



Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad

I bet that title caught your attention. On January 27, 2021 President Biden signed an Executive Order, one of 29 he has signed in the first couple weeks of his presidency, entitled “Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad”. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions, referred to as the climate crisis, will be a fundamental objective of President Biden’s administration. The subject of global warming will be debated, and debated, and debated, but the fact is, this administration will establish policy to reduce carbon emissions, regardless of our views on global warming.

As I read, and re-read, the 21-page Executive Order I made notes in the margins where I felt the order could potentially impact our industry and how we manage our forests. After I completed my read, I had notes written on about every page. Carbon emissions and sequestration cannot be discussed without serious consideration of forests and wood products. So, is this good, or bad for us? As my friend Carl Barnes often reminds me, “It’s all about the details”. I would venture a guess that most of my membership rarely sits down and intentionally embarks on reading a presidential Executive Order. That is why you belong to MFPA, right? I need to read those documents and report back to you my assessment of how it might impact our industry.

Executive orders are documents that set-in motion a future policy and directs members of the cabinet on their respective involvement in its development. Thus, the detail that is important for me to understand regarding how the “Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad” order will impact our industry, is yet to be determined. So, how do we get involved in determining the “yet to be determined”?

The Biden administration’s climate policy Executive Order establishes a National Climate Task Force, which is chaired by the National Climate Advisor, a new position created by the President. The mission of the task force is to “facilitate the organization and development of a Government-wide approach to combat the climate crisis”. Every cabinet member in the federal government, plus many agency heads, will be a member of the National Climate Task Force and they will be required to consider the federal governments policy on climate change in every action they take in their respective Departments. To say that this order will be far reaching in the federal government, is an understatement.

Cabinet secretaries will be required to convene stakeholder groups that will be used to provide input regarding agency level programs that will be established to implement the Biden administrations climate strategy. We will lobby to be a part of this process to make sure that sustainable forest management and wood product utilization are considered a primary solution to solving the “climate crisis”. Stay tuned for much more information on this subject in the coming months.

~Brian Brookshire, Executive Director

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WELCOME NEW MFPA MEMBERS

Company: Kagmo Electric Motor

Contact: Colton Rinker

Phone: (731) 592-3374

Email: colton@kagmo.com

County: Cape Girardeau

Our Mission

Missouri Forest Products Association is dedicated to serving and promoting the forest products industry of Missouri. Founded in 1970, MFPA has over 300 members representing primary and secondary wood industry, supplier and service industries, loggers and landowners. MFPA advocates sustainable management and sound stewardship of Missouri's forests to benefit current and future generations.

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MFPA is starting to assemble the 2021-2022 Membership Directory. Each MFPA member receives a Membership Directory every year. The directory contains detailed company contact information for all current members and the types of products they produce or services they provide. The directory is used by member companies as a valuable information resource when trying to locate equipment, services, and raw material to support your business.



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MFPA Members receive 15% off rate price.

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CERTIFICATION & EDUCATION



Mark McCarthy



LET'S ALL HELP STOP THE FLOW OF OUR LOGGERS BLOOD - PART 1

During the past four or five years the Logging Industry has been experiencing an increasing number of fatalities and serious accidents. Logging is and always has been regarded as a very dangerous profession. Nearly every month I hear of a logger dying or being seriously injured, and at least twice in the past few years as many as 4 loggers have been killed during a month's time. When a logger has a serious accident on the job he might die instantaneously with no pain. He also might experience extreme pain for a short period of time then die within a few days or weeks. The disability and pain could also drag on for years. Imagine how these accidents are affecting the lives of the families, co-workers, and friends of these loggers. Can you also imagine what kind of a shadow all of these accidents cast over the public's opinion of logging, and how that affects the recruitment of young future loggers? Safety is EVERYONE'S responsibility and WE must all work together to help our loggers avoid future accidents so they can go home every night to their families and friends.

From its inception, many years ago by Soren Eriksson, the PTH Logger Training Program has helped to make loggers more conscious of the ordinary hazards as well as the less common hazards that they can face on a daily basis. This process of awareness of the immediate environment and the hazards around one's self is called "Situational Awareness". The sad part is, that while Safety Classes do a lot to help loggers think safer, and hopefully BE safer, the classes cannot completely eliminate the hazards that are ever present in the

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LET'S ALL HELP STOP THE FLOW OF OUR LOGGERS BLOOD...continued

loggers work environment. Due to many various factors the number of these hazards have dramatically increased in our Mid-West forests and that raises the odds of a logger having an accident.

Loggers must better realize when to walk away from a hazard, when to use equipment to eliminate the hazard, and when not to tackle a hazard without taking the necessary time to completely think the situation through. An accident happens when an unplanned event inadvertently becomes part of the execution of a planned task resulting in human contact with the hazard likely causing harm to that person or other persons working in the area. When an accident occurs, human error is nearly always the main cause for that accident. In the log woods.

Accidents are often a culmination of 2 or more simple misjudgments or mistakes made during the completion of a task. Of the 15 accident sites that I have been to, one cause was always present, failure to recognize the hazard. Sometimes, the hazard was easily visible before the process was started and was just not seen by the logger. Other times the hazard was not clearly visible until the logger was well into the process, or was finished.

Also on each of those 15 accident sites, another cause was always present, failure to use the proper escape route for that particular hazard and how that particular hazard reacted. Sometimes the escape was too short, and other times the escape direction was improper but one or the other escape misjudgments, or both, were always a factor. These two accident causes have been present at every accident site I have visited and they appear to have been a major cause of every death or injury that I have ever heard about!

FUTURE ARTICLES WILL DISCUSS HOW WE MUST ALL WORK TOGETHER TO HELP OUR LOGGERS TO RELY MORE ON AND TO IMPROVE THEIR SKILL OF HAZARD RECOGNITION AND PROPER ESCAPE ROUTE PLANNING AND USE.

Joe Glenn
MFPA PTH Instructor



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.....Mark your calendars today!



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