

Summer 2012

# Idaho Tree Farm Program

204 E. Sherman Ave. • Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814 • (T) 208.667.4641 • (F) 208.664.0557  
www.idahotreefarm.org • admin@idahotreefarm.org

2010-2012

## Executive Committee:

- Chair – Tom Davis,  
North Idaho Forestry  
(T) 208.660.4164
- Vice-Chair –  
Doug Bradetich,  
Idaho Forest Group  
(T) 208.772.0505
- Treasurer –  
Steve Cuvala,  
Idaho Dept. of Lands  
(T) 208.245.4551
- Program Administrator –  
Jennifer Childers,  
(T) 208.667.4641

2010-2012

## District Chairs:

- District 1 Chair –  
Andy Eckberg,  
Idaho Forest Group  
aeckberg@idfg.com
- District 2 Chair –  
Robert Barkley,  
Idaho Dept. of Lands  
(T) 208.877.1121
- District 3 Chair –  
John Lillehaug,  
All About Forestry  
(T) 208.630.4076
- District 4 Chair –  
Tim Kennedy,  
Idaho Dept. of Lands  
(T) 208.334.3488

## Idaho State Forestry Contest Celebrates 30 Years

The 30<sup>th</sup> annual Idaho State Forestry Contest took place in May at Delay Farms in Careywood, Idaho, located between Coeur d'Alene and Sandpoint. The contest introduced hundreds of students in grades 3 through 12 to basic forestry and resource management skills on three educational courses; 1) Non-Competitive Novice Course, 2) Rookie Course, an introductory competition for 6<sup>th</sup> grades on Tree Identification, Compass and Pacing, Timber Cruising, an Log Scaling, and 3) Junior/Senior Division Contest challenging contestants on 10 areas of expertise. More than 150 volunteers from local businesses, agencies and organizations donated their time to help run the contest.

Contest winners received awards and cash prizes. The winning junior and senior teams took home a full-sized, crosscut saw trophy to display until next year's contest, and the winning Rookie Team received an Idaho trophy made from all nine commercial woods grown in the state.

Students as far north as Bonners Ferry and as far south as Genesee attended and competed in the 2012 contest.

“It is quite an achievement for Idaho that for 30 years the Idaho State Forestry Contest has brought together our youth to learn about forestry in such a fun and creative way,” said Bill Love, honorary chairman for the 2012 Idaho State Forestry Contest. “The Idaho State Forestry Contest truly is a community effort and a product of the hard work of many individuals who are passionate about Idaho's forests.”

Love, who recently retired after working for the Idaho Department of Lands for 33 years, is one of three co-founders of the Idaho State Forestry Contest.

The contest is sponsored by the Idaho Department of Lands, Bonner Soil and Water Conservation District and the U.S. Forest Service. It is made possible through the support of many individuals and public and private organizations

More information about the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Idaho State Forestry Contest is available at <http://www.idl.idaho.gov/forestry-contest/index-forestry-contest.html>.

*Idaho Department of Lands News Release*



## **SAVE THE DATE! Idaho Tree Farm Program's Annual Fall Field Tour- September 8<sup>th</sup>, Worley, ID**

The Idaho Tree Farm Committee has scheduled the annual Fall Tour for Saturday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2012. This year's tour will feature Gale and Pat Akers Tree Farms near Worley and will showcase timber management, reforestation, wildlife enhancement and soil stabilization activities on their various properties.

Gale and Pat were honored as the 2012 "Idaho Outstanding Tree Farmers of the Year" in March at the Idaho Tree Farm Program's annual meeting in Moscow. Gale was also honored as the "Idaho Outstanding Logger of the Year", marking the first time the same recipient was chosen for both honors.

The tour will begin at Gale & Pat's home at 9 AM with an overview of history and

management on their eight tree farms, seven in Idaho and one in eastern Washington. At 9:30 we will start out on a tour of some of the areas adjacent to their residence. An active member in soil conservation programs and an avid game bird enthusiast, Gale has several examples of habitat enhancement and resource protection to share with us in addition to regular timber stand issues.

We plan to be back at the Akers' at noon for a lunch sponsored by Idaho Forest Group and catered by Rustler's Roost. Following lunch will be an educational presentation of current Tree Farm activities, on both the national and local level. We plan to finish by 1:30 PM.

The tour is free. Gale & Pat's house is at 23968 S. Weller Road, south of

Coeur d'Alene, near Worley. From Highway 95 turn west on Elder Road (between Fighting Creek from the north and the Coeur d'Alene Casino from the south), go approx 3 ½ miles to a left onto S. Weller. Continue approx ¾ mile to the Akers' residence on the left. Wear appropriate outerwear for field conditions. Coffee, donuts, and beverages will be provided by the Idaho Tree Farm Committee.

Due to the catered lunch, we are requesting an **RSVP** so we can get an accurate head count. Respond to [admin@idahotreefarm.org](mailto:admin@idahotreefarm.org) or call Jennifer Childers at (208) 667-4641. Hope to see you at the Tour!

- Tom Davis, Chairman, ITFC

### **9:00 a.m. Arrive at the Akers home for donuts and coffee.**

The Akers home is at 23968 S. Weller Road, Worley, ID 83876. Donuts and coffee will be provided at Gale's shop. Rides will be best in high-clearance vehicles for the tour through their Tree Farms. Please invite someone arriving in a low car to ride in your higher clearance vehicle.

### **9:30 a.m. Leave Akers to start the Tour: Stops along the way include:**

- ❖ Plantations to Reestablish Timber in Old Ag Land
- ❖ Hardwood Plantings to Create Wildlife Habitat
- ❖ Recent Stewardship Pre-commercial Thinning
- ❖ Sawlog Harvest History
- ❖ Soil Stabilization in Ag Land Adjacent to Timber Stand
- ❖ White Pine Pruning and Wildlife Degradation

**12:00 p.m. Lunch at Gale & Pat's - Catered by Rustlers Roost and *sponsored by Idaho Forest Group*.**  
(Wrap-up and any questions from the tour)

**12:30 p.m. Presentation of Current Tree Farm Program** (Recap of Idaho Tree Farm and National level activities)

**1:00 p.m. Refreshments and Social Time**

**1:30 p.m. Tour Completed. Thank you for attending!**

## National Tree Farm Convention 2012

This year's National Tree Farm Convention was held in Jacksonville Florida June 13-16. Those representing Idaho at the convention were Kirk & Madeline David, Athol, Steve & Janet Funk, Coeur d' Alene and Steve & Peggy Cuvala, St. Maries. In addition to the scheduled convention events the ever popular optional tours are a highlight. A boat tour on the Amelia and St. Mary's rivers near the Barrier Islands was wonderful. Dolphins gave us a real show, boatside and we were also able to view the wild horses of Cumberland Island running along the beach. A tour of the Rock Tenn Mill in Fernandina Beach, where 3 million tons of wood is processed annually into paper was an eye opener of a modern mill that uses everything from bark to resins from the logs brought through the mills gates. The Dee-Dot Timberlands Tree Farm, a 28,000 acre spread and has been in the Tree Farm Program for 54 years was something to see. Harvesting, reforestation, deer & quail management activities were observed from the comfort of an open wagon ride.

During the general sessions we were introduced to Bettina Ring the new senior vice-president of the American Forest Foundation who oversees the American Tree Farm System. Also during the session the 2012 Regional Outstanding Tree Farmers of the Year gave us a glimpse of the work accomplished on their tree farms and their promotional activities on behalf of sustainable forestry. Mike & Vivien Fritz Vermont, Byron & Donna Loucks Washington, Charlie Williams Kentucky, and Walt & Barbara McPhail South Carolina were this years Regional Finalists. At the banquet later that week Walt & Barbara McPhail were honored by being selected as the National Outstanding Tree Farmers of the Year for 2012 succeeding our own hard working and most deserving 2011 winners Steve & Janet Funk of Coeur d' Alene. Stihl, Inc. is a proud sponsor of the Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year as well as other Tree Farm recognition awards.

The concurrent sessions always provide the tree farmer a wide array of subjects to choose from on continuing education forestry related topics. Woman and their Tree Farms, Successional Planning, Timber Taxes, Forest Health, Invasive plants, Farm Bill for Forest Health, Forest Management /Forest Health, Advocacy, T & E Species-Special Sites & High Conservation Values on Your Tree Farm, as well as a regional breakout session with our fellow western state attendees were offered.

The Field Day was at Shadowlawn Farms owned by the Rheinhold family since 1932. There we observed and learned about the many facets of southern pine plantation management. An active reforestation demo with site prep (spraying) plows and planting machines was extremely interesting as was the active logging job being done with mechanical harvesting equipment. An interesting side note was the land was previously owned by the J. C. Penny family who were personal friends of the Rhienholds.

As you can see the convention is chock full of activities and tours for the tree farmer from A - Z. We also had a lot of delicious mouth watering southern barbeque at the events. The silent auction which closes just prior to the banquet is also a highlight. Of the items donated on the auction tables were two turkey calls made by Brian Cobble last years National Outstanding Tree Farm Inspector of the Year from Florida. He utilized wood from tree farms across the U.S. in crafting the calls. Western cedar from Washington, Black walnut from Wisconsin and Eastern cedar from Florida were used to create the beautiful calls. I don't know what it says about us "Idaho turkeys" but Steve Funk and I were both the successful bidders which were separate items and now each have a wonderful keepsake from the convention. The hospitality room always provides a place at the end of the day, where you can relax and converse with acquaintances new and old, who are fellow Tree Farmers from across this great United States of ours. Kudos to the Florida Tree Farm Committee, Shawn Cook chairman, who hosted a great annual convention this year. We hope to see you at next year's convention to be held in Minneapolis Minnesota July 25-27, 2013.

Yours in sustainable forest management,  
Steve & Peggy Cuvala



## SFI, AFF Applaud Members of Congress for Urging LEED to Accept SFI® and American Tree Farm System®

A bipartisan group of Members of Congress sent a letter in May to Rick Fedrizzi, President & CEO of the U.S. Green Building Council, urging USGBC to "accept all credible forest management certification systems for qualification under the LEED rating system," because it "will provide a great incentive for the utilization of domestically produced forest products." The letter was signed by Rep. Glenn "GT" Thompson (R- PA), chair of the Agriculture Subcommittee on Conservation, Energy and Forestry, Rep. Kurt Schrader (D-OR), and six other Members (see complete list below).

*Rep. Kurt Schrader released the following statement:*

"Wood and wood products represent one of the greenest renewable resources available for building materials. The Sustainable Forestry Initiative and the American Tree Farm System are two of the largest wood certification standards in the country. The USGBC should immediately recognize and adopt both standards as part of their LEED certified rating system to ensure that we are supporting domestically produced wood products in LEED certified buildings."

*SFI President and CEO Kathy Abusow released the following statement:*

"We applaud Rep. Thompson, Rep. Schrader and all the other signatories to the letter that urges USGBC to recognize SFI and other credible forest certification standards in LEED. The proposed changes to LEED still fall well short of supporting the future of our forests. When will USGBC heed the repeated calls of Members of Congress, federal agencies, Governors, state foresters, conservation groups, academics and countless others to stop discriminating against well-managed domestic forests?"

Just last year the US Department of Agriculture, in announcing their program to promote wood in green building said "Sustainability of forest products can be verified using any credible third-party rating system, such as Sustainable Forestry Initiative, Forest Stewardship Council or American Tree Farm System certification."

*American Forest Foundation President and CEO Tom Martin released the following statement:*

"AFF continues to be concerned that USGBC discourages the use of wood by failing to recognize the American Tree Farm System® as a responsible source of

certified wood. While USGBC has made some progress in acknowledging the need to look at the environmental impacts of all building materials -- including wood -- there is still progress to be made in giving credit where credit is due. Wood is one of the greenest building materials and using wood supports America's hard working family forest owners who are the largest ownership group of America's forests. These families need healthy markets to continue to keep forests healthy, our air and water clean, and wildlife habitat intact."

The letter also mentioned that the Members are encouraged by LEED's new proposed credits for Life Cycle Assessment because it "provides a pathway for wood's environmental benefits to be recognized."

For more information on the widespread support for real change in LEED, visit <http://sfiprogram.com/leed/>.

In addition to Representatives Thompson and Schrader, the following Members also signed the letter to USGBC: Rep. Walter Jones (R-NC), Rep. Terri Sewell (D-AL), Rep. Jamie Herrera Beutler (R-WA), Rep. Mike Ross (D-AR), Rep. Virginia Foxx (R-NC), Rep. Mike McIntyre (D-NC) – *SFI, Inc.*

## STIHL, Inc. to Sponsor Tree Farm Inspector of the Year Recognition Program

AFF partners in sustainability, STIHL, Inc., will expand their current ATFS sponsorship to include the Inspector of the Year recognition program.

For 10 years, STIHL Inc., has proudly sponsored the State, Regional, and National Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year recognition program. Hundreds of Tree Farmers have received STIL product certificates as part of this sponsorship that recognizes exemplary landowner stewardship.

Adding support for the Inspector of the Year awards affirms and acknowledges the work of our Tree Farm Inspectors, whose boots on the ground help support the work of the Tree farmers across the country. As you meet with your Inspector to revise your management plan or for your optional re-inspections, please tell them thank you. If you have an inspectors that you feel should be nominated for this award please contact your District chair to complete the requirements to nominate.

*American Forest Foundation*

## Agreement Strengthens Bond Between Boy Scouts of America and SFI, Inc.

The Boy Scouts of America and Sustainable Forestry Initiative Inc.® (SFI®) have signed a memorandum of mutual support agreeing to work together to demonstrate forest stewardship and environmental education for America's youth.

"The purpose and mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare youth to become responsible, participating citizens and leaders," said Bob Mazzuca, Chief Scout Executive for the Boy Scouts of America. "This agreement reinforces our strong partnership with SFI, and demonstrates our commitment to sustainable forest management. It lets us show scouts the value of our natural environment and how the future of our forests depends on the actions we take today."

Dr. Richard W. (Dick) Brinker, Dean Emeritus, School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences, Auburn University, and a member of the social chamber of the SFI Board of Directors, welcomed the agreement. "I was a Boy Scout from age 8 to 18, and the Forestry merit badge was the first one I earned," he said. "I was in 7th Grade, and it actually set a foundation in my mind that I wanted to be a forester."

SFI President and CEO Kathy Abusow said the memorandum will encourage more SFI participants, including members of community-based SFI Implementation Committees, to volunteer as merit

badge counselors, providing expertise through talks or tours for individual scouts or local scouting units who want to earn elective Forestry, Environmental Science, and Pulp and Paper merit badges. In addition to its merit badges, the Boy Scouts of America has certified its Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico to the SFI 2010-2014 Standard, and its Scouting and Boys' Life magazines are printed on SFI chain-of-custody certified paper.

"It is rewarding and fun to help youth understand the complexity and value of our forests," said Bob Izlar, Director of the Center for Forest Business at the University of Georgia, an Eagle Scout who is a member of both the Georgia SFI Implementation Committee and the Northeast Georgia Council of the Boy Scouts of America. "I have been the visiting forester for two summers at the Philmont Scout Ranch, which gives me a chance to show scouts how much we depend on forests, what we can do to keep forests healthy, and how they can contribute."

Independent SFI Inc. is responsible for the largest single forest certification standard in the world, and works with a wide array of partners to improve forest management in Canada and the United States, and sourcing worldwide. In 2011, the Boy Scouts of America received the SFI President's Award for leadership in embracing third-party forest certification and educating youth about the value of sustainable forest management. – *SFI, Inc.*

## Midsummer Inland Lumber Update

Overall the message is optimistic. Consumption year to date has been better than most had expected. Many purchasers didn't build inventory previously on fears of a continued stall in the market. As it turned out we instead experienced a moderate increase in demand and activity has continued as buyers strive to meet consumer needs. The general view early in the year was we were simply stealing from normal spring business. The slow but sustained improvement though has kept the normal seasonal uptick going longer than usual.

U.S. housing starts also look a little better than anticipated. Original forecast was around 660,000 starts, but is being revised now

toward 750,000. Still far from the 1,500,000 most agree represents full recovery, but nearly double where we were at the low point.

Looking to Fall/Winter expect the normal seasonal slump in pricing. Due to the decreased manufacturing capacity and lower inventory on dealer shelves though, this will most likely be a flatter and less severe correction than in past years.

Repair and remodel business continues to be a driver in the market. A growth in demand of 10-20% is expected this next year. Also, though export business to Asia affects Canadian and U.S. coastal markets more directly, the continued demand overseas will help place a floor on our Intermountain markets as well. – *Idaho Forest Group*

## 2012 Society of American Foresters National Convention

The 2012 SAF National Convention will be held October 24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> in Spokane, WA. This year's scientific and technical program brings the pieces of forest management into focus. Sessions will focus on ecological resilience, the role of forest management in sustaining forests, and the role of communities and collaborations in resilient forests.

We'll learn from our peers during lunch poster sessions and honor them during our national award program. An evening alumni reception will break the ice on Thursday and allow people to reconnect during the remainder of the meeting.

For more information or to register for the annual conference please visit <http://www.safnet.org/natcon12/index.cfm> -Society of American Foresters, [www.safnet.org](http://www.safnet.org)

## ITFC District Spotlight – Andrew Eckberg, District 1 Chair

Andy grew up in Northern Colorado fishing and recreating the mountains on the Front Range. He graduated in 1987 from Fort Lewis College in Durango Co. with a B.S in Environmental Biology. Following graduation he then worked for the USFS running a Timber Crew in the Custer and Helena National Forests for 5-years. Andy's crew was responsible for performing stand inventory, vegetative mapping, habitat Eco-typing, reforestation exams and timber sale prep. While in the USFS fire fighting was just part of the job. Andy recalled his experience then "the fires in 1988 really gave me a good and fast learning experience about fire behavior and fire fighting. Following the burns we would set up salvage timber sales and performed reclamation work". In 1992 he started as a Forester for Louisiana-Pacific and over the course of 11-years had worked at multiple saw-mill locations throughout the Intermountain-West and 1-OSB Facility in Olathe, Co.; including Deerlodge & Belgrade, MT, Rexford, ID, Saratoga WY, Walden Co. and finally ending up in Moyie Springs, Id. Andy started working for Riley Creek Lumber as a Procurement Forester in 1993 after Riley Creek had purchased the Chilco, and Moyie Mills from L-P. Then in 2008 Riley Creek had merged with Bennett Forest Industries to form Idaho Forest Group where he continues to work to this day.

Andy assist's private landowner's in setting up and executing timber management plans which incorporates their goals and objectives into a sustainable forest plan. He has found that private tracts are getting smaller and smaller in the WUI and more and more landowner's value wildlife and visual aesthetics as much, if not more, than growing wood fiber. Over the last 10-years encompassing buffer strips, mosaic leave islands, visual screens and excavator piling into the harvest

plans has developed into standard practice for him.

Over the past 23-years Andy has seen many changes in the Timber Industry. Due to the lack of Log Supply from the USFS more saw-mills had to rely on private timbered lands to wood their mills. Since there is a very limited amount of private timbered lands, most all of the locations he had worked while at Louisiana-Pacific have closed in the Intermountain-West. The only saw-mills left operating are at Moyie Springs, Chilco (Idaho Forest Group) and Deerlodge (Sun-mountain Lumber). In the wake of the Mountain Pine Beetle epidemic and numerous forest fires we are now experiencing, he can't help to think how much Colorado would now support an active timber management program to address overcrowded stands and excessive fuel loading due to fire suppression. How crucial the OSB Facility once located in Olathe, and saw-mills Colorado would have been to economically handle the logs and biomass generated through Fuel treatment programs in the WUI. Certainly more fuel treatment programs will come out of the 2012 Fire Season in the WUI. Problem is there is no viable timber infrastructure to handle the logs and biomass that would be generated in an active fuels treatment program. Andy related his concerns about it happening again, "how can we keep the infrastructure in place in Montana and Idaho so that the same demise of timber industry is not repeated here? Andy believes the Tree Farm Program is an excellent way to communicate good forestry to the public and show the good things we are doing on in our Forests and take credit for it."

## Welcome New Members!

The Idaho Tree Farm Committee extends a special welcome to the 97 newest Idaho Tree Farm Program's certified members of 2012. Thank you to the District Chairs and Inspecting Foresters for promoting membership in the Idaho Tree Farm Program through the American Tree Farm System®.

As a current member, and a steward of the land, we appreciate your current support of the program and your management of the forestland for pride and pleasure. Thank you for your continued commitment of protecting watersheds and wildlife habitat, conserving soil and, at the same time, producing the wood America needs and uses



Tree Farm Member	Acreage	County	Inspecting Forester
Kroetch Alder Creek Tree Farm	120 acres	Benewah	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Katsuck Creek Tree Farm	320 acres	Benewah	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Miesen Draw Tree Farm	400 acres	Benewah	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Minnaloosa Tree Farm	240 acres	Benewah	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Minnaloosa 2 Tree Farm	440 acres	Benewah	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Minnaloosa 310 Tree Farm	200 acres	Benewah	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Minnaloosa 678 Tree Farm	440 acres	Benewah	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Pedee Creek Tree Farm	45.7 acres	Benewah	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Plummer Butte Tree Farm	160 acres	Benewah	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Santa Tree Farm	96 acres	Benewah	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Shay Hill Tree Farm	377.11 acres	Benewah	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Tyson Creek Tree Farm	40 acres	Benewah	Tim Kylo
Cabinet Cattle Co.	80 acres	Bonner	Tim Kylo
Christopher & Dione Cook	25.34 acres	Bonner	Tim Kylo
Donker Tree Farm	118 acres	Bonner	Tim Kylo
Shirley Erickson	26.37 acres	Bonner	Tim Kylo
Five J Goat Trail Tree Farm	287.86 acres	Bonner	Tim Kylo
Five J Tweedie Tree Farm	243.06 acres	Bonner	Tim Kylo
Five J White Tree Farm	202.5 acres	Bonner	Tim Kylo
Amy Hanson	12.73 acres	Bonner	Tim Kylo
Kroetch HooDoo Mountain Tree Farm	320 acres	Bonner	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Land & Timber North	6,406 acres	Bonner	Tim Kylo
Martin Tree Farm	44 acres	Bonner	Tim Kylo
Janet C. Owens	23.24 acres	Bonner	Tim Kylo
Reynolds Tree Farm	29 acres	Bonner	Tim Kylo
Kaye Ross, Jeri Thomas & Doni Sanders	31.49 acres	Bonner	Tim Kylo
Dwayne E. Sheffler	20 acres	Bonner	Doug Bradetich
Marvin & Jeannine Spear	249.52 acres	Bonner	Van Smith
Michael J. & Carol Spear	20 acres	Bonner	Van Smith
Mathew A. Turnbull	19.15 acres	Bonner	Doug Bradetich
Drew M. Westfall	29.428 acres	Bonner	Doug Bradetich
Kirk D. Westfall	62 acres	Bonner	Doug Bradetich
Mitch P. Westfall	43.62 acres	Bonner	Doug Bradetich
Doug & Lorraine Bell	12 acres	Boundary	Tim Kylo
Michael & Stephanie Brown	39 acres	Boundary	Tim Kylo
Kootenai Bench Tree Farm	92 acres	Boundary	Tim Kylo
Spencer Ranch, Inc.	1,660 acres	Idaho	Clark Christiansen
Chuck Uhlenkott	143 acres	Idaho	Clark Christiansen
Akers Home Place Tree Farm	60 acres	Kootenai	Tim Kylo
Colla Tree Farm	45 acres	Kootenai	Tim Kylo
Audrey Durtschi Trust	73.55 acres	Kootenai	Tim Kylo
Five J Tree Farm	415.88 acres	Kootenai	Tim Kylo
Kootenai Properties Chilco Lake Tree Farm	399 acres	Kootenai	Tim Kylo
Kootenai Properties Signal Peak Tree Farm	739 acres	Kootenai	Tim Kylo
Kootenai Properties North Lake Creek Tree Farm	105 acres	Kootenai	Tim Kylo

**Events to Highlight**

**ITFP Fall Field Tour-**  
September 8<sup>th</sup>, Gale &  
Patricia Akers' Tree Farm,  
Worley

**ITF Committee Meeting-**  
October 18<sup>th</sup>, Idaho  
Department of Lands  
Office, Coeur d'Alene

**SAF 2012 National  
Convention-**  
October 24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>,  
Spokane, WA

We're on the Web!

Learn more at:

[www.idahotreefarm.org](http://www.idahotreefarm.org)

***About Our Organization...***

The purpose of the Idaho Tree Farm Program is to promote better forest management among nonindustrial forest owners. The vehicle for achieving this aim is the American Tree Farm System® (ATFS), sponsored nationally by the **American Forest Foundation (AFF)**, regionally by the **Idaho SFI Implementation Committee**, and statewide by the **Idaho Tree Farm Committee (State Committee)**.

Tree Farm Member	Acreage	County	Inspecting Forester
Kootenai Properties South Lake Creek Tree Farm	1,115 acres	Kootenai	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Black Creek Tree Farm	200 acres	Kootenai/Benewah	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Bogle Draw Tree Farm	160 acres	Kootenai	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Chinese Gulch Tree Farm	80 acres	Kootenai	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Clagstone Tree Farm	802.78 acres	Kootenai	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Conkling Road Tree Farm	540 acres	Kootenai	Tim Kylo
Kroetch East Point Tree Farm	98.46 acres	Kootenai	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Evans Creek Tree Farm	190.13 acres	Kootenai	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Evans Willow Tree Farm	160 acres	Kootenai	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Fern Creek Tree Farm	320 acres	Kootenai	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Hayden Gulch Tree Farm	160 acres	Kootenai	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Hollister Mountain Tree Farm	400 acres	Kootenai	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Killarney Creek Tree Farm	142.1 acres	Kootenai	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Latour Creek Tree Farm	160 acres	Kootenai	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Mason Butte Tree Farm	159.54 acres	Kootenai	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Mica Tree Farm	120 acres	Kootenai	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Mission Gulch Tree Farm	142.83 acres	Kootenai	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Petit Peak Tree Farm	574.49 acres	Kootenai	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Rathdrum Mountain Tree Farm	160 acres	Kootenai	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Rosewood Willow Tree Farm	1,686.96 acres	Kootenai	Tim Kylo
Mica Bay Land Co. East South Fork Tree Farm	151 acres	Kootenai	Tim Kylo
Mica Bay Land Co. Fighting Creek Tree Farm	442 acres	Kootenai	Tim Kylo
Mica Bay Land Co. Rock Creek Tree Farm	323 acres	Kootenai	Tim Kylo
Pleasant View Tree Farm	29.6 acres	Kootenai	Tim Kylo
Ratliff Family LLC No. 1	585 acres	Kootenai	Tim Kylo
SPG Tree Farm	2,255.48 acres	Kootenai	Tim Kylo
Wolf Willow Tree Farm	393 acres	Kootenai	Tim Kylo
Akers Latah County Tree Farm	80 acres	Latah	Tim Kylo
Craig J. Hatley	1,403 acres	Latah	Robert Barkley
Stage Family Forest, LLC	81.4 acres	Latah	Robert Barkley
Helstuman Ranch Co.	1,560 acres	Lewis	Clark Christiansen
Tom & Jacky Mosman	3,454 acres	Lewis	Clark Christiansen
Willaim Forsman	432 acres	Nez Perce	John Lillehaug
Randy Pomp	80 acres	Nez Perce	Clark Christiansen
Dave & Debi Renberg	13.7 acres	Nez Perce	Clark Christiansen
Richard Sheldon	16.5 acres	Nez Perce	Clark Christiansen
Kroetch Calusa Creek Tree Farm	160 acres	Shoshone	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Cannon Creek Tree Farm	160 acres	Shoshone	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Cataldo Mtn. 13 Tree Farm	80 acres	Shoshone	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Cataldo Mtn. 15 Tree Farm	160 acres	Shoshone	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Cataldo Mtn. 22 Tree Farm	160 acres	Shoshone	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Cougar Nelson Tree Farm	480 acres	Shoshone	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Cougar November Creek Tree Farm	160 acres	Shoshone	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Cougar Steep Creek Tree Farm	160 acres	Shoshone	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Devils Elbow Tree Farm	212.96 acres	Shoshone	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Freeman Eddy Tree Farm	637.56 acres	Shoshone	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Graham Ridge Tree Farm	159.77 acres	Shoshone	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Guard Creek Tree Farm	160 acres	Shoshone	Tim Kylo
Kroetch McPhee Gulch Tree Farm	597.88 acres	Shoshone	Tim Kylo
Kroetch McPhee Gulch 21 Tree Farm	160 acres	Shoshone	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Spring Creek Tree Farm	160 acres	Shoshone	Tim Kylo
Kroetch Steamboat Creek Tree Farm	160 acres	Shoshone	Tim Kylo
Kroetch West Fork Steamboat Tree Farm	163.37 acres	Shoshone	Tim Kylo



**IDAHO TREE FARM PROGRAM**

Committee Meeting Minutes

April 19, 2012

The Coeur d’Alene Resort

**I. Call to Order**

Chair Tom Davis called the meeting to order at 9:05 am. Those present were:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| Ara Andrea, ITFC Forest Stewardship Program Representative, Idaho Department of Lands | Doug Bradetich, ITFC Vice-Chair          |
| David Brummer, Stimson Lumber Co.   | Frank Gariglio, ITFC NRCS Representative |
| Don Heikkila, Tree Farmer   | Janet Funk, ITFC Tree Farmer             |
| Gale Akers, Tree Farmer   | Madeline David, Tree Farmer              |
| Kirk David, Tree Farmer   | Steve Bloedel, ITFC Forestry Consultant  |
| Robert Barkley, ITFC District 2 Chair   | Steve Funk, ITFC Tree Farmer             |
| Steve Cuvala, ITFC Treasurer  | Tom Davis, ITFC Chair                    |
| Tim Kennedy – ITFC District 4 Chair   |  |
| Jennifer Childers – ITFC Program Administrator  |  |

**II. Antitrust Statement**

Chair Tom Davis provided a copy of the policy statement on compliance with anti-trust laws.

**III. Treasurer’s Report**

Treasurer Steve Cuvala provided a copy of the program’s financial statement of expenditures that have cleared to-date. Expenditures were related to the National Leadership Conference in Portland, the March Idaho Tree Farm Program’s annual meeting and registration fees for the Family Forestland conference.

A motion was made by Steve Funk and second by Ara Andrea for an audit. After the motion and Committee discussion it was determined that Chair Tom Davis will contact the National office on auditing procedures, and this item has been tabled until further guidance is provided to the Executive Committee by the ATFS staff.

The Treasurer’s report was unanimously approved as presented.

**IV. Idaho SFI Implementation Committee/Idaho Tree Farm Program Cooperative Agreement**

A draft working agreement between the Idaho SFI Committee and the Idaho Tree Farm Committee was provided to the group. Various concerns were raised on the title of the agreement and as to the status of the Committee to enter into an agreement; whether it was legally binding or not and whether Committee members would be individually liable. Additional points of concerns were raised and Vice-Chair Doug Bradetich agreed to contact ATFS for guidance on, but not limited to:

- Status of the other state Committees (IRS status as 501 c’s);
- State Committees responsibilities/liabilities;
- Directors and Officers insurance;
- State Committees being covered under AFF/ATFS insurance for state program field/conference events related to Tree Farm.

Furthermore, it was agreed that a short and simple document is favorable. Further concerns were raised related to the program as a whole and may require additional costs that the Committee will have to taken into consideration in moving the Idaho Tree Farm Program forward. Upon motion by Janet Funk and second by Steve Bloedel and unanimously agreed upon the agreement has been tabled until Doug contacts ATFS for further guidance to Committee members.

**V. 2012 National Leadership Conference**

The National Leadership conference was held February 14 – 16 in Portland, OR. Chair Tom Davis, Vice-Chair Doug Bradetich and Tree Farmer Janet Funk attended the conference representing the ITFC. Janet Funk's attendance was covered under the 2012 Educational Grant. Idaho Tree Farmers' Steve Funk and Kirk and Madeline David attended the conference on their own.

Conference highlights that were reported to the group was that ATFS developed a brand strategy booklet which is a good tool for landowners' as well as inspecting foresters' to promote the AFF and ATFS program. A portion, if not all, of the booklet is available on the [www.treefarmssystem.org](http://www.treefarmssystem.org) website to download for use.

State Committee's that hold functions under their Tree Farm Program can request to be added to the ATFS insurance rider for liability purposes when holding field tours on certified tree farm lands or attending conventions/trade-shows. The request needs to be received by ATFS 60-days prior to the event.

ATFS is looking into a dues structure under possibly two criteria's: 1) being a certified tree farm member with a management plan or 2) a supporter of ATFS. ATFS is still looking into how to define the two criteria's and more information will become available as the dues structure is developed.

Steve Funk reported that the core message of the Leadership Conference was that the Tree Farm Program should be primarily for, by and about Tree Farmers. There was an emphasis on finding ways to reach and energize new Tree Farm members.

**VI. AFF Fly-In**

In March, Steve and Janet Funk, along with 58 other participants, attended the AFF Fly-In in Washington, D.C. Steve and Janet were able to meet with the four Idaho Delegates who were receptive to the Funks' two-part message 1) to pass an Estate Tax that works for family forest owners and keeps the forest in the family, and 2) the proposed Tax Reduction Act for Agriculture and Forest Landowners has a stipulation that landowners would be unable to harvest trees for 10 years. This is NOT a solution for forest owners as it impedes active management.

In addition to these two concerns they touched on the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court point source pollution ruling. Few private forest owners would be able to afford the engineering that is called for in a point source scenario. Private forest owners who have Forest Management Plans and clearly follow Idaho Forest Practices Act should be in a non-point source category. Overall Steve and Janet Funk felt their time spent in Washington D.C. was well worth it in representing the American Forest Foundation and the Idaho Tree Farm Program.

**VII. Idaho Lands Resource Coordinating Council (ILRCC)**

The new Idaho Lands Resource Coordinating Council (ILRCC) held its first meeting on March 29<sup>th</sup> with a total of 22 participants, not including facilitators and IDL staff. Janet Funk is the ITFC representative and the ILRCC has charged her with obtaining five (5) questions of the ITFC to have answered regarding the formation and function of the ILRCC. The next ILRCC meeting will be held July 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> in Boise. Members were asked to forward their questions, if any, to Chair Tom Davis and cc: Janet Funk. Additional questions will be collected at the July 12<sup>th</sup> ITFC meeting for Janet to take with her. As an ILRCC member the Idaho Department of Lands will cover Janet's travel expenses to Boise.

**VIII. 2011 National "Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year" Sign**

Steve and Janet Funk, Steve Bloedel and Kirk David presented to the Committee a design and proposal from Silver Creek Signs to construct a sign panel honoring the recipients of the 2011 National "Outstanding Tree Farmers". The total cost of the sign is \$5,483.87 and they asked of the Committee to pay for a portion of the sign in the amount of \$3,150 (See "Attachment A").

A motion was made by Kirk David and second by Frank Gariglio to have the ITFC pay for the sign. The floor was open to discussion and there is hesitation on funding the lump sum, which would bring the program's operating fund to a

low balance restricting the Committee from funding other traditional forestry related events that have been done annually. Further discussion followed, and it was agreed upon, that the Chair would seek out potential partners who would help to offset the cost that the ITFC pays. Steve and Janet agreed that they would carry a “note” and that the ITFC could make payments to them if necessary. With a final Committee vote of seven (7) in favor and four (4) opposed the motion passed as presented.

**IX. Program Newsletter – Subcommittee/Volunteers for Quarterly Newsletters**

Madeline David presented to the group a proposal for a combined effort between IFOA and ITFC in publishing their own respective quarterly newsletters. This newsletter wouldn’t be a joint newsletter but would help in offsetting the costs of mailing. Madeline used the example of the Montana Tree Farm Program and Montana Forest Owners’ Association quarterly newsletter. The concern that remains with the quarterly newsletter is collecting the content and the proposal did not offer a solution. While articles are provided by ATFS at times they are time sensitive and no longer apply when the newsletter is written and distributed. Again, it was asked of Committee members to bring ideas to the table at the July meeting to help with content responsibilities. There was no further action taken with the proposal.

**X. Membership Drive**

As a part of the 2012 Capacity Building Grant funds are available in designing literature to help with outreach in enrolling potentially new forestland owners in counties throughout Idaho. Doug Bradetich presented a postcard example in achieving this goal and agreed to work with local advertising companies to work on sample postcards and requests for proposals.

Janet also brought up the concept of holding an open house with newly enrolled and already certified members of the ITFP who truly don’t know what the program is and why they are a member. This concept can be implemented either by individual District’s holding their own “meet and greets” or could be held in conjunction with the fall field tour in September. While this opportunity is already provided by the spring annual meeting and fall field tour more outreach is needed and agreed upon. This could possibly fall under the requirements for an educational grant in 2013 and the Committee will look into it further when grant applications become available. Action will be taken at the July meeting to discuss and approve 2013 Educational Grant ideas that will be presented.

**XI. Fall Field Tour**

The 2012 Fall field tour will take place in September on Gale and Patricia Akers’ Tree Farm who were recognized in March as the 2012 Idaho “Outstanding Tree Farmer’s of the Year”. Historically the field tour has been held in September, but Gale knew of an event/meeting that may be a conflict. A date will be sent at the Committee meeting in July.

**XII. Western Regional Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year Nomination**

Gale Akers expressed interest in his Tree Farm being submitted for consideration of the 2013 Regional Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year. Gale has already begun the application process with Tim Kylo, Doug Bradetich and Steve Bloedel and will bring the completed application to the October Committee meeting for members to vote on to fully endorse in submitting his application by the February 2013 deadline.

**XIII. District 1 Chair Vacancy**

Tim Kylo respectfully resigned as District 1 Chair. Chair Tom Davis and Vice-Chair Doug Bradetich contacted individuals they were familiar with seeking their interest in filling the vacancy. Doug received confirmation from Andy Eckberg of Idaho Forest Group that he would be willing to fill the position until 12/31/2012. Chair Tom Davis appointed Andy Eckberg as District 1 Chair.

**XIV. Tree Farm Management Plans**

Chair Tom Davis read email correspondence between him and Sarah Crowe (AFF). Sarah’s response, in general, was that no national level policy existed regarding plan-author compensation and each state determines this policy for itself (See Attachment “D”).

Madeline David presented to the group a white paper to help in guiding potential forestland owners who are interested in becoming Idaho Tree Farm members to meet the certification criteria in writing management plans if one does not exist. Committee Members who have edits to the guidance document are to send them to Madeline for incorporation and the document will be voted upon to adopt as the policy of the ITFC in July.

#### **XV. Other Business**

Current Tree Farm members Kirk and Madeline David submitted a request to be appointed on the ITFC. To adhere to the ITFP By-laws nominations are not currently open for consideration. Incoming 2013 Chair Doug Bradetich is currently collecting written letters from those who are interested in becoming Committee members in 2013-2014. The David's letter will be held for consideration in October when the new Committee slate will be voted on.

The next ITFC meeting will be held on Thursday, July 12<sup>th</sup> in Lewiston. The meeting location has yet to be determined. Frank Gariglio will look into the meeting room availability at the Idaho Fish & Game office and will confirm with either Tom Davis or Jennifer Childers. Doug Bradetich will look into organizing a tour at the Idaho Forest Group's sawmill in Lewiston to follow after the ITFC meeting.

On Tim Kylo's behalf Doug Bradetich presented nominations for the 2013 Idaho "Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year" and "Logger of the Year". A subcommittee of volunteers was organized to review and tour the nominees' forestlands or operating sites and bring recommendations to the full committee to vote on. Those that volunteered were Steve and Janet Funk, Steve Bloedel, Doug Bradetich and Don Heikkila. The subcommittee welcomes additional volunteers to help with the nominating process.

The National Tree Farmer Convention will be held June 14 – 16 in Jacksonville Florida.

#### **XVI. Adjournment**

With no further business and upon motion made by Doug Bradetich and second by David Brummer the meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Jennifer Childers