

# Trinity-Neches Forest Landowner

## Association Newsletter Fourth Quarter, 2013

### Next Meeting

Date: November  
16, 2013

Time: 8:30 AM

Place: Dyess  
Camp House –  
SEE  
ATTACHEMENT!

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## Three Hundredth Year of Sustainable Forestry Celebrated by United Nations, FAO

International Institute for Sustainable Development, Forests Policy & Practice,  
<http://forests-iiisd.org/news/fao-newsletter-celebrates-300-years-of-sustainable-forestry/>



*And many of us thought this was an American idea from the early 1900's...*

On July 31, 2013, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) released the 12th issue of *InFo News*, highlighting 300 years of sustainable forestry and honoring Hans von Carlowitz, a German administrator who was the first person to define the concept of sustainability.

The son of a forest master, he studied law and public administration, but was engaged in the natural and mining sciences. In the early 1700's, as the person in charge of mining at the court of Kursachsen in Freiberg, he was responsible for the supply of timber to the mining industry. The mining industry and smelting of ores had consumed whole forests, causing much of the old growth forests in that vicinity to disappear. There had been no effort to restore forested areas.

Hans Carl von Carlowitz was the first person to clearly develop a formula for the concept of forest sustainability in his book, the title of which (according to Wikipedia - [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hans\\_Carl\\_von\\_Carlowitz](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hans_Carl_von_Carlowitz)) is loosely translated, "Sylvicultura Oeconomica, or the economic news and instructions for the natural growing of wild trees, besides thorough explanation how with god's good will the ever stronger scarcity of timber is to be managed by sowing, growing, and planting of seedlings; also through wild and planned cultivation of a once cut and barren land can again be made useful as timber land – through the collection of seeds from seed trees, the preparation of soil for sowing and the care of seedlings. Besides, how to multiply the timber harvest at every stage of growth, the types of broad-leaf and needle trees and their seeds, also how to manage foreign kinds of trees, and further how to fell trees and make charcoal or other uses from the wood. To be the best utility for the heating, building, brewing, mining and smelting activities requires the careful management of sustainable forestry resource."

And, roughly 200 years later, history repeated itself in the United States. An old idea became new again.

**NOTE: Some U.S. government websites may be temporarily unavailable due to a "lapse in federal government funding". If so, please try again after funding has been made available again.**

## ***What Your Water Right Means – Information for Holders of Water Rights in Texas –***

*Texas Commission on Environmental Quality,*

*<http://www.tceq.texas.gov/response/drought/diversionrights.html>*



### ***Where am I in line?***

To answer this question, you must first identify the senior diversion rights in your river basin (using the database found at [http://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/water\\_rights/wr\\_databases.html](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/water_rights/wr_databases.html)).

A senior diversion right has a priority date earlier than the priority date of your diversion right, and whoever holds that right is ahead of you in line.

To finish answering this question, identify all of the junior diversion rights in your river basin (those whose priority date is more recent than the priority date of your diversion right.) These water users are behind you in line. Any holders of limited-term rights in your basin are at the very end of the line, behind all of the exempt users and perpetual rights.

### ***What does my priority date mean?***

- Water rights are issued under the prior appropriation system, meaning first in time, first in right. Your priority date establishes your place in line during times of shortage. The priority date is the determining factor when water rights are cut back or curtailed in times of shortage, regardless of the type of use of your permitted right.
- Should curtailment of water rights become necessary, the water rights with the most recent priority date will be curtailed first. These are known as junior water rights. Multiple priority dates are generally the result of amendments to a permit or certificate of adjudication after the original authorization is issued. For example, your original water right has a priority date of September 1, 1900 to use 100 acre-feet of water. On August 5, 1985, you requested an additional 50 acre-feet of water to be added to your water use permit. In most cases, the priority date of your original water authorization would not change, but the additional 50 acre-feet of water would have a priority date of August 5, 1985. If a curtailment is issued for water rights with a priority date of 1980 and junior, the original 100 acre-feet would still be available for your diversion and use, but the 1985 water would not.
- For impounded water, if you amended your water right to add a reservoir that impounds state water in 1985, and there is a curtailment of all water rights with a date of 1980 and junior, you would not be required to release water you had previously stored in the reservoir, but you would be required to pass any water that was flowing into the reservoir at the time of curtailment to downstream senior water rights.

**You won't miss the water till the well runs dry ☀**

## Forestry Terminology

### 101 –

Texas A&M Forest Service:

<http://tfsweb.tamu.edu/main/popup.aspx?id=187>



This list is the seventeenth in a series of forestry definitions that will be useful to forest landowners and others interested in better understanding forestry.

**Stocking-** the number of trees in a forest stand

**Stream-** a well-defined natural channel that has a flow anywhere below its headwaters greater than 5 cfs at least 50% of the time (EPA - Army Corp Section 404). A permanently or intermittently flowing body of water that follows a defined course

**a. ephemeral stream (or drain)** means a stream that flows only during and for short periods following precipitation and flows in low areas that may or may not have a well-defined channel

**b. intermittent stream** means a stream that flows only during wet periods of the year (30-90% of the time) and flows in a continuous, well-defined channel

**c. perennial stream** means a stream that flows throughout a majority of the year (greater than 90% of the time) and flows in a well-defined channel

**Streambanks-** the usual boundaries, not the flood boundaries, of a stream channel. Right and left banks are named facing downstream

**Streamside Management Zone (SMZ)-** forested area immediately adjacent to stream channels. Managed for forest resources with specific attention given to measures that can be taken to protect both instream and downstream water quality as well as other beneficial uses. The purpose of an SMZ is to reduce the quantity of sediment and logging wastes reaching the streams and to provide shade to prevent water temperature increases

**Stumpage-** standing merchantable timber

**Superior seedlings-** seedling grown from seed produced by parent trees of high genetic quality

**Sustainable Forest Management-** the management of forestland to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs



## Market Report – July/August, 2013

Product	Statewide Ave. Price		Previous Ave. Price		Price/Ton Difference
	Weight	Volume	Weight	Volume	
Pine-Sawlogs	\$23.53/ton	\$188.22/mbf	\$22.16/ton	\$177.27/mbf	+6%
Pine-Pulpwood	\$6.31/ton	\$17.03/cord	\$5.59/ton	\$15.09/cord	+11%
Pine-Chip'n'Saw	\$12.09/ton	\$32.65/cord	\$11.22/ton	\$30.30/cord	+7%
Mixed Hardwood-Sawlogs	\$29.91/ton	\$269.21/mbf	\$26.37/ton	\$237.37/mbf	+12%
Hardwood-Pulpwood	\$6.20/ton	\$17.36/cord	\$7.65/ton	\$21.42/cord	-23%

*Texas Timber Price Trends* is a bimonthly publication reporting average prices paid for standing timber in Texas. *This report is intended only as a guide to general price levels.* It should not be used to judge the fair market value of a specific timber sale, which may vary considerably due to many factors. It is recommended that you use the services of a professional consulting forester in managing any timber sale. Important factors affecting timber prices include the type, quality and volume of timber for sale, accessibility, distance to mills/markets, weather conditions, economy/market conditions, who is handling the sale or is buying the timber, and contract requirements by the landowner. Hard copies of this publication can be purchased by contacting Dawn Spencer at (979)458-6630. The complete Texas Timber Price Trends can be viewed at <http://tfsweb.tamu.edu/main/article.aspx?id=145>.

Conversion factors between volume and weight vary from sale to sale, so the differences in volume prices above may not equal differences in weight prices.

Stumpage price statistics include gateway sales (estimated by subtracting cut-and-haul costs, other expenses and profits provided by reporter).

Statewide data excludes U.S. Forest Service sales.

Price calculated from specific conversion factor reported for each sale if available; otherwise, average conversion factors listed on page 4 of *Texas Timber Price Trends* (<http://texasforests.tamu.edu/main/article.aspx?id=145>) are used. MBF = thousand board feet. Doyle Log Scale used for board foot measurements.

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### **Emergency Disaster Programs – Farm Service Agency -**

[http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA\\_File/disasterfsaprograms.pdf](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/disasterfsaprograms.pdf)

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) administers several emergency disaster programs, including one for tree production losses, in both quantity and quality.

Landowners must have purchased federal crop insurance or NAP (Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program) coverage before the disaster strikes to be eligible for the Tree Assistance Program (TAP). Exceptions to this requirement are made for limited resource, socially disadvantaged and beginning farmers or ranchers.

Information about other FSA disaster programs can be found at:

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=diap&topic=landing>.

To see if you are eligible for assistance at local FSA Service Center at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov> or <http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov>.



### **U. S. Forest Service Offers Planning Tools for Fall Colors Vacations -**

<http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?contentid=2013/09/0171.xml&contentidonly=true>

The U.S. Forest Service is urging people to get outdoors, spend time in rural communities and urban forests, and enjoy one of nature's most spectacular seasons with its Fall Colors 2013 campaign, which can be found at <http://www.fs.fed.us/fallcolors/2013/>.

It has launched an online map to help visitors see if trees are peaking in their state. The map will be shaded in green (not peaking) to bright red (peaking) to brown (past peak). Another map will help visitors find a national forest nearest them to enjoy the colors of fall.

For a more analogue approach to trip planning, the Forest Service is once again offering its Fall Colors Hotline – 1-800-354-4595. The hotline provides audio updates on the best places, dates and routes to take for peak viewing of fall colors on national forests.

### **Ties to the Land - Tips for Involving the Next Generation – [www.tiestotheland.org](http://www.tiestotheland.org), Oregon State University**

It's never too soon or too late to help your family develop ties to the lands.

#### **Encourage Exploring**

Youth are naturally curious. Help them discover the diversity and wonder of being in the woods. Teach them how to find their way using a compass. Spend time turning over rocks or looking for signs of bird and animal presence. The possibilities truly are endless.

#### **Unsupervised play**

The idea of letting kids disappear on their own for hours at a time can raise all kinds of fears for parents. Sure, there are risks. And you certainly want children to be aware of, and prepared for, dangerous situations. But letting kids play and explore in the natural world has proven psychological and cognitive benefits.

#### **Share your knowledge**

The very young are like sponges when it comes to soaking up knowledge. Keep it casual and fun and they will be delighted to learn from you. As we get a bit older, certainly by the time we are teen-agers we have developed interest areas. Respect the uniqueness of older children and heirs by letting them know you'd like to share something with them and asking if they would like to learn about it.

#### **Collect wild foods together and prepare a dish**

While hunting, fishing and gathering food together we create place specific memories that are an important part of ties to the land.

#### **Treasure hunts**

This can be fun for all ages. Set up your own treasure hunt with maps, clues and hidden treasure. Geocaching combines the ancient past time of treasure hunting with modern technology - GPS devices. For more information go to <http://www.geocaching.com/>.

*Ties to the Land – continued from Page 4.*

### **Share stories**

The simple act of sharing stories about our experiences on the land can create a sense of increased connection to our heritage, our families and the land. Tell your stories and ask others to share their experiences.

### **Share photos**

If your heirs have spent time on the land ask them to take photos of their favorite spots and talk about why that place is important to them.

### **Encourage diverse activities**

Not everyone has the same interests. It is unlikely that all of your heirs will be interested in the activities you engage in on the property. Encourage others to use the land to participate in activities that interest them. For example, you may construct a rustic artist's retreat where people could go to write or draw. It is especially helpful if your heirs participate in creating the areas that they will use.

### **Invite participation in decision making**

Participation in decision making is important. People are more supportive of decisions they have been involved in making. It is also a tremendous opportunity for individuals to learn about what is involved in managing and owning the property.

### **Invite participation in management**

You can help your heirs develop management capabilities by inviting them to make meaningful contributions to the management of the property. Making meaningful contributions also means the risk of making meaningful mistakes. It is hard to stand back and watch others make a mistake. Learning, however, involves making mistakes. Remember, mistakes are usually outweighed by the opportunity to develop the skills and confidence. Hopefully, by the time your heirs assume all of the management responsibilities they will have developed the experience and judgment to avoid catastrophic mistakes.

### **Share ownership**

There is nothing like ownership to really get people invested. Forming a corporation allows for the gradual transfer of ownership through the use of stocks, without giving up control. You can invest young heirs with 'ownership' rights by giving them permission to make decisions about the management of a small plot of land.



### **Websites of Interest**

#### **Texas Forests Provide \$93 Billion in Environmental Benefits Each Year -**

<http://texasforests.tamu.edu/main/popup.aspx?id=17960>

#### **NOAA's North America Wildfire Map -**

<http://www.weather.com/news/science/environment/north-american-wildfire-map-20130829>

#### **Arbor Day – now the first Friday in November -**

<http://texasforests.tamu.edu/main/article.aspx?id=1291>

#### **Drought Impact on Texas Surface Water -**

<http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/response/drought/drought-map.jpg>

#### **Six-part series about the forest and the people whose lives it shapes – Journey of a Log -**

<http://www.vancouversun.com/journey+Sold+Lumber+from+Cariboo+heads+Eastern+Seaboard/8935675/story.html>

#### **Forest Biomass Retention and Harvesting Guidelines for the Southeast – Forest Guild southeast Biomass Working Group -**

[http://www.forestguild.org/publications/research/2012/FG\\_Biomass\\_Guidelines\\_SE.pdf](http://www.forestguild.org/publications/research/2012/FG_Biomass_Guidelines_SE.pdf)

#### **Estate Tax – change in determination of taxable estate for 2013 -**

<http://www.irs.gov/Businesses/Small-Businesses-&Self-Employed/Estate-Tax>

**Two Sides** – provides latest news, research, case studies, tools and useful facts about the sustainability of the print and paper industry -

<http://www.twosides.us/#page=Latest-5>

## *Calendar of Events*

- March 22, 2014            Texas Wildlife & Woodland Expo, Long Star College – Montgomery, SH 242/College park Dr., Conroe/The Woodlands, TX, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. For more information, please see <http://expo.tamu.edu>.
- Garden Seminars**, SFASU, Nacogdoches, TX, Agriculture Building, 1924 Wilson Drive. Room 118. Cost: \$25 for members, \$30 for non-members. For more information, please contact Elyce Rodewald, (936) 468-1832 or [erodewald@sfasu.edu](mailto:erodewald@sfasu.edu).
- November 9, 2013            Gifts from the Garden: Herbal Soap Seminar, with Elyce Rodewald.
- December 7, 2013            Deck the Halls: Creating Evergreen Decorations for the Holidays with Dawn Stover.
- Theresa and Les Reeves Lecture Series**, SFASU, Nacogdoches, TX, Agriculture Building, 1924 Wilson Drive. 6:30 p.m. – social/refreshments. Lecture at 7:00 p.m. followed by exciting plant raffle! For more information, please contact [sfagardens@sfasu.edu](mailto:sfagardens@sfasu.edu).
- November 21, 2013            Jackie Carlisii, The Grass and Rock Shoppe, Lafayette, LA – “Making Organic Gardening Easy”. [Jackie@grassandrockshoppe.com](mailto:Jackie@grassandrockshoppe.com) .
- December 19, 2013            Dave Creech, SFA Gardens, Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, TX – “Why Raising a Garden and Raising Kiddos is about the Same Thing; It’s All about Breaking Rules”. [dcreech@sfasu.edu](mailto:dcreech@sfasu.edu).
- January 9, 2014            Jason McKenzie, Arborgate, “A Native Texas Cottage Garden the Arborgate Way!” [info@arborgate.com](mailto:info@arborgate.com).

Texas A&M Forest Service  
1015 SE Loop 456  
Jacksonville, TX 75766