



Timber Times

Partners for Healthy Forests

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President's Message

Happy New Year CTIA members!!! Another new year is upon us and I don't know if I am getting slower or the years just keep going faster! I am looking forward to having a business man in the White House that understands a bottom line and will hopefully trim the government's expenses while at the same time selling more timber resources to get product into today's markets!

I always enjoy looking to the horizon each day to see how the day is going to begin and so far this year looks to be promising. On February 14th at 5:00 PM we are co-hosting our annual Legislative Social and I want to let all of you know that you are welcome. After attending this social for many years, I can truly say it is an eye opener to have this little window of opportunity to meet and visit with your state representatives.

CTIA is also holding our annual meeting in Delta, CO this year so please put this on your calendar! The Annual Meeting and dinner will be the evening of April 20th, and the Logger Continuing Education will be on April 21st.

January is also the start of a new year of recruitment for new members and getting old members to sign back up again. Let us get the word out to join up and be counted and be a proud member of the CTIA! I hope this year finds you well and that it may be a profitable one at that. Hope to see you at the annual meeting!!

Dan Casey/CTIA President

The Colorado Timber Industry Association (CTIA) is an association of small, family-owned businesses committed to logging, processing and performing service work in the forests of Colorado. We are exceptional partners to the public and private stewards of our valuable and beautiful forests. We embrace Best Management Practices (BMPs) and sustainable forestry. To meet these values, we host annual continuing education classes on BMPs and conduct field audits to demonstrate our accountability to high quality, active management designed to promote long term forest health.

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**NEWSLETTER &
GOV'T AFFAIRS**
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Trump Transition

President Trump has nominated former Georgia Gov. Sonny Perdue to be the next Secretary of Agriculture. It's clear his confirmation will not come until mid-February at earliest. After that, USDA Under Secretaries will be nominated and go through the confirmation process. It will likely be late spring or early summer before personnel placements in USDA are completed. In the meantime, the Trump Transition Team has a "beachhead team" in place at USDA, and Forest Service Associate Chief Dan Jiron is acting as Deputy Undersecretary for Natural Resources and Environment, overseeing the Forest Service and the NRCS.

President Trump's Inaugural Address was decidedly pro-business and pro-manufacturing, with a promise to bring back jobs and restart idled factories. The speech had a very protectionist tone and a blunt call for curtailing the size and reach of the Federal government.

In the meantime, the Trump Administration has implemented a hiring freeze for federal agencies, including the Forest Service.

We've been working with Bill Imbergamo, Executive Director at the Federal Forests Resource Coalition, on policy recommendations to the Trump Transition Team.



CTIA Website Upgrade

Over the next month or so, we're going to work on updating the CTIA website, and we're looking for your input. Our current thinking is that the overall design is good and we mostly need to focus on making updates to the list of members, BMP Audit Reports, publications, etc.

We'd appreciate if you'd take a few minutes, some dark and stormy night, to review the CTIA website (<http://www.coloradotimber.org/>) and contact either Tom (t_troxel@hills.net) or Molly (coloradopitts@gmail.com) with any comments or brilliant ideas.

One specific upgrade we're considering is a link to the Colorado Forest Products Database to help visitors to the CTIA website find where to buy Colorado wood products; here's a link to that site - <http://cfp.csfs.colostate.edu/> .

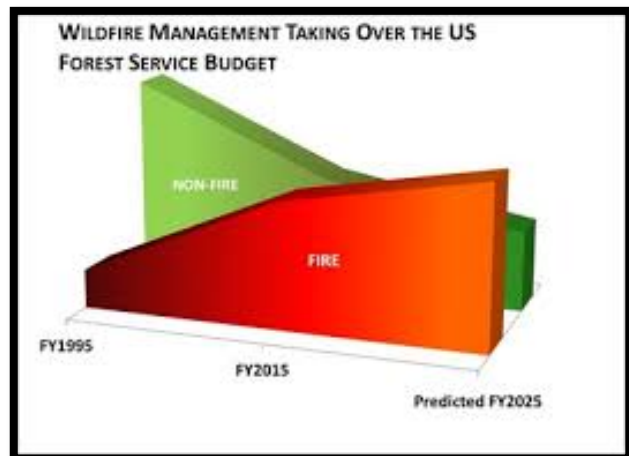
We'd appreciate any comments by February 10.

Appropriations/Fire Funding

Congress will be working on two rounds of appropriations this year – the first to compete FY 2017 funding beyond April 28, 2017, when the current Continuing Resolution expires, and the second to fund the federal government for FY 2018.

We'll be working be working to ensure that the Forest Service's timber sale

program is adequately funded for both the remainder of FY 2017 and for FY 2018. We'll also continue to push for our three-pronged fire funding reform – eliminate the need for fire borrowing, address the effects of the 10-Year Average fire suppression costs, and ensure more emphasis on proactive forest management to reduce the potential for catastrophic fires and insect epidemics.



Lynx

What would a CTIA Newsletter be without an article about Canada lynx? CTIA and IFA are continuing to work together on two fronts. First, the October 28, 2008 Record of Decision for the Southern Rockies Lynx Amendments requires the Forest Service to “review and reconsider” the SRLA direction when the forest plan for each of the affected national forests

is revised. The Rio Grande NF has started revision of their forest plan, and we have been actively engaged in the “review and reconsider” requirement. We view the revision of the RGNF forest plan as an opportunity to consider what has been learned since the SRLA was approved, and, using that information, to update the lynx direction in the revised forest plans.

Second, we are continuing to advocate for increased levels of precommercial thinning, especially in the old clearcuts that have regenerated to lodgepole pine. The problem is that those regenerated clearcuts are also the best habitat for snowshoe hares, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service wants more snowshoe hares for lynx prey. This is a huge problem, because those regenerated clearcuts are “the next forest” and our future timber supplies. If they’re not thinned, many

of those stands will never produce sawtimber. We are encouraging the national forests in Colorado to use all the available flexibility in the Southern Rockies Lynx Amendment to ramp up their acreages of precommercial thinning.



Retirement?

Rumor has it that Tom is planning to retire at the end of 2017. IFA has started discussing a process to select a replacement. Dan Casey will be in the loop on that entire process, and would welcome your thoughts and recommendations.



Logger of the Year

Do you know a logger and/or a logging company who is doing an outstanding job of harvesting timber in Colorado? Nominate them for Logger of the Year!!

Reminder – all nomination forms must be filled out and submitted by a nominating forester by MARCH 15TH, 2017. Contact Molly at coloradopitts@gmail.com for forms. Don't wait until it is too late!!

Forest Service FY 17 Program

The Forest Service is close to finalizing the FY 2017 timber targets and budgets for the national forests in Colorado – in their defense, FY 2017 has been complicated by the fact that Congress passed a Continuing Resolution instead of an actual Appropriations bill, and the Continuing Resolution only lasts until the end of April. So, lots of uncertainty for the Forest Service. The cumulative FY 2017 target for the Forests in Region 2 will be 580,000 ccf, compared to a FY 2016 target of 584,100 ccf. As soon as the targets for individual Forests are available, we'll forward that information.



Colorado Senate Bill 17-050

SB 17-050 proposes to consolidate two forest health and wildfire mitigation grant programs into a single program. CSFS's Forest Restoration Grant Program and DNR's Wildfire Risk Reduction (WRRG) program would be combined into a NEW Wildfire Risk and Forest Health Grant program. All elements of the existing grant programs would be retained. Benefits include:



- Consolidation of two grants programs administered by two agencies into one grant program administered by one agency increases government efficiency. This efficiency extends to local governments and communities when they develop grant applications.
- Provides an annual appropriation of funds for 6 years to a program that has proven effective in reducing risk of wildfire to people and property. Currently there is no annual appropriation of funding for DNR's WRRG program.

For more information, contact Molly at coloradopitts@gmail.com. Please support this bill by speaking to your representatives!

Spruce Beetle Epidemic Continues to Expand, Kill Trees in Colorado

The Colorado State Forest Service has once again released the results of the aerial forest health survey. Highlights include:

- The spruce bark beetle was again the most damaging forest insect pest in Colorado for the 5th consecutive year.
- Spruce bark beetles impacted 350,000 acres of Engelmann spruce, mostly in the southern and central part of the state. Since 1996, spruce bark beetles have caused tree mortality on 1.7 million acres in Colorado.
- Mountain pine beetle populations have declined sharply, with less than 1,000 acres affected last year. Since 1996, mountain pine beetle caused tree mortality on 3.4 million acres in Colorado. We continue to live with that legacy – in dead forests, in salvaging dead trees, and in fires like the Beaver Creek fire in Jackson County that burned 38,000 acres with high levels of beetle mortality, at a cost of over \$30 million.
- There has been an uptick in mortality from the Douglas-fir beetle, with 19,000 acres affected on the West Slope.



Please visit <http://csfs.colostate.edu/2017/01/25/spruce-beetle-epidemic-expands-in-colorado/> for more information.



Tribute to Joe Pittington

Joe Pittington, long-time CTIA member and beloved friend of many, passed away on December 18th while working out in the woods. For all of us who knew Joe, we will surely miss his candor and sense of humor. Below is a tribute written by Mark Morgan.

Joe Pittington meant a lot of different things to a lot of different people. He was an incredibly busy, active, and successful man. He worked hard, played hard, and achieved much. Joe grew up in Loveland,



Colorado. After finishing high school, he went to work logging. He made a real smart decision when he married Margie, his partner for life. Joe logged a short time in Montana, then moved to Walden, Colorado. There with the help and support of his family, because the good outfits are almost always a family affair, they built a very successful business. He ran a successful logging business, owned the auto parts store (because somebody needed to), and built and operated a successful sawmill. Joe worked hard and loved to hunt. He loved doing things with his family including his grandsons. He was a valued board member for CTIA, a constant champion for sound fiscal policy in our organization. He was a leader for his crew. By the way, did I mention he loved to hunt? Besides all of this, he was the man that was really special where it really mattered. Joe was a son, a brother, a husband and partner, a father and grandfather. He was a friend to many. He was a friend to me. Once more, he made me think about what really matters. We will miss you Joe. I miss you already.

Upcoming Meetings

CTIA Legislative Social – 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm, February 14 at City Grille in Denver.
Please let Molly know if you will be attending.

Colorado Legislature Forest Health Hearing – “upon adjournment” February 15 at State Capitol

CTIA Annual Meeting and Dinner – afternoon of April 20 at Heddles Center in Delta

CTIA Logger Continuing Education – 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, April 21 at Heddles Center in Delta

We need a good head count for the Annual Meeting and Logger Continuing Education so we have enough food – please respond to CTIA@hills.net by April 3.





SAFETY EMAILS

Safety is a **Primary Focus** for the Colorado Timber Industry Association and therefore, each month you will receive a safety email that covers topics relevant to both manufacturing and logging. If you find an interesting article or an OSHA related issue, please let Molly know at coloradopitts@gmail.com and she will be sure to include it the next month.

**Let's be smart!
Safety First!**

Excellent Articles.....

- <http://www.theforestblog.com/outdoor-recreation-forest-management/>
- <http://westgov.org/policies/307-other/1327-building-a-stronger-state-federal-relationship>

Books.....

The Irresponsible Pursuit of Paradise by Jim Bowyer. In this new book, the author delves into the ethically bankrupt position that underlies much of environmental policy of the U.S. and other wealthy countries.

Healthy Forests Healthy Communities

The Colorado Timber Industry Association continues to support the Healthy Forests Healthy Communities coalition because HFHC is a strong partner in bringing attention to natural resource issues in Colorado and throughout the US. To better serve you and CTIA, please let Molly know when local projects get started and when the Forest Service is completing NEPA, so she can help with writing and submitting editorials, comments and Action Alerts. We have to be vocal and stand up for forest management!

Healthy Forests



Healthy Communities

For more information:
GO TO: www.healthyforests.org or
Call Molly Pitts (928) 521-9476

2017 Colorado Timber Industry Association Membership Application

Company Name: _____

Your Name: _____ Title: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____ Website: _____

☐ New Member ☐ Renewal ☐ Mailing List Correction

Please circle your company's primary business:

Logging Primary Manufacturing Secondary Manufacturing Fuels Mitigation Log Hauling
TSI Contractor Road Contractor Biofuels Other Forestry Work _____
SALES OF: Forestry Equip. - Trucks & Truck Equip. - Other _____

Please circle your membership category:

Forest Products Companies

Individual Operator \$75
1-5 employees \$200
6-15 employees \$500
16-30 employees \$1,000
31-49 employees \$1,500
50+ employees \$2,400

Maximum annual dues to IFA members \$1,000

Associate Membership

Bronze \$100
Silver \$250
Gold \$500
Platinum \$1,000

All Members Receive:

Electronic newsletters and periodic updates on forestry news
and issues, along with a listing on the CTIA website.

Advertising Opportunities

Circle

(Free for Silver, Gold & Platinum) 1"x2½" Ad every Newsletter	\$50
(One booth free for Gold & Platinum) 8'x10' Booth at Annual CTIA Meeting	\$50
(One free for Silver Member) ¼ Page Ad for 1 issue	\$75
(One free for Gold Member) 1/2 Page Ad for 1 issue	\$125
(One free for Platinum Member) Full Page Ad for 1 issue	\$250

Check us out at:

www.coloradotimber.org

Membership Payment \$ _____

Advertising Payment \$ _____

Additional Donation \$ _____

Total Payment Enclosed \$ _____

Mail the completed application along with your check, to:

Colorado Timber Industry Association P.O. Box 32 Delta, CO 81416

Questions? Call Tom Troxel at 605-341-0875 or email t_troxel@hills.net



Businesses Supporting the Timber Industry



Honnen Equipment Co.

2358 I-70 Frontage Rd.
Grand Junction, CO 81505
Phone: 970-243-7090

Ron and Nan Talarico

1150 Oakhurst Drive
Broomfield, CO 80020
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Intermountain Lumber Consulting

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**Doing the right thing for
the right reason.**