

- Introducing new GoodWood® members
- Looking back: a roundup of accomplishments from 2021-2024
- Setting the standard for source verified local forest products
- Seeing the Viga Span Chart at work
- Changes coming for green building in 2025



Quarterly Newsletter from Source Verified Good Wood® | Winter 2024-2025

The Quarter Round

Member Spotlight

In this issue of the Quarter Round, we are highlighting new members!

S&S Sawmill

Tularosa, NM

A sawmill which opened in January 2024, S&S is conveniently located along the highway in Tularosa. Wood comes from GoodWood® verified forest restoration projects on Mescalero Apache lands. Verified GoodWood® products include fencing (first cuts/slabs), beams, vigas, corbels, lumber, and firewood of pine, fir including Douglas-fir, and juniper. Custom metal work is also available. Learn more by visiting www.sstularosasawmill.com/



W.H. Moore Cash Lumber

Hernandez, NM

Family owned and operated since 1981. Owner Bill Moore produces a multitude of wood products from GoodWood® verified forest restoration projects in southern



Colorado and New Mexico. Workers are skilled and machinery is top notch. Verified products include Lumber, beams, vigas (hand and machine peeled), boards, custom milled lumber, and cut to order. Visit www.whmoorelumber.com/

For a full list of members, visit: www.goodwoodverified.com/meet-the-producers

Source Verified Good Wood® - An opportunity to put your name on what you believe.

Source Verified Good Wood offers an opportunity for individuals and businesses to align their name with their beliefs. Through source forest verification and tracking chain-of-custody, the GoodWood® program empowers its members to endorse something they truly stand for. We are a collaborative community of open-minded leaders committed to forest stewardship, community well-being, and local economies.

GoodWood membership is open to anyone who shares this commitment! Unlike other certification programs that are complicated, lengthy, and expensive, our source-verified branding initiative is accessible and affordable. In addition, we are also the only program that verifies wood from National Forest System lands.

As a **member**, you gain visibility for supporting forests and communities. As a **consumer**, you support healthier forests and mindful businesses with each purchase. Together, we create a committed community helping to find harmony between forests and commerce. To become a member or find out more about Source Verified Good Wood and GoodWood products, please visit our website: www.goodwoodverified.com.

A note from Rachel



Watching the Collaborative Forest Restoration Program (CFRP) that has supported GoodWood® for the past three years come to a close, I would like to thank the cooperators who have contributed - Katie Fernholz with Dovetail Partners Inc., David Breecker with DB Associates, Marie Rodriguez with Promise PCES, LLC, and Rachel Bean with the Forest Stewards Guild - and the many other partners and members who have lent their expertise, interest, time, and dedication to the ongoing development of this novel source verification program. Our accomplishments, which you can read about on page 2, would not have been possible without everyone's thoughtful collaboration.

As GoodWood enters the new year, it also is entering a new phase with support from the USDA Wood Innovations Grant Program and financial sponsorship through the Partnership for Responsible Business. Previous cooperators, including Katie, David, and Vicki Pozzebon of Prospera Partners, LLC, will stay on board to support SVGW's work, especially the development of a local lumber, beam, and viga grading program. Through this new funding arrangement, GoodWood is now eligible to accept donations. If you or someone you know supports our vision and wants to join in putting their name on what they believe in, consider donating to the program in 2025.



Thank you for your ongoing support. Please enjoy this issue of the Quarter Round.

The Quarter Round has been produced with funds from the USDA-Forest Service, Collaborative Forest Restoration Program. Grant Number: 21-DG-11030000-010 CFRP Project Number: 11-16 Rev. Project Title: Planning - Expanding Market Opportunities for New Mexico Wood - revision Grant Project Period: 05/27/2021 - 12/31/2024 (2019 award)

Accomplishments Roundup!

Over the past three years, Rachel and the team have been hard at work to expand New Mexico markets and market opportunities and build support for ecologically and socially responsible local forestry. Here is a roundup of Source Verified Good Wood's biggest accomplishments from 2021-2024.

Membership and Impact

At the beginning of the 2021-2024 CFRP funding cycle, GoodWood had just two member businesses. Following three years of growth and improvement, **SVGW now has 12 members and has verified over 600,000 acres over the lifespan of the program.**

The 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, or BIL) and the 2022 Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) invested billions into Forest Service wildfire and climate resilience efforts. Through the USDA Community Navigator Program and the Forest Stewards Guild, we connected GoodWood members with a local Community Navigator to pursue BIL and IRA funding, primarily Wood Innovations Grants. The Navigator provides proposal preparation capacity and guidance, supporting the efforts of GoodWood members to increase their ability to manufacture products from forest restoration projects.

Resources

The team published a synthesis of Buy Local programs from across the nation, focusing on lessons learned, strategies, and best practices, to inform SVGW's approach. This resource has informed our operations strategy and is updated regularly.

We authored a crosswalk study to compare and find similarities between Forest Service standards and Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI, North America) and Forest Stewardship Council (FSC, Worldwide) standards. **The findings support inclusion of Nation Forest System lands in our local sustainability program.**

Expanding Markets

We worked with the NM Small Business Assistance Program and both Sandia and Los Alamos National Labs to update/create viga span charts. The charts were then consolidated into one chart by engineers and the Construction Industries Division and **the resulting viga span table has been incorporated in New Mexico's residential building code** for use statewide in our historic and cultural building style.

GoodWood is now qualified for use in New Mexico's green building program. Builders and owners who use verified GoodWood materials in their construction can receive up to three sustainability points that go toward a sustainable builder tax credit. **Collaboration and discussion is ongoing to include SVGW in the national green building program, Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) V5.**

Improving the Program

To improve the experience of current and future SVGW members, we have:

- Revamped the application process and created clear instructions to make it more intuitive for new members.
- **Begun translating marketing materials into Spanish.**
- Created a concise pitch deck with basic membership details which can be sent to potential members.
- Increased our travel and outreach to mills and contractors in New Mexico to discuss the benefits of the GoodWood program and hear about ways the program can improve to assist their businesses.
- Added a Resources section to the program website where an archive of newsletters, press releases, and other useful materials are hosted.
- Prepared logos for new members which have a unique identification code for ease of ID.
- Worked with members to design merchandise and promotional swag that can be displayed in businesses and elsewhere to raise awareness of the program.

Recent Accomplishments

In addition to these notable accomplishments from the past three years, GoodWood has been hard at work to build New Mexico's market and demand for local forest products over the past three months!

- Provided lessons learned from the New Mexico program to Tim Reeder and Steve Rudolph of the self-certification sustainability program (CO Forest Products Program).
- Renewed trademarks with the US Patent Office.
- Hosted an informational table with fliers, rack cards, and giveaways in Taos at the New Mexico Wildland Urban Fire Summit (WUFS).



Ongoing Work

In autumn 2024, GoodWood secured three years of additional funding from the Wood Innovations Program. This time will be spent growing the Source Verified Good Wood® program, supporting New Mexico's forest industry, our forests, and communities in new ways, and working on an in-state lumber, beam, and viga wood grading program which will allow more small diameter trees harvested from our forests to be used for structural building use within the state. We are grateful to the nonprofit Partnership for Responsible Business, and especially Alexandra Merlino, Executive Director, who is donating time to administer the Wood Innovations project.



Small diameter ponderosa pine in need of thinning. Traditionally, there hasn't been a market for this material, which GoodWood aims to change.

Upcoming events

The GoodWood® booth will be at the 2025 Santa Fe Home and Garden Expo + Remodelers Showcase on March 15th and 16th. Visit www.sfahba.com and stop by the booth to see member products and find out more about the GoodWood® program!

Setting the Standard

When Rachel Wood received a call from Tim Reader, Wood Products Utilization and Marketing Program Specialist for the Colorado State Forest Service, she didn't anticipate hearing that GoodWood has become a regional leader in building local forestry markets. However, as more states, especially across the West, recognize the value and importance of investing in locally and sustainably harvested forest products, interest in SVGW's vision and operation is growing.

Tim, in his role, is responsible for technical and financial assistance delivery and applied research supporting Colorado's forest products harvesting and manufacturing business community, including overseeing the Colorado Forest Products™ branding program under Colorado Proud, the Forest Business Loan Fund, and wood – energy programs. He was curious about GoodWood's verification and Chain of

Custody programs and wanted to know more about our work uplifting traditional building materials, such as vigas and beams through the new viga span charts and the ongoing development of a state structural use wood grading program.



Building Momentum Across the Region

While some parts of GoodWood's tracking procedures and verification are proprietary, Rachel was able to share information about how the program started, what documents we use and we look for when considering whether to verify a thinning project, and directed Tim to resources such as the Buy Local Lessons Learned Review. Moving forward, Colorado State Forest Service will start asking mills where their wood comes from. In the future, Colorado's program may be able to inform GoodWood's consumer marketing with this knowledge exchange mutually benefiting and improving local forest products utility and marketing across the region.

See It: the Viga Span Chart in Action

Miles Conway of the Santa Fe Area Home Builders Association joined homeowner Mike Herrera to celebrate the first known use of the newly-minted New Mexico Viga Span Chart. Mike used the tables published in the state building code to determine what species, length, and diameter of tree he would need to use as structural vigas in the home that he was building, harvested them from the surrounding forest, peeled and let them air dry on his property for a year, and installed them in his ceiling - all without an engineers stamp.

As Mike tells it, "It's doable, and I'm really happy that they passed the span chart because 25 years ago I built my own house using the same concept, and there was no span chart requirement [but now that it's needed, the span chart] is passed and it's doable."



View of the newly installed vigas in a video tour with Mike and Miles

Changes Coming for Green Building in 2025

Written by Katie Ferholz, Dovetail Partners Inc.

LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design), the most widely used green building program in the world, is anticipated to roll out new standards in 2025 that could bring big changes. Some of these changes may create new opportunities - or new barriers - to the use of wood.

LEED is a green building rating system. Certification in this system provides a framework for building healthy, highly efficient, and cost-saving green buildings. To date, there are 197,000 LEED projects worldwide across 186 countries and territories encompassing over 29 billion square feet. The system is currently operating off of the LEED version 4.1 standards, released in April 2019. As of January 2023, the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) began to develop LEED v5 based on the June 2022 Future of LEED principles.

Throughout 2024, draft versions of LEED v5 were released and revised in response to comments submitted during two public comment periods designed to inform and improve v5 development. The GoodWood® program partners submitted comments in both May and October to support the recognition of sustainable wood sources like Source Verified Good Wood®.

New Mexico already has a strong LEED connection; in 2020, Santa Fe became the 2nd city worldwide to achieve LEED Cities Gold certification for its exceptional performance fostering a sustainable and resilient city.



University of New Mexico has 28 buildings covering ~1.3 million square feet of LEED certified buildings across its campuses, including the College of Education - Addition which achieved LEED Platinum status in 2010.

| Comment | USGBC Response |
|--|--|
| Source Verified Good Wood® is available for evaluation by USGBC and for consideration as an addition to the listing of verification standards and programs. I have been involved with the development of this program and am knowledgeable about its quality and credibility. GoodWood® is verified as coming from lands managed to improve forest health, restore habitats, reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire, protect historic and cultural resources, and provide additional environmental and social benefits. SVGW® is anticipated to qualify as non-controversial (i.e. legal) and responsible as defined by ASTM D7193. Similar to the currently listed programs, SVGW® supports climate health, human health, ecosystem health, social health and equity, and circular economy (i.e. the AIA Materials Pledge Impact Areas). SVGW® has already achieved recognition in the Build Green New Mexico program. More information is available at: https://www.goodwoodverified.com/ and by contacting Rachel Wood, Program Manager: rachel@goodwoodverified.com . | Thank you for your comment. In response to feedback, this credit has been revised. Please review the updated credit during the second public comment period. Your comment will be considered for inclusion in the Reference Guide. |
| A Regional and Local Priority for many communities, including places throughout the Southwest and Western US regions, is to increase wildfire resilience. Being fire adapted is essential for ecological resilience, climate change mitigation, and human health and safety. The non-profit organization I work for has been engaged in community-based wildfire risk mitigation for more than a decade. One way to improve wildfire preparedness is to source products that come from forest restoration activities and wildfire risk reduction treatments. Source Verified Good Wood® is verified as coming from lands managed to improve forest health, restore habitats, reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire, protect historic and cultural resources, and provide additional environmental and social benefits. SVGW® has already achieved recognition in the Build Green New Mexico program and could be identified as a Project Priority and Regional and Local Priority in LEED v5. More information is available at: https://www.goodwoodverified.com/ and by contacting Rachel Wood, Program Manager: rachel@goodwoodverified.com . | Thank you for your comment. Please see the updated credit as it being the second public comment period. Please also share this as a new pilot credit once the process for the same opens up along with launch of LEED v5 in Q2 2025. |
| Please note that Source Verified Good Wood® (aka "GoodWood," "SVGW") is available for evaluation by USGBC and for consideration to add to the listing of certification standards and programs. GoodWood® is verified as coming from lands managed to improve forest health, restore habitats, reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire, protect historic and cultural resources, and provide additional environmental and social benefits. SVGW® is anticipated to qualify as non-controversial (i.e. legal) and responsible as defined by ASTM D7193. Similar to the currently listed programs, SVGW® supports climate health, human health, ecosystem health, social health and equity, and circular economy (i.e. the AIA Materials Pledge Impact Areas). SVGW® has already achieved recognition in the Build Green New Mexico program. I have been a member of the SVGW core planning team since inception, responsible for business planning and strategy, and I can speak on my personal experience that this program has the potential for deep impact on forest, watershed, and local economic health. More information is available at https://www.goodwoodverified.com/ and by contacting Rachel Wood, Program Manager: rachel@goodwoodverified.com . | Thank you for your comment. In response to feedback, this credit has been revised. Please review the updated credit during the second public comment period. Your comment will be considered for inclusion in the Reference Guide. |
| Source Verified Good Wood should be included in LEED listed verifiable sources of sustainably harvested wood products used in residential and commercial buildings. The principal reason is that its verification protocols are equal to or better than those currently accepted by USGBC. But even more importantly, it serves a market in the Americas on the southwest that presently has no ability to verify its sustainably harvested and managed forest because the entities listed in LEED choose to ignore verification of these markets or they are prohibitively expensive to bring in. Source Verified Good Wood originated in New Mexico where the blend of forest ownership - Federal, State, Tribal and private - must all comply with rigorous forest restoration and selective harvesting protocols of small diameter pine, spruce, and fir logs, both for its value in construction, but also to mitigate fire in the understory, protect previous watersheds, and provide economic opportunity to traditional rural villages and Pueblos. New Mexico builders want to be sustainable builders, and many are familiar and use LEED for their projects. What they can't now do is get credit for the sustainable wood products they can buy locally. Importing certified wood products licensed by LEED is impractical, costly and detour the intent of energy efficient design. Please search more deeply the hard work, including through USGBC research grants, put in by New Mexico to create Good Wood to develop the Source Verified Good Wood program. | Thank you for your comment. In response to feedback, this credit has been revised. Please review the updated credit during the second public comment period. Your comment will be considered for inclusion in the Reference Guide. |
| Source Verified Good Wood (SVGW) is a New Mexico based program that verifies the source location of harvested trees and ensures that trees are harvested for the purpose of restoring and protecting forest and watershed ecosystems. Specifically, SVGW is verified as originating from lands managed to improve forest health, restore habitats, reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire, protect historic and cultural resources, and provide additional environmental and social benefits. The chain-of-custody for the wood is tracked from the forest source to retail sale. SVGW is harvested primarily from National Forest System lands, but the program also supports forest restoration on other federal lands as well as state, tribal, and private forests. SVGW is available for evaluation by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) and for consideration as an addition to the listing of verification standards and programs. SVGW is anticipated to qualify as non-controversial (i.e. legal) and responsible, as defined by ASTM D7193. Similar to the currently listed programs, SVGW supports climate health, human health, ecosystem health, social equity, and circular economy principles (aligned with the AIA Materials Pledge Impact Areas). Notably, SVGW has already achieved recognition in the Build Green New Mexico program. | Thank you for your comment. In response to feedback, this credit has been revised. Please review the updated credit during the second public comment period. Your comment will be considered for inclusion in the Reference Guide. |

Comments and responses from the first LEED V5 public comment period

The responses from the first public comment period, published by LEED in September 2024, were cause for the GoodWood® program's optimism. Substantial revisions were made based on those comments, and the written responses from USGBC indicated recognition of Source Verified Good Wood® as a qualified sustainability program will be considered for inclusion in the Reference Guide. LEED reviewers also asked supporters of GoodWood® to "Please also share this as a new pilot credit once the process for the same opens up along with launch of LEED v5". The official final version of the LEED v5 is expected to be released in quarter 1 of 2025.

The GoodWood® program partners will continue to monitor the development of LEED v5 in 2025 and take next steps for securing GoodWood® member opportunities within this green building program. If you would like to be included in these efforts, please reach out to Rachel Wood with your interest.

The Quarter Round has been produced with funds from the USDA-Forest Service, Collaborative Forest Restoration Program.

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