



Forest Products Retention Roundtable
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<http://www.montanarestoration.org/roundtable>

The Forest Products Retention Roundtable began meeting in February 2010 in response to the closing of Smurfit Stone Container Corp. The goal of the Roundtable meetings was to restore federal forests and enhance community economic viability by ensuring the retention and enhancement of the forest products industry in Montana. The maintenance of Montana's mill manufacturing capacity, professional logging contractors and log haulers is vital in order for state and federal land managers to effectively and sustainably manage our resources.

Originally hosted by the Steering Committee of the Montana Forest Restoration Committee (MFRC), the Roundtable sought participation from a wide array of industry, governmental, and non-profit entities as well as contractors and citizens. General discussion consisted of the importance of sustaining mill manufacturing, professional logging contractors and log haulers. With capital investments so high, once lost, reinvestment is not likely to return. Conservation representatives expressed the importance of a viable forest products sector to their ability to enhance wildlife habitat, execute forest stewardship agreements on federal jurisdictions and implement forest restoration projects. Members representing professional logging contractors provided information pertaining to the training of their professional work force and the importance of having an outlet for disposing of residuals from timber harvest and restoration activities across all forest ownerships.

Given this wide depth and breath of participation, the Roundtable is able to provide a forum for the sharing of resources, information, educational materials and opportunities in an effort to connect all facets of the forest products industry and ensure its growth and success into the future.

The Roundtable is always looking to make connections, provide resources and opportunities, or host educational presentations at our meetings. If there is an opportunity or issue that should be presented, please contact us so we can add it to our next agenda. The Roundtable meets the second Friday of each month, and the public is always welcome to attend Roundtable meetings.

For more information please visit
www.montanarestoration.org/roundtable
or email info@montanarestoration.org

Roundtable Participants

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Tom Coston
MT Rail Link

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Congressman Denny Rehberg's Office

John Gatchell
Montana Wilderness Association

John Guthmiller
USDA Rural Development

Nicole Hagerman Miller
MT World Trade Center

Mike Halligan
Washington Corporation

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Montana State Forester

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Great Burn Study Group/MFRC

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Northwestern Energy

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Artemis Common Ground

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The Wilderness Society

Julie Kies
MT DNRC - Forestry Div (Biomass)

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DA Davidson, Investment Co

Keith Olson
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Blue Marble Biomaterials

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