



NEWS

FOREST RESOURCES ASSOCIATION INC.

1901 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 303, Washington, DC 20006
phone: 202/296-3937 • fax: 202/296-0562

RELEASE: April 29, 2015

CONTACT: Neil Ward (202/309-3126)
nward@forestresources.org

MOULTON LOGGING: 2015 NATIONAL OUTSTANDING LOGGER

Washington, DC – The **Forest Resources Association** honored Moulton Logging Inc., based in West Charleston, Vermont, as **2015 National Outstanding Logger** at FRA's

April 28 Annual Awards

Dinner in Nashville,

Tennessee. FRA Chairman

Tom Reed invited Plum

Creek's Chris Fife, who

nominated the company for

the award, to step forward and

present a plaque to Britt

Moulton.



Fife commented that he had worked with Britt for six and a half years, "and I've learned to count on the quality of your work. I just have to say that you are a great ambassador for our industry."

Reed also conveyed congratulations, and a \$1,000 check, from STIHL Inc., which has

supported the Outstanding Logger Award Program for several decades.

Britt Moulton thanked FRA and STIHL and stated, "I'd like to thank my team. Like we've been saying all day, it is all teamwork. I appreciate it and thank you all."

Moulton Logging Inc. has been family-owned and operated since 1976. Britt Moulton leads the business, with support from his wife, Jennifer, who keeps track of the finances (using a spreadsheet-based bookkeeping system she developed herself) and his brother Jerry on the cable skidder. Other key staff include Marcel Roy on grapple and Justin Houle on the feller-buncher. Independent trucker Marcel Isabelle does most of Moulton's trucking. Britt, himself, operates the loader and has a high reputation locally for top quality merchandising.

Britt's years of service as president and captain of the Charleston Fire Department testify to his strong commitment to safety. Both Britt and Jerry are certified under Vermont's "Logger Education to Advance Professionalism" program and stay up-to-date on safety training (and spill prevention), reporting only one, very minor, recent injury on the job.

Operating in Vermont, and doing 95% of its work on SFI-certified land, some covered under conservation easements, Moulton Logging is used to operating under close observation. The operation has undergone Sustainable Forestry Initiative® third-party audits twice in the past five years, in addition to the landowner's own annual audits. Since harvest areas and the land base are generally open to the public, Moulton's crew

members take extra measures to exhibit professionalism and pride in their work, placing a high priority on a visually appealing harvest.

During the past year alone, Moulton has hosted a Vermont Woodlands Association “Walk in the Woods,” including a television crew, as well as a separate tour of a deeryard harvest the company was performing. The operation is flexible, able to undertake clearcuts, shelterwood cuts, selection or intermediate thinning, riparian zone treatments, and deeryard patch cuts.

Also in 2014, the company worked with the Make-A-Wish Foundation to welcome 6-year-old Keegan Brooks, who suffers from muscular dystrophy, for a “logging adventure” on land Moulton was operating on.

FRA has honored 26 National Outstanding Loggers since establishing the national award in 1990. Recent National Outstanding Loggers include David and Kurt Babineau, of West Enfield, Maine (2008), the partners of Redoutey Logging, McDermott, Ohio (2009), Cloquet, Minnesota’s Berthiaume Logging (2010), Paul and Mary Mitchell of Paul Mitchell Logging, of Tupper Lake, New York (2011), T.W. Byrd’s Sons, Inc. (2012), Comstock Logging of Hampden, Maine (2013), and last year’s Anthony B. Andrews Logging of Trenton, North Carolina. Nominees for this year’s award passed through state-level recognition to regional award programs administered through FRA’s Regional structure. A jury of 25 national-level leaders in forestry and conservation selected the winner.

The Outstanding Logger program is designed:

- 1) to recognize outstanding logging contractor performance;

- 2) to raise the visibility of competent, professional independent logging contractors in the forestry community;
- 3) to encourage other independent logging contractors to emulate the outstanding performance of the award winners; and
- 4) to improve forester-logger relations by publicly recognizing outstanding logging performance as an essential element of every planned timber harvest.

The **Forest Resources Association Inc.** is a nonprofit trade association concerned with the safe, efficient, and sustainable harvest of forest products and their transport from woods to mill. FRA represents wood consumers, independent logging contractors, and wood dealers, as well as businesses providing products and services to the forest resource-based industries.

#####

Photo caption: “FRA Chairman Tom Reed (right) and (left to right) FRA President Deb Hawkinson, Plum Creek’s Chris Fife, and 2015 National Outstanding Logger Britt Moulton, of Moulton Logging Inc.”