



Timber Times

Partners for Healthy Forests

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2016 Forest Service Appropriations

Congress went right down to their December deadline before passing the FY 2016 Omnibus Appropriations bill to fund the federal government. One big-ticket item was finding an improved way to pay for the Forest Service's fire suppression costs. For several years, CTIA has been a member of the Partner Caucus on Fire Suppression Funding Solutions, and we've been advocating for an end to fire borrowing, funding fire costs in a way that does not reduce funding to all other national forest programs, and more funding for proactive forest management and fuels reduction so the Forest Service has a fighting chance of getting ahead of the fire problem on the national forests. Congress came close, but couldn't quite get the ball across the goal line. Instead, they punted, and appropriated an additional \$600 million for fire suppression funding, which will most likely obviate the need for "fire borrowing" in FY 2016. While that's helpful, CTIA urges Colorado's Congressional delegation to keep working to develop and pass a genuine long-term fire funding solution as soon as possible.

The second item of importance to CTIA members was funding for forest management programs. The Forest Service's timber program received a 6 percent increase, to \$359 million, and Hazardous Fuels Reduction received a 3.7 percent increase, to \$375 million. So far, the Washington Office hasn't allocated those funds out to the Regions, so it's too early to tell how that will benefit Colorado's national forests.

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**

Molly Pitts
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928-521-9476

President's Message

Hello everyone and Happy New Year to all of you who work in and around the timber industry! I am looking forward to this year with what CTIA has contributed to already while we keep pressing for more timber and encouraging the Forest Service to continue to meet their goals for timber output.

I hope all of you are also looking forward to a good year and I hope that spurs you on to get others in your own areas to join our efforts.

I believe the safety emails have kept safety on our minds as we share it with our employees. We would like to hear from all of you to see if we are meeting that need.

After 25 years of outstanding work on behalf of Colorado's timber industry, Nancy Fishering has retired. We tried refusing her resignation letter, but that didn't do any good. We're going to miss working with Nancy, and we're going to miss her passion for our issues. Thank you Nancy for all you've done, and we wish you and John all the best.

Much to our good fortune, we have hired Molly Pitts to take over Nancy's responsibilities with IFA, CTIA, and Healthy Forests Healthy Communities. Molly is a Forester, she lives in Salida, she is very well qualified, and she will do an excellent job.

Molly has already started sending out the monthly safety emails, and she's taking over the CTIA newsletter, starting with this edition. If you want to reach her, her phone number is 928-521-9476, and her email address is – coloradopitts@gmail.com.

If you get the chance, give Molly a call or drop her an email and introduce yourself and tell her a bit about your operation.

Dan Casey



OF INTEREST TO COLORADO TIMBER INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION TRUCKERS

The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) has instituted a program allowing for the private sector to advocate for commercial transportation needs for the CODT system. CDOT has offered to CTIA a membership to serve on the Colorado Freight Advisory Council (FAC).

The **Colorado Freight Advisory Council (FAC)** advises CDOT and other organizations on the needs of the transportation system in Colorado pertaining to freight and commercial transportation. The FAC provides guidance on policy and planning level activities, and identifies strategies and tactics to address operational needs of the system. FAC members represent a cross-section of freight industry stakeholders.

Mission of the Freight Advisory Council: *The Freight Advisory Council will serve as a forum for the private sector to advocate for commercial transportation needs, influence transportation policy, and collaborate with partners to develop a transportation system which supports the economic vitality of Colorado by providing for the safe, efficient, coordinated and reliable movement of freight.*

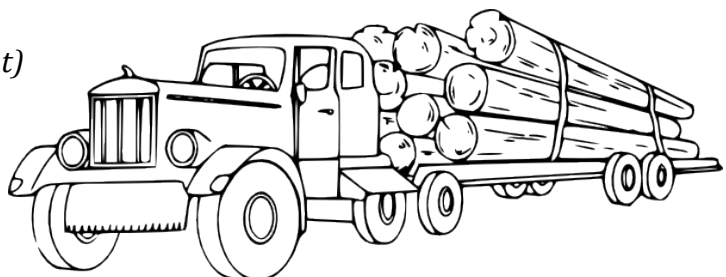
The Colorado Timber Industry Association has long offered the timber industry in the state of Colorado a collective voice pertaining to the betterment of the industry and its members. A large portion of the industry makeup is represented by those of you operating your trucks, delivering logs and hauling the resulting manufactured products to various destinations. This amounts to hundreds of truckloads of wood fiber moved daily. Here is an underutilized opportunity for CTIA to speak for the betterment of its members. The *Freight Advisory Council* can be a step toward speaking up for issues involving trucking issues across the State.

One issue we have been working toward for a long time is to increase the weight limit on the interstate system, particularly I-70. We have many allies in this battle, but as yet have not succeeded. Our biggest opponent has been the railroad lobby. Changes and opportunities have been made for load increases on the secondary roads throughout the State.

I would ask all members of the wood product hauling industry to step up and join CTIA and speak up for issues pertaining to the safe and efficient operation of our trucking partners. I have offered to fill the slot to represent CTIA on the *Freight Advisory Council*, and look forward to opportunities guiding choices to best represent our industry. Many other opportunities exist for our transportation members through CTIA, additional safety training for one. Hang in there and drive safe!

Carl Spaulding, (CTIA Vice President)

Renewable Fiber
970-539-1007



Colorado's National Forest FY 2015 and FY 2016 Timber Sale Programs

The national forests in Colorado were very successful in their FY 2015 timber sale programs, with most of them exceeding their targets. Here's the scorecard: Grand Mesa Uncompahgre Gunnison-101%, Medicine Bow Routt-101%, Rio Grande-130%, Arapaho Roosevelt-51%, Pike San Isabel-150%, San Juan-155%, and the White River-121%. Congratulations and thank you to all the folks who contributed.

Looking ahead to FY 2016, the targets and budgets aren't final yet, but it's looking like most of the Colorado national forests will see an increase in their timber sale programs. That's good for our national forests and good for forest products companies that depend on timber sales from the national forests for their timber supplies and livelihoods.



"IT SAYS RIGHT HERE IN SECTION II - PARAGRAPH #3
NOT TO THIN THE TREES FOR FOREST HEALTH BECAUSE
THERE IS A ONE-IN-A-MILLION CHANCE IT COULD HARM A LYNX!"

Save the Date!!

Legislative Reception-February 16th
Hosted by CTIA/SAF/MSLBMDA
5-7 pm at the City Grill

Legislative Hearing-February 17th

Save the Date!!

CTIA Annual Meeting
May 12-14
Gunnison, Colorado

Co-sponsored by SAF

Interesting Articles.....

Let's Log for Beer!!

Budweiser is removing trees, and it's a good thing

It might seem counterintuitive, but Anheuser-Busch and The Nature Conservancy are working together to protect a Colorado watershed by cutting down trees. By Robin Shreeves. (Full article can be found at <http://www.mnn.com/earth-matters/wilderness-resources/blogs/Budweiser-removing-trees-its-good-thing>)

On a recent trip to Fort Collins, Colorado, sponsored by Anheuser-Bush, I got to see what the 163-year-old Budweiser beer company is doing with regional watershed cleanup. Our group was transported from Fort Collins through a light fall snow to the Ben Delatour Scott Ranch for a look at the Cache la Poudre River watershed. We were an hour away from Anheuser-Busch's Fort Collins brewery, and I was curious how the brewery, a Boy Scout ranch and forest management all fit together.

There's a strong link between forest health and a clean water supply. The biggest risk to the Poudre watershed is fire. When a catastrophic fire ravages the local forests, the ash can wash into the Poudre River, contaminating the water. In the summer of 2012, the High Park Fire that eventually destroyed at least 248 homes and burned more than 82,000 acres left behind ash that rolled into the river when the rains came, turning the river black and making the water undrinkable for a time. About \$25 million was spent to dredge out the reservoir. After that fire, Anheuser-Busch partnered with The Nature Conservancy and the Coalition for the Poudre River Watershed (CPRW) to keep the forests healthy.

Our trip to the Boy Scout-run Ben Delatour Scott Ranch demonstrated one way this partnership is working. In an effort to try to get ahead of the next catastrophic fire, they are proactively cutting down trees on the ranch and using controlled burns. The Nature Conservancy has created a "prescription" for cutting down trees that thins the forest, making it less dense and less likely to succumb to devastating fires.

Fire is a good thing for the forest, but it's dangerous and inconvenient for people who live nearby and need the natural resources that forest fires can destroy or temporarily contaminate. Before humans suppressed forest fires, forests took care of that thinning themselves. When fire suppression became a common practice, forests grew unnaturally dense. Now, forest fires that used to burn themselves out become catastrophic blazes because there's so much fuel for them to consume.

The Nature Conservancy's prescription instructs those who wield the chainsaws on which trees to leave untouched and which trees to cut down. For example, old trees, trees with flat tops, and those that have visual nesting cavities or favorable conditions for nesting are left alone. Old species are left untouched, too. Trees are left in small clusters to give safe haven to squirrels who might become prey if they came down on the ground to get to their next tree.

Guest Commentary: Get ready for wildfire season now

By Mike Lester and Tom Fry (Published in the Denver Post Opinion on January 22nd)

The middle of winter is usually not a time when Coloradans think about wildfires. And while they may realize that the snow we see atop the peaks now represents much of our future water supply, they may not realize how forests and fires impact this supply.

Fires that burn with catastrophic severity can destroy our watersheds and the natural storage and filtration systems that Colorado forests provide. This leads to runoff, mudslides and clogged reservoirs.

Now, and not at the height of wildfire season, is the perfect time for policymakers in Washington to act to protect our watersheds. We need national responses to bolster existing watershed-protection tools in Colorado, like the Healthy Forests and Vibrant Communities Act and the Colorado Water Plan.

A recent report by the American Forest Foundation (AFF) lays out two things that can help better protect our forested watersheds: We need the effective involvement of private landowners, and we need to ensure we have the necessary resources to accomplish these tasks.

Acres at "high fire risk"

Using data in part from the Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS), the report found that Colorado has more than 5.6 million acres at "high fire risk." Over 2 million of these acres are in important water supply watersheds.

While the federal government owns a majority of these acres, almost a quarter are in private hands. These lands often adjoin each other. While the law may respect legal boundaries, wildfires do not. This is why it's critical we complement forest treatments on public lands with action on private land — and vice versa.

Like the rest of the state, the Upper South Platte watershed is a mosaic of public and private land. This watershed supplies water to 1.3 million Coloradans.

It also has been the site of several major wildfires over the past 20 years. The Hayman and Hi Meadow fires may be distant memories, but residents southwest of Denver can still see plentiful reminders of what happens when a fire starts in an unhealthy forest.

The CSFS and AFF recently joined with other national, state and local government agencies, researchers and non-governmental organizations to form the Upper South Platte Partnership (USPP).

The USPP's mission is to increase the resiliency of our Front Range forests and communities. It works with both public and private landowners to restore forest conditions and help protect water supplies. Fortunately, as the report notes, these landowners want to help.

http://www.denverpost.com/opinion/ci_29419302/get-ready-wildfire-season-now

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. Currently, HFHC is focused on regional issues as we wait to figure out how the fire funding issue will be addressed this coming year in Congress. 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

Associate Member Spotlight

Ron and Nan Talarico

Ron and Nan Talarico are one of CTIA's unique Associate Members in that they are not a business, but simply landowners who care about doing the right thing on their 440 acres. Ron and Nan became CTIA associate members about three years ago after learning about the Association from Mark Morgan. Fortunately for them, Ron and Nan had already started thinning their property and removing beetle infested trees when the High Park Fire swept through part of their property in 2012. That mitigation work saved their home and several outbuildings. Since the fire, Ron and Nan have stayed very busy dealing with the trees that burned and the flooding. Ron is currently cutting and chipping the burned trees, and has plans to thin the remaining areas and replant where needed. When asked why they joined and why they continue to be members, Ron was quick to answer, "I like having access to resources."

Other reasons are highlighted below:

- Information sharing
- Networking
- Tree Farm information (they are hoping to establish a tree farm soon)
- Knowledgeable resources
- Product information
- Forestry practices information
- Information on markets and wood uses

In closing, Ron also stated that he encourages anybody who has a small ranch or property with forests to be involved with CTIA. Get involved!

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	\$250
Silver	\$500
Gold	\$1,000
Platinum	\$2,500

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
Phone: 970-493-1121

Scott and Mary Canda Forest Wise, LLC

21110 I-25 Frontage Rd.
Trinidad, CO 81082
719-846-2057
mary@forestwise.net



DDI Equipment

4600 Hwy. 50
Whitewater, CO 81527
Phone: (970) 399-1100
Fax: (970) 243-1437

MSLBMDA

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303-772-2828
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TITAN MACHINERY

644 E. Beaton Drive
West Fargo, ND 58078
701-433-7041

Woodland Management Consulting

Bill Gherardi
PO Box 10
Ft. Collins, CO 80522
970-481-4471

Poles, Inc.

Randy & Jennifer Gross
336 Clarksley Rd.
Manitou Springs, CO 80829
719-985-0444



Partners in Forest Management

State Headquarters
970-491-6303

Southwest Soils Pioneers Soils

Chip Scroggs
58521 Amber Rd., Olathe,
CO 81425
970-323-6300

Jackson County, CO Commissioners

PO Box 337
Walden, CO 80480

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!**



PO Box 32
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CTIA

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