

CONNECTICUT



PROFESSIONAL TIMBER
PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

A PUBLICATION OF THE CONNECTICUT
PROFESSIONAL TIMBER PRODUCERS
ASSOCIATION, INC.

WINTER
2024

The Cutting Edge →



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Cover Photo: Hallie Metzger
Cover Art: Deborah Roach

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The Connecticut Professional Timber Producers Association, Inc. (TIMPRO CT) is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)6 non-profit corporation. Our mission is to enhance the image and understanding of the forest products industry throughout the state through public outreach programs, education, and a commitment to professionalism among our members.

TIMPRO CT NEWS

TIMPRO UPDATES

TECHNOLOGY IN OUR FUTURE

Morgan Gundlach (cover) is not playing Minecraft or Candy Crush. As you can see in the accompanying picture, he is demonstrating a simulator that helps prepare loggers for the coming digital age.

This format is increasingly used to teach logging strategies and techniques before students actually go out into the woods. The cover picture of Morgan manipulating a joystick and foot pedal demonstrates one use of this new format. Timpro has sponsored a number of events that present technological aids. Another example, in the ALC meeting report, is the use of Starlink to enable an individual on one side of the country to manage a logging operation on the other side.

We're still in the very early stages of a timber harvesting revolution. There will always be a need for people on the ground but the role they will play will likely be less exposed and less hazardous.



Photo courtesy of Hallie Metzger Phoros opposite page courtesy Sydney Alysyn Mullen and Nicholas Boggio

TIMPRO BOARD CHANGES

After many years of service, Trish Clark has retired as Treasurer, a position she has held since 2017. Throughout her tenure she has kept our books, paid our bills, and kept an eye out for our best financial interests. We will miss her!

We regret that Nicholas "Nick" Mangiamele has resigned from our board as he prepares to leave Connecticut. He wrote, "I appreciated the opportunity to help out these past couple of months with joining the board and helping with some of the outreach efforts. I'm at a crossroads between being closer to family in NY or continue working in CT. It was not any easy decision but I'm heading back to NY soon."

Membership in the Connecticut Professional Timber Producers Association

Membership is open to sawmills, loggers, foresters, landowners, supporting businesses and anyone else interested in supporting the forest products industry in Connecticut. Benefits include educational programs, a voice in the Connecticut Legislature, a listing on the TIMPRO CT website, current information on issues affecting the forest products industry, a free subscription to ***The Cutting Edge*** and more.

Dues are \$150/year. \$25.00 for student memberships.

Applications are available by calling TIMPRO CT at 860-948-0432 or visiting the website at www.timproct.org.

MEET OUR 2024 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



I caught up recently by phone with **Sydney Alysyn Mullen**, a graduate of Killingly High School, one of our two 2024 Scholarship winners. She is now at the University of Connecticut where she is majoring in Agriculture and Natural Resources. Her interest in both goes back to high school where she was Vice President and then President of the Killingly Future Farmers of America with a special interest in Animal Science.

Of her first semester so far, she reported: "I'm taking a few intro classes I didn't think I'd be taking - Economics, Statistics - but I might have some relevant courses later this year. Right now, I'm doing a 10-week training on animals: Beef, dairy, horses, poultry and sheep. It's hands-on but we also have discussions and lectures throughout the week. I especially love working with horses." When she has free time, Mullen likes to run and has checked out UConn's running club.

Mullen already has practical experience with animals. She worked on a number of farms including one that raises Nigerian dwarf goats. In fact, she has made goat soap and lotion. On another farm, she exercised and cared for horses. At home, she has a dog and 2 cats. One cat came from the dairy farm, the other just came home with her one day. The dog is a rescue pit mix.

She noted, "I have a background working with animals but taking environmental science in high school really interested me in natural resource issues." She concluded, "For me working with animals is a job and also a hobby."

Nicholas Boggio, a recent graduate of Wamogo High School, explained that he chose the Litchfield school because of its Future Farmers of America agricultural program. He concentrated on the natural resource program which focuses on forestry and wildlife studies. "I have also been involved with wildlife for these past seven years," he wrote in his application essay. "The programs at school and my volunteer work have fueled my desire to pursue a wildlife biology and forestry health career."

The Boy Scouts also provided opportunities for him to hone his interests. For his Eagle Scout project, he helped blaze a 3.5 mile portion of the boundary line of Mattatuck State Forest and its border with Camp Mattatuck. He also helped maintain public areas (right).

"Looking ahead," he wrote, "I envision myself as a wildlife biologist, ideally working for the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) or New York State's Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)... Field research is fascinating, and I find studying animals' interaction with their environment exciting."

Now a freshman at the State University of New York, Syracuse, New York, he has enrolled in the College of Environmental Science and Forestry. For the future, he wrote, "A passion for wildlife biology and conservation guides my journey from high school to college and beyond."



TIMPRO HOLDS SUCCESSFUL CPR TRAININGS

by Kit Serafini, Timpro Secretary

Timpro and the Rhode Island Wood Operators hosted two Master Logger First Aid/ CPR and Logger Rescue classes, one on Wednesday October 16 at Norbrook Brewery in Colebrook, CT and the other Thursday, October 17 at the West Greenwich Community Room in West Greenwich, RI. Both classes met from 7 am – 3 pm. I attended the Connecticut event.

Instructor Paul Stewart, Lead Trainer for the Trust to Conserve Northeast Forestlands (TCNEF) came down from Houlton, Maine. Also administering the class was Jessica Clark, Deputy Executive Director for Membership and Operations for Professional Logging Contractors Northeast (PLC), and Sydney Andersen, Program Manager for TCNEF.

Some 24 participants attended the Connecticut class. Before the class practiced CPR during the first section, Stewart did an outstanding job not only covering in detail step-by-step instructions on different ways to administer CPR such as manually or with a defibrillator but also what a heart attack is and what signs people often overlook leading up to a heart attack. He also covered: how techniques for administering CPR differ; techniques for different size individuals from babies to plus size; how CPR impacts the body and how the body responds to it; troubleshooting; and how long performing CPR keeps someone alive until they can get to a hospital.

In the next section, First Aid, Stewart explained in detail common injuries that occur in logging - why many of these occur, how to administer first aid, what supplies you should consider having and why. He was particularly detailed about why some supplies (such as Israeli versus common bandages) are superior to others, and why some tourniquets are better than others. He demonstrated and had participants practice one-handed administering these on themselves in case they are alone when injured or sick. The group learned how to use a blanket to move an individual, even unconscious, alone without causing further injury to the individual and how to properly wrap the blanket to support the neck. He also covered how first aid in remote locations differs from first aid where emergency personnel can respond quickly. i.e., you sometimes have to use different techniques if you can get to a hospital in ten minutes versus 2 hours.

Following that, Advanced Logger Rescue was held outside where Stewart not only demonstrated but also had the class practice extracting someone from both a mini excavator and a skid steer, making sure everyone understood what techniques to use and why.

Overall the class was tailored for logging and how to administer all CPR, First Aid, and Rescue in the woods far away from resources. All attendees were encouraged to practice all techniques during the class.

Stewart took the time to answer any and all questions and the class ended up running over in time. I cannot say enough good things about him. He is a very knowledgeable instructor as well as a skilled teacher making sure everyone understood all aspects of the class content. All attendees were fully engaged

From Robert A. Verrier: In Rhode Island, Stewart held an equally engaging training for 20 participants. A special thank you to United Construction and Forestry for donating a Stihl ms 400 chainsaw for a Log A Load raffle as well as gift bags for everyone and for supplying a skid steer and mower for the class. Thank you to the women that helped all day and to Roche Fresh Foods which supplied breakfast and a gourmet lunch.

HOW TO SAFELY MOVE AN INJURED PERSON WITHOUT A STRETCHER

STEP ONE: Paul Stewart demonstrates how to fashion a blanket into an emergency harness to protect the neck while moving an injured or unconscious person out of the woods.



STEP TWO; Ready to move the individual to a rendezvous with emergency personnel or a vehicle.

STEP THREE: The harness enables the crew to move the injured or unconscious person in or out of a vehicle for transport to medical treatment.



CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PEOPLE'S PARK



On Sunday October 6, 2024, Timpro members gathered to help celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Peoples State Forest in Barkhamsted, CT. It's a stunning site bordering the west branch of the Farmington River, which is designated as a Wild and Scenic River by the National Park Service. But as a private property it was nearly lost in the early 1900's until civic groups stepped up in 1924 to purchase and preserve it. Individuals donated as much as \$8 an acre to secure it so it is truly the *people's* park.

Left to right: Mike Hinman, Joan Nichols, Hallie Metzger, Kit Serafini, Henry Gundlach, ??, Peter Hart's grandnephew Nicholas, Peter Harts. Photo courtesy of Bill Metzger



Above left: Uconn Woodsmen set up an axe throwing range. Above right: Owen of Hickory Hollow Farm preparing to demonstrate logging with a team of oxen. Photos courtesy of Hallie Metzger

AT THE AMERICAN LOGGERS COUNCIL ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Robert Carrington, TIMPRO Representative, Joan Nichols, and Henry Gundlach attended the ALC in Sonora California from October 1st - 4th. Henry noted there was a discussion of the importance for colleges and institutions to get more young people involved in the forestry industry. The Log-A-Load auction held on the 3rd night raised \$123,000.00 including a \$20,000.00 chainsaw auction. On the 2nd day, the group toured a chip-burning plant that goes through 40 trailers of chips a day. Robert Carrington stated that it is a clean operation that produces no smoke. The group also visited Sierra Pacific and met its 95-year old founder Archie Allison "Red" Emerson (below right) whose company owns 2.3 million acres and operates in California, Oregon, and Washington.



Wood biomass plant.

Photos courtesy of Joan Nichols.

million acres and operates in California, Oregon, and Washington.

The Timpro group toured the sawmill which has a cut-up line to sort out small logs for firewood and posts for fences. The Timpro delegates said all the seminars were great. There was also a demonstration of a radio-controlled Skidder operated remotely via Starlink by someone in Massachusetts. The man operating the skidder told the group that with all the cameras set up on the skidder he had better visibility than someone actually sitting *in* the skidder. Henry did state that even though the skidder was operated remotely, there still need to be other people on the job site. Congressman Bruce Westerman of Arkansas, chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee, gave the keynote speech at the conference. He is the only professional forester in Congress.



Left to right: Robert and Deb Carrington, Joan Nichols, Henry Gundlach at Sierra Pacific Lumber





Bits and Chokers

EXECUTIVE ORDER 14072 AND THE NATIONAL OLD GROWTH AMENDMENT

The Yale Forest School recently completed a webinar series examining Executive Order 14072 and the National Old Growth Amendment intended to protect existing mature and old growth (MOG) forest on public lands. The potential impacts range from thorny issues of determining classification (just what *is* old growth or mature in the first place) to management to conflicts with wildlife habitat management to ripple effects throughout timber industries and, finally, to related impacts on private landowners who, in fact, manage far more acreage than is covered by this order.

The Forest School speakers from the United States Forest Service, Tribal nations, private forest owners, forest industry, academia, and forest advocacy organizations shared how they are responding to and shaping the discussion on mature and old-growth forests as now mandated by Executive Order 14072 and the National Old-Growth Amendment.

Aug. 29	William Keeton, University of Vermont, Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources and Gund Institute for Environment	A Global Perspective on Temperate Old-Growth Forest Ecology, Conservation, and Restoration
Sept. 5	Chris Woodall, USDA Forest Service	Answering a Presidential Order: Classifying Mature and Old-Growth Federal Forests in the United States
Sept. 12	Thomas Spies, USDA Forest Service, PNW Research Station	Ten Things I've Learned about the Ecology of Mature and Old-Growth Forests
Sept. 26	Bryan Petit, National Alliance of Forest Owners	Old-Growth: How to Navigate Science and Feelings
Oct. 3	Susan Jane M. Brown, Silvix Resources	From Seas to Shining Sea: Mature and Old Growth Forest Conservation from a National and Regional Perspective
Oct. 10	Laurie A. Wayburn, Pacific Forest Trust	Restoring and Maintaining Mature and Old Private Forests in the US
Oct. 17	Garett R. Rose, Natural Resources Defense Council	Designing Durable Protections for MOG Forests - A Structural Approach
Oct. 24	Adrian Miller, Weyerhaeuser	Integrating Older Forests Within Private Managed Forestland
Oct. 31	Heather Slayton, Tenn. Dept of Agriculture, Division of Forestry	Considerations in Managing Mature and Old-Growth Forests on Non-Federal Lands in the United States
Nov. 7	Cristine Eisenberg and Susan J. Pritchard, Oregon State University and University of Washington	Braiding Indigenous Knowledge and Western Science Approaches to Forest Adaptation
Nov. 14	Anthony D'Amato, Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources, University of Vermont	Silvicultural Strategies to Support Mature and Old-Growth Forest Conditions Across Diverse Ownerships
Nov. 21	Jamie Barbour, USDA Forest Service	Implementing Executive Order 14072: Mature and Old-Growth Definitions, Inventory, Threat Analysis, and Policy?
Dec. 5	Sara Kuebbing, Alexander 'Zander' Evans, Cody Desautel, Sam Evans, Jennifer McRae	What's Next on Old Growth Policy: A Panel Discussion

The webinars are 45-50 minutes long plus Q&A. You can watch videos on the Yale Forest Forum website: <https://yff.yale.edu/speaker-series/conserving-mature-and-old-growth-forests-changing-climate>.

One big task is defining mature and old growth forest. People tend to think big = old. But Jamie Barbour, USDA Forest Service, (11/21) pointed out the pinyon-juniper stands are old growth even though they don't fit that public image of towering conifers or mixed hardwood forests.

A major theme throughout was acknowledging and making use of Indigenous Knowledge, now officially incorporated in

planning documents as IK. In fact, the various Tribal representatives also made the point that IK does not recognize any such designation as mature or old growth. Tribes throughout the continent have managed the forest, often with prescribed burns and controlled harvests, to produce many goods beyond timber such as food plants, pasture, and fiber materials. Cristina Eisenberg and Susan J. Pritchard (11/7) called for "braiding" IK knowledge with Western science to produce a more balanced approach to management. This dual approach is also known as "two-eyed seeing."

IK increasingly fits with scientific recognition that MOG stands rely on and result from disturbance, either natural or man-made.

Other speakers focused on how data was collected and interpreted – especially the challenge of collating data from the wide range of ecosystems and forest types. As a result, there is no exact amount of MOG acreage. It is estimated to cover 35-45% of public land.

Bryan Petit, the National Alliance of Forest Owners, (9/26) reminded us that 90% of the forest products we use are produced in the US and that forests account for 80% of our country's sequestered carbon.

Adrian Miller of Weyerhaeuser (10/24) talked about how the firm was one of the first timber companies to regard timber as a crop. It placed a focus on growing trees as well as simply harvesting them.

Susan James Brown, with the non-profit conservation law firm Silvix Resources, (10/3) reviewed the changes in forest law triggered by the threat to the Spotted Owl. Another conservation perspective was presented by Garret Rose of the Natural Resources Defense Council (10/17).

A good example of the webinar's breadth was the Oct. 31 presentation by Heather Slayton, Tennessee Department of Agriculture, Division of Forestry. She described the multiple challenges her department faces in interpreting and implementing the Directive:

- ◆ It impacts management of private as well as state land, constituencies with very different, potentially conflicting goals.
- ◆ It has implications for forest health. "Older does not necessarily mean more resilient."
- ◆ It may increase the risk of devastating wildfire. She noted that in Tennessee, 25% of old growth is in the wildland-urban interface (WUI) so, she emphasized, "All management options must be available to managers to reduce risk to communities."

All the speakers agreed that the best advice is to exercise caution and reexamine the data often. Thomas Spies, USDA Forest Service PNW Research Station, (9/12) summed that wisdom up with this final slide.

"Nature is not more complicated than you think, it is more complicated than you CAN think."

Frank Egler



Slide shots courtesy of Yale Forest Forum

A THOUSAND OAKS FOR NOTRE DAME

When Notre Dame burned 5 years ago, nothing was left of the wooden roof – all 100 metres of it. None of the 800-year-old timbers survived. But the decision was quickly made to replace it as faithfully as possible with oak from the forests of France.

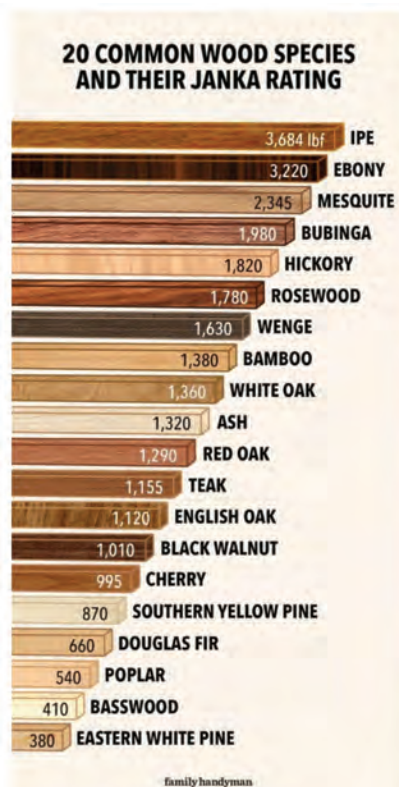
By happy coincidence architect Remi Fromont had conducted an in-depth study of the timber frame for his university thesis. This served as a template for carpenters.

Some 1,200 oak trees had to be found that were straight, free from knots and a condition called "frost-crack", and 13 metres long.

Much of the wood was then hand-sawn and hewed into shape with axes, just as the beams were in the 13th century. Right, President Macron inspects one of the 35 triangular "fermes" running the length of the building to bear the roof's weight.



THE JANKA HARDNESS SCALE



In a recent article, *Handyman Magazine* described how to use the Janka Hardness Scale to choose the right wood for a job. In 1906 Austrian wood researcher Gabriel Janka created the hardness test now named for him. He created a system for testing wood density for industrial applications. He started with the process for testing the hardness of metals and invented the scale in use today. The higher the number, the more durable the material. Janka's task was formidable given the sheer number of tree species available to submit for testing. The Janka scale records the density of wood by testing its resistance to denting. The test measures the force required to embed a .444-inch (11.28mm) diameter steel ball halfway into a piece of wood. That force is recorded in pounds-force (lbf) in the U.S. or in kilograms-force (kgf) or newtons (N) in other parts of the world.

This scale might not be important to us here in New England with our limited range of species. But it is valuable to consider what else is out there. For the record, you probably already know the name of the softest wood, especially if you ever made a model of an airplane. Yes, balsa! But you are probably less familiar with the tree with the highest density rating: Australian boluke.

As *Handyman* concluded, "With a Janka rating of 5,060 lbf, it's harder than stone. A wood that hard will do serious damage to your machines, so I personally see little upside to dabbling with the hardest of hardwoods."

Top Photo courtesy of BBC

Bottom photo courtesy of *Handyman Magazine*

MYSTERY SEED YIELDS FABLED FRUIT

Writing for Yahoo's *LiveScience* feed, Sascha Pare, reported on the finally successful 14-year effort to revive a mysterious 1,000-year-old seed discovered in the Judean Desert. Scientists speculate that the tree, now 10 feet tall, grown from the seed may be a long-vanished tree lineage mentioned in the Bible.

The seed has been named "Sheba" for the fabled kingdom whose queen visited King Solomon. It was found in the late 1980s by archeologists excavating a cave. DNA tests and radiocarbon analyses were published Sept. 10 in the journal *Communications Biology*.

The seed dates to between 993 and 1202 CE and may be a survivor of a now-extinct population of trees that once existed in the Southern Levant (present-day Israel, Jordan, and Palestine). Sheba belongs to the genus *Commiphora*, within the *Burseraceae* family that produces myrrh and frankincense. But scientists won't know more about Sheba until the tree flowers and they can study its reproductive organs.

An exciting hypothesis, though, is that Sheba belongs to the species that produced the Biblical "tsori," a prized balm.



Pictures courtesy of Yahoo "Live Science"



1133 Litchfield Road
Norfolk, CT
06058

**CT Professional Timber
Producers Association**

**Look for mailings or check the
website for further details and
any changes to the Calendar of
Events.**

**Ideas for classes you would
like offered?**

**Contact TIMPRO CT:
1133 Litchfield Road
Norfolk, CT
06058**

860-948-0432

info@timproct.org

**Articles, ideas, pictures
you'd like to see?**

hallie.metzger@gmail.com

CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR INFORMATION

WWW.TIMPROCT.ORG

Get Involved

The Board of Directors is seeking members who are interested in helping out with various activities throughout the year such as CEU programming, fairs, Ag Days at the State Capitol in March, Plant Science Day in August in Hamden, programs at the Agriscience Centers and more. The Board, made up of business owners, just like yourselves, is keenly aware of the demands on your time. Any amount of time, no matter how minimal, is greatly needed.

Contact TIMPRO CT for more information:

860-948-0432 or e-mail: info@timproct.org.