



TIMBER TALK

Your Voice for South Carolina Timber Harvesting

MAY/JUNE 2018

2018 TEACHERS TOUR

2018 SC Sustainable Forestry Teachers Tour ... **Teachers Learn Up Close & Personal About Our Industry**

I enjoyed seeing all aspects of the forestry industry and learning about all the changes that have happened in the industry.

I felt that we learned so much valuable information and it was a great way to learn about this industry. We didn't just sit and listen.

I enjoyed the paper mill and logging sites, to see from start to finish was very interesting.

The 2018 SC Sustainable Forestry Teachers Tour, June 18 – 22, marked another exciting tour for educating teachers from around the Palmetto State about sustainable forestry, professional timber harvesting, public and private lands forest management practices and the forest products industry and so much more.

"Wow! I had no idea" was one of the most offered expressions from the teachers. This year's tour was stationed out of Hartsville and tour stops in the Pee Dee region. This year 27 teachers arrived on Monday ready to learn and see our various forest products industry segments. The group was very attentive, energetic and asked great questions as they learned about SC's forestry industry. And yes it was hot ... but it's June in the Pee Dee!!

This year's five day learning experience the teachers had to do pre-tour on-line work which prepped them on the various subjects to be covered. This



2018 Teachers at Kalmia Gardens House

Inside ...

2018 SC Sustainable Forestry Teachers Tour	Cover
Teachers Tour Photo Gallery	6
Team Safe Trucking Training Modules	7
First SC Logger Apprenticeship Program Established	8
Apprenticeship Program Photos	9
American Master Logger Certification© Committee Appoints Richard Schwab Chair	11
ALC Survey Results: Is Logging an Agricultural Activity?	11
Trucking Industry Losing Drivers Faster Than They Can Recruit	12
Welcome New Members	13
As We See It ... Loggers Working for Loggers	14
Bill to Repeal FET on Trucks and Trailers Makes Its Way to Senate	19
ALC Annual Meeting Registration now Open	19
WSRI Notes	20
Why Logger Owned and Logger Controlled Certification Produces Results	24
Mindfulness Holds Safety Initiatives in Place	26
National Forest Timberlands: Forest Mortality Exceeds Harvest for Past 20 Years and Not Exceeds Net Growth	28
Whole Tree Logging May Not Hinder Plant Biodiversity	29
As We See It ... Logger Survey	30
Mark Your Calendar	35

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

year's tour featured most of the teachers seeking continuing education graduate credits for their teaching status.

During the five-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, tree farming, wildlife and wildlife habitat management, paper and lumber manufacturing, engineered wood products manufacturing, environmental conservation, forestry best management practices while enjoying the fellowship along the way. These teachers now realize and understand how important our \$21 billion industry is to the Palmetto State.

The teachers came with 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.

SCTPA is a proud SC Teachers Tour sponsor and participant. Thanks to all the cooperators who provided tour sites. Thanks to all the wonderful tour sponsors and a host of forest products companies making the teachers' experience so meaningful.

Thanks to the Forestry Association of SC's Janet Steele, SC Forestry Commission's Mike Shealy and Matt Schnabel for administering the tour. Thanks to Dean Carson, retired from the SC Forestry Commission, for again being a vital part to help arrange the tour logistics and meal sponsors and offer his wisdom about the industry.

Crad Jaynes, SCTPA President, accompanied the teachers all week long visiting tour stops, answering questions and helping the teachers understand the real sustainable forestry story.

SCTPA provided each teacher with a personalized information folder with an honorary SCTPA timber harvester member certificate, SCTPA and American Loggers Council stickers and SCTPA caps for their use on the tour.

Beginning Monday morning, there were introductions, a Sustainable Forestry Initiative presentation and tour overview along with Project Learning Tree

(PLT) exercises. Then the tour visited Randall Ewing's Certified Tree Farm between Hartsville and Society Hill. Randall and his buddies provided a hay ride to tour the tree farm. Unfortunately due to a nearby thunderstorm the hayride was cut short.



Randall Ewing talks about his certified American Tree Farm



Randall Ewing talks about his historical artifacts collection.

Did not want to place anyone in harm's way. Randall proudly showed off his collection of historical artifacts and supper was cooked and provided in Randall's Dawg House cabin and on the grounds.

On Tuesday morning it was off for a tour stop at Resource Management Services Ellerbe Bay tract near Marion. The teachers got to see site preparation by Patterson & Son Construction, Inc. as the crew worked to prepare a tract for reforestation. The tour was guided by RMS's

Joey Ferguson and Jay Phillips and both did a great job of showing how RMS manages their forest lands. The teachers got to visit Travis Brown,



Browntown Forest Products, LLC timber harvesting operation performing a second thinning and see Travis' whole tree chipping crew performing a first thinning. The tour showed the teachers the various stages of stand successional growth and development from newly planted to mature timber. The teachers also stopped to see Black River Forest Products timber harvesting shovel crew

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

performing a final harvest. The logging stops are always a big highlight of the tour.

The teachers learned about each unit of harvesting equipment and saw the job in action. The teachers even took the opportunity to climb aboard the grapple skidder and feller buncher to see what it looks like from inside the operator's cab.

The teachers were amazed as the logging operations were in full production mode.

They were also amazed at how the tract was cared for while being harvested and amazed at how mechanized the operations were. Again, Joey and Jay did an outstanding job explaining the timber harvesting operations and their forest management practices.

Then it was off to see Canfor Southern Pine's Darlington sawmill. Teachers were explained the sawmilling processes, provided insight into Canfor and toured the sawmill. Thanks to Davis McGowen and his crew for an outstanding lunch, presentation and tour. Then the tour headed to Kalmia Gardens in Hartsville for a tree walk in the gardens, history of Kalmia Gardens and supper.

Wednesday began with a bus tour of Sonoco Products Company's woodyard and view of the mill and woody biomass, hardwood chips, renewable en-



Travis Brown (ctr.) Browntown Forest Products, LLC



RMS's Jay Phillips explains second thinning timber harvesting operation



Sonoco's Paul Rogers explains Pee Dee river dynamics on bottomland hardwood

ergy power plant. Then it was off to tour Sonoco's bottomland hardwood lands on the Pee Dee River. Sonoco forester Paul Rogers led the tour and Tim Kirven, wood procurement manager, accompanied the teachers. Paul explained bottomland hardwood management which is different than pine management, but both are sustainable forestry management practices. This hardwood forest to the untrained eye looks like a virgin hardwood forest. But the forest had been harvested and Paul, with his 40-plus years of experience and vast knowledge, did a fantastic job of teaching Sonoco's hard-

wood management.

Then the tour headed to SC Forestry Commission's Sandhills State Forest's Sugarloaf Mountain public area near Patrick. A U.S Fish and Wildlife Service forester addressed the group about how they manage for

sustainability. The SCFC foresters taught the teachers how to measure trees and cruise timber with a Biltmore Stick, angle gauge, use an increment borer for tree age along with the new-fangled technology now available. They viewed how the SCFC manages their forest lands for sustainability. Sandhills is predominantly Longleaf Pine stands. Unfortunately due to a



SC State Forester Scott Phillips addresses teachers

thunderstorm the prescribed fire and fire plowing demonstration was not conducted. At the shop a Project Learning Tree exercise was done and State Forester Scott Phillips addressed the group. Supper was a cook your own steak meal. This was neat as everyone got to pick a steak and grill it to their liking.

Thursday began with a tour stop at Domtar Paper



SCFC forester teaches tree measurement & timber cruising

was a cook your own steak meal. This was neat as everyone got to pick a steak and grill it to their liking.

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

Company, Bennettsville, where the teachers learned about Domtar's papermaking processes, Domtar's company and tour the papermill. Thanks to Joe Du-bois and his crew for excellent presentations about Domtar, their processes and products and the papermill. The group was split with one group touring the papermill while the other group made a bus tour through the wood receiving yards to see both treelength and wood chips being delivered and processed to go into the mill. Then the groups switched for the tours.

Then the tour headed to Arauco's particle board mill literally next door to the papermill. Here the teachers got to learn about engineered wood products such as the particle board product manufactured by Arauco.

Then it was back to Hartsville for some clean up and go to the sponsor's reception and supper at the Sonoco Club House. Here the teachers got to meet, visit and thank tour sponsors and make comments about their learning week. The event was well attended by sponsors who also offered comments to the teachers and thanked them for attending the tour. Thanks to Trey Hyman who was the chief chef for the low country boil.

Many mentioned they did not have a good idea about the forest products industry and sustainable forestry prior to the tour. 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."

Friday wrapped up the tour with a PLT activity and 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.

SCTPA's Crad Jaynes 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. "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 by receiving misleading information and the lack of the real knowledge and truths about our industry.

He explained why he calls "environmental obstructionists" by that term because their agenda is not telling the truth about the real story of sustainable forestry. He said, "Professional loggers and foresters are environmentalists. Why wouldn't they be? Loggers and foresters, landowners and forest products companies, want to sustain healthy forests because that's

where we work. Loggers, foresters, landowners have a vested interest in our healthy forest resources and sustainable forestry just like 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, friends, families and co-workers with the correct information.

Emphasizing that perception is reality for many people, what they see is what they believe without knowing the facts. Now that each teacher has the knowledge and information, he

challenged them to go forth, be advocates and preach the gospel of sustainable forestry, professional timber

(Continued on page 5)



Dean Carson talks engineered wood products



SCTPA's Crad Jaynes closes the tour

(Continued from page 4)

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 facts and truths about "who" and "what" our forestry industry are all about. "Teachers Learning Up Close and Personal About Our Industry" accomplished that goal.

Teacher Comments About What They Liked, Learned & New Perceptions...

I loved how hands on this program is. Being out at the different sites makes this a much more impressive experience.

I loved that it has fueled my passion for wanting to do more in forestry and environmental education. I enjoyed all the knowledge I now have to pass on to my family, friends, and community.

Meeting and seeing the true passion of all of the people involved this week.

Usable facts and information for the classroom. Very helpful!

The program was well organized. I enjoyed the group of teachers that was chosen for the tour. And all the food!

The eye opening experience of seeing the sustainable forestry industry up close. Also the food and refreshments and lodging was all great!

I liked the bottomland hardwood forest tour. I liked the history background of the area and the cooler temperatures in the shade.

The PLT portion of the tour was the most interesting as far as what I can use soon with my second grade students. But all of the tour stops were very beneficial and eye-opening.

I feel that the forestry industry has done a great job of encouraging sustainability and continuing to keep improving their methods to allow timber to be a reusable resource for our future.

I felt like I learned about how this industry works so well together and how it is well maintained.

The necessity of every aspect of the industry, how each part is vital in the sustainable process.

I am taking home the knowledge of "grow more, use more" trees will help create jobs and help the sustainability of our forest.

The concept of sustainability and the industry commitment to it was eye-opening. I previously thought that forests were disappearing to make way for strip malls.

How closely foresters work with the mills or in the mills.

I realize now that we are NOT cutting down ALL the trees.

There is not a shortage of trees but trees are being conserved and properly managed for future use.

I have a renewed respect for the industry and how it makes everyone's life more comfortable and convenient.

That forestry is highly productive and highly sustainable for the future. I have a new appreciation for all of the products that come from the forest and the BMPs used to protect the forest.

The forest industry is environmental by protecting the sustainability of our resources while creating economic benefits at the same time.

That clearcutting is not what I thought it was. If done correctly and replanted then it will continue to provide wood for years to come.

It is beneficial to the environment and not harmful like I've thought my entire life.

I'm very proud of my state and local businesses. I never knew so many good things were right here in my backyard. As an educator I wish there were more tours of our local businesses. I would also like to participate more in Chesterfield County forestry business. I see what a valuable resource I have within my reach. I never knew so much was quietly going on in my community and the incredible work foresters are doing.

Sustainable forestry is an excellent way to produce trees. I didn't know that foresters are highly educated. A lot with Masters' degrees.

The thinnings and clearcuts that are used to sustainably manage the forests.

I now realize that forestry is more than aesthetics and involves well planned management.

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

I knew nothing of the process or concepts and now I have an extremely good understanding of all of these things of the forest, including harvesting resources.

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Canfor sawmill presentation before tour.



Teachers Tour Sponsors' Dinner

TEAM SAFE TRUCKING: RELEASING 30 FORESTRY TRANSPORTATION TRAINING MODULES IN 2018

Team Safe Trucking has been working on developing a Forestry Transportation Training Program for Forestry Transportation professionals since 2015. This year the organization has hired their first employee thank you to WSR (Wood Supply Research Institute), she is a Safety Director from Maine, Miranda Gowell. Miranda has been working on the development of a curriculum along side with Jeremiah O'Donovan, Team Safe Trucking's Executive Director and the Team Safe Trucking Executive Committee, Mike Macedo, Danny Dructor, Joanne Reese, Keith Biggs, Jimmie Locklear, John Lemire, Scott Barrett, Richard Meyer, Richard Schwab.

Recently, Jeremiah O'Donovan announced that the Team Safe Training curriculum has been developed. That there will be three training tracks for the online training: Forestry Transportation Owners (FTO), Forestry Transportation Drivers (FTD) and Forestry Transportation Safety Professionals (FTSP). The curriculum includes 30 class offerings, each class covers a topic. The classes will cover the following topics and more: Introduction to Team Safe Trucking, Driver Qualifications, Driver Selection, Driver Training, Driver Condition, Maintenance Program/Vehicle Condition, Alcohol, Fatigue, Medical Clearance, Fleet Safety Programs, Accountability, Speeding, Distracted Driving, Right of Way, Turns & Curves, Following Distance, Rollovers, Clearance, Backing, Passing, Stopping and Parking, Coupling and Uncoupling, Railroads, DOT Inspections, Accidents, Breakdowns, Accident Investigations, Mill General Safety, Loading and Unloading, Entering and Exiting the Woods. The classes will range in length from 15-30 minutes. Each training track will be approximately six to seven and half hours of forestry transportation industry training. After completing each class, a certificate will be issued to the student for that topic. There will be quizzes following each training class, which can be downloaded and saved to document the student's completion of the training session. When Owners, Drivers and Safety Professionals complete their training tracks, they will receive a picture ID card certifying the individual as either an FTO, FTD or FTSP.

Team Safe Trucking's online training platform has the unique capacity to store and print each student training records at any time after completion of a class. Miranda believes this is a valuable resource for Forestry Transportation Owners, Drivers and Safety Professionals. Prospective employers can pay an annual due to Team Safe Trucking to have access to training records at Team Safe Trucking. Prospective employers may request permission to request training records from Team Safe Trucking training records

from prospective drivers. Upon permission being granted, Team Safe Trucking can release training records to the member/prospective employer and gain access to the drivers training records. Participants training records are retrieved by the combination of a participants' driver's license number and first and last name.



It has been estimated that there are 88,000 forestry transportation drivers in the United States. Team Safe Trucking has announced their goal to reach 5% of the forestry transportation drivers approximately 4,500 drivers by years end. The challenge is more than you may think. Many drivers do not

have smart phones where they could complete the training online. The word needs to get out to forestry transportation professionals. Owners, drivers and safety professionals in the industry need to make the commitment to complete the trainings. But not only that there is a financial challenge ahead of Team Safe Trucking. When Team Safe Trucking meets this goal, the organization will need to cover costs associated with users utilizing the online training platform. The non-profit is charged based on users using the training platform. If all the potential forestry transportation employees in the United States were reached, the investment for this training will be approximately \$180,000.00 a year. Since the beginning, Team Safe Trucking Board members have had the goal to provide this training at no-cost to Forestry Transportation Owners, Drivers and Safety Professionals. To try to keep that goal, Team Safe Trucking is looking to apply for two grants to support this endeavor (OSHA's Susan Howard Grant and The Washington SHIP Grant each are approximately \$150,000). Team Safe Trucking board members are looking at other ways to support this Team Safe Trucking Forestry Transportation Training effort. During that effort have decided to have Educational Training Sponsors, who will offer all modules and topics released after module two this Summer.

In 2017, Team Safe Trucking released an online training Module One Forestry Transportation Owners and Drivers. This module is available now to Mills, Logging Associations, Universities, Technical Schools and others whom are interested in holding classroom trainings, conduct online trainings and just to review. If you are interested becoming a train-the-trainer you can attend a train-the-trainer training by registering for one of the train-the-trainer trainings at <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/d933517e580762867510d14dfea9e911>, Miranda holds trainings every Wednesday 10AM to 10:45AM. If you are interested in becoming an educational training sponsor please reach out to Miranda Gowell at Miranda.gowell@teamsafetrucking.com or by phone at 207-841-0250.



FIRST SC LOGGER APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM ESTABLISHED

Congratulations to Beech Island Timber & Construction, Inc., Jackson, SC for being the first SC timber harvesting business to have a Logger Apprenticeship Program. Josh Key, Beech Island Timber & Construction President/Owner and his daughter Shelley Bowman worked to develop this new logger apprenticeship program. Shelley spearheaded the effort to make this program a reality.

Working with Robert Crenshaw, consultant with Apprenticeship Carolina of the SC Technical College System and LaFayette Stewart of Aiken Works, this is the "first" SC logger apprenticeship program now officially recognized and certified by the SC Department of Labor and the U.S. Department of Labor. The program works in conjunction with the Aiken County School District and its student work program entitled Aiken Works.

This program allows high school juniors and seniors to be apprentices in a logging business. Mr. Crenshaw, Shelley and Josh developed two apprentice program templates... one for young people and another for adults to learn about the professional timber harvesting business with real live training on the jobsite and in the shop and business. The only exception is the apprentices cannot operate timber harvesting equipment if they are under eighteen years of age, but can be on the jobsite for education and training.

Shelley's son Bentley and her sister Allison's son Cameron, along with Austin Reynolds and Kevin Hood will be the first logger apprentices working and training with Beech Island Timber & Construction.

The apprentices will train and work on learning areas defined in the templates and have to complete the required number of training hours for each specific area such as small engine repair, timber harvesting operational tasks, etc. The program is very comprehensive and provides real time training to the apprentices. Once the apprentice has fulfilled the required hours and demonstrates competency in each training task, then the trainer will sign off on the training task on the working template. The apprentices will be paid while they are working with Beech Island Timber. And the company can receive a \$ 1,000 tax credit for each apprentice.

SCTPA provided information and participated in this program development. But the real credit goes to Beech Island Timber & Construction. SCTPA's plan is to take this program to the more rural counties around the state where timber harvesting has a foot print and attempt to get the program instituted. Not all counties have a program like Aiken Works, but hopefully there is something similar. Robert Crenshaw will be our lead consultant as we establish this program in the state.

SCTPA's Board of Directors member Bob Lussier, Great Woods Companies, Bennettsville, received the templates from SCTPA and took the idea and program to Marlboro County representatives. SCTPA will work with Robert and Bob to get this going in Marlboro County.

Again, congratulations to Shelley, Josh and the entire crew at Beech Island Timber for your diligent work to make this a reality for SC's timber harvesting industry.

For information, contact SCTPA's Crad Jaynes, 803-957-9919 or 803-530-5874, Shelley Bowman, 803-827-1807, Robert Crenshaw, Apprenticeship Carolina, 803-508-7400 and LaFayette Stewart, 803-646-8985 about Aiken Works.



Apprenticeship certificate



Apprentice Austin Reynolds, Josh Key, Beech Island Timber, apprentices Cameron Lowe and Kevin Hood



Apprentice Bentley Bowman



Robert Crenshaw explains apprenticeship program documents



Crad Jaynes, Cameron Lowe, Josh Key, *Blue* the Blue Tick Hound, Shelley Bowman, Austin Reynolds, Kevin Hood



LaFayette Stewart, Aiken Works; Shelley Bowman, Beech Island Timber; Crad Jaynes, SCTPA; Robert Crenshaw, Apprenticeship Carolina



Josh Key, Allison Lowe, Shelley Bowman, LaFayette Stewart

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American Master Logger Certification® Committee Appoints Richard Schwab Chair



The American Master Logger Certification® (AMLC), a project of The American Loggers Council (ALC) is pleased to announce logger Richard Schwab, Vice President of M.A. Rigoni, Inc. in Perry, Florida is taking over as Chair of the AMLC Committee. Schwab is well known nationally and in the southeast for his past leadership roles in the ALC, Southeast Wood Producers Association and many civic endeavors.

The Committee is indebted to former Chairman, Crad Jaynes, President & CEO of the South Carolina Timber Producers Association for his direction of this important movement from 2003 to May of 2018. The ALC first adopted American Master Logger Certification® in 2002 as a national model for third party verified, responsible logging. Since its inception more than 18 states have approved templates for implementation of the program.

M.A. Rigoni, Inc., established in 1960 and under the Schwab and Brett's family's direction since 1995, is well known throughout the southeast as a pioneer in innovative harvesting and utilization practices. In 2016, M.A. Rigoni, Inc. was honored as 'National Outstanding Logger' by the Forest Resource Association. Richard Schwab is well respected by his colleagues and employees for having a hands-on or servant style of leadership. Richard's reputation demonstrates the greatest level of commitment to the 'Seven Areas of Responsibility' and the 'Logger Owned Logger Controlled' that is central to the American Master Logger Certification program.

Under Schwab's guidance, the American Master Logger Certification® program is poised to take off across the nation, expanding the numbers of Certified Logging companies and promoting better understanding of modern, responsible timber harvesting to the public. "I am passionate about taking the American Master Logger Certification® program to the next level and to additional states across the U.S.," says Schwab.

For more information about American Master Logger Certification®, please visit our website at www.americanmasterlogger.com and find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/AmericanMasterLogger/.



ALC Survey Results: Is Logging an Agricultural Activity?

In last month's newsletter, we asked members whether the American Loggers Council should pursue aligning timber harvesting and logging activities with agriculture, in order to receive the same benefits and exceptions that agriculture receives under federal law. **The answer we received was overwhelming yes.** Of the 166 loggers who took our online poll, 97 percent expressed interest in this policy initiative.

Thank you to those who took the time to answer our survey. We will keep you updated about this effort in the future.

TRUCKING INDUSTRY LOSING DRIVERS FASTER THAN THEY CAN RECRUIT

By Ross Norton
GSA Business Report

June 1, 2018

South Carolina is looking for a few good truckers — more than a few, actually.

Players in the industry say we already have a trucker shortage and a single statistic suggests it will get worse if something doesn't change. Truckers are aging. While almost half of them are older than 52, according to data from the South Carolina Trucking Association, just 0.5% are between 18 and 21 years old.

For whatever reason, said Jim Newsome, president and CEO of the South Carolina Ports Authority, younger people don't want to be truckers, and that's something the transportation and logistics industries need to address.

In his case, 25,000 containers move on and off ships each week at the Port of Charleston, and even the ones that leave the port on rail will eventually be placed on a truck chassis or have been on one already. The South Carolina ports experience 7,000 truck transactions at its terminals every day at Wando Welch and North Charleston. Trucks move 70% of the nation's freight and the entire economy will benefit from re-recruiting more people into trucking careers and treating them well when they get there, Newsome said.

Truckers can work no more than 11 hours a day, by law, so the coastal ports and the two inland ports work to make sure truckers can get in and out quickly and efficiently so that their limited time isn't

burned up waiting to turn around a load.

It's an effort to help the working day go smoother for drivers who haven't always been treated with an even hand, Newsome said, and it's the kind of effort that should be more widespread.

"If we treat them with respect and dignity and make sure they have good working conditions and get in and out efficiently, then they can make a decent living," he said.

The South Carolina Trucking Association says the nation is 50,000 short of the number of drivers needed to meet the need now and the shortage will grow to 175,000 by 2024 if the current trend continues. A report from the American Trucking Association says 900,000 truckers are needed in the next decade just to keep pace with current demands.

A report from the online freight marketplace DAT Solutions says just one truck was available for every 12 loads awaiting shipment in January this year, the most unbalanced market since the days just after Hurricane Katrina.

The South Carolina Trucking Association is encouraging action in a number of areas, including changes that would lower insurance companies' expectations of experience for new drivers and laws that would enable drivers under 21 to cross the borders of states adjacent to the one that has licensed them. Currently drivers under 21 can't cross state borders. The association also is looking for ways to partner with high schools, technical colleges and industry to develop a pool of drivers.

(Continued on page 13)



(Continued from page 12)

The Truck Driving Training Program at Greenville Technical College is always full, according to Brian Chambers, academic program director. The nine-week program graduates 55-60 students each semester and he said the trucking industry is eager for them to finish.

"I had four emails today and I get calls every day from people wanting to know if I can recommend a driver," he said on a recent afternoon. "So the demand for employment is there and it's growing."

"So the demand for employment is there and it's growing."

He said first-year truck drivers can make \$45,000 to \$70,000 a year. "It depends on the company and how much they're willing to work," Chambers said, "but if they're willing to work five days a week and get out there and work and hustle, they can make toward the high end of that range very easily."

Several attempts to get comments from trucking companies for this story were unsuccessful.

The shortage is not bringing business to a halt, at least not in the international intermodal industry, which is where the ports come in, but Newsome said the shipping industry is keenly aware that cargo movement could be affected if the shortage extends much further.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

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

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South Carolina's forest products industry.*



LOGGERS WORKING FOR LOGGERS



About once a year we like to remind loggers and log haulers why they should, if not already, be involved with a State and/or Regional Association representing loggers and log haulers. Perhaps the biggest reason is the question, "if loggers are not representing the best interests of the timber harvesting profession, then who is?"

When you step back and look at some of the benefits that both State and Regional Associations have worked on covering both the political and working landscapes, you can't help but wonder where our industry might be if you did not have these organizations out there working for you.

Let's start with an issue that brought many of our associations together, worker's compensation insurance. Many state associations have successfully petitioned their state insurance boards to create a tiered structure for logging insurance rates based on mechanized versus non-mechanized jobs

Let's talk about truck weights, many state and regional associations have been able to see an increase in gross truck weights on State and County roads as a direct result of having their associations lobby their respective legislative bodies to allow tolerances over and above the 80,000 pound gross weight limit found on the Interstate Highway System, simply because we are hauling an agriculture commodity that is subject to many variances in weight, both physical and weather related.

Let's talk about taxes. There are many states that have exempted timber harvesting equipment from ad valorem taxes and either reduced or completely eliminated sales tax on logging equipment and parts being used in timber harvesting operations.

These are just a few examples, and there are other ideas that have been brought to the table in state and regional logger organizations, saving millions of dollars for the logging sector through greater efficiencies and cost cutting measures.

With all of the regulations that are currently burdening the industry, it is good to know that you have

an association working for you that can keep you up to date on changes that can save your business from unwanted fines and penalties for non-compliance.

If you are reading this and not supporting your local state and/or regional organization, then you need to realize that the efforts of those that are is probably one of the reasons that you are still in the business. While it is preferable to be an active member of an organization, your donation through membership dues will go a long way in supporting the organization that is out there supporting you and your livelihood.

The American Loggers Council is the National Association of State and Regional logging associations. We will continue to bring the logger's voice to Washington, DC, but we need healthy State and Regional logging associations that can participate with us to make that happen. If you are not already, please consider supporting your state associations, it is an investment in your future, and ours. We are "Loggers Working for Loggers."

Danny Dructor is the Executive Vice President for the American Loggers Council with offices near Hemphill, Texas. The American Loggers Council is a 501 (c)(6) not for profit trade organization representing professional timber harvesters in 33 states across the United States. If you would like to learn more about the ALC, please visit their web site at www.amloggers.com, or contact their office at 409-625-0206.





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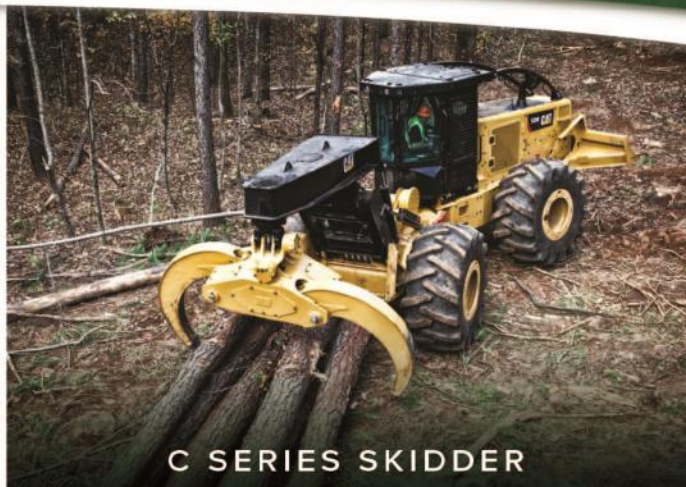


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BILL TO REPEAL FET ON TRUCKS AND TRAILERS MAKES ITS WAY TO SENATE

U.S. Sen. Cory Gardner (R-Colo.) has introduced S. 3052, a bill to repeal the 12-percent federal excise tax (FET) on the sale of heavy-duty trucks and trailers. The federal excise tax on commercial trucks and buses was originally imposed in 1917 to help pay for World War I. It has grown from 3 percent to 12 percent and adds \$12,000 to \$22,000 on the price of a new heavy-duty truck. It is the highest excise tax Congress levies on a percentage basis on any product, including alcohol and tobacco

“This burdensome tax creates excessive costs that are passed on to truckers, who play an essential role in maintaining our nation’s economy,” states Sen. Gardner. “I was happy to introduce legislation to repeal it.”

S. 3052 is similar to the “Heavy Truck, Tractor and Trailer Retail Federal Excise Tax Repeal Act” (H.R. 2946) introduced by U.S. Rep. Doug LaMalfa (R-Calif.) in June 2017. The House bill currently has 17 bipartisan cosponsors.



Registration for 24th American Loggers Council Annual Meeting Now Open



24th Annual Meeting
October 11-13, 2018
Shilo Inn Suites & Hotel
Seaside Convention Center
Seaside, Oregon



Message from ALC President Mark Turner:

On behalf of the American Loggers Council and the Associated Oregon Loggers, Inc., I invite you to attend our 24th Annual Meeting in scenic Seaside, Oregon.

Getting to Seaside is not near as difficult as it was during the Lewis and Clark expedition. You can fly into Portland International Airport rent a car and enjoy the approximately 1-1/2 hour scenic drive across the mountain pass along Oregon State Highway 26.

Registration, the Thursday welcome reception, Friday breakfast, and both the logging and ALC ladies tours will be based out of the Shilo Inn Suites Hotel. All other meetings and events will be held at the Seaside Convention Center, a short walk or quick drive from the hotel.

Claire and I are excited that you are visiting our part of the country, and we, as well as the AOL, will do all that we can to make this a trip that you will enjoy. Come relax in the surroundings, enjoy the scenery along the Pacific coastline, and find out why we are proud to call Oregon our home.

Mark Turner
President – American Loggers Council

For registration packet, go to www.amloggers.com & click on ALC 24th Annual Meeting – Seaside, Oregon on the right side of the ALC home page.

WSRI Notes

May 9, 2018



My last "Notes" were released in December 2017. Here is a summary of what has taken place in the WSRI world since then.

- Budget stuff

- ◇ As of May 1, 2018 WSRI had net assets of \$209,243.
- ◇ The research obligation of \$25,000 for completion of the Virginia Tech LEAN project has been paid. Also paid are the first of three installments to Sewall for their work on our Certified Logger Programs project and the second of seven installments to Team Safe Trucking to support training module development and deployment.
- ◇ Research obligations currently outstanding total \$65,855 for completion of the Sewall and TST projects. Both of them will be completed in the fall of 2018.
- ◇ 2018 dues collected as of the end of April total \$104,125 toward a pledged amount of \$115,500. Thanks to all WSRI members for your continued support.

- Membership

- ◇ WestRock announced that they are leaving WSRI.
- ◇ WSRI currently has 38 members.

- WSRI 20th Annual Meeting

- ◇ We held our 20th annual meeting in New Orleans on April 18th. Our meeting came at the tail end of the FRA annual meeting held at the same location. 41 members and guests attended.
- ◇ o Business items included approval of the 2018 budget, Executive Committee representation, Board representation,

and a number of amendments to the WSRI bylaws.

- ◇ Tom Trone presented history, details and perspective related to the development of WSRI's new Strategic Plan.
- ◇ Dr. Henry Quesada and Paula Fallas-Valverde summarized their work that explores the opportunity to apply Lean principles to the wood supply value chain.
- ◇ A panel representing four logging firms that use GPS and other truck tracking technologies lead an informative and entertaining session on their experiences with using these systems.
- ◇ Jeremiah Odonovan, President of TST summarized the goals and status of the effort we are funding with them to develop log truck safety and awareness training modules and systems for their deployment to end users.
- ◇ Minutes of the annual meeting are currently being reviewed by our attorney and will be released soon.

- Projects Completed

- ◇ Virginia Tech's final report, A Lean Logistics Framework: Applications in the Wood Fiber Supply Process, was released in February.
- ◇ The report, along with a "Director's Cut" summary are available on our website, www.wsri.org, under WSRI Research Completed. - Page 2 -
- ◇ A main conclusion of the report is that several of the specific sources of waste that Lean seeks to identify do exist in the wood fiber supply process based on the case studies Tech did. The report

(Continued on page 21)

(Continued from page 20)

states that the metrics used to identify and track the magnitude of these wastes in manufacturing processes are not widely employed by the wood supply sector. Tech admits that “insiders” to a given wood supply stream could do a better job than they did of quantifying actual opportunities through the application of Lean principles. Since many WSRI companies have experience with Lean, one action members might take is to use this report as a catalyst to support an internally-lead green or black belt project.

- ◇ As part of this project Virginia Tech has agreed to conduct a few seminars for individual WSRI members upon request. Anyone interested is encouraged to contact Dr. Quesada or me.

- **Projects Underway**

- ◇ We have two great projects underway.
- ◇ The first with Team Safe Trucking to develop log truck safety and awareness training modules and deploy them is off to a roaring start. TST has hired Miranda Gowell to provide a much-needed, full-time human asset to this effort. Significant progress has been made in the development of new module content and the overall energy around this project is strong coming from a variety of sources. Check the WSRI website, the TST website, and FRA publications for continuing updates.
- ◇ Our second project, Value Assessment of Certified Logger Programs, is also off to a good start. James W. Sewall company has the contract to do this work. Details of what we are asking for and how they intend to accomplish the task are available on our website under WSRI Research Underway. This project may involve contact with you or someone in your organization. Please facilitate data collection however you can if you are contacted.

- **Executive Committee Plans**

- ◇ The WSRI Executive Committee met in New Orleans in person and/or by phone.
- ◇ All agree that major decisions about the future of WSRI need to be made this year. Membership trends, funding, direction, and the coordination of our efforts with those of other organizations demand a definitive recommendation on a plan of action to the Board.
- ◇ Members of the Executive Committee have tentatively agreed to a face-to-face meeting somewhere in or near Atlanta by this summer.

- **Web Postings**

- ◇ I want to remind you that WSRI has a new website that is more up-to-date with information about our work than ever. Please visit it and contact me with any observations, questions, or suggestions you may have.

WSRI Chairman – Brad Fuller

WSRI Executive Director – Steve Carruth

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Why Logger Owned and Logger Controlled Certification Produces Results

By Ted Wright, Executive Director
Trust to Conserve Northeast Forestlands, and
Jennifer Hartsig, Coordinator
American Master Logger Certification© Program

The American Master Logger Certification© (AMLC), a project of The American Loggers Council (ALC) kicked off its revitalized program just over two months ago at the ALC Fly-In in Washington, DC. One of the most exciting components of this project is to spread the 'logger owned and logger controlled' Master Logger Certification© program across the United States to help loggers earn respect and improve their image through branding.

The American Master Logger Certification© program seeks to unite professional loggers under a common cause of promoting the advancement of the timber harvesting companies that meet or exceed high performance standards, and to gain recognition and respect for these highly professional timber harvesting companies by the American public. Over the past two months, we have had the chance to see firsthand how the AMLC program is gaining momentum as a vehicle for like-minded, high quality timber harvesters to share ideas and work together to effect positive change for the industry. This program has active participation by logger representatives from over 18 states and is growing.

During the recent AMLC committee meeting, a new chairman for the program was selected by the group. Logger Richard Schwab, Vice President of M.A. Rigoni, Inc. in Perry, Florida was chosen by his peers to take over as Chair of the AMLC Committee. Schwab is well known nationally and in the southeast for his past leadership roles in the ALC, Southeast Wood Producers Association and many civic endeavors. Richard's reputation demonstrates the greatest level of commitment to the 'Seven Areas of Responsibility' and the 'Logger Owned Logger Controlled' philosophy that

is central to the American Master Logger Certification program.

Under Schwab's guidance, the American Master Logger Certification© program is poised to take off across the nation, expanding the numbers of Certified Logging companies and promoting better understanding of modern, responsible timber harvesting to the public. "I am passionate about taking the American Master Logger Certification© program to the next level and to additional states across the U.S.", says Schwab.

Another example of the commitment to American Master Logger Certification©'s 'logger run, logger controlled' set of standards was expressed by Mark Turner, current president of American Loggers Council and owner of Turner Logging in Oregon. Mark traveled from Oregon to speak to the Professional Logging Contractors of Maine on May 4, 2018 during their recent annual meeting. In this excerpt of Turner's remarks, he highlights one of the overarching components of the AMLC program:

"In Oregon, as in many other parts of the country, the largest logger training programs have been essentially forced on us by the mills and timber companies we work for. This has never sat very well with me and it is my hope that

the American Master Logger Certification© Program can be something that we, the loggers of the United States, can take ownership of. Something that we do not because someone else has told us we have to, but rather something that we do because it is good for business, and more importantly, because it is the right thing to do."

Pride in doing the right thing and recognition for good work is certainly one of the most commonly cited reasons we hear about for going through the Master Logger Certification© process, and something we are hearing coast-to-coast and north-to-south. In many areas, earning Master Logger Certification© also brings a variety of tangible incentives that can add up financially.

In Missouri, Master Logger Certified companies are

(Continued on page 25)



(Continued from page 24)

recognized with preferential status when bidding on state land jobs. Jason Jensen, a Supervisor of the Missouri Department of Conservation has this to say: "One way of rewarding Master Loggers is by a point system. And the bottom line is that a Master Logger can bid ... less on a timber sale and still be awarded that sale. What we expect to gain is a little better job of managing our forest resource and less time by our timber sale".

Shannon Jarvis, owner Master Logger Certified® Jarvis Timber Company, LLC states "Some mills will give a bonus for a Master Logger. My insurance company has discounted my rate on equipment insurance for being a Master Logger. And, I find it easier purchasing timber from landowners when they realize they are getting a Master Logger and getting a top quality job".

In Maine, Master Logger Certified companies have earned preferential interest rates on environmentally friendly equipment through the Direct Link Loan program. Brian Souers, owner of Treeline, Inc. says "It has been a big help by lowering finance costs on low ground pressure, environmentally friendly, equipment. There is normally a premium on this type of equipment, so this program helps to mitigate that cost." An interest rate subsidy is available to qualified borrowers for equipment loans through the Direct Link program.

Matt Jensen, past ALC president and owner of Whitetail Logging in Crandon, WI also reports similar benefits for being a Master Logger Certified® company, including insurance breaks, bidding on state jobs, and some preferential mill contracts and access to market share. In Michigan and Wisconsin, Secura Insurance offers a substantial premium reduction to Master Loggers on liability insurance. A Lake States consulting forester stated working with Master Logger Certified companies "dramatically decreased administrative and field costs because of the quality of the work".

The reason behind earned incentives like these is the fact that Master Logger Certified® companies ARE safer, more productive and more adherent to best practices for environmental concerns. Master Logger Certified® companies have proven they are innovative business owners with solid track records,

fair employers and excellent stewards of the land they are entrusted to harvest. Richard Schwab, Mark Turner, Shannon Jarvis, Brian Souers, Matt Jensen and other Master Logger Certified® companies across the country are leading by example in the work they do, the products they send to market and image they project to the public.

As a group, Master Logger Certified® Companies make top customers for insurance products, equipment loans and make the jobs of state agencies easier. As the number of Master Logger Certified companies grows across the US, the greater the expansion of these tangible incentives. We plan to highlight benefits of the Master Logger Certification® program in more depth during future articles.

For more information about American Master Logger Certification®, please visit our website at www.americanmasterlogger.com and find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/AmericanMasterLogger/.



Mindfulness Holds Safety Initiatives In Place

From the 'People Power' column in *Timber Harvesting* magazine

By: Wendy Farrand, Owner of WFarrand Consulting



There are many things that help strengthen safety in the woods, including PPE, bright colored vests, chaps, separation of duties, eye contact, meetings, best practices, and lockout-tagout procedures. All of these and more are vital to creating a safe work environment and combating complacency.

Even so, one of the most important tools loggers have when it comes to safety is that beautiful gem that fits snugly under a hardhat, the brain. Utilizing that tool effectively can make the difference between life and death.



Mindfulness is an activity that simply means placing one's attention squarely on the present, in the moment, and the immediate surroundings. It's a very hard thing to do in the best of circumstances, let alone under the stressful work environment loggers endure. Regulations, fuel prices, payments, lining up jobs and quotas can pull your thoughts out of the moment and into dangerous distraction.

As you read this, stop and make yourself aware of your immediate surroundings. Become mindful: Clear your head of the chatter, the future, the past, kids, family members and bills to pay. Be present in the sound and the light and the activity around you. You may hear a car going by or a bird calling out—sounds you most likely wouldn't notice during the most hectic parts of your day.

It's not an easy thing to do, is it? Our minds are swirling with all sorts of information that takes us out of the present, but mindfulness can grow stronger the more you do it.

Once I finished a safety presentation and a retired cutter came up and told me how he had been working in the woods since he was 14. On one of his first days on the job, his boss gave him a stern lecture: "Boy! You ever find your mind wandering while you're cuttin', you stop! Ya hear me? Put that saw down and sit on a stump until your mind is ready to focus on cuttin'."

What an incredible amount of insight that old-time boss had. He taught that young logger a lesson and gave him a beautiful gift burned into his memory that stayed for his entire career—scaring a young logger into mindfulness so he could live to retire. And the

retired cutter who told the story remembered the lesson like it was yesterday.

Alerting crew members to the danger present when their minds wander draws attention to how important mindfulness and employee engagement are. Let them know that mindfulness is expected while they are operating your equipment.

Supervisors are responsible for cultivating a mindful crew. Being mindful is an activity, a conscious choice, and should be discussed daily to raise the level of safety awareness. Mindfulness in any profession is key to employee engagement and self-awareness, and for those who risk their lives, it is critical for safety.

Know Your Crew

Take the time to know each employee, their tendencies, work habits, strengths and weaknesses. Knowing those things can alert you when something is going on, leading to an employee not fully engaged in their job. Does an employee seem stressed, distant, sick or worried about a loved one? These types of things take us outside of the moment and sidetrack the brain to think of things that have nothing to do with the immediate task at hand.

Leaders can sometimes shy away from what they might label "touchy feely" stuff, and trust me, you are not alone in your thinking. I have heard that from a lot of people I have worked with, regardless of the industry and level of danger. I have also seen the results of a leader who pays close attention to these things, and the positive impact that it has on safety and production.

It's your job to notice when a typically reliable employee starts to show signs of waning engagement on the job. A good leader will not judge these changes before asking some important questions of that crew member to get a feel for what might be going on. The more questions you ask, the better.

Yes, there are a lot of things that go into creating a safe job site, but maintaining mindfulness serves as the foundation for all the other things that you and

(Continued on page 27)

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(Continued from page 26)

your company have in place. How effective is a hardhat if the employee forgets to put it on in a moment of distraction? How effective are those chaps if a frustrated employee says, "I'm not walking back to Joe's truck to get the chaps." How effective is separation of duties when an employee is on the phone making decisions for a sick loved one, or pacing distractedly around dangerous equipment?

Mindfulness is the glue that holds all the other safety initiatives in place, for without a mindful employee a distracted moment can cancel the effectiveness of the most effective PPE.

Step up to the leadership plate and remind em-

ployees every day that a mindful crew is a safer crew. Emphasizing mindfulness can strengthen employee engagement and may someday save a life. Share the importance of mindfulness early and share it often, so your crew members can live to thank you for it!

Wendy Farrand is a forest industry consultant who works to spread the word regarding the value of strengthening "The People Side of Timber Harvesting" and the positive impact that has on safety, production, and overall professionalism in the logging industry.

#

NATIONAL FOREST TIMBERLANDS: FOREST MORTALITY EXCEEDS HARVEST FOR PAST 20 YEARS AND NOW EXCEEDS NET GROWTH

From Healthy Forests, Healthy Communities

Forest mortality exceeded net growth on America's national forest timberlands in 2016, based on data publicly available from the U.S. Forest Service.

Forest growth was 48 percent of mortality, while timber harvests were just 11 percent of what is dying annually. Forest mortality continues to trend upward. Last year the agency estimated there were 6.3 billion dead standing trees in just 11 Western states. What do these data mean? Far more trees are dying due to neglect – catastrophic wildfire, insects, and disease – than are being harvested and utilized as wood products.

Our federal forests are not being actively managed, whether through logging, thinning and prescribed fire. As a result, our forests are dying at an astonishing rate. And today we have millions of acres with dense stands of trees that compete for light and water, making them more vulnerable to changing climate conditions, drought and insect infestations.

And as forest mortality has increased, our forests have become net carbon emitters. In California, for

example, research suggests that that greenhouse gases are billowing out of the state's forests faster than they are being sucked back in.

Scientists have found that active forest management can ease overcrowding, promote tree growth, and help make our forests more resilient to disturbances such as wildfire, insects, and disease. The lack

of forest management and resulting spike in mortality has limited our ability to capture carbon in wood products. Just one cubic meter of a wood product will store one ton of carbon monoxide.

Forest management is a choice. We can continue to allow our forests to die and succumb to catastrophic wild-

fire, insects, and disease. Or, where can manage our forests to promote forest health, resiliency and carbon sequestration, while producing renewable and environmentally-friendly products that meet our daily needs and support thousands of American jobs.

We choose active forest management. If you agree, tell your members of Congress to support forest management reform.

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Whole-tree logging may not hinder plant biodiversity

Michigan Technological University

Public Release: 16-May-2018

As much as we love our two-by-fours and toilet paper, many of us have mixed feelings about logging. Those feelings can morph into straight-out hostility when it comes to removing the branches and treetops, which are increasingly chipped and burned for electrical power generation.

"People think, 'It's bad enough to log, and now you are going to take away the branches that decay and then nurture the ecosystem?'" says Robert Froese, a forest scientist at Michigan Technological University. "But we wondered, what really is the role of branches?"

So, with funding from the National Council for Air and Stream Improvement and Weyerhaeuser, Froese's team decided to find out. What they discovered surprised them: when it comes to plant diversity, harvesting the whole tree does not have dire consequences. The results of their study have been published in the journal *Forest Ecology and Management*.

Along with PhD graduate Michael Premer, Froese studied plant communities scattered throughout 29 aspen stands in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. All the stands had been logged at some point within the last 40 years. In some, only the logs had been taken, while in others the whole tree was harvested.

The researchers expected that plant diversity would go down in stands where whole trees had been removed, perhaps because the tops and branches leave some nitrogen behind to fertilize the soil. That's not what happened.

"What we found is nothing, essentially," Froese says. There was no difference in the composition of the overstory--the trees that grew back after logging. In stands where logging residues had been removed, the understory--shrubs, grasses and other small plants--was actually more diverse. "The difference was small, but it was measurable."

Why? The scientists can't say for sure, but they have a theory. "We believe when you remove logging residues, you disturb the soil more, which increases nitrogen availability," said Froese. "We've been asked if the diversity increased because of an uptick in invasive species, but we didn't find that."

During the study, the scientists made another unexpected discovery. A logging technique that's supposed to protect sensitive soils is actually depressing aspen regeneration.

To protect wetlands and other delicate areas, timber harvesters often use cut-to-length logging, in which trees are delimbed and cut to length directly at the stump. The branches are left behind, and the log is transported along a narrow trail to a landing near a road. Premer found that fewer aspen grew back along those temporary logging trails, and those that did were 20 percent shorter.

"It's likely that loggers are doing this to comply with sustainable forestry practices," Froese says. "But Mike's work suggests that, if you want to maintain productivity, you should probably only log these places in the winter, when the ground is frozen."



Michigan Tech silviculturalists expected that plant diversity would go down in logging stands where whole trees had been removed, perhaps because the tops and branches leave some nitrogen behind to fertilize the soil. That's not what happened; there was no difference between whole-tree logging and leaving material behind.

Credit: Sarah Bird/Michigan Tech

Froese is an associate professor in the School of Forest Resources and Environmental Science.

The article on this study, "Incidental Effects of Cut-to-Length Harvest Systems and Residue Management on Populus tremuloides (Michx.) Regeneration and Yield," coauthored by Froese and Premer, now a silviculturalist with the timberland company Rayonier, was published online April 4 in Forest Science.

The article on the earlier study, "Vegetation Response to Logging Residue Removals in Great Lakes Aspen," was published in the journal Forest Ecology and Management. The coauthors are Froese, Premer, Professor Christopher Webster of Michigan Tech's School of Forest Resources and Environmental Science and Linda Nagel, formerly of the School and now on the faculty of Colorado State University.

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HYDROAX

411B2, 611B2, 411E, 511E, 611E,
411EX, 511EX, 611EX, 711EX & 570

JOHN DEERE

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

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410C, 410D, 410E & 410EX

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AS WE SEE IT ...

AMERICAN LOGGERS COUNCIL

JUNE 2018



LOGGER SURVEY: IS LOGGING AN AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITY? WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK

For years the Agriculture sector has enjoyed various Acts passed in Congress which have helped to bring some semblance of stability to their industry. While there are many inferences to the timber harvesting community in many of these Acts, there is no explicit support for the timber harvesting industry as a whole. We have a valid argument that timber harvesting and logging activities are already recognized in many statutes on a comparative basis with Agriculture, as well as our classification in the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) Code 1133 which falls under agriculture. This code recognizes the industry as being an agricultural crop producer, and the exemptions and the benefits that the agricultural community currently receives should be extended to the logging industry as well.

A few of the Bills where there could be potential benefit for the industry if clarification as to logging being an agricultural industry include:

1. **The Agricultural Marketing Act of June 15, 1929.** This Act established a Federal Farm Board to promote the effective merchandising of agricultural commodities in interstate and foreign commerce, and to place agriculture on a basis of economic equality with other industries. The Act encouraged the organization of producers into effective associations and corporations under their own control for greater unity in effort in marketing and by promoting the establishment of producer-owned and producer-controlled cooperative associations and other agencies. Section 15 (a) states: "As used in this Act the term "cooperative association" means any association in which farmers act together in collectively processing, preparing for market, handling and/or marketing the farm products of persons so en-



(Continued on page 32)

(Continued from page 31)

gaged and also means any association in which farmers act together in collectively purchasing, testing, grading, and/or processing their farm supplies...”.

2. **The Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946.** Section 207. “When used in this title, the term “agricultural products” includes agricultural, horticultural, viticultural, and dairy products, livestock, and poultry, bees, forest products, fish and shellfish, and any product thereof, including processed and manufactured products, and any and all products raised or produced on farms and any processed or manufactured products thereof.” 3. **Agricultural Fair Practices Act of 1967.** “An Act to prohibit unfair trade practices affecting producers of agricultural products and for other purposes.” “Because agricultural products are produced by numerous individual farmers, the marketing and bargaining position of individual farmers will be adversely affected unless they are free to join together voluntarily in cooperative organizations as authorized by law. Interference with this right is contrary to the public interest and adversely affects the free and orderly flow of goods in interstate and foreign commerce. It is, therefore, declared to be policy of Congress and the purpose of this Act, to establish standards of fair practices required of handlers in their dealings in agricultural products.”
3. The Act prohibits the following activities by the “handler”:
 - a. To coerce any producer in the exercise of his right to join and belong to or to refrain from joining or belonging to an association of producers, or to refuse to deal with any producer because of the exercise of his rights to join and belong to such an association.”
 - b. “To discriminate against any producer with respect to price, quantity, quality, or other terms of purchase, acquisition, or other handling of agricultural products because of his membership in or contact with an association of producers or a contract with a handler.”
 - c. “To coerce or intimidate any producer to enter into, maintain, breach, cancel, or terminate a membership agreement or marketing contract with an association of producers or a contract with a handler.”
 - d. “To pay or loan money, give anything of value, or offer any other inducement or reward to a

producer for refusing to or ceasing to belong to an association of producers.”

- e. “To make false reports about the finances, management, or activities of associations of producers or handlers.”
- f. “To conspire, combine, agree, or arrange with any person to do, or aid or abet the doing of, any act made unlawful by this Act.”

Many lawmakers in Washington, DC are surprised to find out that the logging industry is not always considered a part of Agriculture in many of the statutes that exist today. While several states have made it quite clear that logging is considered an agricultural activity and offered up many of same exemptions and exceptions that our friends in agriculture currently enjoy at the State level, **we are behind the curve in making our case at the national level.**

We would like to hear back from you on whether or not the American Loggers Council should actively pursue this issue, and of course we would welcome any comments or concerns that you might have as we move forward. Please click to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CVGBH5W> to vote in our online poll.

You can also feel free to contact us at 409-625-0206, e-mail at americanlogger@aol.com (please include “logging as ag” in the subject line), write comments on our Facebook page (American Loggers Council), or mail us at ALC, PO Box 966, Hemphill, TX 75948. We look forward to hearing from you.

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



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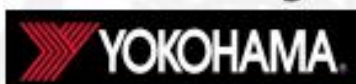
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...BREAKING NEWS...

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



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Mark Your Calendar

July 2018

- 19 – 21 American Loggers Council Summer Board of Directors Meeting, Moline, IL
Hosted by John Deere
25 Wood Supply Research Institute Board of Directors Executive Committee Meeting, Atlanta, GA

August 2018

- 23 SCTPA Board of Directors Meeting, SC Forestry Commission Headquarters,
10:00 a.m., Columbia
28 Newberry District Meeting, Farm Bureau Office, 7:00 p.m., Newberry

September 2018

- 11 SFI State Implementation Committee Meeting, Forestry Association of SC,
Columbia
No Newberry District Meeting in September

October 2018

- 3 & 4 Timber Operations Professional (TOP) 2-Day Classes, Columbia. Contact
Guy Sabin at Forestry Association of SC for registration & details – 803-
798-4170
25 SCTPA Board of Directors Meeting, SC Forestry Commission Headquarters,
10 a.m. Columbia
30 Newberry District Meeting, Farm Bureau Office, 7:00 p.m., Newberry

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

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

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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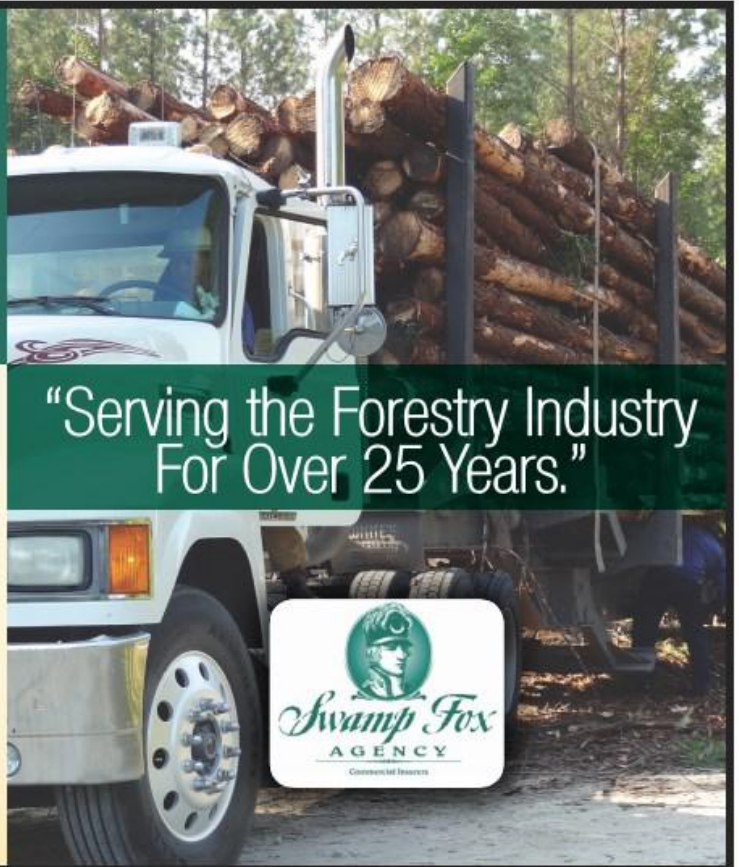
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Our Mission

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