

LOGGERS WORLD

VOLUME 48 NUMBER 10

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OCTOBER 2012

"We've Been Lucky"

MR. TIMBER

JOSEPH, OREGON

SEE PAGE 6

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Finley's Rigging Shack "Classic"



(This column originally appeared in the October 1973 edition of *Loggers World*.)

I found a fine book called "Far Corner" by Stewart Holbrook. It says on the cover, "A personal view of the Pacific Northwest including certain places no longer found." According to the Eugene Register Guard it is, "one of the best books ever written about the Pacific Northwest."

I read the following paragraph, "I wanted to know who had named 'Pluvius'. Nobody knew. Months later I found a man who had been there when the railroad was built. He said there had been but a single resident then, a testy old man who had taken a homestead years before and had continued to stay on after he had proved-up. Why he remained was a mystery, for he cursed the spot with malignant eloquence. Said he never sat down to breakfast until he had consigned it anew to all the devils in Hell. He told my informant that right there in Pluvius, he had seen it rain for 362 consecutive days, and recalled that the other three days 'was goddamn cloudy'. So he named it, and Pluvius it was and is."

After reading this I had to go and look up the word Pluvius. Dictionary said "Rainy. Pertaining to rain."

Now if you like your history of the Northwest in such a manner be sure to buy this paperback book. It is fast, interesting and quirky. Stewart Holbrook was a master and no book of his proves that statement more than "Far Corner."

Big Sam

"Big Sam" by Sam Churchill is now out in paperback. Would advise you to buy several copies at the new low, low price. Give some to friends, keep two for yourself. Keep one out to read and keep one safely hidden and never never reveal its hiding place so that you can be sure of

having your own personal copy after your other one is stolen. People steal "Big Sam", you know. People that wouldn't ever ever steal a single other thing. So be well supplied or carry your copy in your hind pocket right next to your pistol.

Stewart Holbrook

He has a way with words and description that has excited my admiration, respect and envy for many years. Never did get to know him but that bothered me more than it did him.

He is the sort of fellow who could write a novel about a little place back in the valley. He could write it and you'd stay up all night to read it at least I would.

And that brings me up to the man who could use words in a way that would delight me more than anyone else could and that was...

Mark Twain

A short time ago they had a movie about him on television. Started at 10:30 which is about half an hour after I should be in bed. Stayed up and watched it and felt it time well spent.

Next day wasn't so sure.

Logging books

I had a guy make a special trip of over fifteen feet to ask me why we didn't do a book about the history of logging. Well, there are several reasons why I don't want to. One of them, and the most important, is that I'm scared.

I'm scared of getting shot or pummeled or smashed or mashed. I find that old time loggers are pretty fierce when they are telling you the "honest to God truth". Yet I've never found two old time loggers that could agree on anything. Most of them can't agree with themselves from hour to hour. I've heard about the first spar tree and the first bull block and the first "Cat" and the first time logging trucks were used. I've had the gospel on the biggest log moved by bulls; on the highest trestle; on the tallest spar tree. I've had the gospel about these things and more. I've got

the true word on the "biggests" and the "firsts" and the "mostests" time and time again and from different people and no two "truths" are the same.

You ain't ever going to catch me making any representations about any of these things. I don't know many things for sure and am not certain what they are.

Must take a lot of guts to write history. I'm going to pass up this opportunity.

Logging

"Logging"-now there is a word. Quite a word. One that paints different pictures in different minds. If ever a word flashed a picture into the heads of all who heard it, this is the word. Not to mention "logger".

I don't believe that any two descriptions of logger and logging by any two loggers will be the same-not over 85% the same and then only on Sunday afternoon. That would be two loggers from the same area-neighboring loggers.

Now move around and get descriptions from different areas. They get farther and farther apart although there is a thread of concrete running

down the middle. Sometimes a wide strip and sometimes a little thin thread. Now move around outside the industry and talk to the guy at the service station and the storekeeper in a logging area. More and more difference, in fact it sometimes gets weird and most amusing.

Now move to downtown Seattle and pretend you are the man on the street and ask some passerby what a logger is. Caution him before answering that he cannot swear. If he can answer at all under that handicap you will get a different

picture than the one you have held for years based on your experience and first-hand observation. Interesting!

What's the point of all this? There isn't any.

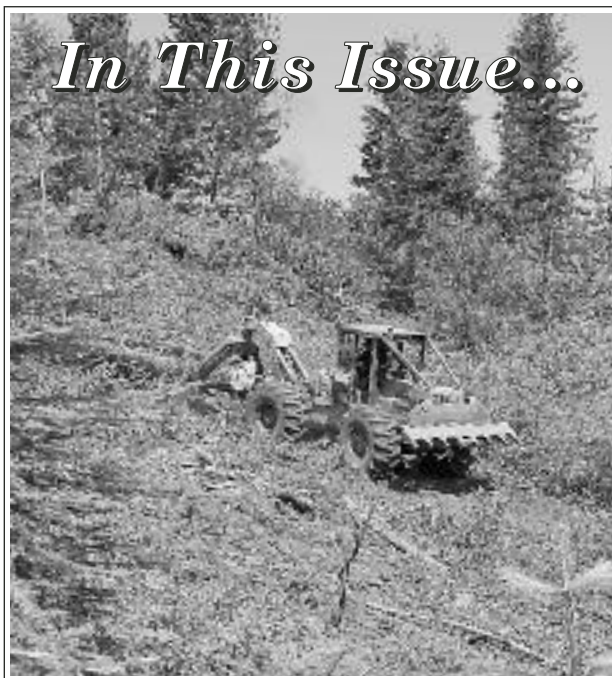
My office

My office excites some comment from visitors. Not all of the comment is unfavorable. Two walls are lined with pegboard. Purpose is to hang things on the wall. Two walls are lined with paneling. Things must be nailed to these walls.

On the walls are taped six pages of a calendar

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See "Rigging Shack"

In This Issue...



FRONT COVER PICTURE: GARY WITHERWRITE brings a turn down the hillside with Mr. Timber's 1990 Caterpillar 518 fixed grapple skidder he was running on that day. He's a cousin to the company's owner Mike Witherwrite and has 30 years in logging, with a brief interruption while serving in the Marines. He joined the crew four years ago, and typically runs the newer Cat 525B grapple skidder. The company consists of three full time and one part time (Friday's only) logger and run a very tight and productive ship.

See "We've Been Lucky" starting on Page 6

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Rigging Shack

(Continued from Page 2)

for 1973. Each page holds two months. As a day passes I mark this event with a big black "X" thru the date. Much as a prisoner does. But for a different purpose. This morning I marked thru the first of September. There are only two pages of the 1973 calendar left (four months).

Scheduled events are marked in their proper dates. The second Saturday of every month is marked because that is when the Washington Contract Loggers Association hold their Board of Directors meeting. Printing dates, meeting dates, logging show dates, and indeed all special events are available at a glance. The first three days in September are marked out for the closing days of the big big logging sports show at the P.N.E. in Vancouver, B.C. In spite of planning and wanting and

hoping and wishing wasn't able to make it again this year. Which makes about the fifth year running that I missed this event.

This year thought sure I'd make it. Had commissioned Earl Roberge to get the October paper full on information about the tussock moth from the eastern Washington and eastern Oregon logging country. Earl wasn't able to make it. This blew up my personal schedule.

There is another date that is shadowed in red ink. That is the 22nd day of September. On that date Hap Johnson, Phil Johnson and probably George Oller depart on a moose hunting trip to Northern Alberta. They are taking blocks and tackle, and much other equipment. They are taking a pair of the ground hugging all-terrain vehicles that have ever been built.

They are going 35 miles into the back country, where there are ten thousand moose who have never seen a human being. They will use

trails where they exist and make trails where there are none. This is going to be a real hunting trip. I won't be there.

Not playing "pity poor me" because I have many, many things to do that are both exciting and interesting. One thing any person learns before the mantle of many years fits upon his shoulders is that one can't do everything he wants to. Second choice is this case is still pretty darned good.

So although the system of putting up big calendars and marking upcoming events works pretty good it isn't perfect of proof against this fool. But without the scheduling where would one be? Future planning is a necessity for any degree of efficiency. Yet one must be aware that things come along to wreck the best of plans. Then flexibility enters in-plan with flexibility because your plans are going to need changing and fixing.

To me an office is same as a shop.

It is built to work in and it is supposed first of all to be functional. If it can be functional and still be handsome, then fine. If it must be one or the other, or if it must be more one than the other then by all means let it be functional. My office is messy. Not handsome.

For instance I have 30 feet of bench table running down one end and along the wall. This is usually stacked and cluttered with papers pictures and such. I have one large table in the middle of the room that is usually covered with pictures, mail, magazines and so forth. I have a large desk that at the moment looks like a cyclone deposited odds and ends from four homes upon it. A cabinet or two, a couple of file drawers, two packboards, a paper rack, a rifle standing in the corner plus dozens of bags and cases for cameras and such finish up the room.

All unanswered mail stays atop my desk until it gets answered. If I file it I lose it. The table tops are cleaned up periodically and re piled and re-shuffled and then when we start a new paper it again takes on that look of carefully arranged chaos. Everything I am working on is out in the open and in the clear. If I file it, it is gone.

I am a student of time organization. Not terribly successful at it, you understand, but keep pecking away at improvements and better systems. My big impairment in this area is a lack of energy much of the time. This is caused by acute laziness spread over two thirds of any given day.

Now I hold it to be a big victory to accomplish as much as I do in the face of the roadblocks imposed by a negative state of mind married to a condition of general inertia. My accomplishments don't stack up very high against most people's achievements, but they are considerable when measured against the defects mentioned and a contrary nature that becomes savage in the face of any sort of work or discipline.

So study, scheduling and learning bring me up to a level of depressing mediocrity. And I have to struggle like the devil to stay there.

If left to my natural tendencies almost any suggestion or idea that requires any action, effort or work will get short consideration. I'd much rather just let things be and my natural reaction is that "it isn't worth the trouble."

So my victory is not in achieving great things but instead is in getting anything done.

Think I'll go and watch a baseball game or something.



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Summary Judgment....

University of Colorado's Dubious commitment to Safety

by William Perry Pendley

Late last month the University of Colorado (CU) made national news with its decision to segregate students who hold concealed carry permits in their own dormitory. CU's latest announcement on the subject-CU floated a different idea in April-comes in response to CU's stunning defeat at the Colorado Supreme Court in March 2012. That is when a unanimous court held, "[T]he [Colorado Concealed Carry Act's] comprehensive statewide purpose, broad language, and narrow exclusions show that the General Assembly intended to divest the [CU] Board of Regents of its authority to regulate concealed handgun possession on campus."

The lawsuit that yielded the ruling was filed in December 2008 by a national group with 43,000 members, Students for Concealed Carry on Campus, and three members-one a female-from CU's Boulder,

Denver, and Colorado Springs campuses. In April 2009, a state district court dismissed the case, but in April 2010, a unanimous Colorado Court of Appeals reversed, holding, "Had the legislature intended to exempt [CU], it knew how to do so." Days earlier, a television station reported that "several people were attacked and robbed on [CU's Denver] campus or inside their dorm rooms," and "2 students were stabbed with a hatchet." The day after the ruling, the FBI, Secret Service, and the U.S. Department of Education reported targeted violence on college campuses was up sharply over the last two decades.

Despite "friend of the court" assistance from several anti-gun groups that filed a brief at the Colorado Supreme Court in support of CU's position and notwithstanding the court's reported liberal bent, CU lost resoundingly. Nonetheless,

the litigation is not yet complete; it now returns to the El Paso County district court for entry of judgment against CU and, if necessary, for a ruling on CU's ability to implement its evolving regulations to snatch victory from the jaws of defeat.

CU clearly does not like guns, even in the possession of those who pass the rigorous requirements imposed by the Colorado Concealed Carry Act as implemented by county sheriffs across the State. Firearms on campus, CU concluded and then argued in its briefs, "seriously undermines its academic mission, 'threatens the tranquility of the educational environment,' and 'contributes in an offensive manner to an unacceptable climate of violence.'" Averred CU, it alone possesses the "constitutional and statutory power[] to govern the University and pass regulations designed to promote the safety of students, employees, and campus visitors."

Ironically, CU's words ring hollow today, given criminal court proceedings regarding a former CU student who posed a real danger to himself and others. As the world now knows, on July 21, a former CU student slipped unseen into a midnight showing in a crowded Aurora theater; when he emerged, twelve people lay dead or dying and 58 people were wounded. In days, the media reported that he had been under the care of a CU mental

health professional. What is not known is when did CU employees learn of the danger the student posed, to whom did they convey the information, and what action, if any, did they take to protect human life?

All the facts about CU and its former student are under a gag order; but, days ago a Colorado prosecutor asserted that CU knew, not in June, when the student dropped out of school and, as a non-student, had his key card deactivated, but in March. Thus, CU's apparent treatment of a threat posed by a potentially psychotic killer differed markedly from its attitude, at least prior to the March ruling, toward the non-existent threat from students with concealed carry permits. Alas, CU has posted a notice that it will bar permit-holders exercising their rights under Colorado law from any CU "concert, athletic event, or performance," the very type of venue in Aurora, Colorado that declares itself "gun-free" and did so to the deadly detriment of innocent movie-goers one terrible night in July.



Mr. Pendley, a Wyoming attorney, is President and Chief Legal Officer of Mountain States Legal Foundation and a regular columnist in Loggers World.

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As We See It....

Is Our Government Working?

5

OCTOBER 2012

LOGGERS WORLD

Well, it is September and at the end of this month a new fiscal year will begin for the government of the United States of America. When the American Loggers Council and its many allied associations around the country look back on fiscal year 2012, we can be proud of the many legislative accomplishments of the nation's forest products industry. Substantive bills have progressed through authorizing committees and several important measures were successfully placed on the Interior Appropriations Bill that would help our struggling industry and represent small, but important, steps toward improved management of the nation's forests. But, is this cause for celebration? Unfortunately, the answer is a resounding "NO" because Congress is not functioning as it was intended by the founding fathers. Something must change!

Let's look at some of our significant legislative initiatives of the past year. H.R. 2541 the Silvicultural Regulatory Consistency Act would amend the Clean Water Act in a manner that makes it perfectly clear that all forest management activities are exempt from the NPDES permitting requirements for point sources of pollution. It would effectively reverse the Ninth Circuit Court's decision to the contrary. It was approved and passed out of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

Substantive legislation to redirect the management of our federal forests and to reconnect the funding or rural counties to the management of surrounding forests was introduced, heard by committees and even approved for floor votes. Not the least of which was H.R. 4019 the County,

Schools and Revenue Trust for the National Forest System Act introduced by the Chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee Doc Hastings (R-WA). It passed his committee and awaits floor action. Similar legislation was introduced by Idaho Congressman Raul Labrador and Wyoming Senator John Barrasso and Oregon Congressmen Walden, DeFazio and Schrader. All are good legislative measures. All are stalled in congressional gridlock.



JIM GEISINGER
Chairman, ALC
Legislative
Committee

A terrible fire season produced a number of legislative initiatives to restore healthy forests and to expedite the salvage of forests destroyed by catastrophic fire. Legislation was introduced by members of Congress from Colorado, Arizona and even Massachusetts to address this growing concern. Each was the subject of a hearing in the House Natural Resources Committee. Each is awaiting further action.

The House of Representatives actually passed the Interior Appropriations bill to fund the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and a number of other natural resource management and regulatory agencies. It had good stuff in it. While it would cut the budgets for most agencies, most notably the Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, it increased funding for forest management and hazardous fuels reduction. It included provisions authorizing the use of "designation by description" for timber sales; it exempted Categorical Exclusions from administrative appeals; it would allow continued use of the 1982 Forest Planning Rule rather than the disastrous new rules recently approved for use; it would give states the ability to invest in the manage-

ment of federal forests through an expansion of the "Good Neighbor Authority" currently limited to the State of Colorado; and it would have provided relief from implementing the Ninth Circuit Court's decision on Clean Water Act permits for forest road use. All great ideas, but this bill will not be heard in the Senate. Our nation will be funded by a Continuing Resolution until next March.

The House Agriculture Committee approved a new Farm Bill that included many provisions important to our industry. Richard Schwab from Florida represented ALC in presenting testimony before a subcommittee addressing biomass provisions in the

bill. The committee-passed bill included an extension of Stewardship Contracting authority through 2017; it expanded the "Good Neighbor Authority" nationwide so states could invest in fuel reduction projects on the national forests; it expanded to 10,000 acres the designation of "critical areas" for special expedited treatment; and it authorized the hiring of Forest Service retirees for technical expertise. It is waiting for floor approval.

These are all accomplishments for which the forest products industry should be proud. But, to borrow a foot-

(Continued on Page 19)
See "As We See It"

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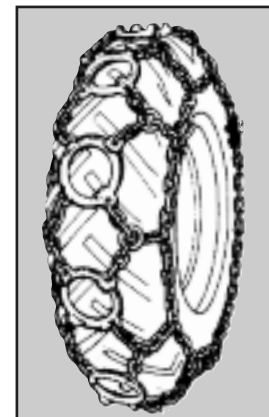
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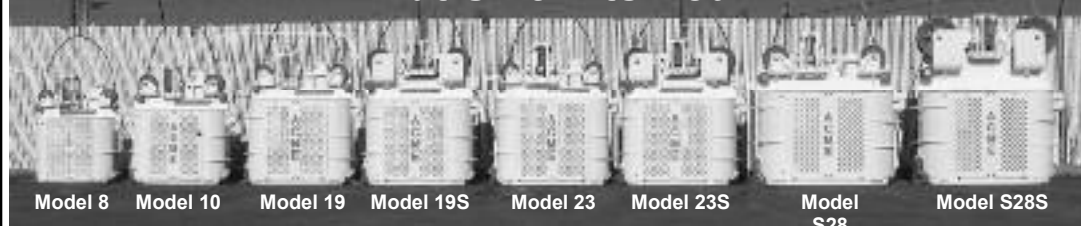
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MIKE AND DIANE WITHERWRITE at the end of their day before he changes irrigation on his 25-acres of “mostly” pasture, and Diane takes care of the horses. Witherwrite started logging out of high school, became a subcontractor in ‘90, which evolved into Mr. Timber and contracting on his own in ‘93, then as sole proprietor in 2006.

“WE’VE BEEN LUCKY”

MR. TIMBER JOSEPH, OREGON

by Mike Crouse

“**O**ur family came out in 1858 to Oregon from Pennsylvania,” explained Mike Witherwrite, where they settled in the Ontario area in 1858 where they lived until Lyle Witherwrite moved to Imnaha, near Joseph when his son, Jerry was a three year old. “Lyle did a little bit of farming, grew pigs, turkeys, had a small sawmill and did some logging,” Witherwrite explained, “...doing whatever to get by.”

His son Jerry entered the work force after high school, “...driving log truck for 20-25 years,” Witherwrite explained, “working for several companies,” then “...bought a self-loader in the late 70s,” and drove that as an independent contractor “for probably 6-8 years, and he retired.”

“It was about the time he bought the self-loader,” the family moved down the road to the larger town of Joseph, Witherwrite explained. “The school there (at Imnaha) just went to 8th grade, so we moved out here and I went to 8th here (through high school). With sports and such, it was better for school.”

Growing up in the natural resources based community gave the young Witherwrite a lot of exposure both on the farm, and out in the woods, although he hadn’t literally worked in the woods until after high school.

A career path

“**I**’d had no intention of going to college,” Witherwrite explained, and typical of a lot of high schoolers, “I had no real idea,” of what he wanted to do. “At that time you could get a job in the woods and it paid well for that time. There was lots of work available.”

That ultimately led to a life-changing job in the woods for logger Bob Zacharias (Zacharias Logging, Inc.). Witherwrite had spent time hanging out at work with his brother-in-law, Jim Zacharias (Bob’s son), and discovered he enjoyed being out in woods, but had never worked there before this.

“I started out bumping knots and I was green,” Witherwrite noted with a smile, but learned the basics of several logging jobs staying there from ‘81 until ‘86, when he changed ships and went to work for Jim Witherwrite and his company Jayzee Mechanical Logging. “He had his own skidder and was subcontracting for his dad, so I ran skidder for him,” for a few years.

Mechanical logging

Jayzee’s success with the three skidders, was soon followed by “...our first piece of mechanical equipment was an old Bantam stroke delimeter,” then the purchase of their first Timberjack feller buncher, Witherwrite explained. “I skidded

(Continued on Page 8)
See “MR. Timber”

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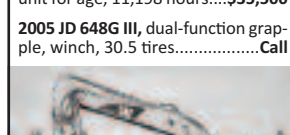
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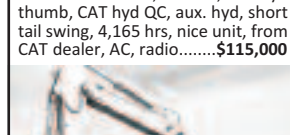
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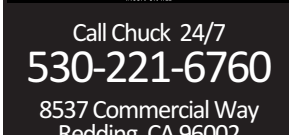
1993 CAT 988F, high lift, spade nose bkt w/teeth, joysticks, backup camera, fire suppression system, CAT weigh system, good rubber, AC, 35,950 hrs.....**\$89,500**



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2006 JD 550J, recent rails/sprockets, 6-roller UC, 17.5" pads, rear ripper, 105" blade, slope board, rock guards, prior rental, 2,327 hrs.....**\$45,500**



1978 TEREX 33-03B OFF-HIGHWAY WATER TRUCK, repowered w/Tier II Cummins 8.3 @ approx. 240 hp, Allison transmission, good 16:00x25 tires, Berkeley pumps, runs, shifts & sprays, approx. 51,000 lbs....**\$12,000**



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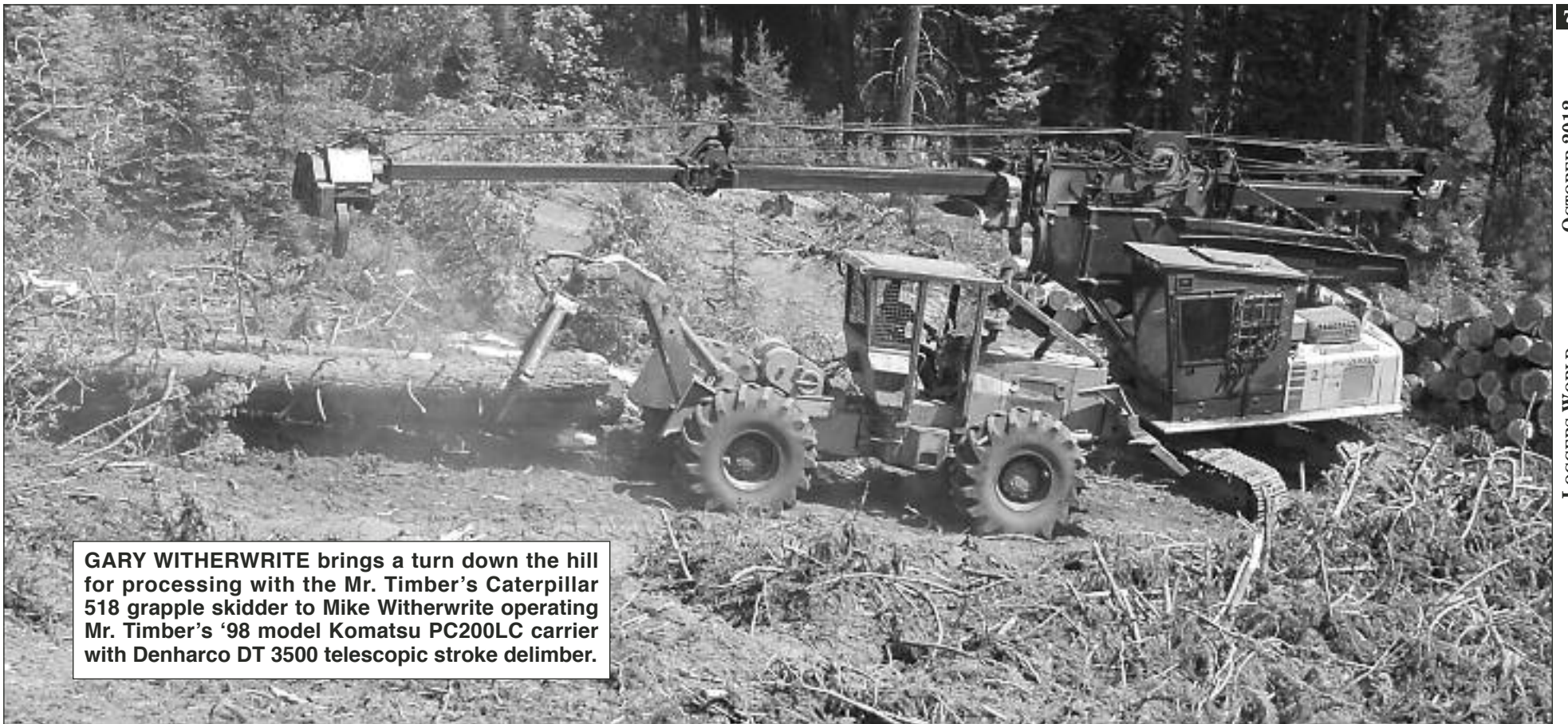
2003 KOMATSU D37EX-21, hydrastat, 6-way blade, rear ripper, OROPS, good UC, approx. 91hp, 18,000 lbs., good clean unit, 2,196 hours.....**\$32,500**



2006 JD 550J, recent rails/sprockets, 6-roller UC, 17.5" pads, rear ripper, 105" blade, slope board, rock guards, prior rental, 2,327 hrs.....**\$45,500**



1978 TEREX 33-03B OFF-HIGHWAY WATER TRUCK, repowered w/Tier II Cummins 8.3 @ approx. 240 hp, Allison transmission, good 16:00x25 tires, Berkeley pumps, runs, shifts & sprays, approx. 51,000 lbs....**\$12,000**



GARY WITHERWRITE brings a turn down the hill for processing with the Mr. Timber's Caterpillar 518 grapple skidder to Mike Witherwrite operating Mr. Timber's '98 model Komatsu PC200LC carrier with Denharco DT 3500 telescopic stroke delimber.

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EX270-1; EX300LC1; EX300LC5;
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Skagit 717SY, 5800 L-B u/c, Detroit 60 Series power, 50' boom, 3 guy lines	\$60,000
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MR. Timber

(Continued from Page 6)

up until '89 or so, then ran an old C90 rubber tire mounted Timberjack with a Denis 3000 monoboom, and learned the basics of how it worked." He loved the work, "...even with the long hours," he smiled.

Opportunity

"Then he (Jim Zacharias) gave me an opportunity," to become a subcontractor for him explained Witherwrite. "He told me he could guarantee a job with him long as things maintained." And with that, Witherwrite took the plunge in 1990. "I bought my own skidder, a brand new 518 Caterpillar fixed grapple skidder," he said recalling, "...my wife about shot me, we spent \$113,000 and it was new. That's a big investment when you're 27 years old."

"It was a little tight for a few years but we survived it," said Witherwrite, "and learned about business" along with his wife's involvement keeping the books. "We saw positive cash flow all the way through," and more to the point, "...saw the advantages of being on my own." He was quick to give credit where it was due. "Zacharias' encouragement was critical to my making the move and helped me see it."

A second opportunity presented itself in '93. "Boise Cascade needed

some small two-man crews for salvage logging," Witherwrite explained. "I'd worked with Rock Bothram for years before, and I asked him to come with me as a 10% partner," and the company was established in 1993. "He did the cutting and I cut and bumped knots," and it paid pretty well.

MR. Timber arrives

"The company name," Witherwrite explained, "we took the letter from our first name when Rock and I were together, and someone came up with that. We checked to see if we could use it with incorporation," and it was available. "We thought we didn't want to just be 'something' logging, we wanted something different. So we went with something different and still have it."

By 2005 Witherwrite bought a stroke delimeter. "We were working in smaller and smaller timber and I decided I'd look at a delimeter to handle the wood," he explained. "We were still in the partnership, but I bought that myself and leased it to Mr. Timber." He purchased a '98 Denharco DT3500 telescopic delimeter mounted on a Komatsu PC200-LC. "It was seven years old, and had 12,000 hours on it, and made for 14-16 inch lodge pole, but it does the job. It was a good solution and

(Continued on Page 13)

See "MR. Timber"

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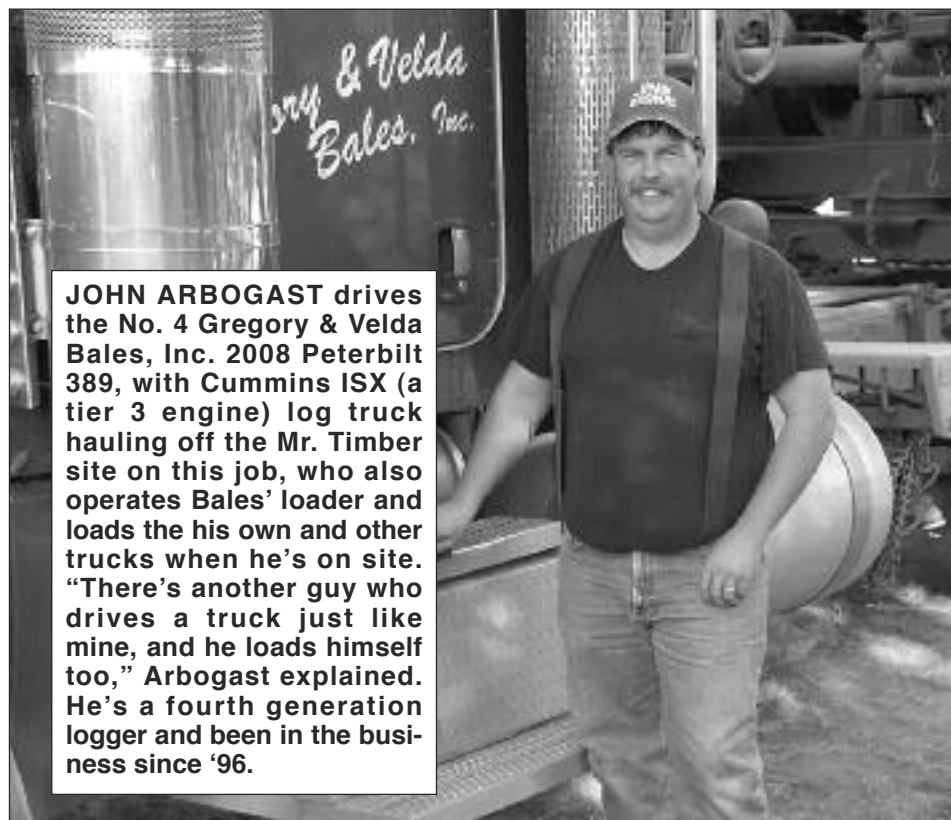
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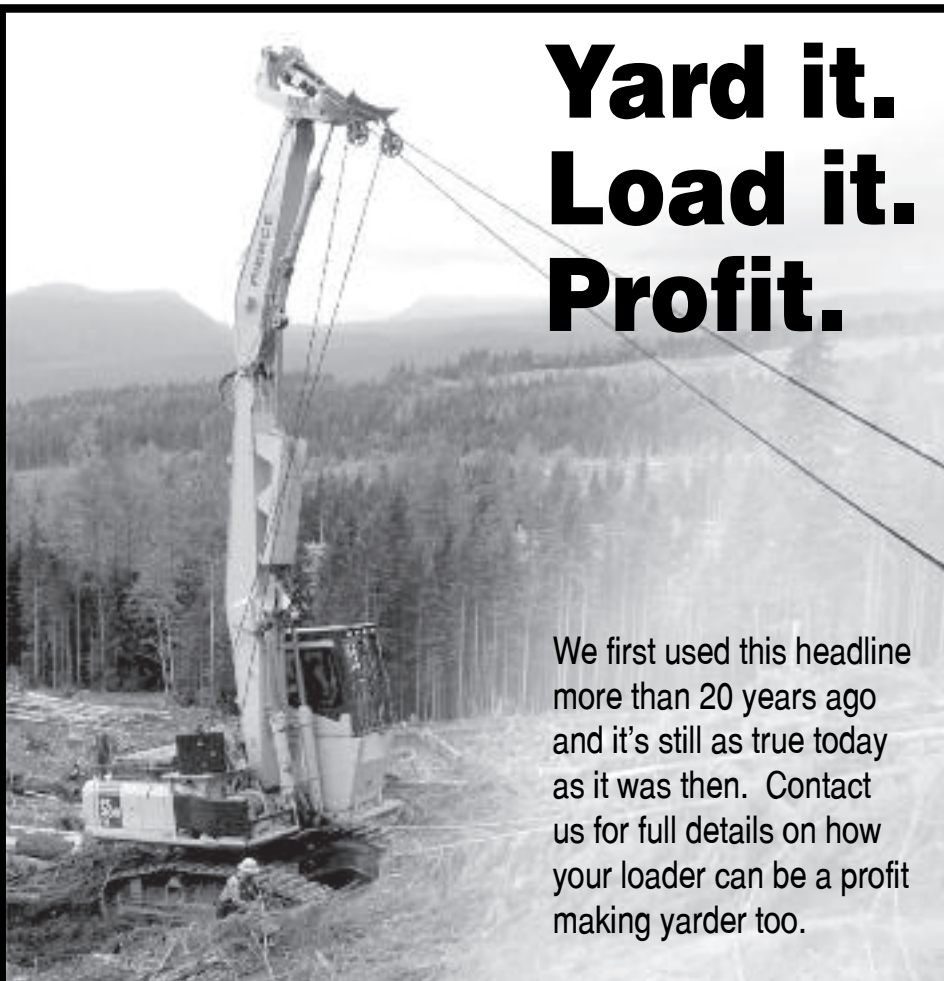


MIKE WITHERWRITE at the controls of his '98 Komatsu PC200LC carrier with Denharco DT 3500 telescopic stroke delimber he's had a number of seasons. He'd purchased it used some years ago and estimates it has 21,000+ hours on it now and is still running strong.



JOHN ARBOGAST drives the No. 4 Gregory & Velda Bales, Inc. 2008 Peterbilt 389, with Cummins ISX (a tier 3 engine) log truck hauling off the Mr. Timber site on this job, who also operates Bales' loader and loads the his own and other trucks when he's on site. "There's another guy who drives a truck just like mine, and he loads himself too," Arbogast explained. He's a fourth generation logger and been in the business since '96.

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ROSS STENKANT brings a turn down the hill with the '03 model Caterpillar 525B with fixed grapple, which is usually run by Gary Witherwrite, but this Friday Stenkant was running it. He started in the brush in '74, and has worked off and on the past 30 years. "Normally I work for a bank doing maintenance. I come out here Fridays and work for Mike," having started the pervious winter. He laughed adding, "...you can't get it out of your blood. Once you do it you're in it."

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GARY WITHERWRITE dragging a turn with the Caterpillar 518 fixed grapple skidder. He's been with Mr. Timber (he and Mike are cousins) the past four years and is a journeyman logger with some 30 years in the woods. He'd served in the Marines and makes his home in Enterprise.



****Meet Mr. Timberjack****



JOHN DEERE



Mike Thomas



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MR. Timber

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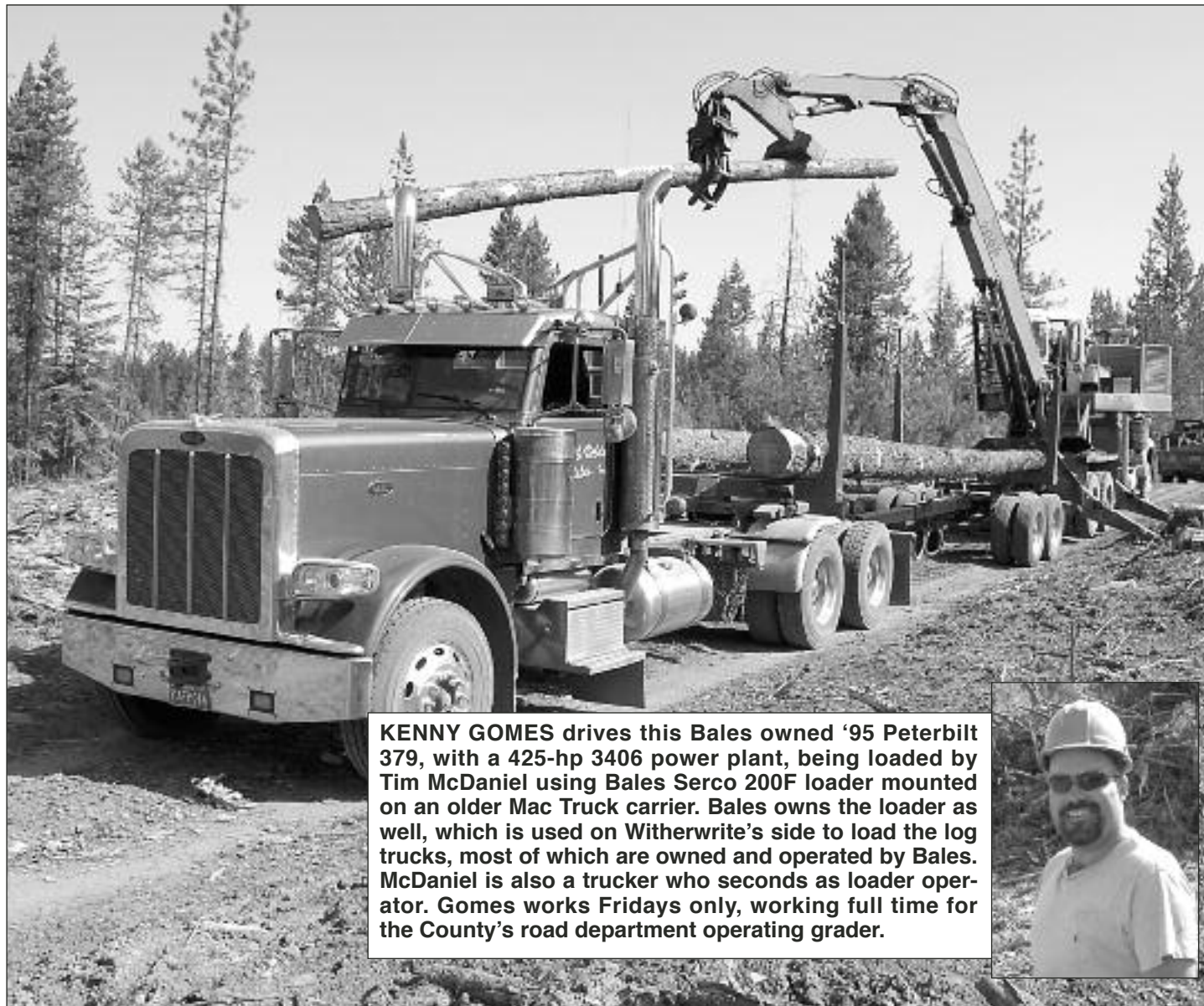
helped quite a bit.” And his earlier background helped in that, “...I knew the basics of them, and this was a much better machine than the 3000 (he’d learned on).”

Witherwrite’s son Dusty joined the crew in 2005. He’d bumped knots on the landing at times when growing up but after high school graduation he went to school at Wyoming Tech. full time and in 18 months gained three associates degrees in diesel, auto, and business management. “He’d interviewed with Western States (Caterpillar) on Christmas break and they hired him right out of graduation,” and he joined their crew in Tri-Cities location, “He was a mechanic for them, and working on Cats, loving what he was doing, but he wasn’t fond of the Tri-cities area, and wanted to come back to the Joseph area.”

The following year he moved back to Joseph finding a job with a building contractor, until business slowed and he was laid off.

At the time Witherwrite was looking for a crew member, “...so I offered him a job,” he explained, “I barely got it out of my mouth and he said ‘Yeah!’ then Dusty added, ‘Finally! This is what I’ve wanted to

(Continued on Page 14)
See “MR. Timber”



KENNY GOMES drives this Bales owned ‘95 Peterbilt 379, with a 425-hp 3406 power plant, being loaded by Tim McDaniel using Bales Serco 200F loader mounted on an older Mac Truck carrier. Bales owns the loader as well, which is used on Witherwrite’s side to load the log trucks, most of which are owned and operated by Bales. McDaniel is also a trucker who seconds as loader operator. Gomes works Fridays only, working full time for the County’s road department operating grader.



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TIM McDANIEL was driving the No. 4 Bales truck, an '07 Peterbilt with a Cummins ISX engine, and is seen here extending a stake on the Fruehauf trailer he drags behind it. McDaniel's father had driven truck before him (Keith McDaniel Trucking), where he decided it was "all I ever wanted to do." He joined Bales four years ago, and does some of the loading as well.

MR. Timber

(Continued from Page 13)

do."

Dusty started out learning and operating their new delimber. "He'd not done it before but adjusted right away, in a couple of weeks, then improved dramatically over the course

of the year."

With the addition of the delimber production, and as they figured how to best take advantage of mechanization, "...it made a jump in production," said Witherwrite. "We went to two trucks, but four loads a day at first was still our max. With that production increase the cutters weren't staying as far in front of us."

In 2006 Bothram purchased a Prentice 720 feller buncher with a Quadco hot saw, and leased that to the company. Some 18 months later Bothram decided to sell the machine and his interest in the company, to Witherwrite who then wholly owned

(Continued on Page 16)
See "MR. Timber"

DEAN ENTES beside his pride and joy, an '87 Peterbilt he's owned the past six years, restored and updated to peak condition. "The only things that are original is part of the cab and part of the hood. I just put new frame rails in it this spring that was a job I don't care to tackle again." The Pete emblem took him "forever" to find. "It was only used for two-years (from 1945-46), but beyond that I tried to keep the rest of it looking like the old trucks did."



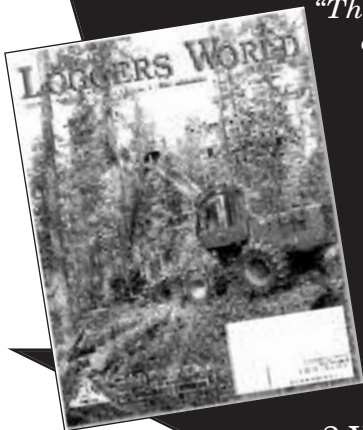
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■ Circle 21 On Inquiry Card – Pg. 23



DUSTY WITHERWRITE joined his father's company in 2005 operating their Denharco DT 3500 delimber on a Komatsu PC200LL, then switched to feller buncher in 2007 bringing a strong increase in production from each machine. He now operates their '03 TimberKing 722 feller buncher with a Caterpillar hot saw, which can take "...24.8 inches," he explained, "and can rotate 40 degrees. Using a cylinder rather than gears makes them more reliable and stronger as far as something trying to get away from you." He just recently became a partner in the company.

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16 MR. Timber

(Continued from Page 14)

OCTOBER 2012

LOGGERS WORLD

the company.

Son Dusty switched from the delimeter to the feller buncher, adapting to its operation "very quickly... like overnight," Witherwrite said with a smile. "The guy that does the trucking had been in the

feller/buncher before and helped him out a little with it at first, then told him to go cut trees, and he did," showing a dramatic increase in production. "It went from two to keeping three trucks busy, to where we got 7-8 loads a day, depending on where we were," Witherwrite said.

At that point the company consisted of a four man crew, including

Witherwrite, along with two skidders, a crawler, the stroke delimeter and feller buncher. "Dusty is so efficient running the feller/buncher that he'll come in and skid when he gets ahead, which has kept us at three guys most the time and a fourth on occasion."

Changing bunchers

While cutting on a steep hill in 2009, their feller buncher

tipped over with the door side up. "That shorted out the battery and started a fire," said Witherwrite. In spite of its having an on-board fire suppression system, and Dusty using the cab's extinguisher, "...up it went (in flames)."

Witherwrite explained, "...we'd (he and his wife) scheduled a moose hunt in February, paid for it, then

(Continued on Page 17)
See "MR. Timber"



JOHN ARBOGAST greasing up Bales Serco 200F loader mounted on a vintage Mac Truck owned by Greg Bales and left on the Mr. Timber job sites to load the trucks. Arbogast is one of the drivers who also operates that loader to load his and whatever truck may be on the job at the time. He'd learned loading when he had a self-loader for five years.



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■ Circle 17 On Inquiry Card – Pg. 23

MR. Timber

(Continued from Page 16)

the fire happened (immediately before that trip) so we went ahead and went on the hunt." In the meantime, "Dusty had been on the internet and found a TimberKing 722 with a hot saw, and had 4,200 hours on it. It was a 2004 (model) and had been sitting at the dealership for three years, had new paint, and they were tired of looking at it." It was located in Prince George and by that time Witherwrites were already on the way to their hunt, "...so we diverted, looked at the unit and bought it." Thus it turned out to be part of the trip!! Then Witherwrite smiled when adding, "We also got two Moose on that trip."

Trucking

Witherwrite subcontracts his trucking with his main trucker being Greg Bales, a lifelong friend, logger, trucker and business cohort. His connection with Witherwrite dates back to their being in school together. They'd worked together in the woods as well, and use one another as a sounding board. "Mike and I have the relationship we can chew each other out and still talk the next minute. And we might make each other mad on purpose, just messing with each other," Bales explained smiling. "That's what makes it work though."

Bales started logging in '83. "It all started when my grandma had a parcel of land on Mt. Joseph here, which they wanted logged. My brother and I went to a logging contractor to lease the equipment and that turned into a job, just working full time for him (the contractor) to

start. Then we diversified and then logging changed a time or two."

"Mike and I ended up going out on our own in the early 90s," Bales explained, "working for ourselves and together."

Bales established his trucking business, Gregory & Velda Bales,

Inc. in 1993. "I went to work for one contractor with that (Olympia) loader and a single truck that's now a dump truck, and its' gone from there."

(Continued on Page 18)
See "MR. Timber"

GREG BALES has a long history with Mike Witherwrite from when they were school kids, including working together in the woods. Each became contractors the same year, with Bales heading more into trucking, which has diversified since that time including log trucks, a dump truck and this mobile cement mix truck he purchased in '08. "It's an '08 Ford set up really nice with a heavy duty frame, a 20K ton axle, and 46K rear axles." He can pour up to 8 yards before reloading materials. It all mixes with the auger on the downspout literally as it pours, just using what is needed (no waste).



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MR. Timber

(Continued from Page 17)

OCTOBER 2012

LOGGERS WORLD

Bales started trucking for Witherwrite in '96. "Greg owns two '07 Peterbilts and a '98 Peterbilt. One truck's set up so that we can switch over if we need to (to short logs), but not now, everything's long log," said Witherwrite.

In 2001 Bales purchased an older Mac truck with a Serco 200F loader, which sits on the MR Timber logging sites and is used to load the log trucks, both his own trucks and other subcontractor's trucks. "I just have to put fuel in it to keep it going," Witherwrite explained, noting "his driver's do the loading." They've done that since he started trucking for MR Timber.

Today's company

Witherwrite works mainly for Forest Capital but works with private landowners as well keeping them busy most of the year. "Any more," said Witherwrite, "it's all about mill inventory, when we work and not. We used to work from June up into March depending on the weather with about a three-month break up. Now it's more like four months. It's like haying: when the weather's good you go like hell."

Witherwrite and his wife (also the bookkeeper) Diane were married in '84 and make their home on 25 acres just outside Joseph, which they'd purchased in '85 and completed their home in '87. Most of the

acreage is pasture, and he explained his "other hobby" was in raising 25 head of cattle, in addition to horses and horseback riding. For recreation Mike also hunts, joined by his wife Diane at times who added, "I hunt with him most of the time."

They have two grown offspring: their daughter Darcy is a veterinary

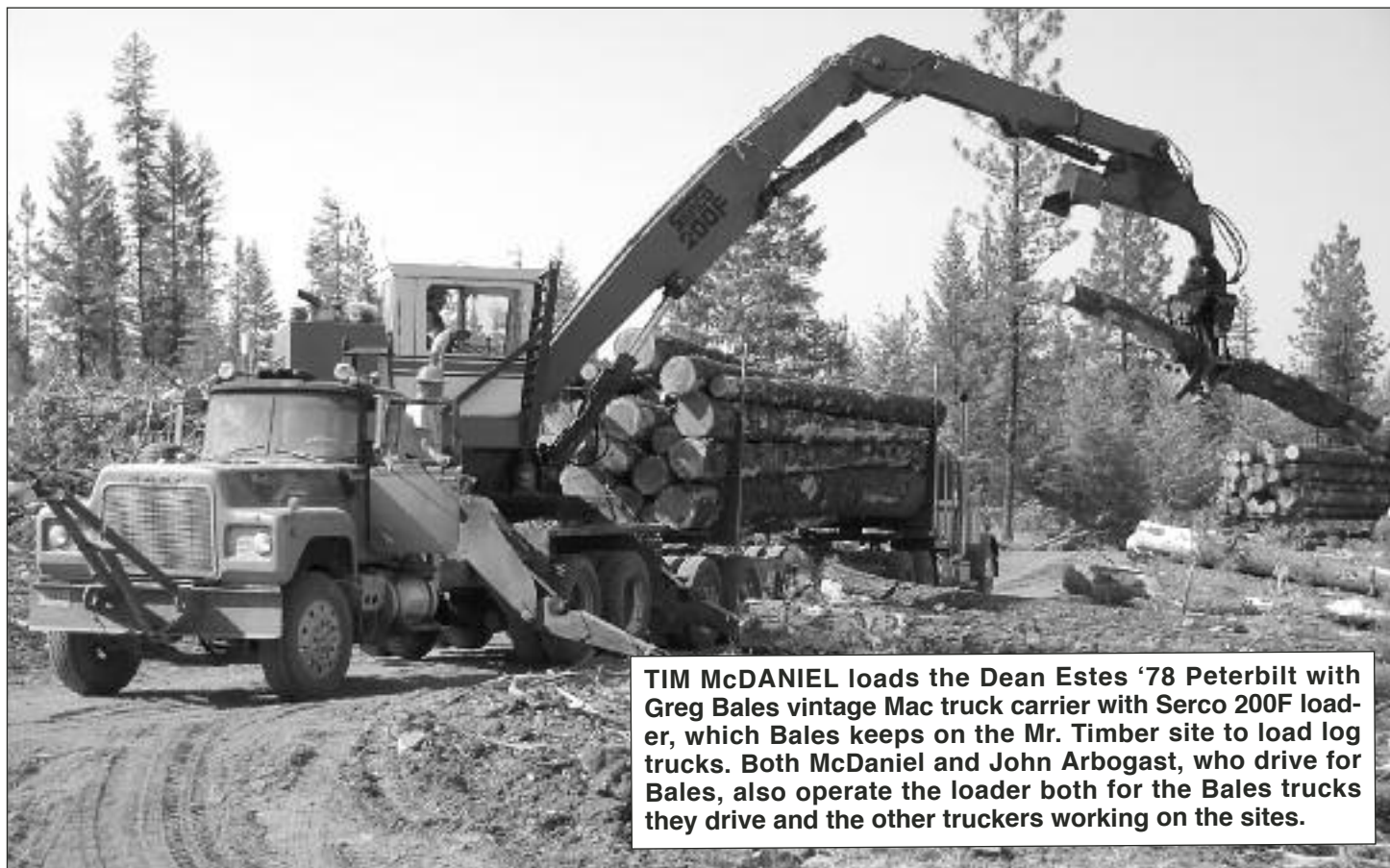
technician working in Enterprise. The oldest is their son Dusty.

This past summer Dusty bought into the business as well. "We'd talked over a couple years, and he's gone ahead with an interest in it now."

They run a very tight operation, with a good mix of experience and versatility, along with a willing and

versatile crew, and trucking that keeps everyone busy and flexible to handle whatever comes their way.

Witherwrite noted his business success comes both from working hard, a good crew, great relationships with long-time friends and "...we've been lucky or something I'm not sure."



TIM McDANIEL loads the Dean Estes '78 Peterbilt with Greg Bales vintage Mac truck carrier with Serco 200F loader, which Bales keeps on the Mr. Timber site to load log trucks. Both McDaniel and John Arbogast, who drive for Bales, also operate the loader both for the Bales trucks they drive and the other truckers working on the sites.

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LOGGING COUNTRY

Roundup

CLIPS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY

Sawmills are the key to forest restoration

The Malheur Lumber Company in John Day has been granted a reprieve from the closure that parent company Ochoco Lumber announced last month. The promise of private landowners to supply the mill with enough timber supply for a month or two to keep it open is but a temporary solution.

I have participated for three years on the state's Federal Forest

Advisory Committee's Implementation Working Group, collaborating to reach consensus on ways to restore eastside forests. Recently, \$2.5 million in federal funds was extended to support the Blue Mountain Forest Partners collaborative for this purpose. But the federal help may be too little, too late.

Without that mill, the small-diameter logs from forest restoration efforts will have to be trucked to Lakeview or Gilchrist - 210 miles or

190 miles, respectively. Probably not feasible with today's fuel prices.

John Day is a community surrounded by national forests. That struggling sawmill has been a steady supplier of lumber and family-wage jobs for decades.

Without sawmills located close to areas needing thinning, there's no economic engine to make restoration economically viable. It is the lumber that will help pay for this work. Ironically, the mill closed because there is not enough timber to keep the mill open, even though it is located within eyesight of a sea of forests needing attention.

We can't afford to lose any more mills in eastern Oregon.

- OFRle news (Oregon) Paul Barnum, Exec, Dir.

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"Just because you do not take an interest in politics, doesn't mean politics won't take an interest in you."

- Pericles.

USFS Report shows fewer trees dying in nation's forests

The number of dead trees on 750 million acres of public and private forests across America is on the decline for the second straight year, with most of the reductions seen in western states where bark beetles have infested millions of trees, according to a report released

(Continued on Page 19)
See "Roundup"

As We See It

(Continued from Page 5)

ball analogy, getting the ball into the red zone without crossing the goal line keeps the score at zero. The failure is not because of a lack of effort on our part. The failure is the product of a legislative institution that has become dysfunctional. It is one that has not passed a budget since President Obama was elected. It includes a Senate that refuses to even consider ideas produced by the House. It is one that is void of a cohesive partnership between the two bodies. It is one that gets no leader-

ship from the Executive Branch of our government. It is one that is begging for change.



Jim Geisinger is the Executive Director for the Associated Oregon Loggers located in Salem Oregon and serves as the Chair of the American Loggers Council Legislative Committee.

The American Loggers Council is a non-profit 501(c)(6) corporation representing professional timber harvesters in 30 states across the US. For more information, visit their web site at www.american-loggers.org or contact their office at 409-625-0206.



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20 **Roundup**

(Continued from Page 19)

OCTOBER 2012
LOGGERS WORLD

today by the U.S. Forest Service.

The report, Major Forest Insect and Disease Conditions in the United States: 2011, shows that damage caused by the mountain pine beetle is on the decline largely because the insect is running out of its favorite food source: lodgepole pine. Acres of forests with dead trees due to the mountain pine beetle declined from 6.8 million acres in 2010 to 3.8 million acres in 2011 in western states.

"Native insects and diseases run in cycles, and right now we are grateful the trend is downward,"

said U.S. Forest Service Chief Tom Tidwell. "While the news is good, we are certain to continue to face challenges, such as the effects of climate change and the introduction of invasive species. We must manage our lands across all boundaries to ensure the vitality and health of our natural resources."

This marks the second straight year with reduced mortality rates after steady increases between 2006 and 2009. Although Forest Service surveyors attribute some of the reductions to fewer available lodgepole pines, ponderosa pine and high-elevation white bark pine are still at risk.

"Forests play a crucial role in the lives of Americans by maintaining the quality of the environment and contributing to the quality of their lives," said Agriculture Under Secretary Harris Sherman. "Healthy forests clean the air, filter our water, give homes to wildlife and provide recreation, jobs and materials for a healthy community and economy."

The mountain pine beetle is not alone in its attack on forests. The spruce beetle, the most significant natural enemy of the mature spruce,

(Continued on Page 21)

See "Roundup"

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Roundup

(Continued from Page 20)

has caused four consecutive years of increased mortality with dead spruce trees found on 428,000 acres nationwide. The fir engraver, common in western coniferous forests, is



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responsible for tree deaths on approximately 323,000 acres, most of which are in California. Death of subalpine fir, caused by bark beetles and other mortality agents, was found on more than 274,000 acres.

In the East, tree mortality due to insects and disease continue to remain low, with southern pine beetle-caused mortality at historically low levels. The southern pine beetle outbreak in New Jersey declined from 14,000 acres in 2010 to about 6,700 acres in 2011. However, that lower number of acres is still considered very high for New Jersey. Invasive forest diseases and insects, such as the emerald ash borer and the Asian long-horned beetle remain a big threat to eastern forests.

The mission of the Forest Service is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations. The agency manages 193 million acres of public land, provides assistance to state and private landowners, and maintains the largest forestry research organization in the world. Forest Service lands contribute more than \$13 billion to the economy each year through visitor spending alone.

Those same lands provide 20 percent of the nation's clean water supply, a value estimated at \$27 billion per year.

Excessive Environmental Regulation costing Europe more jobs

Courts in Southern Italy recently forced one of Europe's largest steel plants to close on environmental grounds in spite of emissions from the plant being well within legal limits.

Unemployment in southern Italy already stands at over 15 per cent and 20,000 workers - directly and indirectly employed by the Ilva steel plant - took to the streets to defend their livelihoods. They were joined by an unlikely coalition of government officials, trade union representatives and business owners who understand the need to preserve jobs given the dire economic circumstances Italy finds itself in.

This latest example of how excessive environmental regulation is costing Europe more jobs should act as a wake up call to other Member States and the European Commission, which is determined to burden businesses with increasingly strin-

gent environmental regulation. Italy's own environment minister has said that the situation in Ilva 'risks creating uncertainty regarding the entire Italian industrial system and the reliability of the country for foreign investors' and its former environment minister decried the decisions of 'militant judges' to close down the plant.

Italy and Europe must understand that the path out of the current crisis is not paved with more regulation and excessive environmental controls. Instead, Member States and the European Commission must work to create a business friendly environment that will encourage foreign investment and job creation in Europe. With unemployment rates in Spain standing at over 50% for the under 25s, how much longer can we afford regulations which restrict investment, innovation and job creation?

- *Disarming the Greens*
Newsletter

Bamboo: the new green

Kimberly Clark, a frequent target of "green" market campaign-

(Continued on Page 22)
See "Roundup"

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2005 Timbco T-445EXL
7,500 Hrs.,
\$170,000



(3) 2011 Madill 2850C
Log Loaders
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2001 John Deere 330LC RB
W/2004 Waratah 624
\$150,000



2010 Cat 324D,
W/Pierce 3348, 4,300 Hours
P.O.R.

LOG LOADERS
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2011 Linkbelt 290LX
(3) 2011 Madill 2850C
2010 John Deere 3754D
2008 Cat 330D
2008 Kobelco SK290
2008 Kobelco SK295
2007 John Deere 2054
2007 Kobelco SK290
2006 Kobelco Sk290
2006 Kobelco Sk210
2005 Kobelco SK330
2005 Kobelco SK290
2005 Kobelco SK330 W/2

Winches
2004 Cat 330C
2003 Cat 322C
2003 Kobelco SK250
1999 Hitachi 300 W/3
Winches
1999 Kobelco Sk300 W/2
Winches
1985 Hitachi 200 on Rubber
Thunderbird 1242 W/2
Winches
Madill 2800

YARDERS
(3) Madill 071's
Thunderbird 6140
Thunderbird TY-90
Thunderbird TMY40
Diamond D210

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W/Pierce 3348
2010 Cat 324D W/Pierce
3348

PROCESSORS & DELIMBERS cont.
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Harvester
2007 John Deere 2054LL
W/Waratah 622B
2007 Kobelco Sk350 W/2011
Logmax 12000
2006 Kobelco SK250
W/Pierce 3348
2006 Valmet 911.3 Extreme
2006 Cat 322C W/Pierce
3348
2003 Daewoo 300 W/Pierce
3348

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W/Waratah 624
2000 Kobelco Sk250
W/DT4400
1998 Thunderbird 1236
W/Pierce 3345

FELLER BUNCHERS
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2010 John Deere 959K
2009 Tigercat LX830C
2007 Tigercat LX830C
2005 Timbco T-445EXL
W/Quadco Hotsaw
2004 Timbco T-445EXL
W/Barsaw

2002 Timbco T-445D
2001 Timbco T-445D
W/Hotsaw
2000 Timbco T-445D
1995 Timbco T445C
W/Barsaw
Tigercat 845

EXCAVATORS
2006 Linkbelt 240LX

EXCAVATORS cont.
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2005 John Deere 135
1996 Cat 320B
1990 Linkbelt 4300C2
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2007 Cat 525C
2004 Komatsu D39 W/Winch
2001 Cat 517
2002 John Deere 648G3
2000 Cat 517 Grapple/Winch
2001 Cat 525
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Cat D8K
Cat D7G W/Arch, Winch
Cat D6C

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Komatsu WA600



2011 Tigercat LX830C,
2,200 Hours
\$400,000



2011 Linkbelt 240X2
W/Pierce 3348 Delimber
2,200 Hours
P.O.R.



2007 John Deere 2054
W/Waratah 622B
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22 Roundup

(Continued from Page 21)

OCTOBER 2012 LOGGERS WORLD

ers with various agendas, recently announced ashift in its procurement practices, apparently to close the book on the attacks on its wood sourcing: "Of all things, bamboo and wheat straw were selected by the consumer products manufacturer," according to RISI's August International Woodfiber Report. KC has entered into a "development agreement" with Booshoot, a western Washington firm with a propagation technology, and estimates that its 750,000 tons of purchased pulp from "natural forests" in 2011 would be cut in half by 2025.

RISI examines several implications of the decision-especially if sourcing pulp processes from annual fibers becomes an industry norm—but does not venture to speculate on the possible implications for multiple-use private forestry if "green" market mandates compel conversion of forestland to bamboo fields.

- *FRA Bulletin*

Following California into the regulatory abyss

New pending regulations will sock Oregon families with higher fuel costs and job losses.

We constantly hear from Oregonians about the stunning disconnect

between our government regulators and economic reality.

What's happening today in Oregon may cement that perception for years to come.

The Oregon Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) is considering adopting California's restrictions on gasoline and diesel as early as this December.

In California, the new restrictions have raised the specter of increased fuel prices, job losses and voided warranties, and the rules are now in federal appeals court after a federal judge found them unconstitutional.

Oregon would be all alone with California in running headlong into this regulatory quagmire.

Will that be enough to dissuade

Oregon regulators? We can only hope. - *Oregon Prosperity Project*

Today's lesson in irony

The Food Stamp Program, administered by the 'U.S. Department of Agriculture', is actually proud of the fact it is distributing the greatest number of free meals and food stamps ever.

Meanwhile, the National Park Service, administered by the 'U.S. Department of the Interior', tells us, "Please Do Not Feed the Animals."

Their stated reason for the policy is because the animals will grow dependent on handouts and will not learn to take care of themselves.



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(Continued on Page 11)

See "LW Carry"

COMING EVENTS

OCTOBER

4-6


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