

FUNDING

Activities of the Commission are funded by mandatory assessments paid solely by the forestry industry. Actual rates are set each year by Commission members based on the programs they want to carry out.

There are three categories of assessments, each with a limit on the amount which may be assessed. Category 1 includes sawmills and other forest product manufacturers. This assessment is based on the total volume of logs (including tonwood and chips) the business processed, purchased or measured during the previous year and cannot exceed 50 cents per thousand board feet. Facilities outside Idaho are assessed on the total volume of logs, tonwood and chips from Idaho. Category 2 includes all logging or trucking firms which harvest or transport forest products in Idaho. This assessment is based on the number of employees (including self-employed) during the month of July of the previous year. Category 2 assessments cannot exceed \$25 per employee. Category 3 includes individuals and businesses that own more than 10,000 acres of forest land. This assessment cannot exceed 10 cents per acre.

Supporters of the Commission may choose to pay their assessment in either one full payment or in four equal payments. A business that falls under more than one category is liable for the greater assessment. Other Commission funding may include grants, donations and gifts. IFPC has also established the Idaho Forest Foundation through the Idaho Community Foundation Fund. Fund Contributions are tax deductible and are used to support forest education and information programs in Idaho.

IFPC MEMBERS

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Term expires: 2019

District 2

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District 4

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FACTS ABOUT THE



IDAHO FOREST PRODUCTS COMMISSION

VISION STATEMENT

The Idaho Forest Products Commission sees working forests maintained in Idaho forever through responsible management of public and private forests and through an informed public that understands such management. The work of the Commission will help assure balanced and sustained timber, wildlife, recreation and scenic beauty for the welfare of the state's citizens

BACKGROUND

The Idaho Forest Products Commission was created in 1992 by an act of the Idaho Legislature. The purpose of creating a Commission was to provide a way to collect and distribute accurate information about Idaho's forest lands and the forest products industry. The legislation had strong support from industry which views the commission as a much needed way to pool its resources to carry out long-term, positive public relations and educational programs.

The future of Idaho's forest products industry will depend heavily upon the support of policies which balance economic values with environmental concepts. This is possible only if the general public understands, accepts and supports the basic principles of forest stewardship and conservation as well as the economic importance of Idaho's forest products industry.

COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP

The Commission is composed of five voting members that represent all geographical areas of the state and reflect the milling, logging, transportation and timber-managing segments of the industry. Commission members are appointed to a three year term by the Governor from recommendations of those who pay assessments into the Commission. There are also six non-voting advisory members representing the Idaho Department of Lands, U.S. Forest Service, University of Idaho, Idaho Department of Agriculture, Idaho Department of Commerce and the Associated Logging Contractors. Members and advisors are not compensated for their service to the Commission.

MISSION STATEMENT

To provide programs that result in an informed public that understands and supports balanced, responsible management of Idaho's economically vital public and private forests.

GOALS

- To increase public understanding that Idaho's forests are a renewable source of important consumer products and environmental values.
- To provide, coordinate and disseminate factual information about economic and environmental aspects of timber management practices.
- To promote public support for Idaho's forest products industry.
- To help achieve and maintain a healthy forest products industry through responsible forest stewardship.
- To advocate balanced use of forest resources.

TARGET AUDIENCES

General Public
Educators
Students/Youth
Decision-makers
Opinion Leaders
News Media
Newcomers to Idaho
Industry Employees & Families
Allied Resource User Groups
Forest Users/Visitors
Resource Managers

PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

Strategy and Scope

IFPC's overall goal is to meet the public's need for information about Idaho's forests and forest products industry. A primary focus of the Commission is to use communication tools such as television, radio, and the internet to inform the public. The Commission has also made a strong commitment to providing high quality education programs for Idaho's youth and educators.

IFPC may also fund projects which are proposed by groups or individuals that further the Commission's goals and objectives. Activities of the Commission have a statewide focus and are carried out in cooperation with state and federal agencies and other groups to coordinate efforts and reduce costs in producing outstanding programs.

Education

Education is at the heart of IFPC's mission. Education programs focus on reaching specific groups of people through a variety of short and long-term projects. A priority for the Commission is providing high quality professional development programs for teachers, counselors and others who work with youth. IFPC is the Idaho home of award-winning environmental education program, "Project Learning Tree." The Commission provides workshops and forest tours for educators, programs for students and abundant classroom resources.

Media Support

The use of mass media is the most effective and cost efficient way to provide information to large numbers of people. The Commission couples information gained from public surveys with the talent of an Idaho advertising agency to develop a strategic communications campaign. Mass media such as radio, television and social media are used to reach key audiences with specific messages.

Public Information/Community Relations

Public information and community relations programs include projects that can effectively help key audiences understand more about Idaho's forest resources. IFPC's website, www.idahoforests.org provides a wealth of information. Special events such as Arbor Day and National Forest Products Week, activities at local fairs, forest tours for opinion leaders and a project focusing on architects are examples of these projects.

Research

The Commission keeps close tabs on public opinions, attitudes and perceptions regarding forest issues. Research programs allow IFPC to track perceptions and trends over time, identify specific groups attitudes and target and craft future messages. IFPC media messages and other materials are also subject to formal testing.

Industry Information

These programs are developed to inform and educate individuals primarily within the forest products industry. One example is the "Best Management Practices" book which explains how water quality is protected through good forest stewardship when trees are harvested.

Contingency

This area serves as a "safety net" program for exceptional or timely projects that were not considered during the budgetary process. Unforeseen administrative needs may also fall under the contingency area.

Administration

All the basic needs to keep our doors open and information flowing, including personnel costs and travel, fall under this area.

MORE INFORMATION?

If you would like more information or have questions about the Idaho Forest Products Commission, please contact us at:

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