



## IDAHO FOREST OWNERS ASSOCIATION



# Summer 2021

# IFOA Newsletter

## IDAHO OUTSTANDING TREE FARMER TOUR SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2021

Tree Farm is back in person again for the Fall Tour Saturday, September 18, 2021, in Bonners Ferry!

Please join with your friends at the home of Chuck and Gayla Roady, the 2021 Idaho Outstanding Tree Farmers of the Year, for a tour of their Family Tree Farm.

The day will begin at the Roady's at 8:00 AM for a coffee and doughnut social hour, then at 9:00 AM we will head for the woods. We will spend the morning on a walking tour of their Tree Farm and wrap up around 12:00 noon. Lunches and soft beverages will be provided by the Idaho Tree Farm Program. During lunch we will have a short presentation of current happenings with Tree Farm, and should finish by 1:30 -2:00 PM.

Chuck and Gayla's home is located just north of Bonners Ferry and a short distance south of 3 Mile Junction at 959 Hillcrest Road. From Highway 95 near the top of the north hill turn west onto Homestead Loop Road. Then in 200 ft. turn left onto Hillcrest Road and proceed approximately 1 mile to the Roady home driveway at 959 Homestead Road.

Chuck and Gayla have cared for this property since their initial 20 acre purchase in 1977 and have added surrounding parcels through the years. During the tour we will see areas of periodic commercial thinning, wildlife enhancement, reforestation, and stand improvements.



Since lunch will be provided, a good head count is needed prior to the tour. To ensure we have enough meals for all, please RSVP to Idaho Tree Farm Program's State Administrator at [admin@idahotreefarm.org](mailto:admin@idahotreefarm.org) or call 208-691-5933. Wear clothes and footwear suitable for a day in the woods on moderate slopes. Don't miss this great chance to visit and learn from an excellent Tree Farm!

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### 2021 IFOA OFFICERS

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## MEET-A-MEMBER: STEVEN J. & PEGGY CUVALA, SAINT MARIES

Steve and Peggy went to high school in Berwyn, Illinois and were raised in Stickney and Forest View, respectively, cities that are only about a mile apart on the Southwest side of Chicago. Despite their proximity, they first met the year before they were both in the wedding party of Steve's brother when he married one of Peggy's close friends. Steve was in Idaho and Peggy was in Illinois at the time and despite their mutual attraction, they decided to finish their educations before getting too serious. Steve initially went to college for two years in Illinois in forestry/conservation and then completed a Wildlife-Fisheries Management degree at the University of Idaho. Peggy completed her education in Illinois and achieved an Associate degree in Nursing. After a brief long-distance courtship, they married and moved to Saint Maries in 1976 where Steve had landed a job with the Idaho Depart of Lands (IDL).

Steve's job was seasonal at first but he gradually worked into full time employment where he was initially involved in slash disposal and fire management. Eventually a forestry position opened up and he was able to land a position as a forestry specialist working with private landowners. He loved this work and he was able to continue doing it for many years until he took retirement early in 2021.

With her nursing skills, Peggy has always been able to find work. At first it was with the local hospital or nursing homes. Then after the children got older, she went back to school and earned BS and MS degrees in Nursing as well as a Nurse Practitioner Certification. She then worked 33 years for the Panhandle Health District until recently retiring.

When they first moved to Saint Maries they rented a place near the IDL office. However, after a couple years they were able to talk a landowner friend into parting with 20 acres for them to build on. With lots of help from neighbors and co-workers, they constructed a log home to live in. At first, they just occupied the basement until the upstairs was completed enough for them to move into. Construction started in 1980 and was completed about 3 years later, I'm sure not a moment too soon for Peggy. Eventually, surrounding acreage became available and the Cuvala Tree Farm grew to its present size, an impressive 220 acres.

While in Saint Maries, Steve and Peggy raised 3 children and especially enjoyed helping them with their sheep, pigs and other farm animals through the 4-H program. But the kids are "out of the nest" now; a daughter and her husband with 3 grandchildren in New York state, a son and his wife in Boise with two grandchildren, and the youngest, a single daughter, in Coeur d' Alene. They have reunions with their family every year and are especially looking forward to the upcoming one because of the miss caused by Covid last year.

Because of his job requirements and strong personal interest, Steve was especially active with IFOA and Idaho Tree Farm over the years. He has conducted 100's of Tree Farm inspections and his good work has earned him an Inspector of the Year award from the Tree Farm Committee. He has also received the Forester of the Year award from IDL.

Now that they're both retired, they plan to spend a lot of time together maintaining their trail system and roads, doing some forest improvements, and planting conifer seedlings where there are openings in their forest. Along with volunteering for several organizations in their community and visiting their children and grandchildren, their calendar will always be as full as they want it to be.



*by Thomas A. Leege, IFOA member & Past Director*



## CAN FIREFIGHTERS & FIRST RESPONDERS FIND YOU?

In the heat of a fire, every second counts. So, when the time comes that you require emergency assistance, it's important you've done your due diligence to make firefighters' and emergency responders' jobs easier. A simple, but critical, component of this is insuring you have an easily visible and reflective address sign to help them find your home. Of course, the benefits of proper addressing go beyond wildfire season, too.

A reflective address sign will ideally have four-inch-high numbers on both sides of the sign and can be seen easily from the road. You may need more than one reflective address sign if you share a common driveway with other homeowners: one at the main road, and one at the driveway of each individual house. Some fire districts sell reflective signs and will even install them for you. Check with your local fire district to see if they have an address program.

People often mistakenly think firefighters can navigate to a house by following the smoke. In reality, roads do not always take you to where you think they should. When responding to a wildfire, firefighters are often forced to guess which roads will take them where they need to go only to find they are going the wrong direction or have hit a dead end, wasting precious time.

Addressing doesn't just help firefighters get to fires quickly – it also helps first responders find you during a medical emergency. If this happens at night, having a reflective address sign is critical. The picture below demonstrates that importance.



Recently, a Firewise USA site community leader shared with me an experience where someone in their community needed emergency medical assistance.

It was nighttime and there was two inches of fresh snow on the ground. The first responders were going up the private lane and arrived at the first fork in the road, but the snow made it difficult to tell if one of these directions was the driveway and there was no visible address. Of course, this delayed their response to the individual in need.

During the summer, it would have been easy to determine which way was a continuation of the road and which way was the driveway, but not in these circumstances, especially considering the address marker was a rock covered in snow. It's easy to see how this could lead to tragedy in emergency situations where time is precious.

Since this incident, the community has added reflective address signs to their roads and then put arrows on their address signs to show which direction the house is in. They were able to add the arrows themselves by buying reflective vinyl material and using a Cricut machine owned by a member of the community.

Ensuring that your home can be found during a fire or medical emergency will reduce the response time of the firefighters and first responders. Not doing so can have serious consequences.

As we make our way through another bad wildfire season, don't wait to "address" this issue. Get your whole community involved in making things easier for those who help us in emergencies.

*by Guy Gifford, Landowner Assistance Forester and Fire Prevention & Firewise Coordinator, WA State Department of Natural Resources, NE Region*

## COMING EVENTS

### AUGUST 2021

Forest Insect & Disease Field Day  
Moscow, Thurs., 8/5/2021  
[www.uidaho.edu/extension/forestry](http://www.uidaho.edu/extension/forestry)

Forestry Shortcourse  
Cottonwood, Tues-Thur, 8/10-12/2021  
[www.uidaho.edu/extension/forestry](http://www.uidaho.edu/extension/forestry)

IFOA Board Meeting  
Coeur d'Alene, Tues., 8/10/2021  
[info@idahoforestowners.org](mailto:info@idahoforestowners.org)

Restoring Idaho Streams  
Bonners Ferry, Friday 8/20/2021  
[www.uidaho.edu/extension/forestry](http://www.uidaho.edu/extension/forestry)

### SEPTEMBER 2021

Measuring Your Trees  
Sandpoint, Thursday, 9/2/2021  
[www.uidaho.edu/extension/forestry](http://www.uidaho.edu/extension/forestry)

IFOA Board Meeting  
Sagle, Tuesday, 9/14/2021  
[info@idahoforestowners.org](mailto:info@idahoforestowners.org)

2022 FFL&MC Program Comm.  
Coeur d'Alene, Thurs., 9/16/2021  
[info@idahoforestowners.org](mailto:info@idahoforestowners.org)

Idaho OTFY Tree Farm Fall Tour  
Bonners Ferry, Sat., 9/14/2021  
[admin@idahotreefarm.org](mailto:admin@idahotreefarm.org)

### OCTOBER 2021

IMFS Fall Gathering  
Orofino, Friday, 10/1/2021  
[www.uidaho.edu/extension/forestry](http://www.uidaho.edu/extension/forestry)

IMFS 2021 Core 4  
Sandpoint, Thursday, 10/7/2021  
[www.uidaho.edu/extension/forestry](http://www.uidaho.edu/extension/forestry)

IFOA Board Meeting  
Coeur d'Alene, Tues., 10/12/2021  
[info@idahoforestowners.org](mailto:info@idahoforestowners.org)

IFOA-Education Foundation  
Athol, Wednesday, 10/20/2021  
[info@idahoforestowners.org](mailto:info@idahoforestowners.org)

Idaho Tree Farm Committee  
Coeur d'Alene, Thurs., 10/21/2021  
[admin@idahotreefarm.org](mailto:admin@idahotreefarm.org)

2022 FFL&MC Program Comm.  
Coeur d'Alene, Thurs., 10/21/2021  
[info@idahoforestowners.org](mailto:info@idahoforestowners.org)

IETIC Fall Meeting  
Moscow, Wednesday, 10/27/2021  
[www.webpages.uidaho.edu/ietic](http://www.webpages.uidaho.edu/ietic)

### NOVEMBER 2021

Forestry Shortcourse  
Kootenai County, 11/?/2021  
[www.uidaho.edu/extension/forestry](http://www.uidaho.edu/extension/forestry)

IFOA Board Meeting  
Sagle, Tuesday, 11/9/2021  
[info@idahoforestowners.org](mailto:info@idahoforestowners.org)

PLT: Learn & Teach About Idaho's Natural Resources  
Online, Tues. & Fri., 11/9 & 11/12/2021  
<https://idahoforests.org>

### Contact information for family forest owner interests:

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>E-mail</u>	<u>Website</u>
Idaho Forest Owners Association	755-8168	<a href="mailto:info@idahoforestowners.org">info@idahoforestowners.org</a>	<a href="http://www.idahoforestowners.org">www.idahoforestowners.org</a>
Idaho Forest Stewardship Program	666-8632	<a href="mailto:amorrow@idl.idaho.gov">amorrow@idl.idaho.gov</a>	<a href="http://www.idl.idaho.gov">www.idl.idaho.gov</a>
Idaho Tree Farm Program	437-4820	<a href="mailto:admin@idahotreefarm.org">admin@idahotreefarm.org</a>	<a href="http://www.idahotreefarm.org">www.idahotreefarm.org</a>
National Woodland Owners Assoc.	800-476-8733	<a href="mailto:argow@nwoa.net">argow@nwoa.net</a>	<a href="http://www.woodlandowners.net">www.woodlandowners.net</a>

## IFOA WELCOMES THESE NEW MEMBERS:

**Clyde & Sherry Hanson, Harrison**

**Robert & Amanda Urwin/MacGhee, Saint Maries**

## PROPERTY BOUNDARIES RELATED TO LOGGING

Questions always arise when preparing for a logging job as to how to avoid disputes with adjacent property owners. Recently one of our IFOA members asked:

“We have noticed that more and more loggers hired by homeowners are cutting all the way to the supposed property line. We had thought the custom was to stay back 10 or 20 feet as a buffer. The line in question for us (and for many people) is not a recorded survey - it is just the other home owner using a compass. Are there standards which we could quote regarding either of these?”

We asked IFOA Directors about property lines, cutting lines during logging jobs, and property disputes in general. We got the following wisdom, gained from decades of personal and professional experience in the woods. Without naming names, here are some of the most useful responses.

► “...They are not dealing with a legally recorded survey by a licensed/registered surveyor – just *opinions* from two different adjacent property owners about a “supposed” line. If either of them wants to pursue legal action, only a professional and recorded survey (in the public County records) would hold up in court, and even then the circumstances are up to the judge’s decision. Amateur surveys, whether by magnetic compass or consumer-grade GPS, are not binding in any legal proceeding. It is wise for any landowner to have their property’s legal description designated on the ground with monumentation of the corners and lines by a licensed surveyor. A good decision would be to split the cost of a professional survey between adjacent owners.”

► “If the line is surveyed; cut to it. If the line is run by someone other than a licensed surveyor I presume it to be inaccurate and in need of a buffer. Regarding where the adjacent owner has a different line than what they established and then had a logger cut to it; they have a can of worms. It has been my experience that owners are out of luck without a surveyor, lawyer and a bucket of money. Timber theft pretty much goes on with impunity (if one is lucky the thief says: “Oops. Sorry). If they can settle with their neighbor without involving any third party, that is the easiest and cheapest...”

► “...One of the best investments a landowner can do is to get his property corners legally set and property lines marked (blazed & painted). This not only helps the landowner to locate her/his property but also lets your neighbors know as well...”

► “...I have always advocated leaving a buffer on a logging job. The size of the buffer is determined by the accuracy of the property corners and lines. If the lines are surveyed and the corners are monumented, leaving a 3 foot buffer or leaving questionable trees is adequate. Old fence lines, rotten stumps or eagle nests used as markers require a larger buffer.

► “Knowing exactly where my property stops and my neighbor’s begins provides confidence and authority to any discussion about whose is whose. With the influx of new folks purchasing their slice of heaven, the days of a verbal agreement and handshake between neighbors are over. Our neighbor of 30 years passed away and his wife sold their property. The new owner surveyed the lines and discovered that he owned 6 feet of our pasture. The fence line that had been the *de facto* property line, not just for our boundary, but for properties to the east and west of us for over 50 years, was declared null and void...”

► “The only other note I would make is that during our last timber harvest our consulting forester went to all adjacent landowners and obtained signatures/agreement to a cutting line which allowed harvest to occur without any disagreements like those the aforementioned IFOA members are currently involved in. I don’t know if that’s common practice, but maybe it should be.”

► “I really like your consulting forester’s solution on your behalf to obtain an up-front *cutting* line agreement between yourself and neighboring owners. It is a great solution to the current harvesting decision, and does NOT declare a *property* ownership line which, if ever needed or desired, can still be determined by a subsequent legal survey. But clarity and agreement between neighbors “before the fact” is the best way to avoid causing later problems.”

What IFOA can do (and has done) is offer education to landowners regarding the importance of establishing well defined property lines and understanding Idaho trespass law. In 2018, we had a session on property surveying and trespass law at our Family Forest Landowners & Managers Conference, and the 2019 FFL&MC featured a session on the new Idaho trespass law. Maybe it’s time for another round of education on these topics?

Compiled by Allen R. Banks, IFOA Director



## 2021 FOREST OWNERS FIELD DAY REPORT

If you were not at the 2021 Forest Owners Field Day, you missed an excellent event. To insure that excellence, IFOA teamed up with University of Idaho's Rob Keefe and his wonderful crew, along with several knowledgeable specialists from the Idaho Department of Lands. This year's FOFD was held at the University of Idaho's Experimental Forest in the Flat Creek drainage on Moscow Mountain.

There were 12 stations offering something to learn at each, including the ever-popular *Forest Insects and Disease Update*, with valuable information that affects all of our forests. UI Extension's Randy Brooks identified *Native Plants*. Two topics addressed hazardous fuels reduction. One was *Using Mastication Equipment to Thin Stands and Reduce Fire Hazard*. The other was *Targeted Grazing with Goats to Reduce Fuels and Weeds*, presented by Sage Petty of Petty Family Goats. Robert Barkley of IDL gave an excellent update and explanation of the new *Stream Shade Rule*. *Firewise*, *Rodent Control*, *Forest Soils*, *Natural Resource Planning for Rural Landowners* and *Forestry Cost Share Program* were some of the other great presentations by IDL personnel.

Dr. Eva Strand of the University of Idaho presented *Fire History at the Palouse Prairie- Ponderosa pine Transition*. Dr. Strand explained the history of the purposeful use of prescribed fires for over 40 years in that ecotone. Rob Keefe took attendees on a physical and historical tour of the Experimental Forest on his *Forest Management Driving Tour*.

Thank you to all of this year's presenters for making this year's Forest Owners Field Day outstanding. Next year's Forest Owners Field Day is projected for June 18, 2022. We are currently planning to hold it near Sandpoint. Reserve that date on your calendar now. Hope to see you there!

by David A. Easley, IFOA Vice President



**DON'T FORGET TO CONSIDER A DEDUCTIBLE CHARITABLE DONATION TO THE  
IFOA-EDUCATION FOUNDATION  
P.O. Box 1257, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83816-1257**

### IFOA NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING RATES

Size	IFOA Member	4 Issue Discounted	Non-member	4 Issue Discounted
Business Card	\$8.75	\$31.50	\$12.50	\$45.00
1/4 page	17.50	63.00	25.00	90.00
1/3 page	23.00	82.80	33.00	120.00
1/2 page	35.00	126.00	50.00	180.00
Full page	70.00	252.00	100.00	360.00

## **IDAHO LAWMAKERS INTRODUCE BILL TO MANAGE FORESTS, REDUCE WILDFIRE RISK**

WASHINGTON, D.C., 7/27/ 2021 – U.S. Senator Jim Risch introduced the Treating Tribes and Counties as Good Neighbors Act, with Rep. Russ Fulcher introducing the House companion bill.

The legislation will extend full partnership eligibility for the Good Neighbor Authority (GNA) program – which facilitates federal forest restoration and management projects – to Tribes and Counties.

“The 2021 wildfire season underscores the need to use every tool in the toolbox to mitigate wildfire risk. The GNA program is just such a tool. Congress made the decision to extend GNA to Tribes and Counties in 2018, and we owe it to them to do so correctly,” said Risch. “This legislation gives all GNA partners the greatest ability to collaborate on forest management projects and reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfires across the West.”

“Tribes and Counties in Idaho have the authority to decrease their reliance on federal land managers and oversee Idaho’s forests to reduce wildfire risk, but their current financial resources are lacking because they cannot retain receipts like the States. This financial hurdle is addressed by the ‘Treating Tribes and Counties as Good Neighbors Act,’ allowing Tribes and Counties to fully utilize the Good Neighbor Authority, ensuring new cooperative management projects throughout Idaho,” said Fulcher.

Supporters of the Treating Tribes and Counties as Good Neighbors Act include Governor of Idaho Brad Little, the Idaho Forest Group, the National Association of Counties, the Intertribal Timber Council, the National Association of State Foresters, and the National Congress of American Indians.

### **STATEMENTS OF SUPPORT:**

“Idaho has demonstrated true leadership in the management of federal lands in our state. The level of collaboration across so many diverse interests and levels of government is a testament of our commitment to getting more people to work in our forests, reducing the risk of fire, and improving the overall health of our lands for future generations of Idahoans to use and enjoy. I want to thank Senator Risch and Congressman Fulcher for introducing this important bill to clarify the expenditure of Good Neighbor Authority revenues. Working together, we have created a blueprint for other states to follow.”  
— Governor of Idaho Brad Little

“GNA allows the USDA Forest Service to enter into agreements with state forestry agencies to implement critically important management work that benefits national forests that the Forest Service is unable to do alone. It is simply good government for forest management to be undertaken in the most timely and cost-efficient manner, and GNA helps us do that. This legislation would broaden Good Neighbor Authority for tribes and counties, thereby enhancing cross-boundary forest management capacity; we are proud to endorse it.” — Greg Josten, President, National Association of State Foresters

### **BACKGROUND:**

The Good Neighbor Authority program has allowed the U.S. Forest Service to partner with states on federal forest restoration and management projects to improve wildlife habitats, enhance watersheds, and reduce wildfire risks. In the 2018 Farm Bill, Congress amended GNA to make Tribes and Counties eligible to enter into Good Neighbor Agreements. However, Tribes and Counties were not afforded the same authority as states to retain GNA project receipts to reinvest in conservation, reducing a significant incentive to partner on forest management projects.

Additionally, the 2018 Farm Bill removed the ability for restoration services to take place off of federal lands. This means adjacent state, tribal, county, and other land that is essential to the health and productivity of National Forests can no longer be restored as comprehensive landscapes.

The Treating Tribes and Counties as Good Neighbors Act provides Tribes and Counties with the ability to reinvest receipts in authorized restoration and enables all GNA partners to perform restoration not just on federal lands, but also on lands approved under the project’s Good Neighbor Agreement.

## FOREST CARBON MARKETS CREATE NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR MULTIPLE STAKEHOLDERS

Understanding the complex relationships that exist between carbon emissions and environmental carbon sequestration is no small task. As ecological science goes, this is a relatively new field of study that is made more complex by the fact that the study area is *global*, and the time period is essentially infinite. Like all science, our understanding about this relationship continues to evolve.

However, the issue is now top-of-mind across the political and corporate landscapes as environmental, social and governance (ESG) initiatives are transitioning from vagaries just a few years ago to tangible, operational expectations. The investment community is increasingly applying these non-financial considerations as part of its analysis in identifying material risks and growth opportunities, and forest carbon markets are at the top of the list for several potential stakeholders.

As companies seek to address carbon emissions, there are emerging opportunities for forest landowners to be compensated for providing an important ecosystem service: the storage and accumulation of carbon on their woodlands.

### FOREST CARBON SEQUESTRATION 101

Forest ecosystems make up the largest terrestrial carbon sink on Earth. Trees draw carbon dioxide from the atmosphere through a process called photosynthesis, and every part of a tree - trunks, branches, leaves and roots (as well as the surrounding soil) - stores carbon. By weight, dried tree material is about 50% carbon. As part of the natural lifecycle, trees also release carbon dioxide back into the atmosphere when they decompose after death or burn during fires.

At a landscape level, the US Forest Service notes that the amount of carbon sequestered in forests closely mirrors the natural cycle of tree growth and mortality. At a more granular level, we can see the impacts of tree growth/inventory and carbon sequestration via two case studies from disparate forest types in two unique US states.

1. The private working forests of West Virginia are primarily populated with species of mixed hardwood trees (oak, maple, etc.) that hold over 420 million tons of carbon – equivalent to the annual CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of about 24 million gas-powered vehicles (for perspective, there are about 585,000 cars in WV).
2. Conversely, the private working forests of Mississippi are primarily populated with species of mixed conifer trees (softwood pine) that hold nearly 520 million tons of carbon – equivalent to the annual CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of about 30 million gas-powered vehicles (for perspective, there are about 850,000 cars in MS).

In both cases, sequestered carbon in live trees has increased over the last 15 years because forest inventory and growth have increased. In other words, the private forests in both states are growing more wood than is being removed for use in the forest products industry.

How are forest landowners benefiting from this increased tree growth - especially when the market value for their trees (stumpage) has largely been flat over the same time period?

### CARBON MARKET BASICS

Forest landowners are starting to see financial opportunities arise for the important work their forests perform in sequestering carbon. Markets are emerging that pay landowners to increase or retain carbon in their forests via continuous tree growth, paid by companies that either must (compliance) or want to (voluntary) offset their own carbon emissions.

While forest carbon markets are still young - most began developing at the beginning of this century - private forest landowners have been paid over \$2.8 billion for carbon uptake and storage.

Due to the way most voluntary market transactions are structured, forest landowners are able to continue to harvest the annual growth of their ownership, which can be a few tons per acre per year.

It's important to note that the forestland that participates in a carbon sale does *not* need to be contiguous. For landowners that have a long-term plan to harvest at or below the level of growth, this can

(Continued on page 9)



## FOREST CARBON MARKETS CREATE NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR MULTIPLE STAKEHOLDERS (CONT.)

(Continued from page 8)

make carbon projects a good fit with existing forest management plans and harvesting regimes.

### CONSIDERATIONS FOR LANDOWNERS

The key limits are really the volume of carbon in standing timber and the annual growth. For landowners with a long-term vision to grow and harvest sustainably, this may present an opportunity for additional revenue.

There are multiple ways to structure the voluntary commitments but very generally, landowners receive payment for standing inventory and are then free to harvest growth above that level. As noted above, for properties where the long-term strategy is to harvest *only* annual growth, this is an excellent opportunity for landowners to get paid for following their management plans. Landowners who plan to harvest *below* net growth over time can also receive payment in addition to standing inventory carbon.

Additional decision-making criteria for landowners include:

- Landowners can select what individual properties are included in their carbon registration deals, which provides flexibility for larger holdings depending upon future plans.
- In the event of a natural loss (fire, insect, disease outbreak, etc.) the participating landowner isn't responsible for the loss. A small percentage of credits from every deal may be added into an insurance pool to cover these circumstances.
- While there aren't a lot of transactions to confirm this (since the carbon market is young), it is a reasonable assumption that an existing carbon deal will impact the sales price of registered timberland. Based on this, the most lucrative projects in the current market are those where landowners don't plan on selling for many years. This is certainly the case for many family forests.
- Some landowners are choosing to use carbon registry as a form of temporary estate planning – basically entering a carbon deal now before handing land to a younger generation so they'll be less inclined to sell (and will be older and maybe wiser when their options change).

For private timberland owners with property that might be a good fit for the voluntary carbon market, there's no cost to get an assessment of what the opportunity might look like for your individual property. For owners who manage their forests in a way that cuts only growth (or adds inventory each year) and plan on holding the land for decades (or generations), this is a fantastic opportunity to get rewarded for carbon storage while maintaining regular forest management regimes.

*Excerpts from Forest2Market 7/6/21, by Eric Kingsley, Vice President of Innovative Natural Resource Solutions, LLC.*

## SILVIATERRA LAUNCHES NCX

SilviaTerra has launched Natural Capital Exchange (NCX), the first forest carbon program to feature 1-year harvest deferral terms, no acreage minimums, and no enrollment or participation fees.

NCX pays forest landowners to retain forest carbon on their properties by deferring timber harvest below a "business-as-usual" level.

Many factors influence the "business-as-usual" harvest level on a property, such as the property's age class distribution, past harvest activity, and regional timber market conditions. While this means that the potential payment per acre will be different on each property, you can easily get an estimate of the economic opportunity for your landholdings by submitting a request for a free eligibility assessment by creating an account at Silviaterra. They conduct assessments entirely remotely by using satellite imagery and other remote-sensing technologies to determine harvest likelihood across your property and then assign you Harvest Deferral Credits to sell on NCX.

To enroll, participants must submit all property under their ownership for an eligibility assessment. This ensures that SilviaTerra is able to assess the total eligible carbon at risk of harvest on the property. This does not mean that landowners must defer all harvest on their property for the coming year. Landowners have the flexibility to submit a bid volume of harvest deferral credits that work for their management plans (ex. a scheduled thinning that is important for forest health).

Search: NCX.COM

## **RECORD LUMBER PRICES PRESENT OPPORTUNITY & RISK FOR DOMESTIC INDUSTRY**

**WITH LUMBER PRICES REACHING RECORD HIGHS,  
THE TIME IS NOW TO MAKE A CASE FOR OUR DOMESTIC FOREST PRODUCTS INDUSTRY**

Given the chance, our homegrown milling and logging companies can meet more of the country's strong demand for lumber and other wood products. The red-hot market also provides an opportunity to reconnect Americans to the resource and remind them of the many benefits of active forest management.

But this moment is not without danger. Record prices can lead to increased competition from foreign producers and more imports entering our market. The United States already is a net importer of wood products. The gap between U.S. wood consumption and domestic wood production is an astounding 17 billion board feet, according to the Forest Economic Advisors. There is also the risk of losing ground to producers of non-wood materials, as builders and contractors feel compelled to seek cheaper alternatives.

### **REACHING OUT**

It has been widely reported in national media outlets that lumber prices have increased the price of the average new, single-family home by over \$24,000. Trade associations representing builders and contractors are lobbying the Biden Administration to intervene. They say the White House should urge domestic lumber producers to ramp up production while easing limits on Canadian imports.

Members of Congress have also gotten involved. In their letter to President Biden, Representatives Jim Costa (D-California) and Jodey Arrington (R-Texas) write that "this unprecedented price increase on new homeowners, as well as home builders, will persist until new sawmills come online and current mills re-open and operate at full capacity."

Those of us who work for, or with, wood products manufacturers understand this is easier said than done. Opening or reopening sawmills requires significant investment. Many of our lumber companies are doing everything they can to fill orders and meet demand. In fact, the American Wood Council reports that production of wood products is already the highest it's been since 2007.

Yet producers continue to be held back by workforce constraints and uncertain timber supplies. There are several ways the Biden Administration, the U.S. Congress, and state governments can help our producers expand their capacity to manufacture more lumber here at home.

### **WAYS TO EXPAND PRODUCTION**

To expand lumber production, businesses across the supply chain need support because many are still struggling. The Biden Administration and the U.S. Department of Agriculture can start by ensuring full implementation and funding for the Logger Relief Package that was approved in previous Covid-relief legislation, so all impacted logging companies can receive the assistance they need. It is also important for governments to help expand markets for wood products besides lumber, particularly those made with log and mill residuals.

Policymakers should also resist adding more regulation, red tape, and taxes, as well as measures that further increase fuel prices. We are already the most strictly regulated industry compared to any other in the world. This year we have seen a proliferation of policy and tax proposals that would further squeeze landowners, loggers, truckers, manufacturers, and others, many of which continue to operate on thin margins despite record lumber prices. Our domestic industry can't compete in a global market when our own policymakers continue to tilt the market toward foreign producers.

An uncertain timber supply is the primary obstacle to expanding lumber production, especially in the Pacific Northwest. There is no way to significantly manufacture more lumber without improving management of the region's federally owned forests. Millions of acres of these lands are not being man-

*(Continued on page 11)*

## DOMESTIC OPPORTUNITY & RISK (CONT.)

*(Continued from page 10)*

aged for timber, forest health, or wildfire mitigation - instead they are burning up in catastrophic wildfires.

Federal lands must be part of the solution. For much of the 20th Century, these forests helped power the nation's post-war economy. They provided affordable lumber to meet domestic housing needs. They also provided a robust network of forest roads for logging, firefighting, and outdoor recreation. And they provided a source of good-paying jobs and economic opportunities for many of our rural, forested communities.

Accelerating forest management on federal lands can provide multiple benefits. By reducing fuels we can reduce the intensity of today's mega-fires, protect communities, and save millions of taxpayer dollars in wildfire suppression costs. A reliable and sustainable supply of federal timber would benefit the whole supply chain, while encouraging lumber producers to increase investments in their manufacturing facilities and workforce, thus increasing supply.

Finally, the red-hot lumber market should be an opportunity to reconnect Americans to the resource. Much of the demand has been fueled by retail sales and do-it-yourself projects throughout the pandemic. We should encourage consumers to seek out and purchase lumber that is domestically sourced and sustainably harvested from our own public and private lands.

### SENDING A MESSAGE

We should remind environmentally conscious consumers that buying domestic lumber is a better alternative to importing wood products from countries that may not share our values and forest practices. Plus, we should explain the climate benefits of actively managing our forests, and the potential to lock up more carbon in wood products.

Demand for wood products is expected to remain strong, even if prices gradually cool. By making the case for our domestic forest products industry, we can better position ourselves for the future and ensure we can continue to supply products that meet the needs of all Americans.

*by Nick Smith, Executive Director, Healthy Forests, Healthy Communities*

## CAN FAMILY-OWNED FORESTS HELP THE U.S. ACHIEVE A LOW-CARBON FUTURE?

A USDA Conservation Innovation Grant (CIG) project is trying to re-imagine how carbon markets can work with and for small landholders. The Family Forest Carbon Program (FFCP), led by the American Forest Foundation (AFF) and The Nature Conservancy, bases carbon payments on specific forest management practices that have been scientifically shown to increase the amount of carbon that gets removed from the atmosphere and stored in the trees and soil. The project's goal is to facilitate the participation of nearly 300 million acres of family-owned American forests in carbon markets.

"The CIG funding allowed us to pivot in a number of ways, early on, that helped ensure we were creating a product that worked for the landholders," said Christine Cadigan, Senior Director for the FFCP.

While the FFCP is still in its early stages, it has been successfully piloted in the Central Appalachian Region. The program has about 50 contracts with landowners, representing over 6,000 acres of forested land. This led to more funding, with the tech giant Amazon gifting about \$7.5 million to the project in April 2020. According to the AFF, if 20% of U.S. family forest acres adopted practices that optimized carbon sequestration, about 3.5 gigatons of carbon dioxide equivalent would be sequestered by the end of the century.

CIG is a competitive program that supports the development of new tools, approaches, practices, and technologies to further natural resource conservation on private lands. Through creative problem solving and innovation, CIG partners work to address our nation's water quality, air quality, soil health and wildlife habitat challenges, all while improving agricultural operations.

For more details on how USDA's NRCS is working with landholders to promote natural climate solutions, view the "Can Family-Owned Forests Help the U.S. Achieve a Low-Carbon Future page".

*by Lucas Isakowitz, NRCS Presidential Management Fellow in Conservation Forestry July 19, 2021*



## ENGAGING IN IFOA

In November of each year, IFOA members are asked two things:

- 1) Please renew your membership if your dues-paid period is expiring, and
- 2) Please consider and vote for the candidates of your choice who are running for election to IFOA Director positions for the upcoming terms.

But before these candidates are put on the ballot, the IFOA Nominations Committee must acquire applications from any/all members wanting to run for the office of Director.

Nomination Committee members *cannot* be current Directors. Potential leaders for IFOA are found by and elected by the general membership of our “tree-roots” organization!

The Nominating Committee member positions are intended to be a continuously evolving group of three or more members who serve up to three year terms on the Committee.

### AT THIS POINT IN TIME IFOA NEEDS ADDITIONAL MEMBERS TO VOLUNTEER TO SERVE ON THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE IN 2021

This is the perfect time for *YOU* to step up and contribute to the successful running of *your* family forest representation organization! You know who *you* want to lead IFOA!

Email [info@idahoforestowners.org](mailto:info@idahoforestowners.org) or call 208-755-8168 or 425-238-0756 today!

Harold Osborne, longtime IFOA member and emeritus Director of the UI Experimental Forest at Moscow Mountain, sent these pictures of himself enjoying the activities and accomplishments of the forests he loves. Share *your* pictures, notes, or comments sent to [info@idahoforestowners.org](mailto:info@idahoforestowners.org), too!



**IFOA INVITES and ENCOURAGES ALL MEMBERS TO SHARE:**

**“WHAT’S HAPPENING IN YOUR NECK OF THE WOODS?”**

Just send your comments, stories, or pictures to: [info@idahoforestowners.org](mailto:info@idahoforestowners.org)  
or IFOA, PO Box 1257, Coeur d’Alene, ID 83816-1257

**We would love to hear about what’s doin’ on your place!**

## QUARTERLY LOG MARKET REPORT

<u>Species</u>	<u>April 2021</u>	<u>July 2021</u>
Douglas-fir/western larch	\$400 - \$585/MBF	\$450- \$500/MBF
Grand fir/western hemlock	\$390 - \$500	\$440 - \$490
Lodgepole pine	\$400 - \$500	\$400 - \$470
Ponderosa pine	\$360 (6-7") - \$470 (8"+)	\$360 (6-7") - \$380 (8"+)
Western white pine	\$390 - \$450	\$390 - \$450
Western redcedar	\$1,200 - \$1,650	\$1,200 - \$1,700
Cedar poles	*\$2,100*	*\$2,300*
Pulp	\$20 - \$29+/ton	\$20/ton +/-
Tonwood	\$48/ton +/-	\$52/ton +/-

*Note: These figures represent prices paid by competitive domestic facilities in the Inland Northwest, and are based on average-sized logs and standard log lengths - usually 16'6" and 33'. MBF = Thousand Board Feet. Please note that the higher prices may reflect prices only paid in select locations within the Inland Northwest. \*Pole value varies widely depending upon length. Market information as of July 28, 2021*

Lumber prices have finally returned to earth, which certainly is a good sign for folks building a home or doing remodeling projects. However, as we have discussed here previously, there is somewhat of a disconnect between lumber prices and what the local mills are paying for logs. Log yard inventory is the main factor that influences log prices in our area, although lumber prices do have an impact. So even though national lumber prices tripled earlier in 2021, we mostly experienced only a modest change in Inland Northwest log prices. As is often the case, cedar is the exception. There remains more competition among mills for a limited supply of this species, so prices responded upward. With that being said, log inventories continue to be high at our regional sawmills. In fact, selected mills are off the market for new contracts at this time due to this situation. This factor has generally lowered log prices that can be secured currently.

*by Mike Wolcott, ACF, Certified Forester*

This information is provided by Inland Forest Management, Inc., a forestry consulting company.

For additional information, they can be contacted at 208-263-9420, IFM@inlandforest.com, or www.inlandforest.com.

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## THE BOARD WALK: MAY, JUNE, JULY

### MAY 11, 2021

• *Silviaterra Carbon Credits Program:* Guest Alex MacIntosh of Silviaterra explained the Carbon Credits Exchange Program being offered under the moniker NCX. To enroll in the program, interested timberland owners first request a remote assessment of eligible carbon volume on their property. Satellite and remote sensing technologies are used to make this assessment. The landowner then agrees to delay harvest of (some or all of) that property for one year for a certain bid amount. Carbon-emitting entities can pay that bid price, thereby obtaining “carbon credits” to offset their own carbon emissions. Silviaterra (NCX) plans, over time, to expand to other eco-system services involving wildlife habitat, water retention and wildfire risk reduction.

• *Scattered Lands Update:* Adrienne Morrow of IDL provided an update concerning progress of the USFS proposed Scattered Lands project. USFS holds approximately 30 land parcels scattered across Bonner County that range from 80 acres to over a section in size. They have made proposals for commercial treatment of fuels in these parcels in an effort to reduce the threat of catastrophic wildfires. Working west to east, the first parcels to be treated are in the Blanchard area. IDL, along with other organizations such as the Bonner Co. Office of Emergency Management and NRCS, have been working for some time to put together a strategy for landowner outreach and implementation of contiguous treat-

ments in this area. To encourage participation, landowners whose properties are adjacent to these USFS lands have been contacted through public meetings and mailings. Response has been very good. Benefits of participation can range from no-cost to cost-share programs or simply being informed as to which contractors will be available and working in this area. Similar projects are also upcoming in Kootenai County and Valley County areas.

### JUNE 8, 2021

• *NRCS STAC Report:* Member John Lillehaug, IFOA’s representative on the NRCS State Technical Advisory Committee, sent a written report concerning the last STAC meeting. His report made note of NRCS’ intent to move up the deadline for applications to the EQIP program. Anyone wishing to participate in the 2022 EQIP program will need to get their application in before the new November 2021 deadline.

• *IFOA Website Update Project:* Director Paul Turcott, Chair of IFOA’s newly-formed Technology Committee, summarized the results of the survey that was sent out in the IFOA Spring Newsletter. The purpose of the survey was to gather opinions and ideas concerning additions and changes that could make the IFOA Website more valuable and useful for members. Anyone who completed and returned the survey was entered into a drawing for a \$50 gift card at North 40. Member Larry Packard was the winner of the gift card. During the “Website Rebuild and Upgrade

Project” the current IFOA website will remain available and operational until the new site is fully developed, tested, and ready for release.

### JULY 13, 2021

• *2021 Forest Owners Field Day:* The Field Day was held on Saturday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, in the Flat Creek area southeast of Potlatch. There were 45 registered attendees and 16 presenters. The site was ideally suited to accommodate a variety of presentations. Topics covered included the identification of forest insects and diseases, rodent control, protection of forest soils during a harvest, and a demonstration of mastication methods using several different machines. A herd of 700 goats was on hand actively treating a targeted grazing area to reduce fuels and weeds. Even the weather cooperated to make this educational event an enjoyable success.

• *2021 Idaho Nature Conservancy Forest Legacy Project Proposal:* Speaking as a representative of the Nature Conservancy, Director McClintock requested a letter of support for this year’s Forest Legacy Proposal which can be funded in 2023 if it achieves the necessary national ranking. This Project includes 2,227 acres located east of Moyie Springs in Boundary County. The lands that may receive Conservation Easements are all family forestlands, mostly held in their respective families for over 30+ years. The lands will be conserved as working forestlands and protected from subdivision and development. The IFOA BOD agreed to send a letter in support of this project.

*by Marianna J. Groth, IFOA Secretary*



## IFOA MUST-HAVES

...IFOA COFFEE MUG... ◀◀ HANDY! perfect before heading for the woods!

...IFOA HAT... ◀◀ LOW CROWN STYLE! perfect for walks in the woods!

...IFOA DENIM SHIRT... ◀◀ VERY COMFORTABLE! perfect for working in the woods!

...IFOA SWEATSHIRT... ◀◀ LONG SLEEVED, DARK GREEN perfect for keeping warm in the woods!

...IFOA T-SHIRT... ◀◀ SHORT SLEEVED, GREEN perfect for any occasion!

...IFOA SUSPENDERS... ◀◀ THE BEST!!! perfect for comfort anytime!

green w/white letters, heavy-duty construction, clip or button style, adjustable to fit length

THEY'RE BACK! ..IFOA FLANNEL SHIRT..◀◀ DARK GREEN HEATHER perfect for lookin' good!

NEW! ...IFOA FLEECE VEST... ◀◀ WEAR IT LAYERED IN OR OUT perfectly soft and warm!

BEAUTIFUL! ►►...IFOA MEMBERSHIP SIGN...►►►

18" x 24" white with green graphics & black lettering

1/8" thick plastic, 6 pre-drilled mounting holes

*space for family name*

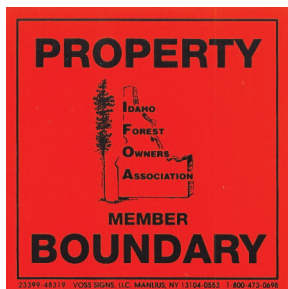
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HIGH VISIBILITY!...3.75" x 3.75"

◀◀◀...PROPERTY BOUNDARY TAGS...

bright orange with black lettering & logo

.024 gauge plastic



IFOA embroidered "Ball cap" HATS

Sizes:



IFOA SUSPENDERS-clip on-circle your sizes: 50", 54"

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IFOA T-SHIRTS

circle your sizes: M, L,

forest green w/multi-color printed logo

IFOA DENIM SHIRTS

circle your sizes: M, L, XL

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IFOA SWEATSHIRTS

circle your sizes:

forest green w/multi-color printed logo

IFOA FLANNEL SHIRT

circle your sizes: M, L, XL

Dark green heather w/multi-color embroidered logo

IFOA FLEECE VEST circle (M or F) styles: M, L, XL

Black w/multi-color embroidered logo

IFOA MEMBER SIGNS

IFOA COFFEE MUGS

ceramic white w/green logo

IFOA MEMBER PROPERTY BOUNDARY TAGS 4/Pack

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25/Pack

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All prices include Idaho Sales/Use tax

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Summer 2021

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IDAHO FOREST OWNERS ASSOCIATION  
P. O. BOX 1257  
COEUR D'ALENE, ID 83816-1257

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IDAHO FOREST OWNERS ASSOCIATION, P.O. Box 1257, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83816-1257

YES, I would like to become an Active Member of the Idaho Forest Owners Association.

☐

I own \_\_\_\_\_ acres of forest land in \_\_\_\_\_ County, Idaho.  
(If multi-county ownerships, please list all)

☐

I do not own forest land in Idaho, but would like to become a *Participating Member* in the Association.

NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Annual dues are \$45 for an individual, family, partnership, or corporation; \$123 three years; \$205 five years. Please make checks payable to the IDAHO FOREST OWNERS ASSOCIATION

Summer 2021