



Timber Times

Partners for Healthy Forests

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OCTOBER 2017

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President's Message

Hello CTIA Members!

Hope everyone is well and upright! This year is flying by, as most of them do it seems. It appears that the world today is not as it once was. While there are mass shootings and unrest everywhere, you might think of putting your head in the sand. Instead of that, there is nothing like sawing a load of logs or peeling a bunch of poles or doing whatever the day holds for each member. This is why I love this industry - because there is a lot to do!

It appears there is a favorable wind on the horizon with Forest Service wanting to put up more timber, improve NEPA rules, and hopefully expand the good neighbor policy. There is even talk of Tom Troxel retiring (lucky dog)! We wish him the best and want to say THANK YOU for your years of service!

Well, don't let me discourage you with the first article of this newsletter, please keep reading! Just a quick reminder that the Board of Directors meeting will be on December 6th at 3:30. We should have a conference call available so you all can help make some decisions for the upcoming year. We will be seeing you or hearing from you soon.

Dan Casey

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.

CTIA
PO Box 32
Delta, CO 81416
605-341-0875
ctia@hills.net

DIRECTOR:
Tom Troxel
t_troxel@hills.net

PRESIDENT:
Dan Casey
caseyslumber@yahoo.com

VICE-PRESIDENT:
Carl Spaulding

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Molly Pitts
coloradopitts@gmail.com
928-521-9476

**BOOKKEEPER &
MEMBERSHIP RECORDS**

Kathy Standish
970-874-5464
drsmooie@aol.com

IFA Annual Meeting/ CTIA Board Meeting

The 2017 IFA Annual Business Meeting and Policy Committee meeting with the Forest Service will be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton Denver on December 5th and 6th. Following are tentative details –

- December 5th, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm - IFA Business Meeting
- December 5th, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm – Informal social, including FS attendees
- December 6th, 8:30 am to 3:00 pm – IFA Policy Committee meeting with FS Regional Forester, Regional staff, and Forest Supervisors
- December 6th, 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm – CTIA Board of Directors meeting

The meeting will be at the DoubleTree by Hilton Denver at 3203 Quebec Street (a couple blocks south of the DoubleTree where we met last year).

To make a hotel reservation, call 303-321-3333, and ask for the IFA group rate of \$114 per night. Reservations must be made by **November 4** to get the group rate.

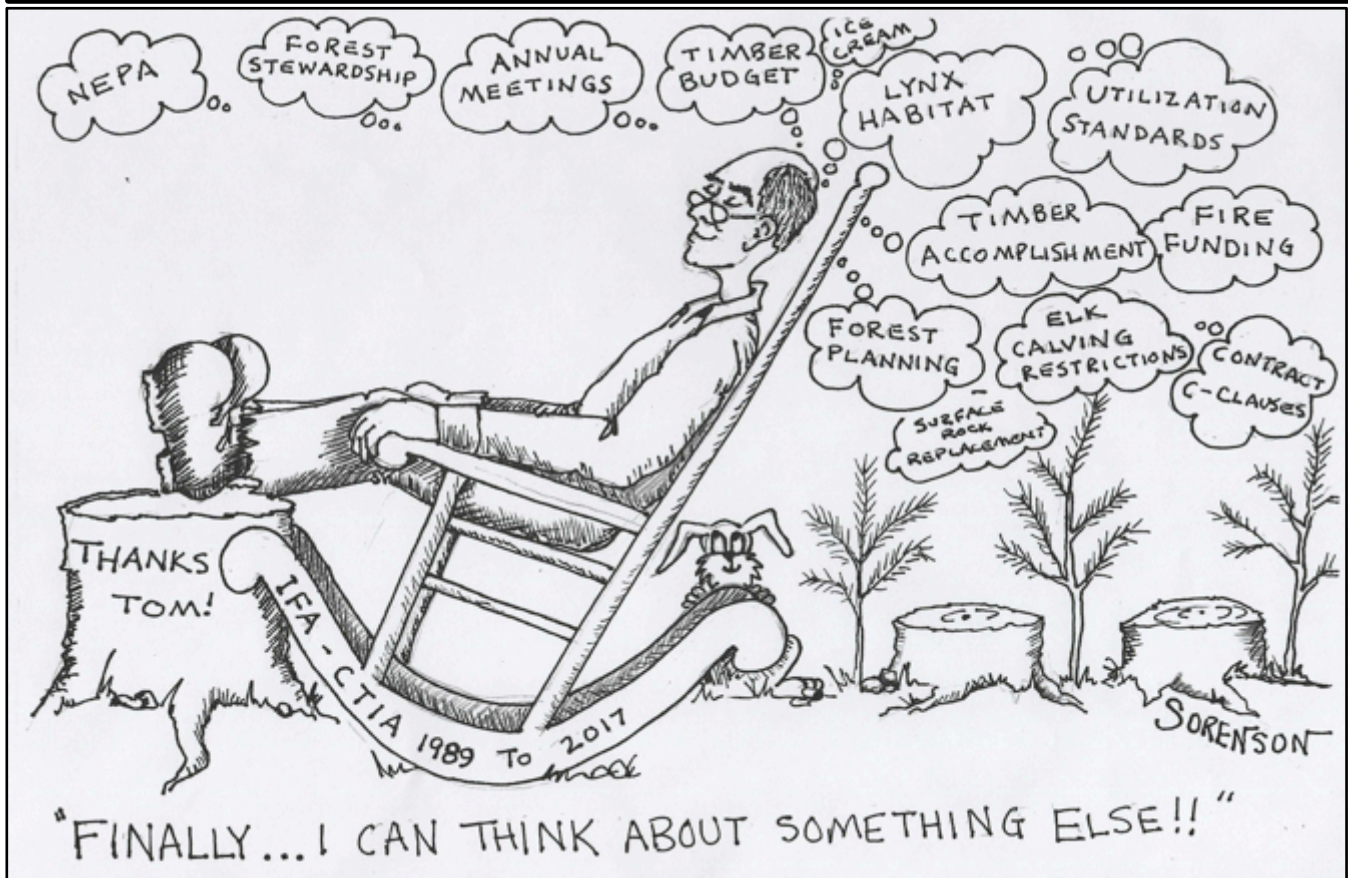
All CTIA members are invited and welcome to attend. **Please RSVP to Molly at coloradopitts@gmail.com if you plan on attending.**



**Business
Meeting**

IFA/CTIA Transition By Tom Troxel

Yes, after 28 years, I really will be retiring from the Intermountain Forest Association at the end of December. I have enjoyed working with many of you over the years, and I have very mixed emotions about retiring. After a nationwide search, the IFA Board has hired Ben Wudtke, who currently works for the Black Hills Forest Resource Association out of the same office, as the new IFA Executive Director. Ben has been working with us for 5 years and he has a good understanding of the issues, and will do a great job. The IFA Board has also decided to increase Molly Pitts' responsibilities for national forest related issues in Colorado. I have recommended that the CTIA Board hire Molly as the new CTIA Executive Director, and that will be an agenda item for the December 6 CTIA Board Meeting. Molly has been contracting with IFA and CTIA for the past 2 years, and has a good understanding of issues and good working relationships with many CTIA members, and she will also do a great job. I will be working with both of them on transition details between now and the end of December, and later as needed. I'll also be continuing to staff the Federal Timber Purchasers Committee and continue as a member of the National Forest Planning Advisory Committee through 2018. Thank you all for the privilege of working with you, and I hope we'll continue to cross paths.



Fire Funding

2017 has been a very costly fire season – in acres and in costs. About 8.5 million acres burned on all ownerships and the Forest Service’s cost to fight those fires was a record \$2.7 billion. The Forest Service had to “borrow” about \$525 million from other accounts, which the Congress has already repaid.

You’ve all seen the statistics about how the fire budget was about 16% of the Forest Service’s budget in the early 1990s, but now it’s over 50% of the Forest Service’s total budget. The Forest Service’s budget gurus now estimate that the fire budget will make up 2/3 of the Forest Service’s budget by 2021 – that will squeeze funding for all other programs including timber management and fuels management, the very programs that are needed to help reduce the potential for catastrophic fires. CTIA’s position on Fire Funding is –

- Eliminate the need for ‘fire borrowing’ to ensure forest management funds are not diverted away from implementing essential projects on-the-ground.
- Stop further increases in the percentage of the Forest Service’s budget designated for fire suppression.
- Increase additional forest management and fuels reduction programs as means of reducing the potential for catastrophic fires through additional funding and/or streamlined analysis requirements similar to Westerman Bill.

If you see any members of the Colorado Congressional delegation or their staff, thank them for their support on fire funding, and ask them to do everything they can to get a Fire Funding package that achieves CTIA’s position completed and to the President’s desk – this year!!

SAFETY EMAILS

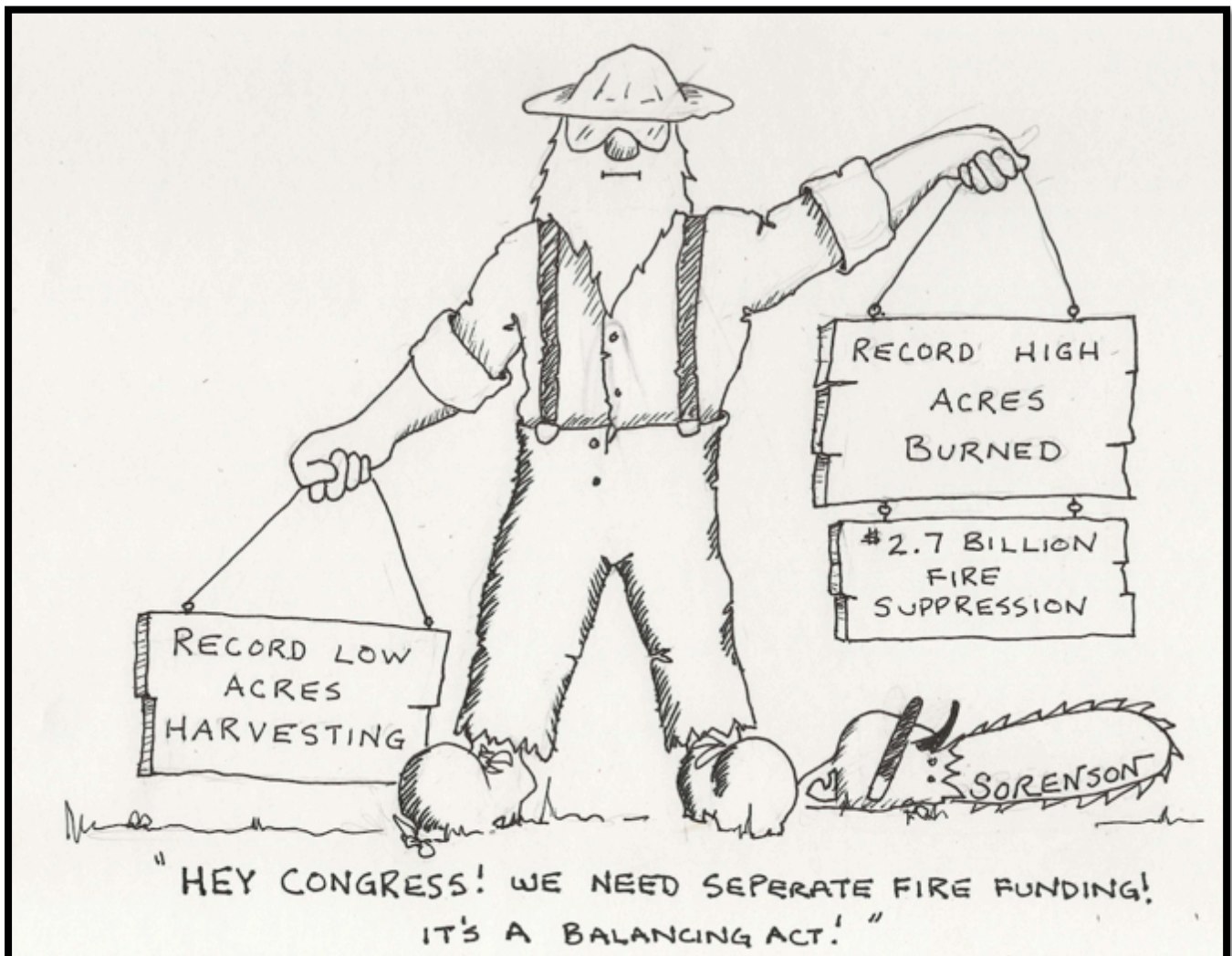
Safety is a *Primary Focus* for the Colorado Timber Industry Association and therefore, each month you will receive a safety email that covers topics relevant to both manufacturing and logging. If you find an interesting article or an OSHA related issue, please let Molly know at coloradopitts@gmail.com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



Meeting w/ Regional Forester Brian Ferebee

On August 28, Tom Troxel, Molly Pitts, and several IFA/CTIA members met with Regional Forester Brian Ferebee, Deputy Regional Forester Jacque Buchanan, and Natural Resources Director Steve Lohr in Denver.

Brian expected the Region to meet or exceed their FY 17 target, and expected the FY 18 target to be about 600,000 ccf. They have work to do on funding and staffing, but will start the new fiscal year as though they have the money and the people. Brian also discussed "NEPA Modernization" and "Forest Management Modernization" Washington Office initiatives. He also discussed the importance of a fire funding 'fix' to help resolve funding issues with roads, landlines, etc. for timber sales. Troxel reviewed IFA's three criteria, and Ferebee agreed. Other discussion items were objections, precommercial thinning, and forest planning.



FY 2017 and FY 2018 Colorado Forest Service Program

Forest	Accomplishment (CCF)*	Percent of Target
GMUG	70,000	100%
Med Bow Routt	106,000	102%
Rio Grande	44,100	73%
Arapaho Roosevelt	23,700	85%
Pike San Isabel	16,500	97%
San Juan	37,200	124%
White River	34,900	103%

*Preliminary volume sold

The preliminary numbers are in, and most of Colorado's national forests met or exceeded their timber program targets in FY 2017. National forest timber is vital to Colorado's forest products companies, and we appreciate all of the work that went into their accomplishments, especially on the Forests that met or exceeded their targets. CTIA's goal is that all of the national forests in Colorado will meet or exceed their FY 2018 targets, plus any shortfall from FY 2017.

The Forest Service's FY 2018 budgets and targets have not been finalized yet, but the tentative sale program target for the Rocky Mountain Region, which includes national forests in Wyoming and South Dakota, is 600,000 ccf, compared to 562,000 ccf in FY 2017.



Colorado Forest Health Advisory Council

The Forest Health Advisory Council (FHAC) was created by HB16-1255 to provide a collaborative forum to advise the State Forester on a range of issues, opportunities and threats with regard to Colorado's forests. The FHAC has identified the following as priority items.

Regional Approach to Forest Health Management: The FHAC is actively promoting this regional approach to Forest Health Projects being implemented on the ground through working directly with the Basin Roundtables and the wide range of local partners associated with the Basin Roundtables. The FHAC is working at compiling a comprehensive list of these partners and assessing how to best work together to further forest health in Colorado.

Expand Local Funding to promote Forest Health: The FHAC promotes the need to incentivize and fund forest management activities at the watershed level that are necessary to alter landscape-level forest health in the headwaters of Colorado and support Colorado forest product businesses. The FHAC would like to see the legislature make a robust expansion of funds for forest health projects.

Governmental Immunity for State Agencies to Conduct Prescribed Burns: The FHAC supports the use of prescribed fire as a matter of risk management when compared to wildfire and recognizes that certain CSFS personnel have unique qualifications and experience relating to wildfire management that are not currently being utilized, particularly with regard to pile burns. The FHAC is currently discussing the merits of governmental immunity for State and local agencies to facilitate the use of prescribed fire to conduct prescribed burns on State and private lands.

Timber Industry in Colorado: The FHAC encourages agencies to prioritize creating a consistent, long-term timber harvesting program across the State. The cost of biomass removal or utilization per acre is very high due to lack of wood products businesses, particularly in Colorado's rural areas. The FHAC supports utilizing and incentivizing the timber industry as part of the solution to decreasing the cost of treatment.

For additional information on FHAC meetings, including Agendas, minutes, and other documents prepared, please visit <http://csfs.colostate.edu/forest-health-advisory-council/>

Forest Plan Revision

After months of anticipation, the Rio Grande National Forest finally released both the draft Forest Plan and draft EIS in early October. Comments are due January 2nd, 2018. You can access both documents using the following link:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/riogrande/landmanagement/projects/?cid=stelprd3819044>

The GMUG announced in early summer that they were entering Forest Plan Revision. After hosting a series of public meetings in late summer, they are expecting to release draft Assessments on November 6th. There will be a 30-day comment period. You can find more information by using the following link:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/gmug/landmanagement/planning/?cid=fseprd506688>

Upcoming Events

Please mark your calendar and plan on attending the following upcoming events:

- The Colorado segment of America's Forests with Chuck Leavell Premiere will be on January 24th at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science from 7-9 pm. If you are interested in attending, please contact Molly at coloradopitts@gmail.com
- The Colorado Legislative Reception and Forest Hearing are *tentatively* scheduled for February 6th (reception) and 7th (hearing). Please plan on attending and visiting with our state legislators.
- The CTIA Annual Meeting and Logger Education are scheduled for April 19-20th, 2018 in Ignacio, Colorado. Once again, we are partnering with the CO/WY Society of American Foresters.



2017 Colorado Timber Industry Association Membership Application

Company Name: _____

Your Name: _____ Title: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: ___ Zip: _____

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New Member Renewal Mailing List Correction

Please circle your company's primary business:

Logging Primary Manufacturing Secondary Manufacturing Fuels Mitigation Log Hauling
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Please circle your membership category:

Forest Products Companies	Associate Membership
Individual Operator \$75	Bronze \$100
1-5 employees \$200	Silver \$250
6-15 employees \$500	Gold \$500
16-30 employees \$1,000	Platinum \$1,000
31-49 employees \$1,500	
50+ employees \$2,400	
Maximum annual dues to IFA members \$1,000	

All Members Receive:	Electronic newsletters and periodic updates on forestry news and issues, along with a listing on the CTIA website.
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Advertising Opportunities

<i>Advertising Opportunities</i>	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

Member Spotlight - Duckworks Auto Parts By Molly Pitts

CTIA's newest Associate Member, Duckworks Auto Parts, is owned by Drake and Linda Welch. Duckworks is a Carquest auto parts store, located in Hotchkiss, Colorado. Drake and Linda have owned and operated Duckworks for 23 years. Their son, Brandon, is the store manager.



When I visited with Linda, and asked why they decided to become CTIA members, she said, "They felt it was important to support the industry." A lot of the local loggers and truckers purchase materials and supplies from Duckworks and they felt it was important to show them support by joining the Association. Linda and Drake are firm believers in the logging industry and recognize the importance of forest management.

Logger of the Year



Mike Hughes (Colorado State Tree Farm Administrator & Assistant District Forester for CSFS), Mike Jolovich (Windy Gap Logging), Matt Schiltz (Forester for CSFS), Molly Pitts (CTIA), and Ron Cousineau (District Forester for CSFS)

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!

For more information:

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



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Ron and Nan Talarico

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Broomfield, CO 80020
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Intermountain Lumber Consulting

16645 Bar X Road
Black Forest, CO 80908
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