



NEWSLETTER

Summer 2010

Production, education and marketing of quality roundwood products

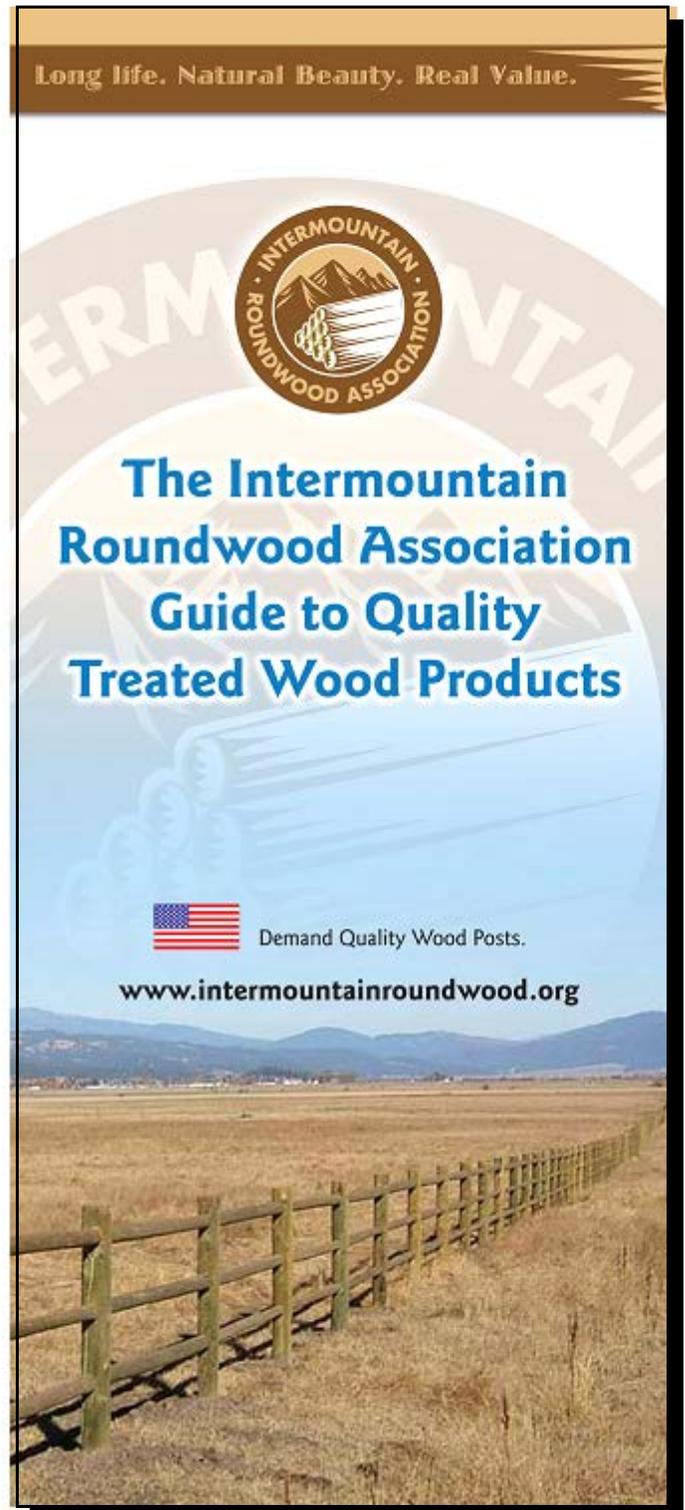
President's Message

Hopefully the weather hasn't hampered operations to much and spring and summer orders have been keeping everyone busy.

Some problems that we face in the roundwood industry are very difficult to control, the weather and the economy fall into that category. There are others that we can at least try to deal with in a positive way. The bug epidemic is one of those, so I would encourage everyone to contact their local land managers, state, federal, private or tribal to manage the forest proactively. In other words, try to thin forests before the bugs become a problem in an area instead of just chasing the bugs after they have already infected an area. While I understand the importance of working areas infected by bugs to try to mitigate the damage and trying to slow the spread of the bug population, I feel that a part of the land managers budget needs to be dedicated to thinning areas before the bugs get there to try to protect these areas from bug attack. Thinning the forest is the only cost effective way that I know of to slow the spread of bugs. Also thinning is not only our best defense against bug infestations but it also creates jobs and helps local economies to survive and prosper.

In closing, the IRA Board will continue to address the issues that confront the roundwood industry, so let us know if you have a concern. I hope everyone has a great summer. The dedicated, hard-working people in this association deserve a great summer.

–Bill Baker, President



The new IRA Quality Awareness brochure. See pages 5 and 6 for more information.

2010 Summer IRA Board of Directors

Date of Meeting: June 10, 2010

Minutes taken by Rich Lane, Secretary

Attendees: Board of Director members present included Bill Baker, Jody Parker, Scott Corwin, Rich Lane & Executive Administrator Karen Kovatch.

Open Meeting – Board President Bill Baker opened the meeting at 9:14 AM via conference call once it was confirmed we had a quorum (4 board members).

Treasurer's Report – On behalf of IRA Treasurer Kal Kovatch, IRA Executive Administrator Karen Kovatch reported a cash balance of \$11,214.08 as of 6/10/2010. There is \$7,072.58 in the interest-bearing Vanguard account. The remaining balance of \$4,141.50 is in the Association checking account. Karen noted that expenses for the most recent (Spring 2010) newsletter have not yet been paid but the current balance does include all expenses for the 2010 Annual Meeting. Jody Parker moved to accept the Treasurer's report, Lane seconded and the motion to accept the Treasurer's report passed unanimously. Karen also reported that member dues revenue for the year-to-date has been \$5,200.

Previous Meeting Minutes – A motion to approve the Spring 2010 minutes was delayed as not everyone on the call had received or had the opportunity to review the final version of those minutes as printed in the most recent newsletter. The Spring 2010 minutes will be reviewed for final approval at the next Board of Director's meeting in the Fall of 2010.

Old Business –

Tax Reporting – The Intermountain Roundwood Association is registered with the IRS as a non-profit organization. Because our annual financial receipts are less than \$25,000 we are exempt from filing certain 990 reports. However, there is some uncertainty regarding our need to file an electronic 990N report. Confirmation of those reporting requirements is needed. Karen and IRA Board member Darrell Miller will follow-up on those reporting requirements and report back to the Board at the Fall 2010 meeting.

Brochures – Work continues on changes to and reprinting of the Quality Awareness brochures. Former Board member Mike Sterling finalized discussions with Osmose regarding treating specifications and two electronic versions of the revised brochure will be emailed to each board member by Karen in the next couple weeks for review and comments. The Board plans to select and approve a new brochure format at the Fall 2010 board meeting.

Treating Specifications for Montana – At the Spring 2010 board meeting, IRA member Louie Bouma raised the issue of the newly revised treating specs for dowelled roundwood products used by the Montana Department of Transportation (MDOT). Board member Jody Parker has worked closely with Louie and MDOT officials over the last few months. IRA member's involvement in the issue resulted in a determination that the new standards were not being correctly interpreted particularly regarding the sampling procedures. Jody reported to the Board that although the issue may not be completely resolved, it is moving in the right direction. The Board will continue to monitor the issue.

Storm Water Permits – At the Spring 2010 Board meeting, IRA member Louie Bouma had raised the potential for rule changes affecting storm water permits for industrial sites in Montana. Jody Parker noted he will continue to coordinate closely with Louie regarding increased storm water regulation. The Board will continue to monitor the issue.

Stress Standards for Minor Species of Structural Poles – Representatives of the Timber Piling Council had contacted IRA regarding the need to update stress standards for “Minor Species” of structural poles. Those species include Douglas-fir, Southern Yellow Pine, Lodgepole Pine, Western Larch, Western Red Cedar and Ponderosa Pine. The cost to update stress standards is \$1,000 per species. The Board discussed this issue at length to determine if IRA needed to financially support strength testing of structural poles. IRA may have one or two members affected by this issue, but so far no members have contacted IRA regarding this issue. It was also noted that the University of Idaho and the U.S. Forest Service Forest Products Lab in Madison, Wisconsin have data regarding the strength characteristics of those species. The Board discussed the available options. Lane made a motion, seconded by Scott, that IRA not take further action on this issue unless we learn it affects IRA members or we receive additional feedback from IRA members asking for support. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business –
Conference Call Account – Bill Baker set up a conference call account with AccuConference to facilitate IRA board member conference calls at a cheaper rate than in the past (9.9 cents per minute per phone line). There is no monthly charge – charges are incurred only for actual time used. The participant code will stay the

same for future calls, but Bill will control access to the account and submit expenses as incurred.

Fall Board Meeting - The Fall 2010 Board meeting will be held in Pinedale Wyoming at board member Scott Corwin’s Pickaroon Timber Products plant site on Friday September 17th. (*Editor’s Note: Meeting is now scheduled for Friday, October 8th.*) Scott will provide a meeting room and plant tour. More information will be provided soon. Spouses are invited.

2011 Annual Meeting – The Board discussed the dates and location of the 2011 Annual Meeting. Karen has talked with the Hilton Garden Inn in Missoula where we continue to get good service at a reasonable price. The available dates include Thursday March 17th and Friday the 18th, which is the time period when the Annual meeting is historically scheduled. Board members agreed to let Karen know their availability for those dates

Newsletter Articles –

President’s Message – IRA president Bill Baker will provide a President’s message to Karen by the end of June so Karen can publish and mail the next newsletter in August.

New Director Notes – Board member Jody Parker will provide Karen with a New Director Note by the end of June.

Meeting Minutes – IRA secretary Lane will provide Karen with the Summer 2010 meeting minutes by the end of June.

Adjourn – The quarterly board meeting of the Intermountain Roundwood Association adjourned at 10:15 AM MDT.

-Rich Lane, Secretary

New Director Note

By Jody Parker

I would like to thank the membership for nominating me to the board of directors. This will make my thirteenth year as a director and I have been a member since 1991. Let me take this opportunity to introduce myself.

I grew up in Rapid City South Dakota. Being that Rapid City was a tourist area, I spent most of my early years working in the restaurant and motel business. After graduation from high school I started working in the lumber business and have been in that business ever since.

I worked at various lumber yards and doing carpentry work to put myself through college. In 1985 I graduated from South Dakota School of Mines and Technology with a degree in Civil Engineering. But after graduating, the large lumber company I was working for made me an offer to go to work as their manager.



Loading posts at Hills Products Group.

In 1988 the lumber yard I was managing decided to close. It was then that I started working for Hills Materials Company. I took a position as an estimator of asphalt and utilities project. However, just prior to me joining the



Jacque, Layne and Jody at the office in Whitewood, South Dakota.

company, Hills Materials had bought the old Whitewood Post and Pole Company. I spent time working as an estimator and doing projects at the post and pole for the next two year until going full time there in November of 1989. That was over 20 years ago and many things have change since.

In 1991 through 1992 we tore down the old

used for consumer product such as decks, fences, and landscape materials. In 2008 we updated to MCQ and we are now updating again to MCA. Another important change took place in 2005, when the plant was totally

automated and computerized. The automation greatly increased the plant production capabilities. Without a great and talented staff, these changes could not have been implemented and the success we have enjoyed could not have materialized.

I look forward to serving on the board and encourage any input from the membership.

Photos courtesy of Jody Parker. 📷

Save the Date

Tap it into your Blackberry...

The 23rd IRA Annual Meeting is scheduled for March 17th & 18th 2011 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Missoula, MT. The IRA Social will be in the evening on the 17th and the Annual Meeting will be on the 18th.

New Quality Awareness Brochure

The IRA Board of Directors along with Karen Kovatch have worked with Buffy Flesher of Osmose to create an updated brochure for promoting quality treated wood products. The biggest changes were to the treating standards tables to reflect the changes in roundwood standards as well as all of the new wood preservatives now being used.

This brochure originated from efforts started by former IRA director Mike Sterling and Jim Basler of Osmose. The brochures are slated to be adopted at the fall Board meeting. Printing will be completed and they will be available to members at the Annual Meeting in Missoula, MT on March 18th 2011.

Please see inside design on next page.

Properly treated wood posts deliver real value.

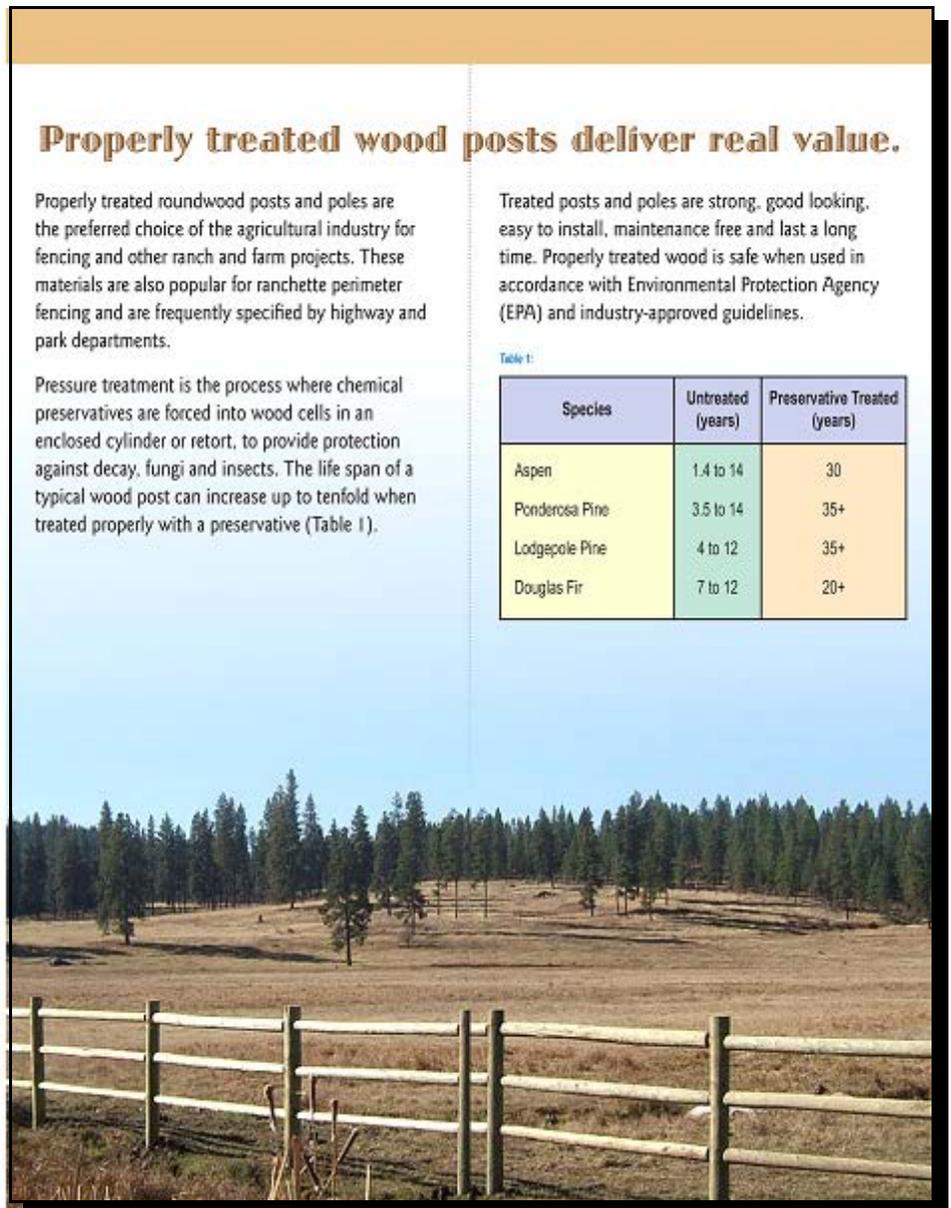
Properly treated roundwood posts and poles are the preferred choice of the agricultural industry for fencing and other ranch and farm projects. These materials are also popular for ranchette perimeter fencing and are frequently specified by highway and park departments.

Pressure treatment is the process where chemical preservatives are forced into wood cells in an enclosed cylinder or retort, to provide protection against decay, fungi and insects. The life span of a typical wood post can increase up to tenfold when treated properly with a preservative (Table 1).

Treated posts and poles are strong, good looking, easy to install, maintenance free and last a long time. Properly treated wood is safe when used in accordance with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and industry-approved guidelines.

Table 1:

Species	Untreated (years)	Preservative Treated (years)
Aspen	1.4 to 14	30
Ponderosa Pine	3.5 to 14	35+
Lodgepole Pine	4 to 12	35+
Douglas Fir	7 to 12	20+



The gatefold of the new IRA Quality Awareness brochure.

New Quality Awareness Brochure

Table 2: AWPA UCA9, UCA8, T1-09 Standard - Recommended pressure treatment retentions and depth of penetration for wood posts in ground contact
American Wood Preservers' Association 2009 Standards

Preservative	Retention (lb/ft ³)	Depth of Penetration*
Lodgepole pine		
Copper Naphthenate	0.055	
Creosote	0.0	Visual 1/4" or
Fluoride	0.40	50% of sapwood
ACQ, ACQA	0.40	
ACQ-C	0.50	Scientific
CA-B	0.40	3/8" and
CA-C	0.25	50% of sapwood
CA-D	0.15	up to 1/4"
CCA-A	0.40	
CCA-C	0.40	
Roundwood pine		
Copper Naphthenate	0.055	
Creosote	0.0	
Fluoride	0.40	2" or
ACQ, ACQA	0.40	50% of sapwood
ACQ-C	0.50	
ACQ-B	0.40	
CA-A	0.25	
CCA	0.40	
Douglas fir		
Copper Naphthenate	0.055	
Creosote	0.0	
Fluoride	0.40	3/8" and 100% of
ACQ, ACQA	0.40	sapwood up to 1" or
ACQ-C	0.50	50% of sapwood
CA-A	0.40	
CCA	0.40	
Black locust, Western white pine		
Creosote	0.0	
Fluoride	0.40	3/8" and 100% of
ACQ, ACQA	0.40	sapwood up to 1" or
ACQ-C	0.50	50% of sapwood
CA-B	0.40	
CCA	0.40	

Characteristics of high-quality, properly treated roundwood posts

Does the product meet U.S. specifications for treated posts?
 The American Wood Preservers' Association (AWPA) specifications are the principal wood-treating standards used throughout the United States. Properly treated wood posts must meet the AWPA UCA9, UCA8, T1-09 standards (Table 2). There are many good preservatives available for a variety of products and applications. Regardless of the preservative used, make certain your supplier provides you only with roundwood posts that meet this AWPA UCA9, UCA8, T1-09 standard.

Do the posts look good?
 Wood posts can offer an aesthetically pleasing finished product. High quality, properly treated roundwood posts and poles should be clean, free of bark, smooth, and straight.

Is the product sound?
 Properly treated roundwood posts and poles should be free of excessive cracking, splits, knots, and rot, and have a minimal amount of taper. Visually inspect each delivery to ensure soundness of materials.

Are they consistently sized?
 Properly treated posts and poles are sized correctly. If you are purchasing four-inch diameter posts, all of the posts should measure four inches or larger on the small end. Make certain you are receiving the quality product you purchased.

Proper Treatment
 Note sapwood depth. Heartwood (orange) cannot be treated.

Superior strength
 Treated wood posts are exceptionally strong, providing a strength-to-weight ratio that is much higher than that for iron or steel. A load of 300 pounds applied 48 inches above the ground line will cause steel posts to fail, but it would take at least 400 pounds to cause a failure in a 2 1/2-inch wood post.

Interior Treatment
 Note sapwood depth. Heartwood (orange) cannot be treated. Good treatment penetration of 85% or more of sapwood conforms to AWPA standards. Poor treatment penetration due to excess moisture content. Poor service life will result.

Long life span reduces total costs
 The life span of a typical roundwood post can increase up to tenfold when treated to the AWPA UCA9, UCA8, T1-09 standards. For example, the life span of an untreated lodgepole pine post is just four to 12 years, whereas the properly treated version can last over 35 years. This can greatly reduce your total costs - material, installation and replacement labor - over time.

Easy to install
 Properly treated quality roundwood posts are straight, have minimal taper, and are easy to use. Wood posts can be installed using a tractor-mounted post pounder or auger depending on soil conditions and preference of the installer.

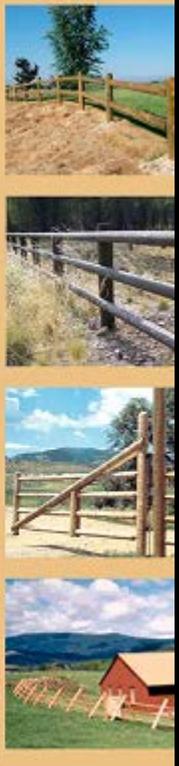
Holds well in soil
 Treated wood posts stay in the ground better because more surface area is in contact with the surrounding soil. If the soil is even slightly sandy, steel posts become unstable while properly installed wood posts stay solid in the ground.

No maintenance required
 Posts treated to the AWPA UCA9, UCA8, T1-09 standards require very little upkeep. Montana highway workers report these posts give years of maintenance-free service and they have never had a wood signpost actually wear out.

Wood has natural beauty
 Properly treated wood posts look good and enhance the natural beauty of the landscape by blending seamlessly with their surroundings.

Treated wood posts last a long time
 Properly treated quality wood posts and poles can mean the difference between a fencing or building project that will weather decades instead of just years. Don't settle for an inferior product. Ask your supplier for quality roundwood posts treated to AWPA UCA9, UCA8, T1-09 standards for your next project.





The inside of the new IRA Quality Awareness brochure. These brochures enable IRA members to promote the purchase and use of quality roundwood products.

IRA Director News

IRA Director and current board secretary, Rich Lane emailed some big news for the Lane family. He accepted a job with Boise, Inc. as the Wood Fiber Supply Manager at their Wallula, WA pulp and paper mill near the Tri-Cities.

Rich will manage all wood procurement activities (chips, pulp logs and hogfuel) for operations of their two chip plants and a 9,000 acre hybrid poplar fiber farm. He is excited to actually get to grow and cut trees!



Rich Lane

Rich started in late July and his family moved over in time to start school. The IRA looks forward to having Boise, Inc. as a new IRA member ☺ and wish Rich and his family all the best in Washington. 📧



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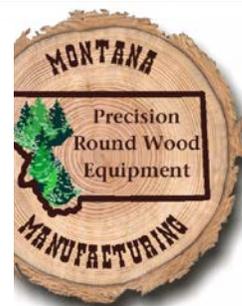
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IRA 23rd Annual Meeting

March 18th 2011

Hilton Garden Inn, Missoula, MT

Membership Information

Thank you for inquiring about the Intermountain Roundwood Association.

Our organization is a nonprofit corporation representing the economic, educational, and social interests of roundwood producers. Anyone engaged in or interested in the harvesting, manufacturing, or marketing of small roundwood and associated products is eligible for membership in our organization.

Our association has been working for a consistent and stable supply of raw materials; presenting a united voice to government agencies and congressional delegations on those issues facing our association; working with government agencies on hazardous waste disposal alternatives; working to find State and Federal loan opportunities for small businesses; locating new out of region markets for members products; providing information on State and Federal Regulations; distributing a quarterly newsletter with pertinent information; providing advice to members in their dealings with governmental regulatory and land management agencies; and educating the public on the need to thin timber stands to provide a healthy environment and prevent stand-destroying fires.

Meetings

Members are encouraged to participate in the quarterly director meetings throughout the year as well as our annual meeting. The board conducts four meetings, usually two teleconference meetings and two physical meetings each year. Members are welcome to raise concerns and contact directors with specific issues and any questions.

The next Board of Directors meeting will be on **Friday, October 8th 2010** at Pickeroon Timber Products in Pinedale, WY. All members are welcome and encouraged to participate. Contact IRA President, Bill Baker for more information.

Advertising

Business Directory Ads:
Contact Gary Marks (406) 933-5981 or gary@marks-miller.com

IRA Website

Log on at:
www.intermountainroundwood.org
Email: info@roundwoodassociation.org

IRA Board of Directors

Bill Baker, President	(605) 348-8338	sawdust@orbitcom.biz
Jody Parker, Vice President	(605) 269-2233	jodyp@hillspg.com
Rich Lane, Secretary	(406) 721-2573	rlane@naturalresourcesolutions.com
Kalvin Kovatch, Treasurer	(406) 677-2300	roundwoodwest@blackfoot.net
Darrell Miller	(406) 933-5981	darrell@marks-miller.com
Craig Rawlings	(406) 728-9234	crawlings@mtcdc.org
Scott Corwin	(307) 367-6267	pickaroontimber@centurytel.net
Newsletter, Classified Ads & IRA Website		
Karen Kovatch, Editor	(406) 677-2932	info@roundwoodassociation.org

2010 IRA Membership Application Form



Please return this form and \$100 payment to: (Sorry, we do not take credit cards.)

1

Intermountain Roundwood Association

Kalvin Kovatch, Treasurer P.O. Box 1275, Seeley Lake, MT 59868

Name of Business or Organization: _____	Contact person: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Mail me a receipt.
<p>----- ▶ This is how your membership will be listed on the back of the newsletter and on the IRA website.</p>		

Additional contact and services information for receiving newsletter, your personal IRA web page and the Membership phone and address lists:

New member: Complete remainder of this form. **Current Member:** Make changes as noted.

Current Member: No changes this year. **Stop here**, as tempting as it might be: do not check any more boxes! ☺

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Fax: _____ Toll Free: [Optional] (____) _____

Email: _____ Website: _____

DESCRIPTION OF COMPANY for your page on the IRA website.

Email to info@roundwoodassociation.org or attach separate page. Limited to 150 words. Remember to include one photo or logo image to accompany your business or organization description. You may email photo or logo also.

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<input type="checkbox"/> Gazebos & Kiosks
<input type="checkbox"/> Hand or Deck Railings
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Fencing
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<input type="checkbox"/> Fence Rails
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<input type="checkbox"/> Jack Leg Fencing | Gates
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Government & Educational
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Hardware & Equipment
<input type="checkbox"/> Handling Equipment
<input type="checkbox"/> Hardware
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Highway Products
<input type="checkbox"/> Barn Poles
<input type="checkbox"/> Guardrail Posts | Jump Rails
<input type="checkbox"/> Horse Jump Rails

Landscape Products
<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Products

Log Furniture & Log Home Components
<input type="checkbox"/> Log Components
<input type="checkbox"/> Log Furniture

Poles & Stakes
<input type="checkbox"/> Building Poles
<input type="checkbox"/> Tree Stakes & Crop Poles
<input type="checkbox"/> Utility Poles

Professional Services
<input type="checkbox"/> Consulting
<input type="checkbox"/> Forestry
<input type="checkbox"/> Professional Services | Treating & Milling Services
<input type="checkbox"/> Custom Sawing & Machining
<input type="checkbox"/> Treating Facility

Wood Protection
<input type="checkbox"/> Barrier Wrap
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Preservatives

Wood, Lumber & Barkies
<input type="checkbox"/> Doweled Products
<input type="checkbox"/> Doweled Wood
<input type="checkbox"/> Hand-peeled Wood
<input type="checkbox"/> Lumber
<input type="checkbox"/> Machine-peeled Wood
<input type="checkbox"/> Treated Wood
<input type="checkbox"/> Unpeeled Wood
<input type="checkbox"/> White Wood |
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INTERMOUNTAIN ROUNDWOOD ASSOCIATION

2010 Members

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Arch Wood Protection	Lodgepole Products Company	Rocks & Pines Forest Products
Baker Timber Products, Inc.	Luck-E-G of Montana, Inc.	Roundwood Systems
BJ Timber Consulting	Marks-Miller Post & Pole, Inc.	Roundwood West Corporation
Blue Lake Round Stock	McFarland Logging/Beavertail Wood Products	Stephen T. Smith Consulting
Bouma Post Yards	Missoula Saws, Inc.	Sullivan & Mann Lumber Co., Inc.
Camas Creek Enterprises, Inc.	Montana Community Development Corporation	T & C Fencing, Inc.
Copper Care Wood Preservatives	Montana Manufacturing	Thunderbolt Wood Treating
CRT, Creative Solutions for Trees	Montana Wood Products Association	Timber Products Inspection
Doubletree Logging	Morgan Timber Products	Tricon Timber, LLC
Eagle Post & Pole	Myrstol Post & Pole Company	USFS, Seeley Lake Ranger District
Elkora, Inc.	Osmose, Inc.	Viance, LLC
Forest Fuels Solutions, Inc.	Pennsylvania Lumbermens Mutual Insurance	Western Wood Preservers Institute
Forest Products Distributers	Pfendler Post & Pole, Inc.	Wheeler Lumber, LLC
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