WEST VIRGINIA FORESTRY

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Associate Professor
Forest Operations Extension Specialist
Population -- 1.855 million or 29/km² – same as City of Brisbane (143/km²)
WV FOREST LANDOWNERS

• > 250,000 forest landowners
  – 83% NIPF
  – 10% Government
  – 7% Wood product companies

• > 80% of the timber harvested in West Virginia comes from NIPFs.
WV FOREST INDUSTRY

• Employs over 30,000 people
• $4 billion USD annually to economy
• 80% of all land is in forest
• 4.8 million forested hectares
• Over 2.8 million more hectares of forested land than in 1910
• 94% hardwood species
• Most stringent regulations in the eastern United States
ANNUAL OUTPUT

• 1.7 million m³ of lumber
• 72 million m² of OSB
• 74 million m² of Veneer
• 2.3 million tonnes Pulpwood

• But…. **COAL** rules the state...

> $30 Billion Economic Impact
PRODUCT BREAKDOWN

- Pulpwood: 31%
- Sawlog: 60%
- Veneer: 2%
- Miscellaneous: 7%
COMMON SPECIES

• Oak (Q. alba, Q. rubra)
• Cherry (Prunus serotina)
• Yellow poplar (Liriodendron tulipifera)
• Maple (Acer saccharum, A. rubrum)
• White ash (Fraxinus americana)
SCHOOL OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND EXTENSION SERVICE

@ WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY
DEGREE PROGRAMS

• 4 year degree (B.S.) programs
• 2 year M.S. programs
• Ph.D. programs

• 400 Students in the Forestry Programs
• 35 Faculty
MAJOR PROGRAMS

• Forest Resources Management
• Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Management
• Wildlife and Fisheries
• Wood Science
• Energy Land Management
3,101 ha
EXTENSION SERVICE

• Extension educators target communities’ social, economic, environmental and technical problems.
• Campus and distributed county personnel.
• Working daily with youth, local residents, businesses, and other stakeholders
• Commitment to helping people find answers that work.
• Translate WVU’s research and knowledge into action.
APPALACHIAN HARDWOOD CENTER

Outreach and Extension Education and Applied Research
WHAT IS THE AHC?

• Est. in 1987 by the West Virginia Legislature
  – provide technical and research support for the state’s wood products industry
• The AHC is a center of excellence for outreach; extension and technology transfer; professional development; and applied research
AHC VISION

To foster sustainable, natural resource-based economic and community development by:

1. Promoting and encouraging communication and partnerships among appropriate stakeholders
2. Conducting applied research
3. Providing unbiased and scientifically based technical knowledge, information, and educational programs.
AHC PROJECTS AND PRODUCTS

- Timber Market Report Survey (stumpage prices)
- Industry/Forester Directories
- Logging and mill production and utilization studies
- Biomass energy supply and support services
- Friends of Firewood
- Woodlands Welcome Wagon
Timber!

Harvesting Operations and Equipment
Rules and Regulations

• Must notify the state that you’ll be harvesting
• Logger must post their company name and license number
• Logger must have a Certified Logger on site when active
• Must follow all BMP’s

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Certification

• FSC – Forest Stewardship Council
• SFI – Sustainable Forestry Initiative (PEFC)
  • Tree Farm
Harvesting Equipment
Manual Felling

Mechanized Felling
Feller Buncher or “Timbco”
Skidding – Typical Systems

Cable Skidder

Grapple Skidder
Skid Trails
Skid Trail Reclamation
Landing

• Processing
• Sorting
• Loading
Processing – Slasher or Bucksaw
Slash/Cutoffs
Loading
Typical Log Trucks in West Virginia
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