

# Northeast Forest Landowner Association Newsletter – II Quarter 2019

**Next Meeting: Saturday, May 4, 2019, 10 am at Luigi's Italian Café, Mount Pleasant**

## Mjøstårnet in Norway Becomes the World's Tallest Timber Tower

Dezeen.com

Mjøstårnet by Voll Arkitekter in Brumunddal, Norway, has been verified as the world's tallest timber building by the Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat.

The 85.4-metre (280 ft)-high tower was built using cross-laminated timber (CLT), a pioneering material that allows architects to build tall buildings from sustainable wood.

It has taken the title of world's tallest timber building from the 53-metre-high Brock Commons Tallwood House in Vancouver, which has a hybrid wood and concrete structure. Treet in Bergen, Norway, which is 49 meters (160 ft) high, used to be the tallest all timber building until Mjøstårnet completed in March 2019.

Mjøstårnet, the third-tallest building in the country, was designed by Norwegian practice Voll Arkitekter for AB Invest. The 18-storey mixed-use building contains apartments, the Wood Hotel, swimming pool, office space, and a restaurant.

Timber specialist Moelven Limtre installed the building's timber structure, including elevator shafts made entirely from CLT, and columns made from glued laminated timber (glulam). Glulam is made from wood that is planed then glued together to form columns or beams, and can be used in the place of concrete or steel elements.

Mjøstårnet was built four stories at a time in five construction stages. An internal scaffolding and a large crane was used to hoist the pre-fabricated sections and floor slabs into place.

As Brumunddal is an area of Norway with a major forestry and wood processing industry the materials were sourced locally.

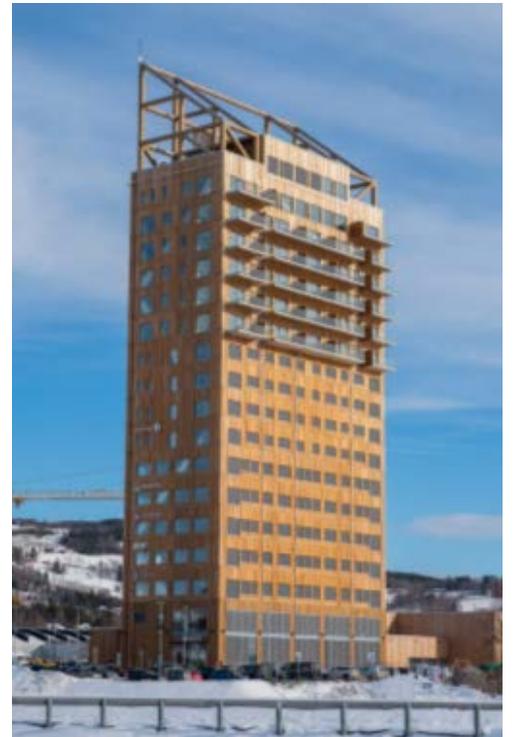
CLT and glulam are strong enough to support large loads, and using timber means the carbon absorbed from the atmosphere by the trees is locked into the structure permanently.

The Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat (CTBUH) recently revised its guidelines to recognize timber as structural material in response to what it described as an "uptick" in the number of tall timber buildings around the world.

As urban areas grow denser than ever and the number of tall buildings being built globally continues to rise, many architects have turned to CLT and other engineered timbers as a more sustainable building material.

Penda has designed a concept for a residential tower and vertical farm hybrid, and Anders Berensson Architects has developed a proposal for a city of 31 wooden skyscrapers for Stockholm.

In the UK, architects have called upon the government to make CLT exempt from the ban on combustible cladding materials. Not only is the material more environmentally friendly than steel, it also claims to be slow-burning and self-extinguishing without releasing toxic fumes.



*Photo Credit: Moeleven*

## Market Report– Nov./Dec 2018

Product	Statewide Ave. Price		Previous Ave. Price		Price/ Ton Difference	
	Weight	Volume	Weight	Volume		
Pine- Sawlogs	\$25.20/Ton	\$201.59/MBF	\$23.62/Ton	\$188.97/MBF	7%	↑
Pine-Pulpwood	\$6.87/Ton	\$18.55/Cord	\$7.24/Ton	\$19.54/Cord	-5%	↓
Pine-Chip-n-saw	\$14.09/Ton	\$38.05/Cord	\$13.81/Ton	\$37.27/Cord	2%	↑
Mixed Hardwood-Sawlogs	\$30.87/Ton	\$277.83/MBF	\$29.81/Ton	\$268.33/MBF	4%	↑
Hardwood- Pulpwood	\$11.44/Ton	\$32.03/Cord	\$8.71/Ton	\$24.30/Cord	31%	↑

Texas Timber Price Trends is a bimonthly publication reporting average prices paid for standing timber in Texas. This report is intended only as a guide to general price levels. It should not be used to judge the fair market value of a specific timber sale, which may vary considerably due to many factors. It is recommended that you use the services of a professional consulting forester in managing any timber sale. Important factors affecting timber prices include the type, quality and volume of timber for sale, accessibility, distance to mills/markets, weather conditions, economy/market conditions, who is handling the sale or is buying the timber, and contract requirements by the landowner. The complete Texas Timber Price Trends can be viewed at <http://tfsweb.tamu.edu/timberpricetrends>.

## Protect the Lakes You Love

### Texas Parks and Wildlife

Invasive species like giant salvinia and zebra mussels can ruin fishing, boating and swimming for everyone. You can't always tell if a lake is infested with invasive species, and even a small piece left on your boat or gear can infest another lake. That's why it's so important to always clean drain and dry your boat, trailer and gear before traveling from lake to lake. It's up to you to protect the lakes you love.

Learn more at [www.tpwd.texas.gov/stopinvasives](http://www.tpwd.texas.gov/stopinvasives)

# TPW Commission Approves Changes to Freshwater Fishing Regulations for 2019-20

## Texas Parks and Wildlife

AUSTIN – On March 20, The Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission adopted a suite of changes to this year's freshwater fishing regulations that includes modifications to the length limits and harvest regulations for largemouth bass, Alabama bass and alligator gar in certain areas. The proposed changes to alligator gar regulations also include a nighttime prohibition on bow fishing on the Trinity River, mandatory harvest reporting statewide except for Falcon Lake, and the creation of a drawing for harvest opportunities on the Trinity River.

The TPW Commission adopted the following changes to the 2019-20 Statewide Recreational and Commercial Fishing Proclamations, the details of which will be incorporated into this year's Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Outdoor Annual:

- **Lake Lakewood:** Implement an 18-inch minimum length limit and three-fish daily bag for largemouth bass.
- **Mill Creek Lake:** Change from a 14- to 21-inch slot length limit and five fish daily bag limit for largemouth bass to a 16-inch maximum length limit and five-fish daily bag with an exception allowing for possession and weighing for bass 24 inches or greater for possible submission to ShareLunker program.
- **Southeast Texas:** Expand the area in Southeast Texas currently covered by the 12-inch minimum length limit for largemouth bass to include Hardin County, Newton County (excluding Toledo Bend Reservoir), and Liberty County south of U.S. Highway 90.
- **Alan Henry Reservoir:** Modify the harvest regulations for largemouth and Alabama bass by removing Alabama bass from the current regulation (five-fish daily bag of which only two bass less than 18 inches may be harvested). The combined daily bag limit would remain at five fish, but anglers may harvest Alabama bass of any length.
- **Trinity River:**
  - Enact a 48-inch maximum length limit for alligator gar on the Trinity River from the I-30 bridge in Dallas downstream to the I-10 bridge in Chambers County, including the East Fork of the Trinity River upstream to the dam at Lake Ray Hubbard.
  - A drawing will be implemented to allow selected anglers to harvest one alligator gar over 48 inches in length per year from the Trinity River. The draw system would allow non-transferable harvest authorization for a to-be-determined number of alligator gar. Authorizations would be selected and distributed through a random draw of interested applicants. Purchase of a fishing license would be required. This authorization could be used day or night, and alligator gar could be taken by any legal means.
  - Between one half-hour after sunset and one half-hour before sunrise, no person may take or possess an alligator gar by means of lawful archery equipment or crossbow on the Trinity River unless they have received a harvest authorization through the drawing system.
- **Statewide:** All persons who take an alligator gar from the public fresh waters of the state other than Falcon International Reservoir would be required to report the harvest via the department's website or by mobile app within 24 hours of take.

The commission did not move forward with proposals that would ban bow fishing for alligator gar at night statewide or to change current regulations on Lake Conroe for largemouth bass from a 16-inch minimum length limit and 5-fish daily bag limit to a 14-inch minimum length limit and 5-fish daily bag limit.

These changes to the 2019-20 take effect on Sept. 1, 2019.

## Agricultural Land Trusts: Keeping Texas Forests Working

Author: Blair Fitzsimons, Chief Executive Officer, Texas Agricultural Land Trust

Whether a generational landowner or new to the land, you may worry about a day when your family is forced to sell or subdivide the land you love. Rising land values and punitive estate taxes are the leading cause of rural land loss in Texas. What if there were another, *voluntary* option that helped to protect your land and pass it down to future generations?

Tools such as *agricultural* conservation easements are individually tailored to meet the needs of each family, this type of conservation easement provides relief from estate taxes while enabling you to continue farming, ranching, logging or hunting. The conservation easement “runs with the land,” meaning that all future owners must honor the easement donor’s good wishes, and communicates your love of the land to future generations.

It works like this. The landowner works with a professional to determine what rights he or she wants to retain, such as how many times the property can be subdivided or how many additional houses or barns can be built. Once “reserved rights” are finalized, an appraisal determines the value of the conservation easement. These reserved rights are included in the final document, which is recorded at the court house.

There are two types of conservation easements. A donated easement provides significant income tax savings. The value of a donated conservation easement can be deducted against 50% of adjusted gross income (AGI) and carried forward for 16 years. If the bulk of the landowner’s income comes from agriculture, he or she can deduct the value of the conservation easement against 100% of AGI. A purchased easement is typically funded through a state or federal program. Both types – donated or purchased – provide estate tax benefits by lowering the value of the land, thereby facilitating transfer to the next generation.

A conservation easement does not work for everyone, but it could be a good fit for you if:

- You want your heirs to continue to enjoy the land after you are gone without the threat of selling to pay estate taxes.
- You and your heirs want the flexibility to sell the land but would like to restrict non-agricultural development.
- You have no heirs but want your land to remain productive after you are gone.
- You want your land stewardship ethic to live on after you are gone.



*Legacy is important to Texas landowners. If you want your heirs or future heirs to have the opportunity to experience your land as you have, a conservation easement might be a good fit for your family. (Herff Farm, Boerne, Texas)*

## TPW Commission Approves Changes to Saltwater Fishing Regulations for 2019-20

### Texas Parks and Wildlife

AUSTIN – On March 20, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission approved all the proposed changes to the saltwater fishing regulations. These changes are intended to streamline regulations for the entire Texas coast for spotted seatrout and modified regulations for certain species to be in line with federal rules to reduce confusion among anglers for sharks and cobia.

The following changes to the 2019-20 Statewide Recreational Fishing Proclamation, details of which will be incorporated into this year's Texas Parks and Wildlife Department [Outdoor Annual](#), have been adopted by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission:

- Extending the 5 fish bag limit for spotted seatrout to the upper coast, creating a coast-wide 5 fish bag limit.
- Requiring the use of non-offset, non-stainless steel circle hooks when fishing for sharks in state waters, except when fishing with artificial lures.
- Increasing the minimum size limit to 40 inches total length for Cobia.
- Closing oyster restoration areas in Galveston Bay, Matagorda Bay and Copano Bay for 2 harvest seasons.

The changes to the 2019-20 Statewide Recreational Fishing regulations take effect on Sept. 1, 2019

### Upcoming Events

**Friday, May 10, 2019– Harrison County Forestry Workshop from 12:00 pm– 4:00pm** Location: Gold Hall Community Center, 101 E. Elm St., Hallsville, TX 75650. Learn more about forest stewardship, cost assistance information, and tools that assist you in better managing your land. Lunch is provided. Please RSVP by Friday, May 3, 2019, 2019. For more information or to RSVP for this event please call 903-935-8413.

**Thursday, May 16, 2019 Cass County Pond Management Program starting at 6:00 pm** Location: 485 CR 1248 Linden, TX. Cost is \$25 paid upon registration. For more information or to RSVP for this event please call 903-756-5391 or email [Jessica.rymel@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:Jessica.rymel@ag.tamu.edu)

## Teacher Conservation Institute Branches Out

Texas Forestry Association (TFA) has announced dates for three sessions of the Teachers Conservation Institute (TCI), a summer professional Development camp for teachers and other educators interested in learning about Texas forests and the benefit they provide. “Our goal is to increase the level of literacy about forests and the environment by providing teachers with hands-on experiences, resources they can use in the classroom, and connections to natural resource professionals,” said coordinator, Misty Bowie. “We’re offering new workshops formats in different locations this year, hoping to make the program more accessible for educators across the state.” Sessions are open to all classroom teachers, non-formal educators, and other adults interested in teaching youth about forestry and conservation education. The 2019 workshop schedule is as follows:

**June 19-20, 2019 TCI ForestTREE Experience**– Location: Jones State Forest in Conroe. Participants will explore methods for using trees and forests to education students in all grade levels.

**June 25-27, 2019 TCI Urban Forest Connections**– Location: Austin, TX. Participants will examine the role that forests play in the environmental, economic, and social well-being of Texas Cities

**July 8-12, 2019 TCI Phase 1**– Location: Bugscuffle Inn in Cushing. Participants will examine the complete life cycle of the forest and tackle concepts like succession, the interdependence of organisms in a forest ecosystem, and how forest health and human health are intertwined.

For registration information and continuing education credit hours for the TCI programs, please visit [TexasForestry.org/educators/Teacher-Conservation-Institute](https://TexasForestry.org/educators/Teacher-Conservation-Institute), call 1-866-TX TREES, or email us at [plttexas@texasforestry.org](mailto:plttexas@texasforestry.org).

## NETFLA Officers

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Open

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### TFS Foresters for our area:

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Tandy Wheeler, Gilmer  
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### NETFLA WEB SITE:

[www.netxforest.org](http://www.netxforest.org)

## Saturday May 4, 2019 Meeting and Program:

Dr. Eric Taylor from the Agriculture Research and Extension Center in Overton is scheduled to give the program on "Forest Health". He will address tree vigor, basal area, stand thinning and proactive management. Mark your calendars for this informative program.

The meeting will begin at **10 am and be held at Luigi's Italian Café in Mount Pleasant.**

Luigi's is located at 2213 W. Ferguson (TX Hwy 49). It is on the south side of the street near the intersection of Ferguson (TX Hwy 49) with the new US Hwy 271 bypass around Mount Pleasant. Momentum Motorsports is diagonal across the street.

## August/September Program:

The Board is exploring several topics for the next program including timber income tax under the new tax laws, property taxes, timber markets, and timber land values. Please contact a board member if you have a preference or another topic that you would like addressed at a meeting.

## NETFLA Contact and Membership Dues Information

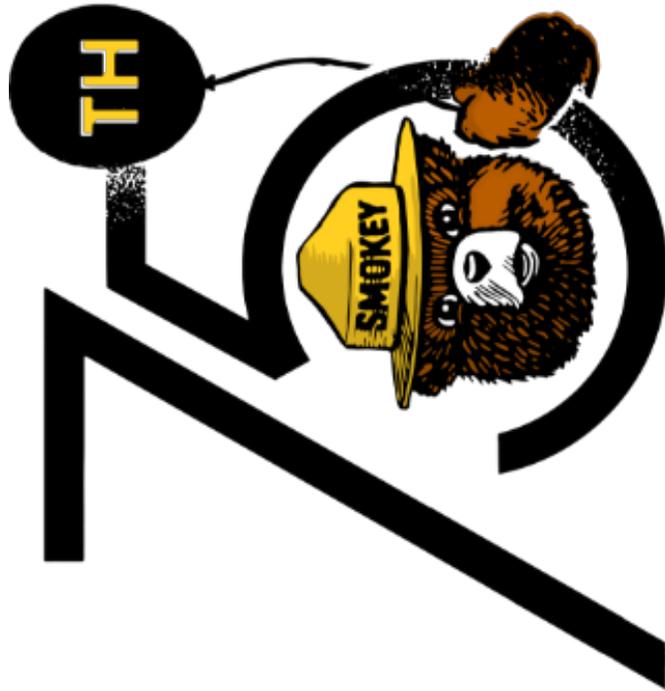
Thank you for your NETFLA membership in past years. We hope that Newsletters, Programs and Quarterly Meetings have provided you with useful information that has helped you manage your timber property. We encourage you to continue your membership.

Membership dues are \$15.00 per calendar year. If you have not yet renewed your 2019 Membership, or if you would like to become a member, mail your check to: **NETFLA, P.O. Box 343, Daingerfield, TX 75638-0343.**

Dues can also be paid at the May 4 meeting. Thank you.

Contact: Judy Weiss (903) 645-3782, or e-mail [gjweiss@windstream.net](mailto:gjweiss@windstream.net)

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