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## **Udall Commends One Denver Supplier for Stocking Beetle-Killed Lumber**

*Renews Call for Other CO Homebuilders, Contractors to do the Same*

*Using Beetle Kill Clears Forests of Hazardous Trees, Supports Rural CO Economies*

With the spreading bark beetle epidemic felling more of Colorado's forests every day, Mark Udall today commended a Denver lumber supplier for selling beetle-killed lumber for construction and renewed his call to other Colorado homebuilders to follow suit. The Denver Lumber Co. is one of the first major suppliers of beetle-killed wood in Colorado to sell mainly to professional builders and contractors, instead of retail shoppers.

"Denver Lumber is filling a much-needed niche in Colorado by supplying beetle-killed wood to home builders. I applaud their leadership in putting beetle kill to use and supporting rural economies that depend on our forests," **Udall said.** "The Mountain West has millions of acres of beetle-killed trees turning into fuel for wildfires and endangering our communities. Using beetle-killed wood products in home construction is a creative solution that creates multiple wins for Colorado: it helps clear forests of dead and dying trees, protects public safety, and stimulates jobs in the lumber, forest-management and construction industries across our state."

Mitigating the impact of the bark beetle epidemic on Colorado has been a top priority for Udall for over a decade; he hopes to help communities and businesses find ways to create local jobs, clear dead and dying trees, and perhaps even find new sources of energy, as [one Colorado business did with beetle-killed wood pellets](#). Udall last year [called on Colorado homebuilders to use beetle kill](#) at an event showcasing a home built by New Town Builders, a Denver builder of energy-efficient homes that has pledged to use pine-beetle wood in constructing its homes. Finding ways to encourage Coloradans to make use of beetle-killed timber and byproducts is among the many forest-health issues he is advocating. Denver Lumber gets its stock from the Intermountain Resources mill, one of the sawmills that was able to renegotiate its timber contracts last year after [Udall worked with the U.S. Forest Service](#) to free them from burdensome, pre-recession terms. Last year, he also [requested a comprehensive study](#) to identify ways to address the epidemic and fought to [protect infrastructure from wildfire](#).

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