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NEWS

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North Park Resident Recognized as 2013 Colorado Logger of the Year

WALDEN, Colo. – North Park resident C.J. Pittington recently received the 2013 Colorado Logger of the Year award for his exceptional long-term logging record in northwest Colorado. The award is offered through the American Tree Farm Program by the Colorado State Forest Service and the Colorado Timber Industry Association.

Pittington operates Walden-based Polar Logging, which harvests timber from forests around North Park and sells the majority of the sawlogs produced to a Walden mill run by Pittington's father. Polar Logging also is a major supplier to the Rocky Mountain Pellet Company, and now sells some materials to the newly opened Saratoga Forest Management sawmill in Wyoming.

"C.J.'s forest work provides a great example of a logging operation that is very productive and still maintains the highest standards of environmental stewardship," said John Twitchell, district forester for the CSFS Steamboat Springs District.

According to Twitchell, Pittington is a careful and safe contractor despite working the long hours necessary for a logger to be successful. He also demonstrates his passion for sustainable forest management by assisting at local school environmental programs and demonstrating his work to youth groups. Pittington was recently interviewed for an educational video on mountain pine beetle, produced by the Colorado State Forest Service.

"One of the things that I have always admired about C.J. is his environmental ethic and commitment to effective land stewardship," said Christina Bradshaw, park manager at the Colorado State Forest State Park, where Pittington does much of his contract work.

Pittington grew up in a logging family and has been working the forests of Colorado his entire life. He worked alongside his father as a timber operator, from the time his was a teenager to when he started Polar Logging.

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