



TIMBER TALK

Your Voice for South Carolina Timber Harvesting

JULY/AUGUST 2017



CATERPILLAR FOREST PRODUCTS HOSTS AMERICAN LOGGERS COUNCIL SUMMER BOARD MEETING BOARD MEMBERS GATHER IN OPELIKA, ALABAMA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hemphill, Texas (August 1, 2017) –

The American Loggers Council (ALC) recently held its Summer Board of Directors Meeting in Opelika, Alabama on July 27 – 29. Caterpillar Forest Products volunteered to host the event and those that were attendance were treated to events at both the CAT Training Center located near Opelika, AL and the Caterpillar Forestry Headquarters in LaGrange, Georgia. ALC members arrived on Thursday afternoon and attended a welcome reception and dinner at the Training Center and were greeted by Caterpillar Forest Products President, Anthony Fassino, Product/Marketing Manager Tino Bernal, and Marketing Coordinator/Event Planner Phyllis Pearce and all of the CAT training center personnel who were present.

Friday morning was spent touring the manufacturing facilities in LaGrange, Georgia, followed by Q&A with CAT President Fassino, Product Manager Kolin Kirschenmann, and Product Support Manager Gordon Whitehead. The group walked through the assembly lines with the Product Manager and engineers who answered ques-

tions about the manufacturing processes and engineering of the machines.



On Friday afternoon, ALC members were taken to a demonstration site near Auburn University where they were able to see first-hand the capabilities of Caterpillar's rubber tired feller bunchers, skidders and trailer mounted loaders with pull through delimeter options. There was plenty of time available for more Q&A upon returning to the Training Center for another CAT hosted reception and dinner.

On Saturday, The ALC Board members met again at the Training Center to discuss business and issues of the Council as well as the proposed Master Logger Certification proposal introduced by the Professional Logging Contractors of Maine and the Trust to Conserve the Northeast Forests. The Board adopted the proposal and roll out is scheduled to take place in early January, 2018.

The Board also adopted a resolution that recommends that the Border Wall between the United States and Mexico that President Trump continues to

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push be constructed of wood, specifically cross laminated timber derived from federal timber sales in communities that are dependent upon the federal timber sale program.

A \$2,000 donation to the Earl St. John (first President of the ALC) Memorial Tree project at the UP Fairgrounds in Old Steam Village was also approved. Other items on the agenda included reports from the Legislative Committee, Communications Committee, Membership Committee and the Nominations Committee.

ALC President Ken Martin thanked the members of Caterpillar for not only hosting the meeting, but also for their hospitality throughout the two day event. "Caterpillar was an excellent host and provided a

great venue for our meeting. We not only appreciate their sponsorship and financial support for the American Loggers Council, but the opportunity to get to know them and their leadership better and to build on our relationship with their organization."

About American Loggers Council The American Loggers Council is a non-profit 501(c)(6) organization representing timber harvesting professionals in 31 states. For more information contact the American Loggers Council office at 409-625-0206 or visit their website at www.amloggers.com.

SCDOT Launches Website and Project List for "Rebuilding Our Roads"



Metro Columbia CEO, August 31, 2017

The South Carolina Department of Transportation has announced the launch of a website for its 10-Year Plan to begin the process of bringing back the condition of South Carolina's highway system from 30 years of underfunding.

The website will feature project lists for three of the four major programs that comprise SCDOT's 10-Year Plan:

- Highway Safety – We plan to address the "worst-of-the worst" roads in terms of highway safety by improving 100 miles per year with a customized plan to make these roads safer in ten-mile segments.
- Structurally Deficient Bridges – Approximately half of SCDOT's 750 structurally deficient bridges will be replaced.
- Interstate Widening – SCDOT plans to begin nearly a dozen interstate widening projects.

The 4th major program is road resurfacing. SCDOT intends to use a majority of the new revenue to begin resurfacing the state's highways. 80% of the state's 42,000 miles need resurfacing or rebuilding. The 10-year goal is to bring half of those roads up to a "good" rating. Specific projects will be added to the list on the website as the new revenue accumulates.

Secretary of Transportation Christy Hall notes SCDOT now has the means to make real progress in repairing the state's highway system, "For the first time in 30 years, SCDOT has been provided with an increased and sustainable revenue stream. The Roads Bill passed by the General Assembly gives the agency the opportunity to make gradual, but real and significant strides toward bringing the highway system back from three decades of neglect. We appreciate what the lawmakers have done for the people of South Carolina," said Hall.

SCDOT's 10-Year Plan including project lists can be found at this link: <http://www.scdot.org/tenyearplan>.



Trucking News:

FMCSA FORMALLY WITHDRAWS SLEEP APNEA SCREENING RULE

From Commercial Carrier Journal, August 4, 2017

A rulemaking meant to establish criteria and processes for instituting sleep apnea screening requirements for truck operators will officially be withdrawn on Monday, according to a notice issued Friday by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration.

A sleep apnea rule would give clarity to medical examiners, carrier employers and drivers themselves about what conditions or combination of conditions would prompt a driver to be referred for an in-lab apnea test, as well as treatment protocol. Currently, medical examiners have the discretion to determine which drivers are referred for apnea testing. Absent a rule, such a system will remain in place. Industry-wide, the system has prompted questions and concerns, particularly since sleep apnea referrals can carry expensive out-of-pocket costs for fleets, drivers or both.

The rule's official withdrawal comes two weeks after the agency hinted in an annual regulatory update that the rule was on the chopping block. There was some confusion then, given that the report said the rule had been withdrawn on an unspecified date in June. However, no official notice had been published in the U.S. Federal Register, which is required to formally rescind a rule.

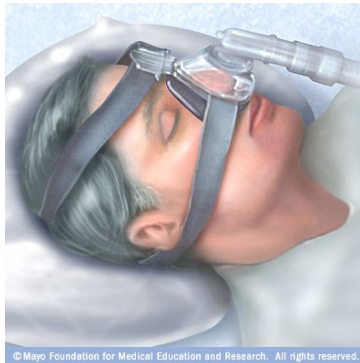
Friday's notice, however, validates the U.S.

DOT's July update to its regulatory calendar.

The agency worked on the sleep apnea rule persistently in 2016, including the publication of a so-called pre-rule, listening sessions held around the country and apnea-focused meetings by two of its prominent advisory committees. However, the agency did not gather enough data to warrant a rulemaking, it said in the July regulatory update.

In the notice published Friday, FMCSA says the current protocol in place for apnea screening is sufficient. That protocol, spelled out in a bulletin issued in January 2015 by FMCSA, puts the onus on drivers' medical examiners, encouraging them to refer drivers for apnea testing if they "believe

the driver's respiratory condition is in any way likely to interfere with the driver's ability to safely control and drive a commercial motor vehicle."



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FMCSA's published pre-rule, known as an advanced notice of proposed rulemaking, last March sought industry input for guidance on developing a rule. The agency also sought input from its advisory committees last year, including the MRB and the Motor Carrier Safety Advisory Committee, whose members include trucking industry stakeholders. The groups recommended that FMCSA in its sleep apnea rule require drivers who have a Body Mass Index of 40 or higher be automatically referred for apnea testing.

The groups also recommended that truckers with a BMI of 33 or higher, and who meet other qualifiers (like being male and older than 42), be referred for apnea testing, too. See the full list of apnea screening criteria recommended by the FMCSA committees. Truckers referred for apnea testing, under the MCSAC/MRB recommendations, would receive a temporary certification pending their test results.

Making A Young Man's Day & Life Brighter

By Crad Jaynes, SCTPA President

Have you ever done a kind gesture for someone and got that wonderful feeling about what you did? Well,



SCTPA had that opportunity to do a good turn for a special needs young man by the name of Jeremy Ponder.

I received a call from Ryan Walker, son of board

member Billy Walker of Walker & Walker Logging, LLC in Laurens. Ryan told me of a special needs young man who loves logging, heavy equipment and most of all, loves Bobby Goodson and the television show Swamp Loggers. And he told me about Jeremy.

Jeremy is 23 years old and graduated from the Spartanburg School for the Deaf & Blind. Jeremy is blind in one eye and has to wear special glasses, has a slight speech impediment and a slight handicap in his walking. But smart, oh my gosh... this young man is smart.



He works part time in the Simpsonville Recreation Department's shop working on lawn mowers and such.

Ryan leads one of the company's two crews and was working a

tract across from Jeremy's home outside of Simpsonville and told me Jeremy came over every day to hang out on the jobsite. Of course Ryan supplied him with a hard hat and vest and supervised him while he visited the jobsite. Jeremy was in "hog heaven" with Ryan. Ryan's son Daniel is now a great friend of Jeremy's and Jeremy says Daniel is his best friend.

Ryan asked did I have Bobby Goodson's cell number as he wanted to see if Bobby would call and speak to Jeremy. I gave Ryan Bobby's number and told him I'm sure Bobby would be glad to do so.

After a day or so, I called Ryan and told him I'd like

to come to the job and meet Jeremy, plus make him a SCTPA honorary timber harvester member. We agreed this would be a great idea.

So on August 9th I went to the job and met Jeremy. I was truly impressed with this fine young man. We talked and I asked him did Bobby Goodson call him. He absolutely lit up and said, "Oh yes Mr. Crad, Bobby called me Saturday morning." Jeremy was thrilled to say the least. As we were standing by Ryan's truck, I winked at Ryan and said I need to go to my truck to get something. Ryan knew so he asked Jeremy to go get a tool out of the service truck.

I arrived back and Jeremy came over. I told him I'd like to present him a certificate as an honorary logger member and presented him with a framed SCTPA member certificate and read it to him. I present-



ed him a hard hat with our SCTPA and American Loggers Council logo stickers on the sides with "Log On!" across the front.

WOW... what an emotional moment. Jeremy broke down crying and saying "Mr. Crad, no one has ever done anything like this for me before." And he repeated that same line over and over. I hugged Jeremy and told him, "We love you and now you are a logger." Ryan was grinning and even he and I got a little emotional.

I shared more time with Jeremy as Ryan had to tend to a leaking hydraulic line on the loader grapple. We talked about the logging equipment and big trucks and about life and his growing up. It was a special time for me. When I was walking to my truck to leave, Jeremy ran up and gave me a big ole bear hug and said again, "Thank you Mr. Crad, no one has done anything like you did today for me. Thank you, thank you, thank you."

What a wonderful young man Jeremy Ponder is. He is not special needs to me, Jeremy is simply a very special person to me.

I had the most wonderful and fulfilling feeling as I drove back to Lexington feeling we, Ryan and I, had made Jeremy Ponder's day and maybe his year and made his life brighter and happier.



American Loggers Council Regional Round-Up Report July 2017

The Mid West Regional Round-Up: Reports for the American Loggers Council from the Midwestern states.

Submitted by Mike Nielsen, Nielsen Logging, Inc., Ely, Minnesota, Mid-West Regional Delegate, American Loggers Council

Michigan – Brian Nelson – Michigan Association of Timbermen

If there's one word to describe the industry in most of Michigan this summer it would be ..WET !!!! It's been one of the wettest summers in many years. Coming out of breakup most markets were very tight with many mills sitting on high inventories which has led to falling delivered wood prices.

While for the most part most markets remain tight, there has been a slight increase in demand primarily due to the reduced deliveries because of the wet weather. Many remain hopeful that pulp markets will strengthen with the pending Arauco MDF plant being built in Grayling, coming on line in early 2018.

Saw log markets remain fair to good while biomass markets throughout much of the state remain virtually nonexistent and will likely remain that way for the foreseeable future because of the low natural gas prices.

Missouri – Shannon Jarvis – Missouri Loggers Council

The Master Logger Program continues to grow with 17 Master Loggers now certified and 5 more in the process.

Wet weather has made conditions difficult around the state, but has assisted in helping to stabilize markets for now.

Minnesota – Mike Nielsen – Associated Contract Loggers & Truckers of Minnesota

Conditions are wet helping to stabilize markets.

The Minnesota biomass industry is still trying to be dismantled by EXCEL energy. The Minnesota loggers and the ACLT have been fighting hard against it.

The ACLT is in the process of developing our own logger education program, mostly geared toward the continuing education mandated by the state. We are partnering with the Wisconsin FISTA program.

The Good Neighbor Authority authorized in the 2014 Farm bill for federal timber lands management has still not taken off like we had hoped for and only a few contracts have been generated out there to date.

Wisconsin – Matt Jensen – Great Lakes Timber Professionals Association

Weather has been the challenge this year with only a couple of full operating weeks since Spring breakup.

The wood yards at the pulp and paper mills remain relatively full and the we been looking at the impact that the North American Free Trade Agreement has had on those raw materials entering into the US from Canada.

Our sawmills are beginning to run low on inventory and that has helped to improve wood deliveries to those markets. For those contractors purchasing their own stumpage, there is plenty of work if ground conditions improve, but is a challenge for the service contractors with not enough dry ground to operate on.

The Southern Regional Round-Up: Reports for the American Loggers Council from the Southeastern states.

Submitted by David Cupp, Walsh Timber, Inc., Zwolle, Louisiana, Southern Region Delegate, American Loggers Council

Kentucky – Chuck Courtney, II – Green River Loggers Council

Spring and summer rains have hampered logging operations in the Bluegrass State over the past three months, yet our low grade and pulpwood markets remain stagnant.

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We were able to revise the 2000 Forest Conservation Act BMP's making them friendlier to our industry.

Weight limitations on county roads is becoming a larger issue with our industry and we are looking at various options to address that issue. It seems that log trucks are being targeted over other payloads and we would like to see that practice eliminated.

Louisiana – Buck Vandersteen - Louisiana Forestry Association

Wet weather limits logger production. Mill inventories remain high even with wet weather. Louisiana Legislature recently completed its session without raising taxes on business. A diesel fuel tax of an additional \$ 0.17 per gallon for infrastructure improvement failed.

A study by the Louisiana Forest Products Development Center on the Current Health and Effects of the Great Recession on the Logging Sector in the U S South was released. The study finds operating and equipment costs a barrier to expanding the business and confidence in logging future is low. Yet, over 65% of respondents say they expect to be in business in 5 years.

DRAX Biomass is expected to begin taking wood at its recently acquired pellet plant in central Louisiana this summer.

The logging community is meeting with the Commissioner of Insurance to see what can be done to reduce the cost of trucking insurance. Controlling insurance costs and compliance with State Police truck regulations will be topics at Louisiana Forestry Association Convention in New Orleans, August 29-31st.

Mississippi – Ken Martin – Mississippi Loggers Association

Mississippi, like most other States has full mills and ever tightening quotas. Big rains have restricted a lot of Loggers for a day or two, but bank wood kept moving as we'd expect. We have had two new Mills - Biewer Lumber at Newton, Mississippi and Winston Plywood & Veneer at Louisville, Mississippi coming online. Both seem to be getting the bugs worked out. Both are increasing their wood consumption and this is a welcome situation to our landowners and loggers.

The Mississippi Loggers Association is working hard to get the details in place for the American Loggers Council annual meeting to be held in Natchez, Mississippi on Sept. 28-30th at the Natchez Grand Hotel. Team Safe Trucking is planning a meeting on Wednesday 27th in Natchez also coinciding with the ALC Annual meeting.

South Carolina – Crad Jaynes – South Carolina Timber Producers Association

Despite the sometimes tight quotas, usual thunderstorms and varying markets during the second quarter, wood flow was steady to SC wood receiving mills.

Resolute Forest Products, Catawba, SC, announced the shutdown of one paper machine effective June 30th. One-hundred eighty-eight workers were laid off from the paper mill. Resolute's Jonesville, SC chip mill will be closed and wood receipts to the Catawba mill will be decreased. Resolute announced another product line will be researched for the shuttered paper machine.

SCTPA participated in the 2017 SC Sustainable Forestry Teachers Tour hosted by SCTPA, Forestry Association of SC and SC Forestry Commission. Teachers did Project Learning Tree lessons, learned basic forestry tasks and toured a sawmill, a paper mill, an oriented strand board mill, a certified private tree farm, industrial (REIT) forest management sites, an active logging site (sponsored and arranged by SCTPA) and public forest lands (USFS Sumter National Forest). Teachers learned and saw the true facts about our SC forestry industry and left with a greater knowledge and appreciation for our industry.

The Western Regional Round-Up: Reports for the American Loggers Council from the western states.

Submitted by Tim Christopherson, DABCO, Inc., Kamiah, Idaho, Western Region Chair, American Loggers Council

Arizona – Dan Leeds, Northern Arizona Loggers Association

We are in the middle of another extreme fire season in Region 3, burning tens of thousands of acres at a time, hopefully the Monsoons get here soon.

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The 4FRI project has fallen on its face again and very little if any work is being accomplished even though Senators McCain and Flake demanded answers from the Forest Service, nothing is happening. There are a few timber sales on the National Forest that are active but they are not included in the 4FRI footprint.

There is some salvage logging taking place on a small scale from previous fires. The sawmill on the White Mountain Apache Reservation in Whiteriver is shut down again and doesn't look good in the future either. Overall the outlook is discouraging and demoralizing from the logging contractors standpoint.

California – Hardie Tatum, Associated California Loggers

Associated California Loggers joins with American Forest Resource Council (AFRC) to “intervene in federal gray wolf case. (“The Lava Case.”) On April 6, AFRC, and member Associated California Loggers moved to intervene to support the Lava Project. Last year, Conservation Congress brought a lawsuit against the Forest Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service challenging the Lava Project on the Modoc National Forest within the Doublehead and Big Valley Ranger Districts. The project involves treatment of 8,390 acres of eastside pine and mixed conifer types highly susceptible to stand-replacing fire. The total estimated volume is 12.1 million board feet, with sales to occur in late 2017 and 2018. This case is one of the first to challenge a project based on the effects on the gray wolf.

After several years of negotiations, ACL now has an official regulatory proposal on “Registered Professional Foresters/Licensed Timber Operators Responsibilities” pending for approval at the Board of Forestry. ACL will send representatives to Southern California to speak on this issue before the vote occurs. Other negotiations on “non-regulatory approaches” to CALFIRE Notices of Violations, and possible legislation will follow.

ACL has been communicating with the Office of Governor Jerry Brown, CALFIRE Director Ken Pimlott, and the members of the state Tree Mortality Task Force on clarifying that **LTOS do not need a D61 or D49 Contractors License (tree service license) to do Tree Mortality work in the ten tree mortality emergency counties or elsewhere.** Additionally, ACL is a mem-

ber of the Tree Mortality Task Force Working Group on Resource Allocation, which oversees the distribution of federal and state monies to counties for tree mortality work.

Voluntary contributions brought in enough first-year revenue to hire one man each on a one-year contract: retired US Forest Service official John Quidachay to represent ACL at local and regional meetings with USFS on timber sales and other projects; and Nick Smith to expand and enhance the ACL Facebook page and the ACL website to serve you and communicate to the outside world. The RAF Board of Governors under Chair Robert D’Agostini will continue to work on maintaining this fund for future contracts to serve ACL members.

ACL has made contact with a Washington DC law firm that specializes in helping loggers and others handle complex US Forest Service contracts, and other contracts, so as to benefit the logger and so as to avoid any legal or financial pitfalls. As a first step in ACL’s business relationship with the law firm, a class was held in June on federal contracting, and taught by the lead DC attorney, Alan Saltman. The class was a success. More classes will follow in the future.

Idaho – Steve Sherich, Associated Logging Contractors - Idaho

The Idaho Department of Lands has been holding public comment hearings to change rules pertaining to forest fire protection. They had two rounds of meetings in four locations around the state. They have canceled the third rounds of meetings scheduled for early this summer. They will hold the third rounds of meetings sometime after this year’s fire season. So far it looks like they want water pumpers on every logging job at some time (to be determined) during fire season. Also, they would like to extend the fire watch after operations have shut down for the day. There has been some discussion on a four hour watch. The contractors are concerned that any and all new rules made will add to the cost of doing business.

Montana – Ken Swanstrom, Montana Logging Association

It is the first week in July and I am happy to report, No forest fires YET! Big winter and lots of spring rain, have really helped, our soil moisture. Spring

(Continued from page 7)

break up ended 6 weeks ago and we hit the ground running. My crew and I, have lots of work lined up. Hopefully taking us through the winter. Fingers crossed!

Demand for logs, still seems to be strong. From my desk, 65 miles south of the Canadian border, it sure feels like the recent anti-dumping duty is having an effect? Lumber seems to be moving better and that helps the desire for logs, at the mills. Canadian mills were to begin paying, June 30. The anti-dumping duty will also be collected retroactively from that date. Good news for us, in the Northern tier, and the lumber industry in the USA.

My crew is currently working a US Forest Service sale, which seems quite rare to us. We feel lucky to be working on federal land. Here in NW Montana, we are surrounded by federal land and the desire to do much on it, seems quite low. Still, we are happy to have work and appreciate the opportunity.

Oregon – Bruce Zuber, Associated Oregon Loggers

Oregon had a very wet spring, was still raining in June and causing lots of delays in work. Summer has finally arrived in late June. Seems to be plenty of work with lumber, plywood and log markets being very good. Biggest problem is a shortage of log trucks to haul logs to market, especially in Southern Oregon. Main cause is a lack of qualified drivers.

The Oregon legislature is about to wrap up its session. It appears no new laws will happen against the timber industry this time. Looks like the budget is going to be balanced without any substantial new tax increases. The Democrats tried hard to raise taxes, but luckily, they don't have a super majority. The state has more revenue this biennium, but roll up cost are substantially higher. Oregon truly has a spending problem.

Tell next time, have a safe and fire free summer, Bruce

Washington – Ed Bryant - Washington Contract Loggers Association

Hot topic: Sustainable harvest calculation on state managed lands The Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) manages about 1.4 million acres of forested state trust lands in Western Washington. The volume of timber to be sold during a planning decade is calculated by DNR and approved by the Board of Natu-

ral Resources (sustainable harvest level). For the decade 2005-2014, the sustainable harvest level was about 5.5 billion board feet. A draft EIS was released in March with five harvest volume alternatives. The decadal harvest levels ranged from 3.98 billion to 5.5 billion board feet. The potential impact to the forest products industry could be quite severe depending on the final decision.

The Northeast Regional Round-Up: Reports for the American Loggers Council from the Northeastern states.

Submitted by Roger Garland, Sr., Garland Lumber Company, Inc., North Conway, NH, Northeastern Regional Delegate, American Loggers Council

Maine – Dana Doran – Professional Logging Contractors of Maine

As we approach midsummer, weather conditions are improving, but the second quarter has been a real challenge as the rain consistently wreaked havoc throughout the spring. We are seeing some stability in markets for pulp and sawlogs, but pricing for pulpwood is really challenging many in this industry. Additionally, biomass continues to struggle due to low energy prices. Though our news continues to be dominated by coverage suggesting our industry is dying and there is no doubt regions of our state still face large market challenges, the reality appears to be that we have hit bottom and are beginning to recover.

The legislative season in Maine is nearly over but PLC remains in the fight to secure passage of bills related to encouraging biomass markets and more use of locally sourced wood fiber in the face of potential vetoes. Meanwhile the continued existence of the biomass market in Maine, despite challenges, is due in no small part to contract incentives for biomass suppliers that our members fought for and won in 2016

Proof that our industry has a future is evident this summer as our region's first post-secondary training program for mechanized logging operators is now underway in northern Maine. The 12-week certificate program was created by the PLC in partnership with our community college system and industry partners. We have a solid group of instructors and students who are well on their way to becoming future operators in our industry.

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This has also been a great year for PLC in terms of new members added, a record number of companies and loggers (77 companies and 620 employees) served by our annual safety trainings, and a record \$44,000 raised at our annual meeting for Log A Load for Kids which puts us well on our way to exceeding our total this year.

New Hampshire – Jasen Stock – New Hampshire Timberland Owners Association

SB 129, the NHTOA's renewable energy/biomass bill, went into law at midnight on Monday/Tuesday, July

10/11 without the Governor's signature. Through New Hampshire's Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) law, Senate Bill 129 provides a three-year bridge for the state's six independent biomass power plants. The expectation is that within three years, the industry and state policymakers will come up with a long-term sustainable solution to ensure the continued operation of these power plants and the lowgrade timber markets they provide. To help accomplish this, in the state budget (House Bill 517) there is a directive to the new Governor's Office of Strategic Initiatives to begin working on this effort and provide a report and recommendation by December 1, 2018.

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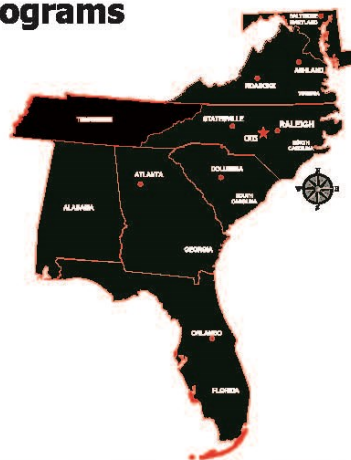
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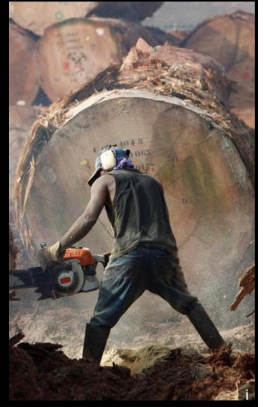
Good afternoon Dan,

We are pleased and honored to inform you that Western Star, in appreciation and recognition of your association's work, and starting today, will be offering all American Loggers Council (ALC) members and affiliates a \$5000.00 rebate on the purchase of a brand new WS 4900 truck or tractor model.

The program, which will be supported by WS and our dealers, has established a process to capture and support you and your members with some of the best working trucks in the industry. Attached is a copy of the program.

Best regards,

Peter Arrigoni
Vice-president of Sales, Western Star



OSHA Pushes Back Controversial Reporting Requirement

Federal workplace safety regulators recently proposed a five-month delay in rules that would require companies to publicly disclose on-the-job injuries.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration published the new rule more than a year ago, but the measure was not set to take effect until July 1. The agency last week moved to postpone the effective date until December in order to "further review and consider the rule."

"The delay will also allow OSHA to provide employers the same four-month window for submitting data that the original rule would have provided," the agency added.

The rule requires companies to report workplace injuries and illnesses electronically and, as a result, make them public record. OSHA officials under the Obama administration argued that the rule would give an additional "nudge" to employers to operate safely.

But critics, including manufacturers' groups, countered that the requirements would sacrifice both employee and employer privacy in order to conduct "unnecessary public shaming" of businesses. The delay is just the latest proposed by OSHA during the Trump administration. Democrats previously questioned the agency over stalled rules regarding workplace exposure to beryllium and silica dust.



Wood Supply Research Institute

Causes and Costs of Unused Logging Capacity Old Lessons Still True?

Excess, or unused, logging capacity still appears to be a source of cost and concern to the wood supply value chain in many regions of the United States. Since 2002, WSRI has done a number of studies that shed light on the factors that drive this inefficiency in the system. A review of the findings from WSRI's first research project on this subject suggests that there are actionable steps that progressive members of the wood supply value chain can take to improve what appears to be a pervasive source of frustration and lost economic opportunity.

Finding

- WSRI research documented that the wood supply system in the southern USA and Main in 2002 did not utilize approximately 35% of its capacity. The cost of this unused capacity was estimated to be \$1.66 per tone equating to \$430 million per year in the southern USA alone. Conservative estimates of the amount that could be saved through targeted action ranged from \$130 to \$300 million.

Lessons Learned

- That kind of money should encourage ongoing attention to this source of system waste. Evidence that the situation is regionally as bad, if not worse, today is supported by assessments of both suppliers and consumers.

Take Action

- Stay focused on the fact the idle capacity in the logging business costs a lot of money and weakens the health of the system.

Finding

- "Market factors," primarily "wood order constraints" was the most common cause of unused capacity documented. Mill purchase patterns, the stability of wood purchases by mills in each market area, and wood procurement practices and approach were referenced as being of special importance.

Lessons Learned

- Demand constraints are not necessarily the same as mill consumption. They can be driven by inventory management, the sophistication of the planning system, communications, and the degree of cooperation between supplier and consumer including whoever controls the stumpage. Applying statistical process control techniques to inventory management is a well-documented strategy for establishing quotas that can be communicated, are reasonably dependable, and optimize supply system capacity.

Take Action

- Buffer the supply stream from shocks with sophisticated short, medium, and long-term supply plans. Use SPC to proactively manage inventory levels. Avoid knee jerk, short notice changes.

Finding

- Measures of mill usage consistency (UCR) and material purchase consistence (PCR) were developed

(Continued on page 13)

(Continued from page 12)

and explained in the 2002 report. Mills where the ratio of PCR to UCR is high create a more predictable market for their wood than mills where the ratio is low.

Lessons Learned

- UCR and PCR are easy to calculate. Applied at the local level, they can be used to compare mills and set performance targets. They might also be used to evaluate the impact of usage and purchase patterns on supplier productivity.

Take Action

- Set target specifically designed to improve capacity utilization and measure the performance of your system against them.

Finding

- “Preferred” supplier crews delivered more loads per week, missed less production, worked fewer days, delivered to more markets, and moved for undesirable reasons less often than non-preferred crews. They also reported the lowest and least variable costs per ton.

Lessons Learned

- Close relationships, good communications, good target-setting and good planning can positively impact capacity utilization. Supplier and logger are not always the same thing. The positive elements of a preferred supplier system have to make it to the logger level for capacity utilization to be enhanced.

Take Action

- Identify “preferred” suppliers based on performance metrics. Negotiate targets for production and consistency. Collaboratively measure, monitor and review progress relative to the targets.

Finding

- Loggers who did not use contract hauling reported median costs that were 11% lower (although more variable) than those using contracting for some or all of their trucking. They also reported missing less production than their counterparts using contract trucking. However, an econometric analysis designed to examine production inefficiency that was part of the study found that contract hauling can bring some efficiency to the process.

Lessons Learned

- Crews that control their trucking tend to have more control over their business opportunities. The risk of missing production opportunities in a piece-rate business with uncertain weekly, and even daily demand is high pushing many operators to work with fixed fleets. The efficiency opportunities that may exist when trucking capacity is more flexible will require better cooperation and communications across the wood supply value chain.

Take Action

- Pay attention to anything that constrains trucking (mill turn-times, trucking/logging imbalances due to timber or mileage, etc.) and do what you can to minimize them. Find a local initiative addressing one of the many issues facing the trucking industry and participate.

The above findings all support a major conclusion of this and other WSRI capacity studies. It is that positive

(Continued on page 14)

(Continued from page 13)

action to address wood supply value chain inefficiencies often requires collaboration between the parts of the chain. In fact, it is often the case that the lost opportunity being faced by one part of the chain is primarily under the control of another part. Individuals looking for value from WSRI reports need to start by asking themselves, “do I, or does the part of the chain I represent, have options when it comes to addressing the opportunity, regardless of where that opportunity lies?” Considering the finds of this logging capacity study, appropriate questions might be:

- Do I focus on logging capacity utilization? Do I accept that poor utilization of capacity is a cost to the system?
- Do I, or does the organization I represent, take action to minimize market constraints? What analytical, planning and communications tools do we use to track capacity and dampen volatility? Do we use performance measures like UCR, PCR or other process control techniques that could help?
- Are we part of, or do we manage, a preferred supplier system? Do we negotiate sensible, economically sustainable production expectations, track what we negotiate, and make adjustments to meet the targets in smooth and reasonable ways?

Where the honest answer to these questions is “no” or “not so much,” WSRI research shows that there is significant value being lost in your wood supply chain.

Gene Kodama Departing SC Forestry Commission at Year's End

Thursday, July 6th, 2017

South Carolina State Forester Gene Kodama announced that he will be “departing” the Forestry Commission in January 2018. He is only the 10th State Forester since the agency’s inception in 1927, serving the third-longest tenure of his predecessors.



“I am not using the word ‘retire’ because I plan to continue to work, but in a different setting that could be in either the public or private sector,” Kodama said in a statement. “This has been an extremely difficult decision to make because my almost 10 years of working with the Commission and all its partners in the forest products industry, the General Assembly and the natural resources community has been a fantastic, rewarding experience.”

He said he wanted to work through this year to realize several key milestones. Upon his departure, Gene will have worked for exactly 40 years as a professional forester, served 10 years as Forestry Commission director, saw through the completion of the 20/15 SC Forestry Project, which culminated in the achievement of forestry’s economic impact reaching \$21 billion, and presided over the agency’s year-long

90th anniversary celebration. He will perhaps be best remembered for championing the funding fight for enclosed-cab bulldozers, which now make up about half of the Commission’s fleet, for the safety of agency firefighters.

Kodama is a native of Moncks Corner and earned a bachelor’s and master’s degree from Clemson University in 1975 and 1977, respectively. He worked for Westvaco Corporation and Mead-Westvaco Corporation after their merger in a variety of leadership roles for 29 years. He has chaired the South Carolina Forestry Association, a Forest Resources Association Division, and the USDA’s Forestry Research Advisory Council as well as served in numerous other industry and association leadership roles.

His family owns and manages Walnut Bluff Tree Farm in Berkeley County, which is certified by the American Tree Farm System. He won the Society of American Foresters’ Gifford Pinchot Medal in 2015, the top SAF award and one of the most esteemed forestry awards in the nation for “exemplary actions that further the field of forestry by making an indelible mark on the profession and being a person of action.”

Gene lives near Summerville with his wife Karen of 41 years; they have two adult sons.





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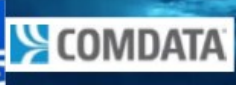
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AMERICAN LOGGERS COUNCIL

PROFITS BEFORE SAFETY?



By Danny Dructor

I don't think so! This column is known as the "As We See It" editorial published monthly from the American Loggers Council. We value the opinion of the professionals who are harvesting and hauling the wood fiber necessary to accommodate the daily needs of the general public, but sometimes we need to vent the frustrations that we run into when trying to help provide a safer working environment for the men and women in our industry.

For the past 20 (that's right, twenty) years, the members of the American Loggers Council have been seeking to allow state legal weight tolerances on the Federal Interstate Highway system for safety reasons. That include getting the trucks away from small towns and communities where stop signs, right and left turns, pedestrians, and yes, even railroad crossings become hazards that could be avoided if those trucks as well as other agricultural commodity haulers were allowed on the Interstate Highways with those already state legal loads.

There are no windfall profits expected from this move, nor will all routes to the mills include the Interstate System, and yes, on half of those miles on these short hauls the trucks are empty, and yes, data from the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration's Fatal Accident Reporting System (FARS) shows that there are fewer fatalities on the Interstate than on all other classifications of roads for log trucks; yet, the railroads continue to take a position against those trucks gaining access on the Federal Interstate Highway System with those already state legal loads.

A recent request to meet with some of their representatives was turned down, and they are already lining up to try and prevent the proposed amendment to make exemptions that would allow these trucks to access the Federal Interstate Highway System. I hope that their

reasons are not based on suppressing competition for freight to maximize their profits, and I do expect to hear from them on just how unsafe it would be to allow these trucks on the Interstate, even though they are subject to all of the DOT inspections and CSA regulations that the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration and Department of Transportation administer.

What is their real motive, safety or profits? You decide.

Danny Dructor is the Executive Vice President for the American Loggers Council with offices near Hemphill, Texas. The American Loggers Council is a 501 (c)(6) not for profit trade organization representing professional timber harvesters in 32 states across the United States. If you would like to learn more about the ALC, please visit their web site at www.amloggers.com, or contact their office at 409-625-0206.



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2017 Western Star Association Rebate – US ALC Associations

Western Star is proud to support and extend the Association Rebate Program for members of the American Loggers Council and its affiliates. Members can now apply for an important rebate towards the purchase of a brand new Western Star truck, the leading brand in the logging industry.

Members can now enjoy the power and versatility of a Western Star truck, which have been manufactured for higher payloads, better maneuverability, serviceability, and equally important, durability and dependability.

Rebate amount is based on truck model and configuration:

- \$5,000 off for 4900 Sleeper
- \$5,000 off for 4900 Daycab

Requirements:

- Verification of membership status or status or affiliation with ALC.
- Association membership must be valid for at least **90 days prior** to taking retail delivery.
- Trucks must be **new** and never been retail sold regardless of model year or mileage.
- Maximum of **five (5)** trucks per customer/company in a calendar year.
- Rebate claim must be processed within 30 days of retail sale date.
- Not valid for gliders or used units.

Process:

1. Association member advises dealer he or she is a member of the American Loggers Council or affiliate organization, and asks dealer to verify membership with ALC.
 - To verify membership, dealer needs to contact Mr. Daniel J. Dructor, American Loggers Council via e-mail at americanlogger@aol.com or by phone at 409.625.0206.
 - Please identify yourself as a Western Star Dealer requesting approval to offer a discount to a claiming member. And provide applicant name, organization, and membership number, if applicable.
 - Mr. Dructor will verify and provide you with an approval. He will also send a copy of the approval to Alex Lee at Western Star at Davlichoj.lee@daimler.com.
2. Association member makes his/her best deal with Western Star deal on up to five (5) new trucks or tractors.
 - Truck can be from Dealer stock, or a new order.
 - Only one association rebate can be applied per claim per truck.
3. Member asks Dealer to report and enter the retail sale date and warranty registers the truck(s).
4. Member asks Dealer to submit a TIA using General Adjustment Form referencing customer name, Association, and membership number (if applicable) in the notes section.
 - *If Association does not have a membership list or number, proof of membership (i.e. Membership Card or Membership dues receipt) must be submitted by email.*
5. Member asks Dealer to submit Rebate Claim Form.

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(Continued from page 22)

6. Association membership and truck sale are verified before TIA is processed.

7. Dealer can apply the credit as requested by the customer/member:

- Dealer uses rebate toward the deal listing the rebate as a line item on the invoice.
- Dealer credits customer's parts/service account with full rebate amount. o Dealer pays the customer full rebate directly.

Western Star will send a Thank You letter and gift to the customer to thank them for their purchase listing the rebate that was processed.

Please note that the Dealer is responsible for ensuring all conditions of this program and Association memberships are met. TIA's will not be approved if any condition or Association memberships are not in accordance with this program.

For questions, please contact Pablo Bujan at 803-578-3108 or pablo.bujan@daimler.com.

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19th SCTPA Annual Meeting

SCTPA is excited about our 19th Annual Meeting to be held February 9 – 11, 2018 at the DoubleTree Resort by Hilton Myrtle Beach Oceanfront, 3200 South Ocean Boulevard, Myrtle Beach.

Our 2017 meeting welcomed a large crowd of over 420 attendees, 27 inside exhibitors and outstanding speakers. We are excited to be returning to the DoubleTree Resort which has again been remodeled after damage from Hurricane Matthew last Fall.

Rooms connected to the conference center are all double queen beds equipped with a full size refrigerator-freezer and two sinks and one inside bathroom. Rooms with king bed along with one and two bedroom suites are also available.

The Conference Center is remodeled after the Matthew damage and is impressive with plenty of exhibitor and meeting room space. SCTPA will utilize the second and third floors.

The second floor will be used for registration desk, exhibitors and speaker presentations. The third floor will be used for the Friday night reception with food and entertainment, Saturday breakfast and lunch and Sunday's prayer breakfast. The third floor has a panoramic view of the beach and Atlantic Ocean. The new registration building in the middle of the property now has a full service restaurant and bar with a deli located on the end of the building.

The usual flow of events will be scheduled. We've made arrangements with DoubleTree Resort to again utilize parking areas for outside exhibitors with equipment, trucks and trailers.

Room rates are shown below. Early room reservations are the best to get the best available rooms. Room accommodations are in the Live Oaks tower adjacent to the conference center and Palmetto tower located across the property.

Our SCTPA annual meeting Room Block Code is **TIM**. For SCTPA room block rates, the "Cut Off Date" is Wednesday January 17, 2018. Room reservations made for the annual meeting after January 17th will be at the normal DoubleTree Resort rates.

Meeting preparations and speaker invitations are underway. Speakers invited are Attorney Rob Moseley of Smith, Moore Leatherwood to talk about how to protect yourself when your truck is in a no fault accident, D. K. Knight of Hatton-Brown Publishers to speak about the state of the timber harvesting industry and either Lt. Roy Cloud of SC State Transport Police or Chris Hartley of USDOT and Federal Motor Carriers Safety Administration to speak about state and federal regulations. We've invited Arkansas U.S. Congressman Bruce Westerman who is the only forester in Congress to speak at our Saturday luncheon about federal legislation and issues pertaining to our nation's forests and environment.

Our Silent Auction will be back and our big prize drawings for a Honda ATV, Honda generator and three night four day stay at DoubleTree Resort.

We'll have a raffle drawing for a "Very Special Rifle." The rifle is The American Logger Rifle and is number 21 of only 50 rifles being made by American Legacy Firearms. Logging scenes are engraved on this beautiful brass Henry Big Boy 44 magnum lever action rifle. This rifle is awesome looking!

The SFI Trained Update DVD session will be conducted on Saturday afternoon to attain your SFI Trained status for the July 1, 2017 until June 30, 2018 period.

Annual meeting packages will be mailed in October to all members. Meeting registration and information will be posted to our website and on our Facebook page.

We are excited and look forward to our 19th SCTPA Annual Meeting. Go ahead and mark your calendar to attend our 2018 annual meeting. Tell others who may not be members about our annual meeting and urge them to join us.



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A millennial with a passion for logging

EMILY HOARD The News-Review Sep 2, 2017

With the goal in mind to one day own his own logging company, 25-year-old Zackary Sheets operates a computer-automated processor, picking up a log, stripping it of its bark, cutting it to length and stacking it all while sitting inside the machine.

Sheets was working on a logging site in Canyonville this summer for Gold Hill-based Estremado Logging. He lives in Glendale during the week, then commutes to his house in Albany for the weekends.

Though Sheets said logging companies have been struggling to recruit young people to work in the woods, he's passionate about what he does. "That's the path I've chosen. I saw where everybody was running and I ran the other way, which is modern forestry technology," Sheets said. "It's a mix of technology but still has a hard work aspect to it."

Sheets is not only a Douglas County logger but has experience logging around the U.S. and the world. "I randomly stumbled across an advertisement for loggers who wanted to work in an extreme environment, and it seemed perfect for me," he said. Three months after he applied, he found himself on a plane to Siberia.

He spent six months there, working in harsh conditions while the Discovery Channel filmed him for the show, "Siberian Cut." "It's important to show kids the positive sides to working hard," he said of starring in the show.

Last summer, he logged in Alaska for his stepfather Fred Hurt's gold mining operation. Hurt, known as "Dakota Fred," has also been featured on the Discovery Channel show "Gold Rush."

Through the Siberian trip, Sheets met Pekka Ruuskanen, the president of Ponsse for North America. Ponsse, a Finnish company with its North American

headquarters in Wisconsin, manufactures and sells harvesters and forwarders.

Ruuskanen said Ponsse focuses on state-of-the-art machines that are safer to use than other equipment. "It's like an office, you have your own equipment, computer, microwave and fridge," he said of the cabins within the machinery. "It's a totally different type of operation."



After returning to the states for work, Sheets missed logging abroad and contacted Ruuskanen, who invited him to return to Europe to tour and work on various logging sites in Finland and through Western Europe.

Sheets has also worked in Minnesota and Wisconsin, and has logged for Estremado Logging on and off within the past few years. "It's good to have a job you can take pride in," Sheets

said of logging. "You can look back at what you did and see how you helped the local community, and the lumber we produce goes all over the country."

Sheets had considered going to college, but decided not to because he learns best through experience. He had tried working a cubicle job as a technology support representative for Nintendo, but quit after three weeks. Once he chose the logging industry, he never looked back.

"I've always known I'm built to be a leader," Sheets said. "I have a dream to own my own logging business."

Starting a logging company from scratch without millions of dollars to buy equipment is unrealistic, Sheets said, so Ruuskanen offered to finance Sheet's equipment and help him start the business in Wisconsin.

Ruuskanen said when he met Sheets, he knew right away Sheets wanted to work hard and learn. "I can see myself in him because when I was his age I had the same drive to work hard," Ruuskanen said. "He

(Continued on page 27)

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wants to work and he's not going to give up, he has really clear goals."

"I'm close to being in the position to start working toward my dream, but once I get there it's only the beginning," Sheets said.

Sheets grew up in Bay Point, California. At age 13, his family moved to Sunny Valley, just south of Glendale. He fell in love with country life, running farm equipment, exploring the woods and competing in motocross competitions.

Sheets said his father had been very hard working, but was terminally ill with hepatitis C, kidney failure and diabetes. "My dad instilled that hard work ethic into me and he taught me a lot in the ways he could," Sheets said. His father passed away three years ago.

Sheets met a man who would become his mentor, John Blumenfeld, who was logging just across the hill from the Sheets' house in Sunny Valley. As a teenager, Sheets said he bugged Blumenfeld for a job until one day he was given a shot. "He saw a lot of potential in me, which I'm extremely grateful for," Sheets said. He worked all over the Grants Pass area, learning the tricks of the trade through experience.

"I remember the moment I decided to be like him," Sheets said of Blumenfeld. The bulldozer they had been operating had run out of fuel, so the two had to lug 5-gallon buckets of fuel uphill to the machine. While Sheets struggled, he saw the man, who was in his late 60s, quickly haul the buckets up the hill like it was nothing.

Sheets said he believes timber is the world's most natural, renewable resource, and there are millions of products that require logging. The advanced technology used in logging now allows for more efficiency and every piece of the wood is accounted for so there's no waste, he added.

"One thing I like about the industry is that it creates a ripple effect," he said of the jobs produced for each operation. Though the logging operation at the Canyonville site only required two people from Estremado Logging and a contractor, more jobs

were created for building the roads, assessing the environmental impact, truck driving and more.

He said operating the machinery is like playing a big video game, using buttons to control the equipment, and he questions why more people in his generation aren't interested in it. "If you have any work ethic and if you like video games, you would like running a processor," Sheets said.

But according to Sheets, it's hard to find other young people who want to do the work. "It seems nowadays people want to float through life," Sheets said, adding he knows some people his age who want to get rich quickly by selling marijuana or drugs, but they don't want to put in hard work.

They don't want to get their hands dirty," said Don Walker, a contractor working with Sheets in Canyonville. Walker has been working in the woods for 54 years and cutting timber for 40 of them. When Walker's generation retires, which could be within the next decade, the industry will need new loggers. "If we don't have new guys coming up to take over these jobs and stay on top of how things are changing, we're going to be in trouble," Sheets said.

In addition to logging — which takes up much of his time — Sheets is passionate about bicycling and motocross. Earlier this summer, he rode his mountain bike from Merlin to Gold Beach, about an 80-mile trip. He split the ride into two days and camped overnight along the way. At some point, he'd like to do the Pacific Crest Trail from California to Canada.

Though Sheets said he may only get four hours of sleep a night, he stays positive. "I get to experience more of my life," he said. "It's like I get to live two days in one."

To view a video of some of Sheet's logging experiences, visit YouTube and search for "Zackary Sheets, a few minutes of a logger's life."



AMERICAN LOGGERS COUNCIL

CHANGE AT THE U.S. FOREST SERVICE



By Danny Dructor-American Loggers Council

On August 18 the Trump Administration made the surprise announcement that Tom Tidwell, Chief of the U.S. Forest Service was retiring after 40 years at the agency. There has been much speculation on who would run the Forest Service after the President's inauguration and the confirmation of former Georgia Gov. Sonny Perdue as Secretary of Agriculture.

The timing of the announcement is notable. Tidwell left the agency during the peak wildfire fire season when the agency is scrambling to allocate resources and money to suppress fires. And the administration has yet to nominate a USDA Undersecretary for Natural Resources and Environment, which oversees the Forest Service and is responsible for implementing the administration's policy priorities.

There are still many unanswered questions about the direction of the Forest Service under President Trump. But the question of who will lead the agency was answered quickly. Just two days after Tidwell's retirement announcement, Secretary Perdue named Tony Tooke as the new Chief. Tooke is a native Alabamian and a life-long Forest Service employee, most recently serving as the Regional Forester for Region 8 in the Southeastern United States.

In making the announcement Secretary Perdue said Tooke "will oversee efforts to get our forests working again, to make them more productive, and to create more jobs. His focus will be on ensuring we are good neighbors and are managing our forests effectively, efficiently, and responsibly, as well as working with states and local governments to ensure the utmost collaboration."

Tooke has extensive experience working at the highest levels of the Forest Service at the Washington Office, having also served as Associate Deputy Chief for the National Forest System (NFS). He took a lead role in the implementation of a new planning rule for the NFS, and he is well-versed on our complex system of federal land management. Tooke understands how the National Environmental Policy Act, Endangered Species Act and other rules and regulations affect the development

and economics of projects for loggers purchasing federal timber.

It is clear that Tooke is being directed to increase timber harvests on national forests, which is especially critical to loggers in areas dominated by federal land ownership. We hope he is successful, but the American Loggers Council will continue to lobby Congress, and work with the Federal Forest Resource Coalition to ensure the Forest Service receives adequate funding and personnel to increase the pace and scale of management activities.

We will continue to advocate for reforms such as those in the Resilient Federal Forests Act that seeks to expedite projects on forests that are immediately at-risk of catastrophic wildfire, insects and disease, while reducing obstructive litigation that typically stymies the work that needs to be done. We will continue to promote the development of biomass to create more markets for wood products, and pursue opportunities in the Forestry Title of the 2018 Farm Bill that Congress must pass before it is finished.

ALC will also seek to educate Chief Tooke on the many challenges our industry is facing, especially for independent contract loggers. Most of all, we will encourage Chief Tooke to take risks, try new ways of doing business, and defy the special interests in Washington DC who have spent decades undermining the Forest Service's multiple-use mandate to manage our forests for the "greatest good."

Now that a new Forest Service Chief is in place, we urge President Trump and Secretary Perdue to install a new Undersecretary for Natural Resources and Environment. Leadership at this position is essential if the administration wants to achieve its goals of supporting forestry on public and private lands, and protecting the future of our industry.

Danny Dructor is the Executive Vice President for the American Loggers Council with headquarters in Hemphill, Texas. The American Loggers Council is a 501 (c)(6) not for profit trade association representing professional timber harvesters and log truckers in 32 states across the United States with headquarters near Hemphill, Texas.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

American Loggers Council Board Approves Proposal to Strengthen ALC Master Logger Certification Program

Board members gather in Opelika, Alabama



Hemphill, Texas (August 2, 2017) – During the recently held Summer Board of Directors Meeting in Opelika, Alabama on July 29, members of the American Loggers Council voted to move forward with a proposal submitted by the Professional Logging Contractors of Maine and the Trust to Conserve Northeast Forests that would help to revitalize and promote the American Loggers Council Master Logger Certification® program.

Since the program was first adopted in 2000 during the ALC's Annual meeting held in Beaumont, Texas, 18 states have approved templates for implementation of the program, with several currently implementing the program. The ALC's national Master Logger Certification® program template provides guidance for the seven areas of responsibility that meet the performance standards of the program, but allows each state participant to tailor their program based on existing state regulations and forest practices acts.

The ALC Master Logger Certification® program is a true third-party certification system that verifies on the ground harvesting and business practices that can meet chain of custody requirements found in many of today's forest certification systems. Oversight of the program is through the ALC Master Logger Certification committee with individual states and regions implementing the program tailored to their needs.

Participation in the program remains voluntary, and states will be required to determine just how they implement the program, and what costs (if any) might be incurred.

ALC's Master Logger Committee Chairman Crad Jaynes commented, "The actions taken by the ALC board to support the proposal shows continued support for the principles the ALC Master Logger Certification program was founded on. This energized marketing effort hopefully will improve the recognition of ALC Third Party Certified Master Loggers to the public and demonstrate sustainable timber harvesting is being practiced thus contributing to meeting chain of custody standards in forest certification systems. ALC's Master Logger Certification program is 'logger owned and logger run.' The ALC Master Logger Certification Committee looks forward to working in this process to have 'true' third party certified loggers further recognized for their work on the ground and in their business."

ALC Executive Vice President Danny Dructor stated that "for too long, the professional timber harvesters have had others outside of the timber harvesting industry dictating to them what sustainable harvesting practices should look like. We do not know what the outcome of this program will be, or the benefits, if any, but what we do know is that for the past 100+ years we have been doing business in the same manner with the same results, and unless we as an industry are willing to make changes, it is a guarantee that nothing will change in the current status quo of the procurement process."

About American Loggers Council

The American Loggers Council is a non-profit 501(c)(6) organization representing timber harvesting professionals in 31 states. For more information contact the American Loggers Council office at 409-625-0206 or visit their website at www.amloggers.com.

ELD Mandate Exemptions: What You Need to Know



The ELD Mandate affecting millions of commercial drivers will be enforced beginning this December, 2017. If you are currently required to complete a Record of Duty Status (ROD), either occasionally or daily, then it's likely the ELD Mandate will affect you. So, what should you do?

First, determine whether or not the ELD Mandate applies to you and your operation. Depending on the type and scope of fleet operation you operate, you may qualify to take advantage of one of the following four federal ELD exemptions.

Short-haul drivers – The short-haul exemption is for drivers who use the 100 air-mile radius exception or 150 air-mile radius (non-CDL short haul) exception – see Sections 395.1(e)(1) and 395.1(e)(2)[2] [3]) of the ELD Mandate . If you operate within 100 air-miles of your normal work reporting location, work no more than 12 hours per shift, and each work shift is separated by at least 10 consecutive hours, then the requirements of the ELD Mandate would not be applicable and you would not be required to complete a daily log.

Short-haul drivers Part 2 – Even if you normally operate under the 100 air-mile radius exception, there may be occasions where you need to exceed the 100 air-mile limit. In these instances, you would still be exempt from the provisions of the ELD Mandate provided you do not exceed the requirements of the 100 air-mile radius exception more than eight times in a rolling 30-day period.

Pre-2000 vehicles – Vehicle models dated 1999 (based on the VIN) or earlier are exempt from the ELD Mandate. If you only operate vehicles manufactured prior to 2000, then you would be exempt from the requirements of the ELD Mandate.

Understanding the requirements of the ELD Mandate means also understanding the exemptions to the rules. It's important to note that these exceptions relate to the ELD Mandate, not the HOS (Hours of Service) requirements as outlined in Part 395 of the FMCSA.

In most cases, drivers are still required to keep a simplified time record showing the time they report for and are released from duty each day and their total number of hours on duty.

Why switch to ELDs anyway? Even if you are not legally required to use ELDs there are many benefits in switching to an automated compliance and fleet management solution.

Visit telogis.com/compliance to learn more.

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ELDs or No ELDs?

Despite “Political” Move, Most Bets are on ELD Mandate

Article provided by SC Trucking Association

As many of you are very much aware, the US House Transportation Committee Monday reported a bill – The Transportation, Housing and Urban Development (THUD) Appropriations Bill - that has a lot of trucking provisions in it. All of them good for trucking, and the package represents a “win” for the industry and certain sectors.

The most interesting development however, is one rider which was added that is intended to delay or repeal the electronic logging device (ELD) mandate set to go into effect on Dec. 18. Also added was a directive for a review of the technology platforms of ELD suppliers. The bill now goes to the full House.

Importantly, the bill has a rider long sought by ATA and trucking interests that would prevent states from enacting laws dictating meal and rest break requirements for truckers – commonly referred to as the “F4A provision” also called the “Denham Amendment.” Another favorable rider would prevent FMCSA from advancing a safety-fitness determination rulemaking until the DOT Inspector General has issued certain certifications required by law.

As for ELDs, the current version of the House THUD bill now directs the Department of Transportation “to analyze whether a full or targeted delay in ELD implementation and enforcement would be appropriate and, if so, what options DOT has within its statutory authority to provide temporary regulatory relief until all ELD implementation challenges can be resolved.” In addition, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration is directed to “provide a report on its findings to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within 60 days of enactment of this Act.”

The second directive calls for FMCSA to review ELD manufacturers' technology platforms “to confirm that devices not only meet standards and specifications necessary for all affected industries and fleet sizes to be compliant, but also provide a user interface that is reasonably easy to navigate.” There is no deadline for complying with this order.

This all began as an effort to directing/encourage FMCSA to account for difficulties in ELD/HOS con-

ELD Mandate

cerns of livestock and insect haulers. Then it was expanded to include statutory language delaying ELD implementation for 1 year for two narrowly defined livestock interests. The effort was also expanded further, to include non-binding report language questioning FMCSA whether a narrow or full delay of ELDs should be pursued.

It had been expected that certain segments of the trucking industry would try and delay this important safety measure. But, the original bill mandating the use of ELDs passed through a Republican House and Senate. The addition of the controversial ELD language was clearly a political move to show concerns about the impact on smaller carriers. ATA lambasted the addition of the rider. “ATA is disappointed that this misguided provision was included in this version of the FY 2018 T-HUD appropriations bill,” ATA Executive Vice President of Advocacy Bill Sullivan said. “It would take a step to potentially weaken the electronic logging device mandate due to go into effect this year... This is a nakedly transparent effort by opponents of ELDs to chip away at a rule that will ensure compliance with hours-of-service and improve safety.”

ATA expressed confidence that either the House will knock it out, or the members in the Senate or in conference will not support this language becoming law. ATA is committed to helping FMCSA as it moves toward meeting the December implementation deadline for this safety rule.

The mandate kicks in five months from now. So, for the committee’s directive to have any impact, a final THUD bill would have to be passed by both the House and Senate and signed into law by President Trump no later than mid-October. Even then the full Congress would still have to pass and get signed a separate bill (based on what the DOT report finds) directing DOT to delay or reverse the mandate.

Section 132 of the bill deals with exempting the enforcement for ELDs on livestock haulers for FY18. A couple of points on that: 1) This is not a blanket exemption for livestock. This simply disallows FMCSA for enforcing the mandate on livestock haulers for

(Continued on page 32)

(Continued from page 31)

one year. 2) This language has only just passed out of committee. It still needs to be debated on the House floor, and then be taken up by the Senate appropriations committee and go through their processes as well. 3) The language questioning FMCSA whether a narrow or full delay of ELDs should be pursued is only report language which “directs” the Agency to do something, but has no actual teeth behind it. There is nothing in the proposed appropriations bill that modifies the mandate for anyone but those hauling livestock.

ATA provided information to Congress on this issue:

- Experience is proving the benefits to ELDs beyond compliance. ELD solutions improve safety and efficiency, and as a result are saving \$50 to \$100 per month, per vehicle are common, even after taking into account the cost of the technology.
- The ELD rule simply requires truck drivers to do what they are currently doing, (keeping track of their hours of service) electronically. Driver are currently required to hand over their paper logs when inspected at roadside. All ELDs do is change the way hours of service records are kept (e.g. electronically instead of paper) and the way they’re transmitted to law enforcement.
- Privacy and harassment protections were built into the rule including limits on location reporting precision and a requirement that the driver have final approval over all log edits. The Federal Appeals court determined that the privacy concerns raised by drivers were unfounded, including claimed 4th amendment violations. The Supreme Court decided not to hear the case, essentially agreeing with the lower court’s opinion.
- The ELD rule did not change any of the current Hours of Service Requirements. The rules on how long a driver can drive have not changed. Given this, there is no reason to believe the goods will not be delivered and stores will be empty of Christmas goodies.
- The ELD mandate does not apply to every driver. Drivers operating trucks older than MY 2000 are exempt. Drivers not required to keep a logbook are exempt (drivers who operate as short haul).
- Most of the drivers/fleets that have already adopted ELDs were initially resistant to ELDs. They had the same privacy concerns and were generally weary of additional technology in cabs. “Big brother is watching” was a consistent fear. But ELDs make a driver’s job much easier. No longer to they need to spend 15-20 minutes per day calculating and recording their logged hours or how many hours are available for tomorrow or the rest of the week. The ELD does if for them. It also makes roadside enforcement inspections easier as there are no legibility problems. The most common hours of service violation cited on roadside is for form and manner (illegible or sloppy logs). The next most common is “logs not current.” Both of these violations disappear with ELDs.
- Drivers who are wanting to run legally and within the rules will be far less likely to be bullied into violating the rules because there will be an accurate record of their activities and because the rule contains strong protections from harassment by employers. Those, on the other hand, who want to cheat and violate the rules, will find it harder to do that.

Timber Talk

Your Voice for South Carolina Timber Harvesting

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



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THE MANY ROADS OF LIFE AND A FEW WORDS OF WISDOM... AND LAUGHS

GREAT TRUTHS THAT LITTLE CHILDREN HAVE LEARNED:



- 1) No matter how hard you try, you can't baptize cats.
- 2) When your Mom is mad at your Dad, don't let her brush your hair.
- 3) If your sister hits you, don't hit her back. They always Catch the second person.
- 4) Never ask your 3-year old brother to hold a tomato.
- 5) You can't trust dogs to watch your food..
- 6) Don't sneeze when someone is cutting your hair..
- 7) Never hold a Dust-Buster and a cat at the same time.
- 8) You can't hide a piece of broccoli in a glass of milk.
- 9) Don't wear polka-dot underwear under white shorts.
- 10) The best place to be when you're sad is Grandma's lap.

GREAT TRUTHS THAT ADULTS HAVE LEARNED:



- 1) Raising teenagers is like nailing Jell-O to a tree.
- 2) Wrinkles don't hurt.
- 3) Families are like fudge...mostly sweet, with a few nuts.
- 4) Today's mighty oak is just yesterday's nut that held its ground.
- 5) Laughing is good exercise. It's like jogging on the inside.
- 6) Middle age is when you choose your cereal for the fiber, not the toy.



GREAT TRUTHS ABOUT GROWING OLD:

- 1) Growing old is mandatory; growing up is optional.

- 2) Forget the health food. I need all the preservatives I can get.
- 3) When you fall down, you wonder what else you can do while you're down there.
- 4) You're getting old when you get the same sensation from a rocking chair that you once got from a roller coaster.
- 5) It's frustrating when you know all the answers but nobody bothers to ask you the questions.
- 6) Time may be a great healer, but it's a lousy beautician.
- 7) Wisdom comes with age, but sometimes age comes alone.

THE FOUR STAGES OF LIFE:

- 1) You believe in Santa Claus.
- 2) You don't believe in Santa Claus.
- 3) You are Santa Claus.
- 4) You look like Santa Claus.



SUCCESS:

At age 4 success is . . . Not piddling in your pants.
 At age 12 success is . . . Having friends.
 At age 17 success is . . . Having a driver's license.
 At age 35 success is . . . Having money.
 At age 50 success is . . . Having money.
 At age 70 success is . . . Having a driver's license.
 At age 75 success is . . . Having friends.
 At age 80 success is . . . Not piddling in your pants.



Maintaining the Infrastructure Maintains Opportunities July 2017 – FRA Woods to Mill

Eric Kingsley
Forest Resources Association
Northeast Region Coordinator

In 1999, New England and New York had 17 operating pulp and paper mills. Today, there are six. Much has been written about the loss of these markets and why they disappeared. That is not today's discussion. This post looks at something else: the infrastructure that developed to supply these and other mills in the region, presenting opportunities for new industries to emerge.

It's natural to focus on what has been lost, but what is much more important is what remains. Of course, in the Northeast there are a range of markets. In addition to the six pulp mills mentioned, there are biomass electricity facilities, sawmills and wood pellet mills. Everyday, trucks arrive at these facilities loaded with wood, and loggers are busy at work harvesting timber and getting it to these markets.

In the Northeast, there are about 50 million acres of timberland the vast majority privately owned. Ownerships range from small family forests to large industrial tracts. Single ownerships can be in excess of a million acres or as small as ten acres. The forests are diverse; northern hardwoods, white pine, spruce-fir and other types provide the raw material for a wide range of products.

Foresters throughout the region know how to manage these lands and provide professional service to a full range of landowners. Working with landowners to take the long view, foresters are an important part of making sure the resource is robust not only today, but for generations to come. Across the Northeast, annual growth is more than 50 percent above annual harvest levels indicating not only a sustainable supply, but also opportunities for new markets. Forestry schools keep producing foresters and adding to the incredible professional resources that exist in the region.

The Northeast has a well-developed group of loggers with the people and equipment to responsibly operate in the region's diverse forest types. From

highly mechanized crews to chainsaws and cable skidders, the loggers have the knowledge, experience and iron to harvest trees and get it to a landing.

While trucking capacity is an issue in all regions, there are certainly trucks for every product and circumstance in the region. From short, straight-body trucks, often seen operating on small lots in Southern New England, to the oversized rigs that run on the private road network in Maine, to chip vans heading to a biomass plant or a pulp mill - the region has the truckers and trucks to move woods to market.

In addition to these parts of the supply chain there are the relationships, systems and community support that allow the industry to grow and evolve. There are forest industry organizations in every state allowing networks to develop and making sure that the industry's interests are heard. There are training or certification programs for almost every piece of the supply chain, ensuring the opportunity to keep knowledge current and learn from peers.

The forest industry in the region built and maintains this infrastructure. It is an incredible asset. As new wood-using manufacturers evaluate opportunities to locate in the region, the supply infrastructure from the woods to the mill allows them to know that the wood is there and it will arrive at the mill in the form they desire for a fair price.

The Northeast isn't alone. Wood supply infrastructure is a necessary part of maintaining and developing new markets for wood products everywhere. FRA works nationally to promote a robust supply chain, growing forests in a sustainable manner, harvesting and hauling timber in a safe and cost efficient manner and receiving and handling wood as it becomes the products consumers demand. It is this supply infrastructure that is important not only to today's markets, but to those industries that may come in the future.





FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 18, 2017

PROJECT LEARNING TREE AND SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY INITIATIVE JOIN FORCES TO EXPAND YOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

AWARD WINNING ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAM PARTNERS WITH SUSTAINABILITY LEADER TO REACH NEW GEOGRAPHIES AND AUDIENCES ACROSS NORTH AMERICA

WASHINGTON, DC — The Sustainable Forestry Initiative Inc. (SFI) and the American Forest Foundation (AFF) announced today that SFI has become the new home of Project Learning Tree (PLT). PLT is an award-winning environmental education program that uses trees and forests as windows on the world to increase youth understanding of the environment and actions they can take to conserve it. PLT's integration into SFI provides an opportunity for the program to expand its reach and impact. And SFI's role as a sustainability leader will be bolstered by PLT's expertise in education, an increasing focus in SFI's community engagement work. PLT was previously housed at the American Forest Foundation.

PLT has consistently received prestigious awards and recognition from leading educational and community organizations. PLT state coordinators, workshop facilitators, and educators have won the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching and the Presidential Innovation Award for Environmental Educators. More than one quarter of U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools are PLT GreenSchools. PLT's instructional materials are aligned with state and national academic standards and meet or exceed the North American Association for Environmental Education's Guidelines for Excellence. PLT's Environmental Experiences for Early Childhood curriculum won a Learning Magazine Teachers' Choice Award and PLT has also received straight A's in environmental education from the California Department of Education. More than 20,000 educators attend PLT workshops every year and this partnership between PLT and SFI will help the program grow and reach new audiences across the globe in diverse ways.

"SFI has enthusiastically supported Project Learning Tree for years. Formally making PLT part of the SFI

Program offers an exciting opportunity to strengthen SFI's growing youth education efforts and to build on PLT's enormous success. We begin this relationship from a position of strength given SFI's role as a leading sustainability organization focused on responsible forestry, conservation and community engagement" said Kathy Abusow, President and CEO of SFI Inc. "We have big plans for the future and are committed to continuing PLT's work as a high-quality education program. Ultimately, we would like to be able to say that every teacher across North America and beyond recognizes Project Learning Tree as an invaluable resource for professional development, environmental education curriculum, and taking children outdoors to learn." The benefits of educating youth about responsibly managed forests are not just environmental. Experiencing nature through forests and other means at an early age are important components of a healthy lifestyle. The majority of PLT lessons get teachers and their students outdoors and active. This helps to address common health issues in children today, such as obesity, attention deficit disorder, and depression.

"For more than four decades, Project Learning Tree has taught countless students how to think, without telling them what to think. It is the unbiased education that educators demand," said Tom Martin, President and CEO of the American Forest Foundation. "The AFF Board approved the transfer of PLT as well as funding to help ensure the program is maintained for the next five years. We believe this will enable SFI to focus its energy on mechanisms to strengthen and expand the reach of PLT."

"Given Project Learning Tree's focus on environmental education and SFI's mission to ensure the

(Continued on page 37)

(Continued from page 36)

future of our forests, bringing the PLT program under SFI's umbrella will further both SFI's and PLT's reach in ensuring today's youth can be effective future leaders with a strong understanding of the value of well managed forests," said Laura Downey, PLT Education Operating Committee Co-Chair and Kansas PLT State Coordinator. "Over the years, we have worked directly with SFI to help youth make a commitment to sustainability, and to give them the skills to make responsible decisions about the environment." Effective with SFI becoming the new home for PLT, Laura Downey joins the SFI Board of Directors in the social chamber.

PLT's network includes state government agencies, forestry associations, non-profits, colleges and universities that deliver PLT programming across the U.S., British Columbia, Mexico, Japan, Brazil, and Uruguay. SFI's youth network is made up of more than 20 organizations including Boy Scouts of America, Scouts Canada, Earth Rangers, Forest Ontario's Forestry Connects Program, Envirothon, 4-H, the State University of New York's Center for Native Peoples and the Environment, and other Indigenous youth programs. This considerable network will enhance PLT's relevance as a critical element of youth education in support of future forests.

"SFI is a recognized leader in sustainability and will introduce PLT across Canada and beyond to reach even more educators and youth about the forests we share," said Gail Wallin, Co-Chair of the Canadian Council on Invasive Species and SFI Board member in the environmental chamber. "I believe both organizations will benefit through this new relationship given the common interests, expertise, and passion for the environment and education."

SFI's community engagement work includes a long commitment to youth education including previous funding for PLT through SFI Community Partnerships Grants. SFI Implementation Committees also collaborate with PLT to teach kids about trees, forests, and the natural world through hands-on activities that are STEM-focused and inquiry-based.

"Given the history of SFI's coordination with Project Learning Tree on a national scale and the shared commitment to educating youth, bringing PLT into the SFI program is a natural progression of the relationship because both organizations will be strengthened. As a member of the SFI Board of Directors, and a State

Forester, I am excited about how this partnership will support educators and develop future conservation and forest leaders," said Bettina Ring, State Forester with the Virginia Department of Forestry and an SFI Board member in the social chamber.

About the Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Inc.

The Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) is a sustainability leader that stands for future forests. SFI® is an independent, non-profit organization dedicated to promoting forest sustainability and supporting the links between sustainable forests and communities through grant programs, carefully targeted research, youth education, supply chain assurances, and partnerships that effectively contribute to multiple conservation objectives. SFI works collaboratively with conservation groups, local communities, youth, resource professionals, landowners and countless other organizations and individuals who share our passion for and commitment to healthy forests, responsible purchasing and sustainable communities. SFI Inc. is governed by an independent three-chamber board of directors representing environmental, social and economic sectors equally. Learn more at sfiprogram.org.

About Project Learning Tree®

Project Learning Tree helps develop students' awareness, knowledge, and appreciation of the environment, builds their skills and ability to make informed decisions, and encourages them to take personal responsibility for sustaining the environment and our quality of life that depends on it. Since 1976, Project Learning Tree has trained 700,000 educators to help students learn how to think, not what to think about complex environmental issues. Learn more at plt.org. About the American Forest Foundation The American Forest Foundation (AFF), a forest conservation organization, works on the ground with families, partners and elected officials to promote stewardship and protect our nation's forest heritage. A commitment to the next generation unites our nationwide network of forest owners working to keep our forests healthy and producing the clean water, wildlife habitat and sustainable wood supplies that all Americans count on from forests.

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OREGON-BASED FOREST PRODUCTS FIRM TO OPEN PLANT IN CHESTER



Columbia Regional Business Report - Staff Report
July 12, 2017

Roseburg Forest Products announced Tuesday it would be locating a new engineered wood products plant in Chester County. The development is expected to lead to the creation of more than 145 jobs.

The privately owned, integrated forest products company is based in Springfield, Ore., and has more than 3,000 employees in the United States.

"This is an exciting strategic growth opportunity in a business that has done well for us. With the continued increase in housing starts in the southeastern U.S., we see ongoing demand growth for engineered wood products in the region and elsewhere," said Grady Mulbery, president and CEO of Roseburg Forest Products. "We are grateful to state and local officials in Chester for their hard work and collaborative efforts to facilitate this project."

Roseburg features a portfolio of products that includes lumber, softwood plywood, composite panels, engineered wood, wood chips and more. With a strong focus on environmental stewardship and sustainability, the company markets products to customers throughout North America. It also owns and sustainably manages more than 630,000 acres of timberland in Oregon and California.

"South Carolina continues to see its manufacturing and agribusiness sectors grow and create jobs," said Bobby Hitt Secretary of Commerce. "Roseburg Forest Products' new investment builds

on our state's success in those sectors and strengthens our global reputation."

Located off S.C. Highway 9, six miles east of Chester, Roseburg's new plant will manufacture structural beams used in residential and commercial construction.

"Chester County is very proud to welcome Roseburg Forest Products. Their decision to invest in Chester County, creating needed jobs and making a sizeable capital investment will benefit our community," said K. Shane Stuart Chester County Supervisor. "This is further proof that Chester County is a great place to live and do business, and we stand ready to assist them as they become one of our industrial partners."

Hiring for the new positions is projected to begin in spring 2018, and career information will soon be available on Ready SC's website.

The Coordinating Council for Economic Development has approved job development credits related to this project.



ROSEBURG FOREST PRODUCTS TO BUILD ENGINEERED WOOD PLANT IN SOUTH CAROLINA

EMILY HOARD, The News-Review Jul 11, 2017

Roseburg Forest Products will build a new engineered wood products plant in Chester, South Carolina, company representatives announced Tuesday at a news conference with South Carolina and Chester County officials.

Roseburg began its engineered wood products business in 2001 and manufactures laminated veneer lumber (LVL) at its plant in Riddle.

"We're certainly committed to our Oregon operation, and this is an exciting opportunity for the company to expand in a product line that has more demand than supply," said Eric Geyer, Roseburg's manager of business development and external affairs. LVL products can replace headers and beams made of solid lumber, and are largely used in housing construction.

Geyer added South Carolina has been very accommodating. "They have a friendly business environment and have worked with us very well to set up this new plant," he said. "We're excited to be here and see the company grow."

The new location will host Roseburg's second engineered wood plant, which will be slightly larger in capacity and the most technologically advanced plant of its kind in the world, according to Geyer. It will use a continuous press to manufacture the LVL products at a faster rate than the current press.

The company is beyond its capacity for its Riddle plant and about 40 percent of Roseburg's customer base is east of the Mississippi, so Geyer

said it was a logical step to expand to the east coast.

"This is an exciting strategic growth opportunity in a business that has done well for us," Grady Mulbery, Roseburg president and CEO said in a statement. "With the continued increase in housing starts in the southeastern U.S., we see ongoing demand growth for engineered wood products in the region and elsewhere. We are grateful to state and local officials in Chester for their hard work and collaborative efforts to facilitate this project."

**"We're excited to be here
and see the
company grow."**

Groundbreaking for the facility is expected in early 2018, and operations are expected to start in mid-2019 to provide 148 full-time jobs once completed. Rose-

burg will become the largest manufacturer of engineered wood products in the U.S. serving independent distributors without captive distribution.

"Expanding our manufacturing capacity in this way allows us to meet growing customer demand for a versatile product that combines the best of modern processing technology and structural capability," Steve Killgore, Roseburg's senior vice president of Solid Wood Business said in a statement.





OBISHIKOKAANG CERTIFIES TO SFI STANDARD TO ENHANCE FORESTRY OPERATIONS, SUSTAINABILITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Sep 11, 2017

OTTAWA, ON — The Sustainable Forestry Initiative Inc. (SFI) announced today that Obishikokaang Resources Corporation has certified more than 1 million hectares of the Lac Seul Forest in Northern Ontario to the SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard. Lac Seul First Nation, also known as Obishikokaang, is the oldest Reserve in the Sioux Lookout District. Lac Seul First Nation has over 800 members and is made up of the communities of Kejick Bay, Whitefish Bay and Frenchman's Head, all located on the shores of Lac Seul.

"Lac Seul and the surrounding forest have always provided for the economic and cultural well-being of the people of Obishikokaang. Certifying to SFI is part of our commitment to the kind of sustainable business practices that are designed to protect the environment and support economic growth. Band members are working as part of the management teams, supervising harvesting and playing an important role in forest regeneration," said Clifford Bull, Chief of Lac Seul First Nation.

The SFI Forest Management Standard respects Indigenous peoples' rights and traditional knowledge. This includes protecting spiritual, historical and cultural sites, and using non-timber forest products. Obishikokaang Resources Corporation also adopted the SFI Standard because of its ability to promote sustainable forest management by protecting water quality, biodiversity, wildlife habitat and species at risk. Enhancing the economic sustainability of the community by opening new markets was another key factor in the decision to choose SFI.

"Certifying a forest to SFI is an important way for Indigenous communities to assure their markets and the general public that the forestry they practice is sus-

tainable. It also helps Indigenous communities ensure our values and economic priorities are reflected in the management of those forests," said SFI Board member, David Walkem, Chief of the Cooks Ferry Band and President of Stuwix Resources Joint Venture.

Today, 28 Indigenous and tribal groups across Canada and the U.S. manage more than 3.1 million hectares of forest land, certified to SFI. Obishikokaang Resources Corporation is the second SFI certificate holder in Ontario.

SFI continues to deepen its partnerships with Indigenous people in Canada and the U.S. SFI and the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business have a Memorandum of Understanding to support the Progressive Aboriginal Relations certification program. The program promotes corporate social responsibility and Indigenous business and employment opportunities, especially for youth in forest communities.

SFI is also involved in a variety of other projects with Indigenous partners. To date, SFI has awarded nine grants across the U.S. and Canada to support and protect Indigenous values.

"We are extremely pleased to welcome Obishikokaang Resources Corporation to the SFI community. Indigenous values are reflected throughout our organization including in our governance structure, our grants program, and our partnerships. And having Indigenous land managers choose to certify to the SFI Forest Management Standard ensures that the Indigenous communities and forests they manage are always front and centre," said Andrew de Vries, Vice President of Conservation and Indigenous Relations at SFI.

Learn more: SFI Aboriginal and Tribal partners fact sheet.

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About the Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Inc.

SFI® Inc. is a sustainability leader that stands for future forests. We are an independent, non-profit organization that provides supply chain assurances, produces conservation outcomes, and supports education and community engagement. SFI works with the forest sector, brand owners, conservation groups, resource professionals, landowners, educators, local communities, Indigenous peoples, governments, and universities. SFI standards and on-product labels help consumers make responsible purchasing decisions. Additionally, we oversee the SFI Forest Partners® Program, which aims to increase supply of certified forest products, the SFI Conservation and Community Partnerships Grant Program, which funds research and community building, and Project Learning Tree®, which educates teachers and youth about forests and the environment. SFI Inc. is governed by an independent three-chamber board of directors representing environmental, social, and economic sectors equally. SFI believes caring for forests improves everyone's quality of life. Learn more: sfiprogram.org.

About Obishikokaang Resources Corporation

Obishikokaang Resources Corporation (ORC) was established in 2012, by Chief and Council to manage the Lac Seul Forest and to provide economic development opportunities for Lac Seul First Nation. Since then, Obishikokaang Resources Corporation has proven itself to be an effective and successful forest manager, working closely with all stakeholders in the forest. ORC has three strategic goals: maximizing economic development opportunities associated with managing the Lac Seul Forest; building capacity within the community to operate all aspects of the organization; and meeting and exceeding forest management obligations as outlined in the corporation's License and Forest Management Plan. Learn more: obishikokaangresources.com.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 23, 2017

STRUCTURLAM IS FIRST CANADIAN CROSS-LAMINATED TIMBER MANUFACTURER TO EARN SFI CHAIN-OF-CUSTODY CERTIFICATION

OTTAWA, ON — The Sustainable Forestry Initiative Inc. (SFI) announced today that Structurlam is the first Canadian manufacturer of cross-laminated timber (CLT) to be certified to the SFI 2015-2019 Chain-of-Custody Standard. Structurlam blends the expertise of wood science with the ingenuity of European fabrication to produce mass timber products including CLT, the next-generation of engineered wood products. Structurlam has manufactured CLT for six years and supplied the product to over 350 projects in North America. Extensively tested, the product has vast applications for construction.

“We are excited that Structurlam is the first CLT manufacturer in Canada to be certified to the SFI Chain of Custody Standard. A few months ago I had the opportunity to visit Structurlam’s site and was impressed with their commitment to sustainability and the innovation driving their product development. Many of Structurlam’s suppliers manage forestlands certified to SFI so it is great to know that Structurlam will continue to source and build with SFI certified materials,” said Kathy Abusow, President and CEO of SFI Inc.

Architects and builders choose wood because it looks great, has numerous environmental characteristics – including renewability – and it’s easy to work with. In addition, trees absorb carbon dioxide

from the atmosphere as they grow, sequestering and storing the carbon while producing oxygen which reduces greenhouse gases and improves air quality.

“Wood is the only renewable building resource we have. If we sustainably manage the forest then we’ll have unlimited materials to create beautiful buildings that can potentially last for generations,” said Bill Downing, President of Structurlam. “We’re looking forward to leveraging our SFI chain-of-custody certification to expand into new markets.”

Structurlam produces CLT at its Penticton facility in Southern BC’s Okanagan region. The company is part of a global movement to use wood in mid- and high-rise buildings. Advances in technology are producing more engineered-wood and mass timber products that increase the capabilities of building with wood.

A showcase project for Structurlam is the University of British Columbia’s Brock Commons. This 18-storey student residence stands 53 metres tall and is the tallest wood structure in the world. The mass timber structure was completed in just 66 days. Over 460 CrossLam® CLT panels were used during the building process along with over 1,300 Glulam columns, a structural timber product manufactured by gluing together individual pieces of lumber.

Structurlam will also be able to use chain-of-custody certification to position itself as a supplier in the green building market that is officially recognized by green building rating systems. Wood products sold as certified under the SFI Chain-of-Custody Standard allow CrossLam® CLT to earn Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) credits through the LEED Alternative Compli-

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ance Path or credits through the Green Globes Rating System.

Structurlam's products are also ideal for smaller projects. The Zangari Residence in Seattle used 67 prefabricated CrossLam® CLT panels, which were delivered and installed in 12 days. It was designed by Susan Jones for her family. She is Principal Architect at the architecture firm Atelierjones.

"When you walk inside a building that features wood you get a feeling of relaxation — the smell of the wood, wood on floors and ceilings, all very much integrated with nature. We wanted our home to be an example of how to build lightly with wood in a sustainable way in the city and still capture the fundamental connection with nature that people instinctively have," Jones said.

Jones will be a keynote speaker at the 2017 SFI Annual Conference in Ottawa Sep. 27-29. She will talk about the importance of well-managed forests for clean air and water, habitat for wildlife, commercially valuable products like wood, and sequestering and storing carbon. Jones supports sustainability by using cross-laminated timber in her architectural designs.

About the Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Inc.

The Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) is a sustainability leader that stands for future forests. SFI® is an independent, non-profit organization that works with countless individuals who share our commitment to healthy forests, responsible purchasing and sustainable communities. SFI oversees the SFI Conservation and Community Partnerships Grant Program and the SFI Forest Partners® Program, which brings landowners and brandowners together to provide supply chain assurances, including the use of forest certification standards. SFI works collaboratively with the forest sector, conservation groups, resource professionals, landowners, local communities, Indigenous Peoples, government agencies, universities, educators, and youth. Pro-

ject Learning Tree (PLT) became a program of SFI in 2017, bringing over forty years of experience in developing students' awareness, knowledge, and appreciation of the environment. SFI Inc. is governed by an independent three-chamber board of directors representing environmental, social and economic sectors equally. Forests affect us all. Caring for them improves our quality of life. Learn more at sfiprogram.org.

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About Structurlam

Structurlam is a provider of the most innovative and cost-effective structural laminated mass timber solutions. Structurlam's mass timber solutions cover the spectrum from simple beams and panels to the most complex and beautiful mass timber structures in the world. Their value-added production includes the best people and state-of the art technology coming together to create glue-laminated beams and cross-laminated panels showcasing premium British Columbian fibre. Using mass timber for both its strength and beauty, Structurlam works closely with customers to create complete solutions including connection design, engineering and installation. The company's world-class reputation is a result of more than 50 years of innovation and quality. For more information, please visit www.structurlam.com.

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U.S. Forest Service Gets Veteran as Its Head

August 29, 2017, Albany Democrat-Herald

Something unusual happened with the Trump administration, and you might have missed it, because it involved the U.S. Forest Service, a federal agency that makes big news around these parts but rarely is in the spotlight in Washington, D.C.

Here's the headline: The administration has appointed a new chief for the Forest Service who is, by all accounts, qualified to run the agency.

Tony Tooke, who has worked on or for national forests since he was 18, is the new head of the agency. He becomes the 18th chief of the Forest Service. Tooke replaces Tom Tidwell, who has been head of the Forest Service since 2009.

At the time of his appointment, Tooke was serving as the regional forester for the Southern Region of the Forest Service, based out of Atlanta.

But he's spent his adult life working in the Forest Service. Tooke's resume includes stints as associate deputy chief for the National Forest System, along with a variety of other postings at national forests, mostly in the South. Ideally, we would have liked to have seen a little more experience in the West, but that's just a quibble.

Here's the surprising thing about the Tooke appointment: Organizations that haven't had one good thing to say about the Trump administration, including some environmental organizations, are praising it.

Consider, for example, this statement from Susan Jane Brown of the Western Environmental Law Center, a group that (how to phrase this gently?) has not been thrilled with some of the administration's other appointments:

Brown notes that she has worked with Tooke for years on a variety of issues and has been impressed with his ability to "listen to diverse voices and bring them together for collective action," and she adds that he has "put that approach into action as an extremely effective regional forester."

Similar statements of support for Tooke's ap-



pointment came from The Wilderness Society and other organizations — again, groups that haven't spent much time praising the administration.

Of course, it isn't as if running the Forest Service these days is a cakewalk: The agency faces a variety of challenges on a number of fronts, and some recurring issues have become annual frustrations: For example, the agency has been pushing for years for a common-sense solution in how it pays for fire-fighting costs, but Congress has been unable to resolve the issue. In the meantime, the agency often must borrow from other budget areas to fully fund firefighting efforts.

And the agency faces continued challenges in finding the right balance to manage our national forests. It's an issue of vital importance to rural Western communities that have long relied on these federal lands for their livelihoods, but now find their access limited or completely cut off.

Tooke's appointment brings to the chief's chair a person who understands all those issues and has an intimate understanding of how the agency operates. And it's a little surprising coming from a Trump administration that seemingly has put a priority on finding outsiders to run important agencies. It could be that the president has little interest in the sorts of land-management issues that the Forest Service deals with. (Trump's rally last week in Phoenix was just his second trip west of the Mississippi River since his inauguration.)

Or it could be that the president and his Cabinet heads have reached the point where they have a newfound appreciation for people with valuable experience.

Whatever the reason, it's a good thing that Trump and Sonny Perdue, the head of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, didn't hand over the keys of the Forest Service to someone with no experience in the agency. To turn to that well-worn cliché, Tooke should be able to hit the ground running — and he's got a lot of ground to cover.





Driver Injuries on the Rise

JJ Lemire

On any given day, tractor trailer drivers face many challenges and hazards. Watch the evening news and you hear about rigs that are involved in rollovers, head on collisions, or other incidents that hurt or injure individuals. While these accidents get sensational news coverage, far more drivers are injured because they are in a hurry and make simple mistakes. These incidents involve slip, trips, and falls. They affect more drivers daily than the big ones that make the evening news. They happen anywhere such as at home, the deck or landing, or at the mill and they all involve the driver as they enter or exit his/her rig. Slips, trips and fall injuries remove valuable drivers from the job and sidelines them until a doctor releases them back to work.

Slips, Trips, and Falls: As drivers enter or exit the cab, 3-points of contact are required to prevent slips or falls off the steps. Look at the area you will step onto to make sure there is a solid surface.

Some of the injuries that have occurred are sprains and strains, bruises, contusions, lacerations, and fractures. The body parts injured from slips, trips and falls include knees, ankles, feet, wrist, elbow, hip, back and shoulders. Lately, the most frequent injuries we see are shoulder blades. The tears in the rotator cuff occur as drivers try to catch themselves from a fall or a missed step. Many simple actions are aggravated because of ice, rain, muddy boots or smoothed soled boots. But lately, many injuries have happened as they jump down without using 3-points of contact or they try to exit a cab with too many items in their hands. Jumping from the cab causes sprains or broken bones in feet or legs as you impact the hard surface. When you have too many items in your hands, it prevents the driver from using 3-points of contact. Remember, the 3-points of contact is defined as two hands and one foot or two feet and one hand.

Safety Tips for entering or exiting the tractor:

- Always check before exiting the cab - look before you step out to make sure there are no holes.
- Always stretch your legs before exiting after long drives to get the blood flow.
- Always make sure that the tractor's steps are cleaned and free of debris like ice, mud and snow.
- Always make sure the steps are firmly secured.
- Always make sure the mounting brackets are not broken or broken.
- Always face toward the tractor when exiting.
- Always use the hand rails and keep a firm grip on the grab bars.
- Always maintain three points of contact - two feet and one hand or two hands and one foot.

Take time to think about how you can safely enter or exit the truck. A few seconds of consideration to look at the steps and ground as well as using 3-points of contact will prevent the injuries we described. They are painful and will impact your quality of life and ability to get around. Don't become a statistic for us to write about for the next article.



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...BREAKING NEWS...

After months of hard work, we have launched our new website. Members will now have access to their SLC invoices 24/7 with a member login! Amongst the new features are the "find the nearest station" to my location feature, an approved national tires and parts dealers with location info, fill out an application on-line and other features that will assist in the improved communication with our members. The SLC's founding "Cost-Cutting Mission" continues!



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Mark Your Calendar

September 2017

- 19 – 22 Wood Magic Forest Fair, Hayden Conference Center & SC Botanical Gardens, Clemson University, Clemson, SC
27 TEAM Safe Trucking Meeting, Natchez Grand Hotel, Natchez, MS. For info, go to Team Safe Trucking website, www.teamsafetrucking.com
28 – 30 American Loggers Council Annual Meeting, Natchez Grand Hotel & Natchez Convention Center, Natchez, MS. For info, go to ALC website, www.amloggers.com

October 2017

- 11-12 TOP 2-Day Classes, Saluda Shoals Park, Columbia. Contact Guy Sabin at SC Forestry Association for Registration, 803-798-4170
26 SCTPA Board of Directors Meeting, SC Forestry Commission Headquarters, 10 a.m., Columbia
31 Happy Halloween... Booooo!

District meeting dates may be changed. Meeting notices will be mailed prior to scheduled meeting. Meeting dates will be posted on SCTPA website ... www.scloggers.com.

Need SFI Trained DVD Class or other training?

SCTPA can provide the New DVD Training Module for SFI Trained status. SCTPA is an approved DVD training class facilitator and will be scheduling classes during the year. Other training programs are available for safety, driver training, equipment lockout & tagout, hazardous materials spill control on logging sites and forestry aesthetics.

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

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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 statewide legislative activities, and aggressively promoting, supporting and conducting programs of state, regional and national advocacy.