

THE VOICE OF THE TIMBER INDUSTRY

TIMBER BULLETIN

DULUTH, MINNESOTA

JULY/AUGUST 2001

VOLUME 57



North Star Expo 2001

Enberg Logging Supply

TIMBER BULLETIN

Volume 57
July/August 2001
Duluth, Minnesota

IN THIS ISSUE

Meet the Directors8

North Star Expo 200110

Log a Load for Kids Timber Harvest.....14

Enberg Logging Supply20

Safety Alerts24

Sierra Club Falls Down the Stupid Tree and Hits Every Branch32

Coming Events33

Years Ago.....34

Loggers of the Past38

Classifieds.....41

Advertisers Index42



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ON THE COVER

Paul Tjepkes, with Knaeble Timber Inc., shows off their first place ribbon in the Best Load Contest.

The Timber Bulletin is published six times annually, in February, April, June, August, October and December by the Minnesota Timber Producers Association, located at 903 Medical Arts Bldg., 324 W. Superior St., Duluth, Minn. Minnesota Timber Producers Association members receive the Timber Bulletin at an annual subscription rate of \$15 which is included in their membership dues. Periodicals postage paid in Duluth, Minnesota. Advertising rates and data on request. The views expressed in the Timber Bulletin do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the Minnesota Timber Producers Association.

Postmaster: Please send address corrections to TIMBER BULLETIN, Minnesota Timber Producers Association, 903 Medical Arts Bldg., 324 W. Superior St., Duluth, Minnesota 55802, Phone 218-722-5013.

Issn: 10973532 - USPS: 016208

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Minnesota Timber Producers Association



The annual TPA North Star Expo is over and I am sure that everyone who attended will say it was a very good show. I would like to say "thank you" to the Mechanization Committee for all their work this past year to make it a bug success. Also, "thank you" to all the vendors for their time and efforts. You did a great job!

President's Column



As I spent time at the show, the thought came to mind of how simple logging used to be compared to today. Not only considering all the regulations but how will we choose to harvest the timber. Will it be cut-to-length, or what I call conventional or full tree logging? I hope our time spent at the Expo and the recent equipment demonstrations will help us all make wise decisions in the future. We have been shown creative ideas of harvesting!

With a slowdown in the economy, which resulted in smaller contracts, we will have to be careful about our spending habits. The summer logging season started out very wet but in most areas it is now hot and dry. Remember to keep you machines extra clean in the warm weather to reduce the chances of fire and continue to "work safely."

TPA Leads Outstanding Legislative Session

Forestry issues scored big during the 2001 session of the Minnesota Legislature. Major forestry initiatives were passed in funding, tax and policy areas. TPA was a leader and key player in each of these issues.

The Minnesota Legislature adjourned its 2001 session on the last day of June. All issues outlined in the preliminary report in the May/June issue of the Timber Bulletin remained intact.

Key initiatives passed included:

- funding to allow the DNR to offer its full planned timber sales volume of over 800,000 cords per year;
- additional funding for the Division of Forestry for field activities including inventory and management intensification;
- a six-year extension of the Sustainable Forest Resources Act along with funding of \$1.7 million for the biennium;
- passage of the Sustainable Forest Tax Incentive program which provides cash payments from the state to private forest land owners who participate in the program.

TPA President Clarence Johnson commented, "this was a year that we really moved the ball forward. I can't think of another time that we have passed as many bills that will make our members' lives and businesses better."

Lead authors of the funding initiative for the DNR were Rep. Mark Holsten (R-Stillwater) and Senator Becky Lourey (D-Kerrick). Key supporters in the House of Representatives included Loren Solber, Tom Bakk, Irv Anderson, Tom Hackbarth, Larry Howes, Jim Knoblach and Speaker Steve Sviggum.

In the Senate, Majority Leader Roger Moe and Senators Len Price, Jane Krentz, Bob Lessard, Dennis Frederickson and Dave Tomassoni all played key roles.

The forest land tax reform effort was led by chief authors Rep. Larry Howes (R-Park Rapids) and Senator Ann Rest (D-New Hope). Key support was provided by House Tax Committee Chair Ron

Abrams and Rep. Dan McElroy along with Senators Bob Lessard and Senate President Don Samuelson.

"This was a year when we had a clear agenda and many legislators stepped up to help us. There was also a clear statement from the legislature that sustainable logging and forestry practices exist here in Minnesota and they will be supported," said TPA Executive Vice President Wayne Brandt. "We had many friends who helped this year and we thank them all."

AF&PA Elected to the PEFCC Council

AF&PA was unanimously elected to the Pan European Forest Certification Council (PEFCC) at a meeting of the PEFCC General Assembly held on June 19 in Santiago de Compostela, Spain.

AF&PA and the American Tree Farm System® submitted a joint application for PEFCC full membership status prior to the General Assembly meeting. At the meeting in Spain, AF&PA and Tree Farm presented an overview of the SFI and Tree Farm prior to the unanimous election.

The Canadian Standards Assn. (CSA) is the only other PEFCC to expand into a global framework for mutual recognition and to evolve its governance structure. Italy was also elected, bringing the total membership within PEFCC to 18 national governing bodies. Invited guests participating in the PEFCC General Assembly included representatives from Uruguay, Brazil, Australia, Malaysia and Russia, reflecting the interest in PEFCC as an internationally recognized framework for mutual recognition.

AF&PA will immediately begin the PEFCC assessment process for mutual recognition of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI)SM program as a PEFCC recognized scheme.

Thank you. Congratulations. Thank you!

A big thank you goes to everyone in the DNR Division of Forestry. In their fiscal year, which ended June 30, the division sold 711,000 cords of wood. This came on timber sale offerings of 731,000 cords and is an increase of almost 100,000 cords from the previous fiscal year.

Executive Vice President's Column



The field level really came through this year. They redoubled their efforts and got more acres in line for renewal and more wood up for sale than at any time in the past five years. And, not only did the field people really work hard, they were supported by their regions' division leadership in St. Paul and the commissioners' office.

Next time you see one of your DNR people, tell them thank you and congratulations. They deserve it.



What do we expect to see this year from the DNR? 800,000+ cords. The legislature discussed this issue during four hearings and provided funding for the Division of Forestry to accomplish this level.

Why 800,000+ cords? Because that's the amount that should be generated by treating the acres in all of the current DNR Area plans. It's not a number off the top of somebody's head, it's the number arrived at through the DNR planning process.

How did this happen. Because TPA members, leaders and staff worked hard to convince legislators that this was important and the right thing to do. President Clarence Johnson, Past President Ray Killmer and a number of TPA directors and members made trips to St. Paul to testify and lobby for this issue.

Several of these trips came during the heart of the winter logging season and everyone knows that you don't get back a winter day that you don't work.

This kind of sacrifice and dedication to working on behalf of all of our members is what has made TPA the premier organization that it is.



Mike Kilgore has been named an associate professor at the University of Minnesota's College of Natural Resources. Dr. Kilgore will be teaching in the Department of Forest Resources.

A frequent speaker at TPA meetings, Dr. Kilgore was most recently the executive director of the Minnesota Forest Resources Council. Prior to that, he served in various positions in state government including as project manager for the Generic Environmental Impact Statement on Timber Harvesting and Forest Management.

Mike is an outstanding person and a tireless worker. He will be sorely missed by the Forest Resources Council but is a great addition to the U of M. I can honestly tell you that there is not a harder-working person in state government than Mike Kilgore.



The year's North Star Expo is now in the rear view mirror. All of the vendors at the show went the extra mile. I don't think that we've ever seen as much equipment and as many displays as we had this year.

Making the Expo a success hinges on three groups of people. First, the TPA Mechanization Committee runs the show. It is ably staffed by Linda Dumonsau. Without this committee's year round work the show wouldn't happen.

Second, no matter how hard the Mechanization Committee works, there is no show without the vendors. Each of these companies puts a lot of time and money into getting their products and equipment to the Expo. They transport their equipment and goods to the site, set up early and are there all day long. Renting a booth or lot is probably the smallest expense they incur to be at the show.

Finally, you are the reason TPA organizes the Expo and the vendors

participate. Thank you. The next time you're talking to a vendor, thank them for coming to the Expo and show them how important it is by supporting our vendors with your purchases.



Twenty years is a long time for a business relationship. It's almost unheard of when it's an insurance carrier. But that's what we celebrated at this year's North Star Expo. Twenty years of the TPA/LUA workers compensation insurance program were recognized.

LUA sponsored a reception the likes of which have not been seen before at an Expo. LUA's Minnesota staff was there along with Senior VP Mike North, Regional VP Angelo Dambruzzo and Minnesota office head John Hill.

The party was great and so was seeing the LUA brass from company headquarters – though they're no strangers to Minnesota. The most important thing is the partnership that TPA and LUA have. Both parties have hung with each other during tough times.

The end result is a relationship that has provided stable, competitive workers compensation insurance coverage to TPA members for the past 20 years. Other programs and carriers have come and gone in the woods, but our program has withstood the test of time.

It's not possible to talk about workers compensation insurance without talking about safety. TPA President Clarence Johnson and the Executive Committee are interested in getting the TPA Safety Committee re-energized. If you're interested in getting active on the Safety Committee, please contact the TPA office.

In the meantime, talk to your crew about safety every day. When was the last time you had a safety meeting or talked about it at the start of a day or new job? Have that meeting tomorrow. You will feel good about it and so will your crew.

Minnesota Timber Producers Association Meet the Directors

Paul Lundberg has been a TPA member for approximately 30 years. He was born, raised and still resides in Solway, Minn. In the fall of 1957, a neighbor, Glen Larson, asked Paul to come help him for a day in his logging business. The day turned into two years of skidding logs. In 1961 Paul started Lundberg Forest Products, which now involves his wife, Joanne, and daughter, Kari Jo, doing the bookwork, and sons, Dan and John, working in the woods.

Paul has been on the TPA board of directors for many years, serving on the transportation committee which he chaired until just recently. He has been a member of his church board for 35 years. Paul and Joanne enjoy spending time with their six



grandchildren. When I called him the other night, he wasn't home because he was out "four-wheeling" with his grandson.

Paul is an avid hunter. He and his family hunt on their land each year in Minnesota. He also hunts deer in Montana, with John Speck, and hunts elk in Colorado.

started to feel like we were living in a clear-cut. Our house was surrounded by mud and the birches were dying from having their roots disturbed. Scariest of all to me was the lack of butterflies. They seemed to have vanished with the trees and wildflowers we tore out.

We finished our house and tossed out grass seed and wild flower mix. We took part in Hedstrom Lumber Company's tree giveaway and planted 100 white pine saplings throughout the property. Finally, snow fell and covered the devastation.

And in the spring, things didn't look so bad. Poplar grew back quickly and then young birches started around the bases of the dying elders. Our wildflowers slowly took root. Deer visited often, enjoying our wild grassy area. The birds and squirrels returned and were as noisy as ever. And something new appeared – berries! Wherever we had burned, wild strawberries grew and spread. And later, in the fall, raspberries lined our driveway.

That was five years ago, I'm happy to report that the deer, squirrels and birds have continued to visit, along with a moose or two. Wildflowers are abundant now – my yard is a delight with sweet peas, wild roses, daisies, dandelions, clover, buttercups, honeysuckle and many more I can't identify. The birch and poplar trees are still growing and we've noticed an elm growing in the swampy area next to our driveway. Our baby white pines are still babies, but they'll be "old growth" for my great-great grandchildren. The berries continue to thrive. Now we have thimbleberries, too, and another unidentified, but good tasting red berry. And best of all the butterflies are back.

As I picked strawberries for breakfast and thought about the Sierra Club's concerns, they fluttered around me. It was beautiful.

Like a great poet, Nature knows how to produce the greatest effects with the most limited means.

Heinrich Heine

Reprinted with permission from the Cook County Star, Grand Marais, Minn. weekly, July 16, 2001.

Butterflies, Berries and "Clear-Cutting"

by Rhonda Silence

Last Saturday, I picked a big cup of wild strawberries and ate them with a dash of milk for breakfast. They were delicious. They were also a symbol of the changing forest around my house. My five-acre lot is a tiny example of why I'm not as scared of clear-cutting as the folks at the Sierra Club.

You see, when we cleared our lot to build our house, we really

cleared! When we walked our property to pick our building site, it was peaceful, filled with birch and poplar and an occasional spruce or cedar. A deer path cut through the woods. Squirrels chirped, birds sang and butterflies were everywhere. It was beautiful.

Then my family went to work. My Dad roared in with his skidder and yanked trees down. At any given time we had two chainsaws blaring. There was an almost continuous bonfire as we burned limbs and brush. It was not beautiful.

But it was interesting to us and to the neighborhood wildlife. One evening, as the family collapsed around the fire, just moments after the skidding and sawing stopped, three deer strolled through our new clearing. The looked curiously at us and wandered off unconcerned by the destruction around them. During a lunch break, a butterfly landed on my Dad's arm and sat there for a few minutes before fluttering off.

The driveway took out more trees, the power line still more and the septic drainfield even more. I



Second place winner, Bartell Logging LLP – the crew is all smiles with their ribbon.



Rob Wendt presents TPA Past President Ramon Killmer his first place trophy in the master's division of the loader contest. TPA President Clarence Johnson also accepts his second place trophy.



Cliff Shermer and his third place winning load.



Gordy Dobbs, overall winner of the loader contest.

North Star Expo 2001

The 48th annual North Star Expo was held on Friday, July 27, and Saturday, July 28, 2001, at Ironworld Discovery Center in Chisholm, Minn. More than 150 companies exhibited equipment and other products valued at more than \$30 million. The show was well attended, with the weather holding off on the rain until after the exhibits closed on Friday.

A special thank you to the following sponsors for the support of the North Star Expo:

- Boise Cascade Corporation
- International Paper
- North Shore Forest Products
- Potlatch Corporation
- Stora Enso, Duluth Paper Mill

Trus Joist a Weyerhaeuser Business
 UPM Kymmene - Blandin Paper Company

Best Load Contest

There were five entries in this year's Best Load Contest. They were all excellent examples of safe, well-maintained, polished trucks. As in the past, these trucks were very hard to judge. The first place winner was Paul Tjepkes, with Knaeble Timber Inc., Northome Minn., sponsored by Blandin Paper Company. Second place was Bartel Logging LLP, Aitkin, Minn., co-sponsored by Rihm Kenworth and Two Harbors Machine Shop; and

third place winner was Cliff Shermer, Gheen, Minn., sponsored by Potlatch Corporation. The other contestants were: Todd Wass/Blandin Paper Company and Koski Logging/Potlatch Corporation.

Loader Contest

The loader contest was held on both Friday and Saturday. This event always draws quite a few loader operators who want to try their skills against the clock. The winners were:

- Friday
- First place - Wayne Johnson, Blackduck
- Second place - Gordy Dobbs, Littlefork



Media loader contestants, left to right; Pat Puchella, B-105; winner Marc Koprovic, mayor of Keewatin; Carolyn Gentiliny, mayor of Virginia; and Betty Valley, St. Louis County Fair Board.



Nortrax wins the first place ribbon and plaque for outdoor display. Pictured left to right is TPA President Clarence Johnson, Dale Gessell, Doug Daley, Tom Shannon and Bruce Grover.



Accepting the second place ribbon for outdoor display is Ponsse USA Inc.'s Russ Hinsa, Tommi Ruha, Stacy Wagler, Lars Ahlberg and Rick Ortel.



Pomp's Tire won third place for outdoor displays. TPA President Clarence Johnson presents Brian Shaver, Joel Rady, Bob Ostreich and Greg Miller the third place ribbon.

Third place - Tony Kowitz,
McGregor
Saturday
First place - Gordy Dobbs,
Littlefork
Second place - Dan Lundberg,
Solway
Third place - Mark Bowman,
Solway
The overall winners (with the
best average time for both
days) were:
First place - Gordy Dobbs,
Littlefork
Second place - Wayne Johnson,
Blackduck
Third place - Dan Lundberg,
Solway
A new contest was created for

the "masters" of log loading. The
Masters Division is for people 50
and over, and the winners were:
Friday
First place - Ramon Killmer, Big
Falls
Second place - Clarence Johnson,
Blackduck
Third place - Loren Sutton,
Chisholm
Saturday
First place - Ramon Killmer, Big
Falls
Second place - Clarence Johnson,
Blackduck
The overall winners (with the best
average time for both days) were:
First place - Ramon Killmer, Big
Falls

Second place - Clarence Johnson,
Blackduck
Third place - Loren Sutton,
Chisholm

Celebrity Loader Contest

The competition was close
among this year's contestants. A
good time was had by all. This
year there were Pat Puchella, B 105,
Duluth; Marc Koprovic, the mayor
of Keewatin; Carolyn Gentiliny, the
mayor of Virginia; and Betty Valley,
St. Louis County Fair Board. For the
third straight year Marc Koprivec
won the Celebrity Loader Contest.

Workshops and Seminar

The Minnesota Logger Education
Program sponsored the workshops



Interstate Detroit Diesel won first place for the indoor displays. Accepting the first place ribbon and trophy is, left to right, Marty Fleshberg, TPA President Clarence Johnson, Chuck Gray, Terry Edmonds and John Bright.



Third place indoor display winner was Minnesota Industries, Inc. Accepting the ribbon from TPA President Clarence Johnson is Steve Andrews, Doug Pessenda and Mark Battaglia.



Dave Modeen and Mary Jobin, Anderson Fuel and Lubricants, accept the second place ribbon from TPA President Clarence Johnson.



Scott Scharmer, Eau Claire, Wis., won the grand prize drawing, a chainsaw donated by Tilton Equipment. Presenting the chainsaw is Dewayne Leafblad of Tilton Equipment and Warren Johnson, mechanization committee chairman.

this year. The presentations were on "Logging Business Accounting Software" and "Light on the Land Equipment Options."

Wood ID Contest

The winners of this year's Wood ID contest were: Friday, Mark Gossman, Baxter, Minn. and Mike Hilden, Park Rapids, Minn. Each winner received \$25 for correctly identifying the different wood species.

Social Hour, Dinner, Door Prize Drawing

Once again the social hour and dinner were held inside the pavillion at Ironworld. With the weather holding out all day it decided to rain buckets on the attendees right

before the start of the buffet. The North Star Expo social hour and buffet was well attended by the public and vendors alike. The door prize contributions were well worth the wait. The mechanization committee members would like to thank the following companies for their very generous donations for the door prize giveaways:

- Air Hydraulic Systems
- Anderson Fuel and Lubricants
- Don Dens Sales
- Don Evans Insurance
- Glen's Truck Center
- Great Lakes Trailer
- Interstate Detroit Diesel
- Lake Superior Mack
- Lindsay Machinery

- Nelson Paint Co.
- Northland Tractor & Repair
- Nortrax
- Road Machinery & Supplies
- Skubic Bros International
- St. Joseph Equipment
- UPM Kymmene - Blandin Paper Company
- Wells Fargo

Scott Scharmer, Eau Claire, Wis., won the grand prize drawing graciously donated by Tilton Equipment Company.

TPA would also like to thank Lumbermens Underwriting Alliance for the reception they held in honor of their 20 years of teamwork with the Minnesota Timber Producers Association.



The social hour and dinner were enjoyed by all who attended.



Jeff Schommer, left, of Trus Joist, a Weyerhaeuser Corporation, chairman of the Log a Load for Kids committee, congratulates Curtis Freeberg of Twin Rivers Inc. for his donation of a load of wood to the Log a Load for Kids program which is part of the Children's Miracle Network supporting the Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare.

Log a Load for Kids

Thanks, Curtis for your donation of a load of wood to the Log a Load for Kids program of Minnesota.

Log a Load for Kids is an affiliate of the Children's Miracle Network which supports the Gillette

Children's Specialty Healthcare system.

Donations can vary from large harvests such as occurred in Northern Minnesota during June (the stumpage was donated by Boise Cascade Corporation and numerous loggers donated their time and equipment to harvest the trees), to a load of wood donated by an individual logger, to partial loads or cash donations.

Whatever the donation method it is greatly appreciated by the Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare system and more importantly by the kids that are helped.

Log a Load for Kids is a national organization in 30 states which raised \$2.77 million in 2000. More information is available on their website- www.logaload.org. Log a Load for Kids was originally started by a caring logger who wanted to help kids who were hurting. Curtis Freeberg is one of these caring loggers!

Understanding the Value of Science-Based Timber Harvests to Wildlife Populations

by Mark Holsten

At the deer camp a few years ago, some of my hunting buddies were complaining about a recent timber harvest near the area we traditionally hunt. They were most upset because the recent harvesting meant we would have to relocate our stands. For most of us,

change isn't easy – but it is often necessary.

The way we manage our forests has a direct impact on wildlife habitat and populations. Here in Minnesota, we have some of the best deer and grouse hunting in the country and that's not an accident. Most experts agree that certain wildlife species require active timber management to produce the right habitat. Ruffed grouse, American woodcock, white-tail deer, and many other species need to have new growth forests with little canopy cover and many young trees and shrubs. Active forest management or natural disturbance is necessary to ensure a viable habitat for these species.

Few people realize that the wildlife species that require young forest habitat are far more imperiled today than those that require mature forests. The simple reason is that we're allowing our forests to become older and older. Because we've been successful in reducing the dramatic number of fires within our forests, the only way to create this type of habitat is through an active timber program.

Unfortunately, many self-proclaimed environmentalists would lead us to believe that logging only results in a barren landscape, void of habitat and wildlife. The exact opposite is often true; such is the case in northern Minnesota where grouse and other species, like the golden-winged warbler, thrive in young aspen forests. Don't be mistaken, most of these young aspen aren't a result of mother nature taking her course. They exist because young aspen sprout up by the hundreds from the roots of harvested mature aspen. The young sprouts require full sunlight which means all of the trees within an existing stand need to be harvested at once.

According to the Ruffed Grouse Society, aspen forests can produce 4-10 times more ruffed grouse per unit of area than any other type of forest. However, as an aspen forest matures, critical grouse habitat

begins to disappear. Through a natural thinning process, the stand transforms from a dense forest consisting of thousands of young trees to an open forest of fewer, bigger and older trees. Without the dense cover the young aspen provide, grouse become vulnerable to attack from hawks and other predators. Deer also rely on young aspen stands to provide food and cover.

While Minnesota is home to some of the best deer and grouse habitat in the country, northern Minnesota also has a significant amount of over-mature aspen in our forests. In DNR regions two and three alone, there are over 250,000 acres of 50+ year old aspen that will soon begin to rot and invite fire, disease and pests.

In an effort to promote forest wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities, the legislature has appropriated an additional \$2 million for DNR timber management activities. We have also provided increased funding for the Minnesota Forest Resources Council, which is responsible for coordinating timber harvesting and forest management guidelines. Harvesting over-mature aspen is consistent with the DNR's planned harvest levels, addresses environmental concerns and ensures the amount of timber in our forests continues to expand.

Ensuring that the public understands the value of science-based timber harvests to wildlife populations is critical to the future of hunting in Minnesota. Although the harvest near our deer camp created a temporary inconvenience, it was necessary to ensure a healthy population of grouse and deer for many years. It is my hope that efforts like this will help ensure our children and grandchildren can enjoy the rush of a successful hunt long into the future.

State Representative Mark Holsten represents House District 56A, which includes the city of Stillwater where he lives. He is the chair of the House of Representatives' Environment & Natural Resources Finance Committee.

Would Cutting Fewer Trees Help 'Save' the Environment?

Our forests are beautiful, majestic, and we need to save them, right? The fast answer may be yes, but things are a bit more complicated.

A publication from the University of Minnesota Extension Service helps explain the worldwide environmental situation. Called "Materials and the Environment: Wood as a Global Resource," it says responsible environmentalism means:

- Thinking globally.
- Looking at the whole system, not just parts.
- Basing decisions on reason as well as emotion.
- Making sure that our assumptions reflect reality.

We all use raw materials such as wood, metals, plastics and cement to sustain our lives. And demand for raw materials increases as world population grows.

The U.S. annually uses roughly as much wood by weight as it does all metals, plastics and portland cement combined. And of all the raw materials available today, wood stands out as one of the very few renewable resources, according to specialists in the U of M College of Natural Resources.

Reducing our materials use – being less wasteful – will help the environment. Let's say you cut your consumption in half. You live in a home half the size of what you now have, shop in a supermarket with only half the shelf space, drive half the distance you're used to, and have only half as many shoes and shirts.

Even if every U.S. citizen were to do all that, overall global demand would still increase due to the population growth projected for the next century and the increased demand anticipated as others around the world seek a standard of living closer to ours.

We could also reduce domestic wood use by increasing recycling. As responsible stewards, it's critical that we pursue recycling as vigorously as we can, the publication says. But paper fibers and many other materials degrade

each time they're recycled. That means new materials must continually be added to the mix.

We're familiar with wood poles, timbers, lumber, plywood and paper. Wood is also used in molded interior panels for autos, and in adhesives, paints, food additives, drapes, tires and even table tennis balls. Each of us consumes about 80 cubic feet of wood per year, equivalent to a tree one and one-half feet in diameter and 103 feet tall.

Who owns our forests?

Individual private landowners own 57 percent, while 28 percent is owned by federal, state or local government. Only 15 percent is owned by the forest products industry.

Check the publication out at www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/naturalresources/DD6507html. You'll find purchase information on the complete educational package, which includes a video and other publications. Or, call 800-876-8636 and ask for publication number 6507.

TPA/LUA Workers Compensation Program Celebrates 20 Years



Guests enjoying hors d'oeuvres at the LUA reception Friday night of the 2001 North Star Expo.

Twenty years ago Ronald Reagan was beginning his first term as President; Kirby Puckett was a new minor leaguer in the Twins farm system; the national forests in Minnesota sold 265,000 cords of wood and Lumberman's Underwriting Alliance (LUA) and TPA forged a new workers' compensation insurance group.

The work done by the TPA Insurance Committee, TPA Executive Vice President Russ Allen, LUA staff and Minnesota General Manager Tom Hutchinson forged a program that has endured when others have failed.

To commemorate the long-term success of the LUA/TPA relationship, LUA sponsored a 20th anniversary reception at this year's North Star Expo. Champagne corks were popped, commemorative mugs distributed and a fine spread of food was laid out at Ironworld, all courtesy of LUA.

LUA Senior Executive Vice President Mike North and Midwest Regional Vice President Angelo Ganguzza, Minnesota General Manager John Hill and LUA's Minnesota-based staff and corporate staff were all on hand for the reception. "The success of the TPA program is one of our company's proudest accomplishments and most important programs. It is truly a partnership built on safety, commitment and trust," said LUA's Mike North.

"What most people may now know is that nearly every other association's workers' compensation program throughout the country has failed. LUA has stuck with this program through good years and bad years and we have stuck with them while other companies have come and gone," said TPA Executive Vice President Wayne Brandt.

Enberg Logging Supply

by Dennis Lampi

As I traveled west to Motley, Minn., to visit with Rod Enberg of Enberg Logging Supply I thought about this summer's weather. Mother Nature has shown her power and how the logging industry must bend to her fury. The

super wet spring and early summer virtually shut down logging in many parts of northern Minnesota. The average will probably come out perfect because then we went into drought conditions which caused fire bans, a dried up

blueberry crop and brown lawns. It sure brought the fire potential of the BWCA to the headlines.

I met Rod Enberg at his shop just north of Motley where his crew maintains, repairs and modifies the equipment. Rod said, "Good employees are the key to a successful business and the shop provides the opportunity for year round employment of the crew." His logging crews do all their own repairs.

After Vietnam, Rod went to watch-makers school and worked in the business for a short time but realized he wanted to be outdoors, not cooped up inside, so he started his logging business with a chain saw and an old C6 Tree Farmer almost 30 years ago. It turned into a rewarding business. When he first hired employees he had to borrow money to keep paying them during spring breakup. They needed a paycheck and he didn't want to lose good people. They did a lot of odd jobs during breakup including house painting. Rod stated, "I like to hire employees with good values because they work hard and will stick with you." Through the years he's borrowed money to employees for starting their homes, "it's turned into a revolving fund that's passed on from one employee to another." Helping one another is an

(continued on page 22)



Karl Kaufman and Rod Enberg at Rod's shop.



Jeff Fonteyn with skidder.



Joe Robben on the Prentice.



Tim Robben does the felling.



Chris Robben on the Hahn.



Jeff Bartle below Hahn upper cab.



Jim Sirvcek skids for the Hahn crew.

(continued from page 20)
important part of life.

A call from one of his two crews for another truck had me following Rod going north and east off Highway 64. We were out in the country but the road signs were street numbers. We turned onto 61st avenue SW and came to a private sale of aspen. This wood was headed for Potlatch; either Bemidji, Baxter or Cloquet. This crew was using a 648G II John Deere skidder, a 320L Cat delimeter and a 210E Prentice loader. Jeff Fonteyn ran the skidder and delimeter while Joe Robben slashed and loaded trucks. The felling for this job had been done earlier. The wood always gets directly loaded onto trucks to reduce operating costs. Rod said, "I hate to put wood on the ground, it just drives me nuts." Enberg logging hauls all their own wood with Kenworth trucks which date back as far as 1988, but Rod feels well-maintained trucks are very reliable and economical to repair. Rod explained, "I get excellent reliable life out of all the equipment because the operators treat the equipment as if it were their own, both in maintenance and operation."

At our next stop we found Tim Robben felling jack pine on a Potlatch stand with a 1994 511E Hydro-ax. Tim does the felling for both crews. The Hydro-ax is scheduled for replacement later this summer even though it is still a reliable machine due to the maintenance and TLC it has received from Tim. I kept watching

this jack pine country for blueberries but all I saw was empty bushes.

Our final stop was another jack pine stand on Potlatch land. Chris Robben and Jeff Bartle were running the 110B Hahn processor while Jim Sirvcek was operating a 548E John Deere skidder. After a short discussion with the crew we left the site and headed to Leader, Minn., for an excellent lunch.

Rod has another aspect to his logging operation which he is justifiably proud of and which also supports the entire logging industry. Rod's wife, Lynn, has been a sixth grade teacher for many years in the Pillager school system and she introduced Rod to Karl Kaufmann, a science teacher at Pillager who teaches biology and has a forest management program as part of his class. Initially Enberg logging constructed a permanent access road to the school forest so Karl and his students would have easy access to their outside, hands on, classroom. Karl takes his 10th, 11th, and 12th grade science students to the woods to learn by doing and seeing first hand what occurs in a forest. He shows the effects of a natural disturbance such as a wind storm and a controlled disturbance as in logging. The 5th and 6th grade students are also introduced to the school forest. Karl Kaufmann would be willing to discuss his program with others interested in starting this type of activity and can be reached at the Pillager school (218-746-3557 ext.353).

A management plan was written by Al Sharp of the DNR which included timber stand improvement, regeneration, reforestation, and wild life objectives. The Pillager school was deeded the forest land by Cass County Commissioners in 1953. Approximately 18,000 trees have been planted through the years.

Rod had his crew harvest about 300 cords of wood from the forest with all the proceeds being donated to the forest program of the Pillager school so the program can continue teaching students about the forest and the positive effects of logging. While the logging was taking place, Rod explained the equipment and good forest management procedures to the students. There have been other rewards to Enberg logging besides helping the kids, some of the students' parents have had Rod log their private lands after hearing the logging story from their kids. These youngsters will be the future ambassadors for the logging industry as they grow and move on to new lives. Rod strongly believes if loggers would adopt a school forest and help this type of program, our story would be told in the future and the wood industry would have less opposition to its much needed activities for the forests and economy of Minnesota.

On Rod Enberg's office wall is a framed plaque from the Pillager Public Schools telling the story of his help with the school forest. Like many in the logging industry, Rod Enberg likes to help people.

Dayton Urges Federal Court to Continue to Prohibit Implementation of Clinton “Roadless” Forest Plan that Hurts Northern Minnesota – Joins Republican Senator in Filing Federal Court Brief Against Plan

Senator Mark Dayton today joined Republican Senator Larry Craig of Idaho in filing a federal court brief urging that an injunction not be lifted against a Clinton Administration plan to prohibit new roads in federal forests.

Dayton said he filed the “amicus” brief because the Clinton plan, while well intended, overreaches and does not allow sensible management of national forests lands in Minnesota and across the country. Implementation of the plan would also have a devastating impact on jobs and the economy in the northern part of the state, he said.

“The Clinton roadless initiative is a misguided approach to forest management,” Dayton said. “We have a long history of sensible management of our federal forests, but this plan overreaches and puts in jeopardy the health of our forests, and it hurts jobs and the economy in northern Minnesota.”

The brief is part of a lawsuit the state of Idaho filed in the Federal District Court in Boise, seeking an injunction against the Clinton Roadless rule. The court granted the injunction and now, groups supporting the rule have appealed the decision in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. The amicus brief, filed with the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, supports upholding the injunction.

The brief states that the injunction should not be lifted because the Clinton Administration was in violation of the National Forest Management Act’s (NFMA) planning requirements when it issued the rule. It also states that some groups who back the Clinton plan – and are

appealing the injunction – were wrongly allowed to be part of the court proceedings.

Dayton said the NFMA, which was originally sponsored by Hubert H. Humphrey, reflects the democratic ideal that a land-use planning process, which includes local public input, can result in rational management of each National Forest for an

appropriate mix of conservation and development-oriented multiple uses.

Safety Alerts

Safety Alerts are furnished by the Forest Resources Association.

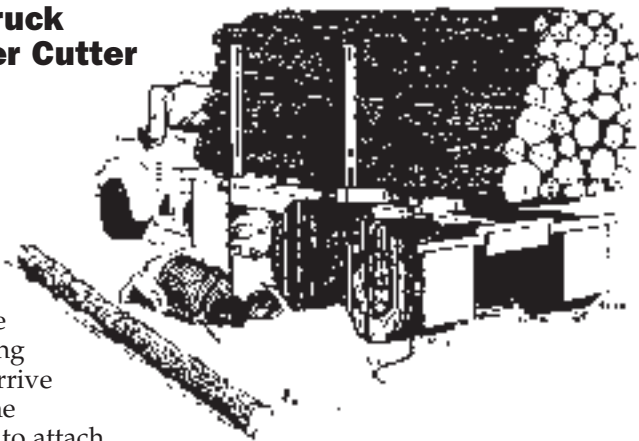
Log Falls Off Truck and Kills Timber Cutter

Background: A timber cutter had finished his work for the day on a clear, cool spring afternoon in the Appalachians. While waiting for the logging company owner to arrive at the landing area, he apparently prepared to attach binders around a loaded log truck that was parked at the landing.

Personal Characteristics: The 39-year old timber cutter was working as part of a four-man logging company. The company had no formal, written safety program or task-specific safety training program, but all crew members had completed their state's logger safety training and education program. The timber cutter had only been cutting for this employer for 10 days. Although the cutter's regular job did not include securing the binder chains on loaded trucks, he occasionally assisted. He was wearing a hard hat and chaps.

Unsafe Acts and Conditions: While the company owner was out of the loader and operating the skidder, the timber cutter approached the truck that had been previously loaded. The logs on the truck were loaded above the top of the standards, and no binders had been secured yet. It is unclear whether the victim tried to access or manipulate the load, but evidence suggests that he was either next to the truck or he was climbing onto the load to drape the chain over the top.

Accident: The logging company owner drove up to the landing area with his dozer/skidder, and he spotted the timber cutter lying face down in a fetal position next to the truck. Part of the chain was lying over his shoulder. A 12-inch diameter, 12-foot-long log had fallen off the truck and was lying



within three feet of the timber cutter.

Injury: The timber cutter had experienced massive blunt chest trauma as a result of being struck by the falling log. The company owner began administering CPR and yelled for help. EMS arrived and transported the timber cutter to the local hospital where he was pronounced dead. The coroner estimated the time from injury to death to be minutes.

Recommendations for Correction:

- Employers should ensure that the height of the stacked logs does not exceed the height of the standards on the log truck or trailer.

- Employers should ensure that stacked logs are secured immediately after loading the truck, to shorten employees' exposure to potential log movement.
- Employers should develop, implement, and enforce a written safety program which includes task-specific safety procedures and worker training in hazard identification, avoidance, and control. In this incident, the victim was fatally injured when he approached an unsafe operation (the overloaded truck) and apparently committed an unsafe act (if he climbed on the load, to help secure it).
- Employers should designate a competent person to conduct frequent and regular site safety inspections.

West Virginia FACE Program
WVC Center for Rural Emergency
Medicine
P.O. Box 9151
Morgantown, W.V. 26506-9151

Reviewed by:
Rick Meyer
Appalachian Technical Division
Forester

Poor Felling Technique Kills Logger

Background: A logger was working alone on level ground in a Northeast hardwood stand. It was a cool, overcast day in the fall. A steady breeze was blowing.



Personal Characteristics The logger had 20 years' experience and was considered a safe worker. He had attended the state's logger training program. He was wearing all the required personal protective equipment for tree felling.

Unsafe Act or Conditions: After cutting a 45-degree notch in an 18-inch maple, the logger began making a backcut but pinched his chain saw in the cut. The wind conditions may have contributed.

Accident: After attempting to break the hinge of the tree by winching it with the skidder, the logger tried to pull the saw out the backcut. It appears that after his unsuccessful attempt to remove the chain saw, he began walking back to the skidder. The hinge of the setback tree broke and struck the logger in the back, pinning him to the ground.

Injuries: The logger died of internal injuries.

Recommendations for Correction: To ensure consistent application, the logger or the contractor should continually evaluate directional felling techniques. A large notch (open-faced felling calls for a 70- to 90-degree notch) and the placement of wedges might have averted the pinching of the saw bar.

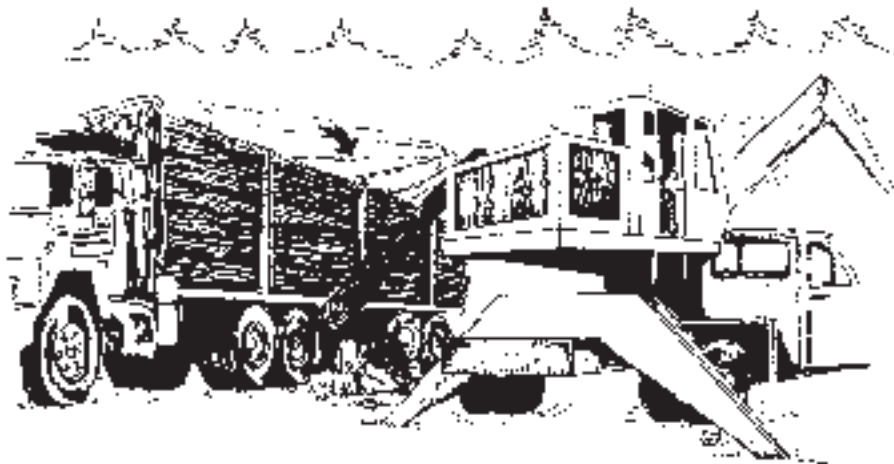
Additional circumstances that contributed to the feller's death include:

- The position of the skidder did not allow for pushing over the tree.
- The logger failed to keep the hazard tree in view at all times while in the hazard zone.
- The recommended hinge was compromised by recurrent bypass of notch cuts.

Periodic self-evaluation or review by the crew supervisor will identify the necessary adjustments to the felling system and avoid this type of injury exposure.

Mike St. Peter, Program Manager
Certified Logging Professional
Program
P.O. Box 557
Jackman, Maine 04445

Reviewed by:
Patrick Hackley
Northeast Technical Division
Forester



Falling Log Kills Landing Worker

Background: A logger was "hot" bucking logs on a landing as tree-length pulp was being loaded onto a truck for hauling. It was about noon on a clear November day.

Personal Characteristics: The logger had several years of experience and worked for a contractor who employed seven hand crews. The logger had no formal safety training but was wearing all the appropriate personal protective equipment except safety boots. The man operating the loader was actually the truck driver and was not an employee of the contractor.

Unsafe Act or Conditions: The logger was kneeling down filing his chain saw between the truck and the loader during the loading operation.

Accident: A 16-foot beech log, approximately 19 inches on the butt end, rolled through the stakes on the trailer and struck the logger kneeling next to the loader. The loader operator never saw the employee get hit and picked up the log and set it back on the trailer. An eyewitness saw the accident and yelled out the loader operator to stop.

Injuries: The logger died instantly from severe head and neck injuries.

Recommendations for Correction: The logger bucking the logs should have been on the opposite side of the loader and within eyesight of the loader operator at all times. It

is unknown why the logger was sharpening his chain saw in one of the most dangerous locations on an active log yard. Normally, a logger bucking on the yard works from the opposite side and remains in clear view of the loader operator at all times. A formal safety orientation and training program, such as OSHA requires for all logging employees, might have prevented this kind of bad judgment.

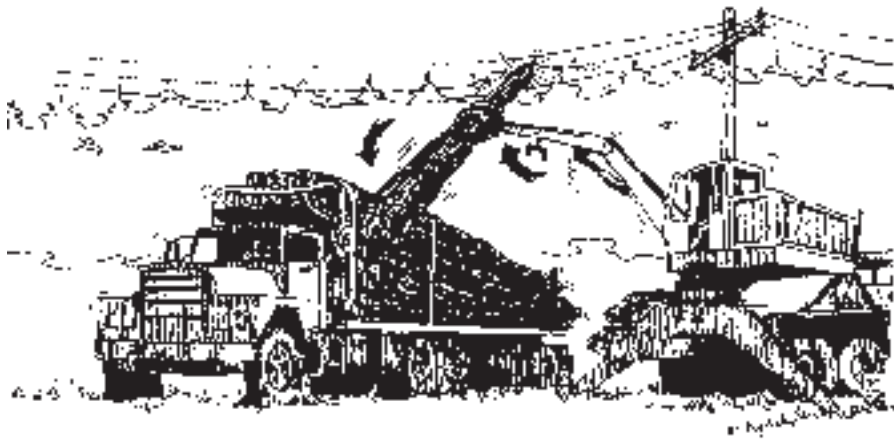
When a loader is operating on the yard, ground personnel should stay a safe distance from the boom and any wood extending from the bucket. To the extent possible, personnel on the ground should stay within sight of the loader operator. At no time should a person be beneath or adjacent to an operating loader or the trailer being loaded.

Reviewed by:
Patrick Hackley
Northeast Technical Division
Forester

Log Loader Contacts Power Line

Background: A loader/slasher operator was loading tree-length hardwood from a stockpile to a tractor-trailer. The incident occurred on a spring evening prior to sundown.

Personal Characteristics: The loader/slasher operator was 44 years old and had worked for the company for 15 years. The tractor-trailer operator was 32-years-old and had been operating for three years. Both operators reportedly



had training and were wearing all appropriate personal protective equipment at the time.

Unsafe Act or Conditions: The driver had parked so that the rear of the trailer was under a high-voltage transmission line. Neither the loader operator nor the truck driver was aware of the proximity of the power line while preparing to load the trailer.

Accident: As the loader operator was swinging the boom over the trailer stakes, one stem contacted a phase wire on the 69,000-volt transmission line, energizing the tractor-trailer, loader, and the slasher connected to the loader.

Injuries: The loader operator received minor flash burns to his right hand, index and middle finger knuckles and left-hand index knuckle. The truck driver was uninjured.

The loader operator was taken to the hospital on an outpatient basis and released. There was no lost time for either operator after the accident.

Equipment Damage: Fourteen tires on the tractor-trailer were burned due to the electric shock.

Recommendations for Correction: Always locate stockpiles in areas well away (at least two trailer lengths) from all power lines, regardless of voltage. Consider posting signs in the vicinity of all power lines directing truckers to load or unload outside the danger zone.

Staff Comment: FRA Loss Control Overview LCO-30, *Power Line Safety*, provides advice about working and operating safely around power lines. It can be

obtained for \$5.00 from FRA (phone 301-838-9385) or for free at FRA's website, www.forestresources.org. Click on the *Timber Harvesting Safety* button and select *Loss Control Overviews*.

Reviewed by:
Patrick Hackley
Northeast Technical Division
Forester

Ejected Sawhead Tooth Penetrates House Trailer

Background: A feller-buncher was cutting trees in the South one summer day. The feller-buncher was equipped with a disc cutter sawhead.

Personal Characteristics: The machine operator was trained to operate and service the feller-buncher. He had been operating this specific machine for two years.

Unsafe Act or Condition: The feller-buncher was operating near a

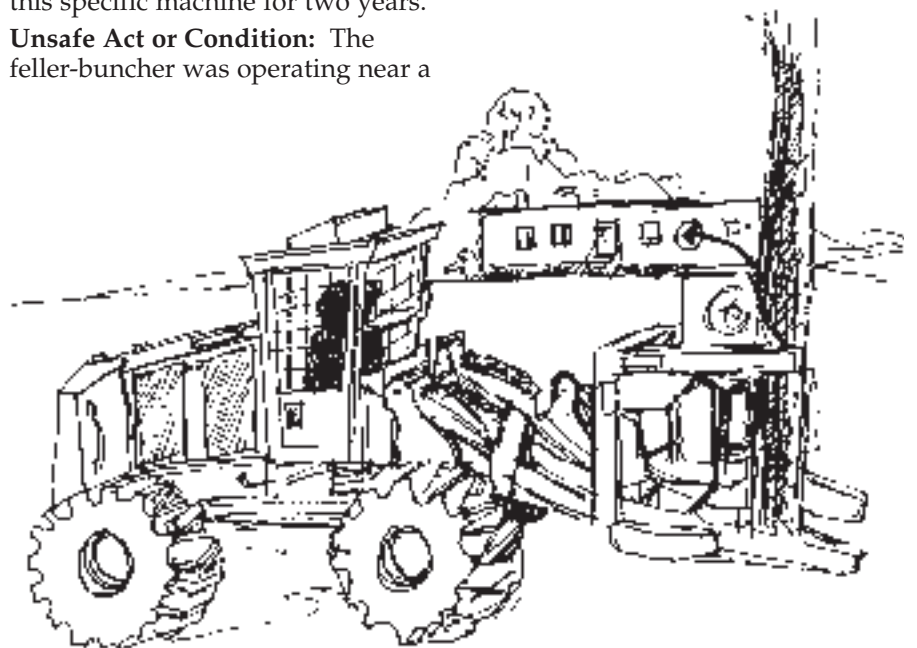
private house trailer residence. The sawhead was directed toward the house trailer.

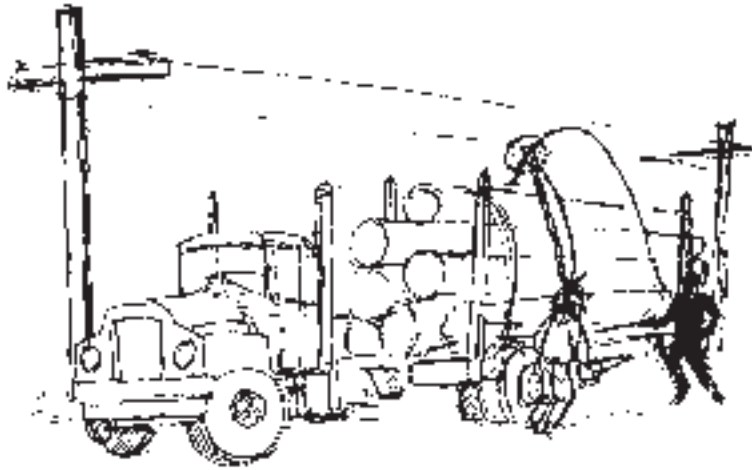
Accident: While the sawhead rotated at high speed, one of its teeth separated from the disc and was ejected out the discharge chute. The tooth traveled more than 250 feet and passed through the house trailer.

Injury: No one was in or near the house trailer at the time of this accident. No one was injured. The tooth damaged several of the house trailer's walls.

Recommendations for Correction: Follow all safe operation and maintenance procedures and heed all cautions and warnings described in operator and service manuals when inspecting, maintaining, and operating feller-bunchers with sawheads. Operate these heads so that debris discharge is not directed towards people, equipment, buildings, or livestock. Thoroughly inspect sawteeth, sawtooth holders, all retaining bolts, sleeves, nuts, saw discs, and felling head assemblies regularly. Take extra care to replace all nuts and bolts with new ones when changing teeth on the discs. Then tightening sawtooth bolts, tighten them to the torque specified in the operator's or service manual.

Reviewed by:
Michael Wetzel
Southeastern Technical Division
Forester





Logger Electrocuted While Trimming Load

Background: A logger was trimming knots from pine plylogs loaded on a log trailer one autumn afternoon in the South. The trailer was parked underneath a live 115,000-volt electric power line. The power line was 18 feet above the ground.

Personal Characteristics: The logger was a trained, experienced sawhand. The log truck driver was also trained and experienced.

Unsafe Act or Condition: Despite specific instructions to the entire crew from the logging contractor to avoid parking log trucks under the power line, the truck driver parked his loaded log truck under the power line to secure the load with binders. The sawhand began trimming the logs while the driver started to bind the load with the combination chain and cable binding secured to a hand reel on the side of the trailer. While the sawhand was trimming, the driver threw the binder chains and cable over the power line.

Accident: Seeing that the metal binding was going to contact the power line, the driver shouted a warning to the sawhand. The chain saw noise prevented the sawhand from hearing the warning. The metal binding swung over the power line and contacted the metal trailer. The electric current arced from the trailer to the sawhand.

Injury: The sawhand was killed instantly. The truck burst into flames, consuming the truck, trailer, and logs.

Recommendations for Correction:

Maintain all operations a safe operating distance (at least 50 feet) from power lines. Do not park any vehicle or machine underneath live power lines. Contact the power company if hazardous situations cannot be eliminated.

Crew members and truck drivers should not swing load binders over a load until they have confirmed nobody is on or near the trailer. Loggers and drivers should not trim logs on a trailer while another crew member is slinging binders over the log load. Crew members must communicate with each other at all times.

Consider replacing metal binding chains with nylon binding straps. Logging company safety training programs should include safe operation near power lines. Most importantly, professional loggers and log truck drivers must exercise common sense and good judgment as they perform their work! The deceased logger is survived by his

wife and two very young children.
Staff Comment: FRA Loss Control Overview LCO-30, *Power Line Safety*, provides advice about working and operating safely around power lines. It can be obtained for \$5.00 from FRA (phone 301-838-9385) or for free at FRA's website, www.forestresources.org. Click on the *Timber Harvesting Safety* button and select *Loss Control Overviews*.

Reviewed by:

Michael Wetzel
 Southeastern Technical Division
 Forester

Driver Falls From Log Load

Background: A Lake States logging company was pre-hauling wood out to an all-weather landing where, in inclement weather, their truckers could haul the wood easily out of the woods and to the mill. It was autumn and the crew was expecting the fall rains to start soon. A lone truck driver was moving the log trailers into position.

Personal Characteristics: The driver of the log truck had many years of experience in the wood industry and was considered a "Steady Eddy" by his co-workers and boss.

Unsafe Act or Condition: Working late one evening to make things ready for the next morning, the driver was up on the pulpwood load, securing his wrapper chains. He accidentally slipped and fell to the ground – landing at first on his



feet, then on his right side.

Injury: The driver had the wind knocked out of him and lost his glasses yet he somehow managed to climb back into his truck. He realized that he could not drive and was forced to spend the night in the warmth of his cab. Someone who was looking for him retrieved the injured driver the following morning. He was brought to the emergency room and was diagnosed with four broken ribs. The driver experienced a great deal of soreness and discomfort and missed a week of work.

Recommendations for Correction:

- Never work alone, either in the woods or at the landing.
- Loads of logs are never stable enough for dependable footing; binding systems must be such as to permit securement entirely from a stable position on the ground.
- The driver was wise to recognize that he was incapacitated and not to attempt to drive himself home. However, he should have had access to, and used, some form of two-way communication to signal that he was injured and needed assistance.

Michigan Association of
Timbermen
Self-Insurers Fund
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Newberry, Mich. 49868



Reviewed by:
Paul M. Klocko
Lake States Technical Division
Manager

Beltrami and Kooching Counties Join SFI

Koochiching and Beltrami counties have become the latest public land managers in Minnesota to become licensees of the SFI program. They have added 278,000 acres and 146,000 acres, respectively, to the program.

“SFI program objectives are very similar to Kooch County’s existing management policies,” said Koochiching County Land Commissioner Dennis Hummitzsh. “Joining the program will strengthen the tie between the numerous building blocks of our current forest management strategy.”

“We are very pleased to enroll Beltrami County’s land in the SFI program,” commented Bob Milne, Beltrami County’s land commissioner. “Having our land in the SFI program reinforces our commitment to properly manage our forestlands to guarantee that current and future generations will be able to continue to enjoy county-managed lands.

The addition of Beltrami and Koochiching counties to the SFI ranks brings the total number of acres enrolled in Minnesota to more than 1.8 million. Carlton County, Itasca County, Lake County, St. Louis County, the University of Minnesota’s Cloquet Forestry Center, Boise Cascade, Potlatch, Rajala Companies and UPM Kymmene have all previously enrolled their lands in the SFI program.

“The SFI program is revolutionizing the way we manage our forestlands,” said AF&PA President and CEO W. Henson Moore. “With each new licensee in our award-winning program, more and more folks around the country are recognizing the environmental commitment on which the SFI program stands. We proudly welcome two of our most recent licensees and acknowledge their contribution – and others like them – in making the SFI program work.”

Turkish Officials Rethink Residential Construction After Earthquake Disaster

Builders Find Strength in Wood-Frame Construction

Homebuilders coast-to-coast and around the world face a variety of natural elements and weather phenomena that can test a home's structural integrity. In the aftermath of the devastating earthquake that rocked northern Turkey in 1999, Turkish officials will rebuild homes with wood and engineered wood products.

"Wood's high-performance in one of nature's most extreme disasters can give homeowners and builders everywhere – whether located in an earthquake-prone region or not – the necessary assurance to keep their families safe," says Kelly McCloskey, president and CEO of the Wood Promotion Network.

The ability of a building to resist extreme loads is a function of design and construction – not the characteristics of the materials. Wood-frame construction is a well-researched building system that meets strength performance requirements. A growing body of this research reveals that wood-frame homes withstand high-stress conditions, like the seismic forces of an earthquake, better than other building systems. Additionally, recent tests from APA – The Engineered Wood Association, show structures employing wood sheathing or plywood can withstand earthquake forces up to two to three times better than other building systems.

Rebuilding with Wood

In the past, most residential buildings in Turkey were constructed with reinforced concrete. Many of these buildings were damaged or completely destroyed as a result of the 1999 earthquake. As Turkish officials focus on rebuilding, Wickes International, the Engineered Wood Association, First Renaissance Ventures and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Foreign Agriculture Service are teaming up to provide education and training on how to build residential wood-frame buildings. Through these initiatives, which

also include technical exchanges and sample home exhibits, the coalition is helping to enhance the rebuilding effort.

Why Wood is Good

By nature, wood's flexible characteristics enable it to absorb and to dissipate energy when wind or earthquake forces test a home's

strength. In addition to its inherent properties, wood-frame construction consists of numerous small connections rather than a few large-capacity connections typical of other building systems. With smaller connections, if one connection becomes overloaded, its share is picked up by adjacent connections. Wood also has a high strength-to-weight ratio, making wood-frame buildings lighter than other building types – a definite advantage during an earthquake.

New engineered-wood products

such as roof trusses and floor joists also give wood-frame construction incredible strength, even over large spans. These new wood products demonstrate some of wood's most important qualities – flexibility and strength.

"The fact is not only does a wood-frame home provide incredible structural strength, but builders and homeowners alike find that no other material matches its versatility, affordability and character," says McCloskey. "Studies around the world also show wood's superiority as a renewable building material that leaves the lightest impact on our environment."

For more information on the benefits of building with wood, visit www.beconstructive.com.

Deck the House ***beconstructive.com*** ***Provides Homeowners with the Know-How to Build the Perfect Wood Deck***

Building an outdoor deck is a simple, popular do-it-yourself project for many homeowners. In fact, over 30 million homes in the United States have an outdoor deck, and approximately 3 million new decks are constructed each year.¹ "Decks are a great addition because they add real value to the home," says "Mr. Fix-It" Lou Manfredini. "Not only are wood decks easy to construct because they require no wiring, door jams or hinges, but they also beautify a home and provide a great space for the whole family to enjoy."

It's not too late to build a new deck this year, and deck builders can learn the necessary steps to create their ideal wood deck by visiting www.beconstructive.com.

All Decked Out with Wood

Wood products dominate the residential deck market. In fact, a recent survey of builders found that nearly 80 percent of new home decks are constructed with wood or wood product. The study also revealed that when it comes to choosing building materials, builders value consistent quality, durability and beauty/aesthetic appeal.

"What these results show is that homeowners should turn to wood

when building an outdoor deck for the same reasons they would choose wood to build a new home," says Kelly McCloskey, president and CEO of the Wood Promotion Network. "Wood is not only the most visually pleasing building material on the market today, but it's also the most affordable, durable and the best choice for the environment."

Hit the Deck – Building Basics

"Building a deck is a great do-it-yourself project," says Manfredini. "They're relatively simple to construct and can be started and completed quickly." Manfredini offers these points for planning, constructing and maintaining wood deck:

- **Material Matters:** Cedar and redwood are among the most popular material choices because they look good and cost less than non-wood alternatives. Look at samples before making a final choice.
- **Design Decisions and Cost Calculations:** Choosing a preferred style of deck and determining a budget are big decisions when mapping out deck plans. Visit www.beconstructive.com for links to deck plans and cost estimates, or visit a design kiosk at your local lumber or hardwood store.
- **Understanding Upkeep:** To maintain the beauty of a wood deck, a simple treatment of water repellent every two years will keep it looking new and prevent any wear due to rain, water or snow.

For additional deck know-how, including a 25-step checklist and links to deck plans to help get started on building a new wood deck, visit www.beconstructive.com.

Timberjack Receives Funding to Explore and Develop Biomass Technology

The Timberjack Corporation has announced that it has received funding from the European Union (EU) to research and develop new processes in forest biomass technology.

Forest biomass has long been considered a potential solution for future energy needs, specifically in the area of feeding power plants. Biomass is a natural, 100 percent renewable energy source that has a neutral CO₂ balance. The benefits include high energy output, as well as cleaner landscape and faster reforestation.

The challenge is to develop a production system that logistically makes biomass harvesting a practical, efficient and cost-effective process. As a company that already actively participates in global attempts to increase the share of renewable fuels in energy production, Timberjack is well suited to the role it's playing in this project.

For example, the company has already adapted several of its harvesting machines and methods to enhance biomass production, including the Model 770/720 Energy Harvester, with its Model 720 Multifunction Collector Head.

At the same time, experts agree that the successful application of biomass as an energy source will ultimately hinge on its ability to be "packaged" for delivery. The biomass product has to be bundled in a manageable form that's easily collected, transported, stored and utilized.

To this point, Timberjack has developed a unique bundling machine that can be easily adapted to standard forwarders in their product line. This innovative bundling machine will produce "slash logs" that are more than 9 feet (3 meters) long, and around 3 feet (1 meter) in diameter. These bundles are wrapped with string every 2.5 feet (40 cm).

Currently, three test machines are in operation in Finland, working for the country's Pietarsaari Power Station, the world's largest biomass powerplant. The bundling system is producing an hourly average of 20-30 bundles, at a weight that averages between .4 and .7 tons. The bundles can be forwarded with standard forwarders. Each bundle contains about 1MW of energy when combusted, which equals around 16 to 21 gallons (80-100 liters) of fuel oil.

These bundles can be stacked and stored indefinitely; the compacted bundles do not rot or compost as easily as loose slash

piles. Bundles can be transported to energy plants on standard over-the-road trucks. Crushing or chipping is done at the plant to transfer the bundles into the right size particles for combustion. To maximize fuel efficiency, these "green" chips are often mixed with other energy materials like bark, sawdust or peat.

With rising energy costs facing virtually every corner of the globe today, the harvesting processes being developed in Europe by Timberjack's Energy Technology division will ultimately have a positive impact in other countries that are anticipating development of biomass energy plants.

Two world leaders in the production of forestry equipment joined forces in April 2000 when Deere & Company (Moline, Ill., USA) acquired Timberjack Group (Helsinki, Finland).

Deere & Company (www.JohnDeere.com) creates smart and innovative solutions, in the form of advanced machines, services and concepts, for customers on the farmsite, worksite and homesite worldwide.

Early Loggers in Minnesota

by J. C. Ryan

VOL. I



VOL. III



VOL. II



VOL. IV



First hand recollections by storyteller 'Buzz' Ryan of the loggers, loaders, swampers, wood butchers and bul-ricks who used the woods in the hey-day of the pioneer lumberjacks—with dozens of historical photographs.

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Sierra Club Falls Down the Stupid Tree and Hits Every Branch

Do you remember that chilling H.G. Wells novel, *The War of the Worlds*, where Martians invade and almost conquer the Earth? "Across the gulf of space, intellects vast, cool and unsympathetic, regarded this earth with envious eyes, and slowly but surely drew their plans against us."

Or how about that classic science-fiction horror movie, *Invasion of the Body Snatchers*, where plant-like pods slowly begin taking control of the human race? As innocent people fell asleep near a pod, the alien species possessed and controlled their bodies.

Now, I don't mean to sound paranoid, but I'm pretty sure; almost positive; nearly convinced that . . . THEY ARE HERE! RIGHT NOW! IT'S THE TREES!

I know you must think me mad, but please listen to me while there's yet still time. Like everyone else in the county (state? country? world?), I received that ominous letter from the Sierra Club, Beginning "Dear Fellow Cabin Owner," it proceeded to suggestively, beguilingly and hypnotically convince me that it's very very wrong to cut down a tree.

Almost persuaded, I was saved from this great evil, at the last second only, by a fortuitous visit from my old friend, Mr. Lumber Jack (Yes, It's all true. "He's a lumberjack and he's OK. He sleeps all night and he works all day.") Anyway, Mr. Jack told me a few things that helped me understand the extent to which I had been bewitched by the trees and their depraved human servants, the Sierra Club (formerly known as "Hypocrites 'R Us").

I want you to listen to me now because you and I are Humanity's last hope. I discovered that the letters in the name "Sierra Club" can be rearranged into either "I Lure Crabs" or "I Scrub Earl." I'm not sure what this means yet but it sounds very bad. Also, I found that the word "Environmentalist" is an anagram for either "Evil Intent on Mars" or "Mann is Evil Rotten." That's when the dreadful truth began to sink in.

The trees are really vicious aliens out to get us. Also, they don't spell

very well.

Consider the following so-called Sierra Club "Facts:"

Man is devastating our forests and they are almost all gone.

In the U.S., we actually have about two-thirds as much forest now (731 million acres) as existed in the year 1600 and 13.2 million acres of these trees are 200 or more years of age (e.g.: old growth). Additionally, American forests are expanding at a rate of 1 million acres per year. Every year, more than 1.5 billion trees are planted in the U.S., more than five trees for every man, woman and child in America. Six trees are planted for every one that is harvested.

Clear cutting destroys the forest and damages wildlife.

Utter nonsense. Clear cutting only damages the effete aesthetic senses of you urban tree-huggers. Careful clear-cutting (Yes, Virginia, there IS such a thing) actually aids in diversifying a forest's plant and animal life by creating temporary meadows. If left alone, for long enough, the land will eventually return to it's original forested condition. Short of cementing, you can't keep the damn trees from growing back.

The Earth is suffering a staggering loss of tropical rain forest because man is destroying it with wasteful slash and burn agriculture.

Wrong again wood-for-brains. The rain forests of both the northern and southern hemispheres ARE decreasing, but at a current rate of only one tenth of one percent per year. At this rate of loss, if it continues (which it won't) our existing rain forests would last for 1000 years. And guess what? It grows back too. Duh!

We shouldn't cut down trees for our houses and furniture.

Well comrade, what do you and your fellow travelers suggest we use instead? Mud, dung and straw? Fine, go ahead. But don't expect ME to come over for supper any time soon.

We shouldn't cut down trees for paper. We should make paper out of hemp, flax or some other non-tree fiber.

Bottomless ignorance! It takes more energy to make paper from these inefficient fiber crops than

from trees; that's why it costs more. Wake up and smell the wood pulp. If you have room enough to grow these crops, why not just grow trees instead?

Burning wood is hugely wasteful and releases unwanted carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.

Um, excuse me, greenbutt. Sixty percent of the wood consumed on this planet goes for fuel. The CO₂ released by burning a tree will be completely recaptured in the 10 or 20 years it takes to grow a new tree. How long do you think it will take the Earth to recapture the CO₂ released from burning fossil fuels like coal, oil or natural gas?

If we don't protect the old growth forest from the wicked loggers, entire species like the spotted owl will go extinct.

You lying toad! The spotted owl thing was a complete hoax and you know it. Spotted owls are doing fine. There are lots of spotted owls. And they don't particularly need old growth to live in, either. You did manage to sue the spotted owl controversy to destroy countless sawmills, timber operations and family livelihoods throughout the northwest, as well as drive up the cost of lumber for everyone else. How do you sleep at night?

Huge and powerful timber interests are using their vast resources and political power to rape the virgin forests.

Get behind me Satan. The total annual budgets that you and the other wilderness wackos command dwarfs that of any particular timber producer and almost rivals the three billion dollar budget of the U.S.F.S. itself. Listen and listen up good pilgrim. When the revolution comes, you and your trial lawyer buddies will be the first against the wall.

There you have it, I've told you everything I know about this dastardly alien invasion. Logical arguments like those listed have absolutely no power over lost souls whose thoughts are now controlled by the trees' deceitful tree-hugger religion. Don't be surprised when you hear radical environmentalists, like former Sierra Club Director David Forman, say "Phasing out the human race will solve every problem on earth, social and

environmental." Forgive him, friend. It's no longer a human being speaking. It's the trees.

I just hope that we can do something before it's too late. Why are you looking at me like that, friend? I'm not crazy. I'm not insane. Oh, no, no. Oh lord, no. Not you too! Is there anyone left out there with a human soul? Anyone? If there is, please, remember this: The trees are watching. Watching and waiting. And they never sleep. Never sleep. Never.

Reprinted with permission from the Cook County Star, by Daryl Popkes, My Neck Of The Woods, Mon., July 9, 2001.

Coming Events

■ MINNESOTA SAFETY COUNCIL 2001-2001 CONTINUING EDUCATION

Drug/Alcohol Recognition Training for Supervisors
Aug. 23, Sept. 14, Oct. 29,
Nov. 19, 2001

8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

(Registration begins at 8:00 a.m.)
This course is designed to fulfill the 49 CFR 382.603 training for supervisors requirement.

Who Should Attend

Employers/supervisors of driving employees, anyone designated by their company to determine whether reasonable suspicion exists to require a driver to undergo testing. This session meets DOT one-hour drug and one-hour alcohol training requirements for supervisors and is strongly recommended for any supervisor who is involved in a "Drugs in the Workplace" policy.

Preparing for a DOT Safety Audit

Nov. 9, 2001

8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

(Registration begins at 8:00 a.m.)

Who Should Attend

This course will benefit company, fleet supervisors, human resource managers and others responsible for company compliance with safety regulations for interstate commercial motor vehicle operators.

Professional Credit

Attend either course and earn .4 Continuing Education Units (CEUs) from the Minnesota Safety Council.

For more information or to register, call Lisa Kons at the Minnesota Safety Council, 651-228-7330 or 800-444-9150, ext. 330.

■ Log a Load for Kids Golf Tournament

September 7, 2001

The 4th annual Log a Load for Kids golf tournament will take place at Pokegama Golf Course in Grand Rapids, Minn., on Friday Sept. 7, 2001.

The tournament will be a four person best ball scramble with a 10:00 a.m. shotgun start.

Many prizes will be awarded along with a color television for a hole in one. There will also be many hole sponsors. Plan to come out for a great time for a great cause and maybe win a great prize.

Contact Dave Hensel at 218-327-6390 for further details and to sign up.

■ University of Minnesota – Environmental Aspects of Forestry, Timber Harvest, and Wood Use

A Workshop for Manufacturers, Marketers, Distributors, and Users of Wood

A program of the Forest Products Management Development Institute

September 21, 2001
Cloquet, Minn.

Department of Wood Paper Science

College of Natural Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minn. 55108

Registration/Fees

The cost of this workshop is \$99 per participant (\$89 if registration is received or postmarked by September 7), which includes all handouts, coffee breaks, and a box lunch. This fee is fully refundable up to within two weeks of the event; cancellations within two weeks of the event will incur a \$50 cancellation fee.

For registration information please contact Jim Bowyer at 612-624-4292 or e-mail jbowyer@cnr.umn.edu.

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Years Ago

20 YEARS AGO

- Operations at the Eveleth Tree Nursery in Superior National Forest will be phased out over the next four years. Both Superior and Chippewa National Forests are supplied by the nursery, and negotiations are under way to obtain replacement planting stock from the state of Minnesota.
- Legislative direction for release to multiple use of all national forest roadless areas, classified as nonwilderness, by the years-long RARE II (second Roadless Area Review and Evaluation) process, was urged in June by the forest industry. John W. Davis, chairman of the National Forest Products Association's Land Withdrawal Committee, in appearances before both Senate and House committees, urged speedy enactment of S.842, the proposed RARE II Review Act of 1981.
- Work on the statewide Minnesota Forest Resources Plan began in earnest this spring with a two-year \$350,000 allocation from the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources and a smaller grant from the U.S. Forest Service. The DNR is scheduled to finish its plan in 1983, though the document will have to be updated regularly. One objective of the statewide forest plan is to strengthen Minnesota's forest industry. "We're attempting to diversify the economy by intensifying forestry in the state," said Bill Morrissey, forest planning supervisor. Forestry long has ranked as one of the most important industries in the state. Each year, more than \$650 million worth of wood is cut from Minnesota forests. In 1977 alone, the gross sales of paper, lumber, furniture and other wood products totaled more than 42.3 billion – about seven percent of the state's gross economy. These figures do not even include the value of the forest to tourism and recreation.

30 YEARS AGO

- For the month of May 1971, Minnesota had 570 fires burning a total area of 127,800 acres. The average size of these fires was 31 acres.
- The new Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 was recently passed by Congress and is now in effect. This act was intended to improve the health and safety conditions for workers in all occupations. National safety standards for logging have been adopted and the timber industry has been selected as one of the five "target" industries for inspection and code enforcement due to its high accident frequency and severity rates.
- Contrary to the belief of many ecology minded people, research indicates that dyes in colored bathroom tissue are not toxic to fish or plant life, according to Roger Machmeier, extension agricultural engineer at the University of Minnesota.

Timberjack Web Site www.Tjtoday.com Offers New Features and a Video Library

Timberjack announces new additions to its North American Web site, www.Tjtoday.com. Updated weekly, the online industry news and information center is a valuable resource for timber harvesting professionals. At the Web site, visitors will find:

- Stories about Timberjack customers and dealers in North America
- Timberjack news and upcoming events
- Features on Timberjack products
- Photo of the Week
- Video clips of working machines, plus customer and dealer interviews
- Industry event calendar
- Timberjack video library
- Online shopping for Timberjack "Jack-cessories" merchandise
- Free desktop downloads
- Links to related forestry

industry news

One area visited often at www.Tjtoday.com is the Timberjack Video Library. It includes an extensive number of cataloged educational videos on matters affecting both timber harvesting professionals and the forest industry. The library also contains informational videos on almost every Timberjack machine manufactured. In addition to viewing the videos online, library visitors can order videos to assist in the areas of training, sales and service.

A popular new area of www.Tjtoday.com is the online shopping page for Jack-cessories. Visitors to the page can view and purchase the latest Timberjack clothing, staff incentive gifts and more. The Jack-cessories page features safe, secure credit card shopping.

From the home page at www.Tjtoday.com, visitors can link directly to the Timberjack

Corporate Web site. It features technical information on Timberjack equipment, news on new product development, customer service information and global Timberjack news.

Because the information at www.Tjtoday.com is updated on a regular basis, visitors are encouraged to bookmark the Web site and visit often.

Timberjack is the world's leading manufacturer of forestry machines, with its products in use in more than 80 countries. It has manufacturing facilities in Finland, Sweden, Canada and the United States. The Timberjack Group is part of Deere & Company, Moline, Illinois (USA). Deere, the world leader in agricultural machinery, also is a leading supplier of timber harvesting equipment and attachments in North America, with manufacturing operations in the United States and Canada.

LOGGERS OF THE PAST . . .

The Logging Dams

by J. C. Ryan

This story is reprinted from an earlier *Timber Bulletin*—one of the first of “Buzz” Ryan’s ever-popular contributions to these pages. The *Bulletin* will continue to reprint selected stories from the memories he recorded for us.—*Editor*



In these days of engineering, automation and computers, it is hard for one to realize some of the great achievements of the lumbermen in logging off our great virgin timber stands without our modern machinery. When the present generation is shown pictures of some of the large loads of logs that were hauled by four horses, they say, “Did horses really haul a load that big?” This was but one of the many things these early loggers accomplished.

To me, the harnessing and control of the water of our rivers and streams to bring the logs out of the woods and into the mills

was their greatest accomplishment. When the great demand developed for lumber for the homes of America, it was the logger’s task to find a way to get that lumber in the fastest and cheapest way possible. He found this means in the rivers and streams, and it was his job to make these waters do the work for him.

Today, if a dam were to be constructed on a stream, teams of engineers and surveyors would spend months in taking the levels and drawing up the plans and specifications. Not so in the old days. Then, the walking boss or camp foreman or company cruiser would walk up the

stream where logs were to be driven and when he found where the water ran through a valley between two hills with a large flat area upstream that would hold considerable water—that would be the site of a dam.

The size and kind of dam to be built would be determined on the site, depending on the amount of logs to be taken out on that stream or the need for water to carry logs that might come from other branches of the main stream below this point. Some scouting would be done to see if there were any places where water might escape around the proposed dam, and if so whether any small dikes would be needed to confine the water.

Locating dam sites was usually done a year ahead of any logging operations, and the work of making the fills was done during the summer months. All timber to construct the spillways and gates would be cut in the woods adjoining the dam and only the iron, such as pulleys and gears to operate the gates, was brought in by tote teams during winter months. There were many designs of dams and many sites, but all had one thing in common—they were designed to use as little iron as possible because of the transportation problem.

Some of these dams were located at the outlets of lakes and were designed to raise the lake several feet to act as a reservoir of the needed water. As a rule, dams at outlets of lakes were larger and of better construction than those along rivers and creeks. Transportation of construction material for lake dams was much less a problem, and iron work for these dams probably could be brought in by boat. Some of these driving dams at the outlets of lakes were later taken over by the federal government and by the State in their water control programs, and some of the logging dams were taken over by the power and paper companies and major dams built on the sites. However, it is the smaller logging dams we’ll consider here.

Most of the logging companies that were using our rivers for log transportation had dam crews working the year around, cutting and getting out the timber for the dams in the winter and constructing the dams during the summer months. Wherever horses could be used, they

This large log driving dam is constructed of timber from the nearby woods. Its brush layered into the dam helps hold the fill from washing out. One man could open the gates with winches atop the dam.





These river drivers poled logs toward dam gates and the "log shoots" leading downstream.



Logs landed on riverbank await use from upstream dams.



made the fills and wings of the dams by digging dirt from the adjoining hills with a "slusher" or dirt scraper. Where horses were not available, sometimes dirt was hauled by wheelbarrows. Rock was used to make a good footing, and the fill was constructed with alternate layers of dirt and brush to hold the dirt from being washed away.

Spillways and "log shoots" were all made of hand-hewed timber, as were the sides of the gates. Most of these dams had but one gate and one log shoot or spillway. Many, however, had two gates—one for just letting out water with only a short apron spillway and the other a heavy-timbered spillway for shooting the logs through. I have seen some with two log spillways and two water gates.

The gates themselves were of a number of designs, the most common made of heavy timbers that fitted into a groove and were lifted by cables attached to a winch above. The winch would be geared down so one man could crank up the gate, and it could be lowered by releasing the cable and tapping the timbers down into the groove with a sludge hammer. The hinge type of gate that moved up and down from a center point also was quite common, and there were several other designs—all to be operated by one man. In some of the very small streams, the dams were only temporary and involved nothing more than blocking the stream with timbers and pulling them out when the need was past.

Practically every stream in northern Minnesota had from one to a dozen of these dams—starting with the headwaters of the St. Croix, the Rum, the Snake, the Kettle and other rivers to the south to the upper waters and branches of the Mississippi and the Red River in northwestern Minnesota to the waters of the Rainy and the Pigeon along our northern border and the Lake Superior watershed, which includes the waters of the St. Louis River. Just how many dams were used by the logging industry will never be known, as some of them were used but one season and dismantled, burned out by forest fires or in some cases moved to a better site. However, there is evidence of a great many of them still to be found today.

As a boy, I was familiar with a number of the dams on the Turtle River and watched many a log go through the ones between Three Island Lake and Turtle River Lake—and speared many a fish going up over the dams in the spring. Other dams on the Kettle, Cormorant, Clearwater and Red Lake Rivers were visited by me as a boy, and as I grew up I became very familiar with all the dams on the Cloquet and Whiteface and upper St. Louis Rivers.

These rivers were still being driven until 1924. My district, the Cloquet Valley District, had about 25 of these logging

dams. To name a few on the Cloquet, there was the Island Lake Dam, Alden Lake Dam, Spring Lake Dam, Mud Lake Dam, Smith Dam, Pequonywan Lake Dam, Brown's Dam, Murphy Dam, Jungley Dam, West Branch Dam, Wolf Dam, Berry Creek Dam. These were all on the waters of the upper Cloquet River above Island Lake. (The original driving dam at Island Lake was later replaced by a large concrete dam on the site to create a large reservoir for Minnesota Power & Light Co.)

The Whiteface River had about the same number of dams along it, as did the upper St. Louis and its branches. Dams were more plentiful in the eastern part of the state than in the western part because of more rapid water and faster runoff. I have seen dams in drainage ditches in the area near Pine Island with ties and pulpwood being driven down the ditches to the Sturgeon River. Whenever logs could be moved by water, there were dams.

While many of these dams cost but little to build, others were quite costly. The dams on the main streams that were used for a number of years needed considerable maintenance to keep them in working condition, and the Cloquet Lumber Company had a crew working year around at this. Ed McLaughlin was their dam maintenance man. Some of the dams had a year around attendant or watchman—usually an older lumberjack who would live in a house or small shack nearby. His job would be to keep the dam free from any driftwood or stray logs that might come down the stream after a heavy rain and block the dam or endanger it in any way, such as washing out fill. He would protect the dam from fires that might burn out the timber work, and help any boat or canoe that might be passing up or down stream. In places where there was no dam watchman, a man would be assigned during the driving season to travel from dam to dam and let water out as the drive foreman needed it. Where a watchman was stationed at the dam this was his job.

As we travel our streams today, he will find that most all the wood work of these dams has rotted away, with probably the beaver taking over and building a dam in the opening between the fills. There is but little evidence left to show the work and effort that went into the driving of the logs down our streams.

It was not just a matter of going out and cutting a log and throwing it into the river and letting it float down to the mill. It took great effort by all involved in selecting, planning, constructing, as well as timing, to make these dams do the job of furnishing the water to carry our great virgin pine stands from the woods to the mills. And these logging dams surely did their part.



Above: An old driving dam on the Whiteface. Below: The mill of the Woods, named "Dams-in-Rigged" used in moving logs on branch lines.



It will take more than 100 men from several logging dams to move this log boom on the St. Croix River below Taylor Falls about 1890.



Classifieds

To serve our readers better, the Timber Bulletin offers free classified ads of up to 85 words to all members and associate members of the Minnesota Timber Producers Association. All ads must be submitted in writing to the Association office. The MTPA assumes no responsibility for ad contents and accepts free ads on a first-come, first-served basis within space limitations.

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Logging Safety Trainer

The Forest Industry Safety & Training Alliance, Inc. (FISTA) will be accepting resumes and letters of interest for the position of Logging Safety Trainer. Applicants are preferred to have experience in log truck driving, experience using mechanized equipment, chainsaw training through GOL Level 4, or any combination of the above. Preference will be given to applicants with an adult education background and good communication skills.

Duties may include: conducting training related to efficient and safe chainsaw and equipment operation and maintenance; conducting Game of Logging chainsaw training; conducting log truck driver training and truck inspections; conducting or moderating other SFISM required training sessions such as BMP's and Sawlog Utilization throughout Wisconsin; and conducting out-of-state municipal chainsaw training. Some evening and weekend travel is required.

Send resume and letter of interest to:

FISTA

3243 Golf Course Road
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ADVERTISERS INDEX

American Forest & Paper Assoc.....	37
American Interstate Insurance	15
Arrowhead Equipment.....	13
Biewer Wisconsin Sawmill.....	42
Bridgestone/Firestone	23
Evans Insurance Agency	41
Fryberger, Buchanan, Smith & Frederick, P.A.....	14
Great Lakes Trailers.....	36
Hedstrom Lumber Co.....	18
Itasca Greenhouse.....	15
Jake's Quality Tire	5
LM Products.....	21
Lumbermen's Underwriting Alliance.....	21
Mundt & Associates	19
Northern Engine & Supply	31
Nortrax.....	43
Pomp's Tire.....	18
Ponsse USA	9
Potlatch Corp.	35
Rice Blacksmith Saw & Machine.....	17
Road Machinery & Supplies	7
Sawmill Sales & Supplies	28
Schaefer Enterprises.....	8
Schaeffer's Specialized Lubricants.....	34
Southern Minnesota Construction.....	31
Stuart's, Inc.	2
Telmark.....	29
United Truck Body.....	16
Wausau Sales Corp.....	23
Ziegler Inc.....	44