

Ben D. Spong
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Agriculture & Natural Resources
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Education

Ph D, Oregon State University, 2007.

Major: Forest Engineering

Dissertation Title: A Decision Framework for the Implementation of Appropriate Logging Practices in Developing Countries: Case Study -- Ethiopia

Master of Forestry, Oregon State University, 2001.

Major: Forest Engineering

Dissertation Title: SkidPC 2000: a mobility, production, and rut depth simulation program

BSc, University of Washington, 1994.

Major: Forest Resources

Professional Positions

Academic - Post-Secondary

Associate Professor Extension Specialist, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV, USA. (May 15, 2012 - Present).

Assistant Professor Extension Specialist, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV, USA. (June 1, 2006 - May 15, 2012).

Graduate Research Assistant, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR, USA. (September 1, 1998 - June 1, 2005).

Government

Natural Resource Specialist, Oregon Department of Forestry, Lyons, OR, USA. (June 1, 1996 - September 1, 1998).

Professional Memberships

Council on Forest Engineering. (January 1, 2016 - Present).

Society of American Foresters. (January 1, 2016 - Present).

WV Forestry Association. (January 1, 2016 - Present).

Development Activities Attended

Conference Attendance, "Council of Forest Engineering Annual Meeting," Virginia Tech, Williamsburg, VA, USA. (July 15, 2018 - July 18, 2018).

Online Course, "Team Safe Trucking Trainer," TEAM Safe Trucking, Glenelg, MD, United States. (June 20, 2018).

Conference Attendance, "AB Brooks Forestry Symposium," WV Forestry Association, Charleston, WV, USA. (February 19, 2018 - February 20, 2018).

Online Course, "First Aid/CPR/AED Recertification Assessment," American Red Cross. (January 22, 2018).

Conference Attendance, "Council of Forest Engineering Annual Meeting," University of Maine, Bangor, ME, USA. (July 30, 2017 - August 2, 2017).

Conference Attendance, "AB Brooks Forestry Symposium," WV Forestry Association, Charleston, WV, USA. (February 9, 2016 - February 10, 2016).

TEACHING

Teaching Experience

West Virginia University

WDSC 422, Harvesting Forest Products, 9 courses.

WDSC 423, Forest Roads, 1 course.

Non-Credit Instruction

Camp Presentation, WV Forest Industries Camp, 30 participants. (July 23, 2018).

Workshop, WV State Conservation Camp, 90 participants. (June 11, 2018 - June 15, 2018).

Guest Lecture, West Virginia University, 35 participants. (May 14, 2018).

Scheduled Teaching (instruction team member), West Virginia University, 30 participants. (May 11, 2018 - May 12, 2018).

Guest Lecture, Stellenbosch University, 10 participants. (April 26, 2018 - April 30, 2018).

Guest Lecture, 30 participants. (April 2, 2018).

Camp Presentation, WV Forest Industries Camp, 30 participants. (July 17, 2017).

Guest Lecture, Stellenbosch University, 10 participants. (April 18, 2017 - April 25, 2017).

Guest Lecture, Stellenbosch University, 10 participants. (September 28, 2016).

Workshop, WVU Extension, 30 participants. (May 10, 2016 - July 1, 2016).

Workshop, WV State Conservation Camp, 70 participants. (June 13, 2016 - June 17, 2016).

Guest Lecture, 40 participants. (May 18, 2016).

Directed Student Learning

Master's Thesis Committee Member, Forestry and Natural Resources. (December 3, 2018 - Present).

Advised: George Nolan

Master's Thesis Committee Member, "A Qualitative Study of Family Forest Owners' Experiences

With Timber Transactions," Forestry - Forest Management. (August 1, 2015 - June 30, 2017).
Advised: Adam Maltempie

Dissertation Committee Member, "Carbon Dioxide Capture using Amine Functionalized Carbonaceous Materials from Bio-refinery Waste Streams," Forestry - Wood Science. (January 1, 2016 - April 6, 2017).
Advised: Emmanuel Atta Obeng

Master's Thesis Committee Member, Forestry. (August 1, 2013 - June 30, 2016).
Advised: Christian Zinkham

Teaching Interest(s)

RESEARCH

Published Intellectual Contributions

Conference Proceedings

Spong, B. D., Magill, D. J., Grushecky, S. T. (2013). *Contractor equipment selection for mountainous logging operations in West Virginia*. Honne: International Conference on Forest Operations in Mountainous Conditions.

Fulton, J. B., Petty, J. T., Grushecky, S. T., Harouff, S. E., Hartman, K. J., McGill, D. W., Spong, B. D. (2013). *Timber harvesting and residential development in a mountainous Appalachian watershed: interactive impacts on suspended sediment concentrations*. Honne: International Conference on Forest Operations in Mountainous Conditions.

Spong, B. D., Grushecky, S. T. (2008). *Mulch Alternatives for Skid Roads*. Charleston, SC: 31st Annual Meeting of the Council on Forest Engineering.

Journal Articles

Bragonje, R., Spong, B. D., Mcneel, J. F. (2018). 2018 West Virginia Forest Products Industry Directory. *ahc.wvu.edu*.

Spong, B. D., Bragonje, R., Mcneel, J. F. (2017). WV Wood byproducts available and needed 2017. *WVU Appalachian Hardwood Center*, 1-33.

Bragonje, R., Grushecky, S. T., Spong, B. D. (2015). The 2015 West Virginia Forest Products Industry Directory. *ahc.wvu.edu*.

Spong, B. D., Grushecky, S. T., Bragonje, R., Magill, D. J. (2015). WV Wood byproducts available and needed.

Bragonje, R., Borrer, M., Grushecky, S. T., Spong, B. D. (2014). The 2014 West Virginia Forest Products Industry Directory. *ahc.wvu.edu*.

Spong, B. D., Grushecky, S. T., Bragonje, R., Magill, D. J. (2014). WV Wood byproducts available and needed. *ahc.wvu.edu*.

Spong, B. D., Grushecky, S. T., Bragonje, R., Magill, D. J. (2014). WV Wood byproducts available and needed. *ahc.wvu.edu*.

Bragonje, R., Borrer, M., Grushecky, S. T., Spong, B. D. (2013). The 2013 West Virginia Forest Products Industry Directory. *ahc.wvu.edu*.

Spong, B. D., Grushecky, S. T., Bragonje, R., Magill, D. J. (2013). WV Wood byproducts available and needed.

Vanderberg, M., Spong, B. D., Grushecky, S. T. (2012). Biomass residues from WV Timber Harvesting Operations. *WVU Appalachian Hardwood Center Information Sheet*.

Spong, B. D., Grushecky, S. T., Bragonje, R., Magill, D. J. (2012). WV Wood byproducts available and needed. *AHC*.

Other

Spong, B. D. (2018). *WV Logging Operation Notification, Inspection, and Enforcement (LONIE) System*. Charleston, WV: WV Division of Forestry. <http://wvlonie.com>

Spong, B. D. (2018). *Timber Market Report and AHC Website*. <http://ahc.wvu.edu>

McGill, J., Spong, B. D. (2018). *West Virginia Silvicultural BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES for Controlling Soil Erosion and Sedimentation from Logging Operations* (2018th ed.). Charleston, WV: WV Division of Forestry. <http://wvforestry.com>

Spong, B. D. (2018). *West Virginia Development Office Request 2*.

Spong, B. D. (2018). What's Stumpage? *WVU Extension Service ANR Research Notes*. Morgantown, WV: WVU Extension Service ANR Research Notes.

Spong, B. D. (2018). *West Virginia Development Office Request*.

Spong, B. D., Ackerman, S., Ackerman, P., Terblanche, M. (2018). *Forest Operations Productivity Initiative*. <http://forestproductivity.co.za>

Spong, B. D. (2017). *WV Logging Operation Notification, Inspection, and Enforcement (LONIE) System*. Charleston, WV: <http://wvlonie.com>

Spong, B. D. (2017). *Timber Market Report and AHC Website*. <http://ahc.wvu.edu>

Spong, B. D. (2017). *Pocahontas County Based J&L Trucking Named 2017 WV Outstanding Logger* (vol. Fall 2017, pp. 20-21). Ripley, WV: WVFA Mountain State Forestry.

Harris, R. E., Spong, B. D., McGill, D. W. (2016). *Processing High Quality Firewood*. WV: WV Farm Bureau News.

Miller, G. W., Schuler, T., Gottshalk, K., Brooks, J. R., Grushecky, S. T., Spong, B. D., Rentch, J. S. (2012). *Proceedings, 18th Central Hardwood Forest Conference. 2012 March 26-28*. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Northern Research Station.

Spong, B. D., Grushecky, S. T., Bragonje, R. (2011). *West Virginia Wood By-Products Available and Needed*. Appalachian Hardwood Center.

Spong, B. D., Grushecky, S. T., Bragonje, R. (2010). *West Virginia Wood By-Products Available and Needed*. Appalachian Hardwood Center.

Spong, B. D., Grushecky, S. T., Bragonje, R. (2009). *West Virginia Wood By-Products Available and Needed, July*. Appalachian Hardwood Center.

Spong, B. D., Grushecky, S. T., Bragonje, R. (2008). *West Virginia Wood By-Products Available and Needed*. Appalachian Hardwood Center.

Bragonje, R., Grushecky, S. T., Osborn, L. E., Spong, B. D., Mcneel, J. F. (2007). *West Virginia Wood By-Products Available and Needed*. Appalachian Hardwood Center.

Bragonje, R., Grushecky, S. T., Osborn, L. E., Spong, B. D., Mcneel, J. F. (2006). *West Virginia Wood By-Products Available and Needed*. Appalachian Hardwood Center.

Bragonje, R., Grushecky, S. T., Osborn, L. E., Spong, B. D., Mcneel, J. F. (2005). *West Virginia Wood By-Products Available and Needed*. Appalachian Hardwood Center.

Refereed Journal Articles

Norihiro, J., Ackerman, P., Spong, B. D. (2018). Productivity model for cut-to-length harvester operation in South African Eucalyptus pulpwood plantations. *Croatian Journal Of Forest Engineering*, 39(1), 1-13. <http://www.crojfe.com/>

Presentations Given

Spong, B. (Presenter), WV Economic Development Council Conference, WV Economic Development Council, Canaan Valley, WV, USA. (September 24, 2018).

Spong, B. (Author & Presenter), Ackerman, P. (Author), Ackerman, S. (Author), Council on Forest Engineering Annual Meeting, "South African National Forest Operations Productivity Project," Council on Forest Engineering, Williamsburg, VA. (July 16, 2018).

Spong, B. (Author & Presenter), WV Forestry Association Annual Meeting, "Logging with LONIEWV DOF's Logging Operation Notification, Inspection and Enforcement System," WV Forestry Association, Canaan Valley, WV. (July 12, 2018).

Spong, B. D., 6th FORESTRY INDUSTRY TRAINING INDABA, "Updating the South Africa Forest Operations Inventory: Prevailing Equipment and Techniques for Harvesting and Silvicultural Operations," South African Forestry Contractors Association and Forestry Industry Training Providers Association, Piet Retief, South Africa. (November 3, 2016).

Grushecky, S. T., Fulton, J. B., Petty, J. T., Harouff, S. E., Hartman, K. J., McGill, D. W., Spong, B. D., IUFRO 3.06 Forest Operations In Mountainous Conditions, "Timber harvesting and residential development in a mountainous Appalachian watershed: interactive impacts on suspended sediment concentrations," Bergen, Norway. (February 5, 2013).

Grushecky, S. T., Spong, B. D., Weidenbeck, J., 17th Central Hardwood Forest Conference, "Roundwood markets and utilization in West Virginia and Ohio," Lexington, KY, USA. (April 5, 2010).

Grushecky, S. T., Weidenbeck, J., Spong, B. D., IUFRO 3.08 Small-scale forestry symposium, "A summary of roundwood utilization in West Virginia in 2008," Morgantown, WV, USA. (June 7, 2009).

Spong, B. D., Grushecky, S. T., Council on Forest Engineering 31st Annual Meeting, "Mulch Alternatives for Skid Road Reclamation," Carlestown, SC, USA. (June 2008).

Grushecky, S. T., Wang, J., Spong, B. D., Forest Products Society Smallwood 2008, "Supplying new markets with forest products from West Virginia," Madison, WI, USA. (May 13, 2008).

Grushecky, S. T., Spong, B. D., Harouff, S. E., 16th Central Hardwoods Forest Conference, "West Virginia Forest Industry Transportation Analysis Using GIS," West Lafayette, IN, USA. (April 8, 2008).

Contracts, Grants and Sponsored Research

Contract

Spong, B. D. (PI), "Managed Timberlands Database Update," Sponsored by WV DoC-Division of Forestry, State, \$13,600.00. (July 1, 2014 - January 15, 2015).

Spong, B. D., "Timber Safe Project," Sponsored by NIOSH, West Virginia University, \$183,000.00. (October 1, 2017 - December 31, 2021).

Grant

McGill, D. (COI), "Friends of Firewood, Extending Safe, Clean, and Efficient Processing Methods to Firewood Producers Across West Virginia," Sponsored by WV DoC-Division of Forestry, State. (July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015).

Research in Progress

"Van High School NR Curriculum Context" (On-Going). (October 25, 2018 - Present).
Van High School Natural Resources Proposal; At an agreed upon date in December, Drs. Spong and Owen will lead a brief faculty meeting to launch a school wide, cross curriculum, natural resources based theme planned for January or February 2019.

As a step to move towards implementation of the P20 project and other connections between Van High School and West Virginia University. Drs. Spong and Owen, representing the WVU Davis College of Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Design and the WVU Extension Service will deliver a charge to the Van faculty to kickstart natural resources education integration into the core curriculum.

Van, located in rural Boone County, West Virginia is surrounded by forests, streams, wildlife, and a wide range of other natural resources. While the students, faculty, and the Van community all interface with this environment every day, many take these direct interactions with their natural resources for granted.

In order to highlight these natural resources and the opportunities for appreciating, experiencing, and working with these resources, we propose that Van High selects natural resource based thematic areas to be integrated into every course at the school.

"Logging Operations Notification, Inspection, and Enforcement Update" (Planning). (March 1, 2018 - December 31, 2019).

The WV Division of Forestry (WVDOP) and the WVU Appalachian Hardwood Center (AHC) have previously developed the WV Logging Operation Notification, Inspection, and Enforcement System (LONIE). LONIE is an online application designed to facilitate data entry, improve the allocation of limited personnel resources, facilitate the timeliness and accuracy of reporting activities, and provide real time spatial data detailing harvesting activities occurring in the state. This project's primary goals are to update LONIE through the addition of new features, specifically to allow system access for timber owner users to manage their notifications and extend and improve the included mapping tools.

With LONIE fully integrated into the WVDOP's operations, maintenance and enhancements to the system are necessary to improve usability, incorporate additional features, and to ensure the use of current security and programming best practices and protocols.

Research Interest(s)

SERVICE

University Service

Committee Member, Extension Central Promotion and Tenure Committee. (September 15, 2017 - Present).

Committee Member, Farm Bureau Update Committee. (June 1, 2013 - Present).

Professional Service

Advisor, West Virginia Forestry Association, Ripley, WV. (September 1, 2017 - Present).

Council on Forest Engineering, Morgantown, West Virginia. (July 1, 2014 - Present).

Committee Member, West Virginia Forestry Association Safety Committee, Ripley, WV. (September 1, 2010 - Present).

Chairperson, West Virginia State Conservation Camp, Upperglade, WV. (October 20, 2009 - Present).

Reviewer, Journal Article, Journal of Agromedicine. (November 19, 2018).

Committee Member, WV Division of Forestry, Charleston, WV. (July 23, 2018 - August 15, 2018).

Field Review Committee, West Virginia Forestry Association, Charleston, WV. (March 20, 2018 - July 13, 2018).

Reviewer, Journal Article, Croatian Journal of Forest Engineering, Zagreb. (December 14, 2017).

Reviewer, Journal Article, Forests, Basel. (October 4, 2017).

External Reviewer for P&T, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID. (August 25, 2017 - August 28, 2017).

Reviewer, Journal Article, Forests, Basel. (June 7, 2017).

Public Service

Advisor, WV Loggers Council, Ripley, WV. (July 10, 2015 - Present).