

THE LANDING

SPRING 2023



EDITORIAL

NEW HORIZONS

Graham Hinch,
Director, Western Hemisphere Sales and Marketing



One of the best ways to understand the value of our work is to see it through our customers' eyes. That's why our engineers, marketing team, and dealer representatives are on logging sites, working with you to make your hard job a bit easier.

We are firmly committed to providing the right solutions to help you thrive in a changing economic landscape. That includes designing productive, reliable machines that meet your needs. In February at the Oregon Logging Conference in Eugene, we introduced our new 2956G Crawler Log Loader that featured the new FR27 Felling Head. This mid-size model delivers optimal horsepower and hydraulic capacity to quickly load trucks or effectively run a Waratah 624 Harvester Head. And at a less than 90,000-pound operating weight, it's easy to transport.

Introducing new machines and updating our current lineup isn't enough. We continue to deliver Precision Forestry solutions, including JDLink™, TimberMatic™ Maps, and TimberManager™, that help increase productivity and uptime through enhanced jobsite awareness. Rocky Ridge Trading Company (see story page 6) recently began running TimberMatic Maps on its 959ML Shovel Logger to help plan harvesting for its steep-slope operation. A notable trend we're seeing across the industry is

loggers expanding their business opportunities into tough terrain and steep slopes, harvesting timber in areas previously thought impassable. Equipped with an FL100 Directional Felling Head, the 959ML is the perfect machine to handle tall, large-diameter timber. Winch-assisted traction control allows the machine to cut on steep slopes.

Our other customer story on TN Nadeau Harvesting (see page 12) illustrates how important it is to listen to our customers. To keep up with the demands of the large landowner and manager he contracts with, owner Tony Nadeau needed a machine that he could run 24 hours a day, five days a week. The company runs a John Deere 853MH Tracked Harvester with a Waratah H425x Harvester Head. The machine meets Nadeau's need for a machine that is durable and easy to service. And his local John Deere dealership uses JDLink to monitor the machine and immediately diagnose any issues.

At John Deere we strive to provide a solution for every logger, whether you are a large steep-slope operation like Rocky Ridge or a contractor running a single machine like Tony Nadeau. This dedication to customers is what sets John Deere apart. And we'll continue to work hard to help you be more efficient and productive, as well as provide the solutions you need to explore new horizons.



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Cover image:

Fort Kent, Maine, marks Mile One of U.S. Route 1, the starting point for logger Tony Nadeau's journey.

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PRECISION FORESTRY 101

Learn the basics about a powerful set of tools.



Precision Forestry helps minimize guesswork, maximize efficiency

John Deere Precision Forestry tools expand on the core technology features that come standard with Deere logging machines. Our TimberMatic™ Maps and TimberManager™ software platform helps loggers plan, implement, and monitor operations. This map-based production-planning and -tracking system allows owners and operators to share real-time production and location information, taking the guesswork out of effective decision-making.*

Here's a breakdown of how Precision Forestry works:

- **TimberMatic Maps** is an onboard software solution that enables real-time production views, optimized routes, and shared wireless connections between machines.* Combined with TimberManager, operators and contractors have complete visibility of a logging operation, so they can streamline communication, analyze tasks, and increase productivity.
- **TimberManager** is a web-based solution for PCs, tablets, and mobile phones that provides real-time information about job progress. Owners can manage detailed information for multiple jobsites in real time — without the need to visit a site. This helps them make smarter, more efficient, and most cost-effective decisions to help improve their bottom lines.*
- **Remote Monitoring** enabled by a cellular connection allows contractors and supervisors to monitor live progress from anywhere at any time using TimberManager.*



- **Precise Progress Tracking** updates production data and logging routes in real time on TimberMatic Maps, so contractors and operators have up-to-the minute status of the jobsite.*
- **Live Production View** displays progress including tree count, area harvested, and estimated tonnage, for simple, efficient planning.
- **Simplified Mapping** accommodates all common map formats and allows owners to easily change map features and share updates without having to visit each machine.
- **Real-Time Updates** allow live production data to be shared among John Deere machines via a wireless mobile network and real-time cloud connection.* This helps owners adjust course or eliminate unnecessary tasks to maintain steady workflow.
- **Fleet Optimization** goes beyond machine management with information and insights to improve efficiency and precision.

*Cellular connectivity is needed to enable TimberMatic Maps and TimberManager software functionality.

TECH WIZARD

Site-planning wizard and enhanced maps help Finnish loggers develop more sustainable forest-management practices

SITE-PLANNING TOOL

Site plans can be created using TimberManager™, a web-based solution for PCs, tablets, or mobile phones, for import into TimberMatic™ Maps. Or they can be created on the fly directly in TimberMatic Maps using the site-planning wizard. The tool provides detailed, step-by-step guidance to help streamline production planning and monitoring.

CONSERVATION AREAS

Mark areas to be protected.

CUT-BLOCK BOUNDARY

Draw a cut-block boundary by adding points on the map and use a scissors tool to cut a hole.

PLACES

Mark difficult places to pay attention to for safety.

LANDING AREAS

Mark areas for storing logs.

TRACK NETWORK

Sketch a suggestion for tracks inside the cut block.

John Deere continues to work on making forestry operations more efficient, productive, and sustainable. Environmental responsibility is key in the development of our forestry machines and solutions, including TimberMatic Maps.

Forests play an important role in slowing climate change by removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and storing it, while providing a source of renewable raw material. Emissions in the wood-processing chain are offset when considering the carbon sequestered over the life of wood-based products that store a substantial amount of carbon. According to a study by the Consortium for Research on Renewable Industrial Materials (CORRIM), wood-based products can also be used as substitutes for materials that require more fossil fuel to produce, like steel and concrete.

Loggers are paying increasing attention to sustainable forest management and eco-friendly practices that support biodiversity. "Contractors have a lot of responsibility in planning, implementing, and reporting the work that goes on at logging sites," explains Niko Solopuro, Product Marketing Manager at John Deere Forestry, Tampere, Pirkanmaa, Finland. "The Deere software and interfaces for sharing information support the smooth execution of these tasks."

The latest version of TimberMatic Maps and TimberManager makes on-site planning and execution fast and efficient. "The site-planning wizard combined with the informative map layers makes it easy to plan the main trails and logging routes to support sustainable and efficient logging," says Solopuro.

Finland is a world leader in airborne light detection and ranging (LiDAR) forest-inventory mapping. Accurate stand information including data on timber assortments and total volumes helps loggers make informed decisions about production planning and forest management. Recently John Deere Forestry introduced refined logger maps for Finland leveraging LiDAR data. These maps help contractors and operators plan the best routes and landing areas. They also help operators estimate production outcomes earlier in the process.

Combining these planning tools with enhanced mapping capability helps Finnish loggers achieve sustainable outcomes. When the forest is known down to the individual tree level, the best-absorbing trees can be left standing, and logging can be done in a way that supports biodiversity and promotes sustainable forest-management practices.

MAIN ROUTE

Draw the suggested main routes between the cut block and landing area.



Learn more at JohnDeere.com/PrecisionForestry





TRAILBLAZERS

Rocky Ridge Trading Company is working on the edge

Article: Kevin Orfield | Photography: Bill Krzyzanowski

On a brisk October morning in a valley in Cameron County, Pennsylvania, Rocky Ridge Trading Company is hard at work, harvesting large timber off of a steep hillside. Fall colors are in full bloom. The natural beauty belies a rugged terrain that isn't easy to log.

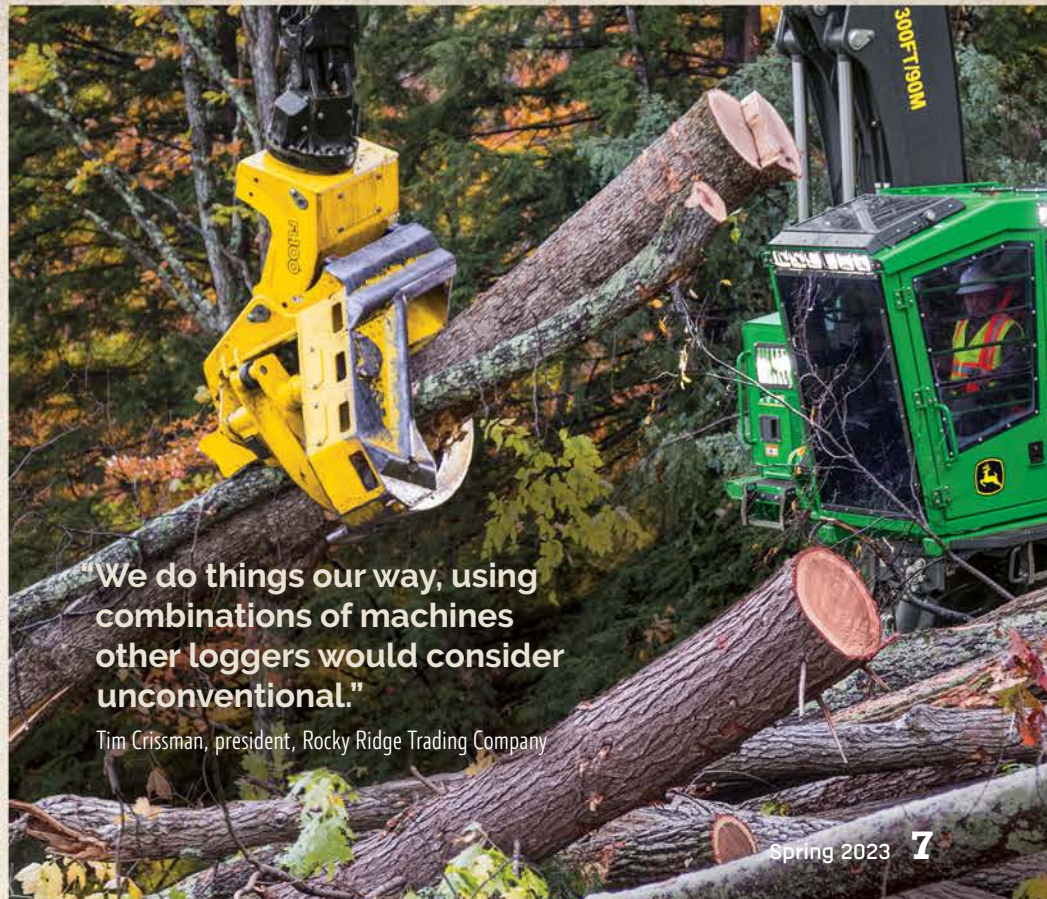
"Most of the timberland we are working right now is on slopes that are greater than 40 percent," says Tim Crissman, president of Rocky Ridge. "Much of this timber hasn't been cut in a long time, so it's very large. We've cut on slopes before but not like this. Winch-assist tethering methods have allowed us to cut on steeper ground than ever before."

Steeped in innovation

Rocky Ridge Trading Company is aptly named. Cameron County lies just west of the center of Pennsylvania in a mountainous region of the Allegheny Plateau. At the logging site, the company is harvesting northern hardwood and red and white oak. Pennsylvania has the country's largest concentration of hardwood, accounting for about 90 percent of sawtimber volume. The state has an overabundance of larger old-growth tree stands, many located in tough terrain.

Successfully extracting large timber from these areas represents a great opportunity. It also demands innovative approaches that combine the best logging machines with the latest technology solutions. Steep-slope logging methods have been used successfully in the Pacific Northwest and New Zealand but have not been used in the Eastern United States until recently.

Rocky Ridge is one of the first companies in Pennsylvania to employ a tethered, winch-assisted traction solution. "We've always been trailblazers," says Crissman. "We do things our way, using combinations of machines other loggers would consider unconventional, like combining cut-to-length with full-tree equipment. But it has worked for us."



"We do things our way, using combinations of machines other loggers would consider unconventional."

Tim Crissman, president, Rocky Ridge Trading Company

Anchoring more productivity

Trees are felled using a John Deere 959ML Shovel Logger with an FL100 Directional Felling Head. "The 959ML is Deere's largest, strongest carrier, so it can handle big, oversized logs with ease," says Crissman. "And Deere's largest felling head, the FL100, has the capacity to cut them."

Winch-assisted traction allows the machine to mechanically cut on steep slopes. The 959ML is tethered to an anchor machine at the top of the hill.

Operator Chris "Topher" Smith controls the winch system from the cab using radio controls, providing the traction he needs while he moves the 959ML up and down the hill. "It's like cutting grass. You cut a swath on the way down, and you cut a swath on the way back up."

After felling the trees, Smith then piles them along a trail, where they will be processed by a John Deere 859MH Tracked Harvester with a Waratah 623C Processing Head. A Deere 1910G Forwarder then gathers the processed logs and delivers them to the landing.

Smith has mastered the art of smoothly controlling the dangling FL100 Felling Head, cutting and positioning logs along the trail with minimal effort. "Everyone tries to work faster to be more productive," he says. "But on this machine, you have to be smooth in order to become fast."

Keys to success in the Keystone State

Rocky Ridge recently began running John Deere TimberMatic™ Maps on the 959ML. This real-time planning and monitoring system shows Smith his precise GPS location in relation to trails and areas of interest such as cut boundaries and sediment-management zones where he shouldn't fell timber. "This helps me lay out a hill face when I'm cutting it," he says. "At the end of the day, it's a huge benefit. Without TimberMatic Maps, my job would be much more difficult."

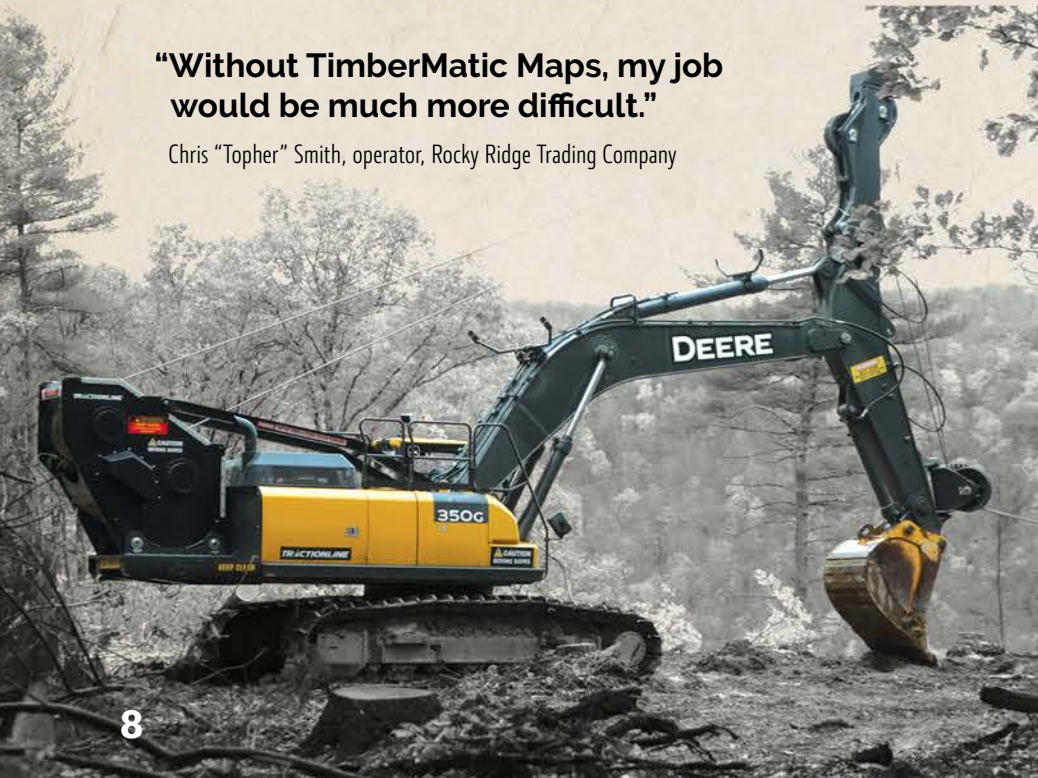
The company is working on further integrating TimberMatic Maps into its operation. A cellular connection will allow the 959ML and 859MH to share real-time production and location information, so the processor can immediately see where piles are located. In combination with TimberManager™, a web-based solution for PCs, tablets, and mobile phones, the system will allow the company to better plan and track production while monitoring live progress.

Technology is an important reason Rocky Ridge uses John Deere equipment. Service is why the company chose Deere in the first place. Like the keystone to an arch, it holds everything



"Without TimberMatic Maps, my job would be much more difficult."

Chris "Topher" Smith, operator, Rocky Ridge Trading Company



else together. "Uptime is critical because it keeps the wood and profits flowing," says Crissman. "Our local dealer, Foster F Wineland, provides exceptional service so everything can keep going."

Service was always important to Gus Crissman. "When my dad ran chain saws, he had a dealer just down the street from where we worked," says Crissman. "If there was a problem with the saw, he'd take it to Elmer's, and Elmer would fix it on the spot."

"We get that same high level of support from Foster F Wineland. They're always paying close attention to what's going on out here and keeping an eye on our equipment. That level of service can't be beat."

Rocky Ridge Trading Company Inc. is serviced by Foster F Wineland, Inc., St. Marys, Pennsylvania.

 To see more of the story, visit JohnDeere.com/TheLanding



"Uptime is critical because it keeps the wood and profits flowing."

Tim Crissman, president, Rocky Ridge Trading Company



THE LEGEND

Tim Crissman's father Gus formed the family company in 1964. Back then it was known as Crissman Lumber Company. "My dad had been in the forest products industry all his life," says Crissman. "He started out with a sawmill and a few logging crews. Growing up, I'd help him with the business. I've done everything from running a headrig that makes the initial cuts in the sawmill to loading drying kilns. But our hearts were always in the woods, so we got back into the logging business."

During the summers when Crissman was in college, he'd run a skidder while his father hand-felled. "He didn't want me to hand-fell at first because it was dangerous," he recalls. "But he taught me everything I know about the woods and logging."

The most important lesson his dad taught him was to "work hard until you make it work." "Failure was not in his vocabulary," says Crissman. "You could always find a solution if you worked hard enough."

Gus acquired the nickname The Legend at a John Deere fly-in a few years ago. "Each night he'd share story after story about how things were done out in the woods in the old days," recalls Crissman. "They were funny stories but had serious messages as well. After a couple nights, everyone started calling him The Legend."

"Business has been good for us for so many years because of my grandfather," adds Chris "Topher" Smith, who is Crissman's nephew. Gus played a huge role not only in the logging community, but in the community as a whole, says Smith: "His favorite expression was, 'No problem.' He was a very down-to-earth person, and his family was so important to him. I work in the woods because of him. I miss him dearly."



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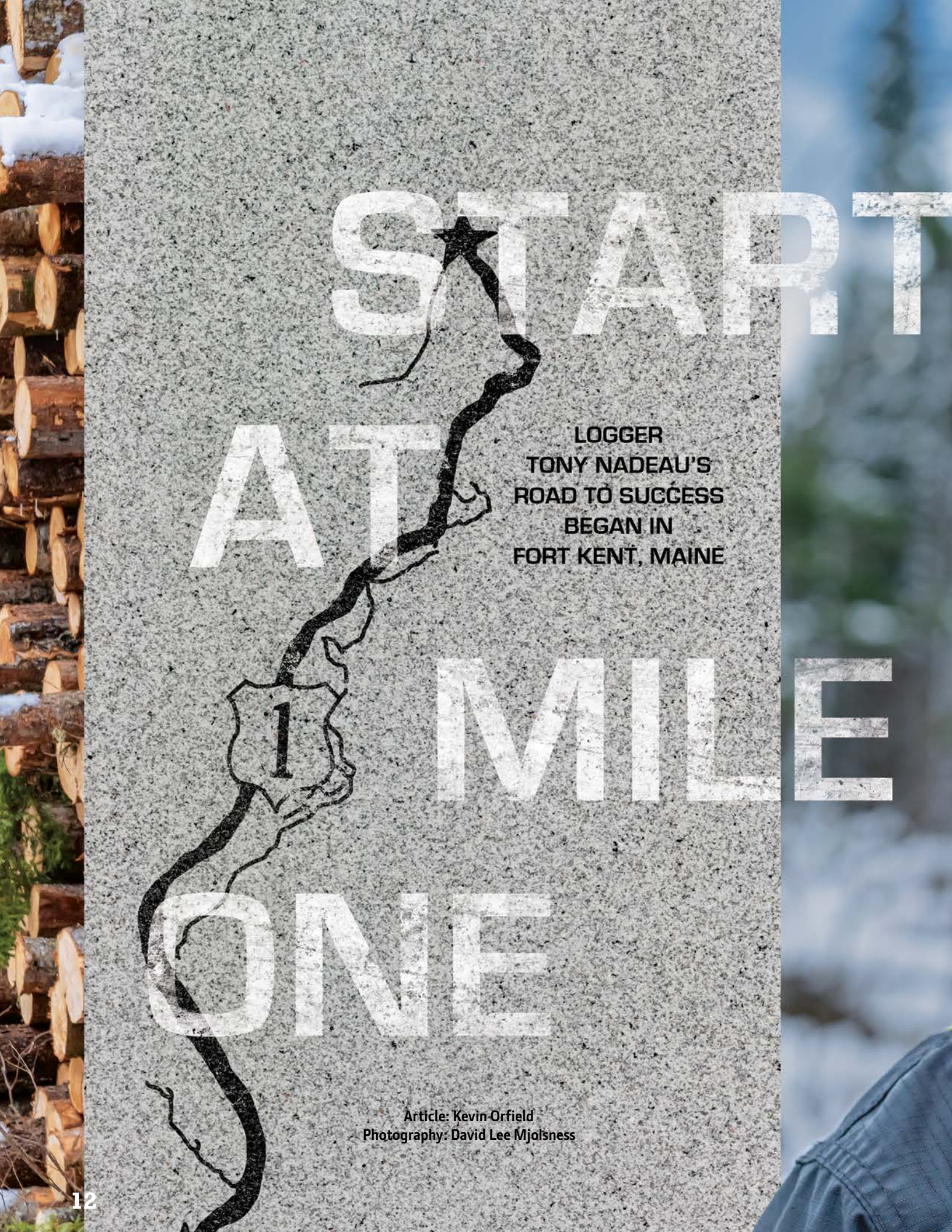
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START AT ONE MILE

LOGGER
TONY NADEAU'S
ROAD TO SUCCESS
BEGAN IN
FORT KENT, MAINE

Article: Kevin Orfield
Photography: David Lee Mjolsness

ING

A granite monument in Fort Kent, Maine, commemorates “America’s First Mile,” the starting point of U.S. Route 1. The highway runs 2,360 miles all the way to Key West, which is the southernmost point of the continental United States. Fort Kent isn’t quite the northernmost point — that distinction belongs to Angle Inlet, Minnesota — but it’s pretty far north, located along the Canadian border in northern Maine.

With a population of just over 4,000, the small town was a great place to grow up, according to Tony Nadeau, owner of TN Nadeau Harvesting. "During the summer I would bike, camp, and ATV," he remembers. "In the winter I'd skate, ski, and snowmobile. Maine has beautiful scenery, wildlife, and woods. It's very quiet and relaxing up here."

TN Nadeau Harvesting is working about a two-hour drive south on U.S. Route 1 near the town of Houlton, not far from the company's local John Deere dealership, United Construction & Forestry. "It's a pure stand of softwood," says Nadeau. "It's beautiful. Really nice."

The company runs a John Deere 853MH Tracked Harvester with a Waratah H425x Harvesting Head. "They're perfect together," says Nadeau. "The combination is productive, reliable, fast, and fuel efficient. It checks all my boxes. It's everything I ever wanted."

Nadeau also depends on the hard work of his two operators, who each work 12-hour shifts. "They are awesome. I'm so proud of them taking this operation to the next level. It's hard to find good operators, so I'm very fortunate."

“

[The John Deere 853MH and Waratah H425x are] perfect together. The combination is productive, reliable, fast, and fuel efficient.

Tony Nadeau, owner,
TN Nadeau Harvesting

”

Mechanically inclined

Nadeau's father was a diesel mechanic who worked on excavators, dozers, and some John Deere forestry machines, including processors and skidders. "When I was young, I'd help him out on weekends, cleaning parts and getting tools for him," he recalls. "I loved seeing the equipment after he fixed it. He taught me a lot. Being a mechanic was something I always wanted to do."



THE PINE TREE STATE

Approximately 90 percent of Maine is forested — the highest percentage of any state. This includes 12 million acres of forestland in the less-populated northern part of Maine where TN Nadeau Harvesting of Fort Kent works. Although hardwood now covers 60 percent of Maine, pine dominates this region.

The Pine Tree State has a long history of logging. Well before becoming a state in 1820, Maine was involved in lumber trade with England. During the 17th century, high-quality white pine was harvested to supply masts for the English navy. The first sawmill in Maine was built in 1635, as the sawing of white pine became one of the state's first industries. Today the white pine tree is Maine's official tree, and a pine tree even appears in the middle of the state flag.

Sources: maine.gov, mainetree.org, woodsplitterdirect.com, and Wikipedia.org.





At the age of 22, Nadeau began running a feller buncher for a logging contractor. "I've been in the woods ever since," he says. Nadeau spent more time out of the machine fixing things than in it, so the company made him a full-time mechanic.

"I did that for about 15 years," he says. "I had my own service truck and a lot of experience turning wrenches and repairing equipment out in the field, so I thought, 'I'm going to have a go at this myself.'" So in 2015, Nadeau started working on his own.

Around the clock

Today TN Nadeau Harvesting works for Irving Woodlands, a Canadian company

that manages over 3.2 million acres of forestland, including extensive holdings in Maine. "They manage over a million acres in Maine, so they're a big company up here," says Nadeau.

With a firm commitment to sustainability, Irving Woodlands plans 80 years ahead to ensure healthy forests, biodiversity, and bodies of water on the land it owns or manages. This generational commitment includes growing more wood than it harvests. Since 1957, the company has planted over one billion trees. In 2022, across New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Maine, the company planted 19 million trees.

Irving Woodlands prides itself on innovation, investing in the latest best practices for sustainable forest management. To harvest wood, the company contracts with numerous independent contractors like TN Nadeau Harvesting that run the latest machines and technology.

To keep up with demand, TN Nadeau Harvesting runs its 853MH 24 hours a day, five days a week. "It just runs, all day, every day. The machine is durable and easy to service. I've been a mechanic most of my life, and it is awesome to work on. Everything is very accessible."

The H425x Harvesting Head is perfect for softwood and mixed-stand harvesting. "It's phenomenal," says Nadeau. "It's fast and durable. At the end of a 12-hour shift, you want to see a productive outcome, and this head really delivers."

United Construction & Forestry helps keep the 853MH going. "When we are working around the clock, we can't afford to have downtime," says Nadeau. "It's a huge expense. The parts support and service we receive from our local dealer are critical. If we have an issue, we're usually never down for very long."

Using JDLink™, both TN Nadeau Harvesting and the dealer can monitor the machine. Nadeau receives immediate alerts about machine issues on his phone. Remote diagnostics and programming enable United Construction & Forestry to minimize the time and cost associated with sending out a technician.

"I can call a service technician with the code, and often they can walk me through the steps of repair on the phone," says Nadeau. "They can also remotely diagnose the machine. If a part is needed, I know they'll send someone out with the right one the first time."

JDLink sends Nadeau reminders about periodic scheduled maintenance. It also allows him to track machine location, utilization, idle time, and fuel consumption on his phone. "It helps me to see if everything is running efficiently," he says. "Fuel cost is another big expense, so seeing that alone is worth a lot."

Nadeau switched from his old Waratah 622B Harvesting Head to the new H425x, while using the same carrier. "The fuel efficiency from this setup is amazing," he says.

The forestry market is looking good in Maine, but Nadeau doesn't have plans to expand. "It's booming right now, but I'd like to keep my operation to one machine only," he says. "Operators are hard to come by, so we've been making it work. We have a machine and operators we can depend on. It's been great."

TN Nadeau Harvesting Inc. is serviced by United Construction & Forestry, Houlton, Maine.



To see more of the story, visit [JohnDeere.com/TheLanding](https://www.johndeere.com/TheLanding)



“

The parts support and service we receive from our local dealer are critical. If we have an issue, we're usually never down for very long.

Tony Nadeau, owner,
TN Nadeau Harvesting

”

DOWN TIME

HAPPY TRAILS

WHEN HE'S NOT OVERSEEING ROCKY RIDGE TRADING COMPANY'S STEEP-SLOPE LOGGING OPERATION, TIM CRISSMAN AND HIS WIFE NANCY LOVE EXPLORING THE GREAT OUTDOORS.

(SEE "TRAILBLAZERS" STORY ON PAGE 6)



"We're adventurers," says Crissman. "Our dog's name is Journey. People ask if that is after the band or our life's journey. I'd say half and half (laughs). We just love the outdoors and doing so many things together. We do a lot of camping, kayaking, and mountain biking together."

Crissman can't seem to stay away from steep inclines. Both he and Nancy are avid trail runners, a sport which involves running on steep, non-paved surfaces. His wife competes in duathlon events, which include running and cycling. Crissman competes in triathlons, which add swimming. He's competed in a few Ironman competitions, which consist of a 2.4-mile swim, a 112-mile bicycle ride, and a 26.2-mile marathon run, for a total of 140.6 miles.

Crissman and his wife also take biking to another level. The two enjoy gravel riding, which means distance cycling over uneven ground, rocky terrain, and unsurfaced dirt, gravel, and forest roads.

Recently the couple traveled to Montana, visiting Custer Gallatin National Forest and Glacier National Park. But most of their traveling is short weekend trips in Pennsylvania and New York. "There's so much beauty right where we live," says Crissman. "We have everything we need within a short drive."



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¹ John Deere Protect™ Service Plans are available for eligible models of forestry equipment at participating John Deere dealers in the United States.

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