



TIMBER TALK

Your Voice for South Carolina Timber Harvesting

March/April 2008

TAKING IT TO "THE HILL"

Crad Jaynes, SCTPA President

In trying to decide how to title this article about SCTPA's visit to Capitol Hill on April 3rd and 4th, as well as attend the American Loggers Council Spring Board Meeting on April 5th, an old Doobie Brothers band song entitled "Taking It To The Streets" came to mind. So I thought why not. Let's go with "Taking It To The Hill" because that's exactly what this association's representatives as well as the other American Loggers Council (ALC) states did during our annual visit.

SCTPA's Executive Committee of Chairman Tommy Barnes, Ideal Logging, Inc., Secretary-Treasurer Billy McKinney, McKinney Brothers Logging, Inc., Vice Chairman Danny McKittrick, McKittrick Timber, and President Crad Jaynes traveled to our nation's capital to promote issues concerning our state and nation's timber harvesting industry.

This year's visits focused efforts with South Carolina's Senate and House members' staff to promote position papers from ALC as well as focus on in-state issues impacting our state's timber harvesting, supplying and trucking segments. Staff members were provided a package containing information relevant to each issue discussed.

Woody biomass utilization and

the emergence of woody biomass markets to produce energy, biofuels and products such as wood pellets was again a key issue. Further assistance is needed from Washington to promote capitalization of these alternative markets to provide needed markets for wood suppliers, landowners and loggers.

Fuel prices and the current fuel crisis crippling our timber harvesting and trucking segments in South Carolina as well as nationwide were priority topics.

Other key issues presented were: support the Senate's language of eligible renewable biomass so as to include trees, wood, brush, thinnings, chips and slash from both federal lands and across all privately owned



forest lands in the passage of the Farm Bill; support the Renewable Biomass Facilitation Act by Congresswoman Herseth-Sandlin to revise the renewable biomass definition; oppose the revision to the Clean Water Act as such a revision would truly encumber timber harvesting and silvicultural practices; support increasing truck weights on the interstate systems for unmanu-

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factured forest products and agricultural products; support legislation to increase the exploration and recovery of oil resources within the U.S. and its territories; support measures to reduce this country's dependence on foreign oil by assisting in the development of biofuel refineries to utilize woody biomass; and oppose legislation attempting to limit woody biomass utilization by competing markets to allow the open market system to prevail for all markets.

The visits with the House and Senate staff members were very productive and proved valuable in getting our message to those representing us in Washington. Due to schedules or being in session, none of the House or Senate members were seen. However, each staff member was well aligned with our issues and would take our issues to their boss.

The ALC board meeting was equally productive as the national committee chairman reported on activities such as Master Logger Certification, Communications, Governmental Affairs, Membership and Finances. SCTPA's Crad Jaynes reported on the Master Logger Certification program and provided an update to the ac-

tivities of the Wood Supply Research Institute as its current chairman.

Washington, DC is a great place to visit. And this time it was special since our visit coincided with the Cherry trees in full bloom.

Washington, DC is where national policy is made. America's professional logger representatives Took It To The Hill with facts in hand, a real story to tell and told it with pride and commitment to being true professionals who can make this country better while providing the country with wood to produce the products everyone uses daily to improve the quality of life while at the same time conducting the business of timber harvesting through sustainable forestry practices.

You know you are making an impact when our politicians know you, recognize you and want to hear from you about what is affecting your industry. Taking It To The Hill is exactly what ALC and its members are doing.

Legislative Update



STROBE LIGHT & INCREASED WEIGHT TOLERANCE BILLS

As of April 24th, the Strobe Light Bill (H.3853) and Increased GVW Tolerance Bill (S.1121) have moved forward in the SC General Assembly.

The Strobe Light Bill will change the law so a strobe light will be used on the end of longwood loads, over four-feet passed the end of the trailer, at all times, 24/7. This is similar to the Georgia law now.

The strobe light bill passed the House and moved to the Senate Transportation Subcommittee, chaired by Senator Chip Campsen. In that subcommittee the Senate bill was introduced to amend the strobe light bill to allow an increased Gross Vehicle Tolerance of five percent for the transportation of unmanufactured forest products (UFP) on non-interstate highways in SC. This would allow a GVW tolerance of fif-

teen percent to increase UFP gross vehicle weight to 84,200 pounds. Senator Campsen did an outstanding job describing the bill and its need for passage.

During the subcommittee hearing on April 10th, a large contingent showed up to support the bills. Loggers, Bill Lominick, Joey Austin, Jimmy Witherspoon, Bobo Seckinger, Grover Smith, Tommy Barnes, Everette Bootle, Billy McKinney and Danny Bishop along with Bob Scott, SCFA, Bernie Deason, Smurfit Stone, and Crad Jaynes, SCTPA were present for the hearing. Bob, Crad and Tommy provided testimony for supporting the bills' passage. Tommy did an excellent job of presenting the need for the increased tolerance from the professional logger's perspective and why this is crucial to the survival of the logging and UFP

trucking sectors of SC's forest products industry.

Crad Jaynes and Bob Scott held preliminary meetings with SC Department of Transportation to explain the need for the increased tolerance to ease opposition from SCDOT. SCDOT was not in favor of the bill initially, but agreed to respond with a statement that DOT has its concerns regarding roads and bridges due to increased UFP weight, but would work within its framework to make it work. DOT did indicate there may be more roads and bridges posted if the bill passes. Both Crad and Bob echoed the same concerns about the roads and bridges, but reiterated the need for increased weight due to the economic stress on loggers and UFP trucking operations due to high fuel costs and a dire need to simply sur-

(Continued on page 4)



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NEW Member Benefit Program

WILCOHESS LLC in Winston-Salem, NC, is working with Crad Jaynes, President of the South Carolina Timber Producers Association. We have created a partnership that should save you hundreds, if not thousands of dollars in fuel costs.

Together, we have created a plan that will be of help to those of you that purchase highway diesel fuel – which includes most everyone who are members of SCTPA. The buying power of hundreds of members across South Carolina enables you to receive discounts that other groups may not.

To qualify, you must be a SCTPA member, submit a WILCOHESS credit application and be approved for a WILCOHESS Fleet Card account.

The Fleet Card benefits for NCAPL who apply and are accepted for credit include the following:

- Control: You can limit fuel and monetary purchases of your drivers/employees
- Maintenance: Gives cost per mile and mile per gallon
- Date/Time of all purchases
- Online account maintenance: Ability to look at all purchases made the day before, make any changes to the account, etc.
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- Sell fuel at our cost plus .03 cents.
- Security: Required pin numbers at the point of purchase. A secured internet service for the management of your account.
- 24-hour control of your account through the customer service number on the back of the card

The SCTPA membership discounted price will be the WILCOHESS cost plus \$.03 per gallon and the per-gallon price will never exceed actual pump price. This discount is valid on all grades of gasoline, including diesel.

Each SCTPA member applying for credit will be considered on its own merit and will be responsible for all payments incurred and due to WILCOHESS LLC. The association does not assume any financial encumbrances from applicants. An application and enrollment package is available through SCTPA.

We believe this partnership will be a valuable addition to your SCTPA membership. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Lucia Williamson at 800-642-0945 ext. 6626.

Sincerely,
Mike Gordon
Fleet Sales Director

(Continued from page 2)

vive during these poor economic times in the solid wood products markets and downturn in other available markets for wood.

The bills passed out of subcommittee and moved to the full Senate Transportation Committee. There Senator Campsen again explained the bill and there seemed to be no problem until Senator Malloy of Darlington offered an amendment to include sod haulers in the increased weight tolerance.

The amendment was adopted and there was concern this would not be acceptable to SCDOT. However, after some negotiation with SCDOT, the amendment was agreed to move forward. The Senate bill was also amended to include that the weight of new Idle Technology on engines so as to be included in the GVW of a vehicle.

The bills went to the Senate floor and passed out on April 10th. Now it was back to the House for concurrence. Back in the House,

another amendment was added to allow enforcement of truck idling periods be exclusively enforced by State Transport Police.

As of April 24th, the bills go back to the Senate for concurrence. At this point, it appears very favorable for Senate passage. When the Senate passes the bills, then the new strobe light and tolerance increase will be enacted upon signature of Governor Sanford.

WILCOHESS MEMBER PROGRAM

SCTPA is proud to partner with WILCOHESS and Mike Gordon, Fleet Sales Director, to offer this new member benefit program.

Fuel is a tremendous expense now. Any savings that can be achieved is a benefit for your business. SCTPA looks for ways to deliver benefit programs to assist our members. This program may provide savings on your fuel costs.

While WILCOHESS does not have as great of a presence in South Carolina as North Carolina, there are 24 South Carolina locations where this program will be available for members. WILCOHESS will be looking to locate more fuel facilities in South Carolina.

With the available locations now, I feel many members can use and take advantage of this program and obtain fuel cost savings.

If you are interested in receiving the complete WILCOHESS program package, please contact the SCTPA office. An enrollment package will be mailed, faxed or emailed to members. *SCTPA ... serving our membership since 1999.*

Crad Jaynes
President

SCTPA / WILCOHESS Program Package

*Fleet Program Information Sheet
SCTPA/WILCOHESS Program / Credit Application
Fleet Card Reporting Explanation Brochure
Fleet Account Instructions for Customers
Customer Report & Payment Options Form
Fleet Vehicle & Driver Information Form
WILCOHESS Store Locations*

Contact SCTPA for Enrollment Package

1-800-371-2240
Fax 803-957-8990
bcjpaw@alltel.net

ESCALATING FUEL COSTS – A THREAT TO SUPPLY CAPACITIES

Nationwide timber harvesting and trucking costs have escalated tremendously over the past several months due to the rising fuels costs. Both on-road and off-road fuels have steadily climbed to new all time highs.

Fuel costs for woods equipment operations and on-road trucking have now become THE major threat to the stability and sustainability of our nation's timber harvesting professionals.

Recently a professional logger indicated that one-year ago to the day a bulk load of on-road diesel cost \$8,500. Today that same bulk load cost \$18,000. And this businessman logger shops his fuel purchases weekly to find the best savings.

Not only has fuel skyrocketed, but also the cost of woods and transportation equipment. Petroleum based products such as oils, lubricants, tires and so on have also spiked due to the increased cost of a barrel of oil.

On-road diesel at the pump here in South Carolina has hit \$3.95 per gallon. And our state is lucky because we have a low state fuel tax. And in other regions fuel purchases top the \$4.10 per gallon mark.

To operate, loggers and truckers must purchase and use fuel. But at the current rate of increases, it is difficult to forecast how long the middle link of the wood supply chain can continue to operate. And certainly at the current fuel pricing adjustments and current compensation levels, the sustainability of the wood supply chain's middle link is absolutely threatened to the point of will there be enough supply when this event turns around.

Let's look at four factors influencing these economic times. But first look back to 2004. It was an election year. Oil prices spiked upward then as a barrel of oil reached all time highs around \$56 per barrel. April 2004 on-road diesel prices averaged \$2.60 per gallon with off-road around \$2.15 per gallon. Loggers and truckers were hit with these increased costs accordingly. But two factors were still favorable. The solid wood products markets were good and the U.S. dollar still had value in the global marketplace.

Fast forward to 2008 and note the same factors. 2008 is an election year. And election years seem to cause the national economy to do strange things. Oil

is \$100 per barrel. Bulk on-road fuel is \$3.80 per gallon and off-road is \$3.30. Similarities here yet the increased cost per gallon is substantially higher.

Now the solid wood products markets are severely down and any expected upturn is not expected until next year. So this market's ability to foster economic growth and stability is not available. However the pulp, paper and linerboard markets appear to be holding their own due to the increased need for paper and packaging products.

Additionally, the U.S. dollar has weakened further and this has a drastic effect on our abilities to compete globally. Now it takes \$1.54 U.S. to purchase \$1.00 Euro. So now Middle East oil producers and suppliers are looking to abandon the U.S. dollar and go to the Euro.

These parallels don't help the pocketbook. But maybe these factors shed some light on why we are seeing this economic crunch. When will it end? Or better yet, can you see the end from here? Your guess is as good as the next guy's.

Other factors also play into this economic condition never before seen at the magnitude we see now. Fuel prices are up because foreign markets are competing for the same oil that we do not own. Our inability, perhaps due to the lack of common sense and politics, to bring online new U.S. oil production from the Alaska National Wildlife Refuge and other available areas coupled with this country's inability to build new refineries due to over regulation and environmental fanaticism has exacerbated the problems.

Some wood receiving and supplying companies are responding with assistance where they can. And any help is appreciated. But can more be done to lessen the threat of lowered capacities for the immediate and long-term outlook of the industry.

Perhaps one avenue is relief from the federal government to allow more trucking weight on interstate systems for unmanufactured forest products. Increasing GVW by two, three, four or five tons with corresponding axle weight increases could drive out about 15% daily consumption thus increasing trucking efficiencies by allowing hauls to made on

the roads built to haul excess weight.

Professionals harvesting and transporting our renewable and sustainable forest resources are looking to find ways to be more fuel-efficient. But there must be continued strides in this arena. Compensation rates must increase proportionately to the increased costs of fuel, equipment, trucks and the associated supplies used in every day logging and trucking businesses. Cultural and philosophical changes of the wood supply system need to be addressed in order to find mutually beneficial solutions for all participants.

A resource to look at the factors affecting fuel costs, consumption, availability and effects of fuel costs on logging and unmanufactured forest products trucking is the Wood Supply Research Institute (WSRI).

WSRI would be a viable resource to support a research project looking at how fuel costs impact logging and trucking. Perhaps such research could provide insight and recommendations that would improve this cost impact area.

As WSRI Chairman, I encourage those interested to submit a proposal to study this pressing threat to logging capacities.

Contact WSRI Executive Director Jim Fendig.

Our supply link is threatened. But our resolve should not be. Certainly there will be loggers and truckers falling from the system

Not only has fuel skyrocketed, but also the cost of woods and transportation equipment.

due to high cost fuel, insufficient compensation, poor business practices, etc. Yet through this economic purge, survival is the name of the game for loggers, consumers and landowners.

If the loggers and truckers operating professional businesses can survive, there is hope. But one thing is certain. Through these extremely trying economic times, WE, the links of the wood supply chain, must find ways to work together in great faith, not just good faith, to ensure the sustainability of this industry.

Chairman Crad Jaynes's address to the WSRI 2008 Annual Meeting, April 11, 2008, Myrtle Beach, SC.

MEMBER ALERT

Win \$1,000!

SCTPA's 2008 New Member Campaign

The association needs to grow its membership particularly in the timber harvesting sector since that is the primary segment represented, as well as increase membership in other areas such as truckers, wood dealers and businesses associated with timber harvesting.

The board of directors has agreed to award \$1,000 in a drawing to be conducted at the 2009 Annual Meeting, by the way our 10th anniversary meeting, to a dues paid current member for bringing in a new member or members during 2008.

Here's how this works.

- When a current paid member gets a non-member to join SCTPA, the current member's name will be entered into a drawing for each new member joining.
- Campaign will end December 31, 2008. Both new and current member must have paid dues as of December 31, 2008.
- Each time a current member brings in a new member, the current member's name must appear on the new member's application. Write the current member's name on the application in the top right hand corner.
- Upon receipt of each new member's application and paid dues, then the current member's name will be entered.
Example - If Larry Logger is a current, dues paid member and brings five new members with paid dues then Larry Logger's name will be entered five times.
- New member dues must be \$200 minimum to qualify.

- Drawing will be at the 2009 Annual Membership Meeting's Saturday luncheon and association business meeting.

It's Up To You. Help SCTPA & Possibly Help Yourself!

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(Business OR Individual)

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(If Business Name Above)

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CONTACT #'S: OFFICE: _____ HOME: _____

MOBILE: _____ FAX: _____

E-MAIL: _____

CHECK PRIMARY OPERATION: _____ LOGGING _____ CHIPPING _____ THINNING
(CHECK ONE AS PRIMARY BUSINESS)

____ TRUCKING - "FROM HARVESTING SITES." _____ TRUCKING - "FROM MILLS & OTHER SITES."

____ WOOD DEALER _____ MANUFACTURING (DESCRIBE) _____.

____ OTHER BUSINESS (DESCRIBE) _____.

(BUSINESS OR INDIVIDUAL)

New Member Investment

Loggers @ \$225
Wood Dealers @ \$225

Trucking From Harvesting Sites \$125 First Truck Plus \$25 Each Additional Truck (\$225 Max)
General Forest Products Trucking = Mill to Mill or Finished Products @ \$200

Forest Products Manufacturers = Sawmills, Pole Mills, Chip Mills, Treating Mills, etc. @ \$200
Allied Suppliers = Products & Services – Equipment, Tires, Insurance, Fuel, etc. @ \$250
Allied Supporting = National Forest Products Co., Consulting Forestry Firm, TIMO, etc. @ \$250
Individual Foresters, Landowners & Friends @ \$65.

Annual Membership Anniversary Is Date of Initial Investment. Renewal Dues for Loggers & Dealers Production Based.
Renewal Dues for Trucking From Harvesting Sites to Mills Based on Number of Trucks. All Others Flat Annual Renewal Dues.

Investment Payable To: SC TIMBER PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

Thanks For Your Support! Crad Jaynes, President & CEO

SCTPA is a Non-Profit 501(c)(6) association. SC FEIN: 57-0883563

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<http://www.pprc.info>

Pulp and Paperworkers' Resource Council (PPRC) 2008 Washington, D.C. Legislative Conference

The Pulp and Paperworkers' Resource Council recently held their 17th National Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C. Members returned to Capitol Hill to discuss issues affecting the Forest Products Industry and their jobs. The six key issues the PPRC focused on were the Farm Bill, Clean Water Restoration Act, Energy, Forest Health, Climate Change and International Trade. We had 79 members from 20 states, representing USW, AWPPW, IBEW, IAM, IBT & Boilermakers unions, and 13 companies with 41 different facilities (International Paper, NewPage, Longview Fiber, Kapstone, Mead Westvaco, Smurfit-Stone, Evergreen Packaging, Georgia Pacific, Abitibi-Bowater, Boise Papers, Verso Papers, Potlatch, and Lincoln Papers). We had a total of 255 scheduled meetings with members of Congress and dropped off materials at another 207 offices. We also had appointments with the Department of Interior, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of Energy, Congressional Black Caucus, Hispanic Caucus, Senate Republican Policy Committee, Senate Democratic Policy Committee, Office of the Vice President and House Resources Committee (Minority).

This year, the PPRC included in our packets our Position Papers on the Farm Bill, The Clean Water Restoration Act, Forest Health, Energy, and International Trade. We also had the PPRC National Steering Committee contact list, our two bumper stickers, PPRC tri-fold, wildfire ad, a new updated mill closure map and information. New this year the PPRC has enclosed a colorful sheet to educate all on the technology learned to convert our tree fibers and paper pulping residues to make everyday products,

a Forest Management Works ad by the PPRC.

The Position Papers Committee met on Friday, February 1st to make sure our Position Papers were in order and to draft Talking Points to be used during the Fly-In. The committee was given the task to put something together on the Clean Water Restoration Act. Through extensive research, a position paper was put together for the National Steering Committee to go over. The PPRC Position Paper committee consists of: Kim Liles-Chairman, Dale Walker, Larry Reandeu, Tom Colgin, Doug Bunker, Patti Barber, and Melvin Dixon.

On Saturday, February 2nd and Sunday morning, February 3rd, the National Steering Committee (NSC) held their 1st quarter 2007 NSC meeting along with the Pulp & Paperworkers' Resource Council, Inc. annual Board of Directors meeting.

Sunday afternoon, there was a training session for the members to prepare them for their visits on Capitol Hill. At the session, Richard Lewis, Forest Resources Association (FRA), addressed the group

“Companies purchase raw materials which are renewable, sustainable resources in the paper and wood products industry.”

and presented a power point concerning our industry. Following Richard, mock meetings were performed to show the (20) new members how to conduct a meeting. All the PPRC delegates were given packets so

they could review the materials covered in the training sessions and study the information to prepare for the upcoming congressional visits.

Monday, February 5, a briefing of the entire group was held. Chairman Melvin Dixon welcomed everyone and Alverce Holloway led in prayer and pledge to the American flag. The delegates were given the list of group leaders and names of those in each group. The delegates were also handed the PPRC Informational Packets and Grassroots Lobby Booklets as a guide.

Chairman Dixon introduced Donna Harmon, President & CEO of American Forest & Paper Association (AF&PA). President Harmon announced that AF&PA would be hosting a reception for the PPRC at the AF&PA building on Monday night starting at 5:00 PM.

Donna discussed issues that the AF&PA is working on and the transition in Congress committee assignments and the process to move legislation. The issues remain the same, Clean Water, Air, Trade, and Tax issues. She talked about Climate Change where it will be positioned to reduce carbon emissions by 16%. Mills have undertaken market based changes. What can be done in mills to reduce carbon emissions? Carbon reductions programs such as fuel switching, Biomass, Tire Derived Fuels are some processes being looked into. Carbon energy products, such as raw materials (trees) are a renewable resource.

Companies purchase raw materials which are renewable, sustainable resources in the paper and wood products industry. These are all carbon sequestered materials. We need to get Congress to under-

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stand that trees use is continued after – shelf life of 53% recoverable recycled. Donna said that Climate Change will be the biggest issue and Energy is connected.

John Jarvis talked about the Timber Industry Labor/Management Committee and what to expect on the hill this year.

Bonnie Byers from King & Spaulding discussed International trade in our industry. She discussed her involvement with New Page and the USW on the paper dumping issues from China. This is of great concern to our industry and we must have fair trade for us to survive.

Pat Rita from the AF&PA discussed the Clean Water Restoration Act (HR 2421 & S1870). The bills that Pat talked about were quite an eye opener. The question we needed to ask on the hill is why anyone would sign on to these bills. Pat discussed the broad implications of this bill on our industry and how it could affect us if it becomes law.

Ken Lin from Smurfit Stone went over ways to get the most out of your appointment in the Congressional offices. Ken's talk was helpful to the new and seasoned people attending this year's fly-in.

Before Melvin introduced our next speaker, the PPRC wanted to acknowledge one of our PPRC brothers who is making this his last fly-in. Larry Reandeau is one of the founders and creators of the Pulp and Paperworkers' Resource Council. Larry has decided to retire this year. Larry has worked long and hard to keep the PPRC on the right track. He is the Regional Director for the Western Region and on the Position Paper Committee. Melvin presented Larry with a PPRC Certificate for his dedication and hard work since the beginning. Larry was also presented with a PPRC jacket. Larry and Melvin introduced our next speaker, with whom the PPRC has worked with from the start of PPRC.

Honorable Mark Rey, Undersecretary of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service, addressed the membership. Secretary Rey has been a friend of the PPRC for many years. He gave an overview on Forest Health and current conditions.

Steve Jarvis, Forest Resources Association (FRA) gave a power point presentation on the issues they are working on. Increasing truck weight on federal highways is one of the issues. Steve explained how increasing truck weight would mean less road congestion, less fuel consumption, less air pollution, fewer trucks on the road, transfer of heavy truck traffic from secondary roads to Interstates, and better global alignment with global competitors. Steve told of how Agricultural Transportation Efficiency Coalition (Ag-Tech) was formed to work for higher truck weight limits for hauling raw, un-

processed agricultural products, including round wood and chips, on all federal highways.

Greg Stanko of the Timber Industry Labor/Management Committee discussed the Green Globes and Green Building Standards with the group. Our industry supports Green Globes over LEEDS because Green Globes has established a fair standard for all building materials but LEEDS discriminates against wood products. This is an issue the PPRC may be able to get involved with at the state level.

Bill Imbergamo from the AF&PA gave the PPRC group the idea of what the mood on the hill is. What to expect and what is going on. This is an election year.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, PPRC members were on the House side and Thursday, the Senate. The PPRC discussed the impact of the Clean Water Restoration Act. The bills that are in the House and Senate will

The PPRC stressed the basic competitiveness of the U.S. forest products industry in discussing trade but pointed out that "fair trade", rather than "free trade", should be the standard in global commerce.

be taking the term "navigable" out of the statute. This would be the opposite of what Congress intended from the 1972 Act. Under the Clean Water Restoration Act which calls for "waters of the United States", all waters to include such as puddles, prairie potholes, wet meadows, even the rain water dripping off your roof.

The PPRC took to the hill the Farm Bill statements to add the forest industry in the dialog.

The PPRC stressed the basic competitiveness of the U.S. forest products industry in discussing trade but pointed out that "fair trade", rather than "free trade", should be the stan-

dard in global commerce. Pointing out that the Chinese share of the U.S. paper market has grown to 10%, PPRC members stressed the strict accountability the U. S. forest products industry has to environmental standards, whereas the Chinese competitor has few standards, poorly monitored. The American public consuming those imported products has no way to determine the environmental impact of Chinese production processes or wood sourcing.

The debriefing Thursday night brought comments which were very positive and uplifting. Many felt this trip was one of our best because of the many positive congressional appointments. Not everyone agreed with us but the PPRC was well received in almost all of the offices we visited. Offices that requested extra information is being addressed and responded to by a team that was set up to go through our Congressional Reports.

Respectfully submitted by,

Patti Barber
PPRC Northern Pine Region Director
PPRC National Recording Secretary



In the News!



SCTPA board member & professional logger
Billy McKinney gets involved!



Seckinger Forest Products receives award.
See article on page 26.



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2007 Farm Bill

The American Loggers Council, representing over 50,000 professional timber harvesters across the United States, requests that Congress complete its work on the 2007 Farm Bill.

Forest dependent communities across the United States need Congress to take final action, including language for eligible renewable biomass as passed in the Senate (79-14) that includes trees, wood, brush, thinnings, chips and slash from both federal lands and across all privately owned forest lands.

The benefits to the public include reduced greenhouse gas emissions, restoring forest health, improving forest dependent rural community economies, lessening our dependence on foreign oil and improving the national security position of the United States.

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NOTES FROM SCTPA

TIMBER TALK
available via e-Mail

SCTPA active members and *Timber Talk* recipients (other logger associations, governmental agencies, etc.) can request to receive the publication via email. This move is to help reduce the cost of publication and mailing.

By receiving *Timber Talk* via email, the publication comes with all pages in color versus the black and white copy on the interior pages of the printed publication.

If you would like to receive the issues via email, email SCTPA's office at bcjpaw@alltel.net.

- In the Subject Box, insert "Timber Talk By Email."
- In the message portion, please show your Member Name and correct email address to receive publication.
- Only one email address please.

***Timber Talk* Apology**

If you noticed, the Jan/Feb 2008 *Timber Talk* issue was not collated properly. When opening the issue, what should have been page 3, was actually page 19. There was an error in the publication processing.



Lori Moroz, owner of Pine Press Printing in Lexington, has asked me to please send a sincere apology to our subscribers on her behalf for their mistake.

On behalf of SCTPA, I also extend my apology. It is always the association's desire to provide a quality newsletter with every issue.

Thanks For Your Support

I want to extend my sincere THANKS to those members who have renewed their dues thus far for this year. I realize the extremely challenging economic times our members are facing now. It is very tough out there, I know.

But I hope each member realizes the value SCTPA brings to the table representing the timber harvesting, timber supply and timber trucking sectors of our state's forest products industry. This association's dedication is to represent and service the professional timber harvesting segment first.

Your association will celebrate its tenth anniversary next year. Hard to believe we have come this far. Our journey has been the result of working hard on behalf of our members and our industry segment. But our journey is the result of dedicated members who support this association financially and contribute to our, yours and our industry, successes.

Again, I just wanted to say thank you for your loyal and dedicated support. SCTPA is here to serve you.

Thanks for your support.

Crad

Crad Jaynes
President, SCTPA



TRUE ACTIVISM

The Forest Resources Association awarded its 2008 National Outstanding Forestry Activist Award to John Bradley, Bradley Contractors, Inc., Jefferson, Texas, at the 2008 Annual Meeting in Myrtle Beach, SC, April 13th for his strong leadership in promoting forestry and the forest industry in his state, both on the ground and in public policy.

FRA Chairman Jim Brody presented John with a commemorative plaque and noted that both chambers of the Texas legislature had commemorated his award with proclamations and Governor Rick Perry had also signed a congratulatory proclamation.

John said, "You know, activism cannot be just a job. You've got to believe in it and get it in your blood. Many of us loggers and mills that have this 'get out of the way, I'm coming through' won't cut it anymore. We've got to work with other groups and other people."

John was instrumental in forming the Texas Loggers Council and served as its second president. He says, "One must stand up for what is right for all parties involved; not just what will be good for one."

SCTPA's Crad Jaynes was impressed with John's acceptance speech and asked if it could be reproduced. John agreed so here is his speech.

I appreciate the work FRA is doing and thank you folks for allowing an ole logger to have a small part in it.

True Activism can never be just a job or occupation. Activism cannot be nine to five or six to six like it is for loggers. Activism has to be a way of life. One must love the line of work he or she is in and must constantly promote, defend, laugh at it and love it.

I was born with pine resin in my blood; never had a chance at a regular life. I always wanted to be a logger and truly thank God that thus far I have been able to make a living in the woods. That may not be real true about this year.

We now not only harvest trees, but manage, site prep and plant forests and even aggregate carbon for ourselves and our clients. It was truly a thrill to thin the first plantations that we ourselves had planted and cared for on our own land. I do love the industry.

Promotion of the timber industry has come a long way in the last thirty years. Many of us, loggers, landowners, and mills, have learned that the old 'get out of my way, I'm coming through attitude' has not and will not provide a sustainable industry. We must look for common ground with all other groups, environmentalists, private property rights and industry. We must join with other agriculture groups such as row-crop farmers and cattlemen through associations such as Farm Bureau and find common ground in our agendas. Their problems are amazingly similar to ours.

We must do a better job of understanding people. The average Joe does not identify with or is interested in the timber industry. They are hit with so many facts each day and so involved in merely surviving that they could care less about gain or loss of forestland, number of products that come from trees or the gain or loss of forest jobs.

However, everyone is involved in breathing and you can get the public's attention talking about a working forest and its removal of CO2 from the air. I feel we should be working and promoting the benefits the public receives from each acre of open farmlands and forestlands.

Another area where we are rich is the people of the forest industry. We are dinosaurs. Been extinct for years but just don't know it. Even mill workers usually live in rural areas and are involved in pastimes such as hog hunting and bow fishing that few people can even imagine doing.

I think that the Axe Men segments on the Deadliest Jobs series will do much for the making the average person feel better about our industry. Sure they talk and act rough and probably don't promote safety as much as they should, but these men are just doing their job fighting natural elements, equipment breakdowns, fatigue, injury and the economy as few factory workers can really imagine. Pride of work is also exhibited.

Their way of life screams – living life on the edge -- if you don't produce you can't stay. Yet each worker knows the forest will be replanted and produce work for his children and grandchildren.

Keep using outstanding programs such as Project Learning Tree and Log A Load For Kids, but understand that interesting stories about loggers, mill workers and tree farmers will entice the average Joe out into the world and he will like it when he gets there.



BILL SEEKS TO END FUEL SURCHARGE SKIMMING

Thursday, April 24, 2008 – Middlemen in the trucking industry who have been living high on the hog by pocketing fuel surcharges off freight rates may very well find their days numbered thanks to new legislation.

A bill introduced by Sen. Olympia Snowe, R-ME, and co-sponsored by Sen. Sherrod Brown, D-OH, seeks to mandate 100 percent pass-through of fuel surcharges to whoever actually buys the fuel.

The Owner-Operator Independent Drivers Association commended both Snowe and Brown for their leadership in introducing the legislation, which is likely to be called the “Truthful Reliable Understanding of Consumer Costs Act” or “TRUCC Act.”

“This bill will go a long way toward helping truckers and their shipping customers weather the brutal cost of fuel,” said Todd Spencer, OOIDA executive vice president. “Senators Snowe and Brown should be commended for their leadership on this matter.”

Fuel surcharges have been a staple in the industry as a way that trucking companies can recoup the high cost of fuel. And now with skyrocketing fuel prices, more and more is being collected – but not passed on.

There is currently not a uniform fuel surcharge

standard for the trucking industry. Fuel surcharges must be negotiated individually, leaving shippers and truckers vulnerable to opportunistic middlemen.

“It’s all too common for middlemen in the trucking industry to push shippers to pay fuel surcharges, but only pass along a portion of those surcharges to the truckers who are actually hauling the freight and paying the fuel bill,” Spencer said.

To make matters worse, small-business truckers are often denied access to the contracts and rate information negotiated between freight brokers and the shipper or customer they are hauling freight for.

The TRUCC Act also looks to ensure that brokers and middlemen negotiating a contract to haul freight for a shipper are not using the high price of fuel to exploit that shipper or the small-business trucker who actually hauls the shipper’s freight.

A bill number was not immediately available, but truckers wanting to express their support of the TRUCC Act should contact their senators. Those who don’t know who their senators are can call the Capitol Switchboard at (202) 224-3121 and provide their ZIP code to the operator to be connected to the appropriate office.

– By Jami Jones, Senior Editor, Land Line Magazine
jami_jones@landlinemag.com



At Work!

TOP Safety for Pro Loggers class,
Georgetown



Board member Billy McKinney at SCTPA booth for career day at Jonesville Elementary School.



Jonesville Elementary School class visiting SCTPA booth.

"TAKING THE HILL"

PHOTO GALLERY



SCTPA Takes it to the Hill!



(L-R) Tommy Barnes, Billy McKinney, Joey Austin, Jimmy Witherspoon awaiting Senate Transportation Subcommittee hearing.



ALC board & Association reps in DC.

(L-R) Billy McKinney, Chris Berardini, Danny McKittrick & Tommy Barnes at Congressman Henry Brown's office.



Support group at Senate Subcommittee hearing.



(L-R) Patrick Brennan, Tommy Barnes, Danny McKittrick & Billy McKinney at Congressman Spratt's office.



Meeting with Senator Lindsey Graham staffer, Matt Rimkunas.





The National Voice for Professional Loggers

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Support the Renewable Biomass Facilitation Act H.R. 5236

The American Loggers Council, representing over 50,000 timber harvesting professionals across the United States, supports the Renewable Biomass Facilitation Act, H.R. 5236, as introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives by Representative Stephanie Herseth Sandlin and Representative Greg Walden.

H.R. 5236 serves to amend the definition for renewable biomass as found in the historic 36 billion gallon renewable fuels standard recently passed in the Energy Independence and Security Act (H.R. 6).

Unfortunately, the current definition in H.R. 6 for renewable biomass excludes almost all biofuels that use woody biomass sourced from federal lands (National Forests, BLM lands) as well as woody biomass sourced from naturally regenerated stands on private land ownership for inclusion in meeting the 36 billion gallon mandate. The definition could impact up to 92% of biomass collected from private lands alone.

There is no justification for preventing access to these important sources of biomass, particularly given the fact that many communities, particularly in the West, are almost completely surrounded by federal land.

H.R. 5236 would allow federally sourced biomass (such as trees, wood, brush, thinnings, chips and slash) that is removed as a result of approved preventative treatments (such as reducing hazardous fuels, minimizing or containing disease and insect infestation, or restoring ecosystem health) to count towards the renewable fuels mandate.

H.R. 5236 would allow virtually all private land biomass that is used as a feedstock for biofuels to count towards the mandate.

The language in the Renewable Biomass Facilitation Act biomass bill is identical to the language included in the Senate passed (79-14) version of the Farm Bill with broad bipartisan and bicameral support.

For more information, or if you would like to cosponsor the Renewable Biomass Facilitation Act, please contact Ryan Stroschein in Representative Stephanie Herseth Sandlin's office at (202) 225-2801 or Colby Marshall on Representative Greg Walden's staff at (541) 624-2400.



The National Voice for Professional Loggers

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Clean Water Act Amendment

H.R. 2421

Overview

Rep. Jim Oberstar (D-MN) has introduced H.R. 2421 and Sen. Russ Feingold (D-WI) is also expected to introduce legislation that changes the term “navigable waters” to “waters of the U.S.” in the Clean Water Act. This seemingly insignificant change greatly expands the scope of the Clean Water act and has enormous potential consequences for private forest landowners, loggers and mills across the country.

- For forest landowners and loggers, the legislation would require a permit for any wet areas on the property, including puddles or ditches. Forcing landowners to obtain permits from USEPA and/or Corps of Engineers would shackle them with severe time and cost burdens.
- For mill operations, waste treatment ponds would have to meet end-of-pipe water quality standards since these ponds would be classified as “waters of the United States.” Since these ponds are critical to the water quality treatment process itself, this legislation would eliminate ponds as a treatment tool.

Position

The American Loggers Council opposes this legislation. Our forest landowners, timber harvesters and mill operations require regulatory certainty for water compliance. This legislation creates ambiguity about which activities require a permit and which do not.

If all water on private land requires a permit, then normal forestry operations could be greatly encumbered with new regulatory burdens with little or no improvement in the environment. Commonsense exemptions that exist in current legislation like those for “silvicultural operations” are not recognized by this legislation.

This legislation does not recognize the primary right and responsibility of States to control local land and water use decisions. In this regard, it is inconsistent with provisions in the existing Clean Water Act.

Request

1. Congress should not rush to change the jurisdictional reach of the Clean Water Act.
2. The forest products industry is committed to protection and restoration of America’s wetlands and water resources. However, focusing precious federal resources on regulating puddles, ditches, culverts and treatment ponds – ponds which are critical to the very process of cleaning waste water so that it can meet water quality standards – makes little sense.
3. The American Loggers Council respectfully requests your opposition to HR 2421 and the Senate version offered by Feingold.

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AS I SEE IT ...

AMERICAN LOGGERS COUNCIL

PRESIDENT EZELL CASTLEBERRY, CASTLEBERRY, ALABAMA

MAY 2008

LAYING THE GROUNDWORK

The American Loggers Council held their annual Spring Board of Directors meeting and fly-in to Washington, DC on April 3-5, 2008, with close to 40 in attendance for this year's event. I am proud to report to you that over 50 visits were made to congressional offices and federal agencies on behalf of all of the loggers of this great nation.

The ALC members visited with their respective congressional delegates on issues such as the 2007 Farm Bill, the Clean Water Act Amendment, the Renewable Biomass Facilitation Act, diesel fuel prices, truck weights, labor laws and proper forest management of our public lands allowing for the federal timber harvesting programs to move forward.

These 40 individuals took the time and made the commitment to visit with their representatives on your behalf, but they alone can not effect change in the rules and regulations which are impacting our industry. To make things happen in this Congress is going to require each and every one of you reading this column to follow-up on the groundwork that was laid.

Communications is the key to success, and if members of Congress were to hear directly from each and every one of you involved in the timber harvesting profession on the issues that are important to you and the future of our industry, it is very possible that we could indeed see some positive gains in this industry.

You can not expect one call from your State of Regional Association Director to have the same impact that the calls from 50,000 logging and timber trucking businessmen and women would have. Without your voice, the 50 visits will quickly fade into history.

I am asking that you please contact your elected representatives and tell them about your concerns for this industry. We are making it easier for you to do so by posting a special section on our website at www.americanloggers.org that will allow you to click on and get the contact information that you need.

With high fuel prices, the sub-prime housing lending issue, the devalued dollar and poor lumber markets, a "perfect storm" is brewing for our industry. We need your calls and support to keep our issues in front of our lawmakers. Will you help us and "follow-up?"

Ezell Castleberry is the President of the American Loggers Council, which represents over 50,000 logging professionals in 28 states. Ezell's operations are headquartered in Castleberry, Alabama. For more information please contact the American Loggers Council office at 409-625-0206 or e-mail at americanlogger@aol.com



LETTER TO SC'S U.S. HOUSE & SENATE MEMBERS

This cover letter accompanied information detailing important issues as presented to South Carolina's U.S. House and Senate members and staffers during SCTPA's meetings on Capitol Hill April 3rd and 4th.

April 1, 2008

Dear Congressman (or Senator),

On behalf of the professionals harvesting, producing and transporting South Carolina's sustainable and renewable forest resources, we appreciate your service to the Palmetto State in Washington, DC.

The forest products industry of South Carolina is the third leading manufacturing segment of our state's economy. Likewise timber is our state's number one cash crop.

Our forest industry ranks first in employment employing 36,000 individuals including our professional timber harvesting, supplying and trucking businesses. The forest industry's economic impact on our state's economy is over \$17 billion annually and ranks second in value added goods among our state's manufacturing sectors.

Our nation and state's forest products industries are now competing in a global marketplace. Our economies of scale within our own segment of professional timber harvesting, supplying and trucking have witnessed changes in our markets.

As our pulp and paper and even solid wood products industries continue to see more offshore competition, as well as national forest products companies relocating manufacturing facilities to other countries, the forest products industry faces major challenges of global competitiveness.

As our industry faces the current economic downturn caused by solid wood products markets reducing wood consumption due to decreased building and housing starts, as well as the downturn in the pulp and paper markets, this has created tighter wood markets and an economic crunch that has severely impacted our industry.

Likewise the current "unreasonably high" fuel prices coupled with the reduced value of the U.S. dollar globally has pushed our professional loggers and wood suppliers to the brink of bankruptcy. Never before has this industry witnessed such an economic strangle hold as we see right now.

The challenges we face now not only impact the timber harvesting and supply segments, but also impact solid wood products and pulp and paper products manufacturing and timberland owners.

An emerging alternative market is the utilization of woody biomass for the production of energy, bio-fuels and ethanol. As our nation attempts to reduce our dependence on foreign oil resources, we see this market as an opportunity for our industry to continue to have markets for timber. We have the available resources from our sustainable and renewable forests.

Technology is becoming available to utilize woody biomass for the processes to convert woody material to various products. These processes are environmentally safe, efficient and good for the utilization of our forest resources. However, much is needed via support for increased funding from Washington to increase the incentives for current and potential users of woody biomass to create these alternative markets in South Carolina.

There are other issues needing to be addressed for sustaining the timber harvesting and forest products industry in South Carolina as well as nationally.

- Support legislation that provides incentives for research, development, installation, implementation and expansion of woody biomass markets for the production of fuels, energy and woody biomass products.
- Encourage the conferees for the 2007 Farm Bill to complete their work expeditiously to include the Senate passed language for eligible renewable biomass that includes trees, wood, brush, thinnings, chips and slash from both federal lands and across all privately owned forest lands.
- Support H.R. 5236, the Renewable Biomass Facilitation Act, so as to revise the previous definition for renewable biomass so that sourced biomass (trees, wood, brush, thinnings, chips and slash) removed as a result of approved preventive treatments count towards the renewable fuels mandate.
- Support legislation to reduce our nation's dependence on foreign oil sources through increased development of alternative markets utilizing woody biomass feedstocks from private and public lands for fuel and energy production.
- Support legislation encouraging the drilling for oil resources within our own country, such as the Alaska National Wildlife Refuge, and its territories to further reduce our reliance on foreign oil as well as enhance our economy.
- Support legislation to reduce the myriad of EPA and governmental red tape regulations to increase our oil refining

(Continued on page 21)

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- capacities to assist in making more products available to help reduce diesel and gasoline prices.
- Support legislation to increase the Gross Vehicle Weight to 97,000 pounds on our interstate systems for agricultural products including unmanufactured forest products or at a minimum allow individual state legal GVW tolerances for unmanufactured forest products to be transported on interstate systems within the individual states.
- Oppose legislation attempting to limit woody biomass utilization by competing markets so as to encourage an open market system for all woody products harvested from our renewable and sustainable forests.

On behalf of South Carolina's professional loggers and timber producers, please support legislation to sustain our forest products industry so it does not follow the route of the textile industry and moves off shore.

Our wood supply chain consisting of landowners, loggers and wood consumers need a viable industry to compete in the global marketplace.

Again, thank you for your service to our state and your support of our state and nation's professional timber harvesting and forest products industries.

Sincerely,
Crad Jaynes
President & CEO

SENATOR SEEKS TEMPORARY REDUCTION IN DIESEL TAX

Wednesday, April 23, 2008 – Diesel users pay 6 cents more per gallon than gasoline users in federal taxes at the pump. That could all change if a bill introduced in the Senate is passed into law.

Sen. Olympia Snowe, R-ME, introduced the "Diesel Tax Parity Act," on Monday, April 21. The bill seeks to drop the federal diesel tax to 18.3 cents per gallon through the end of 2008.

Currently, 24.3 cents on the gallon are collected in federal fuel taxes on diesel. Diesel prices have reached record after record and are now averaging nearly \$1.30 a gallon more than this time last year.

"The dramatic rise in fuel costs has resulted in lobstermen and truckers (going) out of business – thereby endangering Maine's most prosperous industries," Snowe stated in a press release on the bill's introduction. "One way to immediately alleviate this burden is to lower the diesel tax to make it proportional and equal to the gas tax."

The bill outlines the procedures for implementing and rescinding the fuel tax

reduction, with the rebates and credits being handled at the distributor level.

Truckers and other diesel users will get the 6 cents per gallon federal tax break at the pump with no paperwork hassle.

"Our trucking industry and small businesses are

"Our trucking industry and small businesses are in a crisis and drastic steps need to be undertaken by Congress."

in a crisis and drastic steps need to be undertaken by Congress. The situation for Maine's trucking industry is simply untenable and we need immediate

action to lower the price of fuel for small businesses that are impacted by these historic costs," Snowe said in the press release.

The bill has been assigned to the Senate Committee on Finance.

SCTPA Comments: Every member is encouraged to contact SC's Senators Jim DeMint (202-224-6121) and Lindsey Graham (202-224-5972) and urge them to support this bill and sign on as a co-sponsor. SCTPA is contacting each Senator to urge their support on behalf of our state's timber harvesters, suppliers and truckers.



MASTER LOGGER CERTIFICATION PROGRAM REPORT

April 5, 2008

American Loggers Council Board of Directors Meeting
Washington, D.C.

The American Loggers Council Master Logger Certification Program continues to operate in the states with implemented programs. Currently fourteen states have approved templates.

The most current issue related to ALC's Master Logger Certification Program is the "White Paper on Certified Logger Programs" entitled the "Pilot Project on Wood Procurement from Private Lands in North America" produced by Phoenix Strategic Solutions, Inc. and authored by John Heissenbuttel.

This project, at the request of SFI, Inc., attempted to research the available Logger Certification Programs (LCP) to provide sufficient information and analysis of existing Logger Certification Programs to enable SFI, Inc. to determine whether and how SFI, Inc. might recognize LCP, how LCP could be recognized within the SFI Standard and/or Labeling Guidelines, and whether logger certification might be recognized as the functional equivalent of procured wood or of land certified under the SFI Standard.

The LCP programs researched were: ALC Master Logger Certification Program, Maine Loggers Master Logger Program, Minnesota Master Logger Certification Program, SmartWood's Smart Logging Program in Louisiana and Mississippi, Wisconsin's Master Logger Program and other programs of similar nature such as the NewPage Logging Certification Group and LCP's implemented in three Canadian provinces.

During last year's March ALC board meeting in Washington, D.C. a contingent of ALC representatives met with John to present and explain the ALC program. ALC's Danny Dructor and Crad Jaynes provided additional information for the project's research.

The project looked at how LCP's fit into the current SFI Standard Objectives with emphasis on Objective 8, 10, 11 and 13. Comments were provided for each program as to whether or not there was belief each LCP met the requirements.

The report commented on each LCP researched and does indicate favorable recognition of not only ALC's program, but the others as well.

Overall Project Comments

"There is little doubt that qualified LCP's could significantly enhance the reputation of the SFI Standard and of participants' compliance with Objective 8 and other provisions of the standard related to procured wood. Qualified LCP's could also provide a service to SFI participants through an efficient means to demonstrate compliance with SFI's Procured Wood Performance Measures in meeting the demands for certified content in the marketplace."

"LCP's are positioned to create economic, environmental, and reputation win-win solutions throughout the supply chain, from landowners to the customers. Family forest landowners could benefit from a low cost verification program that enables them to deliver wood that is verified to be in compliance with a broad range of standards, laws and best practices. Loggers could benefit by being preferred providers of a technically superior supply chain process. Mills will have a traceable supply of "good" wood, which might even be included in their "certified content." And customers would be able to communicate that they are meeting their corporate social responsibility and environmental stewardship targets."

"In our research we determined that all of the leading LCP's have neither the intention nor the design to consider harvests conducted under an LCP to be the functional equivalent of land certified under the SFI. However, each have developed requirements consistent with sustainability specifications developed by Time, Inc. so that Time, Inc. and its suppliers can consider some of the fiber harvested under LCP's as certified."

"We believe therefore that the key questions in SFI, Inc.'s deliberations are whether and how SFI, Inc. might recognize LCP's as the functional equivalent of meeting the procured wood provisions under the SFI Standard, and whether LCP harvested wood should be counted as certified fiber."

ALC Master Logger Certification Program Findings

As noted under the report's findings, the ALC program was researched regarding its methodologies and implementations. Per the report's findings, the following is noted.

- Requirements for quality assurance / auditing. Desk audit of business practices. Field audits by verifiers whose qualifications are set on a state-by-state basis.
- Requirements Equivalent to SFI Procured Wood Standards. Responsibility areas of ALC's MLC program meet the requirements specified or inferred in Objectives 8, 10, 11 and 13 of the current SFI Standard. Nevertheless, the focus of the program is on the current logging operation and logging plan rather than a long-term management plan.

(Continued on page 23)

(Continued from page 22)

As indicated by Danny and Crad during follow up discussions with John during the project's research, ALC's program is certification of timber harvesting practices meeting our national and state approved templates. The program is not directed toward land or timber management under certification programs such as SFI.

Additional Conclusions

Another portion of the project commented on the potential impacts on logger training programs, SIC's and costs. Under the Conclusions section, these comments were offered.

"It is clear from our findings that widespread adoption of logger certification programs will likely increase demand for SIC sponsored or endorsed logger training programs."

"It appears that the growth of logger certification programs will not threaten SIC's with any negative impacts, but, on the contrary, will be viewed by SIC's as beneficial developments."

"Widespread adoption of logger certification programs will come at a cost that cannot be borne (entirely) by the logging community. While there may be some external funding sources, the costs to SFI participants of supporting logger certification programs may offset more expensive SFI Procurement Standard costs currently required to adhere to the Stan-

dard. Indeed, as SFI participants consider the potential costs and impacts of a significant expansion of logger certification programs, they would be wise to consider what they speculate is the trend for demand for certified content from customers and the potential for cost savings in meeting the requirements of Objective 8 and chain of custody certification."

Gaining recognition by SFI and other certification systems of ALC's Master Logger Certification Program will continue to be an emphasis area of the MLC Committee and ALC. While other LCP's do exist, it is not the intent of ALC to promote our program as the only LCP to be recognized.

While ALC certainly feels our program is meeting the demands of the SFI Standard as certification of professional, certified timber harvesting practices, our program can co-exist with others being implemented.

Respectfully submitted,

Crad Jaynes
Chairman
ALC Master Logger Certification Committee

MWV Agrees to Sell South Carolina Kraft Paper Mill to KapStone Paper and Packaging for \$485 Million

MeadWestvaco Corporation announced a definitive agreement on April 7th to sell its kraft paper mill in North Charleston, S.C., and related assets to KapStone Paper and Packaging Corporation for \$485 million in cash, subject to certain closing adjustments. KapStone has committed financing for the entire purchase price. Completion of the transaction is expected by the end of the third quarter 2008, and the company plans to use a substantial portion of after-tax proceeds to pay down debt. The company expects to report a modest gain upon completion of the sale.

"MWV's growth strategy is focused on providing total packaging solutions for customers in growing global consumer products markets," said John A. Luke, Jr., chairman and chief executive officer. "The North Charleston mill is an industry-leading facility and is well positioned to succeed in its markets, yet it is no longer an optimal fit with our long-term consumer packaging strategy."

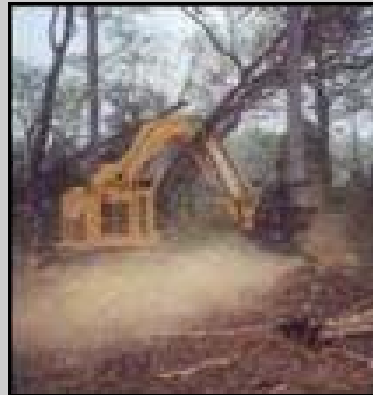
Included in the sale to KapStone is a lumber mill in Summerville, and chip mills located in Elgin, Hampton, Andrews and Kinards, S.C. At the close of the sale KapStone will own 100 percent of Cogen South, LLC, the mill's on-site cogeneration facility. In 2007, the North Charleston mill produced 833,000 tons of saturating kraft, linerboard, and kraft folding carton board. The approximate 1,100 employees at these facilities will transition to KapStone immediately following the completion of the sale. The company will continue to provide wood fiber for the North Charleston mill through a fiber supply agreement.

Two MWV businesses will remain headquartered in the Charleston area – the Specialty Chemicals Division, which will continue to operate adjacent to and receive raw materials from the mill, and the Community Development and Land Management Group, which includes the company's forestland operations. MWV will retain all of the 400,000 acres of forestland it currently owns in South Carolina.

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BIPARTISAN HOUSE COALITION INTRODUCES LEGISLATION TO FIX BIOMASS DEFINITION IN RENEWABLE FUELS STANDARD

Herseth Sandlin - Walden Bill

Would Promote Development and Use of Cellulosic Ethanol Derived from Wood Waste on Federal Lands
Washington, DC – On February 7th Rep. Stephanie Herseth Sandlin (D-SD) and Rep. Greg Walden (R-OR) introduced the Renewable Biofuels Facilitation Act, legislation that would promote the development and use of cellulosic ethanol derived from woody biomass on federal lands. The bill would significantly broaden the definition of cellulosic ethanol within the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) to include more biomass gathered from federal lands.

The Herseth Sandlin – Walden bill addresses a flaw included in The Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, which included an historic 36 billion gallon renewable fuels standard (RFS). Unfortunately, the legislation's definition of renewable biomass prevents almost all federal land biomass, such as trees, wood, brush, thinnings, chips, and slash, from counting toward the mandate if it is used to manufacture biofuels. This provision not only discourages the use of such biomass, but in doing so could result in a decrease in responsible forest management by denying land managers an important outlet for the excessive biomass loads that often accumulate on public lands. The Herseth Sandlin – Walden bill would promote the use of energy from waste products gathered on federal lands, including those that are byproducts of preventive treatments and are removed to reduce hazardous fuels, to reduce or contain disease or insect infestation, or to restore ecosystem health.

The Renewable Biofuels Facilitation Act was co-sponsored by a geographically diverse and bipartisan group including Representatives Peter DeFazio (D-OR), Bart Stupak (D-MI), Mike Ross (D-AR), Chip Pickering (R-MS), Emerson (R-VA), Emerson (R-MO), Goodlatte (R-VA), Bonner (R-AL), J. Peterson (R-PA).

"Currently, the energy bill provides great incentives for innovative entrepreneurs, often working in conjunction with government and academia, to create new ways to make clean, homegrown renewable biofuels in this country," Herseth Sandlin said. "Unfortunately, current law prevents biofuels made from biomass that originates on public lands or any biomass from private land that is not 'planted' and 'actively managed' from being counted toward the RFS. This is unfortunate, unnecessary, and unjustified."

"The energy bill recently signed into law does a great deal to advance America toward a smarter energy future," Walden said. "Unfortunately, it woefully underappreciated the role biomass must play in our energy portfolio by excluding biomass produced in federal forest health projects from the country's new 36 billion gallon renewable fuels standard. Additionally, the energy bill placed onerous restrictions on the use of biomass from private lands."

The Renewable Biomass Facilitation Act would change

the definition to clarify that federally sourced biomass is eligible for consideration under the renewable fuels standard and is identical to the language included in the Senate's version of the Farm Bill which passed 79-14 on December 14, 2007. Additionally, the bill would allow RFS credit for broad categories of biomass from non-federal and tribal lands including agricultural commodities, plants and trees, algae, crop residue, waste material (including wood waste and wood residues), animal waste and byproducts (including fats, oils, greases, and manure), construction waste, and food and yard waste.

Herseth Sandlin added "By amending the definition of renewable biomass in the energy bill will greatly improve our ability to manufacture renewable energy from our forestlands, both public and private, all over the country. This would bring tremendous benefits, not only to our environment, to forest health, and to our national security, but it will also provide an economically viable outlet for forest byproducts that could revitalize the local economies of hundreds of small forest communities across the country."

"This bipartisan bill corrects those problems by using language already agreed to by an overwhelming bipartisan majority in the United States Senate and many members of the House who wanted to see it included in the energy bill. The Northwest is leading the movement to switch to smart, renewable fuels, and biomass will undeniably play a major part in this effort. In fact, according to the U.S. Forest Service, biomass has surpassed hydropower as the largest source of renewable energy in the country. Ensuring that biomass gathered from federal land counts toward the country's renewable fuels standard is a win for the health of our forests, and a win for America's smarter energy future," said Walden.

"Renewable energy produced from biomass on federal lands and Indian reservations should categorically count toward meeting the recently mandated Renewable Fuels Standards. Alternative energy producers looking to invest in federal regions will simply go elsewhere if this fix is not made, which will neither help us move in the direction of meeting the RFS, nor will it help small, forest communities. I am very pleased to join with a strong, bipartisan group of House members in offering this commonsense legislation. This correction should be made quickly, as our colleagues in the Senate have already passed legislation addressing this critical issue," said Rep. John E. Peterson (R-Pa.), who's district includes most of the Allegheny National Forest.

"Not only does the current definition exclude a significant source of renewable biofuels, it creates a logistical nightmare for any ethanol or biodiesel plant that attempts to use woody biomass," Stupak said. "The prohibition is neither practical nor prudent. Timber is not sorted based on what type of forest it comes from."

"The waste wood created through careful stewardship of our national forests can be put to good use as cellulosic ethanol. This bill will promote an important technology to supplement American energy independence with domestic, renewable fuels," U.S. Rep. Jo Ann Emerson said.

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"The timber industry in South Arkansas plays a major role in the overall economic well-being of our state, and changing the definition of renewable biomass improves our ability to manufacture renewable energy from forestland including cellulosic ethanol," Ross said. "I am proud to join this bipartisan group committed to help sustain timber-related jobs across this nation."

Rep. Pickering said "The mission to increase and promote renewable energy through public-private partnerships and cooperatives should not be derailed because of needless restrictions on biomass from public lands. We can strengthen our domestic energy independence using smart land and resource management practices, and do it in an environmentally safe manner. Biomass is an inexpensive, safe, renewable energy source that provides great promise if we encourage it with smart public policy and private incentives."

"Biomass utilization is an important component of our energy independence," DeFazio said. "This legislation will help many innovative companies around the nation that are actively developing new biomass technology. I am pleased to co-sponsor this legislation which will ensure that we take an environmentally sensitive and yet active approach towards stewardship of our federal forest lands and biomass development."

Biomass projects that would be conducted under the authority of the Hereth Sandlin -Walden bill on federal lands would still have to comply with federal and state law and applicable land management plans. There is an additional requirement for old-growth maintenance, restoration, and management on federal lands as defined in the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003



SECKINGER FOREST PRODUCTS, INC. FRA'S 2008 SOUTHEASTERN REGION OUTSTANDING LOGGER

The Forest Resources Association's Southeastern Region and Stihl Incorporated recognized BoBo Seckinger and Seckinger Forest Products, Inc. of Hampton, South Carolina as the region's 2008 Outstanding Logger at the FRA Annual Meeting in Myrtle Beach on April 13th.

Joseph "Bobo" Seckinger received a Stihl MS460 chain saw and a \$250 check from Stihl Incorporated's Kent Hall during the awards ceremony. Stihl serves as the sponsor of FRA's Regional and National Outstanding Logger Awards.

Seckinger Forest Products is a business that "really has it all together." The Seckinger chipping crew and conventional crew have earned a great reputation for quality work. Bobo is a licensed and registered forester in North and South Carolina. He and several of his co-workers are SC SFI Trained by participating in the Timber Operations Professional (TOP) Logger Training Program. Bobo also handles wood procurement responsibilities for local sawmill Collum's Lumber Products, LLC, Allendale, SC.

Seckinger's safety and maintenance programs are outstanding. As an example, Bobo and his father, Willie Joe, have invented and installed automatic fire suppression systems for logging equipment. He closely tracks each machine's fuel consumption, maintenance needs, and a host of other performance measures.

Wife Jeanne is a CPA and handles the business's administrative duties. Bobo also employs a safety coordinator to ensure on-going safety performance. The company's success and professionalism are the result of providing quality services through the employment of dedicated and skilled workers.

Bobo is an active SCTPA member in the Low Country District. He and his company received SCTPA's 2007 Gene Collins Logger Activism Award at its January 2008 annual meeting. Bobo also served on the Timber Harvesting Subcluster team that identified issues and presented recommendations for improvements in SC's wood supply chain.

During Bobo's acceptance speech, he encouraged loggers, foresters, landowners, and mill managers to work together to ensure the industry's future.

"Bobo is committed to improving the competitiveness of the wood supply chain, and he represents the highest professional standards of logging," stated SCFA's President, Bob Scott as he introduced Bobo for the award. SCFA submitted Bobo's nomination.

On behalf of SCTPA, congratulations to Seckinger Forest Products for your commitment and dedication to sustainable forestry and professional timber harvesting.



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WOOD SUPPLY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

2007 Executive Director's Report

This report to the WSRI Membership summarizes key activities that occurred in 2007 and the outlook for 2008 and beyond. Executive Director Jim Fendig's report was delivered at the 2008 WSRI annual meeting, April 11th, Myrtle Beach, SC.

MEMBERSHIP and REVENUE - 12/2006—01/2008

	MEMBERSHIP		REVENUE	
	12/2006 -1/08		12/2006 - 1/2008	
Consumer	12	16	\$ 87,500 -	132,500 1)
Supply	11	11	42,700 -	38,500 2)
Associates	7	6	11,000 -	11,500 3)
Woodland Owners	-	3	---	22,500 4)
TOTALS	29	37	\$ 141,200	\$ 205,000 5)

VARIANCE ANALYSIS

- 1) Consumer Membership increased by 5 from 12/2006 to 12/07---Glatfelter, Grant Forest Products, New Page, Ponderay and Potlatch. Stora Enso was acquired by New Page, thus a reduction by one in 2008. Consumer income increased by \$45,000 from 12/06 to 1/08
- 2) Supply Membership remained at a net of 11. We lost Cherry Logging and Forest2Market and gained Blomberg Logging and Broad Arrow Timber. We lost \$4,200 from 12/06 to 1/08. Alabama Loggers Council reduced their dues by \$7,500 and a gain of \$3,300 from new members.
- 3) Associate Membership lost a net of 1. We gained Davis-Garvin Agency and lost Linnett and Peterson Pacific. There was a net gain of \$500 as Linnett & Peterson Pacific did not pay their dues and Davis-Garvin did.
- 4) Woodland Owners was a new Category added in 2007 with the addition of RMS, Plum Creek and St. Joe Land. There was a net gain of \$ 22,500 in revenue.
- 5) SUMMARY:
 - a) WSRI gained a net total of 8 new members from 12/06 to 1/08. They were, Glatfelter, Grant Forest Products, New Page, Ponderay, Potlatch, Blomberg Logging, Broad Arrow Timber and Davis-Garvin. Please welcome these new members.
 - b) WSRI lost Huber, Cherry, Linnett, Peterson Pacific and Forest2Market. Please make a personal attempt to recruit them back in 2008.
 - c) There was a net gain in Revenue of \$63,800 during this period of time.

The industry is going through the most volatile time that I have experienced in the 50 years that I have been involved in this business. Restructuring has reduced consumption capacity in the paper side of the business with resulting reduction in quotas to loggers causing a restructuring of the Supply side as well.

The housing and credit crunch have had a disastrous affect on the lumber, plywood and restructured board side of the business as well, causing additional reduction in manufacturing capacity with additional reduction in wood quotas. It is survival time until these markets improve.

It is remarkable that WSRI membership has increased during these times. It shows that people and businesses recognize the potential value that WSRI research projects have to improve the process and hopefully, the bottom line!

The good news is that there are new markets for fiber in the form of the Bio-Energy Industry and Biomass material being shipped offshore and domestically. This has the potential of creating new demand for small dimension material and waist material during these poor economic times and beyond. It is also compatible with good forest management by providing a market for thinning sized material and reducing fire danger.

RESEARCH PROJECTS STATUS AND POTENTIAL:

As always, adversity provides opportunity. Now is the time for additional real world and meaningful research projects. Projects need to deal with "what is happening" and "what is about to happen."

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The Bio-Energy and Biomass potentials and how they might effect the private landowner and the harvesting, trucking and handling of young, small dimension fiber in the wood yards, present new opportunities for projects.

Equipment manufactures and entrepreneurial loggers, landowners and consumers alike need to take this opportunity to suggest research projects that are meaningful and needed.

WSRI is seeking the private landowner's input for a project that pertains to their needs through the Forest Landowners Association & Foundation. We will also pursue an affiliation with the U.S. Endowment Group in which they would provide a project and funding. WSRI has already completed several projects that seem to meet their needs and we may enhance and update these projects.

Five Projects will be completed in 2008 with presentations made at the Annual Meeting.

1) **LOGGING COST INDICIES -**

Bill Stuart & Laurie Grace, Mississippi State.
An ongoing project that tracks cost trends in the logging supply chain link.

2) **COST OF LOG SORTS -**

Dale Greene, University of Georgia.
Will identify and determine the costs involved in making wood product sorts, for any reason, on logging operations.

3) **FIBER COST PER TON IMPACT -**

Mathew Smidt, Auburn University.
Will determine the total cost/value per ton of wood delivered to the scales and how cost increases using five (5) minute intervals before being unloaded. Project is designed to give the cost impact of not unloading wood in the twenty-one (21) minute target time frame to decision makers so they can justify making changes in equipment and/or wood yard strategies.

4) **MULTIPLE SHIFT ANALYSIS -**

Tom Gallagher & Dana Mitchell, Auburn University
Project was designed over a three year period to accommodate graduate students to provide expected deliverables including an analysis of production and costs effects by operating multiple logging shifts, changing shifts, operating times and conditions.

5) **DECOUPLED TRUCKING -**

Buck Ford, International Paper
Project designed to identify and provide needed equipment and strategy required to obtain the most efficient operation for trucking wood in a decoupled system from the harvesting operations all the way to the market. This includes trucking, dispatching, the use of GPS and other actions and will be modeled and made available to WSRI members. Projects are centered in Alabama and South Carolina.

OUTLOOK FOR WSRI IN 2008 AND BEYOND

As Executive Director, I feel WSRI is fulfilling the Mission and Objectives that were outlined in 1999. However there is always room for improvement.

These are the goals that I would put before us as we proceed in the ninth year of WSRI's formation:

1) WSRI needs to work on seeking specific new members in 2008 and beyond.

Please make it your goal to sign up one member or more in 2008. Prospective members will be assigned to teams for contact.

Consumer Category

- 1) Georgia Pacific/ Koch
- 2) Prentiss & Carlisle - Tim Bealieu
- 3) Green Bay Packaging - Miles Lacy
- 4) SAPPI Fine Papers - Ryan McAvoy
- 5) Rayonier - Steve Worthington & John Enlow

Logger/ Supply Category

- 1) Southeastern Wood Producers Association
- 2) Virginia Loggers Association
- 3) Mississippi Loggers Association
- 4) Texas Loggers Council
- 5) Other Logger Associations & Councils

Woodland's Owners Category

- 1) Molpus Timberlands Management - Charlie Manogue
- 2) Forest Investment Associates - Tom Trembath

Dealer Category

- 1) Pine Timber Wood Production - Dennis Cary
- 2) Low Country Forest Products - Joe Young
- 3) Timberland Harvesters - Lanier Edwards
- 4) Tri State Land & Timber - Tommy Norris
- 5) Usher Land & Timber - Ken Griner

Associates Category

- 1) Peterson Pacific
- 2) Komatsu Forest - Nate Burton
- 3) Mobark - John Fotte
- 4) Stihl, Inc. - Kent Hall
- 5) Pioneer South Carolina of Blanchard Machinery Co. - Bill Padula
- 6) Bituminous Insurance Co. - Skip Sarazin
- 7) Lanworth Inc. - Shailu Verma
- 8) F&W Forestry - Marshall Thomas
- 9) Sutherland Asbill & Brennan
- 10) University of Georgia - Mike Clutter
- 11) Auburn University - Tom Gallagher
- 12) Mississippi State University - Bill Stuart
- 13) Price Waterhouse Coopers - Don Taylor
- 14) Equipment manufacturers and dealers not currently a WSRI member

(Continued on page 31)

(Continued from page 30)

- 2) WSRI needs to establish a means of following up and accountability for past projects being implemented.
- 3) WSRI needs to provide more opportunity for membership participation. We currently have Technical Committees, Executive Committee and Board. Do we need to consider a membership committee and other committees?

CLOSING STATEMENT

In closing, our relationship between WSRI and Forest Resources Association is working very well. The support services provided by Richard Lewis, Steve Jarvis, Linda Gibson, Neil Ward and Tony McLeod make WSRI a much more effective organization.

The communication of projects to the general Industry has proven very effective. We will collectively explore ways to strengthen this relationship and yet stay an independent entity.

I am excited about where WSRI is going and where it has come from over the nine years. I look forward to being a part of WSRI as long as I continue to have fun, be productive and satisfy our membership in meeting the goals of WSRI.

Respectively Submitted,
Jim Fendig
Executive Director



Wood Supply Research Institute Resolution To The Forest Resources Association Board of Directors

Where as, current economic pressures on forest operators have been greatly affected by rapidly increasing oil and energy costs and competitive international economic impacts on the U.S. dollar,

Where as, the serious impact to production to woods and transportation costs and wood consumers witnessing (excess) increase of over 30% for both in-bound and out-bound forest products,

Where as, the downturn in solid wood markets due to current credit and homebuilding downturns,

Where as, the social survival of employees involved in conversion of wood products in timber dependent communities; such as over 300 employees of sawmills in Southwest Alabama in the first quarter of 2008 and 200 logging

employees in Alabama in 2007, as well as the same economic affects in other forest communities nationwide of lost employments in sawmill, timber harvesting, and forest industries,

Where as, the forest products economies exceed \$12 billion per state annually in every southern state and higher in Pacific, Lake and Atlantic states,

Therefore be it resolved that the Wood Supply Research Institute (WSRI) members strongly encourage the Forest Resources Association (FRA) to coordinate industry wide coalitions of state, regional and national Forest Industry, Timber Harvesting, Landowner and Forest Resource associations to lobby for short term relief associated with significant energy issues and significant energy costs impacting forest dependent communities, landowners, loggers and manufacturers,

Be it further resolved FRA collaborate to evaluate and implement cost and efficiency best practices industry wide to curtail fuel and energy consumption and drive efficiencies into the entire wood supply system in that WSRI's research data and broad membership stakeholders provide assistance in quantifying the impacts of changes in fuel and energy costs.

Resolution presented at the FRA Board of Directors meeting, April 13, 2008, Myrtle Beach, SC. Resolution authored by Bill Jones, Alabama Loggers Council, and Jim Fitzgerald, International Paper.



WSRI, FRA & FEDERAL WOODY BUG MEETINGS

Wood Supply Research Institute

The Wood Supply Research Institute held its Tenth Annual Meeting, Friday April 11th in Myrtle Beach. Seventy-five including board members, member reps, presenters, visitors and guests attended.

Chairman Crad Jaynes presided over the meeting where the affairs of WSRI were discussed. 2008 Board of Directors, Executive Committee and Technical Team members were approved. Crad Jaynes will serve as WSRI Chairman and association Chairman Tommy Barnes, Ideal Logging, Inc., will serve as SCTPA's board member.

The 2007 and 2008 WSRI budgets were presented by Jim Fendig and approved. The board voted unanimously to retain Jim Fendig as Executive Director. Jim presented his Executive Director's report.

Five research projects were presented: Decoupled Trucking, Buck Ford, IP; Logging Cost Indices, Bill Stuart; Miss. State; Cost of Log Sorts, Dale Greene, UGA; Fiber Cost Per Ton Impact, Mathew Smidt, Auburn; Multiple Shift Logging, Dana Mitchell, Auburn & USFS.

Other business discussed was the U.S. Endowment for Forest & Rural Communities and Forest Landowners Association as to how these organizations may fit with WSRI for research. Chairman Jaynes led a discussion noting WSRI had continued to grow and mature and was now in the forefront of providing valuable research data that "must" be utilized to incorporate improvements into the entire wood supply chain and its systems. A discussion of adding new members led to a strategy of implementing a member to non-member contact list. Chairman Jaynes and Executive Director Fendig discussed what WSRI needed to look at for the future to continue to grow and not remain status quo.

Tony McLeod, attorney for WSRI, presented an update on WSRI moving toward becoming an independent non-profit entity. Gaining a non-profit, tax exempt status will provide WSRI a stand alone position as an institute while still being able to use the administrative services of FRA. Thanks to FRA for your assistance to WSRI.

The board discussed and approved the implementation of an Accountability Committee to track the use and implementation of WSRI research by members and other

companies to improve supply systems. This methodology would help WSRI monitor how effective the research projects are in providing useful information to the wood supply chain links to implement project recommendations and track results, both positive and negative.

The tenth annual meeting served as a good forum for open discussions regarding important challenges such as fuel costs, logger and mill economics, wood supply and mill issues. Thanks to the meeting sponsors; Weyerhaeuser – breakfast, MeadWestvaco – lunch; Sappi for the evening reception.

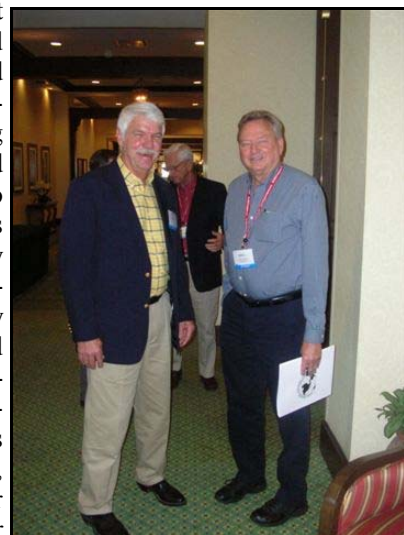
Thanks to everyone for attending our tenth WSRI annual meeting.

Forest Resource Association

FRA held its 74th Annual Meeting in Myrtle beginning Saturday after the WSRI meeting. Over 350 attended the meeting which also included a Bio-Energy Wood Supply Chain Conference on Monday.

National committee meetings and special presentations were held on Saturday and Sunday. At the National Supply Chain Committee presentation session three current and one former industry mill managers provided their views on wood supply chain issues from their perspectives. Each emphasized the need for open and improved communications between loggers, landowners, wood suppliers and mill managers. Two panelist were from South Carolina and were Wally McDonald, International Paper's Georgetown mill and Mac Lupold, Lupold Consulting, Camden and former Federal Paperboard/ IP manager.

The National Forest Products Security Workshop presentations featured Brett Smith, AF&PA and Bill Magrath, World Bank, describing how illegal logging worldwide depresses U.S. forest industry trade and competitiveness and how their organizations were dealing with the issues and legislative efforts to combat it. SFI's president Kathy Abusow and FSC-U.S. president Corey Brinkema discussed their forest certification systems regarding security issues such as dumping, timber theft, timber trespass and timber scams in the context of chain-of-custody programs within their certification programs. Aaron Gilland of DRM Inc.



(L-R) John Bradley and Ezell Castleberry at FRA Meeting.

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highlighted the need for continued security in the U.S. by providing case studies.

The International Committee presented Bob Flynn's updated Global Wood Flow Report for tracking supply and consumption trends in hardwood and softwood chip movement and its implications to the U.S. and the emphasis of European markets on chip supplies for bio-energy markets.

The National Forestry Operations Committee presentations drew standing room only crowds featuring SCTPA board member Frampton Ferguson, Ferguson Forest Products, Inc., Luray, SC, and Glatfelter's Jeff Jenkins. Frampton presented his experience with using a GPS truck mounted system to track trucking movements, speeds and efficiencies. Jeff described Glatfelter's decoupled trucking system with their cut-to-length loggers.

Monday's Bio-Energy Conference entitled "New Opportunities, New Issues," provided twelve presentations centered on the topics of The Drivers, The Technology, The Wood Supply Chain and The Economics. This was an excellent conference highlighted by Congresswoman Stephanie Herseth-Sandlin discussing her Renewable Bio-fuels Facilitation Act.

Sunday's awards luncheon recognized 2008 National Award Winners: David and Kurt Babineau, West Enfield, Maine as National Outstanding Loggers, John Bradley, Jefferson, Texas, as National Outstanding Forestry Activist; Outstanding Technical Writers Joel Cathey and Dan Goerlich; Southeastern Region Outstanding Logger Bobo Seckinger, Seckinger Forest Products, Inc., Hampton, SC; Amanda Hamsley and Dale Greene, UGA as SE Region first place Technical Writing; and second place tie for two writing teams of Michael Westbrook and Dale Greene and Aaron Gilland and Barry Parrish for same award.

At the Sunday FRA board meeting International Paper's David Liebetreu, Vice President Global Sourcing was elected to serve as FRA's Chairman for the next two years. Outgoing Chairman Jim Brody was congratulated for his excellent leadership to keep FRA moving forward.

Dave highlighted challenges facing the forest products industry and loggers such as climate change issues, certification system concerns, supply concerns such as fuel and wood supply efficiencies.

Committee reports were presented with the WSRI Resolution to FRA presented for approval. SCTPA's Crad Jaynes attended the meetings as well as Joe Young and Tommy Barnes, who serve on FRA's board.

This was a very good FRA meeting with pertinent issues presented. Thanks to the FRA for visiting SC's Grand Strand for its 74th annual meeting.

Woody BUG

On Tuesday, April 15th, the Woody Biomass Utilization Group (Woody BUG) held a federal interagency meeting bringing together federal and state government, logger and

forestry association, university, private and debris sectors to discuss and provide input into how can these entities prepare and respond to wind events and disturbances at multiple scales in the Eastern and Gulf Coast Regions of the U.S.

Headed by Bryce Stokes, U.S. Forest Service and John Stewart, U.S. Department of Interior, this large group heard presentations describing past and present response efforts pertaining to woody debris and downed, damage forest resources that have resulted from wind disturbances.

Bruce Alt, Mississippi Forestry Association did an excellent job of describing the massive efforts his state's forestry community enacted after Hurricane Katrina. Mac Lupold described the response history in South Carolina after Hurricane Hugo and Ezell Castleberry did the same for responses in Alabama after Hurricane Ivan.

Danny Druator, American Loggers Council Executive Vice President, Ezell Castleberry, Castleberry Logging, Inc. and ALC President, proxy for Bill Jones, Alabama Loggers Council, and SCTPA's Crad Jaynes attended representing loggers. Mac Lupold represented the SC Forestry Association and Charles Ramsey, SC Forestry Commission represented the Association of Southern State Foresters.

The workshop was designed to develop a future template for disaster response and comprehensive system for communications, deployments and better utilization of available resources, such as professional loggers, in woody debris and timber salvage.

Two break out groups were formed to develop the plan's template and develop the information system. After the sessions, the plan and information criteria were coordinated so that Bryce and John could begin to move forward through their agencies.

Danny Druator and the American Loggers Council has been working with federal agencies since Hurricane Katrina to develop more feasible methods for professional logger involvement in disaster responses for woody debris and timber salvage operations. Danny and Alabama Loggers Council Bill Jones are members of the Federal Woody Biomass Utilization Group – Disaster Debris Team.

Now the plan will be developed and hopefully adopted to better use the available resources of professional loggers in disaster responses for wind events and disturbances in the Eastern and Southeast Regions.



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Mark Your Calendar

MAY 2008

- 21,22 TOP 3-Day Class, Clemson. Contact Susan Guynn, Clemson Extension, & 29 864-656-0606.
27 Newberry/Fairfield District 2 Meeting, Mt. Bethel Garmany Community Center, Newberry, 7:00 p.m.

JUNE 2008

- 3 Forest Roads Workshop, Harbison Environmental Education Center, Columbia. Contact Susan Guynn, Clemson Extension, 864-656-0606 or SCTPA. 7 SFI Trained General, 5 SFI Trained BMP & 7 CFE Continuing Education Credit Hours.
19 SCTPA Board of Directors Meeting, SCFC Headquarters, Columbia, 10 a.m.
24-27 SC Teachers Tour, Clinton.

JULY 2008

- 14 TOP Risk Management Workshop, Georgetown. ½-Day Workshop.
TOP Logging Costs & Business Workshop, Georgetown. ½-Day Workshop.
Contact Susan Guynn, Clemson Extension, 864-656-0606.

PLEASE NOTE:

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

Need Training & SFI Trained Credits?

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

Truck Driver Training Workshops will be scheduled. Watch the Mark Your Calendar section of this newsletter for dates. Notices for SCTPA workshops & events will be forwarded.

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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.