Wyoming’s Forest Products Industry
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Objective
The objective of this study was to describe Wyoming’s primary forest products industry and commercial timber harvest during calendar year 2005. The study tracks the flow of timber from the forest through the primary processing sectors and attaches key economic information like employment and sales value.

Introduction and Methods
The Bureau of Business and Economic Research (BBER) has agreements with Interior West Forest Inventory and Analysis (IW-FIA) to provide information related to the forest products industry and removals from inventory for product use. The BBER conducts censuses of the forest products industry in a given state or states. The censuses consist of questionnaires or phone interviews of all the firms within the survey state as well as firms in nearby states that received timber from the survey state in the survey year. Information is collected at the firm level on timber receipts by county, ownership class, and type of timber product (e.g., sawlogs, house logs, pulpwood, etc.). The census also collects information on finished product types, volumes, wholesale value and destination. Mill residue information is also collected with the census. Through this complete accounting of timber inputs, products, and residues, BBER is able to develop statewide residue volumes, wholesale value and destination. Mill residue information is also collected with the census. The censuses are conducted on a periodic basis (about every 5 years), and thus BBER is able to describe and quantify the condition of the industry, employment, mill capacity, and production as well as identify related trends.

Highlights
• A total of 59 active Wyoming facilities were identified during 2005 (figure 1).
  - 21 sawmills
  - 18 log home facilities
  - 8 log furniture manufacturers
  - 4 Post and pole plants
  - 4 Other wood products facilities
• Wyoming’s total estimated capacity to process timber in 2005 was 132 million board feet (MMBF). Scribner’s Wyoming’s wood processing facilities used about 67 percent of processing capacity in 2005, processing almost 89 MMW of timber.
• Sales value of Wyoming’s primary forest products in 2005 was nearly $81 million free on board (f.o.b.) the producing mill. Lumber accounted for just over $49 million (figure 2), with 122 MMW produced.
• Wyoming’s 2005 timber harvest volume was 64 MMW, with 60 percent of the timber coming from private timberlands, 19 percent from national forests, 4 percent from state-owned lands, and slightly more than 1 percent from the BLM (figure 3).
• Ponderosa pine (Pinus ponderosa) was Wyoming’s most harvested species in 2005, accounting for 44.2 MMW, or 69 percent of the total harvest, followed by lodgepole pine (Pinus contorta) with 15 percent or 9.9 MMW (figure 4).
• Wyoming’s timber harvest (64 MMW) and volume processed (57 MMW) are quite different because of the substantial timber flow into and out of the state (figure 5). Nearly 60 percent of the timber processed in Wyoming during 2005 came from outside the state, while more than 40 percent of Wyoming’s harvest was processed out of the state.
• Wyoming mills relied heavily on out-of-state timber from both public and private lands in 2005. Two-thirds of public lands timber processed in Wyoming came from outside the state, while half of the private timber received by Wyoming mills came from outside the state (figure 5).
• Wyoming timber processors generated about 115,000 bone dry tons (BDT) of residue in 2005. About 99 percent of both coarse and fine residues were utilized, however almost a third of the bark was not used.
• During 2005, Wyoming’s forest products industry employed just over 1,300 workers earning approximately $64 million (2008 dollars) in labor income or workers earnings.

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Figure 1 - Wyoming’s Active Primary Forest Products Manufacturers, 2005

Figure 2 – Wyoming lumber sales, 1967-2008

Figure 3 – Wyoming’s timber harvest by ownership, 2005

Figure 4 – Wyoming timber harvest by species, 2005

Figure 5 – Volume of timber processed by Wyoming’s forest products industry by ownership source (in-state and out-of-state), 2005

Wyoming’s total timber receipts, 2005 = 87 MMW

Wyoming’s timber harvest, 2005 = 64 MMW

Labors income or workers earnings, 2005 = $64 million (2008 dollars)