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August 10, 2000

Dear County Highway Commissioner,

There has been a lot of talk in various quarters about overweight logging trucks and what needs to be done to correct this problem. The implication from some is that overloaded trucks are condoned by the logging industry.

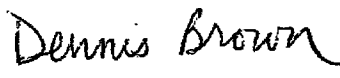
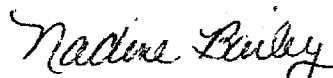
We on the Wisconsin Professional Loggers Association (WPLA) State Board have struggled with this issue and how to address it since our first meeting on January 13, 2000. We definitely recognize it as a problem and we also recognize that there is no easy solution. We in no way condone the safety issues or road damage that overweight loads produce.

We do know that something has to be done because the loggers and truckers who are conforming to legal load limits are, in fact, being punished. If allowed to continue the way it is, these legitimate businessmen will be forced to break the law or consequently be forced out of business. Enclosed are figures that one of our board members developed.

We suggest a meeting with WPLA, Timber Producers Association of MI & WI, the Department of Transportation, County Highway Departments, State Patrol, and the Forest Industry Safety & Training Alliance, Inc. to discuss solutions to this problem. We suggest that the meeting take place in September at the TPA Building in Rhinelander. A sheet with dates and possible times is enclosed. Please check all times and dates that will work for you and return it to WPLA, 6343 Highway 8 West, Rhinelander, WI 54501. Feel free to number your preferences.

We look forward to working with you to solve this problem.

Sincerely,

	
Dennis Brown WPLA Chair	Nadine Bailey TPA President

Trucking Wood Products – Legal Load vs. Overloaded

- ❖ 100 mile haul
- ❖ \$7.00/cord + .15 cents per mile per cord
- ❖ \$22.00 per cord = \$7.00 + (.15 x 100 miles)
- ❖ 10 cord load
- ❖ 1 cord = 4,500 pounds
- ❖ empty log truck 35,000 – 45,000 lbs.
- ❖ 45 weeks of trucking in an average year

-All of the above figures can vary based on a number of factors. These figures are meant to be an average.

Legal Load	*Overloaded (per load)
\$22 per cord x 10 cords = \$220.00	1 cd 4,500 lbs over = \$22 + \$220 = \$242.00
	2 cd 9,000 lbs over = \$44 + \$220 = \$264.00
	3 cd 13,500 lbs over = \$66 + \$220 = \$286.00
	4 cd 18,000 lbs over = \$88 + \$220 = \$308.00
	5 cd 22,500 lbs over = \$110 + \$220 = \$330.00
	6 cd 27,000 lbs over = \$132 + \$220 = \$352.00
	7 cd 31,500 lbs over = \$154 + \$220 = \$374.00

*Overload Advantage Annually

- 11 loads/week @ 4,500 lbs more per load = \$242.00 x 45 weeks = \$10,890.00
- 11 loads/week @ 9,000 lbs more per load = \$484.00 x 45 weeks = \$21,780.00
- 11 loads/week @ 13,500 lbs more per load = \$726.00 x 45 weeks = \$32,670.00
- 11 loads/week @ 18,000 lbs more per load = \$968.00 x 45 weeks = \$43,560.00

*This does not take into account extra fuel, extra wear and tear on the truck, additional loading and unloading time, or fines, but it does give you a good idea of the advantage that truckers have when their trucks are consistently overloaded.