



# San Juan Tree Farmer



A Colorado State Forest Service—Durango District Newsletter for Forest Landowners.

July 13, 2015



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## Thoughts from a Forester,

*Being structured under the Warner College of Natural Resources at Colorado State University, providing forestry outreach and information to the citizens of Colorado is a fundamental role of the Colorado State Forest Service. In this newsletter you will find opportunities for learning through publications, videos, webinars, workshops, and field tours. You will also be introduced to a couple of individuals recognized for their efforts at practicing and implementing sustainable forest management. I welcome your participation in one of the upcoming events and will look forward to seeing you in the woods. Dan Wand - Forester*

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

**\* July 22-24 All Day at Chama Senior Center Aspen Restoration Workshop:** This workshop will bring together federal, state and private landowners to learn about the latest research and innovative restoration techniques and offers participants the opportunity to get out on the ground to get a first-hand look at aspen restoration projects and discuss management strategies across jurisdictions.

**July 24, 9-11:30 a.m. Forest Landowner meeting. Forest Products: From Marking to Market,** at Ken & Lois Carpenter Tree Farm—Vallecito (See Page 2 for details)

**July 28, Noon-1 p.m. Webinar (60 min): Silviculture for Non-foresters: Managing a Forest for Multiple Objectives,** Presented by USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service - Science and Technology National Technology Support Centers. Presenter: **Karen P. Bennett** Extension Forestry Professor and Specialist University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension. Contact Dan Wand at dan.wand@colostate.edu for details & log-in info.

**August 21, 1-5 p.m. Colorado State Tree Farm Committee annual business meeting** at Pagosa Springs Chamber of Commerce meeting room.

**August 22, 9 a.m.—12:30 p.m. (w/luncheon) Field Tour, luncheon, and recognition meeting of Peter Prina as 2015 Colorado Outstanding Tree Farmer.** Archuleta County. (See Page 4 for details.)

**\*September 19th from 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. Location TBD Navajo River Landowners Workshop:** This year's workshop will extend invitations to landowners from across Hwy 84, into New Mexico and to the Jicarilla Apache Nation. The workshop will highlight summer 2015 restoration projects (including in-stream structures, wetlands, and plantings), examine the success rate of 2014's Navajo Willow Day planting, and provide landowners with training on monitoring tools, like repeat photo monitoring and macroinvertebrate sampling, to help track ecological changes and trends on the lands they manage. Landowners, representatives from both the Colorado and New Mexico Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the Fisheries Biologist from Jicarilla Apache Nation will discuss opportunities for planning and future restoration projects.

**\*For additional information or to register for any of these events, contact Emily Olson, Chama Peak Land Alliance Stewardship Coordinator at (970) 903-0792 or [emilly.chamapeak@gmail.com](mailto:emilly.chamapeak@gmail.com).**

## Forest Landowner — Continuing Education Session

**TOPIC:** Forest Products: From Marking to Market



**WHO:** Forest landowners, contractors, & consultants

**WHAT:** Participants will be provided a copy of a recent publication developed in partnership by the Colorado State Forest Service and Colorado State Tree Farm Committee. “Forest Products: From Marking to Market” is a guide to provide forest landowners the information and tools they need to help them successfully implement forest stewardship activities utilizing contracted services.

**WHERE:** Ken & Lois Carpenter, Pine Song Tree Farm, located north of Bayfield below Vallecito Lake Dam at 12758 County Road 501, Bayfield, CO 81122. Look for the Tree Farm sign on the east side of County Road 501. (A special THANK YOU to Ken & Lois for hosting this event!)

**WHEN:** Friday, July 24th, 9 a.m -11:30 a.m.

This meeting will focus on the steps a landowner can take to set-up and implement a forest products sale or service agreement. From preliminary planning of a project activity to contract development and administration, participants will learn to engage themselves in the process and learn tips to market their forestry activities and related wood products. Concurrent sessions will include:

- Planning & preparation to conduct a forestry activity
- Selling a product or soliciting a service
- Contract & administration
- Marketing basics and strategies

**PRESENTERS:** CSFS Durango District foresters and Kristina Hughes, Education & Outreach Coordinator, Colorado Forest Products™ Program Administrator, CoWood Utilization and Marketing Program

Please **RSVP** by Wednesday, July 22nd by contacting the CSFS Durango District office @ 247-5250 or e-mail CSFS\_durango@mail.colostate.edu

## Forestry Informational Videos available from the CSFS & USFS.

The Colorado State Forest Service has prepared a series of short (8-12 minute) videos. The videos describe forest health conditions in Colorado, related challenges and solutions. The videos are available as DVD's from CSFS district offices or the CSFS website at <http://csfs.colostate.edu/videos/>

The series includes:

- Colorado's Forests: Past, Present, and Future
- Forest Management: Creating Resilient Forests for Colorado
- The Wildland-Urban Interface: A Growing Challenge
- The Wood Products Industry: Essential to Forest Health

## Restoring Composition and Structure in Southwestern Frequent-Fire Forests (RMRS GTR-310)

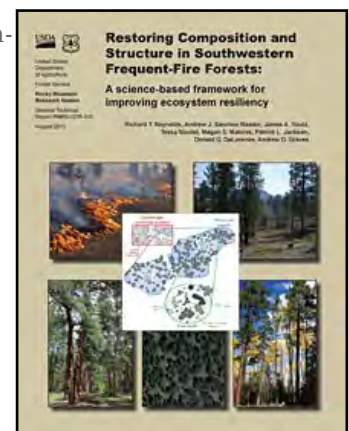
The U.S. Forest Service has released a series of 6 short (8-12 minutes) videos that are available for viewing on the following Youtube website: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLNsZX2SBTIVkiwgly0BpqG9CfLLorBcjs>

The videos are based on General Technical Report 310 which is available from the Rocky Mountain Research Station as indicated below. The videos provide a good summary of the issues related to our local ponderosa pine and dry-mixed conifer forests.

Ponderosa pine and dry mixed-conifer forests in the Southwest United States are experiencing, or have become increasingly susceptible to large-scale severe wildfire, insect, and disease episodes resulting in altered plant and animal demographics, reduced productivity and biodiversity, and impaired ecosystem processes and functions. Enhancing the resiliency of frequent-fire forests can be assisted by restoring key compositional and structural elements of these forests. The science-basis and management recommendations for doing so are outlined in "Restoring composition and structure in Southwestern frequent-fire forests: A science-based framework for improving ecosystem resiliency" (RMRS-GTR-310). [http://www.fs.fed.us/rm/pubs/rmrs\\_gtr310.html](http://www.fs.fed.us/rm/pubs/rmrs_gtr310.html).

Members of the authorship team—scientists and managers with the Forest Service and Northern Arizona University—worked with Science Application & Communication staff at the Rocky Mountain Research Station (RMRS) to produce this series of six short videos to compliment the restoration framework. Please enjoy the videos as they help you interpret and apply of the science findings and recommendations in RMRS-GTR-310.

- Part 1: The Impetus for Ecological Restoration
- Part 2: Expected Benefits and Outcomes of Restoration
- Part 3: Key Elements of Southwestern Frequent Fire Forests
- Part 4: Considerations for Implementation of the Management Framework
- Part 5: Ecological Restoration over Space and Time
- Part 6: Putting it all together: The Bluewater Case Study



## Archuleta County Landowner to be recognized as 2015 Colorado Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year

**PAGOSA SPRINGS, Colo.** - The Colorado State Tree Farm Committee has selected Archuleta County Tree Farmer Peter Prina as the 2015 Colorado Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year. The Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year competition recognizes private landowners that have done an exceptional job of forest management on their properties and an exceptional job of promoting productive forestry. Through public recognition these individuals are held up as leaders in good forestry while their lands demonstrate the benefits of good forest management.

Mr. Prina retired from a career as an attorney in New Mexico and now focuses on his forestry and cattle operations on his properties in Archuleta County among other interests. The primary land management goals are related to forest health and reducing real risks associated with wildfire and insect/disease issues. Enhancing woodland productivity and improving the quality of wood products while maintaining the integrity of the watershed and wildlife habitat is also very important.

Approximately 60% of the forestry work is accomplished by Mr. Prina himself, including administration and much of the tree cutting and brush work, marketing wood products, erosion control, and planting. Practices requiring specialized forestry equipment such as tree skidding, hauling logs, & mastication services, are typically performed by a qualified forestry contractor. Forest improvement practices in recent years has resulted in ponderosa pine sawtimber and firewood product as well as firewood and fence stays from Gambel oak.

“I have watched Mr. Prina’s forestry program blossom during the past several years and have been impressed with the amount of work that he has personally dedicated to improving his properties. He is active in all phases including planning, project set-up and tree marking, tree falling, contract administration, and planting. Peter is an excellent spokesperson for forestry and does an exemplary job of negotiating through the various forestry assistance programs, agencies, contractors, markets, etc. which leads to informed decisions and good forestry being implemented on his properties. He is always willing to share his experiences with others and the field tours he has led have been helpful and inspiring to other landowners as well as resource management professionals. He is not afraid to put in a lot of effort and is successful at finding markets for his forest products.” said Dan Wand, assistant district forester with the Colorado State Forest Service Durango District.

An award ceremony and field tour of Mr. Prina’s forestry accomplishments is planned for the morning of **Saturday, August 22nd**. For additional details and to **RSVP by August 14** please contact the Colorado State Forest Service Durango District office at 247-5250 or e-mail: [csfs\\_durango@mail.colostate.edu](mailto:csfs_durango@mail.colostate.edu)



## Southwest Colorado Logger Recognized as Logger of the Year

**DEL NORTE, Colo.** – Del Norte logger Michael Rue has received the 2015 Colorado Outstanding Logger of the Year Award for outstanding timber harvesting efforts in southwest Colorado. The award is offered through the Colorado State Tree Farm Committee, which is an affiliate of the American Tree Farm System, and the Colorado Timber Industry Association (CTIA).

Rue operates Del Norte-based Michael Rue Logging, which for 34 years has harvested timber and provided logging services on federal, state, tribal and private forestlands in southwest Colorado. He was presented the award at a joint meeting of the Colorado-Wyoming Society of American Foresters, CTIA and Colorado Tree Farmers held in Glenwood Springs on May 8.

“Mike and his logging crew are professional, safe and excellent to work and do business with. He fully understands the inherent risks and dangers of logging and promotes a safe operation, while complying with measures to protect the forest resources,” said Dan Wand, assistant district forester for the Colorado State Forest Service Durango District. Wand nominated Rue for the award, with support from other foresters who have supervised Rue’s logging.

Rue has three full-time employees and his logging operation typically involves heavy equipment including a feller-buncher, log skidders and loaders, a bulldozer and a logging truck. He also works with other independent truckers to haul logs to the mill.

Rue Logging networks within the logging and sawmill industry to provide timber from southwest Colorado to create forest products. The current spruce beetle epidemic in the San Juan/Rio Grande National Forests has more recently focused Rue’s efforts on spruce-fir forest types. He also works within mixed-conifer forests, harvesting white fir, Douglas-fir, aspen and ponderosa pine for various market outlets that may process logs, beams, boards, paneling and other wood products.

The Outstanding Logger of the Year Award was first initiated by the Colorado State Tree Farm Committee in 1988 to recognize loggers or logging companies doing an outstanding job of harvesting timber in the state.



Pictured: (Left to Right) CTIA President - Dan Casey, Logger -Mike Rue, CSFS Forester - Dan Wand

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*CSFS is a service & outreach agency of the Warner  
College of Natural Resources at Colorado State  
University*

**Websites:**

CSFS = [www.csfs.colostate.edu](http://www.csfs.colostate.edu)

National Tree Farm = [www.treefarm.system.org](http://www.treefarm.system.org)

State Tree Farm = [www.treefarmer.com](http://www.treefarmer.com)

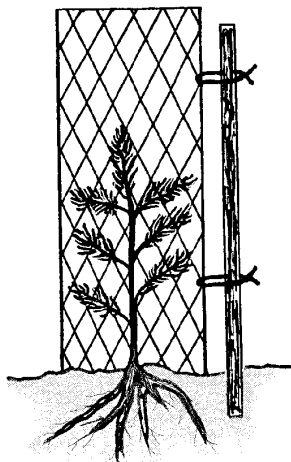
Colorado Wood Utilization & Marketing =

[www.csfs.colostate.edu/cowood/](http://www.csfs.colostate.edu/cowood/)

### **Deadline for ordering container seedlings for reforestation is Monday, August 10th.**

The CSFS nursery has produced a “special crop” of ponderosa pine seedlings grown from local seed collected from the San Juan region of southwest Colorado. These pine seedlings should be superior in their ability to adapt to local soil, climate, and growing conditions. If planting seedlings is in your plans and you are confident that soil moisture will continue to increase this fall, this may be the year to take advantage of seedlings grown from a local seed source. Other tree species grown in either (small or large tube)” containers are also available as indicated on the “Tree Seedlings Order Form—2015” and are available in lots of 30 seedlings. Please contact the CSFS Durango District office @ 247-5250 for additional information or to place an order by Aug. 10.

Delivery of the seedlings to the CSFS Durango district office is anticipated on September 9th.



### **Coming Soon: A Newsletter for participants in Colorado’s “Forest Agriculture Program”**

Colorado landowners that participate in the state’s “Forest agriculture” property tax incentive program can anticipate receiving a periodic newsletter in the near future. The statewide newsletter will serve as a complimentary resource to provide critical program reminders, forestry information, and to link partners that support the efforts of those managing their forestlands for stewardship goals and to produce forest products for a profit. Look for the inaugural issue to show-up in your e-mail or mail box soon.

### **Cottonwood Management Publication**

As part of its “Quick Guide Series” to promote knowledge transfer, the Colorado State Forest Service has recently released the publication Cottonwood Management: Ecology, Rehabilitation, Wildfire and Other Considerations. Cottonwood trees thrive on the eastern plains, in mountain valleys and riparian corridors throughout the state. Managing these native trees is important to ensure numerous benefits that include wildlife habitat, recreation, streambank stabilization and storm-water uptake. The publication is available at CSFS District offices and the CSFS website.