

Agenda Item No.:	5
Topic:	Panel Discussion: Log and Lumber Market Trends
Date of Presentation:	January 4, 2023
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## **SUMMARY**

The Board of Forestry will hear from forest sector representatives about current market trends, including demand for forest products, log supply, projected future trends, and potential implications for rural communities and the forest sector economy in the Northwest. This is an informational item with time reserved for questions and discussion.

## **CONTEXT**

Guest speakers Gordon Culbertson, Director of International Development at Forest2Market, and Steve Courtney, Senior Consultant at the Beck Group, will join the Board to discuss current and projected future market trends in forest products. Planned discussion will address the following topics:

- Current regional, national, and international market trends
  - Housing starts/shortage – overall demand for lumber
  - Softwood lumber supply – domestic and import markets
  - Pacific Northwest Douglas-fir v. Southern yellow pine markets
- Predicted impacts on Pacific Northwest (PNW) regional timber supply
  - Wildfire and climate change
  - Regulatory changes – Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia
  - Estimated impacts to forest sector jobs in the PNW
- Potential impacts to local communities and economies in Oregon

## **ATTACHMENTS**

- (1) Forest2Market Blog Post – “Are you planning for the reduction in Northwest timber supply?” <https://www.forest2market.com/blog/are-you-planning-for-the-reduction-in-northwest-timber-supply>
- (2) Guest Speaker Biographies

Attachment one includes the citation for the Blog post that will be referenced for Item 5 on the January 4, 2023, Board of Forestry meeting.

Courtney, Steve. (2022, March 10). *Are you planning for the reduction in Northwest timber supply?* Forest2Market. <https://www.forest2market.com/blog/are-you-planning-for-the-reduction-in-northwest-timber-supply>



**Steve Courtney – Senior Consultant**

Steve Courtney joined The Beck Group in 2021 after a nearly 30 year career in the forest products industry in the US West. Steve brings to the company extensive industry experience, knowledge, and a broad contact network from various positions at major forest products manufacturing corporations including Roseburg Forest Products, International Forest Products (Interfor), and Sierra Pacific Industries. Steve’s roles at those companies included procuring raw materials for lumber and plywood operations; coordinating logistics for raw material delivery including truck, rail, and barge; developing corporate strategies to optimize log procurement among jointly owned milling operations; and buying and selling veneer products.

Steve also worked early in his career as an industry representative advocating for the timber industry on issues including US Forest Service timber sale planning, public education & outreach, and representing the industry’s interests to local, state, and federal government agencies.

During his career Steve has had the opportunity to work with a spectrum of co-workers, customers, and vendors ranging from the highest level executives at major forest products corporations to single entrepreneurs operating small forest products businesses.

Steve has a bachelor’s degree in Forest Engineering from Oregon State University and an MBA from National University.



**Gordon Culbertson – Director of International Development**

Culbertson is responsible for establishing relationships and identifying a new business partner in global markets. While Pacific Northwest Region Manager at Forest2Market (2007-2014), Culbertson was instrumental in launching Forest2Market do Brasil.

With over thirty years of experience in the Western forest industry, Culbertson has an extensive background in multiple facets of the business. He served as vice president of resources for Swanson Group, where he managed timberland operations as well as annual log and timber production. His experience also includes serving as vice president of timberland operations for Rosboro Lumber, where he was responsible for coordinating timber supply for diversified manufacturing operations.

Active in the industry and his community, Culbertson has served as the executive level representative for a number of organizations including the Oregon Forest Industries Council, the American Forest Resource Council, the Washington Forest Protection Association, the Oregon Logging Conference and the Southern Oregon Log Scaling and Grading Bureau. He is past president of the Twin Rivers Rotary Club of Springfield, Oregon. Culbertson received a forest technology degree from Lane Community College.