

WRENCH & WOOD

Wood, Pulp and Paper Workers News



December 2015

Volume 2, Number 6

PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION -- National Forest Products Week

The natural resources and materials provided by forests are essential to our way of life. From timber to biofuels, forests can provide sustainable sources of important goods, and America will continue to benefit from their strength and vitality. Healthy forests lead to a strong economy, a clean environment, and a sustainable future for all our people. During National Forest Products Week, let us rededicate ourselves to preserving them and pledge to always remember the irreplaceable role they play in our lives.

To recognize the importance of products from our forests, the Congress, by Public Law 86-753 (36 U.S.C. 123), as amended, has designated the week beginning on the third Sunday in October of each year as "National Forest Products Week" and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this week.

A CLOSE VOTE DECIDES NEW RIPARIAN RULES

On Thursday, November 5, 2015 the Oregon Board of Forestry voted to more than double streamside shade buffer requirements within the Oregon Forest Practices Act to protect cold water in western Oregon fish-bearing streams despite protests.

The IAM Woodworkers Chief of Staff Mike Rose sits on the board and did not support the 4 to 3 vote on behalf of the smaller and family forest landowners and the local communities that benefit from forest management.

The decision to develop administrative rules that create a 60-foot buffer on small fish-bearing streams (120 feet total including both sides of the stream) and an 80-foot buffer (160 feet including both sides) on medium-sized fish-bearing streams will prove to be an overly restrictive harvest regulation. This is not conducive to maintaining a viable timber industry and could potentially cost \$153,000,000 in losses to private landowners and the surrounding communities. Additionally, the new riparian rules will present increased safety concerns to logging crews.

We believe that it is important to preserve harvest opportunities, and the livelihoods of friends, family and members that work in the timber industry in this environment of ever-increasing regulation of forest practices.





SFI Annual Conference Celebrates 20 Years of Leadership and Growth

Global Forestry Leaders Express Mutual Support for Advancing Sustainable Forestry

IAM Woodworkers were represented at the 20th Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) Annual Conference, held in Olympic Valley, California on October 6-8, 2015.

SFI is an independent, non-profit, third party organization that is solely responsible for ensuring that international forest management meets the SFI certification standards. The SFI label can be found on a variety of products emanating from sustainable forests and helps consumers know that they're purchasing products that represent responsible forestry and helps to ensure that forests are managed to the highest possible sustainability standards. Across Canada and the United States, 250 million acres are certified to the SFI standard, one of the most recognized and, the largest single forest standard in the world.

This year's conference and 20th anniversary celebration showcased how the SFI community continues to grow and become more diversified year after year. Participants travelled from across North America and international guests included representatives from PEFC International and came from across Europe, Asia and Australia. The conference featured presentations and collaborative sessions with leaders from the conservation, community and economic sectors. Highlights included the latest on sustainable forestry and conservation, updates on grassroots community work by SFI Implementation Committees, developments in tall wood buildings, and new initiatives between family forest owners and global supply chains.

YOU CAN FEEL GOOD ABOUT BUYING SFI LABELED PRODUCTS

When you buy products with the SFI label, you're not only purchasing a product that meets rigorous certification standards, you're also helping support future forests, sustainable communities, conservation research, youth education, logger training and much more.

LOOK FOR THE SFI LABEL ON PRODUCTS YOU USE EVERY DAY



BWI HOSTS THEIR 2016 WORLD BOARD MEETING

The Building and Wood Workers International (BWI) held their World Board Meeting on November 16-17, 2015 at the International Labor Organization (ILO) in Geneva, Switzerland. Woodworkers Chief of Staff Mike Rose and Special Representative Bob Walls were in attendance and will be participating on the newly formed Ad Hoc World Forestry Committee.

Developments in the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) were discussed as they relate to the responsible management of the world's forests and ILO Standards. FSC is convening a dialogue between BWI and all FSC affiliated U.S. pulp and paper employers about the Standards. Major topics to be addressed will be freedom of association, permanent replacement of strikers and, freedom and flexibility for union access to workers.

American Loggers Council Holds 21st Annual Meeting

Woodworkers Chief of Staff Mike Rose and Special Representative Bob Walls attended the 21st American Loggers Council Annual Meeting in Eureka, California on September 24-26, 2015. There were 250 attendees including loggers, and sponsors that have helped support the work of the Council over the past twenty-one years.

The three day conference included a logging tour in the redwood forests of northern California on Green Diamond Resource Company land near Eureka. There were also technical sessions, business meetings, awards presentations, and several guest speakers.

Mike Rose gave his committee presentation to the delegates and brought to light many issues forestry workers have in common and our plans for solutions to these problems. Among the points Brother Rose spoke about were:

- the future of apprenticeship programs to help with recruitment hurdles in our industry,
- our need to follow up and follow through on H.R. 2647 Resilient Forest Act of 2015 which is meant to help with wildfire funding, forest management solutions and streamlining the regulatory process,

- independent log haulers vs. contract loggers—(wage wars and remaining competitive)
- the Anti-Dumping ruling which would prevent China, Brazil and Indonesia from flooding U.S. markets with cheap paper and,
- this year's devastating fire season and the additional damage which results when salvage logging does not occur.

In closing, Brother Rose reminded all participants that forestry workers everywhere are in the fight together and that "it is time to join forces to continue the great tradition of logging and to preserve jobs and grow the timber industry."



IAM Woodworkers Chief of Staff Mike Rose and America Loggers Council Executive Vice President Daniel Dructor

"It is time to join forces to continue the great tradition of logging and to preserve jobs and grow the timber industry."

TELL YOUR SENATORS TO SUPPORT H.R. 2647

—THE RESILIENT FEDERAL FORESTS ACT

On July 9, 2015 H.R. 2647, the Resilient Federal Forests Act, passed the House of Representatives. This bill strengthens forest management standards to improve the health and resiliency of federal forests while reducing the overreach of the federal government and extreme environmental groups. This bill came with bi-partisan support in the House but, the work does not stop now as the forestry bill heads to the Senate. We urge you to call your Senators and the Senate Majority Leader and tell them to pass the Resilient Federal Forests Act. It is good for the national forests, the local economies, and is a solid policy that limits federal overreach. Contact information for your Senator can be found here: <http://www.senate.gov/senators/contact/>

BIO CORNER



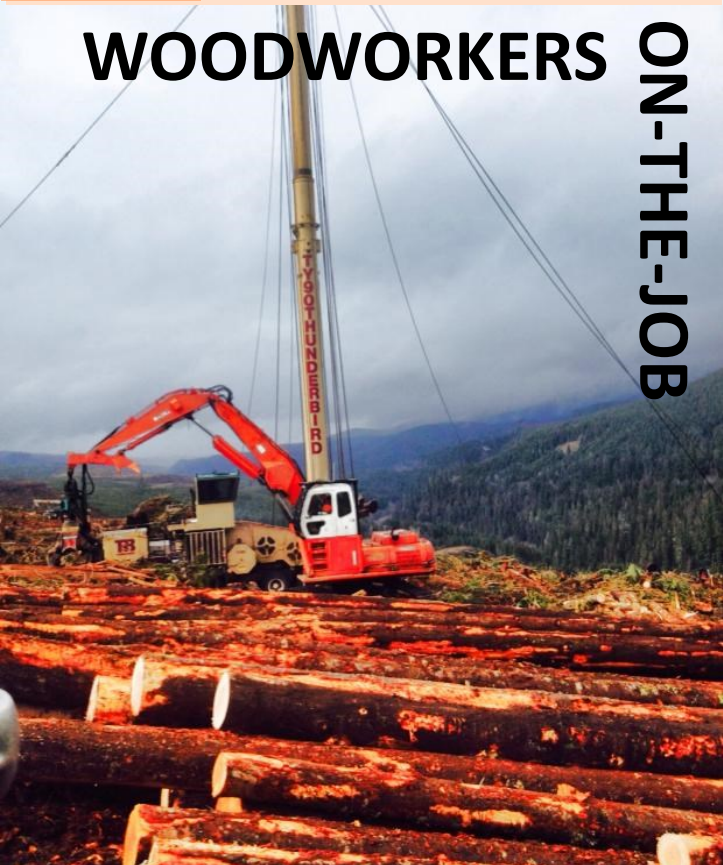
*Chad Mock
Chief Steward
Local Lodge 23
Savannah, GA*

The Mock family— Skiler, Chad, Jr., Zackery, and Dylan —may be four good reasons that Brother Chad Mock is so invested in helping his co-workers as Chief Steward at IKEA in Savannah, Georgia.

Chad started at the Savannah IKEA 8 years ago and works as an SDS Coworker operating a forklift. Soon after he began working at IKEA, he became very instrumental in helping to organize and ultimately bringing IAM representation to IKEA workers in 2012. He initiated into Local Lodge 23 on December 18, 2012 and, since March 2015 he has served the membership as Chief Steward.

After his family, his union and work, Chad loves to hunt and fish.

WOODWORKERS ON-THE-JOB



Weyerhaeuser



Purchases



Plum Creek

to Form a Timber Giant

Weyerhaeuser and Plum Creek, two timber-owning enterprises deeply rooted in the Pacific Northwest, are merging to form the nation’s largest private owner of timberland.

Weyerhaeuser also plans to explore the possibility of selling or spinning off its cellulose-fibers business segment, which produced \$1.9 billion in sales in 2014. A sale would mean Weyerhaeuser would no longer be one of the world’s largest producers of absorbent fluff pulp, which is used in diapers. The segment includes a plant in Longview that makes packaging for liquids, like those used in juice boxes.

As the uncertainty of the global economy continues to influence the forest products industry, 2015 has proven to be a noteworthy year in terms of industry change. No other US region with significant forest resources has experienced this pace of change as acutely as the Pacific Northwest, which has seen at least 15 mills change hands, alter capacity or shutter altogether this year alone. ♦

Published by:

Woodworkers Department

9000 Machinists Place Upper Marlboro, MD

301-967-4555 ; fax 301-967-4763

www.goiam.org/index.php/headquarters/departments/woodworkers