

BRANCHING OUT

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Columbia's Resource Pool - working with You!

- Approximately 33,000 acres of FSC forestland
- About 60 million board-feet of timber and growing
- Winner of the Hardwood Forestry Fund's Gifford Pinchot Award for promoting sustainable forestry
- Rainforest Alliance 2010 "Corporate Sustainable Standard Setter"



**INNOVATOR OF PUREBOND®
FORMALDEHYDE-FREE
PLYWOOD TECHNOLOGY**

NEW FSC US STANDARD

On July 8 this year, the United States national office of the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC-US) announced the launch of the revised FSC-US Forest Management Standard for forest operations in the contiguous U.S. The revised standard has been approved by FSC International which requires all accredited forest management standards based on its 10 Principles and 56 Criteria to undergo a review and consider necessary revision every five years.

"We are thrilled to launch the new US Forest Management

Standard," said Corey Brinkema, President of FSC-US. "The revised standard captures the on-the-ground practices that represent genuine forest stewardship and provide the foundation for FSC-certified forestry in the U.S. The completion of this effort, coupled with accelerating adoption by American retailers and manufacturers, provides a fantastic opportunity for promoting the values of forest stewardship and FSC with the American consumer."

The revised US Standard marks the end of a three year review and revision process concern-

trating on the myriad environmental, social, and economic values associated with forests and forest products. The revised standard harmonizes nine regional standards into one national standard to reduce complexity and improve efficiencies in the management and auditing process. Regional variation is maintained in key areas of forest management and conservation where local conditions, including forest types and ecological processes, warrant different management techniques.

From FSC-US News and Media

2010 BANNER YEAR FOR MAST PRODUCTION

If you have spent time in the woods this fall, you have probably noticed that mast: acorns, hickory nuts, walnuts, etc, are covering the ground like a blanket across the Appalachian region this year. 2009 mast production was poor by historical standards, but 2010 has rebounded across most states. This year's crop may spoil efforts to attract wildlife to your property through food plots, especially if there are abundant white oak acorns littering the forest floor.

According to the West Virginia 2010 Mast Survey, acorn crops

this year were up 100 percent, with chestnut oak and white oak up about 300 percent. This survey covers 353 locations across the state. Deer, bear, turkey, and squirrel depend on hard mast for food.

Soft mast (apples, cherries, hawthorn, grape, etc) was up marginally in the region. This type of mast is important to turkey and grouse. Black cherry mast improved 100 percent over last year and apple species showed about a 200 percent increase.

Due to the harsh winter of 2009, the dry summer this year, and the heavy mast production this fall, WV expects wildlife harvests for deer, squirrel, rabbit, and wild boar to be lower, while harvests of bear, wild turkey, and ruffed grouse are expected to be higher. You can find out more in the 2010 WV Mast Survey.



WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT CALENDAR OCTOBER

Establish food plots, clean up fire breaks, erect bluebird boxes, and enjoy hunting whitetail deer

Condensed from the Wildlife Management Calendar from Craig Harper, Professor of Wildlife at University of Tennessee. In the month of October, you should plan to:

- Now is the best time to kill cool season grasses such as fescue and orchard grass, in preparation to plant native warm season grasses in the spring
- Burn and disc old fields and early successional habitat to create brooding cover for wild turkey and ruffed grouse, and deer browse in the spring

- Prepare fire breaks by disking now and planting grasses or forbs
- October is a good time to remove unwanted trees as part of your Timber Stand Improvement (TSI). Using hack and squirt methods will produce good results. See local extension in your state for pesticide recommendations and rates
- Build brush piles from pruned limbs and thinned trees
- Sow winter wheat along the edges of flooded fields to

- provide forage for migrating Canada geese
- Deer season is here; make sure you have posted your property and adhere to your Quality Deer Management (QDM) plan. You can find out more about managing the health and quality of your deer by reading about QDM at state extension's online articles.
- Think about allowing bucks to reach 3 1/2 years of age before harvesting. You may have to harvest more does to control population and improve health

HEMLOCK WOOLY ADELGID

Condensed from UT Extension, "The Hemlock Wooly Adelgid: A Threat to Hemlock in Tennessee," SP503-G.

By now you have probably heard about Hemlock Wooly Adelgid (HWA). This forest pest is rapidly killing hemlock trees in the Appalachian region, particularly in North Carolina and Tennessee. It is becoming more of a problem in Virginia, Kentucky and West Virginia as well.

You can readily identify HWA attacks by the small white masses near the bases of twigs and leaves that the adelgids use for winter protection. Hemlock trees under attack also begin to become a duller green color that stands out from healthy hemlocks. Prolonged attack after one or two years causes needle drop and branch die-back.

Fortunately, there are options for control of this pest. State extension recommends the use of horticulture oil and insecticidal soap for young trees less than 20 feet tall. You can spray insecticidal soap year round. You must cover all the foliage and evaluate the results after a week.

Horticultural oil is best applied as a 1 percent solution from May through September. A 2 percent solution can be used from October to April.

For larger trees, you may need to do a root soak, or root injection.

State extension recommends imidacloprid, found in Bayer's tree and shrub insect control. A gallon of this mixture usually costs around \$70.

Root soaks, or soil drenches are best applied from mid-March through mid-June. Follow directions on the label based on tree diameter. You can also spray imidacloprid directly on the tree from mid-May through mid-June.

For more information, contact your local extension agent.

A 2 % solution of horticulture oil can be used from October to April on hemlocks infested with HWA

Picture: White masses of HWA on Hemlock.



HIGH CONSERVATION VALUE FOREST

High Conservation Value Forests (HCVF) are those forests

that contain or are essential to maintaining High Conservation Values. High Conservation Values include environmental and social values that are considered to be of outstanding significance or critical

importance. Examples include concentrations of endangered species, protection of a stream that is the sole source of water to a local community, or a site with religious significance.

Depending on the value identified, a HCVF may be part of a larger forest management unit, for example a sacred burial site, or the whole of a forest management unit, for example when the forest contains several endan-

gered species throughout the forest management unit.

FSC certification ensures that High Conservation Values are identified and maintained or enhanced in forests where they occur. FSC certification thus ensures that management decisions in certified forests are consistent with the protection of these critical social and environmental values.

Columbia’s resource managers are trained to identify HCVF’s on the tracts that are in Columbia’s resource pool. Tracts are evaluated based on timber types, threatened or endangered species or habitat, water and mineral resources, and social concerns such as indigenous peoples’

rights to resources. Columbia also relies on natural resource professionals from organizations such as the State Natural Heritages to help identify HCVF attributes.

Condensed from “FSC and High Conservation Value Forests”, and FSC publication

FSC certification ensures that HCVF’s are identified and maintained in forests where they occur.

YELLOW-POPLAR

Columbia uses the most abundant tree species in the regions near their mills to ensure an adequate supply without over-using natural resources. In the southeast region, this species is yellow-poplar or the tulip tree.

Yellow-poplar is easily identified by its 4-pointed leaf and light gray bark. It commonly reaches 100 feet in height or more. Yellow-poplar is often the first tree to sprout in areas where timbering has occurred, or when fields are no longer being tended for agriculture. It commonly grows in nearly pure stands and prefers moist soils and cove sites.

The name “tulip tree” refers to the yellow-green flower it

makes in the spring. Once pollinated, the flowers produce winged carpels, or what most kids refer to as “helicopters” in



the fall and winter. The spinning seeds can be carried great distances in the wind and remain viable in the ground for

up to seven years.

Yellow-poplar must have full sunlight and generally does not survive long in shade. It turns yellow in the fall, which may have contributed to its name.

Deer will eat yellow-poplar seedlings and the young stands provide excellent wildlife cover. Small animals like squirrels, chipmunks, and birds consume the seeds in the winter. Yellow-poplar is valued as a honey tree.

Yellow-poplar is used for lumber, furniture parts, veneer, and pulpwood. Columbia uses this wood to build our plywood and it is the preferred plywood species for many craftsmen and home-builders.

“If your knees are not green by the end of the day, you ought to seriously re-examine your life.”

Bill Waterston,
“Calvin and Hobbes”



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COLUMBIA AWARDS IN 2010

Gifford Pinchot Award

The Hardwood Forestry Fund announced at the 2010 International Woodworking Fair in Atlanta that Columbia Forest Products is the 2010 recipient of the Gifford Pinchot Award. The HFF's Gifford Pinchot Award recognizes significant corporate achievements in promoting sustainable forestry.

Hardwood Forestry Fund Chairman Rick Philipps says, "Columbia's corporate efforts made their nomination shine. Extensive education and training for employees, private landowners, and students; active and leadership roles in forest products certification; longtime

tree replacement efforts with the HFF; increased efficiencies in resource acquisition and manufacturing; leadership with associations and coalitions to promote legal and sustainable practices in the forest products industry. The HFF is proud to recognize Columbia Forest Products for these achievements."

Corporate Sustainable Standard Setter

The honor recognizes companies that have worked with the Rainforest Alliance and exhibited outstanding leadership in efforts to promote sustainability.

Tensie Whelan, president of the Rainforest Alliance, said "Columbia

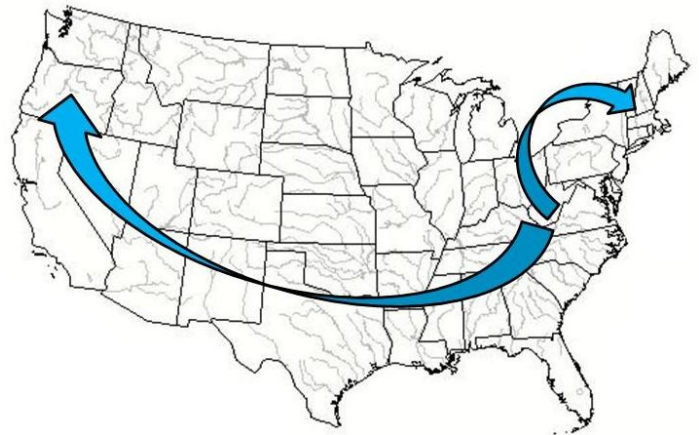
Forest Products is one of those companies that truly understands the principles of sustainability, integrating them into the core of its business practices. We consider the company to be a leader in its field."

Columbia leads the industry with:

- Rainforest Alliance's SmartWood certified forestry program
- Management plans for private landowners practicing sustainable forestry
- PureBond formaldehyde-free technology in all their hardwood plywood

COLUMBIA RESOURCE POOL

Columbia manages forest resources in the Appalachian region from South Carolina through West Virginia. Thanks to the new FSC US Standard, the process for managing forests outside of this region has been greatly simplified. Now Columbia is in the process of expanding our resource pool across the us, starting with several thousand acres in Oregon, near our oldest plywood mill.



WE'RE ON THE WEB!

You can visit our site at: www.cfpwood.com. Please come by on occasion and look for our forestry section for landowners.