

LEGISLATIVE & AGENCY ISSUES SURVEY RESULTS
SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY CONFERENCE 2010
Logger & Trucker results

1. Circle what profession(s) best describes you?

Logging—29

Trucking—2

2. What state is your business/agency located in:

WI—10

MI—18

County WI

Florence—3

Forest—5

Marinette—2

County MI

Dickinson—1

Iron—14

Menominee—1

Ontanagon—1

3. Rank the following issues: #1 is the most significant barrier to economic success for the Forest Products Industry down to #12 being the least significant barrier.

ISSUE	RATE	ISSUE	RATE
High energy costs	4.5	Foreign competition	6.2
High fuel costs	2.9	Lack of capital for new equipment	6.7
High workers comp rates	5.7	Lack of stumpage for sale	5.5
Lack of markets for lumber/products	4.9	Higher taxes and fees	5.1
Lack of markets for pulpwood/logs	3.4	Higher insurance costs	4.1
Lack of qualified labor force	6.2		
<i>Other:*</i>			
High cost of repair parts		USDA Forest Service	

4. Rank the following issues: #1 is the most hindering regulation down to #8 being the least hindering regulation.

ISSUE	RATE	ISSUE	RATE
Air quality regulations	4.9	Water permitting regulations	4.3
Transportation regulations	3.0	Invasive species regulations	3.8
Forest certification regulations	4.9	Biomass harvesting regulations	5.8
Low timber harvest targets- nat'l forests	2.8		
<i>Other:*</i>			
Endangered Species Act		Markets	
All of these issues are adding more cost at the logger's expense.			

* Grayed areas represent "other" ideas. Typically one vote per idea.

5. Rank the following items: #1 is the most concerning long term issue to the survival and growth of the Forest Products Industry down to #10 being the least concerning.

ISSUE	RATE	ISSUE	RATE
Shrinking workforce	5.1	Untrained workforce	5.7
Forest health issues	4.2	Smaller private land parcel sizes	4.6
Lower harvests on national forests	3.2	Competition from global suppliers	3.4
Continuing loss of railroad services	5	Climate change issues	6.9
Poor forest regeneration due to deer	6		
<i>Other:</i>			
Need to cut more national forests.		Remove Federal control of timberland.	
Markets			

6. Rank the following items: #1 is the most serious forest health issue down to #10 being the least serious forest health issue.

ISSUE	RATE	ISSUE	RATE
Insect damage	2.6	Climate change	6.2
Drought	3.6	Lack of forest management	4.1
Deer over browsing	5	Competition from exotic plants	6.7
Other tree diseases	3.7	Recreational access	7
Soil compaction	6.7		
<i>Other:</i>			
Invasive insects		Soil Fertility	
Government involvement			

* Grayed areas represent “other” ideas. Typically one vote per idea.

7. Which two items should your federal legislators accomplish in order to most improve the business climate for the Forest products Industry?

- Get rid of environmentalists.
- Timber supply. Use BCAD money to build plants that use biomass rather than subsidize loggers.
- No subsidies e.g. biomass. Financial assistance for wood utilizing facility and wood harvest and transport.
- Remove federal control of forest land.
- Fuel cost, higher insurance cost.
- Open up more US timber sales. Stop allowing endangered species b. s. Stop logging and associated industries.
- Open fed land.
- Deer! Shoot all deer! Recreation—Flatlanders Stay home!
- More stumpage on federal land.
- Foreign competition, better forest management—Federal government. Operating cost.

7. Which two items should your federal legislators accomplish in order to most improve the business climate for the Forest products Industry? (continued)

- Limit overseas trade. Impose tariffs.
- Open up National Forest to cutting and managed like it should be.
- Lower fuel rates. Put up more sales.
- Stop wood imports. Lowering fuel costs.
- Fuel/insurance costs. Develop markets, overseas competition—regulate.
- Release more Federal timber sales. Have more Federal control of insurance Costs are too high!! Feds should do something about it.
- Lower taxes, fuel costs, less regulations. Harvest National Forest land.
- Business climate in the US is very bad. Lower taxes, less regulations (get out of the way).
- Open National forests to more harvesting.
- Less regulation. More management. Fuel Costs.
- More Government sales subsidy's.

8. Which two items should your state legislators accomplish in order to most improve the business climate for the Forest Products Industry?

- Cost down—price for product up.
- Timber supply. Level playing field by enforcing labor laws.
- Land use planning. Insurance & tax issues.
- Take the national forest areas away from the federal government.
- Fuel cost, higher insurance cost.
- Look into establishing more outlets for poor quality wood such as power plants, etc. Look at workman's comp laws.
- Cut taxes.
- National Forest. Rail Road.
- Tax breaks for the forest industry. Less regulation on trucking.
- Pass laws to help not hinder loggers to get wood products from the stump to the mill. Low interest loans for the logger. Not just the Farmer. Trucking rates, Insurance.
- Use railroads for shipment. Lowering fuel costs.
- More state sales & subsidize fuel, etc.
- Regulate costs, insurance & fuels.
- Make state timber sales more affordable to the smaller loggers. Make sales more appealing to small loggers, not just favoring larger loggers firms.
- Lower business taxes, less regulations.
- Get rid of single business tax in MI.
- Address the weighted timber or USDA lands.

9. Which two items should your federal legislators accomplish in order to most improve forest health issues?

- Get rid of the beetles
- Cut more fed wood.
- Dollars for research. Demand better utilization of forest products.
- Competition from global suppliers. Smaller private land parcel sizes.
- Find ways to kill or stop invasive species from attacking our forests. Stop listening to the anti's unless you want to totally ruin our forest industry.
- Water, bugs.
- Inact a much more aggressive harvest program on the National Forest Lands.
- Manage the National Forest and do I care about the tree huggers?

**9. Which two items should your federal legislators accomplish in order to most improve forest health issues?
(continued)**

- Get rid of diseased trees. More plantations.
- Don't worry about plants for deer.
- Disease control.
- Open up more state/Fed land to logging.
- Do studies on soil fertility before & after harvesting. Encourage more studies on utilizing poor sites for replanting.
- Less regulations, open National forest land for harvesting.
- Don't regulate it. Manage it.

Address the mismanagement of Federal Forest and the waste in the resource.

10. Which two items should your state legislators accomplish in order to most improve forest health issues?

- Give private landowners more incentive to cut timber. "tax credits"
- Encourage more active management of forest. More dollars for research and coop extension.
- Competition from global suppliers. Smaller private land parcel sizes.
- Have research funds available to combat invasive species or on immediate notice. Have a system to rate landowner & loggers so the public know who is who.
- New president of the United States of America.
- Inact a much more aggressive harvest program on the State/DNR/County lands.
- Work more with the loggers. Meeting and work with the Federal to open up the National Forest.
- Get rid of diseased trees. More plantations.
- Don't worry about plants or deer.
- Disease control . Programs for private landowners.
- Totally prohibit the use of tree length logging, in Northern Hardwood stands. Encourage more manual means of harvesting.
- Less regulations, cut more state sales. Let us do our job.
- Fuel.

11. What can your local government do to help you accomplish your goals?

- Start listening to the people they work for.
- Weight laws on township roads. Understand importance of forest to local community.
- Cut fuel cost. Make an environment friendly system that a logger or landowner can feel comfortable to access and present problems with answers available. Mind their own business.
- Work with us.
- Work with loggers on weight limits on town roads.
- Work with the Federal to open up the National Forest.
- Get rid of diseased trees. More plantations.
- Set up sales instead of letting trees die.
- Work closer with private landowners on access issues.
- Lift the load restrictions when they can be so that loggers ca be back to work and can do their part in the economics of the area.
- Reduce taxes, less regulations. Let us do our job.
- Better road management. More jobs.