

# D.C. Cheat Sheet



## *Quick Updates from Your HF Team*

### **President Signs Executive Order on Mature Forests**

To kick off Earth Day last Friday, President Biden signed an Executive Order to “Strengthen America’s Forests,” focusing on “mature growth” on federal land as a means of preventing wildfires. The Federation and its partners have reviewed the E.O. and are flagging key issues such as proposed definitions of “mature” and “old growth” forests, the impacts new definitions might have on harvest and thinning programs, potential impacts on private landowners, and funding for programs to fight fires. The first step is to ensure that the Hardwood Federation has a seat at the table for discussions around new definitions and what they will mean for timber harvest programs on federal lands. Stay tuned for developments as they unfold.

### **HF Makes the Rounds on Capitol Hill**

With Congress returning from a two-week work period in the states, the HF team has been fanning out on Capitol Hill to meet with key lawmakers to keep them focused on issues impacting the industry. On Tuesday, HF met

with the House Ways and Means Committee to outline incentives to grow market demand for hardwood products in light of their carbon capture capabilities. On Wednesday, HF met with Rep. GT Thompson (R-PA), the office of Sen. Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) and the Senate Finance Committee on tax issues and provisions in the upcoming farm bill impacting the industry, among other topics. On Thursday, HF met with House Majority Whip Jim Clyburn (D-SC).

### **Congress Looks at Wildfires, Industry Pushes for Mass Timber Grants**

On April 27, the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior, Environment conducted a hearing featuring [testimony](#) from U.S. Forest Service Chief Randy Moore, who talked about the role of “harvested wood products” in combatting climate change. Chief Moore characterized forests and wood products as playing an essential environmental role, “offsetting almost 15% of the nation’s total carbon emissions.” To reinforce the positive messages related to wood products, the Hardwood Federation joined the American Wood Council and 12 other industry groups in an April 20 letter urging congressional appropriators to allocate \$20 million for Wood Innovation Grants (WIG), which would offer robust funding for mass timber projects.