Speaker: Mike Wetzel, Richardson, Bell, McLeod & Wetzel, Inc., Logging Lawsuit Insight
- Morning Break
 - Speaker: Don Taylor, WSRI Project – What Will It Take to Recover Logging Capacity
 - Speaker: Rob Moseley, Smith Moore Leatherwood, CSA & Subcontract Trucker Relationship
- 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: Jim Hourdequin, CEO, The Lyme Timber Co., How Lyme Respects Their Logging Contractors
- 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, 2013 – June 30, 2014 SFI Trained Status**
- 4:30 p.m. New Engine Regulatory Impacts for Loggers & Logging Equipment
- 5:30 p.m. Adjourn
 - Saturday Evening On Your Own. Enjoy Your Evening!
 - DISCOUNTED CAROLINA OPRY TICKETS available through SCTPA.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Conference Center

- 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

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

Come Join Us For This Exciting 2014 Annual Meeting!

Meeting Speakers & Schedule Subject To Change

2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINATIONS NEEDED

One Board of Directors Seat will be elected at our February 8, 2014 Annual Membership Meeting at the Springmaid Beach Resort & Conference Center, Myrtle Beach, SC.

The board term for Seat 2 served by Billy McKinney, Highland Timber Co., LLC, will expire December 31, 2013. Billy has indicated his desire to run for re-election. Other nominations are welcomed for the one seat.

Board member elections will be conducted during the Member Business Session of the Membership Meeting convening at noon on Saturday, February 8, 2014.

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 bimonthly meetings held in Columbia beginning in February each year.

Any member directly engaged in the logging business and in good standing with paid dues as of December 31, 2013, may be nominated for an upcoming seat. 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, 2014.

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

Tommy Barnes, Ideal Logging, Inc., Edgemoor

Office 803-789-5467 ■ Fax 803-789-3565 ■ Cell 803-385-7994 ■ ideallogging@truvista.net

Donnie Lambert, Leo Lambert Logging, Inc., Georgetown

Office 843-264-8839 ■ Fax 843-264-2277 ■ Cell 843-340-8408 ■ DonnieLeoLambert@gmail.com

FALL DISTRICT MEETING SPONSORS

Our thanks are extended to these meal sponsors for their support and assistance for our Fall district meetings. Your support is greatly appreciated.

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PROUD TO OFFER



2013 Logger Activist Award Nomination

Nominations for SCTPA's **2013 Gene Collins Logger Activist of the Year Award** are being sought. Award will be presented at the 2014 Annual Membership Business Luncheon and Meeting convening at noon, Saturday, February 8, 2014 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, 2014. 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

Tommy Barnes, Ideal Logging, Inc., Edgemoor
Office 803-789-5467 ■ Fax 803-789-3565 ■ Cell 803-385-7994 ■ ideallogging@truvista.net

Donnie Lambert, Leo Lambert Logging, Inc., Georgetown
Office 843-264-8839 ■ Fax 843-264-2277 ■ Cell 843-340-8408 ■ DonnieLeoLambert@gmail.com

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

A Simple Mistake in Fire Safety

Introduction: We receive injury reports each year about individuals at work and home that are severely burned or killed by fire. Many injuries are from a moment of inattention, or carelessness, or ignorance of the material or liquids being used. Mistakes are often made trying to “HELP” a fire to start or burn hotter. While fire can be useful, fire can also mutilate us, kill us, and destroy everything that took a lifetime to build. Fire will take away your work place, your job, and possibly your life.

Background: Scenario 1 - Recently, a night watchman for a logging company was badly injured when he attempted to start a fire in a shop stove. These stoves are used everywhere and maybe you have one in your shop or home work shop. He placed some wood pieces in the stove and shove bags of trash that truck drivers had left in the area. Inside the trash bags were plastic soda bottles with the caps on. He also started to pour waste oil into a small cap to throw in the fire to help it along. When the embers from the previous day’s fire ignited the trash, it caused the closed bottle to burst and threw hot embers out of the stove and onto the watchman. The embers also fell into the waste oil container (later discovered to have waste by products that contained flammable materials) and when it flashed, it threw oil and caused burns to his body.

Scenario 2 – A logging crew arrived to the job site while it was dark and the temperature was cold enough that they needed to build a fire while they awaited the daylight. The wood was in the burn barrel and the fire was lite. One of the crew members got some diesel and threw it onto the fire. Unfortunately, it flashed back at him and burned him. It was later discovered that the gas station where they filled the diesel can that morning had had gasoline pumped into the holding tank by the vendor. The crew member sustained severe burns to the hand and face.

UNSAFE ACTS & CONDITION:

Scenario 1

- 1. Employee tried to help the fire along without knowing the hazards involved.**
- 2. Employee was unaware of the glowing embers from the previous fire.**
- 3. Employee did not know the contents of the trash in the bags.**
- 4. Employee did not know there was flammable liquid mixed in with the waste oil.**
- 5. Employee had the 5-gallon bucket of waste oil too close to the fire.**



Scenario 2

- 1. Employee did not know there was gasoline mixed in with the diesel.
Employee tried to help the fire by throwing a combustible liquid onto a burning fire.**

Fire is an essential part of our live. We cannot do without it, but we must stop needless injuries that can change you for the rest of your life. Never have an attitude that you will not be injured. Be prepared by knowing what actions to take if one occurs. Good teamwork is a must. To prevent fires we must all work together.

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In-Woods Chipper Safety

Jimmy McCraney

The headline reads: “A supervisor with over 15 years’ experience in the logging industry loses arm, from his elbow down, and part of foot in a chipper accident.”

The supervisor noticed that the chains on the fail of the whole tree chipper had sustained much wear and needed to be replaced. Normally, this task takes three people to complete. On this day, the supervisor ignored established maintenance procedures and proceeded with the task alone. At the chipper, he lifted the door to gain access to the chains. He then stepped up on the stabilizer bar and got his left foot caught between the stabilizer bar and the in-feed roller (which is approximately a two inch gap). This caused the supervisor to lose his balance and as he was falling, he reached to catch himself and got his left arm caught between the stabilizer bar and the in-feed rollers. This activated the residual pressure left in the hydraulic system and allowed the chain that rotates the in-feed rollers to move. The pressure caused the rollers to turn and trapped the supervisors arm and foot between the sharp teeth of the in-feed rollers. The resulting damage from the pressure was the amputation of the left arm, from the elbow down and his left foot.

In-woods chippers are now in wide use by logging operations to produce chips and mulch. They are in the mobile wood processing equipment class and are very efficient, very powerful, and very dangerous to work around. Supervisors and employees must be alert and careful when operating or conducting maintenance operations on an in-woods chipper. Unsafe operation or maintenance practices will cause severe injury or even death.

When chipping is being done as part of a logging operation, the OSHA Logging Operations standard requires that employers

ensure that all logging machinery be maintained in a serviceable condition. To that end, the logging standard requires that all machinery to be inspected daily and any discrepancies documented and/or repaired. Failure to correct any discrepancies that result in an employee(s) being injured could result in negligence.

The OSHA standard requires any employee that operates in-woods chipper to have mandatory training prior to using the machine. Employees operating the chipper should be properly trained in starting and stopping procedures, machinery lockout, maintenance, and emergency safety controls. Although the hazards associated with chipper use are generally known, awareness of these hazards and the associated safeguards must be highlighted and strictly reinforced.

In-wood chipper blades can rotate at over 2,000 revolutions per minute, so it is important that all safe guards, including doors, housing, and covers, are properly installed. The machine should be equipped with a mechanical-feed control bar. The bar controls the chipper's rollers when it is activated and should including a quick-stop and reverse-feed controls. In-wood chippers must also feature a bottom-feed stop bar and panic bar that prevents an operator from being pulled into the blades.

According to the OSHA Integrated Management Information, 39 employees were killed in chipper accidents over a 10 year period. Of those fatalities, the vast majority (78 percent) resulted from being caught in the chipper, and most of the remainder resulted from "struck-by" debris accidents. Do not allow your logging operation to become part of an accident statistic. Train your employees to know the hazards associated with in-wood chippers and ensure your Supervisors enforce and adhere to established maintenance procedures.

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SCTPA / 11-19-13



Support Letter to USDA Undersecretary

SCTPA signed on as a signatory supporter of this letter to Robert Bonnie, Undersecretary for Natural Resources and Environment. Mr. Bonnie is responsible for the U.S. Forest Service.

October 8, 2013

Robert Bonnie, Undersecretary for Natural Resources and Environment
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Robert:

We are writing to strongly urge the Forest Service to take immediate action to ensure that timber sales operations can continue during the lapse in appropriations. We believe the agency's current is not consistent with guidance from the Administration or the approach being taken by other federal agencies. We urge you in the strongest terms not to create a disaster for your timber purchasers and a situation where contract litigation against the government becomes inevitable.

The Forest Service's reasoning for shutting contracts down because of the Antideficiency Act is not supported by OMB guidance, the provisions of the timber contract, or common sense. First, the OMB guidance makes it abundantly clear that operations on existing contracts can continue unless a critical inspection is required. Most of the timber sale contracts are operating pursuant to operating plans approved by the Forest Service and there are few where a critical inspection is required to continue operations.

We call your attention to the following timber sale contract clause:

B6.3 Control of Operations. Purchaser's Operations shall be conducted in a workmanlike and orderly manner. The timing of required Forest Service designation of work on the ground and the performance of other Forest Service work shall not be such as to cause unnecessary delay to Purchaser.

We understand that contracts and leases for ski areas and oil and gas production will not be shut down and do not understand the reasoning for the halt of all timber sales. The unilateral, across-the-board halt to all timber sales immedi-

ately makes no sense and it is not in the government's interest. Moreover, during the 1995 lapse in appropriations, timber sales continued.

Second, the Antideficiency Act issue may not be an issue much longer. On Saturday, the House passed H.R. 3223, the Federal Employee Retroactive Pay Fairness Act by a vote of 407-0. The Act commits the government to pay furloughed employees. This bill is currently being considered by the Senate and if enacted would eliminate the anti-deficiency issue.

The Antideficiency Act prohibits employing federal personnel except in emergencies, unless authorized by law. H.R. 3223 would authorize payment to these furloughed employees. While we understand that the Senate has not yet voted on this measure, it makes sense to wait a few days for the Senate to act. For that reason alone, you should have Contracting Officers and those receiving payments deemed essential so as not to shut down the contractors who, unlike government workers, will not get paid if they are not on the job.

Third, as explained above, existing contracts should only be shut down if a critical inspection is needed. In addition, the OMB direction provides for continuation of contracts for health and safety reasons and to protect property. Many contracts are designed to reduce heavy fuel loads to prevent catastrophic wildfire to protect federal forests, facilities, and developed areas, as well as adjoining private, county, and state lands. Other contracts are subject to the Chief's emergency situation determination holding that it is important for those salvage sales to promptly be implemented. Down logs will deteriorate if not removed because once a logger leaves a sale, the company may not be able to come back this season because of other commitments. This will result in lost property value of the down logs.

Fourth, billings for timber that was removed in September will be received by purchasers in mid-October. Therefore, someone within the Forest Service must send those out. Those payments aren't due until two weeks later, which

(Continued on page 31)

(Continued from page 30)

would be near the end of October. Hence, the argument for shutting down operations within a few days just does not hold water when considered in light of when payments are due and that payments can be made to the Albuquerque lock-box, whether or not there is a live person at your agency's desk to "collect."

Most importantly, shutting down contracts at this point in the operating season will be devastating for companies who are trying to put in their winter decks, for those who finally have secured helicopters to get their sales logged, and for those who depend solely on Forest Service timber in the short run to operate. The suspension of operations that stops ongoing harvest will also cause many sales to default because they will be unable to be completed by the October or November termination date. In short, the Forest Service's timber sale contract is extremely vulnerable to claims and they will be of a magnitude that hasn't been seen since the listing of the spotted owl. In fact, the Court of Federal Claims has held that "neither the Appropriations Clause of the Constitution, nor the Anti-Deficiency Act, shield the government from liability where the government has lawfully entered into a contract with another party." *Wetzel-Oviat v. United States*, 38 Fed. Cl. 563 (1997).

We would remind you that timber sale contracts require the purchaser to guarantee payment through a combination of methods including down payments, payment bond, deposited securities, blanket payment bond, or letters of credit. The purchaser must file a plan of operations as well as an operating schedule prior to commencement of operations. Both require acceptance by the Forest Service before operations can commence. Thus, the government and the environment are both more than adequately protected at times when a Contracting Officer is not on site to review operations.

We have one member company that currently has ten Forest Service timber sales operating, and two of those have helicopter logging. There is a tremendous amount of volume on the ground that needs to be picked up. The company has waited months to get a helicopter to his job because of the recent extreme fire season. A shutdown at this juncture would cause them to lose the ability to operate, which would cripple their operations; cause them to lose this operating season on those helicopter sales; cause a renegotiation of prices for the log-

ging; and hence, create a major claim against the government. This company has been told they have five days to get all of their sales cleaned up, including water barring and road maintenance. It is an impossibility! The potential for environmental damages resulting from such an unnecessarily rapid shutdown is considerable. This member is just an example, and there are many others who are similarly situated. All told, a failure to reasonably manage ongoing timber operations during this lapse in appropriations could generate tens of millions of dollars in claims against the government and lead to the loss of scarce milling and logging infrastructure.

Finally, we have a looming disaster if the Forest Service continues on the same course. We strongly urge you to work with the Forest Service to take a more flexible approach to overseeing ongoing timber sale operation and/or declare the agency's Timber Sale Contract Officers as essential so our members can continue the work in the woods that we all agree is critical.

Sincerely,

Signatories to letter listed

cc: Tom Tidwell
Jim Pena
Lathrop Smith

Bill Imbergamo
Executive Director
Federal Forest Resource Coalition
202-518-6380 office
703-629-6877 mobile

SCTPA Comments: SC does have two national forests, the Sumter and Francis Marion. While the subject of this letter may not impact many in SC, it does illustrate the issues impacting loggers in other regions of the U.S.

\$ 1.1 Billion Deal Would Double Plum Creek's SC Holdings **Company buying 175,400 acres of timberland from MeadWestvaco**

By Joey Holleman, The State Newspaper, October 29, 2013

A major S.C. landowner, Plum Creek Timber Co., plans to nearly double its Palmetto State acreage by buying 175,400 acres from MeadWestvaco.

That property is expected to remain as timberland, according to a Plum Creek news release. But as part of the deal, Plum Creek also would acquire a 50 percent interest in an additional 109,000 acres that MeadWestvaco planned to develop in the Charleston area.

Plum Creek also would buy 325,000 acres of MeadWestvaco land in four other states – Alabama, Georgia, Virginia and West Virginia. The total purchase price is nearly 1.1 billion – including \$ 869 million for the timberland, \$ 152 million for the 50 percent stake in the development-quality land near Charleston and \$ 65 million for mineral rights and wind-power assets.

Seattle-based Plum Creek stepped up its S.C. land holdings about 10 years ago when long-standing timber giants began to sell their land. Before the MeadWestvaco deal, Plum Creek owned about 177,000 S.C. acres, much of it purchased from Georgia-Pacific. Most of that land remains in timber production, and Plum Creek intends to do the same with the MeadWestvaco timberland.

“These timberlands have a long history of excellent forest management,” Plum Creek chief executive Rick Holley said. “The high stocking levels and older age of the timberlands make them particularly attractive. These assets should integrate seamlessly into our existing timberland ownership in the Southeast.”

“These timberlands have a long history of excellent forest management.”

As part of the deal, Richmond, Va.-based MeadWestvaco gets a massive influx of cash, including about \$ 665 million to be distributed to shareholders.

“This transaction delivers on all of our objectives,” MeadWestvaco CEO John A. Luke, Jr. said. “It enables us to maximize the value of our land holdings in a tax-efficient manner, while retaining the substantial upside potential of the attractive real estate opportunities in the growing Charleston market. At the same time, we are maintaining a secure source of fiber for our mills.”

Once the purchase is complete, Plum Creek will own 352,400 acres in South Carolina, or about 1.7 percent of the state, plus its 50 percent interest in the 109,000-acre Charleston development site.

That site includes some developments already in the works, including the Nexton planned community and an industrial park in Summerville. But the largest chunk of the land is in long-term projects, including a 78,000-acre East Edisto project in Charleston and Dorchester counties, according to Westvaco.



*******SAFETYALERT*******

*****Employers must stop their employees from using any type of fuel, whether it is gas, oil, diesel, or any accelerant that has a potential to flash and cause serious injury or death when thrown onto a fire or smoldering embers.*****

Four separate incidents in the last several months, with the most recent on November 8th, caused severe burns to employees that tried to throw flammable liquids, oil or diesel to help a fire burn faster or get started.

You must stop needless injuries that can kill you or scar you for the rest of your life. Never have an attitude that you will not be injured.



DO NOT THROW FUEL ONTO A FIRE!!!!

Scientists Oppose Logging Bills in Congress

Experts say measures pushed by pro-logging interests ignore a growing scientific consensus

By Scott Sonner, Associated Press, 11-03-13

http://www.flatheadbeacon.com/articles/article/scientists_oppose_logging_bills_in_congress/36344/

RENO, Nev. — More than 200 biologists, ecologists and other scientists are urging Congress to defeat legislation they say would destroy critical wildlife habitat by setting aside U.S. environmental laws to speed logging of burned trees at Yosemite National Park and other national forests and wilderness areas across the West.

The experts say two measures pushed by pro-logging interests ignore a growing scientific consensus that the burned landscape plays a critical role in forest regeneration and is home to many birds, bats and other species found nowhere else.

"We urge you to consider what the science is telling us: that post-fire habitat created by fire, including patches of severe fire, are ecological treasures rather than ecological catastrophes, and that post-fire logging does far more harm than good to the nation's public lands," they wrote in a letter mailed to members of Congress Friday.

One bill, authored by Rep. Doc Hastings, R-Wash., would make logging a requirement on some public forestland, speed timber sales and discourage legal challenges.

The House approved the legislation 244-173 in September and sent it to the Senate, where it awaits consideration by the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The White House has threatened a veto, saying it would jeopardize endangered species, increase lawsuits and block creation of national monuments.

Hastings, chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee, said wildfires burned 9.3 million acres in the U.S. last year, while the Forest Service only harvested timber from about 200,000 acres.

Hastings' bill includes an amendment by Rep. Tom McClintock, R-Calif., which he also introduced as separate legislation specific to lands burned by this year's Rim Fire at Yosemite Na-

tional Park, neighboring wilderness and national forests in the Sierra Nevada.

"We have no time to waste in the aftermath of the Yosemite Rim Fire," McClintock said at a subcommittee hearing in October. "By the time the formal environmental review of salvage operations has been completed in a year, what was once forestland will have already begun converting to brushland, and by the following year, reforestation will become infinitely more difficult and expensive."

The Rim Fire started in August and grew to become one of the largest wildfires in California history. It burned 400 square miles and destroyed 11 residences, three commercial properties and 98 outbuildings. It cost \$127 million to fight.

Members of the House Natural Resources Committee remain optimistic the Senate will take up Hastings' bill before the end of the year, said Mallory Micetich, the committee's deputy press secretary.

"We have a lot of hazardous fuel buildup, and it will help alleviate some of the threat of catastrophic wildfires," she said.

The scientists see it differently.

"Just about the worst thing you can do to these forests after a fire is salvage-log them," said Dominick DellaSala, the lead author of the letter. "It's worse than the fire itself because it sets back the recovery that begins the minute the fire is out."

DellaSala, chief scientist at the conservation group Geos Institute in Ashland, Ore., was on a team of scientists that produced the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's final recovery plan for the spotted owl in 2008.

Many who signed the opposition letter have done research in the field and several played roles with the U.S. Forest Service and Fish and Wildlife Service in developing logging policies for the threatened northern spotted owl in the Pacific Northwest.

"Though it may seem at first glance that a post-fire landscape is a catastrophe ecologically," they wrote, "numerous scientific studies tell us that even in patches where forest fires burned most intensely, the resulting post-fire community is one of the most ecologically important and biodiverse habitat types in western conifer forests.

"Moreover, it is the least protected of all forest types and is often as rare, or rarer, than old-growth forest due to damaging forest practices encouraged by post-fire logging policies."



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Proper Grounding and Bonding is Crucial When Refueling Any Vehicle!

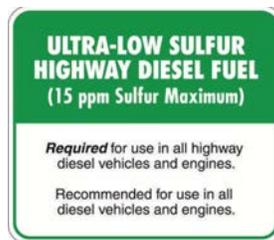
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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations require a major reduction in the sulfur content of diesel fuels and emission levels from diesel engines and vehicles. To meet the EPA regulations, the petroleum industry is producing Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel (ULSD) fuel, a cleaner-burning diesel fuel containing a maximum 15 parts-per-million (ppm) sulfur.

Since 2006, diesel fuel produced or imported is required to be ULSD fuel. ULSD is replacing Low Sulfur Diesel (LSD) fuel, which contains a maximum of 500 ppm sulfur. Used in combination with cleaner-burning diesel engines and vehicles, ULSD fuel helps to improve air quality by significantly reducing emissions. As of December 1, 2010, all highway and non-highway diesel fuel offered for sale must be ULSD fuel.

EPA Suggested Diesel Fuel Pump Labels

Below are example EPA 40 CFR compliant labels that should be seen on ULSD fuel pumps used for on-highway and off-highway applications. These types of labels help identify the different types of fuel now available to users.



EPA 40 CFR 80.572(a)



EPA 40 CFR 80.572(b) and 80.573(a)

Important Changes in Diesel Fuel Formulation

What You Need to Know About Static Electricity Risk

The removal of sulfur and other compounds in Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel (ULSD) fuel decreases its conductivity and increases its ability to store static charge. Refineries may have treated the fuel with a static dissipating additive. However, there are many factors that can reduce the effectiveness of the additive over time.

Static charges can build up in ULSD fuel while it is flowing through fuel delivery systems. Static electricity discharge when combustible vapors are present could result in a fire or explosion.



Therefore, it is important to ensure that the entire system used to refuel your machine (fuel supply tank, transfer pump, transfer hose, nozzle, and others) is properly grounded and bonded. Consult with your fuel or fuel system supplier to ensure the delivery system is in compliance with fueling standards for proper grounding and bonding practices.

“Proper Bonding and Grounding of Fuel Delivery Systems is Important During Refueling”

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What is Basic Bonding and Grounding? Why is it Important During Refueling?

Bonding:

A properly bonded fuel delivery system has an electrically conductive and unbroken connection between all components of the fuel delivery system.

- Fuel supply tank, transfer pump, transfer hose, nozzle, and others.
- A wire connection from the fuel delivery system to the machine chassis will equalize the static electric potential between the two machines, further reducing the chance of a static electric discharge.

Grounding:

A properly grounded fuel delivery system has an electrically conductive connection from the fuel delivery system tank to earth ground to allow static and electrical charge dissipation.

Consult with your fuel or fuel system supplier to ensure the delivery system is in compliance with fueling standards for proper grounding and bonding practices.



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Mark Your Calendar

December 2013

- 3 Newberry District Meeting, Farm Bureau, Newberry, 7 p.m.
- 5 Florence / Pee Dee District Meeting – CANCELLED
- 12 SCTPA Board of Directors Meeting, SC Forestry Commission Headquarters, Columbia, 10 a.m.
- 24 Christmas Eve, Santa's Coming!
- 25 Merry Christmas!
- 31 New Year's Eve

January 2014

- 1 Happy New Year!
- 22 & 23 SFI TOP 2-Day Classes, Georgetown. Contact Sally Tucker @ SCFA, 803-798-4170

February 2014

- 7 – 9 SCTPA 2014 Annual Meeting, Springmaid Beach Resort & Conference Center, Myrtle Beach

- *Saluda/Edgefield/Aiken District 1 Members and Non-Members invited to attend the Newberry District 2 Meetings.*
- *Meeting notices mailed. Check the meeting flyer when received.*
- *Meetings will be posted on website beginning October.*
- *Meeting Dates Subject to Change.*

PLEASE NOTE:

Event & meeting dates may change. Notices are mailed prior to SCTPA events.

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

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Heath Springs

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Vice Chairman: Billy McKinney

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**For more information contact:
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*“Serving the Forestry Industry
For Over 25 Years.”*



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.