



FOREST HISTORY ASSOCIATION
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Woodchips

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110 Years After the Biggest Fire in North American History, Lessons Learned from the Big Burn are Still Being Used Today

WALLACE, Idaho — Every summer, wildfires burn millions of acres across the country. It is something we have come to live with here in Southern Idaho and across the west. The biggest fire in recent memory came in 2007. The Murphy Complex Fire burned over 653,000 acres of land between Idaho and Nevada, but it was nothing compared to the north Idaho fire that burned nearly 100 years before. [Watch Video](#)

In the News

Dave Obey Gets Bipartisan Honor as Great Lakes Visitors Center Is Named After Him

As a veteran congressman and eventual chair of the House Appropriations Committee, Dave Obey brought a lot of projects to northern Wisconsin's 7th Congressional District, but perhaps none were more personal to him than the visitors center and educational facility located west of Ashland which was officially named for him in an online ceremony Friday afternoon. [Read More](#)

Great American Outdoors Act

Earlier this year, President Trump called on Congress to send him a bill that would fully and permanently fund the Land and Water Conservation Fund and restore our national parks. On August 4, 2020, President Trump signed the Great American Outdoors Act into law, accomplishing those exact objectives. [Read More](#)

Linda Bilmes Analyzes the Complicated History and Likely Impact of the Great American Outdoors Act

After winning final bipartisan approval in Congress last week, a bill that will pump billions of dollars into overdue repairs and maintenance of U.S. national parks is now headed to the president for his signature. It's an unlikely success story: bipartisan support in a polarized legislature for an environmental and conservationist initiative to which the Trump administration has shown itself hostile until only recently. [Read More](#)

Great American Outdoors Act Could Bring Big Investments To Wisconsin Lands

MILWAUKEE (SPECTRUM NEWS) — Last week, nature lovers across the U.S. received some big news: The Great American Outdoors Act was signed into law, securing funding for environmental efforts across the country. "This is a very significant investment in conservation in the United States, as well as in Wisconsin. Probably the most significant decades," says Keith Warnke, administrator of the Fish, Wildlife, and Parks Division for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. "It's a monumental step forward."

[Read More](#)

August is Tree Check Month!

The USDA is encouraging everyone to spend 10 minutes checking their trees for the Asian longhorned beetle (ALB). August is an ideal time to spot this devastating pest as it emerges from trees. Although ALB has not been discovered in Wisconsin, it is crucial that we keep an eye out for it. [Read More](#)

Gifford Pinchot: A Legacy of Conservation

More than 70 years after his death, Gifford Pinchot remains an extremely powerful voice in America's conservation movement -- influencing presidents, departments and even shaping the definition of conservation. In honor of Pinchot's birthday on August 11, check out some fascinating stories and inspiring quotes from this pivotal figure in American history. [Read More](#)

Take a virtual hike to the Pulaski Tunnel

This weekend marks the 101st (now 110th) anniversary of the "Big Blowup," when 3 million acres of forestland went up in flames during the 1910 fires. In July of this year, I finally made the hike to Pulaski Tunnel outside of Wallace, Idaho, something I'd wanted to do for some time. The tunnel is where Ed Pulaski forced his fire crew at gunpoint and ordered them into the small tunnel as the inferno raged around them (you can read his firsthand account [in this article](#)) [Read More](#)



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Visiting Woodchips Embedded Links to Webpages

Hyperlinks embedded into Woodchips allow readers to enjoy featured video or audio presentations as well full news articles or papers of interest with just a simple click of their mouse. The links appear at the end of an article (a news headline with one or two introductory sentences) typically as **Watch Video**, **Read More**, or **For More Information**.

To open the link, place your cursor over **Watch Video** or **Read More** and so on, and then left click on your mouse. That should open the link in a new window providing access to the specifically linked webpage.

With this issue of Woodchips, we will start listing the full URL to each hyperlink on a second page. If needed, the URL can be copied and pasted into your web browser address bar (also known as location bar or URL bar).

Past issues of Woodchips are found on the Forest History Association of Wisconsin webpage at <https://www.foresthistoryassociationwi.com/woodchips/>

To keep issues of Woodchips arriving in your e-mail's inbox, keep your e-mail address up-to-date in FHAW membership records by contacting our membership chairman, Robert Walkner at anvils@charter.net or the editor, Don Schnitzler, at thefhaw@gmail.com.

Links shared in this issue of Woodchips

110 Years After the Biggest Fire in North American History, Lessons Learned from the Big Burn are Still Being Used Today

<https://www.ktvb.com/article/news/local/208/idaho-big-burn-great-fire-1910-wildfires/277-39941190-09cb-4d15-b4c8-59d14f6c392d>

Dave Obey Gets Bipartisan Honor as Great Lakes Visitors Center Is Named After Him

<https://upnorthnewswi.com/2020/08/28/dave-obey-gets-bipartisan-honor-as-great-lakes-visitors-center-is-named-after-him/>

Great American Outdoors Act

<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/legal/great-american-outdoors-act.htm>

Linda Bilmes Analyzes the Complicated History and Likely Impact of the Great American Outdoors Act

<https://news.harvard.edu/gazette/story/2020/07/the-likely-impact-of-great-american-outdoors-act/>

Great American Outdoors Act Could Bring Big Investments To Wisconsin Lands

<https://spectrumnews1.com/wi/madison/news/2020/08/07/what-does-the-great-american-outdoors-act-mean-for-wisconsin->

August is Tree Check Month!

<https://forestrynews.blogs.govdelivery.com/2020/08/14/august-is-tree-check-month/>

Gifford Pinchot: A Legacy of Conservation

<https://www.doi.gov/blog/gifford-pinchot-legacy-conservation>

Take a virtual hike to the Pulaski Tunnel

https://foresthistory.org/take-a-virtual-hike-to-the-pulaski-tunnel/?utm_source=August+2020+Newsletter&utm_campaign=August+2020+Newsletter&utm_medium=email

Ed Pulaski's first hand account

<https://foresthistory.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/Surrounded-by-Forest-Fire-By-E.C.-Pulaski.pdf>