



# NEWSLETTER

Spring 2015

Production, education and marketing of quality roundwood products

## President's Message

I hope you can scarcely find time to read this message because posts are flying out of your yard and business is booming. All reports I have received are very positive. Healthy markets always make things a little easier but it still leaves me wondering about the health of the forest.

I just got word of some Colorado timber being challenged over Lynx habitat, while the Northern Long Eared Bat (NLEB) issues are still somewhat up in the air. I am just a dumb post and pole guy but it strikes me as odd that we can overlook the long term health of the forest in the interest of species that rely on the long term health of the forest.



Pine stands in the West may well be at their worst in 100 years and we still bend over backwards to protect species

within these forests at the expense of the forests. Perhaps if we truly managed forests so that they represented a healthy mosaic that allowed for every species habitat, that in turn would lead to the health of the species as well?

For example, the NLEB benefits from open spaces in stands. These openings allow for easier hunting and may even benefit the recruitment of young as they begin to fly and learn to prey upon insects. So how does curtailing logging in any way help the long term health of the NLEB or the forest? It doesn't!

It does help in several other ways. It helps those opposed to logging to further their fervor for delayed destruction. Let's go ahead and for arguments sake say the logging is destruction.

1. It alters the landscape from its previous condition in a drastic way.
2. It leads to years before the stand resembles a forest again.
3. It leads to lining the pockets of greedy business exploiting a public resource.

The anti-logging movement, which I refuse to call green because it leads to forests blackened by disease and fire, would like to rely on nature's way. Let us look at fire as the tool for forest management instead of logging through the framework of the same three points.

1. It alters the landscape from its previous condition in a drastic way.
2. It leads to years before the stand resembles a forest again. (Young and intermediate stands benefit certain wildlife as well.)

These first two points remain true but the third couldn't be more contrary.

3. It leads to the stealing of taxes from hardworking taxpayers who will not receive any products from the resource they own as it burns while money is spent to stop its' reckless spread. AND, fire isn't strategic. It does not discriminate between new or old growth, between diseased and overgrown or healthy and vibrant. Fire costs more, destroys more and shoulders the blame for its fair share of habitat destruction.

Forest diversity takes destruction, a change. Without change we have ecosystems that are all the same age. Why not change it through a strategic and planned manner in a way that benefits us all, while allowing for long term health.

...Continued on page 4

## IRA Annual Meeting Minutes

Missoula MT, March 13, 2015  
37 Attendees

9:00 am Meeting opened by President, Steve Tyser with welcome, attendee introductions, and a thank you to the board members, vendors and supporters of the IRA.

9:30am Region 1 Forest Service Roundwood Update. Presented by Breck Hudson. Breck is a Timber Sale Preparation Manager for the USDA Forest Service. The Forest Service has a better budget this year going forward for fire mitigation and cleaning dead fuels. The bigger budget will allow for road construction to get to the new product wood moving forward on future sales.

10:15 Safety and Health Consultation Program. Speaker Billy Chilton, is a Safety and Health Specialist who works for the Montana Safety and Health Bureau. Billy explained how the program works: they come to your operation and give you a pre OSHA inspection and how to prepare for an OSHA audit.

Steve Tyser presented Kal Kovatch (our exiting Treasurer and Board Member) with a plaque for his service on the Board.



*Kal Kovatch's plaque for serving two three year terms surrounded by door prizes donated by the IRA and Missoula Saws.*

11:00: Wood Products Industry. Speaker Julia Altemus, Executive Vice President of Montana Wood Products Association, gave us an overview of her organization of 65 members strong, the forest products industry, who uses the wood and Montana forest land classifications.

11:50 This year the IRA had no candidates for the Scholarship Award.

President Steve Tyser called for nominations for the one vacant Board Position that needed to be filled. Mark Blattie was the only nomination.

12:00 Lunch

1:00 Officer Election Results: Mark Blattie is our new board member. Mark is a Regional Manager for Koppers Performance Chemicals in the Western Division. Welcome aboard Mark.

Attendees were given a recap of directions to Roseburg Forest Products particle board plant for tour after the Annual Meeting.

1:10 Annual Meeting Adjourned

1:55 pm Tour begins at Roseburg particle board plant 19 attendees.

3:10 pm Tour ends with the turning in hardhats, safety glasses and vests. Thank you Roseburg Forest Products, great tour!

## IRA Directors Meeting

April 20, 2015  
Board Meeting via Teleconference

Present Board Members: Steve Tyser, Rock Reman, Christian Pfendler, Jody Parker, Ronda Taggart, Dave Archer, newly elected Board member Mark Blattie and Executive Administrator Karen Kovatch.

*Minutes continued on next page...*

# ...Minutes Continued

Meeting called to order by President, Steve Tyser  
10:34 AM

## Election of Officers:

President: Steve Tyser  
Vice President: Jody Parker  
Secretary: Dave Archer  
Treasurer: Ronda Taggart

Treasurers Report: By Karen Kovatch for Kal Kovatch.

First Interstate Checking:	\$8331.69
Vanguard Savings:	\$4382.13
Total	\$12,713.82

Treasurer's report accepted by Jody Parker and seconded by Steve Tyser.

## Old Business:

Recap Annual Meeting: Social had a record number attend. In the fall we need to look at better seating

arrangement and possibly name tags. The hats were a hit and very nicely done. Speakers over all were a success and Steve Tyser will send out Thank You notes. The Sponsor and Vendor program is working well; we will leave it as is.

## New Business:

Savings and Checking accounts: Steve Tyser made motion to consolidate the savings account to the checking account we are not making any interest on the savings account and need to find a higher interest checking account, Rock Reman seconded the motion.

Fall Meeting: set tentatively for Red Lodge, Montana in late September 2015. Rock Reman will check on venue to host the meeting.

Audit: At that fall meeting we will have an audit done on the books.

New Directors note from Mark Blattie due in two weeks for the newsletter.

Jody Parker made motion and it was seconded by Ronda Taggart to reimburse Steve Tyser for Cabela's gift card.

Next Director meeting is a teleconference call June 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am.

Meeting adjourned 11:24 am.

—Dave Archer,  
Secretary



From left to right: Secretary Dave Archer, Treasurer Ronda Taggart, Executive Administrator Karen Kovatch, President Steve Tyser, Director Christian Pfindler, Vice President Jody Parker and Director Rock Reman. Not pictured, Director Mark Blattie.

Photo by Kal Kovatch.



# Business Directory

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# Membership Information

## Meetings



## New Members

Members are encouraged to participate in the quarterly director meetings throughout the year as well as our next annual meeting tentatively scheduled for March 2016. 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.

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.

The next Board of Directors meeting will be **June 8<sup>th</sup> 2015** via teleconference call. All members are welcome and encouraged to participate. Contact President, Steve Tyser for more information.

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.

## Advertising

Business Directory Ads:  
Contact Karen Kovatch (406) 677-2932 or [info@roundwoodassociation.org](mailto:info@roundwoodassociation.org)

## IRA Websites

Log on at:  
[www.intermountainroundwood.org](http://www.intermountainroundwood.org)  
[www.facebook.com/RoundwoodAssociation](https://www.facebook.com/RoundwoodAssociation)  
Email: [info@roundwoodassociation.org](mailto:info@roundwoodassociation.org)

### IRA Board of Directors

Steve Tyser, President	(307) 742-6992	<a href="mailto:lodgepole@wyoming.com">lodgepole@wyoming.com</a>
Jody Parker, Vice President	(605) 269-2233	<a href="mailto:jodyp@hillspg.com">jodyp@hillspg.com</a>
Dave Archer, Secretary	(307) 684-1402	<a href="mailto:dave@hansonlogproducts.com">dave@hansonlogproducts.com</a>
Ronda Taggart, Treasurer	(406) 363-1456	<a href="mailto:ronda@porterbiltlog.com">ronda@porterbiltlog.com</a>
Rock Reman	(605) 269-2233	<a href="mailto:rockr@hillspg.com">rockr@hillspg.com</a>
Christian Pfendler	(406) 288-3817	<a href="mailto:pfendlerpp@gmail.com">pfendlerpp@gmail.com</a>
Mark Blattie	(303) 475-7050	<a href="mailto:blattiemp@koppers.com">blattiemp@koppers.com</a>

### Newsletter, Advertisements & IRA Website

Karen Kovatch, Editor	(406) 677-2932	<a href="mailto:info@roundwoodassociation.org">info@roundwoodassociation.org</a>
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# 2015 IRA Membership Application Form

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



**Intermountain Roundwood Association**

**Treasurer Ronda Taggart, 1727 Highway 93 South, Hamilton, MT 59840**

1 Name of Business or Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person: \_\_\_\_\_

☛ This is how your membership will be listed on the back of the newsletter and on the IRA website.

Additional contact and services information for receiving newsletter and for your personal IRA web page.

Like our Business or Organization on the IRA Facebook page.

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!** ☺

2 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](mailto:info@roundwoodassociation.org), limited to 150 words. Remember to also attach one photo or logo image to accompany your business or organization description.

## 3 PRODUCT & MEMBER LOCATOR CATEGORIES

Please check boxes below for all products you sell and processes which apply to your operation. This information will be used in the **Product/Member Locator** feature on the website. Call (406) 677-2300 or log on to our website [www.intermountainroundwood.org/printableProducts.jsp](http://www.intermountainroundwood.org/printableProducts.jsp) for product description definitions.

### Architectural & Structures

- Architectural Products
- Engineered Structures
- Gazebos & Kiosks
- Hand or Deck Railings
- Pole Barns
- Tipi Poles & Hogan Logs

### Biomass

- Biomass
- Hogfuel
- Livestock Bedding

### Fencing

- Corral Rails or Panels
- Doweled Rail Fencing
- Fence Posts
- Fence Rails
- Fencing Material
- Jack Leg Fencing

### Gates

- Archways
- Gates

### Government & Educational

- Educational
- Government
- Research

### Hardware & Equipment

- Handling Equipment
- Hardware
- Manufacturing Equipment
- Shipping & Packaging Materials

### Highway Products

- Barn Poles
- Guardrail Posts

### Jump Rails

- Horse Jump Rails

### Landscape Products

- Landscape Products

### Log Furniture & Log Home Components

- Log Components
- Log Furniture

### Poles & Stakes

- Building Poles
- Tree Stakes & Crop Poles
- Utility Poles

### Professional Services

- Consulting
- Forestry
- Professional Services

### Treating & Milling Services

- Custom Sawing & Machining
- Treating Facility

### Wood Protection

- Barrier Wrap
- Wood Preservatives

### Wood, Lumber & Barkies

- Doweled Products
- Doweled Wood
- Hand-peeled Wood
- Lumber
- Machine-peeled Wood
- Treated Wood
- Unpeeled Wood
- White Wood

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BJ Timber Consulting	Lodgepole Products, Inc.	Thunderbolt Wood Treating
Blue Lake Round Stock Co., LLC	Marks-Miller Post & Pole, Inc.	Viance, LLC
Bouma Post Yards	Missoula Saws, Inc.	Vintage Woods, Inc.
Eagle Post & Pole	MT DNRC	Western Wood Preservers
Forest Business Network, LLC	Panhandle Forest Products	Institute
Forest Concepts, LLC	Parma Post & Pole, Inc.	Wheeler Lumber, LLC
Forest Products Distributers, Inc.	Pfendler Post & Pole, Inc.	Whispering Pines Pole Company
Hamilton Hinge Company	Pickaroon Timber Products, Inc.	Windmill Ventures, LLC
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