



TIMBER TALK

Your Voice for South Carolina Timber Harvesting

November/December, 2013

AS WE SEE IT ...

AMERICAN LOGGERS COUNCIL

DECEMBER 2013

ADDRESSING THE LOGGING CAPACITY ISSUE



ALC President
Brian Nelson

The term logging capacity appears to be the latest buzz word in our industry. There has been considerable discussion on the subject from mills to timberland owners to loggers and most everyone in between. While I admit that the issue is serious to the long term sustainability of the timber industry, the reasons for the shortage are as varied as the potential solutions being offered up. To complicate things even further, the reasons and potential solutions are generally quite different depending on which segment of the industry one is speaking to.

Numerous articles have been written dealing with the many facets of the logging capacity shortage but the one I'd like to touch on is labor. For a business to succeed it has to have an experienced and stable workforce among other things. For a business to continue for generations it needs an experienced management team that can take over when the current owner decides to call it quits.

Like many in this industry my brother and I got started at a very early age by following dad to the woods on weekends and summer vacations. We learned to run each machine by "getting in and pulling levers to see what they do" as our dad would always tell us. We learned to run the operation by following in his footsteps, asking a lot of questions, and learning from our mistakes.

While it hasn't always been easy there is nothing that I would rather be doing. Logging is all I've ever done and all I've ever wanted to do. With each passing year we get older and closer to calling it quits and the need for someone to take over our operations increases. The question is "Who is that someone and where are they to get the experience that is needed to take over a logging business?" For many the answer could very well be our children just as many of us learned and took over from our parents.

Logging, much like farming, is a generational industry where many of the businesses are family owned and operated and are passed down from generation to generation. The two are also very similar in the sense that you are either born into it or are married into it. The number of young people getting into the industry without any family history in log-

(Continued on page 2)

Inside ...

As We See It ... December 2013	Cover
Another Federal Agency Offers Choice in Green Building Rating Systems	2
WSRI Update - "Understanding Logging Cost"	3
Just a Brief Message	4
SCTPA Annual Meeting Article	5
Annual Meeting Registration	6
Annual Meeting Schedule	7
2013 Logger Activist Award Nomination	8
2014 Board of Directors Nominations Needed	10
FRA Issues Update	11
As We See It ... January 2014	12
CSA Safety Measurement System Website Updated	13
SCTPA Allied Supplier Members	14-15
MWV Closes on Land Sale to Plum Creek	17
Urge Your House Member to Join the Paper Caucus	21
Safety Alert: GHS	23
SFI Forest Partner: South Carolina	26
Woody Biomass Power Generating Facilities Comes Online, Adding 38 Jobs	28

(Continued from page 1)

ging is few and far between and with good reason.

While many of us started learning the ropes at a young age in the past, today that is not possible or should I say it is not legal per Federal Child Labor Laws. Logging is considered a hazardous occupation and therefore no one under the age of eighteen may be employed in it.

I understand the reason for the law is to protect the young and inexperienced and I surely wouldn't want to see anyone get injured whether it is one of my kids or someone else but I believe the law is a bit antiquated. The reason I say that is that I feel it was written in the days when hand falling and bucking with chainsaws were the norm, but today, at least in the Lake States Region, chainsaws are the exception not the rule. Mechanization has greatly improved safety over the years and many of today's modern machines are safer to operate than some of the jobs our kids are allowed to do.

The American Loggers Council (ALC) has been working on this issue for a number of years now with members of Congress and the Department of Labor. We have been trying to get the same exemption afforded our counterparts in agriculture for our immediate family members between the ages of

16 and 18. Today's modern logging operations are labor intensive, highly mechanized and technical careers that require on-the-ground training in order to train the next generation to be proficient and productive.

This exemption would ensure that the next generation of mechanical timber harvesters can gain the needed on-the-ground training and experience under the close supervision of their parents who have a vested interest in their children's safety and in passing down the profession to the next generation of timber harvesters.

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

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



ANOTHER FEDERAL AGENCY OFFERS CHOICE IN GREEN BUILDING RATING SYSTEMS

The Department of Defense (DoD) issued a new Sustainable Buildings Policy through a memorandum on November 10. The new policy states, "DoD components are responsible for establishing an auditable process to ensure applicable new buildings and major renovations meet the requirements of the [Unified Facilities Criteria]."

The auditable process shall include green building certification of those facilities through any of the systems approved for federal use pursuant to section 436h of EISA." This means, because of recent GSA guidance on EISA, that both Green Globes and LEED are approved for military building use.

The new DoD policy supersedes the earlier policy that authorized only LEED. This is significant because DoD is the largest owner of buildings in North America and the largest user of LEED.

Unlike LEED, which awards its certified wood credit only for products certified to the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), the Green Globes system recognizes Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI), American Tree Farm System (ATFS), Canadian Sustainable Forest Management Standard (CSA), Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC), and FSC standards in awarding points for certified wood.

As with the GSA green building announcement in October, this opens the door to greater use of SFI-certified wood in federal building construction and renovation.

WOOD SUPPLY RESEARCH INSTITUTE UPDATE

“Understanding Logging Cost”



Wood Supply Research Institute

The WSRI Technical Team, chaired by Crad Jaynes, has awarded two research projects for the years 2013 and 2014, as approved by the WSRI Board of Directors.

The first is ***Developing Western Logging Cost as a Basis for Western Logging Cost Indices***, to be undertaken by Beth Dodson, Todd Morgan, Steve Hayes, and Josh Meek, of the University of Montana's College of Forestry & Conservation and the affiliated Bureau of Business and Economic Research (BBER).

BBER has tracked logging cost in Montana and Idaho since the 1990s, and both logging professionals and the USFS Northern Region analysts have used the data as a part of their timber sale appraisal system (www.bber.umt.edu/FIR/F_logging.asp). The UM team will cooperate with University of Georgia researchers to develop Western logging cost information comparable to Southern information, with the potential to support a Western Logging Cost Index.

The Project, for which the final report is due by January 31, 2015, will:

- evaluate the stump-to-truck logging cost for the most common logging systems in the Western U.S.;
- compare cost structures for contractors operating on the west-side versus east-side of the Cascade range to determine if these two regions can be combined into a single cost index;
- develop the basis for a Logging Cost Index for the Western U.S. Researchers will work closely with UGA to ensure the proposed validation methods could serve as the basis for a long-term Western Logging Cost Index.

I'm excited that WSRI has broadened its research to the West in such a meaningful way, and I'm hopeful that this project will foster further Western WSRI participation.

The second Project, ***Validating the Southern Logging Cost Index***, will follow up on the initial validation of the University of Georgia's revised Logging Cost Index, with respect to data more recent than 2006, which was the cut-off year for the Index which Bill Stuart and Laurie Grace originally generated; the new, quarterly Index is carrying that Index's trend forward. Dale Greene, Shawn Baker, and Richard Mei, of the University of Georgia's Warnell School, are the researchers.

This Project will:

- investigate the extent to which logging companies currently participating in the UGA Logging Cost Index actually represent the Southern logging force;
- determine how accurately this Index has tracked participating loggers' actual cut-and-load cost;
- recommend a validation procedure for keeping the Index current in the future;
- suggest how to share the Index's trend information and leverage it with groups developing regional logging cost indices elsewhere in the U.S.

The Project will take 12 months to complete, with the final report also due by January 31, 2015.

Jim Fendig
Executive Director, WSRI
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912-598-8023



Just a Brief Message

WOW... where did 2013 go? This year absolutely flew by. But I guess that's what happens when you are getting more experienced in life, not older... just more experienced and busy doing what you are passionate about and for.

It's been a busy year for SCTPA, plus a productive year. Many meetings and travel have taken place to continue to represent and service our members, the logging industry and the people I deeply care about. Yet also a stressful year due to two computer crashes back in the summer resulting in lost data, rebuilding data and emails and getting accustomed to new computer operating systems. And for this computer illiterate, it was absolutely nerve racking. But made it through and still learning this new computer. Can't live with 'em and certainly can't live without 'em these days.

I want to thank everyone who renewed this year and thank our new members for coming on board and for everyone's support displayed for this association. I want to thank our board of directors for their support and guidance. Our financial status is better now than this time last year because of the loyal commitment of our members. But there is always room for improvement as we need to continue to increase our membership to keep this association moving forward. Again, Thank You, Thank You, Thank You.

One accomplishment this year was our re-designed website... scloggers.com ... is up and running. It took a while, but thanks to my website guru, Robin Bennett of GRITS Design Group, Columbia, for her patience and great work. One thing we tried to do was make it useful, informative, yet simple cause I don't like messy, hard to navigate websites. I think we did that. And thanks to Swamp Fox Agency and Forestry Mutual Insurance Company for sponsoring the SCTPA website. We'll be adding things to it as we move forward and if you have any suggestions, please let me know.

There have been many issues regarding our industry and sustainable forestry in 2013 on the national, regional and state levels. The Forest Roads Permitting issue is back on the table at the national level which is a priority for our association and American Loggers Council. Truck weight is both a national and state issue, state infrastructure funding for better SC roads and bridge improvement, tax restructuring, and others will continue to be given attention in the upcoming year.

T'is The Season to reflect on the recent past and look forward to the future. As the economy continues to rebound, I feel there will be more opportunities for our professional loggers and wood suppliers to rebound as well. It's been a really tough ride for the past four or five years. But one thing is for sure, professionals harvesting and supplying our renewable and sustainable forest products to wood consumers have endured.

I want to say thanks again for the opportunity to serve and the privilege of doing what I do for our industry and for those I respect and love in this business we call logging.

Let us celebrate this Yuletide Season and celebrate the true meaning of Christmas. The celebration of the birth of Jesus.

On behalf of my family, our best wishes to you and yours for a Happy Holidays, Blessed and Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Love Ya... Mean It.

Sincerely,

Crad



SCTPA 2014 ANNUAL MEETING

LOG ON!



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

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

We are excited to be meeting at the impressive Springmaid Beach Resort and Conference Center, Myrtle Beach. The complex completed a \$6.5 million renovation of guest rooms and facilities last year. Our standard rooms are connected to the conference center. Other rooms with a king size bed or one and two bedroom suites are located across the property with easy access to the conference center.

SCTPA will utilize the second and third floors of the conference center. The second floor will be for registration, exhibitors and speaker presentations. There is plenty of room for exhibitors. We'll also utilize the parking lot for outside exhibitors with equipment, trucks and trailers.

The third floor will be used for the Friday night reception, Saturday breakfast and lunch and Sunday's prayer breakfast. The third floor has a panoramic view of the beach and Atlantic Ocean.

Marlin's is the on-site restaurant and Barnacles restaurant is located on Springmaid Pier adjacent to the resort.

Our featured Saturday luncheon speaker will be Jim Hourdequin, CEO of The Lyme Timber Company. Jim will present "How Lyme Timber Company Respects Their Logging contractors." Jim says, "Without profitable loggers, our company is not profitable."

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

Saturday afternoon will feature a TOP session to view the required SFI Training DVD to obtain the SFI Trained status for the annual period of July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014.

After the SFI TOP DVD class, a session will be presented by a diesel engine expert to discuss the new en-

gine regulations for off-road equipment and the impacts this will have on loggers and logging equipment. This will be a very informative session due to the severe impacts of the new regulations.

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

Saturday features general session speakers, luncheon with speaker, association business session, board member elections and awards and Saturday evening free. We'll also have our prize drawings for the Honda ATV and Honda Generator and free stay at Springmaid Beach Resort.

Our Silent Auction will be available with a variety of nice items for bidding. Please donate an item. The prize drawings and silent auction help the association financially.

Exhibitors will be on hand with their products and services. And of course there will be plenty of door prizes.

We'll draw a winner for another gun or nice item on Saturday during the business session.

Discounted Carolina Opry tickets for the Saturday evening show February 8th are available for \$25 each and can be ordered with your meeting registration. That's a \$15 per ticket savings.

Sunday morning's prayer breakfast will feature The Pine Ridge Boys for an uplifting and faithful southern gospel service.

Contact the Springmaid Beach Resort directly to make your room reservations. SCTPA's room reservation code is 1037R7. Call Springmaid Beach Resort Reservations at 1-877-283-3284 **Room block cut off is January 6, 2014.**

Registration, sponsor and exhibitor packages have been forwarded. All annual meeting forms can be downloaded from the WSTPA website ... scloggers.com.

Check out Springmaid Beach Resort at SpringmaidBeach.com

Our meeting is a casual family atmosphere. We encourage everyone to bring your family and employees.

Dress is business casual. We ask that attire suited for a business meeting is worn.

Go ahead now and block the dates to join us February 7 – 9 for our 15th Annual Membership Meeting.

Brenda and I look forward to seeing you in Myrtle Beach.

... Springmaid Beach Resort Reservations ...

Call Reservations Direct @ 1-877-283-3284

SPECIFY SCTPA CODE NUMBER 1037R7

Room Block Rates Expire January 6, 2014.

2014 ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION

February 7 – 9, 2014

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE. COMPLETE ALL INFORMATION BELOW.

Name _____ Badge Name _____

Business Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Contact #: Work _____ Home _____

Fax _____ E-mail _____

Spouse/Guest Name _____ Badge Name _____

Please list any additional names & badge names separately or on the back. Thanks!

	Early Registration		After January 15, 2014	
	#	\$	#	\$
Member *	_____	@ \$ 185 = _____	_____	@ \$ 210 = _____
Member Spouse *	_____	@ \$ 85 = _____	_____	@ \$ 95 = _____
Active Member Employee **	_____	@ \$ 90 = _____	_____	@ \$ 100 = _____
Active Member Employee Spouse	_____	@ \$ 65 = _____	_____	@ \$ 75 = _____
SATURDAY, FEB. 8 ONLY	_____	@ \$ 165 = _____	_____	@ \$ 185 = _____
Non-Member	_____	@ \$ 220 = _____	_____	@ \$ 245 = _____
Non-Member Spouse	_____	@ \$ 85 = _____	_____	@ \$ 95 = _____
Children - Per Child – Age 6 – 18	_____	@ \$ 35 = _____		
Children Under 6 – No Charge				
Discounted Carolina Opry Tickets	_____	@ \$ 25 Per Person = \$ _____		
Saturday Evening Show, FEB. 8, 7 p.m.				
Tickets Are Non-Refundable				
Save \$ 15.00 Per Ticket				
TOTAL \$ DUE & PAID \$ _____				

* Please Refer to Member & Active Member Employee Descriptions Below *

Return Completed Registration & Check Payable To: SC Timber Producers Association (SCTPA)

Members * = Active Members, Allied Supplier Members & Allied Supporting Members with Paid Dues.
Active Member Employee ** = Active Logger, Wood Dealer or Trucker Member Sponsored Employees Only not an owner, partner or corporate officer of active member's business. Supervisors & employees are encouraged to attend.
All other Non logger, dealer or trucker active members use member registration rates per person attending.
Call SCTPA if questions.

RESERVE YOUR ROOMS DIRECTLY WITH SPRINGMAID BEACH RESORT.

CALL RESERVATIONS 1-877-283-3284 ... REFER TO GROUP # 1037R7

... OR ... Use Springmaid Beach Reservation Form. ROOM BLOCK CUT-OFF IS JANUARY 6, 2014.

Direct Room Inquiries to Springmaid Beach Resort. Springmaid Beach Room Cancellation Policy Applies.

SCTPA Cancellation Policy: Full refund if written cancellation received by January 1, 2014. 50% refund
If written cancellation request received by January 10, 2014. NO REFUND after January 10, 2014.

2014 Annual Membership Meeting

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

MEETING AT A GLANCE

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Conference Center

- 1:00 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting... Members & Guests Welcome
- 3:00 p.m. Registration Desk... Open Until 8:00 p.m.
- 7:00 p.m. Welcome Reception... Food, Music & Dancing with a DJ!

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Conference Center

- 6:30 a.m. Member & Guests Breakfast
- 6:45 a.m. Registration Desk Opens
- 8:00 a.m. General Session: Welcome, Invocation, Antitrust Statement & Announcements
 - Speaker: Brain Nelson, President American Loggers Council, ALC Updates
 - Speaker: Mike Wetzel, Richardson, Bell, McLeod & Wetzel, Inc., Logging Lawsuit Insight
- Morning Break
 - Speaker: Don Taylor, WSRI Project – What Will It Take to Recover Logging Capacity
 - Speaker: Rob Moseley, Smith Moore Leatherwood, CSA & Subcontract Trucker Relationship
- 8:30 a.m. Ladies Breakfast
- 11:45 a.m. Break for Luncheon
- 12:00 p.m. Membership Luncheon & Business Meeting
- 12:45 p.m. Chairman's Welcome, Board of Directors Introductions & Announcements
 - Speaker: Jim Hourdequin, CEO, The Lyme Timber Co., How Lyme Respects Their Logging Contractors
- Business Session: Chairman's Report, Financial Report, Bylaws Report, Board Elections, Awards & Special Presentations, Door Prizes & Prize Drawings
- 2:45 p.m. Afternoon Break
- 3:00 p.m. **Workshop: SFI Trained TOP DVD Module for SFI Training For July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014 SFI Trained Status**
- 4:30 p.m. New Engine Regulatory Impacts for Loggers & Logging Equipment
- 5:30 p.m. Adjourn
 - Saturday Evening On Your Own. Enjoy Your Evening!
 - DISCOUNTED CAROLINA OPRY TICKETS available through SCTPA.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Conference Center

- 8:00 a.m. Prayer Breakfast
- 9:00 a.m. Special Guest: Pine Ridge Boys
- 10:05 a.m. Silent Auction Announcements & Final Comments
- 10:30 a.m. Adjourn Meeting

SILENT AUCTION BIDDING HOURS - CONFERENCE CENTER

Friday, 5:00 – 9:30 p.m. Saturday, 7:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Sunday, 7:00 – 9:00 a.m.

EXHIBITOR HOURS - CONFERENCE CENTER

Friday, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. Saturday, 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Sunday, 7:30 – 9:30 a.m.

PARKING LOT FOR EQUIPMENT, TRUCKS & TRAILERS

Come Join Us For This Exciting 2014 Annual Meeting!

Meeting Speakers & Schedule Subject To Change

2013 Logger Activist Award Nomination

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

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

You may nominate a SCTPA Logger Member or yourself. Contact the Nominations Committee or SCTPA office by January 15, 2014. Thank you for your nomination.

Nominations Committee

Chairman, Rickey Chapman, Chapman Timber, Inc., Newberry
Office/Home 803-276-0717 ■ Fax 803-276-5310 ■ Cell 803-924-0082 ■ betsylee48@yahoo.com

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

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

2013 Logger Activist Award Nomination

Nominee Name _____

Business Name _____

Address _____

City _____ SC Zip _____

Contact Office _____ Home _____

Mobile _____ Email _____

Nominated By _____ Date _____

Contact: Office _____ Cell _____

Describe nominee's activities: _____

Use Additional Pages If Needed



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TIMBER INDUSTRY IN SOUTH CAROLINA**



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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

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

David Rodgers Pulpwooding, LLC, *Saluda*
East Coast Chippers, *Lugoff*

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



2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINATIONS NEEDED

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

The board term for Seat 2 served by Billy McKinney, Highland Timber Co., LLC, will expire December 31, 2013.

Billy has indicated his desire to run for re-election. Other nominations are welcomed for the one seat.

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

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

Board members are responsible to attend board meetings and local district meetings. Plus, promote professional timber harvesting in SC, seek SCTPA members, represent the association at events where needed and promote the association. One board meeting is conducted at the annual meeting with bimonthly meetings held in Columbia beginning in February each year.

Any member directly engaged in the logging business and in good standing with paid dues as of December 31, 2013, may be nominated for an upcoming seat. Any member regardless of location is eligible for nomination. Logger members are encouraged to enter your name or the name of another logger member as an eligible candidate.

To enter your name for nomination or to nominate someone else, please contact the Nominations Committee or SCTPA office no later than January 15, 2014.

Thanks for your assistance in this important association process

Nominations Committee

Chairman, Rickey Chapman, Chapman Timber, Inc., Newberry

Office/Home 803-276-0717 ■ Fax 803-276-5310 ■ Cell 803-924-0082 ■ betsylee48@yahoo.com

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Donnie Lambert, Leo Lambert Logging, Inc., Georgetown

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



With the December holidays, Congress is heading into recess, leaving significant issues to be addressed in the New Year.

- Farm Bill conferees have made progress toward consensus on a Farm Bill—although we can't be sure whether the most important forestry provision—a “forest roads” fix—will still be included when they resume and submit a conference report in January. It's important that we stay vigilant to keep forestry provisions important to all of us included.
- The House is developing several Immigration Reform proposals, to reconcile with the Immigration Bill the Senate passed this fall—although none is ready for circulation yet. Those proposals contain several possible options for reforming reforestation guestworker policy, significantly improving what the Senate has placed on the table, and we will enter 2014 ready to move the forest supply chain interest forward within that process.
- The Department of Transportation's project to study heavy trucks' impacts is well underway, and FRA is working with allies to ensure that it examines the right items and examines them fairly. With discussions of the next Highway Bill scheduled to launch this spring, we are preparing a “ground game” to get the right messages circulating in the Congressional districts where they can do the most good.

Beginning December 14, members of Congress will be back in their home districts for the rest of the year. What better time to drop in, as a constituent, and remind them of how decisions they make affect forestry and the community you vote in? You can find locations and contact information for home offices on legislators' web sites.

Need background on FRA positions? Please visit our Policy Priorities page.

Happy Holidays!

Deb Hawkinson

Forest Resources Association



WHYDFML

What Have You Done For Me Lately?

I'm sure most everyone has heard this phrase in some form or another during their lifetime and many have quite possibly even used it themselves. It is one of those phrases that is used all too often today in a multitude of situations but for the sake of this article it will be in reference to State, Regional, and National logging trade associations.

What are they doing for you?

In very simple terms, they are your "voice" and they represent you and other like minded individuals on a variety of topics. Our associations represent us and our interests by attending meetings, monitoring legislation and testifying before committees on our behalf -just to name a few. The saying "there is strength in numbers" is especially true when it comes to trade associations. Take any issue your association is working on and try to get the same impact on an individual basis as your association gets from one person representing its entire membership.

I once read that when times are tough one of the first budget items cut for many businesses is advertising. Actually, this is when they need advertising the most.

That same line of thinking holds true for membership dues to trade associations. When times are good -membership increases allowing associations to do more, but when membership drops due to economic downturn, the associations will not be able to offer the same level of service previously offered- and that is when it will be needed more than ever.

At a recent meeting the discussion turned to how to increase membership of our association and more specifically how to recruit that segment of the industry that doesn't join because "they are getting the benefits anyways." A friend summed it up by referring to those individuals as "welfare loggers"-enjoying the fruits of other's labor. Although a bit harsh, he does make a very valid point. While there will always be those who ride the shirttails of others, I believe with the support of those individuals, the associations could accomplish even more than they would without their support.

The American Loggers Council (ALC) tries to support those who support it. While that works well in regards to our sponsors I realize that is not always the case when talking about potential members. A potential member will benefit from what ALC does just as a current member, but that is where strength in numbers comes into play. Currently ALC represents 30 states. Our goal is to represent every state that has a commercial timber harvesting industry.

The ALC has been the voice of professional loggers in this country for nearly twenty years and has accomplished many things in that time. It was formed in 1994 after the adoption of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative by the AFPA. A group of loggers decided that they needed a voice on the national level to challenge issues that impacted them. Nearly twenty years later we are still trying to enhance the logging profession by creating a more level playing field for all loggers in this country, most recently by submitting comments to the Sustainable Forestry Board on programs for logger training and education, as well as creating a "hard number" for the maximum percentage of wood fiber that can be sourced from untrained loggers by SFI program participating mills - also known as the deminimus volume.

If you are a member of a logging trade association, whether it be national, regional, or state, I thank you for your support. If not, I encourage you to do so as they are your voice for issues that impact your business. By "supporting those that support you" we *will* make a difference.

Wishing everyone a Blessed Holiday Season
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.

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



Compliance, Safety, Accountability CSA Safety Measurement System (SMS) Website Updated

The CSA Safety Measurement System (SMS) website has been updated with the November 29, 2013 snapshot. Check your safety assessment now at: <http://ai.fmcsa.dot.gov/sms>.

NOTE TO CARRIERS: To login into the SMS website and see all of your safety data, you will need an FMCSA-issued U.S. DOT Number Personal Identification Number (PIN) (NOT a Docket Number PIN). If you do not know or have forgotten your PIN, you can request one via <http://safer.fmcsa.dot.gov/> and select 'Click here to request your Docket Number PIN and/or USDOT Number PIN.' Be sure to request a U.S. DOT Number PIN, NOT a Docket Number PIN.

Industry Webinar Presentation on Proposed SMS Website Display Changes Now Available

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) recently held three webinars for carriers, drivers, and other interested stakeholders to review the proposed redesign of the Agency's Safety Measurement System (SMS) Website. FMCSA's goal with these changes is to make this important information easier to understand for users. The proposed redesign does not include changes to the SMS methodology.

Participants learned about the proposed changes, including new user-friendly features and performance tools, and received answers to frequently asked questions. The Power-Point presentation from these webinars is now available on FMCSA's compliance, Safety, Accountability (CSA) Website.

We (FMCSA) encourage you to review the preview site and provide your comments by the end of the comment period as outlined in the Federal Register notice. To assist you, we recommend the following:

- Download the industry webinar presentation;
- Visit the SMS Preview Website to experience the proposed new features (<https://csa.fmcsa.dot.gov/SMSPreview/Home.aspx>);
- Review the Federal Register Notice outlining the proposed changes (<https://federalregister.gov/a/2013-26543>); and
- Share your feedback on the proposed changes via the Federal Docket Management System (<http://www.regulations.gov/>), Docket ID Number FMCSA-2013-26543.

Questions or Concerns: CSA technical assistants are available to answer questions about the proposed SMS Website display changes and the CSA program. In addition, you may submit questions on the CSA Outreach Website (http://csa.fmcsa.dot.gov/CSA_Feedback.aspx) or by phone at 877-254-5365.

Stay connected: Subscribe to the CSA Website to stay updated on current program information at <http://csa.fmcsa.dot.gov/subscription.aspx>.

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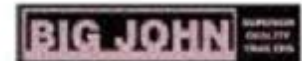
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MWV CLOSES ON LAND SALE TO PLUM CREEK

Published Dec. 9, 2013, Columbia Regional Business Report

MeadWestvaco Corp. no longer owns forestland in the United States after closing on its \$1.1 billion land sale to Plum Creek Timber Co. Inc. today.

Plum Creek acquired 501,000 acres of forestland in the deal. Plum Creek also will invest in a newly formed partnership between the companies, which includes MWV's approximately 109,000 acres of development properties in Charleston.

The transaction, which was announced in October, enables Plum Creek to grow its core timber management business, as well as add land and non-timber resources to its portfolio, Plum Creek CEO Rick Holley said in a statement.

"By significantly increasing our assets in the Southeast, we expand our presence in key markets, enhance our ability to service customers, and are well-positioned to capture value from these assets as markets continue to improve," Holley said.

The transaction consists of \$220 million in cash and \$860 million in the form of a 10-year installment note that MWV expects to monetize within the next few weeks. The aggregate value of the transaction, including both parties' investments in the partnership, was approximately \$1.5 billion.

MWV expects to receive net proceeds of approximately \$950 million in cash after the monetization of the installment note; of that amount, the company expects to return \$665 million to shareholders. The company will decide in January what form those returns will take.

In addition, \$210 million will be used to repay an outstanding term loan, in order to maintain MWV's investment-grade rating, and \$75 million will be retained by the new partnership to fund development activities.

MWV has retained full ownership of its oil and natural gas rights on approximately 191,000 acres of land in West Virginia. And the company continues to own and manage approximately 135,000 acres of forestland in Santa Catarina, Brazil.



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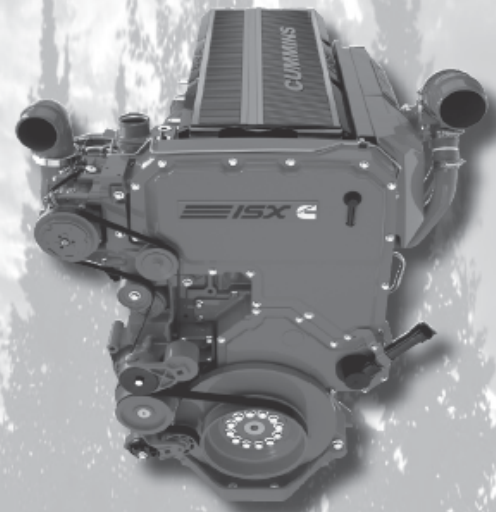
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Urge Your House Member to Join the Paper Caucus



Recently, two of FRA's most important allies in Congress, Rep. Mike Michaud (D-Maine) and Rep. Reid Ribble (R-Wisconsin), joined together to form the Congressional Paper Caucus in the U.S. House of Representatives.

The Caucus's purpose is to "highlight the importance and economic significance of the paper industry and to focus on the policy solutions needed to sustain and promote this important sector." Membership in the Caucus is open to all House Members, and FRA would like to ensure that Members of Congress who represent forest-dependent communities join and participate.

The Caucus can be a great tool to spread the word about the benefits that paper and other forest products manufacturing provide to forested communities, as well as to our country's economic competitiveness. It can also be a platform to share information about the paper industry's renewable energy profile, the growing role of recycling, and our sustainability accomplishments.

Please urge your Member of Congress to join the Congressional Paper Caucus by going to the Forest Resources Association and clicking the Take Action page to send an electronic message. The template will automatically insert your Member's name and direct the message to his or her office, once you have entered your name and voting address. As always, you can revise the text in the template to suit yourself—or send the text as already entered.

If your Member of Congress has already joined the Congressional Paper Caucus (see list of 17 Members below), it is important to send him or her a message of thanks. In that case, the module will detect that when you enter your voting address, and the letter module will display a brief message of thanks (which you can also modify, if you wish), instead of the message urging him or her to join.

Who has already joined and needs to be thanked? The following 17 Members.

Already Joined:

Rep. Dan Benishek (MI-01)
Rep. Randy Forbes (VA-04)
Rep. Paul Gosar (AZ-04)
Rep. Brett Guthrie (KY-02)
Rep. Derek Kilmer (WA-06)
Rep. Bob Latta (OH-05)
Rep. David McKinley (WV-01)
Rep. Mike Michaud (ME-02)
Rep. Markwayne Mullin (OK-02)

Rep. Richard Neal (MA-01)
Rep. Rick Nolan (MN-08)
Rep. Alan Nunnelee (MS-01)
Rep. Bill Owens (NY-21)
Rep. Scott Perry (PA-04)
Rep. Reid Ribble (WI-08)
Rep. Mike Turner (OH-10)
Rep. Kevin Yoder (KS-03)

Thanks for responding to this Action Call!

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Safety Alert: GHS

“What the heck is GHS?” It is a new system we all need to learn and teach our employees. **G H S** stands for **Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals**.

This system replaces the MSDS (Material Safety Data Sheets System) that we have used for years. It is an attempt by the UN (United Nations) to bring all developed countries into one system of labeling chemicals and educating the end use of the safe use and handling of chemicals.

As with all things Government, there are requirements and time tables to get them completed. This is not different, here are the time tables.

- December 1, 2013 – Train all employees on the new label elements of the SDS (Safety Data Sheets) format.
- June 1, 2015 – Comply with all modified provisions of this final rule except.
- December 1, 2015 – Distributors may ship products labeled by manufacturers under the old System until December 1, 2015.
- June 1, 2016 – Update alternative workplace labeling and hazard communication program as necessary, and provide additional employee training for newly identified physical or health hazards.
- Transition Period – Comply with current Hazard Communications Program or the new one or both.

It appears that this new system will have little effect on the logging industry. The main change will be that after December 1, 2015 labels on chemical containers will be under the new format

and there will be no more MSDS's. The important steps for you to take are:

1. Create a “change” plan to help you transition your current Hazard Communication Standard to comply with the new GHS.
2. Complete a new inventory of all chemicals your company is using.
3. Acquire new Safety Data Sheets that comply with new GHS regulations.
4. Update all labels to comply with the new regulations. New labels will have a signal word, pictogram and hazard statement.
5. Train all employees in the new Safety Data Sheets by December 1, 2013.

The Hazard Communication Standard (HCS) requires chemical manufacturers, distributors and importers to provide Safety Data Sheets (SDS's) (formerly known as Material Safety Data Sheets or MSDS's) to communicate the hazards of hazardous chemical products. As of June 1, 2015, the HCS will require new SDS's to be in a uniform format, and include the section numbers, the headings and associated information under the headings below.

Section 1 – Identification includes product identifier; manufacturer or distributor name, address, phone number; emergency phone number; recommended use; restrictions on use.

Section 2 – Hazards(s) identification includes all hazards regarding the chemical; required label elements.

Section 3 – Composition / information on ingredients includes information on chemical ingredients; trade secret claims.

Section 4 – First-aid measures includes important symptoms / effects, acute, delayed; required treatment.

Section 5 – Fire-fighting measures lists suitable extinguishing techniques, equipment; chemical hazards from fire.

Section 6 – Accidental release measures lists emergency procedures; protective equipment; proper methods of containment and cleanup.

Section 7 – Handling and storage lists precautions for safe handling and storage, including in-

(Continued on page 24)

(Continued from page 23)

compatibilities.

Section 8 – Exposure control / personal protection lists OSHA's Permissible Exposure Limits (PEL's), Threshold Limit Values (TLV's), appropriate engineering controls; personal protective equipment (PPE).

Section 9 – Physical and chemical properties lists the chemical's characteristics.

Section 10 – Stability and reactivity lists chemical stability and possibility of hazardous reactions.

Section 11 – Toxicological information includes routes of exposure; related symptoms, acute and chronic effects; numerical measures to toxicity.

Section 12, 13, 14 & 15 are regulated by other agencies so they will contain general information.

Section 16 – Other information, includes the date of preparation or last revision.

Take time **now** to review this information with your employees and document the training.

Information provided by Don Milani, Safety Director, Associated California Loggers

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SFI Forest Partners: South Carolina

SFI has a strong working presence in South Carolina with over a million acres certified and an active SFI Implementation Committee. And while South Carolina is growing, demonstrated by positive trends that include BMP compliance and forest certification, there is still lots of opportunity to gear up for current and future marketplace shifts that are increasingly favoring certified products.

That's why the SFI Forest Partners Program is making it easier for forest products companies and landowners in South Carolina to certify to the SFI Standards. By providing information, tools and regional expertise for smaller, family-run businesses and medium-sized landowners to develop the appropriate certification system for their situation, SFI Forest Partners Program is continuing to help landowners and mill operators take advantage of becoming certified.

With support of SFI's Forest Partners, this approach produces a unique and cost effective opportunity to enter certified forest product markets globally.

In September, 2013 the SC State Forests and Clemson University Experimental Forest were certified as project participants of the SFI Forest Partners Program. With the support of its Forest Partners, SFI continues to work with landowners, mill operators & wood procurement organizations to attain SFI certification in South Carolina.

"The South Carolina Forestry Commission supports sustainable forest management and responsible wood procurement practices in South Carolina. We believe forest certification is one tool that can be used to promote and demonstrate responsible forestry. Our decision to join the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) Forest Partners® Program...highlights the importance we place on providing leadership in forest and environmental sustainability in our state. These actions will demonstrate to

the global marketplace that South Carolina landowners and businesses are leaders in forest sustainability."

— *Gene Kodoma, South Carolina State Forester, April 4, 2013*

"Sustainable management of our natural resources contributes to the long-term success of South Carolina's forestry industry which significantly impacts employment and manufacturing activity. This successful public-private enterprise reinforces our state's commitment to landowners and timber managers by investing in responsible forest management."

— *South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley, September 18, 2013 announcement of SC State Forests certification*

The SFI Forest Partners Program has three objectives:

Objective 1: Build on experiences of the Maine Pilot Project by continuing to find innovative approaches to group and coordinated certification for smaller and medium-sized mills and forest ownerships, seeking opportunities for collaboration, cost effectiveness and incentives for certification.

Objective 2: Facilitate the uptake of fiber from certified forestlands through the supply chain to buyers of forest products by increasing chain-of-custody certification of small and medium-sized mills, and to influence responsible forestry beyond those lands through fiber sourcing certification.

Objective 3: Grow the certified forestland base by five million acres by the end of 2014, beginning in the Southeast United States, and by 10 million acres by the end of 2017.



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WOODY BIOMASS POWER GENERATION FACILITIES COME ONLINE, ADDING 38 JOBS

By Ashley Barker
abarker@scbiznews.com

Published Dec. 9, 2013

Two 17.8-megawatt generation facilities in Allendale and Dorchester counties have come online, creating more than 250 construction jobs and 38 full-time positions, according to a news release from EDF Renewable Energy.

The facilities, which include a stoker boiler and a steam turbine generator, are known as the Pinelands Biomass project and are located in areas with substantial and reliable wood supplies, the company said. The Dorchester facility began commercial operations on Nov. 1, and the Allendale site followed on Nov. 19.

The two projects connect to Santee Cooper's transmission system, which is adjacent to the sites, under 30-year power purchase agreements, according to the release. EDF Renewable Energy is expected to provide long-term operations and maintenance of the facilities.

"Utilizing wood waste to generate electricity is a proven renewable technology that complements EDF Renewable Energy's robust portfolio of wind, solar and biogas projects in North America," Tristan Grimbert, president and CEO of EDF Renewable Energy, said in a statement. "Biomass is poised to be a key renewable base load energy resource for South Carolina, and we are pleased to work with Santee Cooper on this excellent opportunity to produce economically attractive renewable energy."

Santee Cooper President and CEO Lonnie Carter said the state-owned utility was the first one in the state to bring customers electricity from renewable resources, which it began 12 years ago.

"Today represents a new milestone for us and for South Carolina," Carter said in the news release. "The partnership forged with EDF Renewable Energy helps advance Santee Cooper's role as the state's leader in generating renewable energy."





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Mark Your Calendar

December 2013

24 Christmas Eve, Santa's Coming!
25 Merry Christmas!
31 New Year's Eve!

January 2014

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

February 2014

7 – 9 SCTPA 2014 Annual Meeting, Springmaid Beach Resort & Conference Center, Myrtle Beach, SC. Contact SCTPA Office for Information, 803-957-9919, or check scloggers.com for information.

March 2014

12 & 13 SFI TOP 2-Day Classes, Saluda Shoals Conference Center, Columbia. Contact Sally Tucker @ SCFA, 803-798-4170.

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

PLEASE NOTE:

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

Need SFI Trained DVD Class or other training?

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

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

Notices for SCTPA workshops & events will be forwarded.

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**For more information contact:
David Hayes, Michelle Hopkins, Todd Hutson & Greg Hutson**

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For Over 25 Years."*



Our Mission

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