



# TIMBER TALK

*Your Voice for South Carolina Timber Harvesting*

July/August 2010



## AMERICAN LOGGERS COUNCIL MEETS IN ST. LOUIS

July 20, 2010 – Hemphill, TX:

Fifty one members of the American Loggers Council (ALC) met and held their Summer Board of Directors meeting on July 17, 2010 in St. Louis, Missouri. The meeting was sponsored by Peterson and Peterson President Larry Cumming was present at the meeting.

ALC President Mike Wiedeman opened the meeting at 8:30 AM and welcomed several guests, including Executive Director Candace Dinwiddie and President Johnny Heard from the Tennessee Forestry Association as well as Executive Director Steve Jarvis with the Missouri Forest Products Association.

The first order of business after the roll call was to form a new committee entitled the ALC Biomass Committee. President Wiedeman explained to the Board of Directors that because the biomass issues were of such significance to the future of our industry, that he thought that the ALC should form a committee that could address not only the policy issues surrounding the utilization of woody biomass, but also address the need for communicating to the public the benefits that biomass utilization could have in a renewable energy future. Tom Barnes with the Michigan Association of Timbermen and Larry Cumming, President of Peterson agreed to co-chair the committee.

The board meeting then recessed while several of the committees met and discussed issues and

projects that they felt were important to ALC members.

Upon reconvening, reports were heard from the Governmental Relations Committee chaired by Jim Geisinger from Oregon, the Transportation Committee chaired by Doug Duncan from North Carolina, the Communications Committee chaired by Jim Mooney from Virginia, the ALC Master Logger Certification Committee chaired by Crad Jaynes from South Carolina and the newly formed Biomass Committee co-chaired by Barnes and Cumming.

Issues coming to the table included biomass and the BCAP program, the EPA Tailoring rules surrounding emissions, Clean Water Act amendments, access to federal lands as well as public access across private property, proposed truck weight legislation, and federal OSHA regulations. It was agreed that the ALC would remain engaged on all of these issues as well as continue to monitor Congress for any issues that would further impact the timber harvesting industry.

The Transportation Committee reported on some of the developments on the new CSA 2010 rules and described a uniform trucking cost calculator that the North Carolina Association of Professional Loggers had been working on that will soon be linked to the ALC website. The committee also encouraged the use of the website, [www.foresthauling.org](http://www.foresthauling.org) for those seeking information and regulations pertinent to the trucking industry.

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The Communications committee recommended and the ALC adopted the recommendation to set up an ALC account on the social network Facebook® to allow the public to get an inside look at the logging industry. It was also decided that the ALC begin looking at ways to encourage young men and women to enter the logging industry and the ALC will begin working on tools to help provide information to them.

The Master Logger Certification committee described some of the efforts surrounding the ALC Master Logger Certification Committee and Sustainable Forestry Board representative Bob Luoto was on hand to describe to the Board what some of the significant changes were to the 2010-2014 SFI® program standards. One significant change was the requirement to have at least one trained employee on the ground at each harvesting operation. The other was the recognition of Certified Loggers and the need for the SFI participating mills to utilize certified loggers where they were available.

The Board agreed to table the issue of endorsing the SFI® program until the Fall meeting to be held September 25, 2010 in Pendleton, Oregon.

The biomass committee submitted several points to the ALC Board where they feel the ALC should be engaged. Some of those points included: advocacy for utilizing woody biomass versus other forms of alternative energy; awareness and interaction on biomass legislation; tax credits for biomass harvesting equipment; campaign to educate public on biomass benefits; and building coalitions with associate members to work on the biomass issues.

President Wiedeman encouraged all to attend the ALC Annual meeting to be held in Pendleton, Oregon on September 23-25, 2010 and to get registration and hotel information from the ALC web site at [www.americanloggers.org](http://www.americanloggers.org).

Following lunch, Larry Cumming with Peterson gave an informative presentation on lowering the cost in the biomass supply chain. Points Larry visited included changing the way in which biomass is sold, not by the "wet" ton, but by its BTU value or mega watt hour value. He explained that by reducing moisture prior to delivery, biomass is more valuable as an energy source and that electrical and combined heat and power facilities in Europe have already adopted new measures for delivery. Larry also explained the need to have the right equipment configuration to do the job efficiently as well as determining what the end product will be for the fiber that contractors will be delivering.

Following the meeting, the Board was treated to dinner at the Trailhead Restaurant, hosted by the Missouri Forest Products Association and the Missouri Loggers Council, sponsored by Secura Insurance.

*The American Loggers Council is a non-profit 501(c)(6) organization representing over 50,000 timber harvesting professionals in 30 states. For more information contact the American Loggers Council office at 409-625-0206 or visit their website at [www.americanloggers.org](http://www.americanloggers.org).*

## SC FORESTRY ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES CHANGES

SCFA announced staff changes to occur over the next several months. After 42 years of service Bob Scott, President & CEO will retire June 1, 2011. Bob has been the only SCFA president and is currently the longest serving active CEO of any forestry association in the nation.



Sandy Jennings, Administrative Assistant and Office Manager for 27 years will retire November 15, 2010. She has served in duties such record keeping, accounting, receptionist, education coordinator, staff support for Log A Load For Kids, SC Project Learning Tree, SC Teachers Tour, Wood Magic Forest Fair and maintained the SFI Trained Master Database.

Julie Leary began August 1<sup>st</sup> as the new Administrative Assistant and Office Manager. An Orangeburg native, her experience in the forestry industry has been with Milliken Forestry Company, Columbia, Stone Container Corporation, Florence and Dean Dempsey Lumber Co., Orangeburg.

Frances Taylor will remain the Communications Director.

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### **Thanks to Bob and Sandy**

*On behalf of SCTPA, I want to extend my sincere thanks to Bob and Sandy for their tireless efforts to represent, service and advocate for SC's entire forestry industry.*

*Your dedicated service to SCFA and the entire Palmetto State has not only been outstanding, but has been performed with the greatest sense of pride, passion, knowledge and integrity to allow our state's forestry industry to grow and be recognized as the outstanding contributor it is to the health, wealth and well being of South Carolina's sustainable forests.*

*Bob and Sandy, I want to personally thank you for your friendship, guidance, assistance and leadership to me and to our industry as well as those outside our industry.*

*Both of you are highly commended for "jobs well done." Best wishes on your retirements. Enjoy and have fun.*

*Sincerely,*

*Crad*



**SOUTH CAROLINA TIMBER PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION  
2010 ANNUAL REPORT  
American Loggers Council Annual Meeting  
September 25, 2010  
Pendleton, Oregon**

Crad Jaynes, President & CEO

SCTPA entered its 11th year at our “Adjusting To Changing Opportunities” Annual Meeting in Myrtle Beach, SC in January 2010. Attendance was robust considering the economic status of our state’s professional logging industry.

SCTPA was proud to welcome American Loggers Council (ALC) President Mike Wiedeman as our featured speaker. His insight into the ALC’s positions and initiatives with the U.S. Congress and nationwide on timber harvesting and environmental issues affecting professional timber harvesting across the country provided the SC audience a better perspective of what the American Loggers Council is accomplishing for our nation’s professional loggers.

Plus Mike shared photos of his eastern Oregon logging operations that educated our South Carolina crowd that professional logging is different in other regions of this country.

At our 2010 annual meeting the 2009 Logger Activist of the Year was awarded to Billy McKinney, McKinney Brothers Logging, Inc., Union, and our Community Service Award to Danny McKittrick, McKittrick Timber, Heath Springs. Our first President’s Award was presented to Palmetto Pulpwood & Timber, Florence and Foothills Forest Products, Inc., Whitmire, for their outstanding support as association wood dealer members.

Steady pulpwood markets continue in SC while the solid wood markets are still at reduced levels. Logger attrition due to economics seems to have leveled with an estimated 10 to 15% of the logger population statewide not in business now. But that is a “guesstimate” and floating number due to the difficulty of obtaining accurate statistics from the industry and statewide governmental agencies. However, there seems to have been a slight increase in start up logger operations over the past six months as perceived by SCTPA.

South Carolina’s legislative session was fairly benign for timber harvesting issues. SCTPA supported several bills including a prescribed burning bill defining negligence and gross negligence regarding liabilities associated with this silvicultural treatment that would help landowners as well as those performing prescribed burns and the timber harvesting segment in the long term.

Participation continued with the SC Biomass Coun-

cil, Statewide Trucking Task Force, SFI State Implementation Committee, Timber Operations Professional Training Program, Timber Equipment Applications Management Committee and organizations such as the SC Forestry and SC Trucking Associations and State Transport Police (STP).

Two recent efforts SCTPA now participates as a member are *Enrich SC*, a coalition of agribusiness, environmental and forestry agencies, associations and organizations, to promote the impacts agribusiness, forestry and environment contributes to our state’s economic engine and promote economic development within these business sectors. SCTPA participates as a 20x15 Infrastructure Committee member for the SC Forestry Commission’s 20x15 Forestry Vision to grow our forestry economy from a \$17 to \$18 billion impact now to a \$20 billion impact by year 2015. This committee has studied the highway infrastructure and provided five recommendations for advancing the improvement of SC’s roads, bridges and routes to benefit the entire forest products industry.

SCTPA helped activate the SC Intrastate Carrier Numbering System for trucking including unmanufactured forest products trucking to coincide with the new Comprehensive Safety Analysis 2010 federal trucking program. SCTPA had advocated this intrastate carrier numbering system for some time.

SCTPA initiated the battle with the Internal Revenue Service when the region denied the 25% log truck discount for the Heavy Vehicle Use Tax (HVUT). IRS agents audited SC loggers, and VA loggers, to recoup the discount. SCTPA partnered with ALC, Virginia Loggers Assoc., NC Assoc. of Professional Loggers and FRA to work with IRS Advocacy Office’s Terri Willert to obtain a legal ruling to reverse the denial.

After some 18 months of battling with IRS, IRS came forth with a formal ruling in December 2009 that the 25% HVUT Log Truck Discount was legitimate and issued an order to that effect.

Now SC loggers with qualified log trucks can file for the IRS HVUT 25% discount and file for a refund if they were audited and had to pay the additional tax previously.

Relief to loggers and wood suppliers was felt in SC due to Smurfit Stone Container’s emergence from

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Chapter 11 with its mill located in Florence, SC. However, AbitibiBowater, Catawba, SC, is still involved with its filing yet continues to take a steady diet of wood.

SCTPA formally offered its opinion to the SC Department of Transportation in conjunction with SC Senator David Thomas, Greenville, to the closure of I-385 north and south bound for the renovation project between Greenville, SC and I-26 that connects the upstate with the middle and lower state wood delivery markets as to the project's impact on the unmanufactured forest products trucking industry. SCTPA's position and testimony before the SCDOT Commissioners in conjunction with other trucking segments helped stimulate an expedited completion schedule to allow the I-385 corridor to be operational before the projected date of completion.

SCTPA continued its participation in the SC Teachers Tour, a weeklong sustainable forestry teachers' education program with member Low Country Forest Products, Inc, Georgetown, being the timber harvesting tour stop. The association continued presenting its sustainable forestry and professional timber harvesting education program in schools statewide.

SCTPA representatives visited our South Carolina U.S. House and Senate delegation during the ALC March board meeting in Washington, DC to promote woody biomass utilization, the revised renewable biomass definition and ALC's position on increased GVW on interstates.

SCTPA continued its support of the Wood Supply Research Institute for wood supply chain research projects. SCTPA is supporting the SC Forestry Commission's 20 x 15 Vision to increase our state's forestry industry to a \$20 million industry by the year 2015 and is participating on Infrastructure Committee to offer recommendations for road improvements increase transportation efficiencies.

Many counties are revisiting tree and landscape ordinances creating adverse impacts on sustainable forestry practices including timber harvesting and forest management. SCTPA is working with the Lexington County Forest Landowners to revise the Lexington County Landscape Ordinance to recognize clearcuts on sustainably managed forestlands qualifying under the SC Right To Forestry Law, are exempt from local ordinances and should not be subject to notification to the county landscape administrator.

SCTPA is moving slowly toward the concept of enacting a SC Logger License with continued emphasis on gaining support with the professional logger community. A SC Logger License Enabling Bill has been

drafted to establish a mechanism legislatively to enact the process. This draft will be presented to association logger members as well as loggers statewide to gauge the support level. The SCTPA board unanimously passed a motion to continue supporting this effort to raise the bar for professional logging within the state.

Several special interest groups such as kayakers using our state's scenic rivers and other environmental groups as well as the League of Women Voters in several counties have raised issues regarding bottomland hardwood logging along rivers. They contend the timber harvesting operations are not complying with our SC Best Management Practices guidelines for timber harvesting and the current process has "no enforcement teeth" through the cooperative process established with SC Department of Health and Environmental Control, SC Forestry Commission and U.S. Corps of Engineers.

SCTPA has been closely monitoring this issue in cooperation with allied organizations such as the SC Forestry Commission and SC Forestry Association to present the true facts regarding the excellent BMP compliance record of our state's timber harvesting industry. These special interest groups would like stricter BMP's legislated into law.

South Carolina's BMP's now are voluntary. But these groups would like to further restrict and/or virtually eliminate hardwood and swamp logging statewide. This would not only affect our state's logging industry, but would adversely affect private property rights for landowners to harvest their timber.

Based on the SC Forestry Commission's latest BMP compliance monitoring report, our state's loggers are operating at over a 95 percent compliance level with our BMP guidelines.

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

As South Carolina's timber harvesting industry continues facing the challenges of our times, SCTPA is proud to be THE association representing, servicing and advancing the professionals harvesting, producing and trucking South Carolina's sustainable forest resources.



# BMP PROBLEMS ON THE RISE

By Guy Sabin  
SC Forestry Commission BMP Chief

South Carolina has an outstanding program of Best Management Practices for Forestry, or BMPs. Loggers have a strong record of success with current compliance at 98.6%. However, the combination of economic stress and wet weather this year has led to an increase in water quality and wetland problems.

BMP Foresters with the SC Forestry Commission provide advice and assistance to protect water quality during forestry operations, and help correct any problems that may occur. They also respond to complaints and cooperate with regulatory agencies like SC DHEC and the US Army Corps of Engineers when there are violations of state or federal law.



*BMP Chief Guy Sabin updates SCTPA board on BMP issues.*

In recent months, three sites were rated with inadequate BMPs, two sites had water quality impacts, and

three other sites are subject to Corps of Engineers enforcement. The biggest problem areas with BMP compliance have been wetland roads and streamside management zones, but stream crossings, debris in streams, log deck location, and equipment in stream channels have all been problems.

## Swamp Logging

Everyone seems to enjoy watching swamp logging on TV, but are not as pleased to see it in real life. Several bottomland hardwood clearcuts in the state have generated many complaints. Much of the concern we have heard from landowners, river users, civic organizations, and environmental groups have been about more than water quality. Public concern about logging covers the full range of wildlife and fish habitat, scenic beauty, recreational use, and protection of mature forests.

Many of those concerned are also educating themselves about BMPs and the roles of different state and federal agencies. Some are coming to the conclusion that protection of water quality with non-regulatory BMPs does not provide the level of protection they desire, and does not protect all of the values they consider important.

A growing number of concerned citizens have expressed a desire to introduce legislation to, "make sure this kind of logging does not happen again." People

have asked about what they could do to require larger buffers, mandatory buffers, regulatory BMPs, restrictions on wetland logging, and restrictions on clearcut size. In my opinion, anti-logging sentiment is running at a 10-year high and seems to be growing.

The most important difference I see now is that these concerns are not coming from people opposed to all logging. They will quickly tell you that they support sustainable forestry, recognize the importance of forest industry in the SC economy, and appreciate the many forest products that they use. They support BMPs and understand that private landowners have the right to grow and harvest timber on their property. They also have very strong feelings about what is 'good' logging and what is 'bad' logging.

## Does Anybody Get Any Respect Anymore?

On a related note, it seems that tempers are hotter and goodwill is in shorter supply lately. I appreciate that many people are feeling stressed now, but that is no excuse for bad behavior. Attitudes on both sides have been a problem on several sites this year.

Landowners have taken harsh words personally and made it their mission to cause trouble for the loggers and buyers who offended them. We've also heard loggers say they would have done a better job, but the landowner was such a jerk they didn't want to give them the satisfaction.

My answer is simple – treat others with respect (whether they deserve it or not), and keep your professional standards high no matter how others are acting.

## Reactions and Pro-actions

We cannot control how others react to logging, but we can control our own actions and behavior.

It is important now to consider the big picture, to consider how logging impacts others, and to ensure that we are maintaining environmental quality. On-the-ground performance and professional behavior are both part of what separates good logging from bad. Nothing -- not economic pressure, not landowner attitudes, not timber prices, or anything else -- should allow us to slip towards bad logging.

Our own actions will have the greatest effect on what happens next, especially our commitment to following BMPs and advancing our public image.



*State Forester Gene Kodama (top left) addresses SCTPA board.*

## COURT: MUD FROM LOGGING ROADS IS POLLUTION

By Jeff Barnard  
The Associated Press  
August 18, 2010 2:00 AM

GRANTS PASS, OR — A federal appeals court Tuesday decided that mud washing off logging roads is pollution and ordered the Environmental Protection Agency to write regulations to reduce the amount that reaches salmon streams.

A conservation group that filed the lawsuit said if the ruling by the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals stands, logging roads on federal, state and private lands across the West will eventually have to be upgraded to meet Clean Water Act standards.

"Those roads historically have gotten a free pass," said Mark Riskedahl of the Northwest Environmental Defense Center in Portland. "This is not rocket science. There are some very low-cost, low-maintenance steps folks can take to remedy this problem."

The center had sued the Oregon Department of Forestry over sediment washing off two logging roads on the Tillamook State Forest in northwestern Oregon.

A three-judge panel of the court found that the sediment exceeded Clean Water Act limits, and should be regulated by EPA as a point source of industrial pollution. The judges rejected arguments from the state that the sediment falls under exemptions granted by Congress and less stringent regulations for things like agricultural runoff.

Chris Winter, an attorney for the CRAG Law Center in Portland, which represented the center, said the EPA has long recognized sediment as one of the leading sources of water pollution in the country, and that it is harmful to fish, but has chosen not to address the issue of logging roads.

Oregon Department of Forestry spokesman Dan Postrel said they were reviewing the ruling, and had no immediate comment on it.

He added that while timber contracts often call for the buyer to pay for road maintenance, the cost ultimately falls to the agency, because the costs are deducted from payments.

The issue is likely to bring further litigation on national forests, because so little logging goes on there, and roads originally built for logging are now used for other things, including recreation, said Andy Stahl of the conservation group Forest Service Employees for Environmental Ethics.

The Oregon Forest Industry Council, which intervened in the case on the side of the department, had no immediate comment, but the prospects for an appeal were high, said spokesman Ray Wilkeson.

The ruling applies to the 9th Circuit states of Oregon, Washington, California, Arizona, Nevada, Idaho and Montana.

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**SCTPA Comments:** Although this ruling applies to the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit states, this ruling has potential for a ripple effect, no make that a tidal wave effect, impacting logging nationwide. If the environmental obstructionists get on board with this nationwide, this has potential to be a very contentious issue. The American Loggers Council notified Congressman Greg Walden, an ally to our industry, as he serves on the Healthy Forest Coalition in Washington, DC. Congressman Walden indicated his group would work on this issue. SCTPA notified SC State Forester Gene Kodama, SCFA's Bob Scott and our U.S. Congressmen and Senators offices. SCTPA, ALC and state logger associations will monitor this issue closely.



## JODY'S COMMENTS

With the controversies brewing in SC regarding bottomland hardwood logging, SCTPA visited the tracts on the Coosawhatchie and Lynches Rivers to see first hand the harvesting operations and BMP issues.

SCTPA member Jody White, White Timber Co., Inc., Pamplico, harvested some of the Lynches River tracts that have come under scrutiny by locals and kayakers who feel swamp logging and BMP's should be more regulated, and even feel swamp logging should be stopped.

SCTPA's Crad Jaynes visited one of Jody's completed sites and observed the BMP's and found the site to have been harvested in a professional manner. Then Jody toured Crad through two of his sites, one he owns and the other a private tract, to observe the BMP's and

harvesting operations near Lynches River.

One tract was just completed and the other was in the finishing stages. Again, both sites appeared to be in BMP compliance and the harvesting operations were well

performed. In fact, Jody voluntarily left an enlarged Streamside Management Zone along the Lynches River on the backside of his property.

Jody is a professional logger who cares about his business and reputation, and our environment and forest sustainability.

Here are Jody's comments to SCTPA.

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Thanks for the pictures. I was glad to take the time and enjoyed getting to talk with you about things going on in our industry.

Like I told you, you are just as important to us (loggers) as we are to you.

I hope that we can continue to promote our industry as a positive and professional business, that has a concern in not

only harvesting timber, but for caring and maintaining our greatest natural renewable resource.

The way I see it, our clearcut harvest today in combination with our BMP's provides the world with the re-

sources it needs, the outdoors man (including myself, as I enjoy the Lynches River as much as anyone) with the continuing enjoyment of our rivers, the Private Land owner with the income they need, lots of jobs, but most of all a NEW GROWING FOREST for our children to enjoy as well as one day harvest again.

Sometimes I think some folks tend to forget that these timberlands are private property, and to attempt to control these lands is a destruction to America and the freedoms of us all.

They also tend to forget that God put these resources here for us to manage. Our forestland will renew. Who depends on that more than us? This is my children's future; we are certainly not going to destroy that.

I know too, people that don't understand our business, the timber harvesting process is not pretty, but I'm sure behind the pretty seen of cattle grazing in a pasture, the butchering process is not lovely to see, but we all need and enjoy the steak.

Unlike the image that some like to portray of us loggers, of that of being a bunch of "big bellied boys" just out to destroy our forest to make a buck, the vast majority of us have been raised into this profession, come from a long line of logging, and have cared for these lands for generations.

Today's Logger is a professional, and has adapted to the change in environmental needs as well as harvesting methods that would be the most beneficial for our timberlands. If the public could only get the real story of our Profession, and the life of a Logger and their families, then they would have a deeper appreciation for professional loggers.

Thank you Crad for all you do for our industry, and know that you are welcome on my jobs anytime.

Thanks, Jody



**MASTER LOGGER CERTIFICATION  
COMMITTEE  
American Loggers Council  
Annual Meeting  
September 25, 2010  
Pendleton, Oregon**

**F**orest products and sustainable forestry practices certification programs continue and are receiving more public, private, industry and governmental support and recognition.

The Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI) has released the updated standards recognizing Certified Logger Programs.

As certification systems continue evolving, the American Loggers Council Master Logger Certification® program is a sustainable timber harvesting practices certification process.

The American Loggers Council (ALC) brought the issue of recognizing Certified Logger Programs such as the ALC Master Logger Certification® (MLC) Program to the table with SFI. The ALC MLC is a viable on the ground, third party verification system for certifying sustainable timber harvesting practices.

Certified Logger Programs is now the term used in the SFI Standards. Under SFI Objective 9, Use of Qualified Resource and Qualified Logging Professionals and states certified logging professionals, where available, be utilized. "Program participants shall encourage landowners to utilize the services of certified logging professionals and qualified logging professionals."

Certified Logging Professional is stated in SFI Objective 10, Adherence to Best Management Practices, Indicator 1. Certified Logging Professional is stated under SFI Objective 16, Training and Education, Indicator 5, and Performance Measure 16.2.2.3 and reads "participation in or support of SFI Implementation Committees (SIC) to

establish criteria for recognition of logger certification programs, where they exist, that include; (b) independent in-the-forest verification of conformance with the logger certification program standards." The key word is "support" of SFI State Implementation Committees for certified logger programs such as the ALC Master Logger Certification Program.

Based on SFI's recognition of Logger Certification Programs such as ALC's Master Logger Certification Program in the updated SFI Standards and recognizing the ALC states with approved and active MLC programs, it is recommended the SFI State Implementation Committees "should, shall or must" have professional logger representation on the State Implementa-

tion Committee. If a state has a logger association or logger council ALC member, the state logger organization's executive should serve on the SIC as well as have logger representation.

It is also recommended that communication to State Implementation Committees be administered through the state logger organization executive and/or logger representative(s) and consideration be given to presenting the ALC MLC National Template and if a ALC state has an approved and/or active State MLC Program present these for information and education. Approved ALC MLC states may consider providing a list of ALC Master Loggers to SIC's periodically, if the state desires to do so.

With SFI's recognition of Certified Logger Programs, this has added more significance to such programs.

The SFI Program recognition of Certified Master Logger Programs, such as the ALC MLC, and the recognition of the ALC program as a third party audited Logger Certification Program, is a step in the right direction for the Sustainable Forestry Initiative.

Certified Master Loggers under the ALC MLC Program qualify in the chain-of-custody process whereby landowners are having their timber harvested in a sustainable manner by a Certified Master Logger.

While there are many Logger Training Programs effective now that use the term "Master Logger" some of these are just logger training programs requiring continuing education for loggers within a specified time frame and not a true certification program and are not true certification programs utilizing third party audits of harvesting and business practices and meeting the Seven Areas of Responsibility mandated by the ALC MLC National Template and tailored to meet each ALC state's regulations, laws and requirements. However, some states may be subject to a state Forest Practices Law that may require third party audits.

SFI's recognition of Certified Master Logger Programs does exhibit SFI's initiative in the updated SFI Standards to allow these certification programs to find a place with SFI's certification system.

Certified Master Logger Programs such as the ALC MLC is certainly far more reaching than just a training and continuing education regimen, since it encompasses third party auditing of what a professional logger is doing on the ground and in their business.

Even though SFI has recognized the ALC MLC Program, while not in name specifically, and again the American Loggers Council was the first to bring this issue to SFI's attention, such recognition does not automatically garner ALC states with Master Logger Certi-



*ALC's program is the  
leader for timber  
harvesting  
certification.*

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cation Programs certain advantages over non-certified loggers in many cases.

However, through reports received from ALC MLC approved and active states, benefits have been seen and provided to ALC Master loggers who have been certified under the state's ALC MLC program.

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

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

Be it noted, just because an ALC state has an approved template and implements the ALC MLC program, does not indicate any more or less support of SFI. It simply means the ALC state has an approved template for the ALC MLC Program.

No ALC state is mandated to implement the MLC Program. But in order to exhibit unity within the ALC ranks of professional loggers, a consensus of ALC MLC states would show the support for raising the professional timber harvesting bar and show support for professionalism and sustainable forestry practices nationwide.

Now sixteen states have approved MLC templates: Idaho, Maine, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Washington, Oregon, California, Arkansas, Louisiana, South Carolina, Vermont, Michigan and Missouri with subsidiary states Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island partnering with the Maine Northeast Master Logger Certification Program.

The ALC's National Master Logger Certification©

template provides guidance for Seven Areas of Responsibility for performance standards. Each ALC member state develops its state template according to state laws, practices, regulations and criteria to meet the national template's performance standards.

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

Logger certification continues to grow in importance within the frameworks of land management and forest products certification systems. The important point is the American Loggers Council MLC program has led the charge. ALC states and its logger members must support ALC's "logger owned and logger controlled" program. ALC and its member states must continue to be the leaders in professional logger certification.

ALC's program is the leader for timber harvesting certification. As forest products and sustainable forestry practices certification continues whether market or environmentally driven, Master Loggers will be more widely recognized as the professional environmental stewards furthering the sustainability of our nation's forests for future generations.

Respectfully submitted,

Crad Jaynes  
Chairman, Master Logger Certification Committee  
August 31, 2010

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

SCTPA welcomes our New Members.  
Your support is appreciated.

SB Turf, Inc., *Galivants Ferry*  
MAM Stick Haulers, LLC, *Edgefield*  
Sims Trucking Co., *Kershaw*  
Southern Forest Products, LLC, *Ehrhardt*  
Beasley Timber Management, LLC, *Hazelhurst, GA*  
Industrial Solutions of the Carolinas, LLC, *Columbia*

*Dedicated representation & service to the professional timber harvesting segment of South Carolina's forest products industry.*

## Study: Agribusiness's impact, potential are great

By James T. Hammond  
[jhammond@scbiznews.com](mailto:jhammond@scbiznews.com)  
Published Sept. 3, 2010

South Carolina could create an additional 10,000 jobs and boost agriculture's impact on the state's economy by about \$16 billion annually, a new USC study suggests.

Doug Woodward, director of research at the University of South Carolina's Darla Moore School of Business, said the study showed the state already reaps \$132 for every dollar the state invests in programs such as the Certified S.C. Grown branding campaign.

The study recommends a series of strategic initiatives for the sector, which already accounts for 25% of the state's overall economy

**Research shows the economic impact of agriculture, forestry and allied industries to be almost \$34 billion annually, generating about 200,000 jobs. State agriculture officials want to increase that annual impact to \$50 billion over the next decade.**

Hugh Weathers, the state Commissioner of Agriculture, said studies have shown that more than half of consumers surveyed are willing to pay a premium price for locally grown food. And he said the number of local farmers markets across the state has doubled in the past four years, as consumers and farmers have connected the supply-and-demand chain.

Weathers said that the farming population of the state has stabilized in recent years, after a generation of decline. And farmers are creating new markets for their produce in a culture in which people are increasingly eager to know the source of their food.

"People will buy locally grown products if they are labeled as such," Weathers said.

The S.C. Department of Agriculture launched the Certified S.C. Grown branding campaign in 2007. Weathers said Georgia has had a similar program for 20 years, and North Carolina has been at it for 15

years. "We're playing catch-up," he said.

Woodward said consumer attitudes are creating a new market for locally grown food products. "I think there's been a sea change in attitudes that just wasn't there a few years ago," Woodward said.

Weathers also said part of the state's task is to convince young people of the value and rewards of a career in agriculture. "A big part of our job is to develop the next generation of farmers," Weathers said.

"Today, the average age of a farmer is 59 years old."

The study by the Moore School's Division of Research was commissioned by the Agriculture Department at a cost of \$45,000.

***"People will buy locally grown products if they are labeled as such."***

Commissioner Hugh Weathers,  
SC Department of Agriculture

Woodward said the potential is great for increasing the share of food produced by S.C. farmers in the state's food chain. "We spend \$7 bil-

lion to \$8 billion on food annually in South Carolina; less than 10% of that food starts here," he said.

Currently, the Agriculture Department spends about \$1 million a year promoting the Certified S.C. Grown campaign. Woodward estimated on the basis of his research that the promotion generates \$23 million in economic activity.

In addition to ramping up support for locally grown produce, the study said the state must:

- Explore alternative energy production from biomass.
- Increase domestic and international trade in agriculture products.

The study lists as priorities for effectively moving toward those goals:

- Restore recurring funding to the Certified S.C. Grown marketing program.
- Fund an agribusiness economic development program based in the S.C. Department of Agriculture.
- Develop economic incentives specific to the agribusiness industry.
- Reauthorize the Family Farm Development Act within the S.C. Department of Agriculture.
- Update regulations administered by the S.C. Department of Agriculture.



## ***Timber Talk***

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## BACKING FOR LIFE

By Greg Plumley  
Forestry Mutual Insurance Company

Recently, we (FMIC) experienced a fatality that caused us to reassess what we can do to raise awareness about crew members on the ground and the large volume of vehicles backing up at a work site. Since the fatality, we have been reactive.

Well, here is your opportunity to take the bull by the horns and educate your employees before you or they become victims of a backing accident.

According to the National Safety Council (NSC.org), one out of four vehicle accidents can be blamed on poor backing techniques. Backing accidents cause 500 fatalities and 15,000 injuries per year. The actual numbers are likely four times higher due to those incidents that are never reported because they do not involve an injury or fatality.

Think back! I bet you can recall a few backing incidents that have happened on the job. Maybe a few fenders, headlights, bumpers, tailgates, etc. have been damaged. Or have you heard on the news that a parent or grandparent backed out of their driveway on the way to get a loaf of bread or milk and backed over their child riding their tricycle.

I hope I have made a case for you to become proactive in the safety awareness of backing.

### General rules are as follows:

- **Avoid backing if at all possible.** But if backing is necessary, position the vehicle in the direction you need to go when leaving the location – in other words - **BACK FIRST**.
- **Always use a spotter when backing.** A spotter should always be in the view of driver.
- **Blow Horn.** Blow horn whenever you start to back, and continue to tap on the horn every 10 feet of backing travel.
- **All back up alarms must be operational.** A defective back alarm should be called to attention for immediate repair.
- **Size up the situation before backing.** Walk around the vehicle to examine the area and look for hazardous situations. When in doubt, get out and look.
- **Check the surface.** Note depressions, bumps, obstacles and any persons who might come into the line of travel.
- **Check top clearances.** Note how wide the vehicle is in relationship to the size of the space being backed into.
- **Analyze the situation.** After analyzing the situation, begin the backing maneuver immediately before the situation has a chance to change.

The use of good backing HABITS and continued vehicle backing education can help prevent backing accidents that can occur at anytime and anywhere.

**PROACTIVE = GOOD BACKING HABITS - BACK FIRST -  
USE A SPOTTER AND DO A WALK AROUND**





## ***Biomass Power: A Power to be Defended***

By Bob Cleaves, Biomass Magazine,  
September 2010

Things are looking up for the biomass industry. After a couple months of challenging assumptions made in mischaracterized studies, we scored a huge victory in July as 114 influential environment and energy scientists from prestigious universities and environmental centers rallied around biomass. They urged key members of Congress to view biofuels as the valuable renewable energy source that they are. And they implored the U.S. EPA to reconsider its Tailoring Rules that equate biomass energy with that of fossil fuels.

Most important, the scientists explained—in scientific detail that was still easy for laymen to understand—how they account for biomass' "carbon neutral" status and its lack of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. They even went so far as to say that biomass energy is good for the environment:

"Forests are our nation's primary source of renewable materials and second-largest source of renewable energy after hydropower," they wrote. "Sustainable development of new and traditional uses of our forests helps reduce GHG emissions and has the important benefit of providing economic incentives for keeping lands forested and reducing the motivation for land conversion.

"When wood removals are used to produce both renewable materials as well as bio-energy," the scientists continued, "the carbon stored in forest products continues to grow year after year, more than off-setting any processing emissions while at the same time permanently substituting for fossil fuel intensive materials displacing their emissions."

This letter could not have been timed better; in Massachusetts, misperceptions continue to spread.

Ian Bowles, Massachusetts secretary for energy and environmental affairs, recently wrote a letter instructing the state's Department of Energy Resources to draft new regulations that would impose stricter standards for biomass projects seeking to qualify for Massachusetts incentives. The proposal by Secretary Bowles, among other things, would require that biomass power projects provide significant near-term greenhouse gas dividends and includes a proposal that the state develop new carbon accounting rules for biomass

power. Bowles' letter also calls for a clear definition of residues and waste woods and proposes that the greatest support be thrown behind plants that produce both heat and power.

Unfortunately, the secretary's letter does little to stop the misinformation spreading about biomass; instead, it continues to spread dangerous myths about our industry. These mischaracterizations must stop if we are to not only reach our energy potential, but to stay alive in the renewable energy game. It seems that while we know that biomass power is an energy source that derives from waste debris, such as branches and waste residue from timber harvests, and that biomass power is a renewable source that is carbon neutral, we need to continue to project the truths about biomass to fix the inaccurate view some have of our industry.

This letter from top scientists across the country was an encouraging sign for the biomass industry and the 14,000 men and women in this country who are employed by our industry. These scientists' ability to articulate why biomass is beneficial to the environment will work to quell the misinformation circulating about the industry and increase knowledge about what we do and, most importantly, why biomass power is an important energy source.

We must continue the fight. Biomass power associations and facility leaders must stress to media contacts and elected officials the many positive facts about biomass power to solidify our role in renewable energy. I, for one, fully believe we are capable of righting the myths and showing America that biomass power is both renewable and necessary in our country's energy conversations.

*Bob Cleaves is president and CEO of the Biomass Power Association. To learn more about biomass power, please visit [www.USABiomass.org](http://www.USABiomass.org).*



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July 15, 2010

This letter to Mr. Fedrizzi was signed by 79 members of the U.S. House of Representatives, including South Carolina's John Spratt.

Mr. Rick Fedrizzi, President and CEO  
U.S. Green Building Council  
2101 L Street NW, Suite 500  
Washington, DC 20037

Dear Mr. Fedrizzi:

As members who are both active on forestry issues and represent districts with many small woodlot owners, we are writing to express our concern over the United States Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating system.

While we appreciate the efforts of the USGBC to promote energy efficiency and environmental conservation, we are very concerned that the LEED rating system's wood credit does not recognize two of the largest sustainable forest certification programs in the United States – the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) and the American Tree Farm System (ATFS) – and recognizes only Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified wood.

Over 84 million acres of forests in the United States are certified to SFI or ATFS, almost three times the amount of forests certified to FSC nationally. If the LEED rating system maintains the status quo and does not recognize SFI or ATFS, many builders seeking LEED certification would be discouraged to use third-party certified SFI and ATFS products grown here in the United States. Furthermore, by requiring wood to have third party certification to receive a credit and not forcing that requirement on steel and concrete, the USGBC is discouraging the overall use of a product that uses less energy and produces less pollution in its manufacturing.

We understand that the LEED rating system has proposed draft benchmarks to evaluate forest certification programs, but we are concerned that they do not offer a clear and simple way to give credit for all of the major third-party forest certification systems operating in the United States. Broadening the number of eligible certification programs could stimulate the market for American produced forest products and the communities and jobs that depend on both.

We urge you and your organization to expedite your review of forest management certification systems and to accept all credible forest management certification systems for qualification under the LEED rating system. Doing so will help ensure strong markets for domestic lumber producers and our forest landowners, which is vital to the future of our forests and our forest industry workers.





## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR WOOD MAGIC FOREST FAIR

**I**t's time again for this fall's **Wood Magic Forest Fair** (WMFF) program. The WMFF is an award-winning comprehensive forestry education program for 4<sup>th</sup> graders and their teachers and parents.

Since 1998 over 24,000 students, teachers and parents have participated in this program and learned about the economic, social and environmental benefits of our state's forest resources. To learn more, go to the web site at [www.state.sc.us/forest/wmfair.htm](http://www.state.sc.us/forest/wmfair.htm) to view last year's annual report.

Due to budget and personnel restrictions placed on the South Carolina Forestry Commission this fiscal year, it has been decided we can only support ONE Wood Magic Forest Fair event this year rather than the three events we usually produce.

We have had many discussions leading up to this decision in an effort to make sure this worthwhile forestry education program can continue through these hard economic times. The Forestry Commission is committed to the WMFF program and hopefully we will be able to return it to full implementation in the future.

For this fall **the only WMFF event planned will be October 11 through 15 at Harbison State Forest in Columbia**. This event is the least expensive event of the three and the easiest to get participants to attend due to the surrounding metropolitan area. We have adequate funding already on hand to complete this event.

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

We are asking you to sign up and try to recruit one (or more) person who has not participated in this great edu-

cational event. **To sign up**, first visit the WMFF instructors' web site at <http://www.state.sc.us/forest/woodmagic.htm> to see what days and positions are available. You can also find lesson plans, driving directions, and other information at this site.

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

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

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



**SCTPA Comments:** *Wood Magic is one of the finest tools we have in our state to bring the message about sustainable forestry, forest products, environmental benefits, timber harvesting and reforestation to our youth, their teachers and parents. SCTPA serves on the steering committee and has participated for many years. Our members are urged to take time from your busy schedule and contact Stephanie to volunteer as a class guide or serve in another task and enjoy one of the most rewarding, interactive programs our industry can offer our young people, teachers and parents.*



## In Memory of a Member Ronnie Poston

SCTPA logger member Ronnie L. Poston, Sr., Ronnie L. Poston Logging, Inc. of Hemingway passed away on August 7<sup>th</sup>.

A loyal and active SCTPA member, Ronnie attended district meetings in Georgetown and the annual meeting in Myrtle Beach. A long time Log A Load For Kids supporter, he was a proud professional logger and advocate for his profession.

Our thoughts and prayers are extended to his wife Cindy and their children Erin and Ron and the entire family.

Memorials can be contributed to:

Caring and Sharing of Hemingway, P.O. Box 910, Hemingway, SC, 29554.



## SCTPA's 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting January 28 – 30, 2011

Mark your calendar to attend SCTPA's 2011 Annual Meeting to be held January 28 – 30 at the Crown Reef Resort & Conference Center in Myrtle Beach.

**Forests for Our Future** is our emphasis. Sustainable forests will supply conventional wood products as well as the other socio-economic-environmental benefits to meet future demands. Emerging woody biomass markets will share a place in our forests along with the increased scrutiny placed on sustainable forest management, timber harvesting and reforestation as a result.

Different perspectives of sustainable forest management, timber harvesting and woody biomass for renewable energy will be presented to share how future wood demands for solid wood, pulpwood and woody biomass from growing, managing, harvesting and reforestation will be involved in making sure our forest resources are sustainable.

Speakers will include: Tom Reed, VP Southern Resources of Plum Creek, Larry Cumming, President of Peterson, Matt Jensen, President of American Loggers Council, Bobby Goodson, of Goodson Logging and television's Swamp Logger, Scott Jones, CEO of Forest Landowners Association and Dale Greene, Professor at University of Georgia Center for

Forest Business. Nate Clark, Director of Public Affairs Forestry at John Deere will be our featured Saturday luncheon speaker.

With the new Comprehensive Safety Analysis 2010 Trucking Program in full swing by then, Sergeant Don Rhodes of SC State Transport Police will conduct a workshop to review CSA 2010 on Saturday afternoon.

We'll have our Friday board of directors meeting, Friday evening Welcome Reception with music, food and might even throw in a live auction for a few items too.

Saturday morning will start with our breakfast, then speakers and at noon the Membership Luncheon followed by the association business session, awards and prizes.

Saturday evening is free to enjoy Myrtle Beach with your friends and family. Carolina Opry tickets may be available at discounted prices again.

Sunday morning our Prayer Breakfast will feature His Girls who are sisters Rachel Rabon and Linda Avant to praise The Lord in song and testimony.

Our Silent Auction will be running for nice items and we'll raffle off a gun, probably a pistol this time, and our usual ATV ... or perhaps something different on 4 wheels this time.

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

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

Make plans to attend the 2011 Annual Meeting. You'll be glad you did!

## 2011 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING NOTICE

**TO: Members of the South Carolina Timber Producers Association, Inc.**  
**WHEN: Noon, Saturday, January 29, 2011**  
**WHERE: Crown Reef Resort Conference Center, 2913 South Ocean Blvd, Myrtle Beach, SC 29577**

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

At the Association Business Session, members will:

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

As a member, you should plan to attend the 2011 Annual Membership Meeting. This is a member privilege and wonderful opportunity to get involved in your Association.

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

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

Take advantage of this opportunity to play an active role in SCTPA. Make plans to join your peers **January 28 – 30, 2011 at Myrtle Beach's Crown Reef Resort & Conference Center for your Annual Membership Meeting.**

Annual meeting registration and information packages will be mailed to members.

Contact SCTPA for registration, sponsorship, exhibitor, silent auction donation and meeting information.



## AgHaul Update: August 6, 2010

### Senate Bill Introduced!

AgHaul is pleased to report that on August 4, Sen. Mike Crapo (R-Idaho) introduced gross vehicle weight reform in the Senate, as The Safe and Efficient Transportation Act (S 3705). Senators Herb Kohl (D-Wisconsin) and Susan Collins (R-Maine) joined Senator Crapo as original co-sponsors.

"Senator Crapo and his co-sponsors have brought to the Senate the bipartisan campaign to use our road system more efficiently, to reduce fuel consumption, emissions, and traffic congestion, while improving safety and supporting our land-based industries," stated AgHaul Chairman Mike Branch. "With a bill in the Senate, the campaign for truck weight reform will continue to build momentum."

Senator Crapo pointed out, "This bipartisan legislation gives states the option to increase interstate truck weight limits in a safe manner so that we can get more goods from the farm or factory to consumers in fewer trips and fewer vehicle miles. Many trucks now hit the federal weight limit with space left in their trailers. The U.S. DOT estimates that the use of six-axle trucks could save as much as \$14.5 billion in shipping costs annually. SETA will also make U.S. goods more competitive in the global marketplace, as Canada, the United Kingdom, and many other countries already have higher weight limits."

S 3705 is identical to legislation Rep. Mike Michaud (D-Maine) introduced in the House in 2009, and which now has 54 co-sponsors. Both House and Senate bills would give states an option to allow trucks weighing up to 97,000 pounds access to federal Interstate highways within their borders, provided the truck is equipped with a sixth axle, to reduce braking distances and pavement wear, and provided the operator is willing to pay a supplement to the federal Heavy Vehicle Use Tax, dedicated to accelerated bridge maintenance.

## TRUCK DRIVER SAFETY

One item released from the US Federal Highway Administration each year tells a chilling story about driver safety. Make safe driving a lifelong habit

- **EVERY 21 MINUTES: A road departure fatality occurs.**

Each day across America millions of truck drivers haul products to support our economy. Trucking plays a huge role in the wood products industry from logs to finished furniture. Trucking is the way our industry moves its products to market. Once the truck leaves the logging job, warehouse, plant or mill, drivers are on their own and away from direct supervision. There is a huge amount of responsibility and liability based upon the driver's decisions and actions.

Recently a number of truck wrecks, some proving fatal, have occurred. Each driver killed was a family member that did not go home at the end of the workday. The most common causes of accidents involve driver distractions such as talking on a cell phone or CB radio, becoming sleepy from long hauls, and boredom.

In order to reduce the number of road departure fatalities hold regularly scheduled safety meetings to help keep safety awareness at a high level. Some topics to discuss include:

- Make sure all medical requirements are met for drivers with commercial licenses.
- Do a thorough pre-trip inspection of the truck and trailer.
- Has scheduled maintenance been completed?
- Are the brakes and tires serviceable?
- Check the load often. Tighten binders and chains frequently.
- Know your load. A double bunk load of cut logs pulls and handles differently than a load of tree-length wood. Pallets and finished furniture handle differently than wet or dried packs of lumber.
- Use your seat belt.
- Drive alert and avoid distractions - Do not use cell phones while driving.
- Constantly scan your mirrors. Be aware of blind spots.
- Adjust your speed for the driving conditions you encounter.
- Do not do anything that can impair judgment before or during your trips.
- Be aware of following distances, your truck doesn't stop on a dime.

**Accidents can be prevented.** Lowering risk through safety awareness reduces the chance of an accident. Taking the time to hold safety briefings with your trucking employees will demonstrate your concern for them. Drive safely.



## **LOGGING THREAT TO EUROPE'S LAST PRIMEVAL FOREST**

BIALOWIEZA, Poland (AFP) - Deep in the forest, along a dirt road off-limits to tourists, the trunks of centuries-old fir trees lie waiting to be hauled to a sawmill -- felled giants from Europe's last primeval forest.

Further in, old oak and ash trunks wait to be turned into planks, furniture or matchsticks: proof, say ecologists, of illicit logging that is endangering the ancient Bialowieza forest in eastern Poland.

"Some of the trees have been cut down illegally by Poland's National Forests service, in violation of European Union legislation," contends Polish environmentalist Adam Bohdan, who with other campaigners has raised the alarm in Warsaw and Brussels.

State forestry officials deny any logging for commercial purposes in Bialowieza, saying only diseased or infested trees are being felled in the vast woodland area which is home to wild bison, lynx and wolves.

"We are also ecologists," says Andrzej Antczak, head of the Bialowieza forest service. "We log only to protect the forest from bark beetles -- insects that pose a grave danger to trees. We want to help nature defend itself and we do it according to Polish legislation," he insists.

Last year, forest authorities allowed the logging of some 100,000 cubic metres (3.5 million cubic feet) of wood in Bialowieza, or 0.35 percent of all timber produced in the country.

But ecologists are unconvinced. Last month, they filed a complaint with the European Commission against Poland for alleged non-conformity with EU environmental rules.

Days later, Greenpeace held a love-in for Bialowieza, hoisting a banner with an enormous heart reading "I love puszcza" (I love the forest) across the facade of the environment ministry in Warsaw.

The move paved the way to an agreement with the ministry to halt logging in Bialowieza until the end of last month.

Sprawling across 150,000 hectares, the Bialowieza forest reaches across the Polish border with Belarus, where it is entirely protected as a nature park.

Named a World Heritage site in 1979, it is home to 20,000 animal species, including 250 types of bird and 62 species of mammals -- among them Europe's largest, the bison.

Europe's tallest trees, firs towering 50 metres high (164 feet), and oaks and ashes of 40 metres, also flourish here, in an ecosystem untouched by human hand for more than 10 millennia.

"Bialowieza is unique. The forest has been there since the ice from the last Ice Age melted 12,000 years ago," explains Zdzislaw Szkiruc, director of the Bialowieza national park.

The park spreads over around 16 percent of the Polish part of the forest. Another 20 percent is strictly protected and the remainder is administered by Poland's state-run National Forests organization.

Green activists have focused their energies on the battle to expand the designated national park area to cover the entire Polish part of the forest.

But the mayor of Bialowieza, a town of 2,400 residents, is lukewarm about the plans. "We cannot forget about people who live near the forest," says Albert Litwinowicz.

"Residents are divided over the prospect of the park being expanded," he says. "Previous enlargements brought more inconveniences than advantages. The government promised money, but not a cent was paid into our coffers," he said.

"Today residents are afraid they won't be able to enter the park to gather mushrooms or berries as they have always done. Those who work in the woodland are afraid, they'll lose their jobs," the mayor explained.

What residents think matters because under existing legislation it is up to their local representatives to decide on the park's extension -- another thing that environmentalists would like to see change.

"Certainly, the Bialowieza forest doesn't belong only to us, it belongs to all Poles, it belongs to all of Europe and the residents of the region cannot be the only ones to decide about its future.

"But why should they be the only ones to pay the price?" asks Litwinowicz.



*AFP -- A tractor drives through Poland's Bialowieza forest. Deep in the forest, along a dirt road off-limits ...*

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## 20/15 INFRASTRUCTURE TASK FORCE

SC State Forester Gene Kodama and the SC Forestry Commission have a vision to increase SC's forestry industry from an \$18 billion industry now to a \$20 billion industry by the year 2015.

This project is a cooperative effort of representatives in our state's forestry industry along with other entities playing an important role now and in the future of SC forestry such as the SC State Ports Authority, SCDOT, SC Alliance to Fix Our Roads and others.

Several task force committees were appointed to identify crucial issues and make recommendations to improve the economic impact of our forestry industry.

SCTPA is proud to serve on the Infrastructure Task Force chaired by Bernie Deason, Smurfit Stone's Logistics Manager and SCFA Transportation Committee chairman.

Other Infrastructure Committee members are Reg Williams, Log Creek Timber Company, Debbie Bass, SC Alliance to Fix Our Roads, Craig Lund, SC Ports Authority, David Cook, SCDOT, Leland Gauron, KapStone Charleston Kraft and Tim Adams, SC Forestry Commission.

The Infrastructure Committee's goal was to identify highest priority transportation issues that would improve the movement of processed and unprocessed forest products to their ultimate markets. Specific issues addressed include, but not limited to were:

- Truck weight limits
- Farm to market road maintenance
- Bridge maintenance
- Opportunities for rail movement of forest products
- Drop shipments or load scheduling
- Trans-loading facilities
- Capacity for storage and handling of bulk and break-bulk timber products at ports.

The committee was tasked with making recommendations to identify, prioritize and research issues and report a list of prioritized action items.

Job creation and total economic impact to South Carolina's economy were key factors in prioritizing recommendations. The potential economic impact of each recommendation was to be highlighted. Approaches to implementing recommendations were to be included. Legislation or incentives needed to encourage the implementation of recommendations were to be identified. The committee reported out its recommendations on August 25<sup>th</sup>.

Chairman Deason reported these prioritized recommendations at the 20/15 meeting of all the task force committees on August 26<sup>th</sup>.

1. Recommend Forest Products Producers and Receivers submit a list of the most critical downgraded H10 Bridges impacting their businesses to the D.O.T. with the number of trucks detoured per day.

Also, recommend that some of these companies make presentations regarding the economic impact of these bridges on their businesses to Commissioners at SCDOT Highway Commission Meetings.

2. Recommend SC Forestry Assn. and State Forestry Commission provide support to S.C. Dept. of Transportation in obtaining funding for maintenance of our secondary State roads and bridges which are critical to the Forest Products Industry. The Forest Products Industry should ally with the SC State Chamber of Commerce and SC Alliance to Fix Our Roads in lobbying the State Legislature for D.O.T. maintenance funding.
3. Recommend that South Carolina delegation be lobbied to support the 97,000 lb. national truck weight initiative with the addition of a six axle on the trailer under H.R. 1799 "The Safe and efficient Transportation Act of 2009" and Senate companion bill S. 3705 "The Safe and Efficient Transportation Act" and also support South Carolina in a pilot program for these trucks on Interstate and State Highways.
4. Recommend that the Forest Products Industry support placement of the State Forester on the Coordinating Council for Economic Development due to the enormous impact the Industry has on the State's economy.
5. Recommend that the SC State Ports Authority explore and report feasibility of providing Bulk loading/unloading facilities for export/import of forest products. The SC Forestry Association and The State Forestry Commission should add links to the SC State Ports Authority and SC Commerce Dept. websites to provide Forest Products Producers with contacts for export/import information.

20/15 is a bold vision that is achievable through cooperative efforts and partnerships to improve our state forest industry's economic impact.

\*\*\*\*\*

Chairman Deason furnished the Infrastructure Committee the following information regarding infrastructure and transportation issues.

1. 97,000 lb Gross Vehicle Weight Study – A Study by Professor Dale Greene at the Center for Forest Business Warnell School of Forestry & Natural Resources – University of Georgia indicated that, "With fuel prices rising, improving trucking efficiency is now more crucial than ever. Fuel costs are reducing the profit margins on every industry in the economy, and logging is certainly no exception. In addition to providing fuel-cost savings, increasing the allowable GVW also would streamline trucking across national borders. Current maximum GVWs allowed by Mexico and Canada are 106,920 pounds and 95,900 pounds, respectively. According to the American for Safe and Efficient Transport-

(Continued on page 23)

(Continued from page 22)

tation (ASET), the payload increase would make trade more parallel and obtain \$14.5 billion of potential savings in shipping costs. For an individual truck, ASET also states that tractor-trailers (with 6 axles rather than 5) can reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) by 11% and reduce fuel usage by 6%. Accidents would decrease as well, as fewer trucks driven by a smaller pool of more highly qualified drivers would be on the road." The study concluded that, "Trucking of raw forest products in the U.S. South does not enjoy GVW or payloads similar to those of our competitors in other parts of the world, where GVWs of 50-60 metric tons (110,000 – 132,000 pounds) may be allowed. If the U.S. were to permit a 97,000-pound GVW on major highways, significant cost saving could be available to log truckers if they modified their rigs to take advantage of these possibilities. Trucking cost reductions of up to 18% appear to be available if contractors can replace their 2-axle trailer with 3-axle trailers and continue to use their existing current tractor unit".

2. F. R. Hall & Associates reports that "Since 2006, more than 360,000 forest products employees have lost jobs, more than one quarter of the industry's workforce. In logging, 13,100 jobs have been lost. In paper and allied products, 181,000 jobs have been lost and in the kitchen cabinet manufacturing sector, 54,000 jobs lost. And these jobs losses continue during the current economic downturn. Many of these jobs were lost due to unfair competition in transportation costs in the supply chain, due to heavier truck weight allowed in Canada, Mexico and many other countries. Regarding the closure of paper mills and the attendant loss of jobs, 18 paper mills were closed permanently shutting down 27 paper machines, and 14 paper machines have been permanently shuttered in other U.S. Facilities. Since 1977, 172 pulp and paper mills in the United States have been permanently closed. Passage of H.R. 1799, would enact long overdue truck weight reform, help prevent further American job losses and continued decline in the U.S. forest products industry by allowing American companies to be more competitive by reducing transportation costs, improving the environment and reducing the consumption of fossil fuels".

### **Farm To Market Road and Bridge Maintenance**

1. The Annual Pulpwood Statistics Summary Report done by the Forest Resources Association Inc. in 2006 provides a compilation of annual receipt and inventory data for the year 2005 that is the latest year the data is available. South Carolina is ranked 4<sup>th</sup> in pulpwood receipts with 15,628,560 green tons. The report indicates that domestic pulpwood receipts by delivery methods for 2005 was 89.57% was by truck, 8.65% by rail

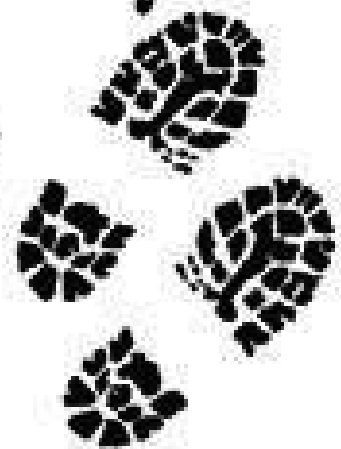
and 1.78% by water. Assuming this truck percentage for S.C. using an average of 22 tons/load to account for inclusion of residue fiber this would equate to a total of 635,798 truckloads received at Forest Products facilities in 2005.

2. A study done in May of 2009 by TRIP (nonprofit organization that researches, evaluates and distributes economic and technical data on highway transportation issues) made the point that the efficiency of South Carolina's Transportation system, particularly its highways, is critical to the health of the state's economy. Businesses are increasingly reliant on an efficient and reliable transportation system to move products and services and expenditures on highway repairs create a significant number of jobs. The report indicates that a 2007 analysis by the Federal Highway Administration found that every \$1 billion invested in highway construction would support approximately 27,800 jobs, including approximately 9,500 in the construction sector, approximately 4,300 jobs in industries supporting the construction sector, and approximately 14,000 other jobs induced in non-construction related sectors of the economy.
3. The S.C. Dept. of Transportation website indicates some of the following facts.
  - Nearly one-third of South Carolina's primary and interstate highways are now in poor or mediocre condition.
  - Approximately half of our secondary roads are in poor or mediocre condition.
  - 1 out of every 5 bridges in the state is considered deficient.
  - Nationally, only 19% of all highways are under state ownership. In South Carolina, 62% of all highways are under state ownership. Yet, South Carolina Taxpayers contribute less state source revenue (\$131) than the national per capita average (\$202).
  - The state motor fuel user fee has been 16 cents per gallon since 1987. This is the 4<sup>th</sup> lowest in the nation. It has remained flat while the consumer price index has grown 90% and traffic has grown 65%.
  - If a person drives 15,000 miles a year and gets 20 miles for each gallon of gas, the pay \$120 in South Carolina gas tax annually.
  - SCDOT's primary source of revenues is the state and federal motor fuel user fee (90%). Those revenues have been declining compared to last year and estimates indicate an anticipated 3-5% decline this fiscal year, which translates to \$30-\$50 million less for road and bridge construction and maintenance.

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# Land for Timber Falls as Suburbs Sprawl

By Thomas Spencer,  
The Birmingham News,  
September 5, 2010

Alabama lost 225,000 acres of forest between 2000 and 2008, only the second time since the Great Depression that the state experienced a net loss of forest, according to a new report by the Alabama Forestry Commission.

According to the report **Forests at the Crossroads**, the state may have reached a tipping point in which the tide of urban growth is outpacing the reversion of former agricultural lands to timber.

The Forestry Commission hopes the report can serve as a rallying point to implement policies that encourage forest preservation.

According to forestry officials, forests are not only a valuable economic resource, they also provide an environmental benefit -- protecting rivers, providing wildlife habitat, cleaning water and air and returning moisture to the atmosphere.

"We see some things happening now that we think are threats," said Neil Letson, a Forestry Commission assistant director who coordinated production of the report on Alabama's forest resources. "We need to make sure urban growth and development is done in a way that sustains our forests. This affects everyone, environmentally, economically and socially."

Alabama's current 22.7 million acres of forest is greater than its estimated forest acreage in 1907. Only three states -- Georgia, Oregon and Alaska -- have more forest than Alabama.

Forest acreage decreased through 1920, when the state reached a low of 18.2 million acres, according to the report. Forest scientists estimate that the state may have had up to 30 million forested acres before European settlement.

With the coming of the Great Depression, that trend began to reverse. People increasingly left farms for the city, and conservation efforts such as the Depression-era Civilian Conservation Corps began a campaign of tree-planting, converting marginal farm land into timber. Other government policies and programs thereafter promoted reforestation.

That trend continued up to 2000, when forests peaked at 22.9 million acres. Along the way, Alabama experienced just one other slight dip in forest acreage during the late 1960s and early 1970s, another period of rapid urban and suburban growth.

Though the urban spread has been slowed by the recession, the Forestry Commission report projects the trend to resume once the economy improves. The report projects that urban land in Alabama will increase from 2.4 percent of the state's acreage in 2000 to 10.7 percent in 2050.

"Alabama is now entering a fourth era of land use trends with forest sustainability at risk," the report states.

The state is entering this new era a little behind other Southeast states, primarily those on the East Coast. Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia and Florida all have experienced a net loss of forest since 1960.

David Wear, the project leader for forest economic and policy research at the Southern research station of the U.S. Forest Service in North Carolina, said various dynamics are at work, but urbanization is the most powerful force.

"We expect that urbanization is going to continue at a rapid pace based on the population projections for the South, but that the rate of reversion of agriculture land (to forest land) we saw from the 1960s to the 1990s, we won't see," he said. "So, we will see a continued drop in the forestland going forward."

While the recession may have slowed the pace of urbanization, it also has cut the value of timber by decreasing demand. At the same time, the coming of the electronic office has cut demand for paper as more information is exchanged digitally.

Forests increasingly are fragmented by development, and large timber companies that once owned and managed huge tracts have sold off significant holdings to investor groups. In Alabama, industry-owned lands have decreased by more than 4 million acres, while investment groups and corporations more likely to be interested in development have increased their holdings by 3.2 million acres.

Still, Wear said, the southern states produce more timber than any of the other countries in the world. "This will continue to be a heavily forested region," he said.

Other sources of potential demand, like using wood as an energy source, may provide a new market, but Wear said, "There is a lot of uncertainty about how that will develop in the future."

Additional anticipated threats to forests include climate change, which could speed the spread of forest-killing vines and invasive species, and increased threat from insects.

Mike Strong, who owns and manages timberland in Shelby County between the rapidly growing U.S. 280 and Interstate 65 corridors, said he has seen both positive and negative effects on forests as development has spread. The arrival of subdivisions at the edge of forests can bring a clash of cultures, sparking conflicts over trespassing and land use. But those conflicts tend to get worked out over time, with landowners coming to accept their new neighbors and the new arrivals learning to respect property boundaries.

Development will occur, Strong said. "It is a natural progression of mankind. It happens like the sun coming up in the morning," he said.

But development also is evolving, moving away from mass grading and stripping trees from the landscape.



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(Continued from page 26)

Newer developments tend to do a better job of preserving green space and forest in and around subdivisions, Strong said.

**SCTPA Comments:** *Urban/suburban sprawl is a concern in many areas as productive, sustainable forestlands are being reduced in order to meet the socio-economic demands of our growing society for more homes, shopping areas, transportation corridors and vital services.*

SCTPA contacted State Forester Gene Kodama to get some information regarding SC's status compared to this article. Gene forwarded the message to SCFC's Tim Adams and here is Tim's response.

"SC's situation is a little different from our neighboring states. NC's FIA data, for instance, showed they had lost around 1 million acres of forestland over the last decade. SC's forestland has been relatively stable...ever since the 1960's. We see minor fluctuations up and down, but nothing significant. The only major trends that have occurred in SC are an increase in forestland over the 1<sup>st</sup> half of last century (1900-1960) and a period of relative stability since then. Since the 1968 FIA report, we've averaged roughly 12.6 million acres of forestland in SC. The latest FIA actually has slightly over 13 million acres of forestland in SC.

I've asked Dave Wear for his take on why SC's situation differs from NC and GA. I'll pass that on when I get his response. I suspect it has to do with the small amount of area that I-85 affects going through SC. That is the heart of the "Piedmont Crescent" that is being rapidly developed. -Tim"

## AS I SEE IT ...

AMERICAN LOGGERS COUNCIL

PRESIDENT MIKE WIEDEMAN, ENTERPRISE, OREGON

### September 2010

The difference between success and failure is a razor's edge. It is an obvious conclusion that **effort** is the tipping point deciding whether an endeavor is going to have a positive outcome. After all, everyone knows that the harder you work, **the harder you work**, when in actuality it is planning that determines success.

Trees are not mushrooms, they don't just pop out of the ground in the middle of the night ready to be harvested.

Good loggers that are resilient and creative don't just materialize out of thin air.

Equipment manufacturers can't meet ever-changing standards that constantly mutate at the whim of politicians.

Processors can't compete in global markets when they have one hand tied behind their back and a playing field that makes the Rocky Mountains look like a pool table.

The people managing the



forests in this country are like the farmer who makes moonshine out of the seed corn. It might taste pretty good going down, but when you sober up you better be ready for a long term hangover.

Forests in this country are no longer managed by professional foresters they are either managed by Wall Street bankers (private) or some Federal judge that doesn't know the difference between a fir tree and a rhubarb plant.

We have professional foresters in this country that know how to manage timberland not only for the present, but for future generations as well. We can't continue to litigate every decision made concerning forest management and then procrastinate when it comes to remedies. America's forests deserve better and so do the rural communities that are dependent on them.

It is time to return decision making to the local level. Absentee ownership makes for a poor steward. It is time that the politicians and judiciary learned that trees are a crop! In this time of never ending

Federal and state budget woes our public forests should be treated as the valuable asset that they are instead of a sink hole for scarce resources.

It has truly been an honor to serve as President of the American Loggers Council. I don't know whether it is the effect of getting a little older but this year has raced by. As I have traveled around the country I have had my faith in the long term health of the logging industry restored.

Thank you all for the generous hospitality that you have shown Sandy and I. It has been our pleasure to serve you.

*Mike Weideman is the President of the American Loggers Council, which represents over 50,000 logging professionals in 30 states. Mike's operation, BTO Logging, is headquartered in Enterprise, Oregon. For more information please contact the American Loggers Council office at 409-625-0206 or e-mail at [americanlogger@aol.com](mailto:americanlogger@aol.com).*



## PENDING AIR REGULATIONS SEVERE THREAT TO U.S. PULP & PAPER INDUSTRY

The forest products industry is currently facing a long list of proposed air regulatory changes that could impose large costs.

The American Forest & Paper Association (AF&PA) engaged URS to estimate the likely costs of complying with these pending regulation changes and Fisher International, Inc. to assess the impact of these compliance costs on the economic viability of U.S. pulp and paper mills.

The URS findings were presented in a June 2010 report. The Fisher study, working with URS compliance cost data, shows severe impacts on the pulp and paper industry from EPA's Boiler MACT rule and other upcoming Clean Air rules for which the costs could be estimated and the impacts are summarized as follows.

### Boiler MACT:

- 16,888 jobs lost in the pulp and paper manufacturing mills alone.
- 71,774 jobs lost considering both the job losses in pulp and paper mills and the jobs lost along their supply chain and in the surrounding community.

### Boiler MACT plus other upcoming Clean Air Regulations:

- 43,666 jobs lost in pulp and paper manufacturing alone.
- 185,581 jobs lost considering both the losses in pulp and paper mills and the jobs lost along the supply chain and in the surrounding community.

The increase in costs of compliance with new air regulations will affect mills in different ways. In some cases, mills will suffer increases in costs greater than their domestic competitors, thus losing competitiveness and becoming risks for closure.

In other cases, even if all mills in a product category experience similar cost increases, U.S. mills become "at-risk" for closure because international competitors gain a cost advantage.

Based on the 12.5% at-risk rate and Fisher's estimates of mill-specific increases in annualized air regulation compliance costs, the calculations suggest that boiler MACT regulations, if they are incremental to the pending manufacturing-related

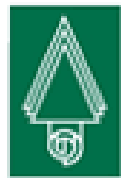
air regulations, would result in the closure of 30 mills employing 16,888 people or 14% of the primary pulp and paper sector's workforce. The primary pulp and paper sector encompasses only pulp and paper mill jobs; logging jobs and converting operations are excluded.

The calculations also suggest that 92 pulp and paper mills would be at significant risk of closing if all the new regulations were implemented. These mills employ 43,666 people, or 37% of the primary pulp and paper sector's workforce.

**Ripple Effect:** Pulp and paper mill jobs support other industries that supply the pulp and paper industry in local communities and throughout the United States. A scholarly paper prepared by the Economic Policy Institute – "Updated Employment Multipliers for the U.S. Economy, 2003" – indicates that for every 100 jobs in the paper industry, there are an additional 325 jobs sustained in other industries due to the purchase of supplies and the re-spending of worker incomes.

Applying the multiplier suggests that some 72,000 jobs can be lost by imposing Boiler MACT regulations on top of the proposed new pulp and paper manufacturing-related air regulations and that a total of 185,000 jobs – inside and outside the pulp and paper industry – could be lost as a result of the entire suite of proposed air regulations.

**Side Note:** Between July 23 and August 25, the Governors (6 Republicans and 4 Democrats) from the states of Alabama, Arkansas, California, Georgia, Idaho, Minnesota, Mississippi, Ohio, Oregon and Wisconsin wrote letters to EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson expressing concern regarding EPA's proposed emission control regulations covering boilers and process heaters. California Governor Schwarzenegger's letter warned of possible closure of the 40 biomass-to-energy facilities in his state. The letters also cited employment and economic impacts to their states.



**American  
Forest & Paper  
Association**



## STATE LOOKS TO PARTNERSHIP TO GROW TIMBER RESOURCE

*The Times and Democrat Newspaper, Orangeburg, Monday, July 12, 2010*

COLUMBIA -- The second in a series of forest resource development conferences drew solid attendance from government, industry and private individuals who share the goal of maximizing forestry's impact on the S.C. economy through a public/private partnership.

The S.C. Forestry Commission, a state agency, and the S.C. Forestry Association, a private organization made up of industry leaders and landowners, are partnering to move forestry's economic impact from \$17 billion to \$20 billion by the year 2015.

The "20/15" project has attracted the attention of lawmakers and economists alike. The latest successful conference hosted by the S.C. Department of Commerce (in the agency's Main St. Presentation Center) shows 20/15 is gaining support among some of the state's most influential leaders, particularly those from just across the street at the Statehouse.

Secretary of Commerce Joe Taylor and Mike Shealey, the Senate Finance Committee budget director, spoke to the attendees and delivered a message from Sen. Hugh Leatherman, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee. Shealey, Leatherman and Taylor give high praise to the 20/15 goal noting that the current economic climate makes such focused aggressive measures even more critical for restoring manufacturing jobs.

"Increasing forestry's annual economic impact to \$20 billion would also create about 12,000 additional well-paying jobs for South Carolinians," State Forester Gene Kodama said.

"The 20/15 effort is an economic development roadmap to drive S.C.'s forest industry toward global competitiveness through clustering, more commonly known as the wood supply chain. The forestry sector is not only the oldest cluster, but today the largest in the state," S.C. Forestry Association President Bob Scott said.

Industry experts participating are now divided into task forces to address each of the six actions, or "planks," determined during the first conference as the key issues needing to be addressed in order to meet the 20/15 goal:

- \* Retaining and strengthening the forest industry.
- \* Fully utilizing record high levels of timber volume in the state.
- \* Conducting R&D in forest management and forest products.

- \* Addressing infrastructure needs in South Carolina for transport/handling forest products.
- \* Promoting S.C. forest products and business opportunities.
- \* Better protecting the forest resource and business investments.

These task forces will issue an interim report in August and a final report during the S.C. Forestry Association's Annual Meeting in November.

Kodama also noted that the Forestry Commission's staffing and resources are diminished now after state budget cuts of 45 percent over the past two years, resulting in downsizing by about 100 people during the period. Forty employees out of those 100 lost were released on June 30, the last day of the fiscal year, to be able to keep a balanced budget in the new year.

The agency's mission to both protect and develop the state's forest resource is becoming harder to accomplish with such cuts, hence the necessity of creating public/private partnerships like 20/15 to continue developing the forest resource. A successful 20/15 Project will help the state and the commission more quickly recover from the recession and jump start renewed state job and economic growth.

Regarding protection of the forests, property and lives, the state is at very high risk and the stakes are mounting due to aging equipment and reduced numbers of firefighters.

Kodama warned again, "The severe reduction in wildfire protection capacity, increases in forest fuels, and growing numbers of homes in forested settings are setting the state up for a disastrous situation when the mild, wet wildfire conditions we have experienced recently come to an end and return to average or worse."

Protecting the forests and the public while developing forestland and creating economic opportunities is a two-pronged, yet practical goal. "We must do both to create the balanced supply and demand ratio needed to maintain a healthy forest industry," Kodama said.



## 2010 Logger Activist Award Nomination

Nominations for SCTPA's **2010 Gene Collins Logger Activist of the Year Award** are being sought. Award will be presented at the 2011 Annual Membership Business Luncheon and Meeting convening at noon, Saturday, January 29, 2011 at the Crown Reef Resort Conference Center, Myrtle Beach, SC.

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

You may nominate a SCTPA Logger Member or yourself. Contact the Nominations Committee or SCTPA office by January 15, 2011. Thank you for your nomination.

*Billy McKinney, Chairman, McKinney Brothers Logging, Inc., Union*  
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### 2010 Logger Activist Award Nomination

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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Use Additional Pages If Needed

*From the desk of...*

## STATE FORESTER

**Gene Kodama**

September 1, 2010



Good day,

We continue to have a busy summer with a lot of time spent on enhancing relationships with our allies and progressing on the 20/15 Economic Development Project.

Last week, I met with the Enoree Chapter of the Society of American Foresters at our Newberry Regional Office and provided an update on South Carolina forestry and Forestry Commission activities. We focused on two areas: (1) understanding the full complement of Commission services that allow us to accomplish our mission of forest resource protection and development and (2) state budget challenges and their impact on wildfire protection capacity.

The Commission is striving to maintain a balanced focus on both protecting and developing the forest resource in recognizing that a balanced timber supply and demand equation must exist for our forestry community to be healthy and grow. That is, we must be able to grow and protect our forests and also have markets for forest products. A supply and demand imbalance can be detrimental and possibly lethal to a business's and an industry's existence.

The 20/15 Project, as a cooperative effort by the Commission and the SC Forestry Association, is designed to grow the industry and address the issue of supply and demand and long-term forest industry health. We are doing this by being proactive during the down economy and seeking to bring our industry out of the recession as quickly as possible and set the stage for future growth.

Last week, an interim meeting of the six 20/15 task forces was held, and each task force chairman reported on their progress. Each group has made positive strides, and some have made fantastic progress. We are well on our way to having a plan in place for

review during the SCFA annual meeting in November.

We would like to meet with as many county forestry associations and other allied organizations as possible by the end of the calendar year, so if you know of some that would like to have a forestry and Commission update, please let us know.

One of the key messages to our entire forestry community and all state citizens is to be sure they know about the dramatic reduction in wildfire protection capacity caused by budget cuts that has put our state, forests, homes, lives, and forest industry at great risk when mild fire seasons end and normal to worse conditions return.

The past couple of years have been historically mild fire years with a record low number of wildfires last year of 1,639, as compared to an average year of about 3,000 and highs that have reached 14,000! When active wildfire seasons return with thousands of wildfires, the Commission will not have the firefighting capacity needed to properly protect the forest resource, adjacent homes, and the lives of our citizens.

Because state appropriations have not been adequate, the Commission has been investigating alternatives to fund forest protection and would like to discuss the issue and potential solutions with the forestry community.

Thank you for your interest in our state's wonderful forest resource and the economic impact they provide.

Best regards,  
Gene



# The Fate of Our Forests Should Not Be a Political Calculation

*By U.S. Representative Cynthia Lummis,  
House Natural Resources Committee*

Recovering and protecting our forests in Wyoming and the West should be something we can all agree on. But as the bark beetle infestation claims acre after acre of our forests, there's no doubt the Obama Administration can hear the beetle-killed trees fall; they simply choose to ignore the sound.

Although many Republicans and Democrats in the West see eye to eye on the need to take action to guard the forests of the West, the Administration's lack of conviction is compromising how our forests will look to our children and grandchildren.

While bark beetle outbreaks are a naturally occurring phenomenon native to North America, the current outbreak is the largest in recorded history. The devastation continues to spread at an alarming pace. Our once healthy and green forests are now acres of reddish-brown and grey.

To date, bark beetle kill has affected 21.7 million acres of forest in the Western United States. According to Wyoming State Forester Bill Crapser, who testified at a recent hearing, 17 million acres across the West and 3.5 million acres in Wyoming alone are dead due to bark beetle infestations.

After a year's worth of collaboration with the U.S. Forest Service and other stakeholders, I introduced H.R. 5192 to help advance the conversation on how to best deal with this plague and offer real incentives to a forest products industry that is hanging by a thread and so desperately wants to provide the help the Forest Service claims it needs.

Quite simply, the bill establishes 25 demonstration projects in 12 Western States that will be individually tailored to meet the specific needs of each forest. In addition, H.R. 5192 establishes a procedure to identify areas of particular danger to human health and safety, and allows for the expedited removal of dead and dying trees in these areas. The bill also borrows good ideas from across the aisle to improve forest management.

It is important to note that H.R. 5192 is not intended to halt the current epidemic; nor does it

attempt to eradicate the mountain pine beetle. The beetle is native and serves its ecological purpose.

Rather, H.R. 5192 directs the Forest

Service to undertake unique, locally-driven projects that could help prevent a future outbreak as widespread as the one we are witnessing now. The bill also gives forest managers the authority they need to maintain forest health.

Despite broad support from both Democrats and Republicans, input from on-the-ground forest experts, and collaboration with the U.S. Forest Service and Administration officials, the Obama Administration cut short the advancement of H.R. 5192.

On June 24th, the Natural Resources Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands held a hearing to discuss H.R. 5192. Nearly a year was spent working directly with Forest Service experts to develop this package of proposals that was meaningful and helpful to forest managers on the ground. At the request of the Forest Service, full sections their experts sought to include were added to the bill.

To my surprise and dismay, the hearing turned into the kind of political theater Americans have grown to despise.

Despite the collective efforts, the Forest Service testified against the bill because in essence, the Obama Administration told them to oppose it. In other words, top Obama officials ignored the work and advice of their own forestry experts to the detriment of our forests in the West.

This is Washington at its worst – a broken, partisan mess.

The fate of the West's forests should not be a political calculation. We have yet to see a comprehensive strategy from the Administration in dealing with the beetle infestation. We need partners from across the political realm and at every level to guard and recover our forests as this worsening epidemic continues to devastate the pristine beauty we once enjoyed.





## **NEW GOODYEAR TRUCK & TRAILER TIRE PROGRAM**

### **ALLIANCE TIRE USA FORESTRY TIRE PROGRAM UNCHANGED**

#### **“Qualified Members Only” Forestry & Truck Tire Discount Program**

SCTPA is proud to partner with Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company and its participating dealers to offer this NEW truck/trailer tire discount program effective September 6, 2010. Our Alliance Tire USA Forestry Tire Discount program remains unchanged.

#### **ALLIANCE TIRE USA AND GOODYEAR ARE THE SCTPA ENDORSED FORESTRY AND TRUCK/TRAILER TIRES.**

Qualified Member Loggers and Unmanufactured Forest Products (UFP) Truck Owners can purchase Alliance Tire USA Forestry Tires and Goodyear Truck and Trailer Tires at discounted prices at participating tire dealers.

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

Until membership cards are processed and forwarded, please follow these steps for this valuable member benefit.

- Members Only Tire Pricing can be obtained from the SCTPA office. Just contact SCTPA. The tire pricing is not public and for Member Use Only. Only qualified members can receive the pricing. The tire pricing is not to be disclosed to others by the qualified member.
- Qualified Members cannot purchase tires for a non-member. If such abuse results, member will be terminated from participating in the programs.
- Qualified Dues Paid Members can visit participating dealers.
- The tire dealer or the member must contact SCTPA for a Member Verification Form.
- SCTPA will contact dealer and fax a Member Verification Form.
- Qualified Member Renewal or New Dues must be paid to be eligible for the program. Prompt dues payment maintains member's eligibility for the tire discounts.



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

- For an Alliance Tire dealer, contact Andy McAllister, 912-288-7417.
- For a Goodyear Tire dealer, contact Tony Gunther, 980-322-3464.

# Cutting Down Prices On Our Most Popular Tires!

## Special Member Pricing On Goodyear® Tires For South Carolina Timber Producers Association, Inc. Members!

Qualified members of the South Carolina Timber Producers Association, Inc. are now eligible to receive special member pricing on a wide selection of popular Goodyear and Dunlop® tires. Simply present your South Carolina Timber Producers Association, Inc. member card and this ad to a participating Goodyear Truck Tire Dealer to start saving.

Choose from innovative tires featuring Fuel Max® Technology and DuraSeal® Technology to help put your fleet on the road to savings. Plus, save even more with full access to *fleetHQ*™ – tire and service solutions that help reduce operating costs for fleets of any size! For more information about *fleetHQ*, visit [fleetHQ.com](http://fleetHQ.com).



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Special member pricing program begins 7/15/10. Prices subject to change 7/1/11.

To learn more about Goodyear and Dunlop tires, and to find the closest Dealer near you, visit [goodyear.com/truck](http://goodyear.com/truck) or [dunloptires.com/truck](http://dunloptires.com/truck).

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See dealer for the TPMS sensor 90000011 for pricing to complete this feature. Contact Tire REC if you need assistance at 800-333-4645.  
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## 2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINATIONS NEEDED

Three Board of Directors Seats are up for election at our January 29, 2011 Annual Membership Meeting at the Crown Reef Resort Conference Center, Myrtle Beach, SC.

The board terms for Seat 6 served by Tommy Barnes, Ideal Logging, Inc., Edgemoor, Seat 7 served by Danny McKittrick, McKittrick Timber, Heath Springs, and Seat 9 served by Joe Young, Low Country Forest Products, Inc., Georgetown, will expire December 31, 2010.

Board member elections will be conducted during the Member Business Session of the Membership Meeting convening at noon on Saturday, January 29, 2011.

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

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

Any member directly engaged in the logging business and in good standing with paid dues as of December 31, 2010, may be nominated for an upcoming seat. Any member regardless of location is eligible for nomination. Members are encouraged to enter your name or the name of another member as an eligible candidate.

To enter your name or to nominate someone else, please contact the Nominations Committee or SCTPA office no later than January 15, 2011.

### *Nominations Committee*

*Chairman, Billy McKinney, McKinney Brothers Logging, Inc., Union*  
Office / Home 864-427-6173 ■ Fax 864-427-6173 ■ Cell 864-429-6939  
[mckinneybros.logging@charter.net](mailto:mckinneybros.logging@charter.net)

*Clyde Brown, Mt. Bethel Logging, Inc., Newberry*  
Office / Home 803-276-2915 ■ Fax 803-276-9232 ■ Cell 803-924-1194

*Frampton Ferguson, Ferguson Forest Products, Inc., Luray*  
Office 803-625-4196 ■ Fax 803-625-3881 ■ Cell 803-942-1149 ■ [frampton1@Hargray.com](mailto:frampton1@Hargray.com)



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**Asheville Area**

**Contact: David Dodge**

**Phone: 828-253-7263**

**Email: [david@parkeroilinc.com](mailto:david@parkeroilinc.com)**

**Greenville, Spartanburg, Anderson**

**Contact: John Harris**

**Phone: 864-706-7018**

**Email: [johnh@smokeoil.net](mailto:johnh@smokeoil.net)**

**Cherokee and Union Counties**

**Gaston, Cleveland, and Rutherford**

**Contact: Tim Fields**

**Phone: 864-814-9032**

**Email: [tim@smokeoil.net](mailto:tim@smokeoil.net)**

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# SC Swamp Logging with BLT Brothers Logging





# Mark Your Calendar

## SEPTEMBER 2010

28 Newberry District 2 Meeting, Farm Bureau, Newberry, 7 p.m.

## OCTOBER 2010

- 11- 15 Wood Magic Forest Fair, Harbison State Forest, Columbia. Contact Stephanie Kolok, SC Forestry Commission, 803-896-8855, [skolok@forestry.state.sc.us](mailto:skolok@forestry.state.sc.us)  
Volunteers needed to educate 4<sup>th</sup> graders & teachers.
- 18 Georgetown/Coastal District 9 Meeting, Bill's Low Country BBQ, Georgetown, 7 p.m.
- 19 Florence/Pee Dee District 11 Meeting, Palmetto Pulpwood & Timber Office, Florence, 7:30 p.m.
- 21 SCTPA Board of Directors Meeting, SCFC Headquarters, Columbia, 10 a.m.
- 25 Laurens/Greenwood District 5 Meeting, Hummingbird Café, Laurens, 7:30 p.m.
- 26 Newberry District 2 Meeting, Farm Bureau, Newberry, 7 p.m.

## NOVEMBER 2010

- 4 Walterboro/Low Country Districts 6, 7 & 8 Meeting, Long Horn Steakhouse, Walterboro, 7:30 p.m.
- 8 Union Area District 3 Meeting, Midway BBQ, Buffalo, 7:30 p.m.
- 9 Chester/Catawba District 3 Meeting, Front Porch Restaurant, Richburg, 7:30 p.m.
- 18 Easley/Upstate District 4 Meeting, Fatz Café, Easley, 7:30 p.m.
- 22 Lugoff/Midlands District 10 Meeting, Hall's Restaurant, Lugoff, 7:30 p.m.
- 23 Newberry District 2 Meeting, Farm Bureau, Newberry, 7 p.m.
- 25 Happy Thanksgiving!
- *Saluda/Edgefield/Aiken District 1 Members and Non-Members invited to attend the Newberry District 2 Meetings due to Saluda meetings discontinued.*
  - *Berkeley/Charleston District 8 Members and Non-Members invited to attend the Walterboro District 7 or Georgetown District 9 Meeting due to Moncks Corner meetings discontinued.*
  - *Members in these areas will receive meeting notices for the other district meetings.*

### PLEASE NOTE:

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

### 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.

## SCTPA Board of Directors

**Chairman: Danny McKittrick**

McKittrick Timber

Heath Springs

(O) / (H) 803-283-4333

**Vice Chairman: Billy McKinney**

McKinney Brothers Logging, Inc.

Union

(O) 864-429-6939

(H) 864-427-6173

**Secretary-Treasurer: Donnie Harrison**

D & L Logging, LLC

Greer

(O) 864-444-8489

(H) 864-848-4775

\*\*\*\*\*

**Frampton Ferguson**

Ferguson Forest Products, Inc.

Luray

(O) 803-625-4196

(H) 803-625-4666

**Steve Thompson**

Thompson Logging, Inc.

Jonesville

(O) 864-474-3870

(H) 864-674-1998

**Joe Young**

Low Country Forest Products, Inc.

Georgetown

(O) 843-546-1136

(H) 843-546-6072

**Norman Harris**

Harris Timber Co., Inc.

Ladson

(O) / (H) 843-871-0621

**Clyde Brown**

Mt. Bethel Logging, Inc.

Newberry

(O) / (H) 803-276-2915

**Tommy Barnes**

Ideal Logging, Inc.

Edgemoor

(O) 803-789-5467

(H) 803-789-3247

\*\*\*\*\*

**Crad Jaynes**

President & CEO

**SCTPA**

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800-371-2240 ■ Fax: 803-957-8990

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### ***Our Mission***

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