



WASHINGTON FOREST PROTECTION ASSOCIATION

# ANNUAL REPORT

# 2020

NOVEMBER 2020



## From the Executive Director: **Mark L. Doumit**

This year started with the legislative session in January, and the election of the first female Speaker of the [House, Rep. Laurie Jinkins](#). She replaced Rep. Frank Chopp who stepped down after 20 years, the longest serving speaker in our state's history. One week later, Washington reported the nation's first case of coronavirus. By early February, the low carbon fuel standards hearing attracted more than [200 log truck drivers](#) to the State Capitol to testify about the impacts of increasing diesel cost on rural families and communities. The forest sector carbon bill passed unanimously out of the House on Feb. 16<sup>th</sup>, and was sent over to the Senate, passing just shy of a unanimous vote by 3 and was delivered to the Governor's desk March 12<sup>th</sup>, one day before coronavirus was declared a national emergency. Three days later, Gov. Inslee issued a shelter in place order for the Seattle area, and for the rest of the state 10-days later, requiring most of Washington's 7.5 million residents to stay home for at least two weeks.

While the Dept. of Homeland Security declared the forest products industry as part of the essential workforce in March, Gov. Inslee excluded commercial and residential housing construction, putting the state further behind its shortage of 255,000 housing units. Sawmills curtailed operations due to the construction shut-down, and WFPA put its shoulder behind the efforts of the home builders and partnered with the [Building Industry Association of Washington](#) and other state and national trade associations to restart private construction, which occurred about a month later.

On March 25, Gov. Inslee signed the [forest sector carbon bill](#) into law, which recognizes the entire forest sector supply chain as part of Washington's climate mitigation strategy. WFPA also successfully defended against new taxes and fees on the industry and maintained our B&O tax reduced rate. The election has retired two of our legislative champions, Sen. Dean Takko, D-Longview, serving in the legislature since 2004 and Rep. Brian Blake, D-Longview, who served since 2002, and has chaired the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee since 2007.

WFPA is grateful for the support of our members and we look forward to meeting the challenges in the upcoming year.

Mark L. Doumit, *Executive Director, WFPA*



## From the President: **Jason Spadaro, SDS Lumber**

Over the past eleven years as a Trustee of WFPA, I have seen how resilient our industry is. We are the most important industry in the state, providing essential products, jobs, and ecosystem services—clean air and water, habitat, and carbon storage.

Our forests and industry, however, [face significant challenges from wildfires](#) and climate change, to development pressures and an unhealthy tension between the environment and forest management. As WFPA President, my goal was to set our industry on a path for the future that rises to these challenges and seizes on our opportunities. To do this, we must be bold and think big. We have proven we can do this, and frankly, we have no choice given what is at stake.

This year our forest sector carbon bill, developed and led by WFPA, was signed into law by the Governor. Our state now recognizes the complete forest products sector, including forestlands, mills, bioenergy, pulp and paper, and essential harvesting and transportation infrastructure necessary as part of the state's climate solution. We need to use this moment to propel our industry forward as the best natural carbon solution.

We represent an industry that produces what defines Washington as the Evergreen State; from the Ponderosa pines of Eastern Washington to the Douglas-firs of our coast. Our strength comes from the diversity of landowners; from timber companies and small multi-generational family tree farms to tribal nations who all collectively maintain the health of our forests. Our value comes from the importance of our product to every resident of Washington and beyond. Our future comes from working together to rise to our greatest challenges and embrace our greatest opportunities.

WFPA is the most effective, most important association in the state. I thank you for the honor to help lead the organization over the last two years. I truly believe WFPA's brightest and most innovative days are ahead of it. And I look forward to working with you to contribute to its success in the coming years.

Jason Spadaro, *President, WFPA*

# THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Gov. Jay Inslee signs the Forest Industry Carbon Bill which recognizes the essential role Washington state's forest industry and working forests play in removing greenhouse gases from the atmosphere. (March)

Weyerhaeuser and Rayonier support wildfire relief efforts in the Pacific Northwest with \$150,000 and \$40,000 donations, respectively. (September)

Washington State Department of Commerce identifies the forest industry as a key sector of the green economy. (June)

SDS Lumber Company partners with Columbia Land Trust and adds 4,900 acres to the Klickitat Canyon Conservation Area. (July)

COVID-19 global pandemic underscores the importance of forest products supply chain and the critical role wood-based products play in everyday life. (March)

Sierra Pacific Industries and Puget Sound Energy team up to provide 17 megawatts of renewable energy from the Mt. Vernon Mill. (March)

Hancock Forest Management celebrates completion of a major aquatic restoration project that feeds into the Columbia River. (January)

Schools go online as part of the state's efforts to decrease the spread of the coronavirus; Washington Forest Protection Association responds with educational activities that teach students about working forests. (September)

Shelton sets new Guinness World Record for most lit Christmas trees with help from Green Diamond Resource Company, Port Blakely and Sierra Pacific Industries. (December)

## Forest Policy Update

**Type F Update:** The Forest Practice Board continues to manage ongoing work related to water typing. A contractor is verifying the fish distribution and barrier datasets and will complete the Anadromous Fish Floor Analysis. DNR anticipates to concurrently perform the E/W WA Potential Habitat Break Analyses. Rulemaking is not expected until these analyses are complete.

**Type N/Smart Buffer Update:** WFPA continues to work with the Dept. of Ecology regarding its ability to exercise discretion in interpreting water quality standards in forestry. The Smart Buffer project is in full implementation and going well. The goal is to get an approved study design by winter and return to the Forest Practices Board in 2021 to re-request a pilot rule for implementation of the new prescriptions. WFPA is working with stakeholders to address the timeliness of the final policy recommendations as they likely will not align with the expiration of the Clean Water Act assurances extension.

**C-Peace Process and Next Steps:** The Center for Conservation Peacebuilding issued a report in June of interviews from TFW/F&F caucus members. WFPA's Executive Committee and Board of Trustees members expressed a need for a common set of principles and perspectives to work from and agreed that staying engaged in the process is in the best interest of the industry.

**Field Implementation/Operational Priorities:** WFPA staff have engaged in conversations with DNR regarding regulatory creep. Reforms to the review process will likely be a lengthy endeavor and will require reminders to DNR leadership at all levels regarding what is required versus desired. Current budget and safety concerns may provide opportunities to achieve some regulatory streamlining.

**High Compliance:** Landowners are between 92–100% compliant with state forestry rules in the latest report.

# Highlights from the 2020 Legislative Session

*Key legislation that was signed into law.*

**Forest products carbon bill:** HB 2528 formally establishes a state policy recognizing and supporting the complete forest products sector as a climate solution, which includes landowners, mills, bioenergy, pulp and paper, harvesting and transportation infrastructure necessary to continue sustainable forestry, production and transportation of the state's wood products. State policy now recognizes and supports efforts by the timber industry to sequester carbon through reforestation and transference to long-lived wood products. The legislation also encourages landowners to grow more trees that promote air quality and sequester carbon from the atmosphere by promoting investments in sustainable forestry and wood production.

"There's a presumption out there that timber harvesting and environmental protection are mutually exclusive, but we're learning that the opposite is true. By aligning timber practices and cycles with the state's carbon reduction goals, we can boost our rural economies and improve our environmental health at the same time."

— State Sen. Kevin Van De Wege (D-Sequim)

**Coronavirus response bill:** HB 2965 appropriates a total of \$200 million (\$175 million from the Budget Stabilization Account and \$25 million of general federal funds) in response to the global COVID-19 pandemic. The funding could be used for disaster response, recovery efforts, unemployment benefits and support of services like nursing care and education.

**Carbon sequestration on natural and working lands:** SB 2311 establishes a policy that is complementary to the forest products carbon bill that expressly sets as state policy the use of voluntary and incentive based sequestration activities including on natural and working lands and by recognizing the potential for sequestration in products and product supply chains.

**Environmental sustainability education program:** HB 2811 establishes a statewide environmental sustainability education program and requires the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction to integrate environmental and sustainability content with curriculum, instruction, and assessment.



## Washington's Working Forests Represent Hope

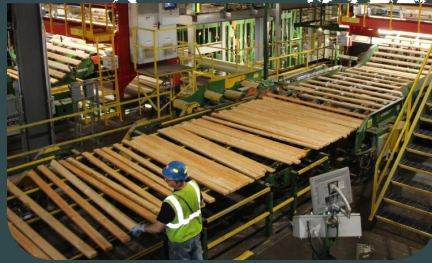
The forest sector has always been about long-term thinking and optimism toward the future. By the very nature of what they do, the stewards of sustainably managed working forests plan for decades down the road: planting seedlings, growing and managing them and then harvesting trees 30-60 years later, and then planting three trees for every tree harvested to begin the cycle again.

### Working forest facts:

- Washington's working forests plant a total of 52 million new carbon-absorbing trees each year.
- Washington's private forests and the wood products sector sequesters 12% of the state's carbon emissions.
- Foresters use modern forest practices to protect over 9 million acres and 60,000 miles of streams, to keep water cool and clean.
- Working forests have removed more than 8,100 barriers and culverts to improve fish migration.
- Sustainably managed working forests play a vital role in the forest sector supply chain, with virtually every part of the harvested tree used to create renewable construction materials, paper products, clean energy sources and much more.

# Washington's Working Foresters

Replanting for the future at  
[WorkingForesters.org](http://WorkingForesters.org)



## WFPA Centenarians

**Menasha Forest Products Corp., 1849**  
**Stimson Lumber Co., 1850**  
**Port Blakely\*, 1864**  
**Merrill & Ring\*, 1886**  
**Green Diamond Resource Co. (S.G. Simpson Co.)\*, 1890**  
**E.E. Overton, 1892**  
**Weyerhaeuser\*, 1900**  
**Fruit Growers Supply Company, 1907**  
**Wilcox Farms, Inc., 1909**

*\*WFPA member for 100 years or more*

## WFPA Staff

**Mark Doumit**  
*Executive Director*  
**Cindy Mitchell**  
*Senior Director, Public Affairs*  
**Darin Cramer**  
*Senior Director,  
Forest & Environmental Policy*  
**Jason Callahan**  
*Director, Governmental Relations*  
**John Ehrenreich**  
*Director, Forest Taxation and Economics*  
**Doug Hooks**  
*Director, Forest & Environmental  
Programs*  
**Jill Reynolds**  
*Executive Assistant*

## WFPA Members

Barker Tree Farm - Woods Trust  
Bloedel Timberlands Development  
Broughton Lumber Company  
BTG Pactual  
Conservation Forestry Partners, LP  
DGS Timber  
Dye, Mary  
E.E. Overton  
Forest Northwest LLP  
Fruit Growers Supply Co.  
Grandy Lake Forest  
Green Crow Corp.  
Green Crow Forecastle NW  
Green Crow Timber  
Green Diamond Resource Company  
GreenWood Resources Inc.  
Hama Hama Co.  
Hampton Lumber  
Hancock Forest Management, Inc.  
Hanson, Gary  
Hess, Phil  
Inland Empire Paper Co.  
JLCG, LLC  
Manke Timber Co.  
Miller, Ken & Bonnie  
Molpus Woodlands Group, LLC  
Munro, LLC  
NBGC, LLC  
Nookachamps Forest  
Norseman Timber Company  
O'Neill Pine Company  
Pacific Denkmann - Pilchuck Tree Farm  
Pacific Forest Management, Inc.

Pacific West Timber Company, LLC  
PB Lumber, LP  
Plas Newydd, LLC  
Port Blakely  
Rayonier  
RD Merrill Company  
Ring Family Limited Partnership  
Schaaf, Norm  
Seefeld Corporation  
Sheldon Properties  
Sierra Pacific Industries  
Stevenson Land Company  
Stimson Lumber Company  
TC&I Chinook, LLC  
Two Cats Timber  
Vaagen Brothers Lumber  
Weyerhaeuser Company  
Wilcox Farms, Inc.  
Wilson Tree Farm



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