



# TRINITY-NECHES FOREST LANDOWNER ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

QUARTER II  
MAY 2018

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Texas Forestry Association Email Newsletter

[files.constantcontact.com/086624da001/28f217de-ef8f-410d-9028-fb2f375a071a.pdf](https://files.constantcontact.com/086624da001/28f217de-ef8f-410d-9028-fb2f375a071a.pdf)

LUFKIN, TX, May 2, 2018 – Angelina Forest Products, LLC announced plans to build a new softwood lumber production plant in Lufkin, Texas. The company purchased the former General Electric Buck Creek site and will begin construction of a \$100 million state-of-the-art sawmill this summer with plans to be operational in the second quarter of 2019.

During construction, the project will employ hundreds of workers in Angelina County. When completed, Angelina Forest Products expects to provide careers for more than 100 full-time employees. “This is great news for Angelina County and the surrounding counties. Our regional economy is still heavily dependent on a healthy wood and forest products industry, and this project will certainly have a significant positive impact on the area,” stated State Representative Trent Ashby.

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## NEXT MEETING:

Will Be Held in the Fall

Date, Time, & Location

To Be Announced in

Late Summer

## A Big Thank You from the Texas Forestry Association

In appreciation of the Texas Forest Landowners Council's ongoing support of the Teacher Conservation Institute (TCI), TFA would like to invite the members to join us at 10:00 am on Friday, July 13th at the Bugscuffle Inn near Cushing for an opportunity to interact with this year's attendees. We are asking for TFLC members to help judge the Project Learning Tree activity 400 Acre Wood, where teachers are tasked with developing a management plan for a fictional piece of property.

Lunch will be provided. Please RSVP by June 29 to Misty Bowie at [plttexas.texasforestry.org](http://plttexas.texasforestry.org). Due to limited seating, participation will be limited to the first 8 TFLC members to respond. Maps and an agenda will be provided to participating members the week prior to TCI.



## Market Report, Jan.-Feb, 2018

Product	Statewide Ave. Price		Previous Ave. Price		Price/ Ton Difference	
	Weight	Volume	Weight	Volume		
Pine- Sawlogs	\$34.18/Ton	\$273.47/MBF	\$27.72/Ton	\$221.75/MBF	23%	↑
Pine-Pulpwood	\$7.89/tTon	\$21.30/Cord	\$8.13/Ton	\$21.95/Cord	-3%	↓
Pine-Chip-n-saw	\$13.50/Ton	\$36.45/Cord	\$9.37/Ton	\$25.29/Cord	44%	↑
Mixed Hardwood- Sawlogs	\$30.95/Ton	\$278.52/MBF	\$33.10/Ton	\$297.94/MBF	-6%	↓
Hardwood- Pulpwood	\$11.51/Ton	\$32.23/Cord	\$11.25/Ton	\$31.49/Cord	2%	↑

**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. The complete Texas Timber Price Trends can be viewed at <http://tfsweb.tamu.edu/timberpricetrends>.

## Smart Wood: Bio-Engineering Trees for Specific Purposes

Forest Business Network

<https://www.forestbusinessnetwork.com/81769/smart-wood-bio-engineering-trees-for-specificpurposes/>

Wood can do some marvelous things. It can be made into cross laminated timber to build skyscrapers up to 30 stories high. It can be used to make paper, insulation, biofuels, and nonpetroleum based feedstocks for plastics and medicinal purposes. But not all trees can do all things equally well. Scientists at North Carolina State University have devoted the last 10 years studying the biological triggers that determine the characteristics of trees as they grow.

They have determined that there are 21 pathway genes that control the amount of lignin a tree produces. Lignin is the stuff that gives timber its strength and density — desirable characteristics for structural uses but not so desirable for making biofuels, paper, or pulp. For those applications, the lignin has to be stripped out of the wood, a process that requires high heat and harsh chemicals.



For the past decade, the researchers have been experimenting with switching individual genes on and off to determine what effect they have on growing trees. But they say they can now model the effects of switching all 21 lignin genes on or off in the lab, which will greatly reduce the amount of time needed to “design” trees that are suitable for particular purposes.

“For the first time, we can predict the outcomes of modifying multiple genes involved in lignin biosynthesis, rather than working with a single gene at a time through trial and error, which is a

tedious and time-consuming process,” says Jack Wang, assistant professor in NC State’s College of Natural Resources and lead author of a paper about the research in *Nature Communications*.

“Having a model such as this, which allows us to say if you want this type of wood, here are the genes that you need to modify, is very beneficial, especially when you have an enormous number of possible combinations with 21 pathway genes,” Wang says. “It’s only possible through integrated analysis which allows us to look at this process at a systems level to see how genes, proteins, and other components work together to regulate lignin production.”

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### Websites of Interest:

Texas A&M Forest Service Information Portal <http://www.texasforestinfo.com>

Texas Parks and Wildlife <http://tpwd.texas.gov/>

Southern Group of State Foresters [www.southernforests.org](http://www.southernforests.org)

Association of Consulting Foresters [www.act-foresters.org/](http://www.act-foresters.org/)

Become a TFA Member Today!!! <http://texasforestry.org>

## Smart Wood– Cont'd from Page 3

The model tracks 25 key wood traits. For timber, density and strength are paramount. Biofuel producers home in on genes linked to high polysaccharide levels, allowing wood to be more easily converted to biodiesel or jet fuel. Pulp and paper producers look for wood with low lignin levels or wood that is more readily hydrolyzed. High lignin woods are novel resources for the production of special value-added phenolic compounds, according to *Science Daily*.

“The complexity of biological pathways is such that it’s no longer sufficient to look at small-scale, independent analysis of one or two genes,” Wang says. “We should use a systems biology approach to look at entire pathway-wide or organism-wide analysis at a systems level, to understand how individual genes, proteins, and other components work together to regulate a property or a behavior.”

The research could lead to more research, such as how to produce “trees that can be paired with thermophilic bacteria for optimal conversion to biofuels and biochemicals,” Wang says. “We are also looking at this integrative analysis to generate trees specifically tailored for production of nanocellulose fibers to replace petroleum-based materials such as plastic.” How cool is that?



## The Top 5 Must-See Migrations in Texas

### The Nature Conservancy

Full Story: <https://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/unitedstates/texas/explore/top-five-must-see-migrations-in-texas.xml>

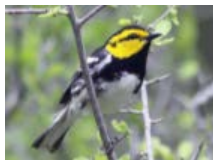
May means spring, and that means the animals of the world are in motion again — flying, swimming, running and crawling to their summer homes and breeding grounds.

“Texas is a critical crossroads for so many bird species as they wing south to wintering grounds and then back north again,” explains John Herron, director of conservation for The Nature Conservancy of Texas.

“In Texas each spring, we get to witness that epic journey as our trees and fields leaf out, providing food and sanctuary for millions of songbirds, hawks and wading birds, all pushing relentlessly north to create the next generation of birds. And as people experience that migration spectacle, we develop a bond with nature and connect a new generation with the wonders of the natural world.”

The Top 5 must-see migrations in Texas include:

- 1. Golden Cheeked Warblers**-These splendid black and white and gold



songbirds only breed and hatch their young in Texas’s Edwards Plateau, opting for old-growth Ashe-juniper trees to nest in. They migrate to Texas beginning in early March, then depart for their wintering ground in Central and South America in mid-June.

- 2. Whooping cranes**- During the winter, these birds migrate 2,400 miles from northern Alberta to a handful of locations along the Texas Gulf Coast.



- 3. Mexican Free-Tailed Bats**- One of the largest colonies of warm-blooded mammals on the planet makes its seasonal home near the small town of Mason.



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## New \$100 Million Lumber Facility - Cont'd from Page 1

The newly formed leadership team at Angelina Forest Products has more than 100 years of experience in the building products business. Executive Vice President Stephen Raley says the company is proud to locate the mill in Angelina County, where there is a talented work force familiar with the industry. "Lufkin is the best location for the new world-class sawmill. The team is eager to



continue the tradition of producing high quality building materials while providing the high quality, career-oriented jobs that are so important to the families in our community," said Raley.

"We are so excited that 3rd and 4th generations of Lufkin are joining together to create jobs for Angelina County," said City of Lufkin Mayor Bob Brown. "A sawmill creates jobs not only at the sawmill, but in the forest, in transportation and beyond. Our economy should see a positive change and we look forward to working together to help make this a success story."

"The City of Lufkin supports the Angelina Forest Products sawmill and their commitment to creating quality jobs and also providing

future generations of workers a long-term employment option in Angelina County. This is a great news for East Texas, Angelina County and Lufkin," said Bob Samford, Lufkin Economic Development Director.

The sawmill will produce a full product line of Southern Yellow Pine lumber and will be capable of producing in excess of 220 million board feet annually. The mill expects to receive 600 log trucks a week from timber owners within a 100-mile radius and will ship 200 trucks of finished product per week throughout this area and other parts of the United States.

## The Top 5 Must-See Migrations in Texas— Cont'd from Page 4

Each May, the Eckert James River Bat Cave Preserve welcomes millions of female bats, who use the cave to give birth and raise pups before returning to Mexico in October.

4. **Black-capped vireos**- Breeding in Texas, Oklahoma, Nebraska, and northeast Mexico, the birds nest in dense low thickets and oak scrub, usually on rocky hillsides. They arrive in Texas between late March and



mid-April then depart for their winter grounds along the west coast of Mexico by mid-September.

5. **Monarch Butterflies**- North America's western population migrates to California, while the eastern population—which can range as far north as Canada—migrates south, funneling through Texas and hugging the Gulf Coast down into Mexico.



## Upcoming Events

**Monday, June 11, 2018– Friday, June 15, 2019– EEK! Week** at the Texas Forestry Museum, 1905 Atkinson Dr. Lufkin, TX 75901. Children 5th– 7th grade are invited to a day camp where they will travel all over East Texas learning about forestry and nature related subjects. \$75.00/child. Contact: Texas Forestry Museum email: [info@treetexas.com](mailto:info@treetexas.com) or phone (936-)632-9535. <https://www.treetexas.com/calendar/?year=2018&month=6>

**Friday, June 29, 2018 from 1pm-4pm–Titus County Workshop on Improving your Hardwood Forest Health** at the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office in Mt. Pleasant, TX, 1708 Industrial Rd. Mt. Pleasant, TX 75455– Come learn management techniques that can improve the health of your hardwood forest. The cost is free.