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- Finly's Rigging Shack

Originally published in November 1986

We get all these great tools that use time better. A faster yarder, more horsepower in the trucks, more cubes in the chain saw. They all help us get more done in our day of work —- but the time goes by at the same rate. A day of work takes as long as it ever did.

During my time of working in the woods, working with loggers, and visiting and interviewing loggers I've seen many many of them make a success of their business. Those that made a success did it with all different kinds of machinery, crews and methods did not make it and were forced out.

All of the successful ones had one thing in common. They used the time they had to their best ability. There are many other things than this needed to make a success of anything. But one thing is that the people who accomplish great things know about managing time.

When we think of tools for time management we think of notebooks, special books, secretaries that keep track of appointments, makes our phone calls and so on and so forth.

I had a cousin one time that I worked with. He said many good things. Walton Leslie was a self educated man. We did not agree on many things because we were almost exact opposites. We liked each other but we did not work all that well together —- although we tried several times.

I found out then that if you must work with someone that you cannot agree with as to procedure and method you can still make it come out alright if one person is in charge. If you can't get your way do it his way. Then at least something will get done —- and surprise of surprises you'll learn something.

I was for buying everything that would speed up the job. If I didn't have the money I'd gladly finance the tool or equipment. Walton wouldn't buy anything that he couldn't pay cash for not anything. I, on the other hand, always had more outgo than income.

Walton got as much pleasure and accomplishment by doing without as I got in 'getting'.

One time he told me: "You want to buy a buzz saw so you can cut the annual 10 cords of wood faster. Before you do that you figure out the cost, how many days a year you'll be using the buzz saw, how much you can hire one for each year and what other ways are there to get your wood cut." You know —- I've never bought a buzz saw.

We have a bottle neck at our business. We haul our printed papers home from the printer, put the different sections together, address them, sort them, put them into bags and haul over a ton of these papers to the post office for you twice a month. Once for Loggers World and once for Log Trucker.

We don't have any tools, not much anyway, to load and unload these truck loads of paper. We don't have a loading/unloading dock. We don't have forklifts. We do it all like we used to buck logs in the thirties, by muscle, by hand. We do have hand carts.

We have talked of overhauling the building. Of building loading docks and acquiring a fork lift. Of hunting down, buying and using all the tools we can.

The cost is horrible. Terrifically high. It gets complicated. Get a fork-lift? That means storage, service and someone to run and maintain it. Build a new storage building? Cost over \$10,000.00 and that won't be

Time used now in this job? About 8 hours a month for one

Time man. could we save? About 4 hours a month for one man.

That puts it in perspective doesn't it? We don't

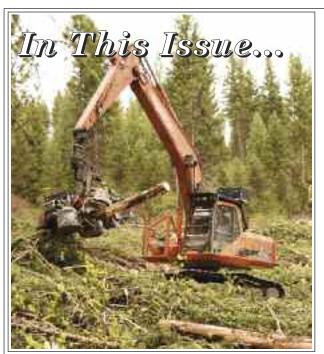


make this decision by measuring only money. Most of the basis of making this decision is concerned with time. Time spent on the job? Time that could be saved by a large investment? Those are the two main questions. If the time saved does not equal the interest on the investment —- forget it. The cost is too high, the saving of time too

So we keep on loading and unloading by hand. Randy Apperson does most of this and he treats it like training. He does it well, he does it quickly and he takes the place of a fork-lift. We'd a whole lot rather have Randy around here than a forklift and we need to keep him busy anyhow.

Time is a factor in many decisions. I like the story about the 61 year old lady who was going to college. Her friends tried to talk her out of it. One of their arguments was, "Mabel you are now 61 years old. You are starting four years of college. When you get out you'll be 65 years old." Mabel said, "Well in four years I'm going to be 65 years old anyway, so I'm going to col-

> (Continued on Page 5) See "Rigging Shack"



COVER PAGE PICTURE: MATT McMURRAY processing logs Newton Logging's Doosan 225 with Log Max 7000 dangle head cessor, both having 18,000 hours on them. See "It Kinda Got in My Blood" starting on Page 4.

2 RIGGING SHACK "CLASSIC" - by Finley Hays

4 "IT KINDA GOT IN MY BLOOD"

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"It seems like we're always swinging wood uphill. The 568 FM has a powerful swing component and the stability to efficiently move wood long distances on steep slopes."

Frank Chandler Jr., Partner and Operations Manager C&C Logging LLC, Kelso, Washington

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By Mike Crouse

Preparation, good quality, and planning ahead have proven to be both a winning formula and a tradition for Newton Logging since the company was formed by Charlie Newton in 1961.

That's evident in today's operation, owned by son Mike Newton two years ago, in the teaching, practical application and working together that gave a smooth and essentially seamless change in ownership.

Logging started for Newton on his father's ranch, which they'd log from as well

"Skidded my first logs behind a horse when I was about eight," Charlie laughed. "He (his father) ran a little tie mill," he explained, "worked hard at

(Continued on Page 7)

See "Newton"



Time is involved with every dream, goal, accomplishment. We who try to use time wisely never perfectly succeed at it. If we get too involved in it we become nuts. Time nuts —- we dasn't let that happen. We can get better —- we can't become perfect.

We need to plan in order to use time wisely but we can't get caught in the trap of being a slave to our plans. That is as foolish and as wasteful as not

LOGGERS WORLD will be at the Morton Loggers Jubilee in August.

We would love to hear from you - what you like or don't like about what we have done in the last 10 months.

Be sure to stop by our display and say hello!

having any plans.

Any planning involving time, and all plans involve time, must be flexible. We need to plan for all of our living activities.

That's why the title of the book 'STRATEGY FOR LIVING' is so on the mark.

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CASE 9050B "Roadbuilder", excellent......42,500 CAT D4H Track Skidder, fixed grapple \$39,500 CAT D5H, fixed grapple, winch, excellent P.O.R. CAT D8H 46A, Straight blade, winch, fairlead\$35,000 CAT 14E Grader.. CAT 518 Grapple Skidder, 95U, winch \$12,500 CAT 525B Grapple Skidder..... .\$64.500 CAT 525B Grapple Skidder, recent updates\$75,000 CAT 527, trk. skidder, swing grapple .\$155,000 CAT 950 Wheel Loader CAT 966D, bucket, good rubber. \$49,500 CAT 980B Wheel Loader... \$16.500 A.W. Grader 301S 6WD Grader \$14.500 FIAT ALLIS 8, winch/arch, SU..... \$16,000 FIAT ALLIS FD9, \$12,500 GARRETT 25 Skidder. Cummins... JD 790E Ex., bucket, heel rack, grapple P.O.R. JD 850B Dozer, excl. UC..... .\$19.500 KMC Track Skidder, swinger, low hrs.\$89,500 KOBELCO 270 Excav ... KOEHRING/BANTAM 366 Exca. \$17,500 KOMATSU '04 PC300-7 Excav... \$119,500 LB 210LX, bkt/thumb, low hours... .\$95.000 LB 4300 CII Rd. Bldr, bkt & thumb\$24.500 MOUNTAIN LOGGER ML150, new tires\$18,500 TREE FARMER C5D Skidder, show cond\$13,500 WAGNER L90 Log Stacker .

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HAROLD GLAZIER (left) has been logging the past 35 years, "...or something like that," he said, adding that he's a third generation logger, and lives in Kalispell. "I've been with these guys four years, but I have a ranch, my own little logging outfit, and they stay busy." They're skidding 500 yards on this site. "We tried to keep everything out of this draw."

MIKE NEWTON (right) bought Newton Logging two years ago, and is seen on the steps of his office the Daewoo 220LL Solar shovel logger with Pierce boom and grapple. "I have another loader a little newer than this but I run the older," he explained. "We have five guys on the site, using three trucks, about seven loads a day with nine or 10 sorts for different species and sizes."



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Labonville Fire-Resistant Chain Saw Chaps are an industry first. They feature a layer of fire-resistant material sandwiched under the front Cordura shell to help keep hot embers from penetrating. They also have the same six-plys of Polyester/Kevlar cut-protection as regular Labonville chaps.

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Madill 3800C Log Loader, 11,500 hrs., U/C 75%+, Pierce Grapple, 60 Detroit Engine, **Double Bar Grousers**\$199,000



2003 CAT 517 TSK, 14,000 hrs., EROPS, Fresh Engine, Rebuilt Trans. 2000 hrs. Ago, Torque 4,000 hrs., Rebuilt Pivots and Hardbar, Fixed Boom, Standard Track, U/C 60%+, Winch, Sorting Grapple... ...\$115,000



2001 International, CAT 550, 18 Sp.+ Brownie, QC to 3 Axle Short Logger, Fifth Wheel, Long Logger\$89,000



2013 CAT 568, Tier IV Engine, 2,500 hrs., Includes Grapple or Furnish Your Own (Subtract 10K), Like\$365,000









2011 Nearly NEW Loftness AXH73, 150 hrs., Heavy Duty Mulcher, Quick Attach To Your Skid Steer! 6 Foot Swath. One Of The Very Best...Made In America, Rotary Chipper Knives, Stumps, Brush Grass.....Onlv \$16.800

1995 Timberjack 1210 8 Wheel Drive, 11,300 hrs., ECO Tracks, Tire Chains.....

1995 Timberjack 1270, 11,500 hrs., ECO Tracks, Chains, Rubber 50%++, TJ 762B, Extra Parts....

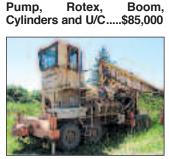


2012 Doosan 300DX Log Loader, 5,000 hrs., Used As Loader, Standard Cab, Double Bar Grouser, Good U/C.....\$210.000



2002



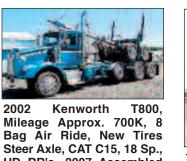


2003 John Deere 2554.

21.400 hrs., Jewell Grapple,

Recent Repairs Incl., Engine,

1986 T-Bird TMY50, Lines, Radios. Eagle Skycar, Rubber Mount, Very Good Condition.....\$410,000



1999 Kenworth T800, CAT Engine, 18 Sp., HD RR's, Good Rubber, Drop Axle...\$55,000



.....\$45,000



1995 Timbco 445B With Log Max 9000, Bush Levelling Cylinders, Good U/C and Track Pads.....\$49,000



2006 Madill 2250B, 9,600 hrs. Frame hrs., Major Rebuild by Dealer Approx. 3000 hrs. Ago, Includes New Madill Hotsaw, New Crate Engine, U/C, Pumps



2008 Waratah 624 Super, Steel and Rubber Wheels. Extra Bars and Chains, Computer, Optional Boom Tip...\$89.500



1992 CAT D4H TSK, FS Winch and Arch, Approx. 5,000 hrs. On Engine, Trans., Torque, Finals, U/C 40%+, Hard Bar, Axles and Dozer are Tight\$55,000



HD RR's, 2007 Assembled

Log Trailer, 8'6" Bunks,

Push Up Stakes, Electronic

Scales.....\$59,000

1994 Link-Belt 2800 Excavator, W/Waratah 230 Processor Head, Isuzu Engine, Topping Saw, Measures Good, Strong Track Power, Hard Shell, Excellent Condition.\$49,000



2002 John Deere 848G, 10,000 hrs., Tire Chains, Good Runner, (Does Not Incl. Winch)\$55,000



2004 Equipped With Log Max 7000, QC To Grapples, 58" Jewell Grapples, U/C 90%+, 18.500 hrs..\$99.000



1976 CAT D6C Crawler Tractor, Hyster FS Winch, Young Arch, U/C 80%+, Very Good Components, Ready To Loa.. ...\$30.000



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Newton

(Continued from Page 4)

that."

Newton noted his logging behind a horse (which he made clear sounded a lot more appealing than it was in real life) progressed to using a Cat D2 line machine, "...probably in the late 50s."

By the time he was out of high school in '61, "...I had a pretty good hand on oldfashioned logging," which would serve him well over

He cut timber for a year after graduation before enlisting in the Air Force for four years where he served as a "munitions specialist" and included two tours in Vietnam.

In the interim Newton had married his high school sweetheart Dorothy in December of '63 when home on leave, and by the time he left the Air Force in '66, "...I had a pregnant wife and two children," to raise, thus he returned to Eureka.

FULL TIME LOGGING

"When I returned home in '66, I immediately put \$1,000 down a little crawler and started to make my for-

> (Continued on Page 15) See "Newton"



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2004 Link-Belt 240LXDHP



2006 Deere 850J LGP



2006 Valmet EX10



2010 Komatsu 445FXL



2007 Cat 345CL



2007 Deere 350DLC



1998 Cat 950G



1995 Cat D250E

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CASE

821; 9030B; 9040B; 9050; 9050B; 9060B

GROVE

RT745

LINK-BELT

210LX; 240LX; 3400 CII-Q; 4300 CII-Q; 5800 CII-Q; 6000Q

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SAMSUNG

SE 350LC2

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T425B-C-D; T445B-C-D; T445EXL; 475D; 475EXL

TIMBERKING

TK722; TK1162

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PC120-6; PC130-6; PC138US-2; PC150-5; PC160LC-7; PC200LC-6; PC220-6E; PC228USLC-3; D155AX5; D355A; WA 200-1; WA180-1; WA400-1; WA320-1; WA180-3; WA250-3; WA500-1

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608; 628; 1210B; 2628; 1270B

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ZX27U; ZX120; EX150; EX160; ZX200LL; EX200-5; EX60; EX200LC3; EX220-3; ZX330 ZX350LC: EX330LC5: EX400LC3: ZX450LC; EX550LC5; EX700; EX750-5

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EX10; 500T; 860; 892

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1996 CAT 322L LOG LOADER, high & wide, 52" grapple, 18,602 hours, working machine, call for location...\$65,000



98 THUNDERBIRD 1234L LOG LOADER 210-size machine, grapple, high & wide, Cummins, joystick, good undercarriage w/recent rails \$45,000



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1990 MORBARK 60/36, CAT 3408 @ 505 hp, cab, 3 axle, pintle tow, twindisc clutch, runs & w rks.. \$42 500

PIERCE HEEL RACK, removed from CAT 229 log loader, good condition, approx. 99" long, 3" main pin.....\$2,500

MANN BRUSH RAKE FOR CAT D4H/D5H, approx. 91" wide, 53" tall pin .\$3.000

BRUSH RAKE FOR CAT 518, 97" wide, 7 tines, approx. 42" tall.....\$2,200



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2011 JD 772G, 6 WD, (4) new 14:00R24 Bridgestone tires, 14' board, rear rip-per, choice of front lift group or push block, very clean, 3,715 hrs.....\$158,000



2013 Hyundai HL757TH-9, Tier III Cummins, 3.6 yd bucket, hyd QC, good 20.5x25 tires, cab, AC, 2,604 hrs, good loader......\$99,500



2012 CASE 621F, 3rd valve, QC w/4-yard bucket, ride control, 20.5x25 tires, AC, heat, radio, good, clean lease return unit, 4,428 hours.......996,000



1972 CAT 966C, 3rd valve, log forks, good 23.5 tires, 170hp, powershift, runs/shifts well......Roll-out bucket available for.

CAT 966C LOG FORKS, pin on, missing one cylinder, fair condition....\$2,500



2011 JD 450J LGP, 6-way blade, JD winch, cab, canopy, AC, heat, good undercarriage, 2,695 hours



2000 JD 648G II, dual-function boom, grapple, winch, direct-drive transmission, front glass & screens, (2) new 24.5 tires......\$42,500

BOOM & GRAPPLE FOR JD 648G II,



1999 CAT 525 SKIDDER, dual-function boom, bunching grapple, NO winch, 24.5x32 tires, 3304DIT @ 175 hp, power-shift, runs & shifts well, 17,448 hours......\$39,500



1990 CAT 518 SKIDDER, Esco grapple, NO winch, 3304 @ 130hp, runs & shifts well, 23.1 tires: 2 very good, 2 @ 10-15%. We have 2 new tires @ \$2,500

\$25,000 or \$30,000 with 2 new tires



1988 CAT 518 SKIDDER, Esco grapp



PROLENC SNUB-BERS for skid-ders, in stock CALL



NEW JD SAWHEAD, 24" cut, 30 degree rotation, approx 8,380 lbs., fits JD 959J and oth-ers.....\$50,000



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2012 CAT 329EL, CAT QC bucket, hyd raulic thumb, rear camera, 10'6" stick 2 495 hours \$185 000



2012 JD 300D Series II, very good 23.5Rx25 tires, 4,654 hours, good ma-



2004 IHC 4200SBA WATER TRUCK, 200 hp diesel, 5 speed, NEW 2015 Randco 2,000 gallon tank, front, rear & side sprays, 233,200 miles......\$36,000

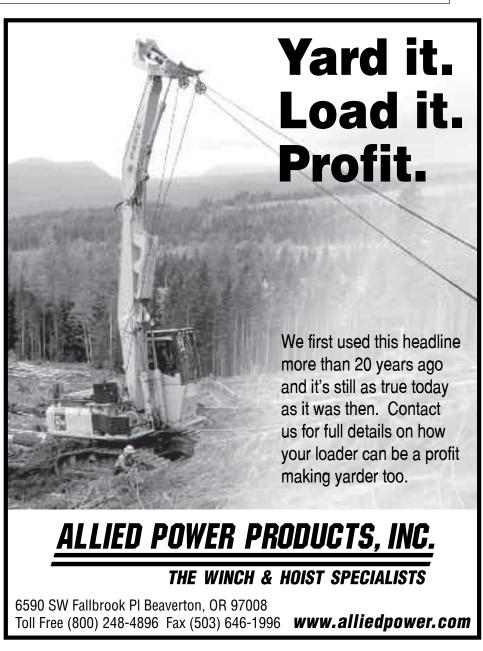


2005 EXTEC S5 CRAWLER SCREEN, 5'x16' 2-deck, 7'x12' feeder, 48" feed conveyor, 2 side conveyors, 48" rear discharge, remote control, low hours on Deutz, many new rollers......\$85,000



THE NEWTON LOGGING site shows processor operator Matt McMurray processing and pre-sorting logs with his Doosan 225 and LogMax 7000, for Newton Doosan Daewoo 225 shovel with Daewoo boom and grapple with Pierce grapple, operator Todd Boehler. He spent half of his career working on the coast until '99 when he came to Planes, "and I've been logging around here ever since." Boehler just started with Newton, mostly operating loader.







MATT McMURRAY (right) on the steps of his soon to be replaced Doosan 225, with Log-Max 7000 dangle head grapple with 18,000 hours on it. That'll be replaced in the next few weeks with a new Doosan 225 with a high cab and log loader boom, paired with a Waratah 622C dangle head processor.

COLE STINGER (left) began logging when he was 17 and turns 28 in July. He was operating Newton Logging's Cat 525 grapple skidder and has been logging the past 10 years, and has been with Newton less than a



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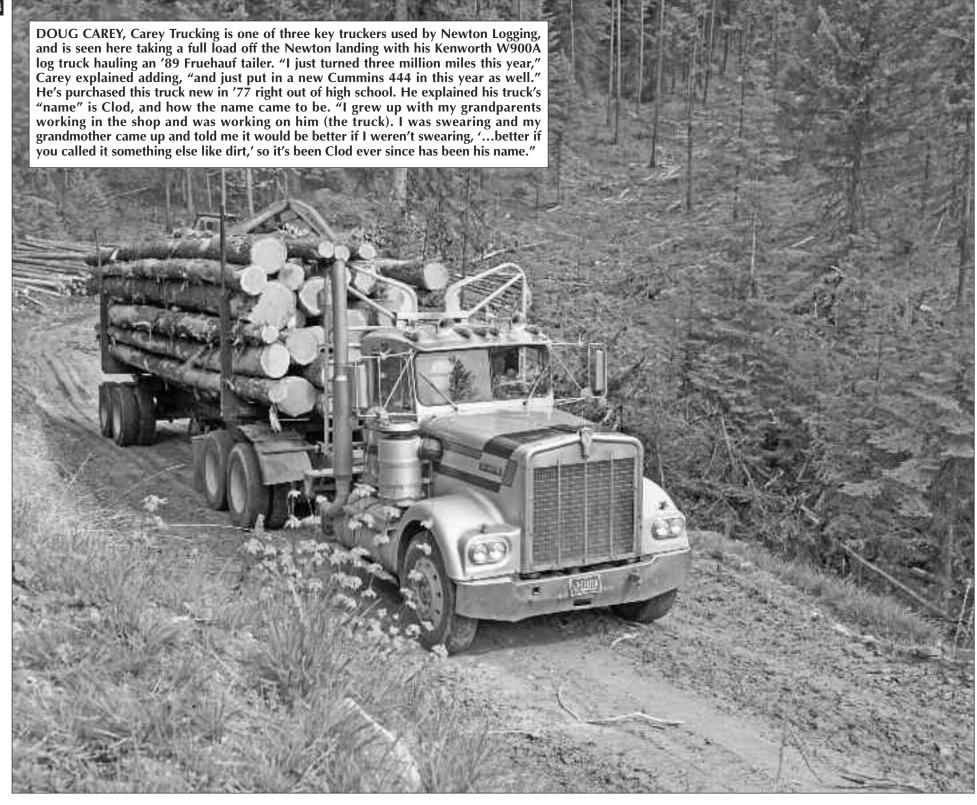
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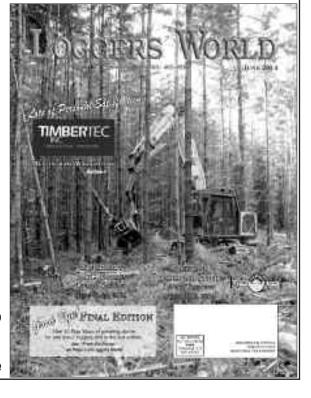
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tune," said Newton, and added, "...an old wore-out Ford truck too that we loaded with an A-Frame." Then found a cosigner and started buying salvage sales from the government." It was a two-man crew, and away they went.

In 1967 he bought, "...one of the early rubber-tired skidders in this part of the country, and went to work contract skidding for Fred King," then a few months later bought a second skidder as well. That worked well enough for a few years, when he again broke out on his own in '69 and "...went back to buying sales on my own again. It was better to do my own thing."

The company grew gradually averaging a five-man crew for the next decade plus, with wife Dorothy taking care of the books the entire time using computers and adding Quickbooks to the mix about 20 years ago.

NEXT GENERATION

Mike Newton's first job in the woods began the summer he was 12. "I was a little guy, (and) it

> was a one-man show," he explained. "I'd go out (with dad) in the mornings and help him tip trees. He was sawing by hand (using a Pioneer P41)."

> The tool he used to "tip" the tree was, "... like an axe handle attached to a piece of metal. You slid in behind the saw cut (instead of a wedge) and tipped the tree (typically lodge pole) over."

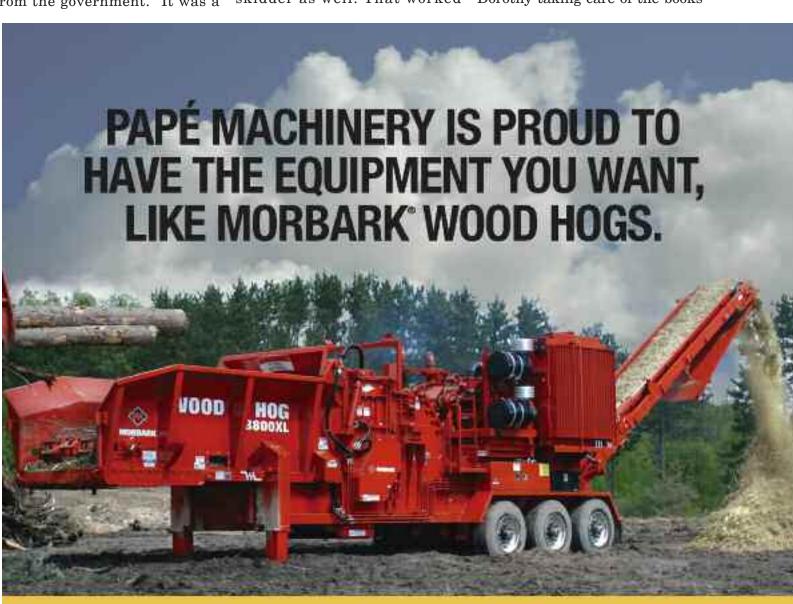
The second summer, "I was a choker setter behind a D6," he noted with a smile.

In his third year he graduated to running a skidder. "Back then at 14 you could get a driver's license in Montana then (and with that he could operate the skidders). I knew what I was doing by then."

His first skidder was a, "... 21A Garrett with a 3cylinder diesel engine (which they still have, though its in a place of honor, parked behind his house).

"It was a line machine with chokers." He was part of the fourman crew that included two sawyers and two skidder operators.

While Mike worked, "...quite a few weekends, for the most part (his



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(Continued on **Page 16**)

IO

ALAN BRYSON has been Newton Logging's feller buncher operator the past 11 years, seen here on their Timbco 445C with H\$400 (made by Equipment Repair) hot saw cutting. This is their spare feller buncher, typically he'd cut with their particular their particular

Newton

(Continued from Page 15)

time in the woods) was concentrated during the summer months."

By the summer he was 16, Newman explained, "...dad gave me a raise (from \$6/hour) to \$9/hour... that was big money," he noted. "Dad said I was producing as much as the other guys so he brought me up to their rate as well."

Much of that money Newman accumulated over the next few years, adding, "I used some of that money I'd saved at 16, to buy my first house when I was first married, and I still have some of that money now."

By the time he'd graduated from Lincoln High County School

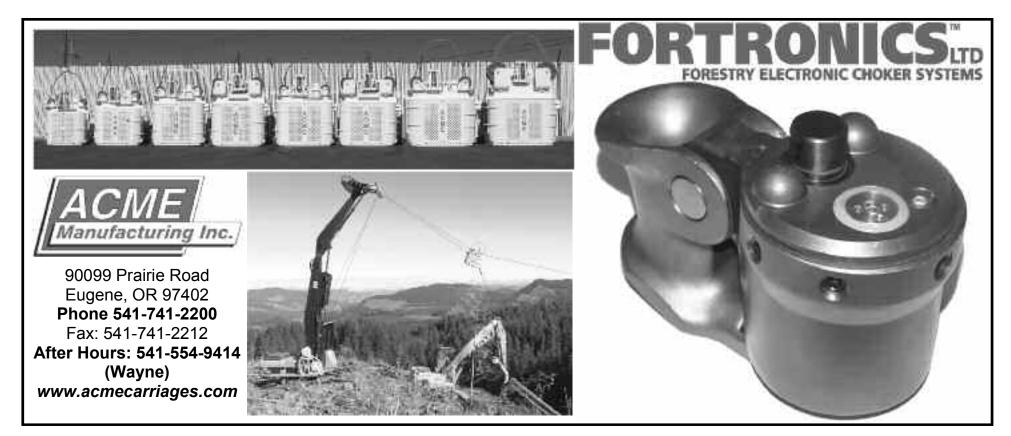
in '84, "...I'd learned to run all of the machinery." It was clear to Mike he wanted to be a logger, he explained saying, "...it kind of got in my blood from working summers. Dad had said if you want to run equipment you need to learn how to work on it, so I figured out how to work on it," which led to his enrolling at Northern Montana College in

Havre," enrolling in their diesel technology program, "...really studying to be a mechanic."

At the end of that first year, Mike explained, "I decided that wasn't my thing, and dad's was growing. I couldn't wait to get back into logging."

"When I came back after col-

(Continued on Page 19)





TODD BOEHLER (left) operates Newton Logging's Doosan 225LL shovel logger that operates beneath their processor. He'd been logging on the coast when he was 18 and turns 50 this July, but has been in Montana since '99.

DOUG CAREY (right) owns "Clod" his first truck purchased in '77. Clod's a Kenworth W900A, which hauls an '89 Fruehauf trailer behind it. Carey's one of three primary truckers that haul for Newton Logging.





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2008 Cat 320DFM, Cat grapple, 7,900 hrs, new u/c, auto lube system	\$194,500
2004 Cat 320CFM , 23,000 hrs, good u/c	
2004 Cat 322C, w/Pierce grapple, forestry cab, rblt motor, 15,400 hrs	
2003 Cat 325C, w/Pierce grapple, good u/c	
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2013 Doosan DX300LL, 3,400 hrs xlent cond. w/ Pierce grapple	
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2005 JD 2054, w/05 Waratah 622B, 6000 hrs on pump and motor, recent drive motors on 622	\$62,500
2000 JD 230 LC, w/ Pierce PTH 20 head, standard carrier, RB front	\$75,000
2007 Hitachi ZX350LL, w/05 Waratah 624, 14,500 hrs, recent pump, good cond.	\$140,000
2009 Link-Belt 330LX, w/09 Waratah 624C, good cond., RB front	POR
2013 Link-Belt 350LL, w/2013 Waratah 624C, full rotation, c/w rubber & steel wheeels, 3000 hrs	s \$545,000
2012 Link-Belt 290LL, w/2012 Waratah 624C, good cond	POR
2008 Link-Belt 330, w/2008 Waratah 624, good u/c, rblt head	POR
2010 Tigercat H855C, w/Waratah 624C, 9,000 hrs, recent pump, good cond	
2010 Komatsu PC270, w/Pierce GP, 3000 hrs on head & 7000 on carrier, xlent cond	
2002 Cat 325C, w/2002 Waratah 622	
2001 Waratah 622, w/comp., controls, we can install on your machine	
1999 L-B 3400Q, w/ DM 3500, recent boom & bushings	
2003 Daewoo 300, w/DM 4400, 15,000 hrs, recent pump, good u/c, 3/4 chain on top & butt sa	
2003 Daewoo 300, w/Pierce 3348, 18,000 hrs, nice limber	\$69,500
2004 Cat 322C, w/ Pierce 3348, 18,000 hrs, very good u/c, new pump, nice cond	
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2001 Cat 320B, w/DT 4400, recent repairs, nice limber	
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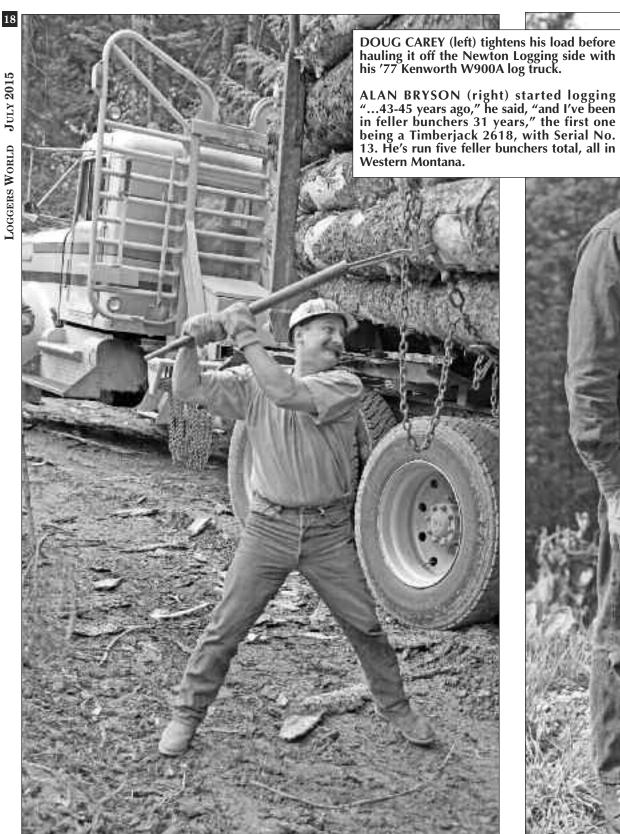
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2005 Madill T2250B, rblt 22" Quadco 360, 2000 on motor, 1000 on u/c, all bushing, pins, 12,000 hrs**\$159,500**

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Newton

(Continued from Page 16)

lege in 1985, I stepped right in as a key part of the production at that time," Newton said. "At that time the crew of six included dad and me, (dad in loader, Mike on skidder, another skidder operator, and three sawyers. Dad always ran the loader."

AUTOMATION

Newton Logging were early adopters into grapple skidders about and shifting towards automating for a few years by that point. "I'd skidded with a swing grapple machine behind the sawyers for several years," Newton explained.

The real leap in production came with their purchased of a Timbco 430 Hydro-Buncher with Timbco bar saw around 1990. "It was a major investment for dad," Newton explained, "costing \$200,000... a huge step."

"The most influential person in making that successful," said Charlie Newton, "was Rex Svoboda (who was the Timbco dealer and owned Equipment Repair). I'd looked at the machine at the Intermountain Logging Conference," and met Pat Crawford (who owned Timbco at the time) who was there with this new machine. He was a good salesman, and very honest," but Svoboda's support after sales made the difference. "He babysat those machines... call him at any hour of any day. If he wasn't elsewhere he'd be at our machine in a matter of hours. He was well aware it had to work if we were going to pay for it."

We were working for Owens and Hurst at the time and had the opportunity to move a lot more wood." And while it was (big risk), he figured he had to grow," and it was reassuring knowing son Mike was committed long term to the business as well. "And while you never really know exactly what's in front of you," Mike explained, "there was a lot going on, so it was a good opportunity. It turned out to be a very good move."

They'd hired John Ward,

who'd had a lot experience running a Case 1187, to run the new Timbco. "It was another good move," Newton said. The leap in production, from hand falling to automation with the Timbco was huge!

A year later, Newton added a Denis monoboom stroke de-

(Continued on Page 20)

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(Continued from Page 19)

limber, to keep up with the wood they were moving. They were running a five to six man crew, producing quality logs, and running very efficiently.

BIG MOVE

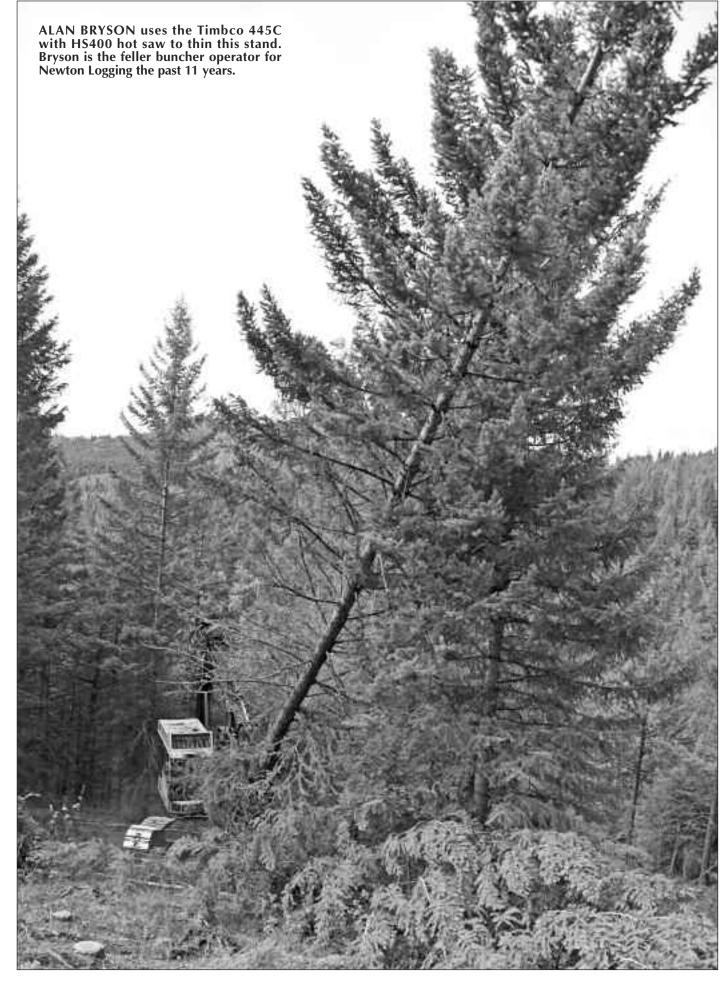
In 1995, Newton had the opportunity to log for Plum Creek. "I'd been contracting for Owens and Hurst," and was a "favored logger" for them, "... but I felt a better future with Plum Creek." Mike Newton added, "... dad asked my opinion, we talked at the time. We were still in Eureka and if we went to work for Plum Creek we'd be in the Flathead logging. When we did that we were going to move there and be home more of the time." They made the change to Plum Creek. "Working for Plum Creek was the bigger, wiser decision," Mike said. "A few years later (5-6 years), when Owens and Hurst left, we were in a very good position." Changing when they did, "...happened at the right time." The relationship continues to work extraordinarily well some 20 years later.

LEARNING THE **BUSINESS**

The idea of an eventual transition in ownership had been talked about for years, "...kind of always the plan, though no date was set," yet learning the business side of logging was an essential to success, and something the younger Newton had to know to be a successful businessman. Knowing the crew, how to lead, how to log are prerequisite, but understanding the business end is critical.

"I started negotiating contracts about 12 years ago," Mike said, adding, "...it was not a job I liked, but dad pushed me into that. I'll give dad credit for that, too. He knew if I was going to be successful it was something I had to learn, so he shoved me at it."

It was not always a fun process, Newton explained. "I made some mistakes, and he'd asked why I did that, and what my reasoning was. In hind sight I know now, that he did the very best he could do for me, to give me some of that hard knocks education."



All this was in real time as well. "I did the negotiating yet it was still his business. If I screwed up I still made my wages, I still had the big net under me, but that never cost me money directly," Newton said. "That was a huge advantage for me when I bought him out. I was able to hit the ground running."

SMALLER WOOD

Around 2006, the trend towards

working in smaller wood, encouraged Newton's changing from a stroke delimber to dangle head processors. "Dad felt we could get better quality with the dangle head, and run the wood through faster. That was part of the trend and Plum Creek thought we could get better utilization as well," Mike recalled. They purchased a Doosan excavator adding a LogMax 7000 processor, which has 18,000 hours on it. "It's treated us pretty good," said Mike. It's been a good head. We work on it but the head's made an awful lot of logs."

This month they're updating to a Waratah 622C dangle head and mounting it on a "...225 Doosan, with a log loader boom and a high cab. That keeps you away from the dirt and dust you get in an excavator cab," said

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(Continued from Page 20)

Newton. "Guys who have them suggest it will work a lot better for what I want to do with it."

MORE INNOVATION

A few years before changing ownership, Charlie Newton felt a practical solution to skidding logs on steep ground was needed. "We wanted something that would climb the same hills the Timbco was climbing," said Mike Newton. "We may only skid the logs 150-200 ft., and you can take the ground straight up and skid to the flatter ground for the skidders. It helped bunch the logs a bit as well."

What about visibility while backing down the hill? Easy: mount a small tv camera to the back of the cab, and a monitor inside the front of the cab! They put it in action about four years ago and it's worked like a charm. The side benefit is that Timbco can quickly be put in service cutting timber with some quick changing. Nice solution, minimal cost.

TODAY'S COMPANY

Newton Logging has remained at its current size of five for many years, and Mike Newton was quick to note, "we wouldn't be in this spot if I didn't have the exceptional crew, the heart and soul of any business. Without them I couldn't do it."

He's gradually updating and replacing iron, as they've always done. Iron includes:

- Timbco: 2004 Timbco 445 EXL with a Pierce 22" hot saw
- Timbco 445C, a '97 machine, which they the can mount the grapple or hot saw on. It has an HS400 hot saw from Equipment Repair, Inc., a head they'd made. Its' been pretty tough," Newton added.
- 220 Daewoo shovel made in'98 with a Pierce grapple and boom (just before Daewoo started building their own grapple and boom. It has 16,000 hours on it.
- A Second 225 Doosan shovel logger, "I think it's an '04 or '06 and has 14,000 hours on it," said Mike.
- And the processor: a 225 Doosan with a LogMax 7000. "If every machine would do what that has done we'd be pretty happy. It's being replaced by a 225 Doosan, a big bigger machine, more horse power, oil flow, and a bit heavier with the Waratah 622C dangle head processor.

"Typically the job runs for a fiveday week," Newton explained." I split the crew, my guys work 50 hours a week, but they do that in four days. I have some guys work Mondays and take Fridays off, and others take Monday off and are there through Friday. I'm the five day a week man, and do all I can do to keep logs moving, especially four days a week when we're camping," as they were when we caught them.

"We cover health insurance for our guys," although expenses and changes in the law have occurred, they've flexed. "My wife figured out the Obama medical plan and we have a reasonable account for our guys. It's a mix of major medical plan and a health savings account that's affordable. We try to do the best we can to take care of our crew."

"I have three trucks on the job," Newton explained. Joe Peletier, Peletier Trucking out of Eureka, is our primary trucker; Doug Carey, Carey Trucking, out of Kalispell, and Robert Martin, Martin Logging, has nine trucks, and I keep one of his trucks steady too, and if I have extra wood to haul he'll provide a fourth truck as well. Those truckers are some of the best in the business. They come and do their job and are fun to be around."

A key to the business is Mike's wife Nettie, who also runs the books. He's known her since high school, and they've been married the past three years. "Things change," said Newton with a smile, "so I'm a lucky guy. Getting married to a good friend is kind of an interesting deal. It's been really good." Between them they have four grown offspring, "...and six grandkids."

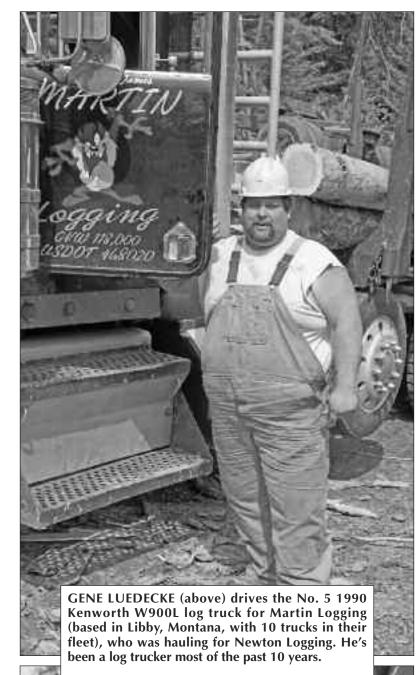
In the two years since he bought the business, Newton smiled in saying, "being a business owner has been a good experience to me because I have good guys around me."

He summed it up saying, "a few years ago, when I bought dad out, I knew what I was doing.

He educated me on what I needed to do to make things successful," not only through knowing how to work, and how to log, but in the practical business side of logging as well.

"My success right now," he said with a wry grin then added, "rather I liked it then or not. He taught me what I needed to know to make it a success."

"I've had a really good employer, with Plum Creek," Newton said. "We're doing a lot of commercial thinning. I think the future's bright. Our machinery is up to date. And I think staying the size we are and healthy with machinery and crew, I think it's a doable thing."





BLAS FROM THE PAST BY QUINN J. MURK FOR LOGGERS WORLD

In the early 1960's, hydraulic loaders were being developed. Mounted on an International truck, this is a first generation rig at work. Before this, some PTO driven cable machines had been around, but hydraulic struly revolutionized the industry. The hydraulic grapple was raised and lowered by a hydraulic winch. The Columbus Day windstorm in 1962 blew down billions of board feet of timber, from California to British Columbia. The salvage efforts put the self-loading log truck industry into motion. If anyone out there knows who made this unit, I'd like to hear from you. I have some ideas, but without made this unit, I'd like to hear from you. I have some ideas, but without knowing I am not going to speculate.

CONTACT
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BLAST FROM THE PAST



I had to throw this one in for fun. For those of you who know me, you now that I like to have a sip of good whiskey now and then. What's that got to do with this picture? Well, it was taken at an old cooperage factory, and the little boards are "barrel staves." They have been cut out of hardwood bolts, probably oak, and they need to season out. So, the rough cut blanks are stacked on edge to dry, and when ready they will be worked up into barrels or kegs. Kegs required short, heavy boards, and that looks like what's being done here. The old loggers loved whiskey, so maybe this old photo will gladden many a heart to think wood was put to such good use – whiskey kegs. Notice the different styles of clothes and hats in the picture. It shows a mixture of different European ethnic groups, working together during America's boom in European immigration.



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It took a lot of "bulls" to pull an old solid wheel logging wagon in the 1870's. There are five yoke of bulls here, ten animals, to get this top heavy load to where it needs to go.

This picture, taken in the 1870's, is from the Lake Tahoe basin which provided the lumber, timbers and fuel wood for the famed "Comstock Lode," centered in Virginia City, Nevada. Billions of board feet of sawed products and millions of cords of fuel wood were hauled to Virginia City over the years, usually by the famous "Virginia and Truckee Railroad." Wood products were also brought in by pack animals.

The Lake Tahoe basin was so heavily cut over that the then new U.S. Forest Service believed it would never grow back. However, in my collection, I have a 1920's government report on that subject and guess what, it came back. Now the trees are so thick that fires start right in town and race up the hillsides, making things interesting for those who live there.

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AMERICAN LOGGERS

As We See It

THE TIME IS NOW!

By Jim Geisinger

The forest fire season is upon us. The absence of active management on federal forest lands for the past two decades have left our public forest lands full of excessive fuel. Add to that the severe drought conditions in the western states and we have a tinder box waiting to explode as summer nears.

But help might be on the way with the introduction of the National Forest Management Improvement Act of 2015. The bill was released by the House Natural Resources Committee on May 27 and will be the subject of a hearing on June 3 in the Subcommittee on Federal Lands chaired by California Congressman Tom McClintock.

The bill is intended to change the course in how our national forests are managed. Some of the highlights include:

• Providing the Forest Service with expanded authority to use

Categorical Exclusions for timber sales and other projects and reduce and streamline environmental analyses for restoration projects developed by collaborative groups.

- Give the agency authority to expedite the salvage of timber after wildfires and to reforest and recover national forest lands affected by wildfires.
- Require the posting of a bond by groups filing legal challenges

of projects that are the product of collaborative planning processes.

- Adjusts the uses of Secure Rural Schools Title II funds to create self-sustaining local advisory committees by focusing 50% of the funds to timber management projects and to use the funds generated by such projects for additional work.
- Provides for sharing 25% of the revenues generated from Stewardship Contracts with local counties. Currently, the proceeds from Stewardship Contracts are not shared with local governments
- Creates a revolving fund allowing the Forest Service to use up to 25% of the revenue from Stewardship Contracts to plan additional projects and amends the Collaborative Landscape Restoration Act to allow these funds to be spent on planning efforts in addition to the implementation of projects.

The bill also requires the Forest Service to engage with state and local governments in the planning and implementation of forest management projects.

While the National Forest Management Improvement Act of 2015 is a work in process, it is certainly a step in the right direction for reforming how the national forests of this country should be managed. The status quo is not acceptable. Our nation-

al forests should be a public asset, not a liability. When hundreds of thousands of acres are destroyed every year by wildfires and half of the Forest Service's budget is spent suppressing them, the public is not being well-served. Something must be changed.

The American Loggers Council has made the reformation of federal forest management policies one of its legislative priorities. We will spend this summer advocating for reforms like those articulated in the National Forest Management Improvement Act of 2015.

The time is now. We must stop the destruction of our national treasures.

Jim Geisinger is the Executive Director for the Associated Oregon Loggers based in Salem, Oregon and is also serves as the Legislative Committee Chair for the American Loggers Council. For more information visit the AOL website at www.oregonloggers.org.

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.americanlog-gers.org or contact their office at 409-625-0206 or email americanlogger@aol.com.

"Pendley"

(Continued from 27)

company to develop hydrocarbons there. Moreover, in 1983, federal and private scrutiny of the 23-acre drill site and three alternative access routes found no "cultural resources" and declared, "[N]o religious site or activities were identified in the project area...." That same conclusion was reached in 1993.

Likewise, the Tribe's sole challenge of the drilling site plan came—not on religious or cultural grounds but—from the Tribe's mistaken belief that it owned mineral rights in the area.

Meanwhile, the Forest Service concluded that a "traditional cultural district" (TCD) of some 90,000 acres existed on federal lands beyond the APD drill site, which was designated with the Tribe's concurrence. Less than two years later, the Tribe demanded expansion of the TCD's boundary. To appease the Tribe, federal officials bankrolled the Tribe and its consultants in generating multiple studies to expand the TCD to 120,000 and then 165,000 acres, thereby enveloping the drilling site but excluding nearby private lands. If history is any indication, another 30 years of study beckon. Sadly, it is years Mr. Longwell does not have; 43 when he won the lease, he is 77 today.

Federal officials say they are helpless given the Tribe's position that no oil and gas drilling occur in the area due to its "spiritual and religious power," but one federal official suggested that a \$5 million payment would remove all objections. In fact, in 2013, the Tribe published a slick, twelve page prospectus, "Oil and Gas Development Opportunities" on its nearby tribal lands. Federal officials, in addition to sloth, ineptitude, and bad faith in the performance of their duties, have ceded federal lands to the Tribe. Whether that is lawful will be determined in federal court.

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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Summary Judgment....

Sacred Lands or the **Almighty Dollar?**

by William Perry Pendley

An American Indian tribe in Montana says a Louisiana man may not use his property, which lies in a national forest, because the land is sa-

For over two decades federal officials let the Tribe have its way despite a Supreme Court 1988 opinion by Justice O'Connor: "Whatever rights the Indians may have to the use of [a sacred] area...those rights do not divest the Government of its right to use what is, after all, its land." Now a federal court must decide if the Tribe's opposition is legal given its self-serving, economic conflict of interest.

In 1982, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) issued Sidney M. Longwell of Baton Rouge, a 6,247 acre oil and gas lease in the BadgerTwo Medicine Area of the Lewis and Clark National Forest-south of Glacier National Park, the Great Northern Railroad, and U.S. Highway 2, east of private lands, and southwest of the Blackfeet Reservation in Glacier County in northwestern Montana. In 1983, an application for permit (APD) to drill a single well was submitted to evaluate the potential of that part of the Overthrust Belt, whose unique geology may yield "100 trillion cubic feet of natural gas" there. After repeated reviews under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), the APD was approved in 1985, 1987, 1991, and finally in 1993—subject to onerous mitigation measures and a mandate for added reviews if producible quantities of gas were discovered.

Nonetheless, the Clinton adminis-

tration tried to kill the lease. In 1993, ²⁷ 1994, and 1995, Secretary Babbitt suspended lease activity purportedly so Congress could designate the area as a wilderness, which was impossible—the Tribe has reserved rights to 8 hunt and gather wood there. In 1996, Babbitt continued the suspension ostensibly to comply with the NHPA a fifth time, repeated that suspension in 1997, and in 1998 made it indefinite. In 2013, Mr. Longwell sued Secretary Jewell and others to end the decadeslong suspension.

The delay—maintain federal slawyers—is due to the government's "diligent" efforts to address the cultural concerns of the Blackfeet Tribe regarding the area. Yet, weeks after the 1983 APD's submission, the Tribe passed a resolution to join with an oil

(Continued on Page 26)

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