



600 New Hampshire Avenue, NW
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Washington, DC 20037

Federal Forest Resource Coalition

Federal Forest Resource Coalition Announces New National Initiative: *Unique Coalition Brings Together Large, Small Businesses to Restore Forests and Sustain the Rural Economy.*

Washington – September 1st: The Federal Forest Resource Coalition today announced the opening of a permanent new presence in Washington, a key element in their efforts to improve the performance of Federal timber sale programs. Bill Imbergamo will serve as the Coalition's Executive Director.

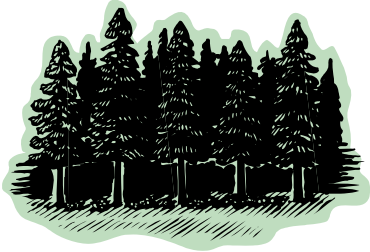
"The wood products industry depends on healthy forests for our livelihood. For too long, we've watched the Forest Service and other Federal lands adopt a passive approach to management which threatens our mills and the health of their forests," said Howard Hedstrom, President of Hedstrom Lumber in Grand Marais, Minnesota, who will serve as the Coalition's President. "Opening a Washington office gives our industry a strong voice for a conservation oriented timber sale program that can sustain crucial jobs in our rural communities."

"Our industry has been through extremely trying economic times. Many of our members are struggling to stay afloat. In spite of this, we feel it's critical to organize at the national level to fight for the active management our forests, and our rural communities, need," said Tom Partin, President of the American Forest Resource Council in Portland, Oregon, who will serve as the Coalition's Vice President.

"The Forest Service helped grow the sawmilling business along the Gulf Coast. By managing to meet the needs of our mills and the needs of our wildlife, the National Forests of the Southeast are among the Nation's ecological treasures," said Fred Stimpson, CEO of Scotch Gulf Lumber in Mobile, Alabama. "We're determined to sustain these forests and the livelihoods of our families. We need a national voice in Washington to accomplish this." Stimpson will serve as the Coalition's Secretary and Treasurer.

Bill Imbergamo brings over 20 years of Washington experience to the Coalition. Most recently, Imbergamo served as Senior Professional Staff to the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry. He has served in senior positions with the forest products industry and with the State Forestry agencies as well. Imbergamo is a ten year member of the Society of American Foresters, a 5-year Bronze Sponsor of Ducks Unlimited, and was appointed to the Virginia Board of Forestry in December, 2010.

The Federal Forest Resource Coalition is a unique national coalition made up of small and large companies and regional trade associations whose members manufacture wood products, paper, and renewable energy from Federal timber resources. With members in more than two dozen states, the Coalition is actively seeking new members to help build a national voice for sound management of our Federal forests. Coalition members employ over 350,000 workers in over 650 mills, with payroll in excess of \$19 billion. The Coalition will work with allied industry, conservation, and local government groups to support a growing and sustainable Federal timber program. The Coalition will be housed at the offices of the OFW Law Firm, which will continue to serve counsel and advocacy roles for the members. A complete list of the board of directors is on the next page.



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Federal Forest Resource Coalition Board of Directors:

James Bibler, Bibler Brothers Lumber, Russellville, Arkansas

Bob Boeh, Idaho Forest Group, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Mark Bosetti, Sierra Pacific Industries, Redding, California

Steve Brink, California Forestry Association, Sacramento, California

Rob Davis, Future Forest, Pinetop, Arizona

Buck Fullerton, Boise Cascade Wood Products LLC, La Grande, Oregon

Howard Hedstrom, Hedstrom Lumber, Grand Marais, Minnesota

Cameron Krauss, Swanson Group, Glendale, Oregon

Jim Neiman, Neiman Enterprises, Inc., Hulett, Wyoming

Tom Partin, American Forest Resource Council, Portland, Oregon

Chuck Rhoady, F.H. Stoltze Land & Lumber Company, Columbia Falls, Montana

Fred Stimpson, Scotch Gulf Lumber, Mobile, Alabama

Duane Vaagen, Vaagen Brothers Lumber, Colville, Washington

George Woodbury, Woodbury Enterprises, Wrangell, Alaska

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