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## TREE FARM BULLETIN

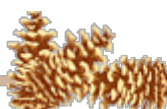
### Tom and Sharon Bennion 2016 New Mexico Tree Farmers of the Year

*By Todd Haines-NMSF Bernalillo District Forester*

On a crisp fall day in the Jemez Mountains over 40 Foresters Friends and neighbors gathered to honor Tom and Sharon Bennion for being selected as the 2016 New Mexico Tree Farmers of the Year. The Bennion's have a long history of excellent forest management on their forested property since acquiring it in the mid to late 1970's. The current property is just over 26 acres and has been managed over the years according to their forest management plan. Although acres have been added they keep up with the stewardship of the property. They have also been excellent sources of forestry outreach in the entire Jemez area. One neighbor told another visitor in attendance that when they have questions either about forestry or history in the area they "just call Tom."

Their tree farm is located within the Jemez mountains at elevations of 8,000 feet in the Seven Springs community. The property is comprised of Douglas fir, and ponderosa pine, with a smattering of limber pine, quaking aspen, Engelmann spruce, and Gambel oak. The property hosts a stream with fish in the front yard.

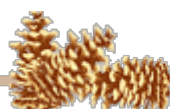
After a brief welcome and introductions of attendees, the group posed for a photo then



walked the property while enjoying a history and forestry talk. The property has a rich history and other neighbors were also on hand to answer questions and clarify some of the surrounding history of the area. The forestry efforts were highlighted on the walk with one of the most prominent topics, the amount of understory grasses and other vegetation that came back since the thinning efforts. The area has had some insect issues lately so questions were addressed as to what is happening in the area so the neighbors could have their questions answered and concerns addressed. Both the Tree Farm program and the Back-Yard Tree Farm programs were discussed on the walk.



The lunch was catered by a local restaurant in Jemez Springs “The Stage Stop”. The lunch was served in the back yard with the beautiful scenery and warming day to be enjoyed. The Tree Farm Secretary and past president honored the Bennion's with their plaque and certificate to assist with purchasing a new chain saw as the Tree Farm tradition continues. All-in-all it was a wonderful day.





## 1) WHEN WAS YOUR LAST TREE FARM INSPECTION?

When was the last time your property was inspected by a Tree Farm Inspector? If it has been longer than five years you are overdue. A Tree Farm inspection should be conducted every five years. If it has been longer than five years, you are no longer a "Certified" Tree Farmer and you need to be inspected. As we work towards getting our tree farmers some form of agricultural or "Tree Farm" tax status, it is imperative that we make sure the inspections and management plans for our certified tree farmers are current, concise and correct, with addendums where needed. If you have not had your tree farm inspected in the last 5 years, please call your inspector and set up a date and a time for an inspection. All you need to do is call your Tree Farm Inspector at one of the numbers below and have the coffee pot on when your inspector gets there.

Chama District	575-588-7831	Cimarron District	575-376-2204
Socorro District	575-835-9359	Las Vegas District	505-425-7472
Capitan District	575-354-2231	Bernalillo District	505-867-2334

## 2) BUY, SELL OR TRADE

Are you looking for forestry related equipment to buy (i.e. chipper, splitter, chainsaw, etc.)? Or, do you own forestry related equipment you would like to sell or trade? Forestry related equipment only, please, no homes or land. We would like to help you make the connection with other New Mexico Tree Farmers. Provide us with a description of the equipment, price, photo and contact information and we will post it in the New Mexico Tree Farm Bulletin. If you would like us to help you make the connection, please provide information to Arnie Friedt at [arnie.friedt@state.nm.us](mailto:arnie.friedt@state.nm.us)

## 3) COMMUNITY CORNER

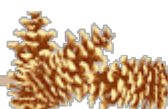
If your community is having a forestry related public event let us know the details and we would be delighted to promote your event in the New Mexico Tree Farm Bulletin. Give us the event details, Who, What, Where and When with contact information and we will include in our monthly bulletin. If you would like us to help you promote your event, please provide information to Arnie Friedt at [arnie.friedt@state.nm.us](mailto:arnie.friedt@state.nm.us)

## 4) E-MAIL INSTEAD OF SNAIL MAIL

Would you prefer to receive your Tree Farm Bulletin by e-mail instead of snail mail? If so, contact Doug Boykin at [doug.boykin@state.nm.us](mailto:doug.boykin@state.nm.us) and provide him with your contact information. By receiving your Tree Farm Bulletin by e-mail our operating costs are reduced. Thank you for considering this option.

## 5) COMMITTEE MEETING

All Tree Farmers are invited and encouraged to attend our 3rd New Mexico Tree Farm Committee Meeting of the year (three held annually). Please join us at 1:30 pm on Wednesday, December 13, 2017 (location to be announced). Come out and hear what other tree farmers have been up to and share your tree farm accomplishments with the group. We look forward to visiting with you. If you have any questions, please contact Arnie Friedt at [arnie.friedt@state.nm.us](mailto:arnie.friedt@state.nm.us)



## **6) AMAZONSMILE**

### **DID YOU KNOW SHOPPING AT AMAZONSMILE CAN HELP SUPPORT THE NEW MEXICO TREE FARM COMMITTEE?**

#### **WHAT IS AMAZONSMILE?**

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon that lets customers enjoy the same wide selection of products, low prices, and convenient shopping features as on Amazon.com. The difference is that when customers shop on AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organizations selected by customers.

#### **HOW DOES AMAZONSMILE WORK?**

When first visiting AmazonSmile, customers are prompted to select a charitable organization from almost one million eligible organizations. To browse or shop AmazonSmile, customers must first select a charitable organization. For eligible purchases at AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to the customer's selected charitable organization.

#### **IS THERE ANY COST TO CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS OR TO THE CUSTOMERS?**

No. There is no cost to charitable organizations or to AmazonSmile customers. The shopping experience is identical to Amazon.com with the added benefit that the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate to the charitable organizations selected by customers.

#### **DOES THE AMAZONSMILE FOUNDATION TAKE ANY PORTION OF DONATIONS TO FUND ITS OPERATIONS?**

No. Amazon funds the operations of the AmazonSmile Foundation.

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Visit: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/85-0392161> to start shopping today.

**YOU SHOP. AMAZON GIVES.**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT, NEW MEXICO TREE FARM COMMITTEE.**

