

September 8, 2025

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump:

We write on behalf of private forest landowners, forestry agencies, loggers, businesses, and associations from across the nation, collectively representing a sector that supports 3.9 million American jobs. We want to draw your attention to a growing national security crisis that threatens the nation's timber supply, rural economies, and long-term energy independence. With the right policies, however, your Administration can not only stabilize these challenges but also spark new job creation, strengthen domestic manufacturing, and drive economic growth in rural America.

On March 1st, you signed an Executive Order directing federal agencies to boost the domestic production of timber and wood products—a clear recognition that working forests are critical to our economic resilience, housing supply, consumer products, energy production, and national security. Today, that directive faces unprecedented headwinds.

Hurricane Helene inflicted significant timber losses in several southern states, including \$1.28 billion in losses in Georgia alone. Moreover, the recent closure of two mills in Savannah and Riceboro, Georgia, has eliminated nearly 1,100 jobs and destabilized the very heart of the forestry value chain in those communities. These blows are the latest in an alarming national trend: since 2014, more than 31 pulp and paper mills have closed across the country, removing at least 42 million tons of pulpwood demand and \$20.9 billion in sales and manufacturing from the U.S. timber economy. This is leaving communities across America without markets, jobs, or the certainty needed to keep forests in forests.

The challenges confronting America's forests are escalating nationwide:

- **Natural disasters**—including hurricanes, wildfires, tornadoes, ice storms, and floods—destroy millions of acres of timber each year.
- **Pests and diseases**—such as the Southern pine beetle infestations, spruce budworm outbreaks, sudden oak death, and other pests and pathogens—are devastating entire stands of timber.
- **Mill closures** nationwide are stripping markets from landowners and rural workers, leaving them without outlets for their timber.
- **Unfair foreign trade** practices are undercutting U.S. producers and distorting global markets, eroding our ability to compete.

Together, these forces are pushing many landowners to exit forestry altogether. If forests are abandoned or converted, the consequences for our domestic timber supply, as well as markets for housing, infrastructure, consumer products, energy, rural livelihoods, and environmental security, will be severe. This is not just a regional concern—it is a national crisis. Strong working forests are important to America's overall economic strength. But with decisive action, we can turn these threats into opportunities—keeping landowners on the land, supporting loggers and mill workers, and creating new jobs through expanded markets for wood products, renewable energy, and bio-based manufacturing.

There are four immediate steps your Administration can take to support the goals of your March 1st order by removing impediments, providing certainty to landowners and communities, and sparking job creation and economic growth:

1. **Endorse and Support the Disaster Reforestation Act**—Allow landowners to deduct their timber lost to natural disasters, so they can replant and keep forests as forests after events like Helene and catastrophic wildfires—protecting rural livelihoods and ensuring forestry continues to be a source of jobs and economic vitality.
2. **Expand the definition of qualifying woody biomass in the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS)**—Clarifying and expanding the definition of woody biomass in the RFS so that small trees, harvest residuals, and mill residuals can be made into transportation fuel for aviation, shipping, and other applications, would open new markets for low-value wood, help wildfire prevention, improve forest health, and strengthen rural economies while increasing American energy production and creating new jobs.
3. **Promote biomass for electricity**—Promoting biomass for electricity production to power homes and manufacturing would rapidly contribute to wildfire risk reduction and support the wood product supply chain, while generating new employment in power production and mill communities. In addition, expanding the use of biomass would create new market opportunities for other agricultural products and residues, further strengthening rural economies and supporting America’s farmers alongside forest landowners.
4. **Support the Loggers Economic Assistance Act**—Ensuring that logging contractors, who are vital to harvesting and transporting timber, have access to direct relief and economic assistance will stabilize the entire forestry value chain and preserve thousands of logging jobs that are essential for moving timber to market, while supporting broader growth in rural economies.

Mr. President, America’s private forests are a strategic asset. They provide raw materials for housing, infrastructure, consumer products, and renewable energy, while supporting millions of jobs. Without decisive action, we risk losing this foundation of our economy and national security. By advancing these measures, your Administration can ensure not only that America’s forests remain strong and resilient, but also that they continue to be engines of job creation, economic growth, and prosperity in the rural communities that form the backbone of this nation.

Sincerely,

Alabama Forestry Commission
 American Biomass Energy Association
 American Farm Bureau Federation
 American Loggers Council
 American Walnut Manufacturers Association
 Arkansas Forestry Association
 Arkansas Timber Producers Association
 Associated California Loggers
 Associated Contract Loggers & Truckers of Minnesota
 Associated Logging Contractors of Idaho
 Association of Consulting Foresters of America
 Calforests
 California Biomass Energy Alliance
 Central Mississippi Loggers Association
 Connecticut Professional Timber Producers Association
 Empire State Forest Products Association
 Family Business Coalition
 Florida Forestry Association
 Forest Landowners Association
 Forest Landowners Foundation

Georgia Forestry Association
 Great Lakes Timber Professionals Association
 Greenville, SC Forestry and Wildlife Society
 Idaho Forest Owners Association
 Indiana Forestry & Woodland Owners Association
 Intermountain Logging Conference
 Iowa Woodland Owners Association
 Louisiana Forestry Association
 Louisiana Loggers Association
 Louisiana Logging Council
 Maryland Forests Association
 Massachusetts Forest Alliance
 Michigan Biomass
 Mississippi Forestry Association
 Missouri Forest Products Association
 National Alliance of Forest Owners
 National Association of State Foresters
 National Sportsman Association
 National Wild Turkey Federation
 National Wooden Pallet & Container Association
 National Woodland Owners Association
 NC Tree Farm Program

NH Timber Harvesting Council
NH Timberland Owners Association
Ohio Forestry Association
Oklahoma Forestry Association
Oregon Farm Bureau
Pennsylvania Forestry Association
Professional Logging Contractors of the Northeast
Rhode Island Forest Conservators Organization
Rhode Island Wood Operators Organization
Rusk-Smith County Landowners Association
Southeastern Lumber Manufacturers Association
Southeastern Wood Producers Association, Inc.
Southern Group of State Foresters
Southern Loggers Cooperative
Telfair County Board of Commissioners
Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation
Tennessee Forestry Association
Treated Wood Council
Virginia Forestry Association
Virginia Loggers Association
Virginia Tree Farm Foundation
Walnut Council
Washington Farm Forestry Association
West Virginia Forestry Association
A & M Logging
A and H Farming Inc.
A.D. Martin Farms LLC
A.R.T.I.S.T.
Adams Forestry Service
Adams Limited Partnership
Adohi Partners, LLC
Allstate Land and Timber
Anderson Logging Inc
ArborGen Inc.
Arkansas Pulpwood Company, Inc.
ASW Forestry
Aurora Sustainable Lands
Azor Enterprises LLC
B&B Property Management LLC
Barrs Companies
Bates Timberlands, LLLP
Beasley Timber Company
Bell Land & Cattle, LLC
Bell Timbers
Bembry & Bembry Farms, LLC
Besley & Rodgers, Inc.
Bill Milliken Forestry LLC
Biomass One LP
Blue Mountain Electric
Bob's Landclearing Inc.
Bombadil Tree Farms
Bottomland Tree Farm

Brooks Land & Timber, LLC
Brooks Land Enterprise
Browder & Sons Veneer Co., Inc.
Bruton Farms
Bulloch Farms
Burns Forestry, Inc
Carter & Carter Forest Management LLC
Carter Forest Services LLC
CAW
Cedar Hill Trust
Cedar Mountain Working Forest
Chaff Timberlands LLC
Charlane Woodlands
Charles A. Wright Logging Inc.
Chips, Inc.
Christopher Lands
CHM Hunt Club
Chris Langley Timber
Circle D Farms
Clements Family Farm
Coleswood LLC
Collins
Collins Brothers Farms
Colvin Family Partnership, LP
Congaree River LLC
Count Nesselrode Forest, LLC
Cox Forestry LLC
Craig Jochum Logging
Crazy Pines Land Trust
Crescent J LLC
Crest Natural Resources, LLC
Crosby Land & Resources
Crowell Forest Resources, LLC
Cumberland Springs Land Company
Curley L. Potter
Damascus Peanut Company
Darden Family Partners
David T Pickle Timber Co
DDK Forestry & Real Estate
Deerpoint Timber Products
Diamond H Timber LLC
Double O Ranch
Dougherty & Dougherty Forestry
Dove Creek Forestry, Inc.
Eaton Bottomlands LLC
Ed May Farms
Egolf Forest Harvesting, Inc
Elgerbar Corporation
Empire Forestry Services
F&W Forestry Services, Inc.
Fall Line Forestry Consultants LLC
Fall Line Forestry LLC

FF303LLC
Flint Legacy LLC
Forest Investment Associates
Four Oaks land and Equipment sales LLC.
Frank Wills Forester
FWS Forestry Services California LLC
G&G Land & Timber LLC
Gator Timber & Land, LLC
Gay Wood Co. Inc.
Gene Givens Logging Inc
Genesis Timber
Georgia - Alabama Woodlands, Inc.
Georgia-Atlantic Forestry LLC
Geronimo Hardwood Timber, LLC
Gies Timber & Land, Inc
Givens Lumber Company Inc
Good Hope Land and Timber
Gray Logging
Great Oaks Holdings, LLC
Great Woods Companies, LLC
Green Belt Limited
Green Diamond Resource Company
Green Farm LLC
Green Plain Hunt Club
Greene Morgan Forest Landowners
Greg Cook Logging Inc
Griffin Timber Services
Guffin & Eleam Insurance
Gulf-Atlantic Forestry, LLC
Gully Branch Tree Farm
H. B. Tuten Jr Logging Inc.
Hall Timberlands
Halstead Forestry & Realty, Inc.
Hammock-Wicks Timber Inc
Harrigan Lumber Co.
Hawkins & Rawlinson, Inc.
HB Timber
Heritage Timber Company, LLC
HGH Timber, LLC
Hilliard Forestry
H. Jones Timber LLC
HL Power Company, LP
Hogan Forest Services LLC
Hughes Family Farm
Hull Forest Products Inc.
Hungerford Land and Wildlife, Inc.
Independent Logging Contractors of Alabama
Irish Family Logging Inc
J & M Forestry and Grading Inc
J A Tillman Enterprises LP
J&J Land and Timber (private landowner)
J&L Trucking LLC

James Timber Company, LLC
Jamestown
Jerome Adams
Jerome Creek Farms
JHL Services LLC
John Ricciuti
Johnson Company, Inc.
JohnsonFloyd LLP
JRC Family Timber LLC
JWBooker Contracting co
Keadle Land Company, LLLP
Keller Group
Kendrick Forest Products
Kevin Holtz Logging
Kingstree Forest Products
Krueger Dirtwerx Inc
KW Jester Logging Inc
Lanigan CPAs and SAA
Legacy Partners, Inc
LGD Forestry
Liberty Hill, LLC
Lobb Forest Enterprises LLC
Lone Rock Resources
Longcreek Investments LLC
Lonnie Pitts LLC
Lotts Logging Inc
LYN-WIN, LLC
Lyndaker Timber Harvesting LLC
M and B Timber Co Inc
M. C. Smith Enterprise
Marcus Trowell
Matre Forestry Consulting, Inc.
MCA Resources, Inc.
McGuire Woods, LLC
McK & Me, LLC
Mellette Forestry Group, LLC
MFRE Transport, LLC
MFRE, LLC
Mike Cowart Trucking
Mike Nielsen logging
Miles R Garrison, Family Forest Landowner
Mill Creek Timber Farm, LLC
Mill Shoals Timber, LLC
Morris Farms
Morrison Forestry & Real Estate, Inc.
Muehlschlegel Timberlands, LLC
Murray Forestry Inc.
Nistler Kowitz Logging
North Florida Timber Dealers Inc.
NorthStar Clean Energy
Northwoods Agency, Inc
Norton Timber LLC

O M Peden Timber Farm
Ohoopee Agri Service Inc
Open Creek Timber
Over Forestry Services
Paden Timberlands, LLC
Partridge Pea Plantation
Pellet Fuels Institute
Pendeltonia, LLC
Pennington Land and Timber
Pennington Partners LP
Pfeiffer Family Forest
Philips Enterprises, LLC
Phoenix Energy
Piedmont Appraisers, Inc
Pierce Timber Company
Pine Belt Forestry, LLC
Pine Grove Farm, LLLP
Pinetta Timber, LLC
Pingree Associates Inc
Porterfield Forest, LLC
PotlatchDeltic Corporation
Potts Forestry and Real Estate
Potts Logging
Preh Forest GmbH
Pulpwood Producers Co.
PWK Timberland, LLC
Raccoon Plantations, LLC
Raymond Mercer Family Farm LLC
Rayonier
Reddick Farm
Redoutey Logging LLC
Riverland Logging, Inc
Robinson Lake Trucking
Rogers Lumber Company, Inc.
RoyOMartin
S.A. Allen Timber, LLC
Safety On Site, Inc.
Saint James Farm
Salm Schulenburg
Sanders Logging Inc
Sandlin Forest Products, LLC
Savannah River Timber and Land Co., Inc
SC Coastal Timber Co LLC
Scheff Logging and Trucking INC
Scotch Land Management, LLC
Scotch Plywood Company, Inc.
Sewell Family Partnership, LLLP
Sikes Farms, Inc.
SilvaGroup Advisors, LLC
Skookum Timber Company, Inc.
Slonaker Farms
South Paw Forest Products, Inc.

South View Timber
Southeast Logging Inc
Southeastern Forestry
Southern Chips LLC
Southern Farms Inc.
Southern Forest Management Consultants
Southern Forest Management, LLC
Southern Timber Company
Spence Estate
SPS - Specialty Program Solutions
Starker Forests Inc.
Steve Bell Logging Inc.
Stevens Forestry Service, Inc.
Stock Island Timber, LLC
Strother Timber Co LLC
Sunne Logging LLC
Superior Pine Products Company
Suwannee Timber Harvesting
T. D. Smith, LLC
T.W. Byrd's Sons INC.
T&M Forest Services, Inc.
Tann Forest, LLC
Tapscott Brothers Logging Inc
TAR Land & Timber, Inc
The Holland M. Ware Charitable Foundation
The Timbermen, Inc.
The Westervelt Company
Thomas Family Forestry, LLC.
Thompson Forest Consultants, Inc.
Tibbetts Trucking Inc
Tidewater Equipment Co
Timber Stand Improvements, Inc.
Timber Farm Owner
Timber Harvesting magazine
Timberhaven LLC
Timberland Investment Resources, LLC
Timberland Resource Services Inc
Timberland Services LLC
Timberland Transitions LLC
TJ Miller, Inc
Toledo Manufacturing Company Inc.
Traeland, LLC
Trimble Family Land
Triple H South, LLC
Triple M Ventures
Turk Land LLC.
Usher Land & Timber, Inc.
V.L. Gilliam Logging
Vaiden Timber Co. LLC
Varn Wood Products, LLC
Varn, Inc.
Wagenfuhr Timber Falling

Wallace Law Group, PC
Waller Forestry Inc.
Warrior Tractor
Wayside Farms LLC
WD Chips/Day Trucking
Weisenberger Agricultural Services, LLC
Western Timber Services, Inc.
Whip-O-Will Farm
White Farms
White Oak Forest Management, Inc.
Whitehurst Cattle Company
Wiegand Timberland Company, Inc.
Williams Forest Chem LLC
Williams, Inc.
Willoughby Investments, LLP
Winchester Woods, LLC
Wiregrass Land & Timber Co., LLC
Wood Forest Products Inc
Woodlands Unlimited, Inc
Woodmans Consulting
Zeagler Farms
Zizmont Tree Farms LP
Andrea Clark
Barbara Glancy
Bill Carmichael

Blake Sherry
Brian Myers
Craig Seaman
David Keenan
David Long
DJ Aderman
Glenn Knight
Jamie Alfriend
Jean Hendrix
Joan White
Joy B. Gill
Lawrence Stanley
Leonard Kuykendall
Lewis Lowe
Lisa Braman
Mike Pennington
Pamela Thompson
Perry Wells
Philip Morgan
Robert Mills
Robert Strange
Ronald Lipham
Skeet Ponder
Susan Anderson
Terry Glancy

CC:

The Honorable Mike Johnson, Speaker of the House
The Honorable John Thune, United States Senator
The Honorable Scott Bessent, Secretary of the Treasury
The Honorable Doug Burgum, Secretary of the Interior
The Honorable Jamieson Greer, United States Trade Representative
The Honorable Howard Lutnick, Secretary of Commerce
The Honorable Brooke Rollins, Secretary of Agriculture
The Honorable Tom Schultz, Chief of the U.S. Forest Service
The Honorable Susie Wiles, White House Chief of Staff
The Honorable Chris Wright, Secretary of Energy
The Honorable Lee Zeldin, Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency