

TIMBER PRODUCTION REPORTS JANUARY 2009 – MAY 2009

The following reports were taken from industry press releases and reports. None mention anything about environmentalists, regulations, or short supplies of timber, for example:

“Western sawmills are experiencing the largest downturn in lumber demand ever recorded, according to the Western Wood Products Association. The unprecedented decline in home building was cited for the decline. Traditionally, home building consumes as much as 45% of the lumber used each year.” - 1/7/2009

Source: RandomLengths.com, a forest products industry information source.

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First-quarter lumber output in West falls 31.5%

Western lumber production through the first three months of the year totaled 2.312 billion board feet, off 31.5% from January-March 2008, according to the Western Wood Products Association. First-quarter output in the Coast region was down 27.2% compared to the same period last year, while the Inland region tumbled 37.4% during the same period. Production in the California Redwood region was off 38.8%. March production totaled 764 million feet in the West, down 33.2% from the March 2008 total. - **5/1/2009**

Canada produces 1.4 billion feet of lumber in February

Canadian lumber production in February declined 14% from the previous month and 31% from February 2008, finishing at 1.4 billion board feet, according to Statistics Canada. Year-to-date output totaled 3.1 bbf, down 27% from last year. Production so far this year in British Columbia, 1.5 bbf, trailed last year's pace by 33%. February production in Quebec gained 11% from January, and New Brunswick also gained modestly. - **4/28/2009**

First-quarter panel output down a third from a year ago

North American structural panel production totaled 5.38 billion square feet (3/8-inch basis) in the first quarter, down 33% compared to the first quarter of 2008, according to APA -- The Engineered Wood Association. Compared to January-March 2008, first-quarter production of plywood was down 22%, and OSB production was down 41%. APA said the outlook for the second quarter this year is only slightly better, but that the second half of the year could show more improvement if government stimulus programs begin to have some effect. - **4/23/2009**

Roseburg to begin full-time pellet production

Roseburg Forest Products is expected to begin producing wood pellets full time by June 1 at the plant it began operating on an experimental basis last November, the News-Review newspaper reported April 12. Roseburg plans to operate the pellet plant around the clock, five days per week, beginning in June. - **4/14/2009**

January lumber output in U.S. off 34% vs. year-ago

U.S. lumber production totaled 1.718 billion board feet in January, down 34.3% from the January 2008 total, according to the Western Wood Products Association. January production in the West was down 35.1% compared to January 2008, while southern production was down 33.7% during the same period. - **4/8/2009**

Western lumber output off 31% through February

Western lumber production totaled 1.547 billion board feet through February, down 30.7% from the

first two months of 2008, according to the Western Wood Products Association. Production in the Inland region plummeted 37.2% compared to January-February 2008, while production in the Coast region fell 27.1%. February production in the West was down 25.7% compared to February 2008. - 4/7/2009

Canadian production gains in January

Canadian lumber production in January rebounded from its low in December, but the total of 1.7 billion board feet was 23% below the year-ago mark, according to Statistics Canada. Year-over-year cuts were most prevalent on the B.C. Coast, where production declined 48%. All of B.C. produced 839 million board feet, down 28% from January 2008. Alberta gained compared to January 2008. Production gains from December to January were most muted in the eastern provinces, and New Brunswick actually reported declines. For all of Canada, production gained 17%. - 3/27/2009

West Fraser new North American leader in lumber production

West Fraser Timber displaced Weyerhaeuser as North America's top lumber producer in 2008, according to International Wood Markets Group. Each company operated 27 sawmills in the U.S. and Canada during part or all of 2008. Total softwood lumber production by the top 20 Canadian companies declined by 16.7% compared to 2007, according to Wood Markets' annual survey. Similarly, total Canadian softwood lumber output dropped 20.5% to reach 23.8 billion board feet in 2008, as compared to 29.95 billion in 2007. Eastern Canadian firms in the top 20 had the largest average production decline of close to 27%, while Western Canadian firms saw an average decline of about 12% in 2008 vs. 2007. - 3/25/2009

Lumber demand plummets

Demand for lumber in the U.S. this year will slide to its lowest level in modern history, then move slowly toward a recovery starting next year, according to a forecast from the Western Wood Products Association. The association predicted that U.S. lumber demand this year will total 28.9 billion board feet, down about 30% from 2008 totals. Since reaching an all-time high of 64.3 billion feet in 2005, U.S. demand for lumber has dropped by more than 55% -- the steepest decline in the history of the industry. Home construction traditionally accounts for more than 45% of the lumber used each year. WWPA estimated that 432,000 houses will be started in 2009, down more than half from 2008 totals and a fifth of what was built in 2005. In 2010, housing is forecast to improve to 553,000 starts, bringing lumber consumption to nearly 30 billion feet. - 3/25/2009

U.S. lumber output finishes 2008 off 17.3% from 2007

U.S. lumber production totaled 29.068 billion board feet in 2008, down 17.3% from the 35.158 billion feet produced in 2007, according to the Western Wood Products Association. Production in the West for the year totaled 12.903 billion feet, down 20.9% from the 2007 total. Production in the South totaled 14.629 billion feet in 2008, off 13.9% from the 2007 total. In December, total U.S. production was 1.609 billion feet, down 27.7% from December 2007. - 3/16/2009

January lumber output in West down 35%

Western lumber production in January totaled 775 million board feet in January, down 35.1% from the January 2008 total, according to the Western Wood Products Association. Production in the Coast region was down 33.1% while Inland production fell 39.8%. Output in the California Redwood region was down 19.8% in January vs. the same month last year. - 3/4/2009

Canadian lumber output continues to fall

Canadian lumber production finished 2008 at 23.8 billion board feet, 21% below the 2007 total and 32% below the 2004 peak. It was the lowest figure since 1992. British Columbia accounted for 11.9

bbf, down 23% from the previous year, and lowest since 1982, although the Central Interior declined just 5% from 2007. Alberta finished down just 3% from 2007, at 3.1 bbf, and December output was 13% above the same month a year earlier. Total Canadian output in December reached 1.4 bbf, 20% below the same month a year earlier and down 24% from November. - 2/25/2009

U.S. lumber output off 17.3% through November

U.S. lumber production totaled 27.238 billion board feet through November, down 17.3% from the January-November 2007 total, according to the Western Wood Products Association. For the month of November, U.S. production totaled 1.869 billion feet, down 23.5% from the November 2007 total. - 2/4/2009

Western lumber output finishes 2008 down 20.9%

Western lumber production finished 2008 at 12.903 billion board feet, down 20.9% from the 2007 total, according to the Western Wood Products Association. Production in the Coast region fell 22.3% in 2008 compared to 2007, output in the Inland region fell 17.6%, and production in the California Redwood region was off 29.1%. December production in the West totaled 697 million feet, down 31.6% compared to the December 2007 total. - 2/4/2009

Panel production in 2008 drops 20%

North American production of structural panels totaled 30.68 billion square feet (3/8-inch basis) in 2008, a 20% decline from the previous year, according to APA -- The Engineered Wood Association. Fourth-quarter production was 27% below the fourth quarter of 2007. Plywood production fell 24% in the fourth quarter of 2008 compared to the fourth quarter of 2007, while OSB fell 29% during the same period. Output of glulam beams, I-joists, and laminated veneer lumber declined 31%, 32%, and 32%, respectively, from October-December 2007. - 1/29/2009

Canadian lumber production fell sharply in November

Canadian lumber production fell to 1.9 billion board feet in November, down 13% from October, according to Statistics Canada. Year-to-date output through November declined to 22.4 bbf, down 21% compared to the 2007 pace. - 1/26/2009

Decline in U.S. lumber output continues

U.S. lumber production totaled 25.212 billion board feet through October last year, down 17.1% compared to the first 10 months of 2007, according to the Western Wood Products Association. October production in the U.S. totaled 2.349 billion feet, down 23.7% compared to the October 2007 total. Through November of last year, western lumber production totaled 12.204 billion feet, down 20.2% compared to January-November 2007. November production in the West was down 26.9% compared to November 2007. - 1/15/2009

APA lowers forecasts

APA -- The Engineered Wood Association has reduced its forecast for structural panel production and consumption in 2009. The association forecast that U.S. and Canadian structural wood panel production will reach 28.8 billion square feet (3/8-inch basis) in 2009, down 8% from the 31.3 billion feet expected for 2008. APA expects declines in production of other structural engineered wood products in the coming year as well, with volume drops of 11%, 8%, and 14%, respectively, for glulam timber, wood I-joists, and LVL. - 1/8/2009

WWPA scales back forecast for lumber supply and demand

Western sawmills are experiencing the largest downturn in lumber demand ever recorded, according to the Western Wood Products Association. The downward

trend is forecast to continue through 2009 before beginning to recover in 2010. U.S. lumber demand is expected to finish 2008 at 40.9 billion board feet, the third consecutive annual decline in demand and 36% below the 2005 peak. For 2009, lumber demand is forecast to fall to 35 billion board feet, the lowest annual consumption since 1982. The unprecedented decline in home building was cited for the decline. Traditionally, home building consumes as much as 45% of the lumber used each year. - 1/7/2009