

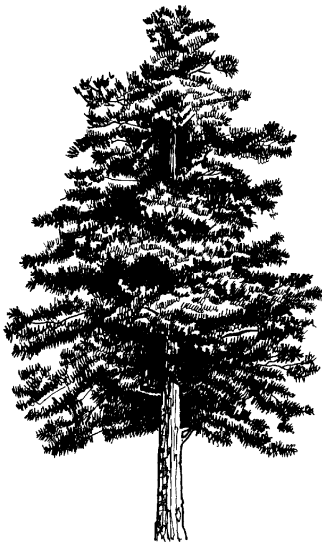


# San Juan Tree Farmer



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

July 22, 2011



## Inside this issue:

Thoughts from a forester. RECOGNITION	1
Tree Farm Schedule of Events and Directions.	2
2011 Colorado Out- standing Tree Farmer— Ron & Windsor Chacey & related field tour and awards ceremony.	3
2011 San Juan Out- standing Tree Farmer—Bill & Patti Szilva.	4
2011 Colorado Out- standing Logger—Rue Logging, Inc.	4
2011 Forestry Legislation Seedling Tree Orders Marketing Workshop	5
Fire Mitigation Grants Due	6

### Thoughts from a Forester:

**RECOGNITION!** This issue of San Juan Tree Farmer focuses on the annual awards presented by the Colorado State Tree Farm Committee. The committee currently consists of 9 forest landowners that are certified members of the American Tree Farm System, 5 CSFS foresters, 1 NRCS forester, and 1 forest industry representative located throughout the state. The mission of this group is to promote the growing of renewable forest resources on private lands in Colorado while protecting environmental benefits and increasing public understanding of all benefits of productive forestry. Each year the committee recognizes individuals who are making significant contributions to the stewardship of Colorado forests through its “Outstanding Tree Farmer” and “Outstanding Logger” of the year awards.

Ron & Windsor Chacey from Pagosa Springs have been selected as the Colorado 2011 Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year. Rue Logging, Inc. from South Fork has been selected as the 2011 Outstanding Logger of the Year. Bill & Patti Szilva from Bayfield have been selected to receive the local 2011 San Juan Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year award.

Each of these individuals are featured in this newsletter and will be recognized during an event on Saturday, August 6th near Pagosa Springs. The event will include a field tour of three properties and conclude at the Chacey property with a luncheon and awards ceremony. This meeting will provide attendees an opportunity to view some outstanding examples of managing private forestland, learn about forestry incentive programs, and network with other landowners, resource professionals, and members of the state Tree Farm committee. Please be sure to RSVP for this event by Friday, July 29th as well as the upcoming meetings in September as per the attached schedule. Thanks and I’ll see you in the woods.

Dan Wand—CSFS Forester

**Forest Fact:** *In Colorado, two types of fixed-wing aircraft are used to drop fire retardant on wildfires: heavy air tankers and single-engine air tankers (SEATs). Heavy air tankers can drop up to 12,000 gallons with each load, but require a small, maneuverable lead plane to guide them over fires and are unable to make low-elevation drops. SEATs, the state’s primary fire suppression aircraft, drop a maximum of 800 gallons of retardant per load, but can make precision drops from as low as 60 feet, with an ideal drop height of 80-100 feet. In 2011, two SEATs are under CSFS contract through the end of October, with a third to be brought on when fire activity increases.*

## *San Juan Tree Farm – 2011 Meeting Dates and Topics*

<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	<b>Program:</b>	<b>Speaker:</b>	<b>Location:</b>
August 5th (Fri. 1-5 p.m.)	<b>Colorado State Tree Farm Committee Meeting.</b>		Pagosa Springs Chamber of Commerce
August 6 <sup>th</sup> (Saturday) 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. w/lunch available.	<b>Topic:</b> 2011 Colorado Outstanding Tree Farmer: Ron & Windsor Chacey & related field tour. (planning, EQIP incentive program, tree thinning, slash/brush mastication, pruning, soil scarification to encourage grass & seedling establishment, products from Gambel oak - see Dan Englund's rockymountainbrushcompany.com)	Ron Chacey Dan Englund Peter Prina (Tree Farmers)	*  Chacey, Englund, & Prina properties. Terry Robinson Rd., Pagosa Springs (See Directions Below)
August 9-11 (Tues-Thurs)	<b>Tree Farm National Convention @ Santa Ana Pueblo - Hyatt Tamaya Resort.</b>	Various: see www.treefarmssystem.org for details.	Between Santa Fe & Albuquerque, NM.
TBD? Sept. 10 or 17? (Saturday) 10 a.m. - Noon	<b>Topic:</b> Reforestation and planting seedling trees. (Seedling tree selection, care, and maintenance) Date will be dependent on seedling tree delivery in Sept. (Please call 247-5250)	Dan Wand (CSFS forester)	**  Matthews Tree Farm Pagosa Springs (See Below)
September 24 (Saturday) 9 a.m. - Noon	<b>Topic:</b> 2011 San Juan Outstanding Tree Farmer: Bill & Patricia Szilva. "Adding value to your wood products." (Field tour of management activities as well as furniture making, fence post treatment w/dip-diffusion, portable mill, solar dry kiln) Discussion of Colorado Wood Utilization & Marketing Program.	Bill Szilva (Tree Farmer)  Tim Reader & Amanda Bucknam (CSFS/Co-Wood)	***  Szilva Tree Farm Bayfield (See Below)

### **Directions for attending upcoming events.**

\* Directions to **Pagosa Springs Town Hall.** From the stop light intersection of Hwy 160 and Hot Springs Blvd go south 6/10th's of a mile on Hot Springs Blvd. Park vehicles on the east side of Hot Springs Blvd., across from the Town Hall.

Directions to **Prina, Englund, & Chacey properties.** From the Hwy 160 & Hwy 84 intersection at the east end of Pagosa Springs, go south 3.4 miles and turn east on to Pine View Road and then an immediate right on to Terry Robinson Road. (If you come to the Echo Lake State Wildlife Area on the west side of Hwy 84 you went too far) Proceed on Terry Robinson Road 2.4 miles to the Prina property, proceed another 1.0 mile and turn left on to Divide View Place and then proceed 1/2 mile to the Englund property and another 1/4 mile to the Chacey property. **Please RSVP by Noon, July 29th.**

\*\* Directions to **Matthews Tree Farm.** The property is located directly west of the Pagosa Springs elementary school at the base of Putt Hill (south side of Hwy 160). Meet at the parking lot of the elementary school @ 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 10th or 17th? (Date To Be Determined). **Please RSVP by Noon, September 2nd.**

\*\*\* Directions to **Szilva Tree Farm.** The property is located at 48447 E. US Hwy. 160, Bayfield, approximately 6 miles east of Bayfield on the north side of US Hwy 160. (Watch for Sign) **Please RSVP by Noon, September 16th.**

## 2011 Colorado Outstanding Tree Farmers Ron & Windsor Chacey — Pagosa Springs, Archuleta County

Ron & Windsor Chacey became tree farmers in 1996 with a forest that was thick with far too many trees. On most of our property, the oak brush and choke cherry were so thick that it was easy to get lost. The primary trees were 85 years or older ponderosa pine, gamble oak as brush and some clumps of larger oak trees, and a few white fir. We had managed a sheep farm in SE Ohio for 25 years and have always been dedicated to taking good care of the land.

The first task was to bring in a large tractor with a flail mower to open up the forest, so that the horse logger could work to do the first thinning of the ponderosa pine. Most of the logs we have used for building or fire wood, including the use of large logs to make lumber and raised beds at home for growing vegetables.

Under a 50/50 grant for removal of ladder fuels, 30 acres were cleaned using a chain saw and tractor. All of the brush and weak trees under the ponderosa were removed for fire wood, and the trees were pruned of their lower limbs. All of the larger trash wood was run through a chipper. The wood chips which we have used as mulch on our perennial flower beds at home have worked exceptionally well. In a subsequent year, the area was mowed with a brush hog. We have watched closely and removed beetle and mistletoe attacked trees, with no more beetle attacks for the past two years.

Most of the forest is even aged, and we will be working to change it to a more diverse forest of various age ponderosa pine. In open areas, we will be scarifying the ground for a few years, and then planting ponderosa pine if the scarification is not successful. One small area is being managed for white fir. Douglas fir is being introduced in some areas.

Our forest management plan was updated recently with the property divided into 8 areas with each in separate, repeating 5 year rotations: year 1— thin and remove large brush if needed; year 2 — mow; year 3— scarify the ground or plant if needed; year 4 and 5— are open for any other needed management. By the end of the next decade, we will be well on our way to the kind of forest that we are working toward – a forest that is productive and economically sustainable.

We are pleased to accept the recognition of Colorado State Tree Farmer of the year, and are always looking for ways to inspire and assist other local tree farmers. We worked at assisting with the development of the Archuleta County Tree Farmers, so as to help expand the American Tree Farm System, and bring greater recognition of the benefits that tree farming brings to the community. — Ron Chacey

### Field Tour and Awards Ceremony/Luncheon Saturday, August 6th (9 a.m.—1:30 p.m.)

Mr. & Mrs. Chacey along with neighboring property owners Dan Englund and Peter Prina will host an informative field tour for forest landowners, prior to a luncheon and awards ceremony presented by the Colorado State Tree Farm Committee.

#### Agenda

9 a.m. Meet at Town of Pagosa Springs, Town Hall (551 Hot Springs Blvd.) to car-pool and depart for field tour. (9:15 depart)

9:45 a.m. Arrive at Peter Prina property : (View 40+ acre thinning and mastication treatment units completed in 2010, 2011, and planned for 2012. These units will provide the opportunity to view a treatment recently completed by Tyner Forest Restoration and compare to the previous year treatment as well as untreated areas).

10:45 a.m. Arrive at Dan Englund property: (View forestry activities on the Englund Tree Farm & utilization of Gambel oak for furniture. Dan will discuss his recent formation of the “Rocky Mountain Brush Company” ([www.rockymountainbrushcompany.com](http://www.rockymountainbrushcompany.com))).

11:30 a.m. Arrive at Ron & Windsor Chacey property: (View & discuss forest management activities on the Chacey Tree Farm).

12:00 Noon Luncheon: (chicken or pulled pork, w/sides, drink, & dessert) \$\$ **Donations Accepted** to off-set expenses \$\$

12:45-1:30 Awards Ceremony

**Note:** Prepare for a rustic setting w/limited facilities/porta-potty, seating will be limited and bringing a lawn chair is encouraged.

**Please RSVP to Colorado State Forest Service (247-5250 or [csfsdugo@lamar.colostate.edu](mailto:csfsdugo@lamar.colostate.edu)) by Noon, Friday, July 29th.**

## **2011 San Juan Outstanding Tree Farmer Bill & Patti Szilva—Bayfield, La Plata County**

Bill and Patti Szilva of La Plata County are the San Juan Outstanding Tree Farmers for 2011. The Szilva property was purchased in 1996 to the amazement of the realtor who expressed “you really want to purchase 40 acres of impassable scrub oak”. Early efforts were focused upon the building of the residence and clearing a defensible space. A Forest Management Plan was developed in 2001 in compliance with the Colorado Forest Ag program and the property was certified in the American Tree Farm System in 2004. After the 2002 Missionary Ridge fire, the Management Plan priority became reducing the risk of wildfire with the cutting, piling, and safe burning of oak brush and laddering fuels. The past 10 years of meeting plan objectives has made strides in transforming the property into the desired savanna ecosystem. Activities have included tree thinning, clearing and removing of oak, mistletoe control, pruning, planting seedlings, and weed control. As many forest landowners that reside on their property know, stewardship goals of a healthy forest, enhanced wildlife habitat, watershed values and personal recreation are typically in harmony with landowner objectives but conflicts may occur when setting income producing goals. This is especially a challenge for the small parcel owners as stumpage sales can result in undesirable changes in property appearance. Bill has attended several Colorado State Forest Service “Marketing and Utilization” presentations that focus upon value adding of wood lot products and has incorporated these into the Management Plan income objectives. Value adding may provide a suitable alternative by generating a greater return from a smaller amount of resources. As fellow Tree Farmers and forest landowners you are invited to attend a field tour of the Szilva Tree Farm in La Plata County and brief demonstrations of the value added processes of fence post “dip-diffusion” method of wood treating, small scale lumber production and solar kiln drying.—Bill Szilva

Please join us for a field tour of the Szilva property and presentations by Tim Reader & Amanda Bucknam of the CSFS/ Colorado Wood Marketing & Utilization Program on Saturday, September 24th from 9 a.m.—Noon.

**Please RSVP to CSFS Durango District office (247-5250) by Noon, September 16th.**

## **2011 Colorado Outstanding Logger Rue Logging, Inc.—South Fork, Rio Grande County**

Rue Logging, Inc., of South Fork, Colo., has received the 2011 “Colorado Outstanding Logger of the Year Award” presented by the Colorado State Tree Farm Committee. The purpose of the award is to recognize a person or company engaged in the logging and forest products profession which demonstrates an outstanding job of harvesting timber, thinning forests or providing other forestry-related services in Colorado.

Brian and Andrea Rue recently accepted the award at the annual meeting of the Colorado Timber Industry Association held in Delta, Colo. Dan Wand, assistant district forester with the Colorado State Forest Service Durango District and member of the State Tree Farm Committee, presented the award.

Criteria the committee used in making their selection included compliance with provisions of timber sale and service contracts to protect the forest resources; use of Best Management Practices; participation in safety training and continuing education for forest industry workers; positive attitude and cooperation; and involvement in forestry outreach activities.

“Rue and his crew have an outstanding reputation for their workmanship in the woods and have adapted their business to meet the desired outcomes that forest treatments today are designed to provide,” Wand said.

The Rue family has been in the logging and forestry business since 1960, when Norman Rue (Brian’s father) started the business. In addition to providing traditional timber harvest and tree-thinning services, Rue Logging, Inc., now operates a fleet of several hydro-ax machines specializing in fuels reduction, forest stand improvement, forest restoration, rehabilitation of burned areas and wildlife habitat projects. Rue Logging has worked to improve thousands of acres of land throughout Colorado, including private and municipal ownerships as well as state, federal and tribal lands.

In receiving the award plaque, the Rues were also presented a certificate for a new chainsaw, compliments of Intermountain STIHL in Aurora, Colo.

## 2011 Forestry Legislation

### **SB11-110 Open Burning Permit System**

SB11-110 requires counties with substantial forested area, as determined by the State Forester, to develop an open burning permit system for unincorporated areas of the county by January 1, 2012. A conforming open burning permit system accommodates the disposal of slash, as defined by the bill. The bill requires affected county governments to collaborate with local jurisdictions, sheriffs, and other agencies and to develop an education plan concerning slash-pile burning. Counties developing a permit system must consider existing laws and scientific and applied knowledge of safe burning conditions, and include mechanisms to notify neighbors and individuals with respiratory conditions of permitted burns.

Counties with an existing open-burning permit system are exempt from the bill's requirements until the board of county commissioners alters the existing permit system. The bill also exempts prescribed burns that follow federal and state guidelines and preserves the existing rights of agricultural producers to conduct burning on their property.

### **SB11-238 Extension of Wildfire Preparedness Fund**

The Wildfire Preparedness Fund was created in 2006 by Senate Bill 06-096. It authorized funding for wildfire preparedness through FY 2010-11. SB11-238 extends the Wildfire Preparedness Fund for two years, beginning on July 1, 2012. Funding is provided through federal mineral lease revenues by the Department of Local Affairs from the Local Government Impact Fund. The Wildfire Preparedness Fund is used by the Colorado State Forest Service for wildfire preparedness activities, including funding for firefighting resources, agreements, and plans. The bill also requires the Colorado State Forest Service to annually report on the use of these revenues to the Department of Local Affairs, the Office of State Planning and Budgeting, and the General Assembly.

### **SB11-267 Forest Health Act of 2011**

SB11-267 creates the Forest Health Act of 2011, which promotes forest health efforts and creates the Colorado Forest Biomass Use Work Group. It also promotes the creation of sustainable market-based models for active forest management and woody biomass energy development.

## Order Seedling Trees now for Fall planting.

Landowners wishing to order container grown conifer seedlings for fall planting should do so by contacting the CSFS Durango District office @ 247-5250 **by August 5th**. Expected delivery of the seedlings to Durango is early/mid-September. Seedling trees are available in "small potted" (1"x7" round tube pots) @ \$36 per box of 30, and "regular potted" (2"x2"x7" pots) @ \$56 per box of 30 (plus state sales tax 2.9%).

### **Colorado Forest Products™ Marketing Conference August 18-19, 2011** Marriott Denver West, Golden

In cooperation with the Governors Energy Office, the Utilization and Marketing Program will be hosting a forest products marketing conference at the Denver West Marriott Hotel. Our two-day Conference will feature:

- Positioning Your Business and Selling to an Increasingly 'Green' Customer Base
- State and Regional Wood Product Market Trends
- Positioning Biomass as 'Green' Source for Energy Markets
- Marketing Case-Studies
- Innovative Selling and Management Strategies
- Product Branding, Social Networking, and the Media
- Colorado's Consumer Housing, Labor, and Income Demographics

For questions please contact [Amanda Bucknam](mailto:amanda.bucknam@colostate.edu), (970) 491-0801  
[amanda.bucknam@colostate.edu](mailto:amanda.bucknam@colostate.edu)



**COLORADO STATE  
FOREST SERVICE  
FLC 7233  
DURANGO, CO 81301**

Phone: 970-247-5250  
Fax: 970-247-5252  
Email: [csfsdugo@lamar.colostate.edu](mailto:csfsdugo@lamar.colostate.edu)



*Knowledge To Go Places*

**Websites:**

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

**National Tree Farm** =  
[www.treefarmssystem.org](http://www.treefarmssystem.org)

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

**Colorado Wood Utilization & Marketing** =  
<http://csfs.colostate.edu/cowood/>

## **Wildland-Urban Interface Fire Mitigation Grants Available Through July**

**FORT COLLINS, Colo.** — The Colorado State Forest Service is accepting applications for 2012 State Fire Assistance Wildland-Urban Interface grants through the end of July. The competitive program makes funds available to homeowners associations, subdivisions, fire departments, counties and other groups to implement projects that mitigate wildfire hazards in the wildland-urban interface.

WUI grant funds can be used for hazardous fuels reduction and fire education or planning. Projects affiliated with approved Community Wildfire Protection Plans receive priority, and all grants require a one-to-one match from recipients.

All interested applicants will be required to identify the project location according to one of the national theme maps found in the Colorado Statewide Forest Resource Assessment, and describe project relevance as it pertains to the Statewide Forest Resource Strategy. Jane Lopez, fuels mitigation program manager for the CSFS, said that applicants are strongly encouraged to consult their local CSFS district for assistance in assessing where projects are located with respect to the theme maps.

“Applicants should work closely with their local district forester in the application process, and be sure to follow all instructions carefully since funding is limited,” she said.

Applications must be submitted directly to the appropriate CSFS district office by the last week of July, but specific deadlines vary by district. District staff will review, prioritize and forward applications to the CSFS State Office.

The CSFS distributed a total of \$1.4 million to 31 projects throughout the state that successfully competed for 2011 WUI grants.

Additional information about the 2012 WUI grant program, including program criteria, instructions and application forms, is available online at [www.csfs.colostate.edu](http://www.csfs.colostate.edu) under the “Funding Opportunities” link.