



# TIMBER TALK

*Your Voice for South Carolina Timber Harvesting*

May/June 2014

## SC Sustainable Forestry Teachers' Tour Celebrating 15 Years Teaching The Teachers

*"Loggers are most definitely concerned with the natural environments they interact with."*

Lynne Hester, North Myrtle Beach Intermediate School

The 2014 SC Sustainable Forestry Teachers Tour marked the fifteenth year for the SC tour to educate teachers from around the Palmetto State about sustainable forestry, timber harvesting, public and private lands forest management practices and the forest products industry and so much more.

The first Teachers Tour was held in 1996 in cooperation with the Temperate Forest Foundation that offered regional tours around the country. With the urging of several folks like Dean Carson, Joe Young and others, SC developed its own tour that has been going strong since 1999. And the first SC Tour for the four days of visiting sites for hands-on learning was headquar-

tered out of Moncks Corner. Thus this year's tour was back there for the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary for June 23 – 26.

"Wow! I had no idea" was one of the most offered expressions from the teachers. Thirty-five teachers were on board for the tour and vis-

ited private and public forestlands, forest products industries, a timber harvesting operation and learned how our sustainable and renewable forest resources are being grown, managed, harvested, reforested, manufactured, managed for wildlife and witnessed the positive socio-economic-enviro impacts our forests provide the Palmetto State.



The four days of on site learning of what our industry offers South Carolina turned out to be an eye opening experience. This group was enthusiastic, full of questions and engaged right from the start. They came with

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some preconceived ideas about the industry, but departed with a deeper sense of appreciation, more facts and knowledge, and vastly improved attitudes about sustainable forestry, our timber harvesting and forestry professionals, forest products, forestry practices and how our industry conducts its business as stewards of our state's forest resources.

For three days the prior week at the Harbison Environmental Education Center, Columbia, the teachers learned the basics of forestry, such as how to measure trees, learned about the Sustainable Forestry Initiative, Best Management Practices, Endangered Species, Fire Ecology and other aspects related to sustainable forestry, the SC Forestry Commission and other agencies. They also participated in the Project Learning Tree activities.

They heard from speakers such as Cam Crawford and Guy Sabin, SC Forestry Association, SC Forestry Commission's Herb Nicholson for BMP's and even took a BMP walk through Harbison State Forest, State Forester Gene Kodama, National Wild Turkey Federation's Christine Rolka, SCFC's Brad Bramlett on fire ecology, US Forest Service's Rick Lint and others.

During the four-day tour the teachers traveled via motor coach to various sites to view first hand sustainable forestry, the forest products industry, the Sustainable Forestry Initiative®, private, commercial and public land management goals, professional timber harvesting, forest products, tree farming, wildlife and wildlife habitat management, paper and lumber manufacturing, engineered wood products manufacturing, environmental conservation, while enjoying the fellowship along the way. These teachers now realize and understand how important our industry is to the Palmetto State.

Accurate and scientific information about sustainable forestry was presented on the ground and in presentations, unlike the misinformation presented by those whose agenda is anti-forestry.

SCTPA is a proud SC Teachers Tour sponsor and participant. Thanks to all the cooperators who provided tour sites. KapStone's sawmill in Summerville, Georgia Pacific's Alcolu OSB mill, John Spearman's Tree Farm in Lane, EDF Dorchester bio-energy plant in Harleyville, US Forest Service in the Francis Marion National Forest, Resource Management Service lands outside Jamestown, Bay Area Forest Products, LLC and Low Country Forest Products, Inc. for timber harvesting site, and International Paper's Georgetown mill.

Thanks to all the wonderful tour sponsors and a host of forest products companies that made the teachers' experience so meaningful.

Thanks to SCFA's Guy Sabin, SCFC's Mike Shealy and Stephanie Kolok for administering the tour. Thanks to Dean Carson, retired from the SC Forestry Commission, for again being an important part to help arrange the tour logistics and meal sponsors. Guy, Mike and Stephanie were with the tour the entire time.

Crad Jaynes, SCTPA President, and Dean Carson visited the teachers the first week in the afternoon and spent the four days with the teachers visiting tour stops, answering questions and helping the teachers understand the real sustainable forestry story.

Monday's opening session for the four day segment began with Guy Sabin and Mike Shealy introducing the program and outlining the week's agenda.

Next Joe Young, Low Country Forest Products, Inc., Georgetown, talked about his fifty-four year career as a timber harvester and how the industry has changed to having professionals who are "business people" and not just "damn ole loggers."

Joe spoke about how timber harvesting had evolved from cutting and hand loading five-foot pulpwood onto short trucks to now being fully mechanized harvesting. He asked the teachers to honestly relate their perception of a logger and our industry. Of course the opinions varied. Some of the usual comments were heard like "uneducated," "dirty job," "unregulated," "unprofessional" and "hard working" which was not much of a shift from other comments.

He followed up by talking about how professional loggers are working in the Sustainable Forestry Initiative® in order to further the practice of sustainable forestry. He spoke of how the logging in-

dustry is made up of third and fourth generation family businesses such as his own with his daughter, grandson and son-in-law all being in the business. He spoke of the importance of our nation's rural resource providers such as loggers, farmers and ranchers are dwindling in numbers due to economics, regulations, reduced markets and age.

He spoke about how the industry has changed; he noted the improvements in harvesting equipment technologies and harvesting practices such as compliance

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*Joe Young speaks to teachers*

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with our state's Best Management Practices for timber harvesting.

Joe noted today's professional logger is a professional business-person first in the business of timber harvesting.

Crad spoke briefly to welcome the group and tell them about the tour week. The association provided each teacher with a personalized information folder with an honorary SCTPA timber harvester member certificate, SCTPA and ALC stickers and passed out association caps for their use on the tour. Now it was time to let the tour begin for real.

Monday afternoon was a tour of KapStone's Summerville sawmill.

KapStone did a great job with the sawmill presentation before the groups toured the mill. One of their foresters did a presentation explaining wood procurement.



*Kapstone Sawmill*

Then it was off to Old Santee Canal

Park in Moncks Corner for tours of the park and supper in the museum sponsored by the Edisto Chapter Society of American Foresters.

Tuesday started early as the tour headed to the Tree Farm of John Spearman near Lane. John did an excellent job of presenting how private tree farmers grow and manage their timber. Then it was off to Georgia Pacific's Oriented Strand Board mill in Alcolu. The mill was not active due to maintenance, but the teachers got to see the operations without all the heat and noise. They were amazed at the technology used in the control rooms and the processes. Thanks to GP for sponsoring lunch. Next stop was the EDF Dorchester Biomass plant in Harleyville where wood is used to produce renewable energy. Then it was off to Dorchester to tour the beautiful Brosnan Forest owned by Norfolk Southern Railroad. The foresters did a presentation on the management of Brosnan for wildlife, timber, Red Cockaded Woodpeckers and more. The group was given the vehicle tour of the forest. Brosnan and Norfolk Southern sponsored the evening's supper. Brosnan Forest is not open to the public as it is for Norfolk Southern's employees and meetings, but it is a real hidden gem in South Carolina.



*Joe explains delimber*

Wednesday began early as the tour headed to the Francis Marion National Forest to learn about public forestlands management. Then it was off to tour the forest owned by Resource Management Service which is a Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT). The group traveled the tract to see how RMS manages, reforest and harvest their timber tracts. Thanks to RMS's Joey Ferguson for a great job explaining RMS's sustainable management goals and how the company operated as a REIT.

Always the highlight, next stop was the timber harvesting operation of Greg Thompkins, Bay Area Forest Products, LLC, Georgetown who was thinning and chipping on a RMS tract.

Greg's operation demonstrated a first thinning using a feller buncher, grapple skidding and a whole tree chipping process. Low Country Forest Products' president Joe Young, and Greg's father-in-law, toured the teachers around the job describing every piece of logging and chipping equipment in an up close and personal way. The teachers even took the opportunity to



*Joe explains grapple skidder operation*

climb aboard the grapple skidder and feller buncher and see what it looks like from inside the operator's cab.

The teachers were amazed as the logging and chipping job cranked up to full production. Each teacher received a

bag of clean chips. The teachers were amazed at how mechanized the entire operation was. They were also amazed at how the tract was cared for while being harvested.

Joe talked about how loggers want to do a good job on the ground because it is a professional responsibility to sustain our forests and the environment. Thanks to

Greg and Bay Area Forest Products and Joe of Low Country Forest Products for an excellent stop.

Then it was to Low Country's office for lunch sponsored by Joe Young and Low Country Forest Products. IP's wood procurement manager Jim Bland spoke to the teachers after lunch and they viewed the Log

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*Lunch at Low Country Forest Products*

A Load For Kids video. Then off to the paper mill where they rode through the woodyard to see how trucks were unloaded for roundwood and chips

and how the wood is stored and processed. Then they toured the mill to see paper being made.

The evening sponsors reception and supper was held at Santee Cooper's Wampee Conference Center on the point on Lake Moultrie in Pinopolis. It was a great opportunity to meet and fellowship with guests and sponsors.

One of the highlights was when several teachers offered their thoughts regarding their experience and how their perceptions and knowledge had changed regarding our industry as well as thank the sponsors for their generous contributions.

Many mentioned they did not have any idea about the forest products industry and sustainable forestry prior to the tour. But now the teachers have new information to promote the facts about our industry. One overwhelming comment heard was, "Wow! I had no idea. My eyes are now open."

Thursday was wrap up day with Dean Carson discussing engineered wood products. He showed various products manufactured with this technology and described the many uses of each as well as some experimental products.

Crad made closing remarks emphasizing the importance of how each teacher is now a stakeholder in sustainable forestry. He talked about being an advocate for sustainable forestry and related personal stories about how being an advocate to oth-

ers is so important to convey the message, "we're not cutting all the trees."

He related personal stories and experiences where public perception and even a teacher's perception can be skewed



*Crad talks about sustainable forestry*

from receiving misleading information and the lack of the real knowledge and truths about our industry.

He went on to relate how knowledge, even teacher knowledge about sustainable forestry, timber harvesting and the forest products industry is often swayed in the wrong direction due to the misinformation distributed by environmental obstructionists.

He explained why he calls them "environmental obstructionists" because their agenda is not telling the truth about the real story of sustainable forestry. He said, "Professional loggers are environmentalists. Why wouldn't loggers be? Loggers want to sustain healthy forests because that's where loggers work. Loggers have a vested interest in our healthy forest resources and sustainable forestry just like landowners, foresters and the forest products companies do."

He asked the teachers if they had witnessed the passion our industry's people have for what they do whether it was growing and managing our forests, harvesting timber, or working at a manufacturing facility. They all agreed they had. It's the great passion to do what is right to sustain our renewable and sustainable forest resources that makes what our industry does a "sincere passion."

He thanked the teachers for taking the opportunity to learn about sustainable forestry, professional timber harvesting and the forest products industry so they would be more informed to educate their students with the correct information.

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*Sponsors Reception*



*Dean talks engineered wood products*

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Emphasizing that perception is reality for many people, what they see is what they believe without knowing the facts. Now each teacher has the knowledge and information, he challenged them to go forth, be advocates and preach the gospel of sustainable forestry, professional timber harvesting and the forest products industry.

Every teacher began the tour with individual ideas and perceptions about sustainable forestry, the forest products industry, timber harvesting, forest and land management and reforestation.

After witnessing the passion displayed by our industry's people about caring for our forest resources, the environment and the jobs each segment does, every teacher had a new found respect for our industry, our mission and its people.

The teachers were a great engaged group. They said they had no idea when they came. Now they have the real idea about what "we" are all about.

### Teacher Comments:

*The most enjoyable part of the Tour was learning about all the operations that are involved in harvesting the forest. Joey Mills, Cheraw High School*

*I learned that logging is not bad, it can help the forest and we need to teach others.*

Kelly Martens, Cape Romain Environmental Education Charter School

*Removal of trees is NOT negative! I will STOP showing the movie, "Ferngully"!*

Susan Fields, South Pointe High School

*Now I understand that the clear cuts that you often see on the road can really be good for the land.*

Susan Scott, Congaree Elementary



*Joe explains feller buncher operation.*



*Joe explains in-woods chipping operation.*



*Brosnan Forest*

***See More Photos on Pages 35 & 37***



## American Loggers Council

### Quarterly Report to the States April 1, 2014 – June 27, 2014

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

#### Executive Committee

The Executive Committee met in conjunction with the ALC Board of Directors in Washington, DC on April 5, 2014, to discuss ALC business as well as attend appointments to both Senate and House offices during the 3 day fly-in and Board meeting. The Executive Committee also held one conference call on May 6, 2014 to discuss progress since the visits in Washington.

#### Activities

During the April Fly-In and Spring Board meeting, members and sponsors of the ALC presented five main issues to lawmakers in Washington, DC and received favorable outcomes as a direct result of those meetings. The five issues; Federal Forests and the Farm Bill, Youth in Logging Careers, Biogenic Carbon Accounting, Truck Weights and NEPA reform were all met with considerable optimism during the visits. Within 30 days of the visits, both the House and Senate had written bills (H.R 4590 and S.2335) to address the Youth in Logging Careers Issue and Congressman Steve Southerland had indicated his willingness to move forward with truck weight language as well as tackle some of the NEPA issues. Well over 100 visits were made during the three day event and representatives from Caterpillar, John Deere and the Southern Loggers Cooperative participated with members of the ALC during the visits and meetings.

Also, the ALC was asked to submit written testimony on 4 bills at a hearing before the House Natural Resources Committee that related to accountability and transparency when dealing with litigation involving the Endangered Species Act to which we responded and had our written testimony submitted for the record during the hearing on April 8, 2014.

The ALC had submitted written comments on the SFI® Program revision process dealing with the de-minimis volume of wood that could be delivered to SFI program participating mills from untrained loggers as well as verbal comments on requiring one trained individual to be present on each job site. Both Danny Dructor and Bob Luoto participated in "Logger Forum" discussions in an attempt to clarify those comments and the desires of the membership of the ALC. Danny attended a face-to-face meeting with members of the SFI® Resources committee to further clarify those issues.

Danny made a presentation at the GLTPA spring meeting that included both loggers and mill representatives and reviewed the latest findings of the Wood Supply Research Institute report that detailed the need to support the logging industry and to act quickly if all sectors of the industry were to benefit from the improving economy.

Danny also set up a table at the Southeastern Wood Producers Association where he was joined by Bobby Goodson of "Swamp Logger" fame, to inform visitors on the activities and issues that the American Loggers Council were currently involved in.

During a visit to Atlanta, Georgia, Danny was able to visit with representatives from other countries to discuss some of the issues that are relevant to the logging industry in other parts of the world, including France, New Zealand and Russia. Of particular interest was the mutual feeling of loggers being "squeezed" from both ends of the supply chain with little emphasis on loggers being financially healthy during the slow economic recovery that is currently underway.

Work is well underway for the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting to be held in September in Escanaba, Michigan. Registration packets have been mailed out to all previ-

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ous attendees, advertisements have been sent to both Timber Harvesting Magazine and Loggers World Magazine, and all of the events and training sessions are currently being ironed out with vendors and participants.

The "logging careers" website is nearly complete and should be launched soon as a separate page on the ALC web site. This project has been a joint project between the ALC and the Forest Resources Association.

President Nelson has written three excellent "As We See It" editorials for the quarter which have been distributed to members and press as well as posted to the web site.

Richard Schwab has taken over as co-chair of the Biomass Committee as ALC Board member Ezell Castleberry has chosen to step down from that position.

#### **Membership**

The American Loggers Council continues to gain sponsorships through the generous contributions made by those that supply the industry. The ALC has now exceeded its sponsorship goal for 2014 by 31% and picked up new and potential sponsors throughout the quarter.

A planned visit to West Virginia working with the West Virginia Forestry Association did not materialize in the second quarter, but efforts are still underway to try and make the visit and to gauge the willingness of West Virginia logging contractors to become involved with the ALC.

While the Individual Logger Membership has not been the "huge" success we had hoped for, the ALC has more than doubled the number of Individual Logger Members now supporting the organization.

#### **Travel**

Travel in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter of 2014 included the April trip to Washington, DC for the Spring Board of Directors meeting and visits on Capitol Hill and federal agencies including the US Forest Service and the US Department of Transportation.

Danny traveled to Escanaba, Michigan in April to attend the Great Lakes Timber Professionals Association annual meeting and met with President Brian Nelson and his wife, Maureen to firm up commitments at the hotel and other venues for annual meeting activities scheduled for September.

Jim Geisinger attended the Federal Timber Purchasers Council meeting in May to discuss the Federal Timber Sale Program. Representatives from all regions of the U.S. Forest Service and industry representatives met to discuss means of streamlining operations and the utilization of new authorities to help expedite the timber sale program.

During the month of June, Danny attended a meeting of the Resources Committee for the Sustainable Forestry Board in Washington, DC, the annual meeting for the Southeastern Wood Producers Association in Jekyll Island, Florida, met with 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President Myles Anderson and his wife Stacie in Eureka, California to begin work on the 2015 Annual Meeting, and attended a presentation in Atlanta, Georgia hosted by Caterpillar announcing the launch of their D-series skidders.



## ***Timber Talk***

*Your Voice for South Carolina  
Timber Harvesting*

Contact Crad Jaynes at  
1-800-371-2240 or [bcjpaw@windstream.net](mailto:bcjpaw@windstream.net)



### Youth Careers In Logging



**A**re you concerned about the future of the timber industry? If not, you are most likely in the minority. Mill closures, mergers, high cost of raw materials, shortage of qualified operators, the constant barrage of government regulations, and the overall high cost of running a business today are just a few of the many hurdles that we all must navigate in order to stay afloat. While the American Loggers Council (ALC) can't solve all these issues, they are currently working on many of them and will continue to do so into the future.

When my term as ALC President started last fall, I listed a set of goals that I wanted to accomplish. The issue at the top of that list was to address the entrance of the next generation of timber harvesters into our industry. In order for this industry to survive, we must have a qualified and competent work force to not only operate equipment but to also take over the reins of running the business when the current owner decides to step away. This issue is one that the ALC has been working on for a number of years now and just started to gain some momentum with the introduction of H.R.4590 and S.2335.

**The Future Logging Careers Act - H.R.4590** was introduced by Rep. Labrador (R-ID ) while the **Youth Careers In Logging Act -S.2335** was introduced by Sen. Risch (R-ID) and Sen. Crapo (R-ID ). Both of these bills would amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 so that 16 and 17 year olds would be allowed to work in mechanized logging operations under parental supervision. Timber harvesting operations are similar to family farms - but with sophisticated and expensive harvesting equipment that requires young men and women to learn how to run the business, including equipment operation, maintenance and safety prior to the age of 18. However, young men and women in families who own and operate timber harvesting companies are denied the opportunity to work and learn the family trade until they reach adulthood. The potential next generation of professional timber harvesters are being denied the opportunity to make logging their career of choice until after they turn 18 because of outdated Child Labor Law Regulations while the agriculture industry is exempt from said regulations.

While much progress has been made in just the last

couple of months, there is still a lot of work to be done if we want to see these bills passed into law. A vast majority of bills introduced in Congress end up dying in committee, so it is critical that we all do our part to ensure that these bills are passed out of committee and eventually signed into law.

Regardless of whether you work as a logger, work in a mill, or work for a timber company this issue has the potential to affect the entire wood supply chain because as current loggers leave the business there needs to be a new generation coming in or eventually our industry will cease to exist.

H.R.4590 has been referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce while S.2335 has been referred to the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

**It is imperative that we contact directly as many House and Senate offices as possible and ask them to support the bill, so please pass this alert along to anyone who you feel is willing to respond, including other organizations and vendors who you do business with. We will need a majority in both the House and Senate to pass the bill once it comes to the floor for a vote!**

If you are unsure of who your congressional delegates are then please contact the ALC office or go to the ALC website to find their contact information. I urge everyone in the timber industry to either make a call or send an email to their respective Senate and House members to get them to support this very important issue to our industry. The more Senate and House members hear from us the more likely they will be to support this and the more of them that support this the better chance we have of moving it forward.

Until next time,  
LOG SAFE

Brian Nelson

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

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



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

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## **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

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

True Ax Logging, LLC, *Olar*  
Nole Boys Logging, LLC, *Jamestown*

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



### Social Hypocrisy



**D**o you know where the products you use and the food that you eat come from? Chances are good that if you live in rural America then you probably do. Unfortunately, the vast majority of Americans who live outside of rural America have no clue where the products they use come from, nor do they want to know, either out of ignorance or out of a sense of ideology that somehow they are protecting our planet.

Recently I saw a flyer in our local paper for a national pharmacy chain where they were advertising “tree free” products that they were now carrying. After seeing this flyer I couldn’t help but wonder how many other companies were catering to this “green movement” because it is the “in” thing to do. For many, the belief is that timber harvests lead to the destruction of the environment and our planet even though science has proven that sustainably managed timber harvests do the exact opposite because a well-managed forest is a healthy forest. Many times the science is irrelevant to these people as it is more of a cause to believe in than what is proven right or wrong.

We’ve all seen or heard of numerous examples - from animal rights activists who eat meat or wear leather to the tree huggers who use countless products that are derived from wood. The example that I find the most ironic are the movie stars or recording artists who use fame as an opportunity to get on their soap box to spout rhetoric on how they’re so concerned about global warming or the environment as they get aboard their private jets - or how they object to commercial timber harvesting and yet they build these multi-million dollar mansions.

Hypocrisy is the first word that comes to mind!

There will always be those that say one thing publicly and do just the opposite privately. Many of our elected officials have made a career out of doing just that over the years by catering to the votes. The problem is that these are the people that are making decisions or influencing the decision making process that affects the lives of all of us who work in natural resource related fields

or live in rural America. For every one of us who lives, works, or recreates in rural America, there are countless more that do not, yet they are making decisions that affect how we live or work because they have the numbers.

The farming community has overcome many of the same issues in the past by educating the public on what they do and why they do it. The public’s perception of a given industry may not always be positive or correct but it is powerful. If the timber industry is ever to be perceived for anything but what it is now, we must all do our part to educate the public and our elected officials on what we do and why we do it. Every person in this country uses products derived from wood in one fashion or another every day whether they care to admit it or not.

If we all made a concerted effort to educate those that either don’t like our industry or just don’t understand it then just maybe the next decision they make regarding it will be positive rather than negative.

Until Next Time  
LOG SAFE

Brian Nelson

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

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AMERICAN INCOME LIFE  
insurance company

## Active Member Benefits Update American Income Life Accidental Death & Dismemberment

For active dues paid SCTPA member Loggers and Wood Suppliers (Wood Dealers), you may have signed up for the **FREE** American Income Life Accidental Death & Dismemberment (AD&D) \$ 2,000 coverage for the business owner and may have extended the coverage to your employees to elect to be covered as well individually. This member program started August 2013. Our member program will be renewing as of August 1<sup>st</sup>.

American Income Life has notified SCTPA upon renewal, active business owners in the qualifying member categories, who enrolled in the past, and are still active dues paid members, will be provided an Accidental Death & Dismemberment policy with a new \$ 2,500 level benefit. Active dues paid member employees who elected to enroll in the program will remain at the \$ 2,000 benefit level.

The new increased benefit will remain **FREE** to active dues paid Logger and Wood Supplier members as well as the \$ 2,000 benefit level for employees of active dues paid qualifying members.

American Income Life will be sending an updated

Benefit Notification letter to active dues paid members in the two qualifying member categories that enrolled in the program initially after the renewal is finalized between SCTPA and American Income Life. This Benefit Notification letter will be based on the information in the SCTPA database.

The AD&D benefit is only available to active dues paid members in the qualifying categories of loggers and wood suppliers (i.e. wood dealers). If any participant in the American Income Life AD&D program is not an active dues paid member, then the benefit offered for the policyholder and any employees enrolled will not be effective nor in force by the policy.

This is a **FREE** Member Benefit Service from SCTPA. Please understand also, if you are enrolled in the program, American Income Life may contact enrollees to discuss further options and benefits offered by the company. Members are not obligated to discuss additional benefits as American Income life is simply following up to provide additional services.

Any questions, contact the SCTPA office.

### American Loggers Council Celebrating Twenty Years

The American Loggers Council (ALC) 20<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting will be held September 25 – 27, 2014 in Harris, Michigan at the Island Resort and Casino. Registration is now open.

ALC President Brian Nelson from Cornell, Michigan invites everyone to the meeting and to participate in the opportunity to meet professional timber harvesters from across the United States.

"This is not only an opportunity to network with other professionals in our industry, but also going to be a celebration of uniting timber harvesters over the past twenty years under the banner of ALC. We are pleased to see the event returning to Michigan where our first President, Earl St. John of Spalding, Michigan, served and led the organization during its formative years," Nelson states.

A new format is being introduced which will include an optional logging tour on September 25<sup>th</sup>, followed by technical and educational seminars on September 26<sup>th</sup>. Seminars on telematics, equipment fire suppression systems, Tier IV engines and business management will be offered.

Continuing Education (CE) credits will be made available for local contractors who wish to attend the Friday seminars with both Michigan and Wisconsin offering up to 4 hours of credit.

For a full meeting itinerary and registration and hotel information, visit the American Loggers Council website at [www.americanloggers.org](http://www.americanloggers.org) and look under "logger Events," or contact the ALC office by calling 409-625-0206 or email at [americanlogger@aol.com](mailto:americanlogger@aol.com)





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0206 Fax: 409-625-0207  
[www.americanloggers.org](http://www.americanloggers.org)

The Honorable Sean P. Duffy  
United States House of Representatives  
1208 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
May 29, 2014

Re: Support for the *"Strong Forests Grow Strong Communities Act of 2014"* – H.R. 4549

Dear Mr. Duffy:

The American Loggers Council who represents professional timber harvesters in 30 states across the U.S., stand in **support** of the *"Strong Forests Grow Strong Communities Act of 2014,"* H.R. 4549 that would allow individual states the opportunity to enter into agreements with the U.S. Forest Service when the U.S. Forest Service is not able to meet annual volume targets for timber harvesting when those targets are not being consistently met. Insects, disease and catastrophic wildfires have destroyed millions of acres of federal forest lands across the United States due to the bureaucratic obstacles that make it difficult to operate in a fiscally sound manner, let alone for the benefit of the long term health of our forests.

While our National Forests burn or are being destroyed by insects and disease, rural timber dependent communities are also being destroyed with unemployment rates still in the double digit range. Our infrastructure to harvest and process the timber is disappearing as a direct result of the inability of the U.S. Forest Service to meet their targets for timber sale volume. Products such as personal use firewood and non-commercial post and pole removals are included in the annual timber sale volume targets and can account for 40% or more of the targeted volume in some regions. We agree that removing these products from the U.S. Forest Service accounting method for meeting timber sale volumes is a step in the right direction as they do nothing to support a waning timber industry.

In Wisconsin, during the period from 2004 to 2012, in an eight county region covering some 669,000 acres of sustainably managed county owned forests, the counties generated \$72,313,718 of revenue over the nine year period with an average annual return of \$12.91 per acre. These funds were utilized to directly offset local tax levies enabling counties to provide essential services. By comparison, the U.S. Forest Service managed, during the same time period, 1,530,637 acres that generated \$55,445,084 of revenue with an annual return of \$3.62 per acre. The Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest harvests less than 50% of the Allowable Sale Quantity identified in its approved management plan.

In Wisconsin, money generated from timber sales does not remain with the state forests, but is put into a general forestry account for the State of Wisconsin. This account supports forest management activities such as fire control, nursery operations, forest health initiatives, and many others. In 2012, Wisconsin State Forests (nearly 527,000 acres) generated over \$6 million to support those activities.

The Washington State Department of Natural Resources manages approximately 2.1 million acres of forested state lands. These DNR managed lands raise millions of dollars each year to fund the construction of public schools, colleges, universities and other government institutions, as well as county and state services. Trust forests are managed sustainably and yield high per-board-foot prices. From 2000 to 2010 the DNR sold an average of 566.1 million board feet of timber per year. This produced average annual revenue of \$168.6 million. The average selling price per thousand board feet was \$308.

*(Continued on page 13)*

(Continued from page 12)

In contrast, in 2010, 129.2 million board feet was sold from the 9.3 million acres of USFS land in Washington. This generated revenue of \$650,947 or about \$5 per thousand board feet.

With just these two examples, **it is factually clear that management of timberlands by state entities is far more effective from both a land management view and a revenue-generating view.**

During a 2010 visit to Washington, DC, American Loggers Council representatives met with U.S. Forest Service Chief Tom Tidwell. We were told by the Chief "the Forest Service is not in the business to make money." We completely understand the philosophy behind that statement; the U.S. Forest Service is tasked under the Multiple Use Sustained Yield Act to provide goods and services benefiting the public at the possible expense of generating a profit. However, we respectfully submit that the apparent lack of regard for the generation of revenue for reinvestment for the health of our national forests will only ensure that the national forests

will become another economic burden to our economy.

We sincerely appreciate your keen interest in the sustainability of our federal forest lands and the need to properly manage those lands with all interests in mind. The timber dependent communities that can provide the skills and resources to manage these lands can turn our dead and dying National Forests into vibrant, resilient forests that will provide the aesthetic, economic, recreational and wildlife values for centuries to come.

Sincerely,



Daniel J. Dructor  
Executive Vice President



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## BIPARTISAN ANGER RAINS DOWN ON CWA PROPOSAL AT HOUSE HEARING

USDA Undersecretary Bonnie was grilled on June 18<sup>th</sup> by House Ag Committee members on the Interpretive Rule.

*Article by Tiffany Stecker  
E&E reporter  
June 19, 2014*

**H**ouse Republicans and Democrats voiced concerns to the Department of Agriculture's top environmental official today about an interpretive rule that they say is confusing, is risky and lacks input from the agriculture community.

The rule -- a result of a memorandum of understanding among USDA, U.S. EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers -- lists 56 conservation practices that growers and ranchers can undertake to avoid being regulated under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act that requires permits for discharges into streams, rivers and wetlands.

Speaking to the House Agriculture Subcommittee on Conservation, Energy and Forestry, USDA Undersecretary for Natural Resources and Environment Robert Bonnie said the rule would simply clarify which practices are exempt from permitting and add actions approved by USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service. The practices, which range from crop rotation to creating passages for animals to cross streams, would not be legally enforceable, he said.

"The April 3rd interpretive rule streamlines the regulatory landscape," he said. For example, North Carolina farmers who want to do a stream-channel restoration could do so without going through a notification or permitting.

"What we try to do is provide clarity that these 56 practices are exempt, so that landowners can move forward under the Clean Water Act without having to seek a permit," he said.

But lawmakers disagreed.

"It's not voluntary. You keep saying that, it's wrong," said Rep. Kurt Schrader (D-Ore.). "There's nothing voluntary about getting your butt sued."

Schrader called the rule a "nightmare" for farmers.

There was little support for the interpretive rule on either side of the aisle, as lawmakers said the process locked out input from those who would be affected.

"The farmers in my district do care a great deal about the environment," said Rep. Ann McLane Kuster (D-N.H.). "But I think the concerns of your hearing relate to the level of engagement in the process."

The rule is a complement to a proposed rule promulgated by EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers that would expand the definition of "waters of the United States," the surface water that is eligible for protection under the act. Bonnie limited his remarks to the interpretive rule specifically, not the larger proposal.

Instead of clarifying the Clean Water Act, the proposal imposes a "new set of government regulatory standards that farmers and ranchers must now meet," said subcommittee Chairman Glenn Thompson (R-Pa.).

Rep. Collin Peterson (D-Minn.), ranking member of the full Agriculture Committee, expressed concerns that there would not be consistency in implementing the rule between states.

"The [Army] Corps in Omaha has a whole different perspective than the corps in St. Paul," he said.

Bonnie responded that NRCS would make a "commitment" to consistency.

Rep. Bob Gibbs (R-Ohio) said the rule could backfire and remove farmer incentives to implement good stewardship practices. "I think we could have less conservation activities on farms because farmers won't want to do anything," he said.

Some members called for the agencies to repeal the rule and start from scratch, this time with more input from growers and ranchers.

"We have an old saying in the South, if it ain't broke, don't fix it," said Rep. Mike McIntyre (D-N.C.). "I would want you to think about withdrawing the interpretive rule, because it's not adding any additional quality, and the requirements can otherwise legally be met."



# U.S. DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF OREGON

## Judge Keeps Logging Road Suit Alive

A lawsuit over Clean Water Act permits for logging roads will be allowed to proceed for at least several more months. A judge has kept alive a lawsuit that alleges some logging roads are subject to Clean Water Act permits.

At an April 29 hearing, U.S. District judge Anna Brown denied a motion to dismiss the case, which was the subject of a U.S. Supreme court ruling last year.

The nation's highest court held that runoff from logging roads isn't associated with industrial activity and thus doesn't require Clean Water Act permits. That ruling reversed an opinion by the 9<sup>th</sup> U.S. circuit Court of Appeals, which held that logging roads are subject to such regulation.

The timber industry feared that the permits would create a massively expensive new regulatory burden.

The Northwest Environmental Defense Center, which filed the case, argues that certain claims in the lawsuit have survived the Supreme Court ruling. The plaintiff claims that rock crushing, gravel washing, log sorting and log storage facilities are not exempt from the Clean Water Act.

The interpretation of the law was established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and upheld by the Supreme Court, the environmental group said. The environmental group believes it should be able to proceed with the lawsuit on narrower grounds: logging roads that provide immediate access to such facilities are subject to Clean Water Act permits.

"NEDC is not creating new allegations out of whole cloth," said Paul Kampmeier, attorney for the plaintiff.

The Supreme court had the authority to simply close the case, but instead opted to send it back to the lower courts, he said. The implication is that the ruling was meant to narrow the scope of the litigation without ending it altogether, Kampmeier said.

The State of Oregon and several timber companies, the defendants in the case, argued there was nothing left to litigate.

The issue of logging roads providing immediate access to regulated facilities wasn't mentioned in the environmental group's complaint or its notice-of-intent-to-sue letter, said Per Ramfjord, attorney for the timber companies. If the NEDC had made such allegations, the defendants could have looked at a map of their facilities and prepared a defense accordingly, he said. "That wasn't what this case was about," Ramfjord said.

Judge Brown appeared skeptical of the environmental group's contentions during the oral arguments, at one point calling one of its legal theories a "non-starter."

However, she said the plaintiff deserves the chance to propose an amended complaint in the case, which the court could then accept or reject.

Her ruling sets the stage for at least another several months of litigation. The parties will have until mid-July to submit new court documents and another oral argument has been scheduled for August 14.

*Reprinted from capitalpress.com*

The nation's highest court held that runoff from logging roads isn't associated with industrial activity and thus doesn't require Clean Water Act permits.



By Eddie Campbell  
Forestry Mutual Insurance Company Newsletter,  
July 2014

During Forestry Mutual's training sessions, when we talk about insurance coverage we always say; "If you have claims, your insurance cost will go up." Since this fact is the critical part of loss control, we base our safety training on preventing claims in the first place. Eliminate risk. Eliminate the claim.

However, there are other factors to consider in lowering your insurance premium in several instances. With your personal auto coverage for example, when you get points on your license, it usually means your premiums will go up. This same principal applies to your commercial coverage as well.

The primary factor in your commercial auto liability rate is your loss history. When we submit a request to an insurance carrier for a quote, we have to send a variety of information, including a Motor Vehicle Record (MVR) for each driver.

The underwriter will review the contents of each MVR to determine if the driver meets the guidelines as an acceptable driver. Depending on the items listed on the MVR, the underwriter can apply additional credits to your auto rate. However, if the MVR raises concerns with the underwriter, it can make your rate higher. Let's look at what some of these issues may be.

If your drivers' MVR's list citations for vehicle equipment violations, such as worn tires or brakes, it may be flagged by the underwriter. It can be interpreted as a lack of maintenance by the owner. Additionally, if the driver of a poorly maintained vehicle is required to make an evasive move in a driving incident, it is more likely an accident will occur than if the vehicle was properly equipped and maintained. These indicators can make your insurance premium higher.

The use of pre-trip inspection of all vehicles in

## Reducing Insurance Cost with MVR's

your fleet may catch equipment problems before you are cited and fined for it. Written maintenance records help track the vehicle maintenance history and keep repairs up-to-date. They also act as documentation if you ever have to prove whether you have completed required maintenance on the vehicle.

The MVR also demonstrates a driver's tendencies. Do your drivers have clean records? Or are they just barely acceptable to your insurance carrier? This definitely has an impact on any credits you may get on your liability rate.

You should do routine MVR checks on drivers during the year – not just at renewal of your insurance. A driver may have been cited on a violation that will make him an unacceptable driver at renewal. You will know this before renewal and have time to replace the driver if needed.

There are groups that can provide the MVR's to you, or you might make arrangements with your agent to obtain these records, if you have the proper release from the driver.

The MVR is a major tool used by insurance underwriters to determine the kind of risk that they are assuming. It shows them both the owner's and drivers' attitudes toward safety.

If you need assistance with this or other problems you encounter, contact Forestry Mutual or your local agent.

**SCTPA Comments:** SCTPA proudly endorses Forestry Mutual Insurance Company, Raleigh, NC, as the association's endorsed Workers Compensation & Employers Liability insurance carrier and proudly endorses Swamp Fox Agency, Inc., Pinopolis, SC, as the association's agency administering the SCTPA Property & Casualty Insurance program.





For media Inquiries Contact:

Danny Dructor  
American Loggers Council  
Phone: 409-625-0206  
E-mail: [americanlogger@aol.com](mailto:americanlogger@aol.com)

FOR RELEASE May 8, 2013

## **Congressman Labrador Introduces H.R. 4590 The Future Logging Careers Act**

*Ensures the next generation of mechanical timber harvesting businesses*

On May 7, 2014, Congressman Raul Labrador (R-ID) introduced H.R. 4590, the Future Logging Careers Act in the United States House of Representatives. The Bill would help to ensure that the 16 and 17 year old sons and daughters of family-owned timber harvesting businesses are able to begin following in the footsteps of their parents by amending the Fair Labor Standards Act to allow for the exemption.

Like farming and ranching, the timber harvesting profession is often a family run business where the practice and techniques of harvesting and transporting forest products to receiving mills is passed down from generation to generation. Timber harvesting operations are similar to family farms with sophisticated and expensive harvesting equipment that requires young men and women to learn how to run the business, including equipment operation and maintenance, prior to the age of eighteen.

The amendment would only apply to those sixteen and seventeen year old children who would be working under the direct supervision of their parent or by a person standing in place of their parent in a logging or mechanized operation owned or operated by such parent or person. The bill excludes the manual use of chain saws for felling and processing timber as well as operating cable skidders, which are not considered operations in a mechanized timber harvesting operation.

Members of the American Loggers Council support H.R. 4590 and are urging members of Congress to support the legislation to ensure the long term health of the logging industry and support the entrance of youth into this vital economic sector of our country.

### **About American Loggers Council**

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



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## ALC Washington Report – June 27, 2014

### Senators Call for Wildfire Funding Reform Vote

On June 26, fourteen Senators wrote a letter to Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) and Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) asking for support in bringing S. 1875, the “Wildfire Disaster Funding Act” to a full vote before the Senate and to include it in any upcoming appropriate legislative vehicle. Included in those signing were the bill’s lead sponsors Senators Ron Wyden (D-OR) and Mike Crapo (R-ID).

In the letter the Senators stated, “This bill would end the dysfunctional and destructive approach towards funding wildfire fighting. The current cycle of underfunding, and even raiding programs used for critical forest restoration and wildfire prevention work results in having to spend even greater amounts fighting ever larger and more severe wildfires.”

The Senators further outlined the tremendous support for the bill including bipartisan support in the Senate and House, the Administration, and the endorsement of over 200 organizations including the Western Governors’ Association, the Nature Conservancy, the Federal Forest Resource Coalition, the National Rifle Association, and the National Association of State Foresters. ALC has also endorsed the legislation.

Currently, wildfire funding is budgeted using a 10-year average of the costs of wildfires. The actual costs of wildfire suppression efforts have exceeded the appropriated dollars 8 out of the last 10 years and recently in FY12 and FY13 the Forest Service had to transfer \$440 million and \$505 million respectively from other accounts to pay for fire suppression. Over the last 12 years, a total of \$3.2 billion was shifted from other programs.

### U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Extends Decision Deadline for Final ESA Listing Decision on the Northern Long-eared Bat as Endangered

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will extend for six months the deadline on its decision whether to list the northern long-eared bat as endangered under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), providing additional time to resolve questions received during the public comment period regarding the species’ population and white-nose syndrome, a disease that has killed millions of bats and poses the greatest threat to this species.

The Service proposed to list the bat as endangered on October 2, 2013, with final decision due within 12 months. The Service received comments on the proposal that questioned how quickly the disease might spread to unaffected areas and how the disease will impact northern long-eared bat populations in unaffected or recently affected areas. As a result of the six-month extension, the Service will make its final determination by April 2, 2015.

As part of the six-month extension, the Service is re-opening the public comment period on the listing proposal for 60 days and seeks input from states, tribes, federal agencies and other stakeholders about the status of the northern long-eared bat and the impacts of white-nose syndrome on the species. Previous comments need not be resubmitted.

The rule extending the deadline will publish soon in the Federal Register, at which time the 60-day comment period will begin. For information about the proposal to list the northern long-eared bat, the six-month extension and how to comment, visit <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/mammals/nlba/index.html>

### Waters of the U.S.

The US EPA extended the comment period for the proposed “waters of the U.S.” rule until Oct. 20. You can see the rule and EPA’s interpretation of it at this website:

<http://www2.epa.gov/uswaters/definition-waters-united-states-under-clean-water-act>

The ALC has signed on to a letter of support drafted by the Waters Advocacy Coalition, a broad, inter-industry coalition who are seeking to force EPA back

*(Continued on page 23)*



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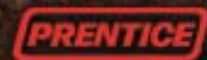
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(Continued from page 21)

to the drawing board to develop a set of wetlands rules that actually reflect the Supreme Court's decisions which limited Federal jurisdiction.

### **Senate Appropriations Committee Votes to Suspend HOS "Restart" Rule, Pending Study**

In a significant victory for safe and efficient trucking, on June 5, the full Senate Appropriations Committee voted 21-9 to suspend funding to enforce the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's new Hours Of Service "restart" provision, pending results of a one-year study to validate FMCSA's basis for that provision. That provision has been widely criticized for creating logistical difficulties for drivers, trucking firms, and shippers by setting impractical and rigid driver rest period and off-duty rules.

Seven Democrats on the Committee joined all of its Republicans in supporting Senator Susan Collins's (R-Maine) amendment to suspend funding for the "restart" provision, in spite of vocal opposition (and misrepresentation of the amendment's provisions) from the rail interest and from so-called safety groups.

The Committee's action: would suspend the requirement that a driver's 34-hour rest period between on-

duty periods overlap two consecutive 1:00 AM – 5:00 AM periods before a driver's work-week could "restart"; would restore the restart rules in effect before July 1, 2013, from the date of the final bill's enactment "until the later of September 30, 2015, or upon submission of the final report issued by the Secretary under this section"; must now go to a vote on the Senate floor and be reconciled with House action. The House has indicated that it will accept the Senate's provisions on this issue. Although the schedule for final floor action is undetermined, a final bill may reach the President's desk as soon as August.

### **Supreme Court Strikes Down EPA's Greenhouse Gas Tailoring Rule**

In a stunning blow to EPA, the US Supreme Court held that a source cannot trigger PSD or Title V permitting based exclusively on its greenhouse gas emissions. On the other hand, the Supreme Court endorsed the idea that if a source triggers PSD permitting for another pollutant, EPA can require the source to undergo a Best Available Control Technology determination for greenhouse gases--although rulemaking may be necessary to do so. This decision will have a significant impact on industrial source permitting.

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# MULTI-INDUSTRY LETTER IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 4456

## SMALL BUSINESS TAX RELIEF ACT

June 9, 2014

The Honorable Pat Tiberi The Honorable Ron Kind  
U.S. House of Representatives U.S. House of Representatives  
106 Cannon House Office Building 1502 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515 Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representatives Tiberi and Kind:

The undersigned organizations, representing millions of businesses from every state and from every industry sector, are writing in strong support of H.R. 4457, the *America's Small Business Tax Relief Act of 2014*. This vital legislation would restore the small business expensing—sometimes called Section 179 expensing—level to \$500,000, including limited improvements to real property and permanently index the level to inflation.

Small business expensing allows business owners to immediately deduct the cost of a qualified investment in the year that it is purchased, rather than being forced to depreciate the cost of the investment over time. Since 2003, Congress has steadily increased the amount of investment that small businesses can expense from \$25,000 to \$500,000. Support for this expansion has been long-standing, bipartisan and widespread. Legislation expanding and/or extending small business expensing has been enacted eight times, across two Presidential Administrations and six Congresses, under both Democratic and Republican leadership. These higher expensing limits were temporary, however, and beginning in 2014 they reverted to \$25,000 and will remain there unless Congress acts.

While expensing provides important relief to small business owners, it is not a “tax cut” or a “tax loophole.” Small business expensing simply gives companies the ability to recover the cost of investing in their own businesses more quickly than if they use depreciation. Expensing does not lead to a loss of revenue to the government over the lifetime of an investment—it is not a matter of *if* revenue is collected, but *when*. Additionally, small business expensing is available to *all* small businesses that purchase less than a specified amount of equipment each year.

Small business expensing gives business owners the ability to maximize investment in their companies during years when they have positive cash flow. This provides an incentive for small business owners to reinvest in their businesses, which fuels expansion, growth and jobs. This is particularly important for small businesses because they are more sensitive than larger firms to problems related to cash flow and are more reliant on earnings to finance new investment.

Additionally, small business expensing simplifies record-keeping and paperwork. Under standard depreciation, small business owners must keep records of, and file tax paperwork associated with, eligible investments for up to 39 years. According to a 2007 Internal Revenue Service (IRS) study, each small business devotes, on average, about 240 hours complying with the tax code, and spends over \$2,000 in tax compliance costs each year. An overwhelming share of the time burden is due to record-keeping. Furthermore, high tax compliance costs consistently rank as a top concern of small business owners, and act as a drag on investment, growth and innovation. Small business expensing, as the Joint Committee on Taxation (JCT) notes, reduces the compliance burden for many taxpayers, freeing up time and resources to better devote to their businesses. The roller-coaster, ad-hoc changes in the level of small business expensing, which have often been enacted retroactively in recent years, has greatly contributed to uncertainty and prevented long-term planning. Making the higher small business expensing limits permanent and predictable would greatly reduce uncertainty and reduce the incidence of tax policy driving business decisions. Passage of legislation permanently maintaining small business expensing at \$500,000 will increase investment and jobs, reduce complexity and paperwork and alleviate uncertainty. These are critical issues for small businesses, which continue to experience a challenging business climate in the face of a stagnant economic recovery. We thank you for introducing H.R. 4457, the *America's Small Business Tax Relief Act of 2014* and urge all Members of Congress to support this important legislation.

Sincerely,

(Continued on page 25)

*(Continued from page 24)*

Academy of General Dentistry  
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Aeronautical Repair Station Association  
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American Sugarbeet Growers Association  
American Supply Association  
American Truck Dealers  
Americans for Tax Reform  
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Arizona Small Business Association  
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Associated Builders and Contractors - Greater Tennessee Chapter  
Associated Builders and Contractors Florida East Coast Chapter  
Associated Builders and Contractors, Rocky Mountain Chapter  
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Associated Oregon Loggers, Inc.  
Association of Equipment Manufacturers  
Association of Pool & Spa Professionals  
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Auto Care Association  
Aviation Suppliers Association  
California Farm Bureau Federation  
Carolinas Food Industry Council  
CCIM Institute  
Chamber of Commerce Southern New Jersey  
Clean Water Construction Coalition  
Colorado Wyoming Petroleum Marketers Association  
Construction Industry Round Table  
Cotton Warehouse Association of America  
Delaware Retail Council  
Delaware State Chamber of Commerce  
Foodservice Equipment Distributors Association  
Great Lakes Timber Professionals Association  
Hearth, Patio & Barbecue Association  
Heating, Air-Conditioning and Refrigeration Distributors Inter-  
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Independent Electrical Contractors  
Indiana Chamber of Commerce  
Indiana Manufacturers Association  
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International Dairy Foods Association  
International Franchise Association  
International Warehouse Logistics Association  
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Metals Service Center Institute  
Michigan Association of Timbermen  
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National Fastener Distributors Association  
National Federation of Independent Business  
National Funeral Directors Association  
National Golf Course Owners Association  
National Grocers Association  
National Lumber and Building Material Dealers Association  
National Marine Distributors Association  
National Multifamily Housing Council  
National Pork Producers Council  
National Potato Council  
National Propane Gas Association  
National Restaurant Association  
National Retail Federation  
National Roofing Contractors Association  
National Small Business Association  
National Sorghum Producers  
National Stone, Sand and Gravel Association  
National Utility Contractors Association (NUCA)  
NATSO, Representing America's Truckstops and Travel Plazas  
New Jersey Business & Industry Association

*(Continued on page 27)*

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(Continued from page 25)

Non-Ferrous Founders' Society  
North Carolina Retail Merchants Association  
North Country Chamber of Commerce  
North-American Association of Uniform Manufacturers & Distributors  
Northern Arizona Loggers Association  
NPES The Association for Suppliers of Printing, Publishing and Converting Technologies  
NTEA – The Association for the Work Truck Industry  
Ohio Grocers Association  
Outdoor Power Equipment and Engine Service Association  
Pacific-West Fastener Association  
Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry  
Petroleum Marketers & Convenience Stores of Iowa  
Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association of Kansas  
Petroleum Marketers Association of America  
Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors—National Association  
Printing Industries of America  
Professional Logging Contractors of Maine.  
S Corporation Association  
SC Timber Producers Association  
Selected Independent Funeral Homes  
Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council  
Small Business Legislative Counsel  
Society of American Florists  
South Carolina Retail Association

SouthWestern Association  
Specialty Equipment Market Association  
SPI: The Plastics Industry Trade Association  
Tennessee Hospitality & Tourism Association  
Textile Care Allied Trades Association  
The Outdoor Power Equipment and Engine Service Association (OPEESA)  
Tire Industry Association  
Truck Renting and Leasing Association  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce  
United Egg Producers  
United Producers, Inc.  
USA Rice Federation  
Utility & Transportation Contractors Association of New Jersey  
Western Growers Association  
Western United Dairymen  
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**803-920-6929**

**Donnie@PSIAgency.com**

## **SAFETY ALERT**

### **TRUCK DRIVERS – Distracted Driving**

By Greg Plumley, Forestry Mutual Insurance Company

**W**e can't truly multi-task. Our brains juggle tasks, performing only one task at a time. We screen out information to deal with distraction overload which leads to "Inattention blindness." This is a big risk: we look but don't always see crucial things when we are distracted while driving. Sometimes the results are not too severe: we miss an exit, run a red light or stop sign, miss an important sign or even forgetting where you are going. Unfortunately, this behavior can have deadly results; crashes are highly likely, resulting in thousands of unnecessary injuries and deaths.

**Background:** The "National Safety Council" tracks vehicle crashes across our great Nation and has released some staggering facts:

- 1.6 million crashes per year can be attributed to cell phone talking and texting while driving.
- Every time you text and drive, you are 26 times more likely to be involved in a serious crash, which includes; reaching for device, dialing & talking and listening.
- Having your eyes off the road an average of 4-6 seconds when driving and texting is like having your eyes closed the equivalent length of a football field.
- 1 in 5 drivers confessed to surfing the web while driving, this includes Twitter, Facebook & GPS.
- Inexperienced drivers tend to speed and follow the vehicle in front of them too closely. This is a dangerous mix, especially when distracted by texting and driving.
- About 6 times more likely to cause an accident than driving intoxicated.
- The same as driving after 4 beers.
- Takes place by 800,000 drivers at any given time across the country.
- Slows your brake reaction speed by 18%.



Employers must make their employees aware of the dangers of distracted driving. Driving requires your full attention. There are 3 forms of distraction:

- Manual / Physical (hands leaving the steering wheel)
- Visual (eyes off the road)
- Cognitive (mind off the road)

Be aware- Texting involves all three of these distractions. **DO NOT TEXT AND DRIVE!!!!**

Truck drivers are the most unsupervised employee in a workforce. Know the laws in your state and have a company "cell phone use policy" in place. Where policies allow, Bluetooth is the only recommended device if talking is necessary. Step up and protect your employees and your property.

- Provide safety rules, review policies and laws
- Relay your company expectation's - this is the most important communication you can have to protect your employee's, company's assets and reputation
- Do not allow a truck driver to hit the road without this knowledge. By the way, your company's name on the truck should concern you enough to make sure you have the right truck driver driving your truck, you get what you accept.

For additional information on Distracted Driving, visit their website at [www.nsc.org](http://www.nsc.org) Safety on the Road – Distracted Driving.

**\$AFETY PAYS\$**

## **SAFETY MEETING** **CHIPPERS & GRINDERS**

Provided by  
Forestry Mutual Insurance Company

**Introduction:** Recently, BIO MASS has become a main stay of the forest product industry. Opportunities have come that allow loggers to increase production by adding in-woods chippers and grinders. Along with the increase use of these machines at the job site, has come an increase in severe injuries. Improper Lockout / Tagout procedures are the contributing factor in all cases.

Each incident was preventable. It does not matter if the chipper or hog is in a mill or the woods, they maim or kill you if you do not follow proper procedures before servicing.

**Background:** Most often, injuries occur when employees failed to allow all moving parts to completely stop. On several occasions, severe lacerations, broken legs

and facial bones, as well as amputations were the result of employees not heeding safety rules or following lockout procedures.

Maintenance personnel did not allow enough time for the chipper wheel that holds the blades to stop rotating before opening doors to perform maintenance. Opening doors and removing guards before all parts are at a "Zero-Energy State" will hurt or even kill the operators. During our investigations, employees seemed unaware or were improperly trained on the hazard(s) associated with machinery coast

down time. One employee lost an arm and a leg because hydraulic pressure on the rollers had not been bled off.



### **What must an employee know:**

Employers are required to develop, document, and implement **machine specific Lockout /**

**Tagout procedures** for their equipment. Procedures must include all energy source(s) that may be a hazard or encountered during maintenance operations. Some

*(Continued on page 30)*

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(Continued from page 29)

of the most overlooked energy sources are air, hydraulics, and machinery **COAST DOWN TIME** for rotating or moving parts.

Training employees on Lockout / Tagout procedures is an OSHA requirement that ensures the safety of all employees. Educate them on the hazards (machinery coast down, electrical circuits, hydraulic and pneumatic systems, spring energy, gravity systems, or any other) associated with equipment and machinery. Some Lockout / Tagout guidelines that should be included in your program are:

#### **Neutralize Energy Source(s)**

Disconnect electricity. Block movable parts. Release or block spring energy. Drain or bleed hydraulic and pneumatic lines. Lower suspended parts to rest positions. Allow machinery coast down time for parts rotation.

#### **Lockout Devices**

Use only locks, hasps, and covers identified for lockout purposes. Each authorized worker must have a singularly identified lock.

#### **Tagout Power Sources**

Tag machine controls, pressure lines, starter switches and suspended parts. Tags should include your name, department, how to reach to you, the date and time of tagging and reason for the lockout.

#### **Verify Equipment Isolation**

Check that all workers are clear. Ensure locking devices are securely placed. Attempt normal start-up procedures. Return controls to the off or neutral position.

#### **Releasing Machinery From LOTO (LockOut / TagOut)**

Inspect the area and equipment. Replace machine guards. Account for all tools and place them back into toolbox. Inform affected employees of machine start-up. Restore system connections.

#### **\$AFETY PAY\$**



May 20, 2014



## **SFI® and U.S. Endowment to Support Heritage of African American Landowners through Sustainable Forestry**

Laguna Niguel, CA - The Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Inc. (SFI) announced today at Fortune Brainstorm Green that the U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities (Endowment) is a recipient of a 2014 SFI Conservation and Community Partnership Grant to support African American forestland owners.

Loss of ownership and asset value by African American forestland owners in the U.S. South has reached a critical level and traditional approaches to engaging them on forestland preservation have fallen short. According to Dr. Shorna R. Broussard, PhD, of Cornell University, unlike their counterparts across the country, land loss rates by African-American landowners is as much as 30% greater. She also notes that "Nationally, approximately 144,000 African-Americans own 1.9 million acres of forestland and that ownership is concentrated in the southern United States." [i] In order to mitigate this loss, the Endowment, USDA Forest Service and Natural Resources Conservation Service have established pilot projects in Alabama, North Carolina and South Carolina to assist landowners in working with trusted partners within their own communities. The SFI grant will help extend that work through emphasizing the potential of certification to open additional market opportunities.

Through the SFI grant, the Endowment will deepen its work with partners including the Center for Heirs

(Continued on page 31)

(Continued from page 30)

Property Preservation, Limited Resource Landowner Education and Assistance Network (LRLEAN), Roanoke Center of Roanoke Electrical Coop and the Federation of Southern Cooperatives/Land Assistance Fund to provide the right tools and information at the local level to connect landowners with community resources. The Endowment also hopes to capitalize on the opportunity to raise awareness and develop conservation options that benefit these landowners now, and for future generations.

"We want to see the rich heritage of African American land ownership in the South thrive," said Kathy Abu-sow, President and CEO of SFI Inc. at Fortune Brainstorm Green. "By collaborating with the Endowment, SFI can leverage the influence of our partners and supporters to provide the necessary guidance and information for landowners to maintain the legacy and benefits of their ownership for years to come."

The Endowment and SFI aim to emphasize the importance of sustainable forestry and certification in maintaining all of the values that forests can offer such as clean air, water and biodiversity.

"By enhancing collaboration at the local level, we have an opportunity to work together in support of African American landowners," said Carlton Owen, President and CEO of the Endowment. "We welcome SFI's support and participation and look forward to building relationships with existing networks to promote sustainable forestry and ensure ongoing legacies in this region."

The SFI Conservation and Community Partnerships Grant Program fosters partnerships between organizations interested in improving forest management in the United States and Canada, and responsible procurement globally. Projects address topics of current importance such as improving wildlife habitat management and conservation of biodiversity, protection of watersheds and critical flyways for migrating birds, and assisting local communities through forest education programs and green building projects for low-income families.

Since 2010, SFI has awarded more than 50 SFI Conservation and Community Partnership grants totaling more than \$1.9 million to foster research and pilot efforts to better inform future decisions about our forests. When

leveraged with project partner contributions, that total investment exceeds \$7.1 million.

For more information, please visit <http://www.sfiprogram.org/community-conservation/conservation-community-partnerships-grant-program/>.

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[i] "Minority Landowners and Forestry", Dr. Shorna R. Broussard, PhD., Associate Professor, Department of Natural Resources, Cornell University

#### *About Sustainable Forestry Initiative*

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

*The U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities, Inc. (Endowment) is a not-for-profit corporation established September 21, 2006, at the request of the governments of the United States and Canada in accordance with the terms of the Softwood Lumber Agreement (SLA) between the two countries. The Endowment is one of three entities designated to share in a one-time infusion of funds to support "meritorious initiatives" in the U.S. It has been endowed with \$200 million under the terms of the SLA.*



## **SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE VOTES TO SUSPEND HOS “RESTART” RULE, PENDING STUDY**

In a significant victory for safe and efficient trucking, on June 5, the full Senate Appropriations Committee voted 21-9 to suspend funding to enforce the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration’s new Hours Of Service “restart” provision, pending results of a one-year study to validate FMCSA’s basis for that provision. That provision has been widely criticized for creating logistical difficulties for drivers, trucking firms, and shippers by setting impractical and rigid driver rest period and off-duty rules.

Seven Democrats on the Committee joined all of its Republicans in supporting Senator Susan Collins’s (R-Maine) amendment to suspend funding for the “restart” provision, in spite of vocal opposition (and misrepresentation of the amendment’s provisions) from the rail interest and from so-called safety groups. A special thanks to FRA members in Maine, who provided support and encouragement to Senator Collins, when her proposed amendment came under attack, and to members who contacted influential Republicans on the Committee to emphasize the importance of this reform to the wood supply chain, as well as to the many FRA members who sent messages to Senators Jon Tester (D-Montana), Mary Landrieu (D-Louisiana), Mark Pryor (D-Arkansas), and Jeanne Shaheen (D-New Hampshire), all of whom ended up voting for Senator Collins’s amendment.

The Committee’s action:

- would suspend the requirement that a driver’s 34-hour rest period between on-duty periods overlap two consecutive 1:00 AM – 5:00 AM periods before a driver’s work-week could “restart”;
- would restore the restart rules in effect before July 1, 2013, from the date of the final bill’s enactment “until the later of September 30, 2015, or upon submission of the final report issued by the Secretary under this section”;
- must now go to a vote on the Senate floor and be reconciled with House action.

The House has indicated that it will accept the Senate’s provisions on this issue. Although the schedule for final floor action is undetermined, a final bill may reach the President’s desk as soon as August.

Neil A. Ward

Vice President, Public Affairs, Forest Resources Association Inc.

# N.C. Environmentalist Fighting Planned S.C. Plant

By Bill Poovey

Columbia Regional Business Report, June 9 – 22, 2014

A wood pellet manufacturer – Bethesda, Md. – based Enviva L.P. – has secured options on a site in Laurens County (S.C.) for possible expansion, records show.

Wood pellets would be delivered by rail to the Port of Wilmington, N.C., for export to Europe for use as fuel for power plants.

The company's overall expansion plans, which include two plants in North Carolina and one in Laurens County, are getting attention from some North Carolina environmentalists. More than a half dozen groups contend the proposed pellet plants could "have significant adverse effects on the quality of North Carolina's environment and natural resources, particularly its forests and forest ecosystems."

A May 12 letter sent to the N.C. environmental Review Clearinghouse from representatives of the Southern Environmental Law Center, Natural Resources Defense Council, Dogwood Alliance and other requests a public hearing and an environmental impact statement that includes a port operation and Enviva's three proposed manufacturing plants. The letter references Dogwood Alliance research that shows "Enviva's existing wood pellet plants put forested wetlands at risk" from harvesting trees.

Enviva's website shows their wood pellets are made from low-grade wood fiber that includes wood rejected by saw mills and lumber yards due to small size or defects, small tree tops and limbs, wood from commercial thinning and from saw dust.

The North Carolina State Ports Authority records show Enviva is seeking a property lease deal at the port of Wilmington to accommodate the company's production facilities in Hamlet, N.C., Sampson County, N.C.; and possibly Laurens. Enviva has existing pellet manufacturing operations in North Carolina, Virginia and Mississippi and uses port facilities in Chesapeake, Va., and Mobile, Ala.



Enviva spokesman Morgan Pitts said in an email that the company "cannot comment specifically" on any planned projects.

Laurens County Development Corp. spokesman Jonathan Coleman said his office "cannot confirm or deny" that a wood pellet company is planning an expansion in the county.

A North Carolina ports authority environmental assessment found that Enviva's proposed port operation would pose no significant environmental impact. The comment period on that March assessment expired May 12, and environmentalists are now requesting the public hearing and broader environmental impact statement.

Ports authority spokeswoman Laura Blair said the environmental assessment was voluntary and numerous comments were received during an extended comment period.

"We are in the process of gathering and reviewing comments," Blair said.

An industry publication, *Wood Bioenergy Magazine*, reported that wood pellet exports from North America to Europe doubled between the third quarter of 2011 and second quarter of 2013, to more than 1.1 million tons. Most of the increase was in the South.

In South Carolina, Lowcountry Biomass in Jasper County operates a wood pellet operation, and the state Department of Health and Environmental Control has approved an air quality permit for an Enova Energy Group of Atlanta wood pellet plant in Edgefield County (S.C.).

Lowcountry Biomass owner Rhett Harwell said there is much opportunity for pellet operations but also two primary challenges, "access to capital and logistics."

"The challenge becomes how to put the logistics packages in place," Harwell said. He said exporting pellets requires an investment in port facilities. "This product requires special handling at the ports," he said.

**SCTPA Comments:** SCTPA met with Enviva's Todd Watson, Manager of Business Development, Fiber Supply, regarding the proposed Laurens County site to discuss the timber harvesting operations in the SC Piedmont region.

## Ground-Breaking Program Launched to Aid Timber Harvesters and Haulers

- **Weyerhaeuser is the first company to sign agreement; urges others to join**

**U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities,  
Greenville, SC**  
For IMMEDIATE RELEASE (May 15, 2014)

One of the best-known names in tree-growing and forest stewardship is the first forest products company in America to participate in a new program that will boost the economic vitality and sustainability of the nation's 10,000 independent timber harvesters and haulers. Weyerhaeuser has teamed up with the Southern Loggers Cooperative, the U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities and the Natural Capital Investment Fund to launch a program that will significantly improve access to cost-effective diesel fuel.

Under terms of the new program, Weyerhaeuser has agreed to provide a financial guarantee that will assist the Southern Loggers Cooperative in expanding its network of logger-owned and operated diesel fuel depots in areas where the company has a significant operating presence. The guarantee is designed to mitigate the cost risk associated with establishing fuel depots. It specifies that should any of Weyerhaeuser's mills in an identified region close within seven years, the SLC would recoup all or part of its establishment costs. After the agreement is signed, the level of commitment will decline each year until the end of year seven, when the agreement sunsets.

"Our primary business is growing trees and providing raw materials to our converting mills and others in the forest products industry," said Adrian Blocker, Weyerhaeuser's senior vice president, Lumber. "But we're totally dependent upon the network of mostly family-owned small businesses to get raw materials from forests to the mill. The SLC's ten-year history of developing and servicing diesel fuel depots and passing significant financial savings on to its members is one of the most exciting and beneficial developments we've seen. We are happy to do our small part to help them advance their model, and we hope other companies also will consider participating in this innovative program."

"We are a true membership cooperative working to assist our members in dealing with purchases of needed products

and services," said Todd Martin, Executive Director for the SLC. "Diesel fuel is the life blood for timber producers. It is one of the largest and most volatile expenses for our members, often causing them to go into the red over this one cost alone. Under our coop model, loggers pay a one-time membership fee of \$100 and then can purchase fuel from the depots at a discount of 10 cents or more per gallon. Some of our members report saving \$20,000 annually. Weyerhaeuser's commitment provides a financial backstop to ensure depots located near their major facilities won't be threatened with financial default."

The U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities and the Natural Capital Investment Fund began supporting the SLC program in 2013, when they underwrote loans to support the organization's first fuel depot venture in South Carolina.

"Since our inception just seven years ago, we've reviewed a number of ways that we might offer assistance to America's timber harvesters and haulers," said Carlton Owen, President of the U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities. "Last year, the Endowment and NCIF spent a day in Alexandria, LA, with SLC's leadership team exploring ways to help them more rapidly expand their model to reach more loggers. After that collaboration, we established South Carolina as a pilot state using a 'quasi-franchise' model that allowed the SLC to formally partner with the South Carolina Timber Producers Association to test ways to expand their diesel depot network."

One of the challenges the groups identified was the major concern that a critical paper mill or sawmill would close after a fuel stop was established in its region.

"We accepted the challenge to see if mill owners would provide a non-cash loan guarantee that would mitigate this risk, and that's the basis for this new program being launched with Weyerhaeuser," Owen said. "We asked Weyerhaeuser to consider being the founding partner for the corporate guarantee program. They saw the benefits to their own operations and to strengthening the nation's timber harvester network and quickly agreed to help."

*(Continued on page 35)*

(Continued from page 34)

###

**For more information contact:**

**Carlton N. Owen**, President & CEO, 864-233-7646, [carlton@usendowment.org](mailto:carlton@usendowment.org)

The **U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities** (the Endowment) is a not-for-profit public charity working collaboratively with partners in the public and private sectors to advance systemic, transformative, and sustainable change for the health and vitality of the nation's working forests and forest-reliant communities – [www.usendowment.org](http://www.usendowment.org)

**Todd Martin**, Executive Director, 318-445-0750, [todd@southernloggers.com](mailto:todd@southernloggers.com)

**Southern Loggers Cooperative** (SLC) is an association which provides expertise in negotiation and contract formulation for its membership of harvesters of timber, haulers of forest products in the natural state, finished products or products for recycling, forest road contractors, silvicultural contractors, forest landowners, farmers, ranchers, horticulturist and viticulturist – [www.southernloggers.com](http://www.southernloggers.com)

**Crad Jaynes**, President & CEO, 800-371-2240, [bcjpaw@windstream.net](mailto:bcjpaw@windstream.net)

**South Carolina Timber Producers Association** is an independent association dedicated to representing and servicing South Carolina's professional timber harvesters as well as timber dealer and timber trucker operators – [www.scloggers.com](http://www.scloggers.com)

**Rick Larson**, Senior Vice President, 919-951-0113, [rlarson@conservationfund.org](mailto:rlarson@conservationfund.org)

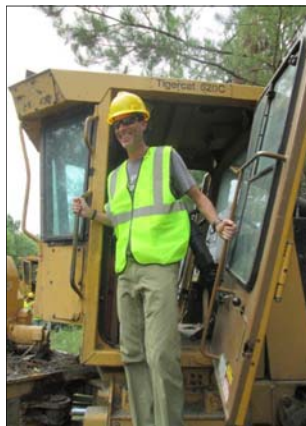
**Natural Capital Investment Fund** (NCIF) supports the forest products and other natural resource-based businesses with flexible, affordable capital. Through its Southeast Logging Initiative, NCIF partners with other lenders to provide timber harvesters with the financing they need to replace equipment and expand operations. NCIF is the green business lending arm of The Conservation Fund ([www.conservationfund.org](http://www.conservationfund.org)) and a certified Community Development Financial Institution – [www.ncifund.org](http://www.ncifund.org)

Weyerhaeuser Media Contact: **Anthony Chavez**, (253) 924-7148

# Teachers' Tour PHOTO GALLERY



*KapStone Sawmill*



(Photo Gallery continued on page 37)

# ATTENTION ... ATTENTION ... ATTENTION

## NEW REQUIREMENT TO PROVIDE E-MAIL ADDRESS

Beginning 2015, Motor Carrier Services will no longer mail the IRP/IFTA renewal/quarterly tax return packages for your IRP/IFTA renewal registration and quarterly tax return. To update your file and ensure proper notification concerning your IRP/IFTA renewals and IFTA quarterly tax return, it is required that you provide Motor Carrier Services with an updated e-mail address.

## **YOU CAN NOW PROCESS CERTAIN MCS TRANSACTIONS ONLINE BY BECOMING A WEB USER**

The South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles, Motor Carrier Services is offering the ability to process certain IRP and IFTA transactions via the internet. Carriers must be in good standing with no outstanding liabilities.

In order to access the IRP/IFTA database, you would be required to complete a Motor Carrier Web Entry Access Application (MC-26) and return to Motor Carrier Services for approval. You can access the MC-26 at [www.scdmvonline.com](http://www.scdmvonline.com). Upon completion, submit the MC-26 to SCDMV, Motor Carrier Services, P. O. Box 1498, Blythewood, SC 29016 marked to the attention of Sharon Land. Upon approval you would be assigned a User Id and password.

Processing IRP renewals, IFTA renewals, IFTA tax returns on the Web would be a more efficient method of saving time and you would be able to pay online with a credit card. If you have any questions please contact Sharon Land with Motor Carrier Services at 803-896-2689.

Effective immediately, SCDMV **will not update** the MCS 150 as part of processing the IRP renewal. If the MCS-150 form has not been updated within the required FMC SA timeframe the IRP registration will be **DENIED**. If assistance is needed with the MCS 150 on the new requirement contact the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration at **1-800-832-5660** or **[www.fmcsa.dot.gov](http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov)**.

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

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

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

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

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

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

(Continued from page 35)

# Teachers' Tour PHOTO GALLERY



*Crad presents SCTPA Appreciation Certificate to Joe & Greg*



*SCFA's Cam Crawford talks about SC Forestry Industry*



*Joe explains sawhead*



*SCFC forester, Holly Welch explains BMP's*



*Chip truck on dump at IP mill*



*Measuring trees*



*Prescribed fire demonstration*



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560, C5000, Q70 & Q80

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411EX, 511EX, 611EX, 711EX & 570

### JOHN DEERE

440B, 540B, 548B, 648B, 648G, 648GII,  
648GIII, 748GII, 748GIII, 643, 643D,  
643G, 843G, 843H, 653E, 753 & 848

### PEERLESS

2770

### PRENTICE

210C, 210D, 210E, 310E, 325, 384,  
410C, 410D, 410E & 410EX

### TIGERCAT

230, 240, 718, 720, 720B, 720C, 720D,  
726, 726B, 620, 630B, 845 & 845B

### TIMBERJACK

240, 380A, 380B, 450B, 450C, 460,  
460D, 608, 608S, 618, 735, & 850

### TREEFARMER

C6D & C7F



# Mark Your Calendar

## July 2014

24 -26 American Loggers Council Summer Board of Directors Meeting, Pella, Iowa

## August 2014

26 Newberry District Meeting, Farm Bureau Office, Newberry, 7 p.m.  
28 SCTPA Board of Directors Meeting, SC Forestry Commission Headquarters, Columbia, 10 a.m.

## September 2014

10-11 SC SFI TOP 2-Day Classes, Saluda Shoals Park Conference Center, Columbia. Contact Sally Tucker, SC Forestry Association, 803-798-4170.  
24 -27 American Loggers Council Annual Meeting, Harris, Michigan. For Information, contact SCTPA or ALC, 409-625-0206, americanlogger@aol.com, www.americanloggers.org

**Note:** Fall District Meetings will be scheduled for October & November around the state.

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

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

### Need SFI Trained DVD Class or other training?

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

Truck Driver Training Workshops will be scheduled. Watch the Mark Your Calendar section of this newsletter for dates.

Notices for SCTPA workshops & events will be forwarded.

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### ***Our Mission***

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