

Mill and Mill related closures USA and Canada – 2009

What Sierra Pacific said in January 2009:

After Sierra Pacific Industries cut back production in January and laid off 24 workers at its Anderson sawmill- and also cut back work weeks at its mills in Burney, Quincy and Sonora, affecting some 670 employees- company spokesman Mark Pawlicki told reporter David Benda at the Redding Record Searchlight newspaper:

"The circumstances allow us to work through our inventory, which has increased due to the slowdown in demand," Pawlicki said. "Of course, the reduced demand is dictated largely by the drop in home construction."

<http://www.redding.com/news/2009/jan/14/sierra-pacific-cutbacks-mean-24-workers-laid/?printer=1/>

What Sierra Pacific said in March:

Apparently recognizing an opportunity and emboldened by the Quincy Library Group supporters, when SPI announced the closure of its Quincy mill, the company issued a press release attributing the cause to litigation by environmental organizations:

"The challenging lumber market combined with litigation over timber harvests on nearby national forest lands were the primary drivers behind the decision to close the plant." (http://www.spi-ind.com/html/spi_news.cfm).

No further mention of the drop in home construction was made but much was made of lawsuits:

SPI Area Manager Matt Taborski said: "The reduced availability of national forest timber resulting from litigation forced SPI to transport logs over long distances at greater cost to keep the mill running," he added. "Today's lumber prices are not sufficient to cover these increased costs. To make things worse, environmental litigation has not only reduced the mill's raw material supply, but also increased the risk of wildfires in the area."

Mill closures and cutbacks in California are part of *a national trend* having everything to do with market conditions and nothing to do with environmental litigation.

The following press summaries, from Jan. 2009 to May 2009, are from Random Lengths, www.randomlengths.com, a forest products industry website providing information services for the forest products industry.

None of these press items (13 pages) – with the singular exception of Sierra Pacific Industries -- cite regulatory constraints and litigation as a reason for lay-offs and mill closures.

Hampton to take downtime at Willamina

Hampton Affiliates of Portland, Ore., has announced a one-week curtailment at Willamina Lumber Co., Willamina, Ore., effective the week of May 4. The curtailment, driven by poor market conditions, will impact the sawmill, planer, and shipping departments. - **5/1/2009**

Weyerhaeuser plans downtime at Cottage Grove

Weyerhaeuser's sawmill in Cottage Grove, Ore., will be down the weeks of May 4 and May 25 to balance supply against demand due to continuing poor market conditions. - **4/30/2009**

Boise announces curtailments

Boise Cascade announced April 29 that the company will curtail operations at its sawmill in La Grande, Ore., and its Kettle Falls, Wash., small log mill. The La Grande sawmill is expected to cease operations by the end of June, once it has run through its existing log inventory. The Kettle Falls small log mill is expected to curtail in early May. A company press release called the moves "extended curtailments." "We don't know when these operations might come back up again, but it is not anytime in the foreseeable future," spokesman Steve Lyon said in the release. - **4/30/2009**

Plum Creek gives 60-day notice for three sawmills

Plum Creek has issued WARN notices to 87 employees at its sawmill in Pablo, Mont., as well as to 69 workers at Evergreen (Mont.) and 130 employees at Columbia Falls (Mont.). The company will permanently close its Pablo sawmill, which had been running one shift producing Pine boards. The mill will continue to run for the next 60 days or until the log inventory is depleted. A decision on whether to operate the Columbia Falls Pine board mill and the Evergreen stud mill beyond 60 days will be based on market conditions and the economic performance of each mill. - **4/27/2009**

Weyerhaeuser to close Aberdeen sorting yard

Weyerhaeuser Co. has announced plans to close its Bay City log export facility in Aberdeen, Wash., affecting 54 employees. The facility will inventory and clear remaining logs from the yard over the next 30 days before closing permanently. Weak market conditions were cited. The company will consolidate log sorting and exporting at its other facilities in Longview and Olympia, Wash. - **4/27/2009**

Stud mill to take downtime

Boise Cascade's stud mill in Elgin, Ore., will go down May 24 for boiler maintenance. The mill will restart on May 30. Shipping will continue during the downtime. - **4/21/2009**

Guy Bennett Lumber to close indefinitely

Guy Bennett Lumber has announced plans to shut down its sawmill in Clarkston, Wash., indefinitely when the company exhausts its supply of logs in early June, the Lewiston Tribune newspaper reported. - **4/17/2009**

Hampton Lumber announces curtailments

Hampton Affiliates of Portland, Ore., has announced a number of long-range production cuts at its western

U.S. and Canadian mills effective on or after May 1. The company's Tillamook Lumber Co., Tillamook, Ore., and Darrington Lumber Co., Darrington, Wash., will be rolled back to 50 hours per week, while Willamina Lumber Co. will reduce operating hours at the large log mill to a single eight-hour-per-day shift. Morton Lumber Co., which suffered heavy snow damage last winter, is expected to resume operations around September 1, and will return for one 40-hours-per-week shift. Provided market conditions allow, Hampton's Canadian operations will run at normal hours through May, although Decker Lake is down the week of April 6. In all, WARN Act notification has been provided for the roughly 275 jobs that are being eliminated, and the company's annual production capacity is being reduced by more than 400 million board feet. The company will continue to monitor market conditions and take additional curtailments as required. - 4/7/2009

Sierra Pacific to close two sawmills this summer

Sierra Pacific Industries has announced plans to permanently close sawmills in Camino and Sonora, Calif., plus a power plant in Sonora, this summer. In a press release, the company cited low lumber prices and a costly and difficult regulatory environment. 310 workers will be affected. The company anticipates that its mill in Camino will run until about June 12, and the Sonora sawmill and biomass-fueled electric power plant will operate until sometime in mid-July to deplete existing log decks. - 3/23/2009

Sierra Pacific to close small-log mill at Quincy

Sierra Pacific Industries has announced plans to close its small-log sawmill in Quincy, Calif., effective May 4. The company cited market conditions and litigation over timber harvests on nearby national forestlands as reasons for the closure. About 150 employees will be affected. Sierra Pacific will continue to operate its large-log facility and a biomass cogen plant at Quincy, employing about 160 workers. - 3/3/2009

Stoltze sawmill restarts

F.H. Stoltze Land & Timber Co. restarted its sawmill in Columbia Falls, Mont., on March 23. The restart was not due to market conditions, but to process fire salvage logs which will lose value as the weather warms up. - 3/25/2009

Sierra Pacific to close two sawmills this summer

Sierra Pacific Industries has announced plans to permanently close sawmills in Camino and Sonora, Calif., plus a power plant in Sonora, this summer. In a press release, the company cited low lumber prices and a costly and difficult regulatory environment. 310 workers will be affected. The company anticipates that its mill in Camino will run until about June 12, and the Sonora sawmill and biomass-fueled electric power plant will operate until sometime in mid-July to deplete existing log decks. - 3/23/2009

Neiman plans one-week curtailments

Neiman Enterprises will curtail production at its Spearfish, S.D., sawmill the week of March 23 and its sawmill in Hulett, Wyo., will be down the week of March 30. The company cited equipment upgrades and market conditions. - 3/19/2009

Manke to be down week of March 23

Manke Lumber Co.'s sawmills and planer in Tacoma, Wash., will be down the week of March 23 due to market conditions. - 3/19/2009

Stud mill to cut production

Boise Cascade will cut the second shift at its stud mill in Elgin, Ore., effective April 6, according to the La Grande Observer newspaper. - 3/18/2009

Sierra Pacific cuts shift at Arcata

Sierra Pacific Industries announced that it will cut one of the two shifts operating at its sawmill in Arcata,

Calif., effective March 23. The curtailment will continue until market conditions improve. The challenging lumber market and the high cost of raw materials were cited. The mill produces Douglas Fir lumber. - 3/18/2009

Swanson announces downtime

The Swanson Group, headquartered in Glendale, Ore., has announced that it is reducing production at its stud mill in Roseburg, Ore., from 50 hours per week to 20 hours per week, removing about 40 million board feet from the market on an annual basis. About 45 employees at that location will be laid off for an indefinite duration. The company also will lay off 43 employees at its Glendale plywood mill, and 24 employees at its other divisions. "These decisions are the result of the housing slump and the overall economic crisis that is affecting the entire country," the company stated in a press release. "We are hopeful that this will better pair our production with current trends in product demand and help eliminate the possibility of any further curtailments," said company President Steve Swanson. - 3/17/2009

Weyerhaeuser closes sawmill in Dallas, Ore.

Weyerhaeuser Co. announced that it will permanently close its sawmill in Dallas, Ore., effective immediately. Market conditions were cited. - 3/17/2009

SDS Lumber to curtail

SDS Lumber Co., Bingen, Wash., will curtail lumber production for the rest of March to reduce inventory and conserve log inventory. The company has been operating on reduced hours for several months. After inventories are reduced, the company expects operations to resume in balance with product demand. - 3/11/2009

Plum Creek to restart Columbia Falls sawmill

Plum Creek Timber Co. has announced plans to restart its sawmill in Columbia Falls, Mont., on March 16. The mill will bring back about 140 workers to run 1-1/2 shifts. The company cited an uptick in demand for Pine boards. - 3/10/2009

Manke Lumber announces curtailments

Manke Lumber Co.'s sawmill and planer in Tacoma, Wash., will be down the week of March 23. The company's plant in Sumner, Wash., will be down for two weeks beginning March 23. - 3/10/2009

Weyerhaeuser announces additional cutbacks

Weyerhaeuser has announced that its Warrenton (Ore.) sawmill will reduce its hours for an indefinite duration. Fifty-nine employees were laid off at that location. The company also has announced that it will lay off 19 workers at its sawmill in Longview, Wash. - 3/10/2009

Stoltze extends curtailment

Due to market conditions, F.H. Stoltze Land & Lumber Co. in Columbia Falls, Mont., will extend curtailments of its sawmill and planer until March 30. Sales and shipments will continue through the downtime. - 3/10/2009

California firms announce cutbacks

The California Redwood Co. and Green Diamond Resource Co. have announced plans to eliminate 85 positions, according to the Eureka (Calif.) Times-Standard. California Redwood will lay off 49 hourly workers at its facilities in Brainard and Korbel, plus eight salaried workers. Green Diamond, which operates 450,000 acres of timberland, will lay off 28 employees and reduce its logging operations for the coming year. - 3/10/2009

Southport Lumber cuts shift

Southport Lumber Co. will reduce production at its sawmill in Coos Bay, Ore., from two shifts to one beginning March 9. The cutback will continue until market conditions improve. - 3/9/2009

Willamina operation extends curtailment

Willamina Lumber Co., a division of Hampton Affiliates in Willamina, Ore., has extended its current curtailment through the week of March 10. All plant site activities, including sawmill, planer, shipping, and log yard, will be affected. The decision to resume production will be evaluated on a week-by-week basis subject to market conditions. - 3/5/2009

Weyerhaeuser reduces output at Raymond sawmill

Weyerhaeuser's sawmill in Raymond, Wash., announced that it has reduced hours and laid off 50 employees. The mill produces kiln-dried Hemlock in 2x4 through 2x10. - 3/5/2009

Weyerhaeuser extends downtime at Warrenton

Weyerhaeuser's sawmill in Warrenton, Ore., will remain down the week of March 9 due to poor market conditions. - 3/4/2009

Sierra Pacific to close small-log mill at Quincy

Sierra Pacific Industries has announced plans to close its small-log sawmill in Quincy, Calif., effective May 4. The company cited market conditions and litigation over timber harvests on nearby national forestlands as reasons for the closure. About 150 employees will be affected. Sierra Pacific will continue to operate its large-log facility and a biomass cogen plant at Quincy, employing about 160 workers. - 3/3/2009

Sierra Pacific millwork plants to shut down for one week

Sierra Pacific will shut down its millwork plants in Red Bluff and Richfield, Calif., the week of March 2. The company cited market conditions and inventory management issues. - 2/26/2009

Hampton to take downtime at Willamina

Hampton Lumber Mills' Willamina (Ore.) Division will be down the week of March 2. - 2/26/2009

Weyerhaeuser drops shift at Dallas (Ore.) sawmill

Weyerhaeuser's sawmill in Dallas, Ore., is curtailing its second shift for an indefinite duration, due to continuing poor markets and to help the company balance its output against demand. Sixty-seven jobs are being impacted, according to a company spokesman. - 2/25/2009

Weyerhaeuser takes downtime at Oregon sawmill

Weyerhaeuser's sawmill in Cottage Grove, Ore., will be down the weeks of February 23, March 9, and March 23 toward balancing market supply against demand. The mill will continue shipping during the downtime. - 2/24/2009

Swanson stud mill to take downtime

The Swanson Group's stud mill in Roseburg, Ore., will shut down for a week beginning February 23 due to market conditions, according to the Roseburg News-Review newspaper. About 78 employees will be affected. In addition, 30 employees of the company's trucking division in Grants Pass, Ore., have been laid off permanently. - 2/19/2009

Idaho Veneer curtails indefinitely

Idaho Veneer Co., Post Falls, Idaho, has curtailed operations at both its sawmills and the company's planer mill until market conditions improve. - 2/19/2009

Vaagen extends Colville shutdown

Vaagen Bros. Lumber Inc. is announcing additional curtailments at its mill in Colville, Wash. As previously reported, the sawmill shut down February 13, but the shutdown has been extended to April 6. The power plant and kilns will run for the next few weeks until the rough green inventory is caught up, which is scheduled for March 6. The planer is scheduled to operate until March 13. Sales and shipping will continue to operate at reduced levels during the shutdown. The seven-week shutdown at the sawmill will reduce production by about 17 million board feet. - 2/17/2009

Simpson Lumber plans downtime

Simpson Lumber's operations in Shelton and Longview, Wash., will be down the week of February 16. - 2/12/2009

Hampton extends curtailments

Hampton Affiliates of Portland, Ore., has announced that the rolling curtailments currently in effect for February at Darrington Lumber Co., Darrington, Wash., and Tillamook Lumber Co., Tillamook, Ore., will be extended through March. Each operation will be down for two consecutive weeks on alternating schedules. Tillamook will be down the first two weeks, and Darrington the last two weeks of the month. Over the two-month span of February and March, each mill will be curtailed for one full month, resulting in lost production of more than 40 million board feet. - 2/5/2009

Vaagen Brothers announces temporary shutdown

Vaagen Bros. Lumber has announced plans to shut down its sawmill in Colville, Wash., for the weeks of February 16 and 23. All other aspects of the Colville facility will operate as usual. The move will allow the company to build log inventory for spring breakup, balance inventories, and conserve cash. About 40 workers will be affected. Another two-week shutdown is planned for April. Starting February 9, Vaagen's stud mill in Usk, Wash., will operate primarily as a whole log chip facility. This change will remain in effect until market conditions improve. Most of the workforce will stay intact on a part-time schedule. - 2/2/2009

Collins to curtail at two locations

Collins Pine Co. will be down the weeks of February 9 and 16 at both the Fremont Sawmill in Lakeview, Ore., and Collins Pine in Chester, Calif., due to market conditions. The shipping department will continue to operate. - 1/29/2009

Simpson schedules downtime

Simpson Lumber Co.'s mills in Longview and Shelton, Wash., will be down the week of February 2. - 1/29/2009

Tillamook, Darrington sawmills to curtail

Hampton Affiliates' Tillamook Lumber Co. in Tillamook, Ore., will be down for two weeks starting February 1, and Darrington Lumber Co. in Darrington, Wash., will be curtailed from February 15 through March 2. All departments at each mill including shipping, log yard, administration, and planer operations will be down during the curtailments. - 1/28/2009

Bright Wood announces production cuts

Bright Wood Corp. is laying off about 48 workers at its Madras, Ore., headquarters and 12 at its Redmond, Ore., facility, according to media reports. Most plant employees will work 32 hours per week. - 1/27/2009

Weyerhaeuser closes two mills

Weyerhaeuser Co. has announced the permanent shutdown of its sawmill and veneer mill in Aberdeen, Wash., effective immediately. The sawmill had a production capacity of 200 million board feet annually,

while the veneer mill's capacity was rated at 210 million square feet. The closures will affect 196 hourly and 25 salaried positions. In a press release, the company cited "extraordinarily weak market conditions." - 1/27/2009

Weyerhaeuser announces permanent closures at two mills

Weyerhaeuser Company has announced immediate and permanent closures at two mills in Washington state. A company press release on January 26 cited weak market conditions. The closures include the Aberdeen sawmill, Aberdeen, Wash., with an annual capacity of 200 million board feet, along with the Pacific Veneer mill in Aberdeen, with an annual capacity to produce 210 million square feet of veneer. The shutdowns will affect approximately 196 hourly and 25 salaried positions. - 1/26/2009

High Cascade sawmill to take downtime

High Cascade/WKO announced that its sawmill in Carson, Wash., will be down beginning January 26. Management expects substantial downtime during the first quarter, due to market conditions. - 1/23/2009

Mount Hood Forest Products to curtail

Mount Hood Forest Products announced that its sawmill in Hood River, Ore., will be down beginning January 26. Company management expects substantial downtime during the first quarter due to market conditions. - 1/23/2009

More Weyerhaeuser sawmills plan downtime

Weyerhaeuser's sawmill in Dallas, Ore., will be down the week of January 26. The company's Santiam sawmill in Lebanon, Ore., will be down the week of February 2. The market-related downtime at both mills is intended to balance supply with demand. - 1/21/2009

Weyerhaeuser to curtail two sawmills

Weyerhaeuser will take market-related downtime to adjust supply against demand at its sawmills in Raymond, Wash., and Warrenton, Ore., the weeks of January 26, February 23, and March 2. - 1/20/2009

Montana sawmill to curtail

F.H. Stoltze Land & Lumber Co., Columbia Falls, Mont., will halt production for at least six weeks effective February 2, due to market conditions. The planer will continue operations until rough inventory has been processed. Sales and shipments will continue throughout the downtime. - 1/20/2009

Simpson Lumber cuts output

Simpson Lumber Co. LLC will take all of its Washington mills down for an indefinite duration beginning January 16. The company also has made some permanent cutbacks: Commencement Bay has dropped from 80 to 40 hours per week, and Shelton Mill 5 will now be at 80 hours per week after dropping a shift. Between Shelton and Commencement Bay, 60 employees were laid off. Operations at Mill 3 and Longview are unchanged. - 1/15/2009

Plum Creek to reduce output in Montana

Plum Creek Timber Co. has announced plans to reduce production at its four sawmills in Montana. The company will permanently close the Ksanka sawmill in Fortine, Mont., in March. It will also temporarily curtail operations at the Evergreen sawmill in Kalispell for the remainder of January, February, and potentially March. Both Ksanka and Evergreen produce studs. Plum Creek's Pine board sawmill in Pablo will reduce its operating level from 1.5 to 1 shift, and the Pine board sawmill in Columbia Falls will curtail production for the remainder of January, February, and possibly March. - 1/8/2009

Hampton extends holiday curtailments

Hampton Affiliates of Portland, Ore., has announced the extension of holiday curtailments at Darrington Lumber Co., Darrington, Wash.; Randle Lumber Co., Randle, Wash.; and Willamina Lumber Co., Willamina, Ore., for the week of January 5. In addition, Morton Lumber Co. has sustained an undetermined amount of damage from recent record snowfalls, delaying its reopening until further notice. All mill closures, other than the Morton operation, will be evaluated on a week-by-week basis and reopened as markets allow. - 1/7/2009

SOUTH (USA)

Weyerhaeuser cuts output at W.Va. plant

Weyerhaeuser has laid off 66 workers at its iLevel mill in Buckhannon, W.Va., that produces laminated beams. The cutback is intended to help balance mill output with demand. - 4/22/2009

Scotch Lumber to shut down indefinitely

After giving a 60-day notice, Scotch Lumber, Fulton, Ala., will shut down its Fulton sawmill indefinitely, beginning the week of April 20. The company cited market conditions. - 4/13/2009

IP to shut down Virginia sawmill

International Paper has announced that it will close its sawmill in Franklin, Va., at the end of next month, according to the Richmond Times-Dispatch. The mill, employing 123 workers, is the last sawmill owned by IP, according to a company spokesman. - 4/2/2009

Weyerhaeuser to take downtime at southern sawmills

Weyerhaeuser has informed customers that it will take market-related downtime at 12 of its southern sawmills beginning March 30. All of the mills will be down that week; the duration of additional downtime at each mill will vary based on inventory and customer orders. The curtailments will not result in permanent layoffs. - 3/25/2009

Weyerhaeuser closes Oklahoma sawmill

Weyerhaeuser Co. announced that it will close its sawmill in Wright City, Okla., effective immediately. Market conditions were cited. - 3/17/2009

Weyerhaeuser announces mill and distribution center closures

Weyerhaeuser Co. has announced that it will indefinitely close its iLevel veneer and engineered wood mills in Evergreen, Ala., and Dodson and Simsboro, La., and its TimberStrand mill in Chavies, Ky. The company also announced the permanent closure of iLevel service centers in Albuquerque, N.M.; Cincinnati and Columbus, Ohio; and Las Vegas and Reno, Nev. The announcement will affect about 480 employees at nine locations. The company cited declining demand. - 3/10/2009

Weyerhaeuser mill cuts shift

Weyerhaeuser's Evergreen (Castleberry) mill in Alabama has laid off a shift, reducing its workforce by 73 employees. The mill produces lam beams and I-joists. - 2/26/2009

LP to curtail LVL output at NC mill

Louisiana-Pacific Corp. has announced that it will curtail production at its LVL mill in Wilmington, N.C., effective February 27 due to reduced customer demand. About 91 employees will be placed on temporary layoff during the curtailment. Another 20 employees will be retained to operate a distribution center at the

site and to maintain the mill. The company plans to bring the mill back up as soon as customer demand increases. - 2/17/2009

Scotch to suspend lumber production

Scotch Lumber has announced that in 60 days, assuming market conditions have not changed, it plans to temporarily suspend production in Fulton, Ala. The suspension will be due to the continued deterioration of market conditions for softwood lumber. Scotch plans to consume any in-process inventory during the 60-day period. Operations are expected to resume once market conditions improve. - 2/17/2009

Harrigan to curtail

Harrigan Lumber Co. announced that it will temporarily curtail production at its Monroeville, Ala., sawmill due to poor market conditions. The sawmill will cease operation on February 19, but the dry kilns and planer mill will continue to operate until the in-process inventory is consumed. Sales and shipping will operate on an as-needed basis after that point. The curtailment will result in the layoff of 87 employees. The company plans to resume operations when market conditions improve. - 2/12/2009

Weyerhaeuser announces mill closures in Alabama

Weyerhaeuser has announced that it will close its iLevel veneer and lumber mills in Pine Hill, Ala., effective immediately. The announcement affects about 300 employees at that location. The facilities will remain closed for an indefinite duration. Market conditions were cited. - 2/5/2009

Clemsa Lumber to temporarily shut down

Clemsa Lumber has shut down its sawmill in Pollok, Texas, and will shut down the planer on February 6, according to Mill Manager Leon Ray. Shipping will continue over the next one to two months. Clemsa is a wholly owned subsidiary of Cal-Tex Lumber Co. The mill produces 2x4 through 2x8, and 4x4 and 4x6. Ray said the company intends to restart the mill when market conditions permit. - 2/4/2009

South Carolina sawmill drops shift

New South's Camden sawmill in South Carolina has reduced a shift, reducing Southern Pine lumber production by about 75 million board feet. The mill is owned by Canfor Corp. - 2/2/2009

West Fraser to curtail at southern sawmills

West Fraser Timber Co. has announced plans to temporarily reduce production at several of its sawmills in the South by a total of about 20 million board feet. This is in addition to production currently curtailed at the company's southern operations of about 600 million feet on an annual basis. - 1/30/2009

Hankins' Grenada mill to remain down

Hankins Lumber, Grenada, Miss., will remain idled until at least February 1. The company took down the sawmill on December 18, citing market conditions and a lack of logs. - 1/20/2009

Hankins Inc. reduces production

Hankins Inc., Ripley, Miss., will immediately reduce production by one-third due to current market conditions. The curtailment, which is in addition to previous production cuts, will continue for an indefinite period. The company's regular Monday through Friday loading hours will remain the same. - 1/20/2009

Mid-South to close Mississippi mill

Mid-South Lumber of Meridian, Miss., will shut down within the next two weeks for an indefinite duration due to market conditions, according to a company spokesman. The mill, owned by Buchanan Forest Products, will remain down until market conditions improve. - 1/16/2009

CANADA

Canfor announces week-long curtailments

Citing poor market conditions, Canfor Corp. announced plans to take one-week curtailments at six sawmills in British Columbia and Alberta. Beginning April 27, operations at the Rustad and Prince George sawmills will be curtailed, followed by Vavenby on May 4, Grande Prairie on May 11, and Quesnel and Houston beginning May 18. The curtailments will remove about 32 million board feet of S-P-F lumber production. In addition, Canfor will be taking summer shutdowns at all of its Canadian lumber operations, removing about 130 million board feet of production in July and August. - **4/22/2009**

AbitibiBowater sawmill to close indefinitely

AbitibiBowater's sawmill in Lebel-sur-Quevillon, Quebec, will be closed for at least four months beginning May 29, according to the Canadian Press. Market conditions were cited. - **4/10/2009**

Domtar to temporarily idle Ontario sawmill

Domtar Corp. has announced plans to idle its Ear Falls, Ontario, sawmill for about seven weeks beginning April 10. The mill has an annual production capacity of 190 million board feet. The company also will idle its pulp-making facility in Dryden, Ontario, for about 10 weeks beginning April 25. Both curtailments are in response to weak market conditions. - **4/2/2009**

BC sawmill to shut down

The Springer Creek Forest Products sawmill in Slocan, B.C., will shut down for an indefinite duration on April 6. Inventory ahead of the planer will be run out, and then the planer will shut down around mid-May. Market conditions were cited. - **4/2/2009**

Domtar extends shutdown of Ontario sawmill

Domtar's sawmill in Timmins, Ontario, will remain closed until May 4, according to the Toronto Star. The mill has been closed since February 9, and it previously had been scheduled to resume operations on March 20. - **3/31/2009**

Tembec to shut down Quebec sawmill for three months

Tembec announced that its sawmill in Senneterre, Quebec, will shut down March 27 for a minimum of three months. Market conditions were cited. - **3/26/2009**

Tembec announces temporary curtailment

Tembec has announced a temporary curtailment of operations in the Kapuskasing region of Ontario. The shutdown will begin on April 9 and remain in effect for at least four weeks. It will affect about 510 employees at all levels of the company from the sawmill to newsprint and forestry operations. - **3/24/2009**

Carrier to shut down Valemout operation

Carrier Lumber Group will shut down its Valemout Forest Products Ltd. operation in about 60 days due to market conditions, according to the Prince George (B.C.) Citizen. - **3/3/2009**

Domtar extends shutdown of Ontario sawmill

Domtar's sawmill in Timmins, Ontario, will remain closed until May 4, according to the Toronto Star. The mill has been closed since February 9, and it previously had been scheduled to resume operations on March 20. - **3/31/2009**

Tembec to shut down Quebec sawmill for three months

Tembec announced that its sawmill in Senneterre, Quebec, will shut down March 27 for a minimum of three months. Market conditions were cited. - 3/26/2009

West Fraser resumes production at four mills

West Fraser Mills Ltd. has resumed production at its Smithers, Fraser Lake, Quesnel, and Houston sawmills in British Columbia, following a week of downtime. Houston is operating on a three-days-per-week schedule. - 3/25/2009

Tembec announces temporary curtailment

Tembec has announced a temporary curtailment of operations in the Kapuskasing region of Ontario. The shutdown will begin on April 9 and remain in effect for at least four weeks. It will affect about 510 employees at all levels of the company from the sawmill to newsprint and forestry operations. - 3/24/2009

Buchanan goes into receivership

Buchanan Forest Products Ltd. has gone into receivership, according to The Canadian Press. The company, which runs the wood harvesting operations for the Buchanan Group of companies, laid off salaried personnel, including managers and engineers, at eight idled sawmills across northwestern Ontario. A Buchanan vice president said a major creditor requested that Deloitte and Touche step up its role from company monitor to receiver. - 3/23/2009

Canfor to chop production by 284 mmbf

Canfor Corp. has announced plans to cut production by 284 million board feet. The company will shorten work weeks at its Clear Lake, Rustad, Polar, and Vavenby sawmills, and the third shift at the company's Isle Pierre facility will be eliminated. The company will take one-week curtailments at Isle Pierre and another mill in Quesnel, B.C., beginning on March 15. Dwindling demand and low lumber prices were cited. - 3/4/2009

West Fraser to curtail output at seven BC sawmills

West Fraser Timber Co. Ltd. has announced plans to curtail production at seven sawmills in British Columbia due to continued weak demand. The curtailments will be for one to two weeks, beginning March 16. The curtailments will reduce production by about 44 million board feet. - 3/3/2009

Carrier to shut down Valemout operation

Carrier Lumber Group will shut down its Valemout Forest Products Ltd. operation in about 60 days due to market conditions, according to the Prince George (B.C.) Citizen. - 3/3/2009

Tolko extends downtime for two sawmills

Tolko's sawmills in High Level, Alberta, and Lavington, B.C., will remain down the week of February 23, with a restart being evaluated on a week-to-week basis. The mills had been scheduled to resume operations February 23, following two-week shutdowns. - 2/19/2009

Buchanan to curtail pulp mill

Buchanan Forest Products has announced a six-week closure of its Terrace Bay pulp mill beginning February 23. High inventory levels and market conditions were cited, according to media reports in Thunder Bay, Ontario. - 2/18/2009

Domtar updates curtailments

Domtar Inc. has announced several new or extended curtailments at sawmills in Ontario and Quebec. The company's mill in Nairn, Ontario, will be shut down from February 23 to March 31. The Val-D'Or, Quebec, mill is already shut down, and that downtime is being extended to April 13. Timmins, Ontario, is shut down and the shutdown is being extended to March 23. Gogama Forest Products in Cooper Cliff, Ontario, is

already shut down and being extended to March 23. Ear Falls, Ontario, went to one shift for an indefinite period, effective February 16. - 2/17/2009

AbitibiBowater announces further cutbacks

In a letter to customers, AbitibiBowater has announced further production cuts at its sawmills in Ontario and Quebec. The company will eliminate one shift at its La Dore (Quebec) sawmill, and additional reductions will be taken at Thunder Bay (Ontario). The company's Obedjiwan and Roberval (Quebec) facilities will take at least four weeks of downtime. Since December, AbitibiBowater's Comtois, La Tuque, and Maniwaki operations in Quebec, and Thunder Bay operation in Ontario, have seen their operations either curtailed or idled for extended periods. Cumulatively, the curtailments represent an annual capacity reduction of 638 million board feet. - 2/12/2009

Lecours Lumber to curtail; shipping to continue

Lecours Lumber Co. Ltd., Calstock, Ontario, will shut down its sawmill on February 13, and its planer on February 20, until further notice. The shutdowns are expected to be temporary. The mill still has inventory, and shipping will continue. - 2/11/2009

Millar Western cuts production

Millar Western Forest Products Ltd. has cut production from two shifts to one at its sawmill in Boyle, Alberta. Sixty-eight positions at that operation have been terminated, although the company hopes to restore them when market conditions improve. The company's sawmill in Whitecourt, Alberta, has cut production from three shifts to two, affecting 50 workers who have been temporarily laid off. Combined, the curtailments are expected to remove 200 million feet of production on an annual basis. - 2/10/2009

Tolko curtails at seven sawmills

Tolko Industries Ltd. has announced temporary curtailments at seven of its lumber operations due to continued poor market conditions. Curtailments at the Armstrong, Lavington, and High Level sawmills are scheduled to be for two weeks, while curtailments at the Creekside, Lakeview Lumber, Quest Wood, and Soda Creek operations will remain in effect until market conditions improve. All of the curtailments will begin February 9. The two-week curtailments will reduce Tolko's lumber output by 68 million board feet. The further curtailment of the four Cariboo operations will reduce Tolko's lumber production by 18.5 million board feet for every week of additional downtime. The curtailments affect about 1,300 employees. - 2/4/2009

Tembec announces curtailments

Tembec has announced a series of market-related shutdowns affecting all of its British Columbia facilities, its newsprint mill in Manitoba, and one additional sawmill in Ontario. In British Columbia, the Canal Flats and Elko sawmills, as well as the Cranbrook fingerjoint facility, will shut down for about eight weeks starting February 9. The softwood Kraft pulp mill in Skookumchuck will cease operating on February 23 for six weeks. The high-yield pulp mill in Chetwynd was idled February 2 and will remain down until market conditions improve. The newsprint mill in Pine Falls, Manitoba, will shut down for two weeks effective February 10. The company's Hearst, Ontario, sawmill will shut down for six weeks beginning February 9. The Canal Flats and Elko sawmills have annual capacities of 180 million board feet and 270 million board feet, respectively, while Cranbrook produces 25 million board feet of fingerjoint lumber per year. The Hearst sawmill has an annual capacity of 160 million board feet. - 2/3/2009

Canfor announces curtailments

Canfor Corp. announced that it will take curtailments at its sawmills in British Columbia and Alberta over a two-week period beginning February 9, removing about 83 million board feet of production from the market. In addition, effective February 23, the company will remove the third shift at its Quesnel operation, resulting in a further reduction of Canfor's lumber production by about 100 million board feet on an annual

basis. Continued poor market conditions were cited. - 2/2/2009

Domtar schedules downtime at two locations

Domtar's sawmill in Timmins, Ontario, will be down from February 9 to March 20, affecting about 115 workers, according to the Timmins Daily Press. The newspaper also reported that Domtar's Gogama mill in Cooper Cliff, Ontario, will be down during the same time frame, affecting 35 workers. - 2/2/2009

West Fraser announces curtailments

West Fraser Timber Co. has announced plans to take week-long shutdowns at five of its British Columbia sawmills, beginning February 9. The shutdowns will be followed by the implementation of temporary reduced work weeks at those facilities where such measures have not already been implemented. Total weekly production at the affected mills is about 25 million board feet, while the projected temporary reduced work weeks will curtail about 446 million board feet on an annual basis. These curtailments are in addition to production currently curtailed at the company's Canadian facilities of about 435 million board feet. - 1/30/2009

Irving Forest Products takes downtime

Irving Forest Product's Dixfield, Maine, Pine mill has been down this week, and will assess restart and future downtime on a week-to-week basis. - 1/29/2009

Hampton announces downtime for Babine FP

Hampton Affiliates, Portland, Ore., has announced that Babine Forest Products in Burns Lake, B.C., will stay shut down through the month of February. Shipping, log yard, administration, and planer operations will be down during the curtailment period. - 1/28/2009

Tembec to curtail Ontario sawmill

Tembec Inc. has shut down its sawmill in Kapuskasing, Ontario, for a month to reduce inventory, according to a company spokesman. The planer at that location will continue to run two shifts during the mill shutdown. After that, both the sawmill and planer will drop from two shifts to one, depending on market conditions. - 1/21/2009

Western Forest Products extends curtailment at Somass

Western Forest Products extended a planned one-week curtailment at its Somass sawmill in Port Alberni, B.C., into early February. The plant is expected to resume operations the second week in February. The extended curtailment is part of the company's efforts to ratchet down production in line with soft demand. - 1/20/2009

Tolko to curtail at The Pas, Williams Lake, Quesnel

Tolko Industries Ltd. has announced plans to curtail production at its sawmill in The Pas, Manitoba, for an indefinite duration, and reduce production from four to three days per week at its mills in Williams Lake and Quesnel, B.C., beginning January 26. Poor market conditions were cited. The announcement impacts 240 million board feet on an annual basis. Tolko's Soda Creek stud mill reduced operations to a two-shift schedule on January 5. Operational changes to Tolko's solid wood production over the past two months, including today's announcement, potentially impact more than 430 million board feet on an annual basis. - 1/20/2009

Canfor announces curtailment

Canfor Corp. announced that it will take a one-week curtailment at its sawmills in Houston, Radium, Vavenby, Quesnel, and Rustad, British Columbia, beginning January 26. Poor market conditions were cited. The downtime will reduce Canfor's annualized production by about 29 million board feet. -

1/20/2009

Hampton announces downtime

Hampton Affiliates of Portland, Ore., has announced an immediate curtailment of Babine Forest Products and Decker Lake Forest Products, both located at Burns Lake, B.C. The shutdown is expected to last at least two weeks although the exact start-up date will be determined by market conditions. - 1/15/2009

Sinclar announces curtailments

Sinclar Enterprises has announced that Apollo Forest Products, Ft. St. James, B.C., and Lakeland Mills, Prince George, B.C., will operate on a curtailed basis through the week of February 9. Shift reductions will result in output of the two stud mills being reduced by approximately 50%. - 1/8/2009

WFP to keep three mills closed indefinitely

Western Forest Products will keep its Nanaimo, B.C., mills and its Mid Island reman facility closed for an indefinite duration, or until market conditions improve, according to Canada.com. The mills have been closed since December 15. Company operations in Chemainus, Cowichan Bay, and Saltair will reopen as scheduled this month. The company's timberland operations will also be closed for an indefinite duration. - 1/7/2009

Jackpine files for bankruptcy protection

Jackpine Forest Group in Williams Lake, B.C., has filed for bankruptcy due to market conditions, according to the Williams Lake Tribune newspaper. The first meeting of creditors of Jackpine will be in Vancouver, B.C., on January 19, according to the newspaper. - 1/5/2009