

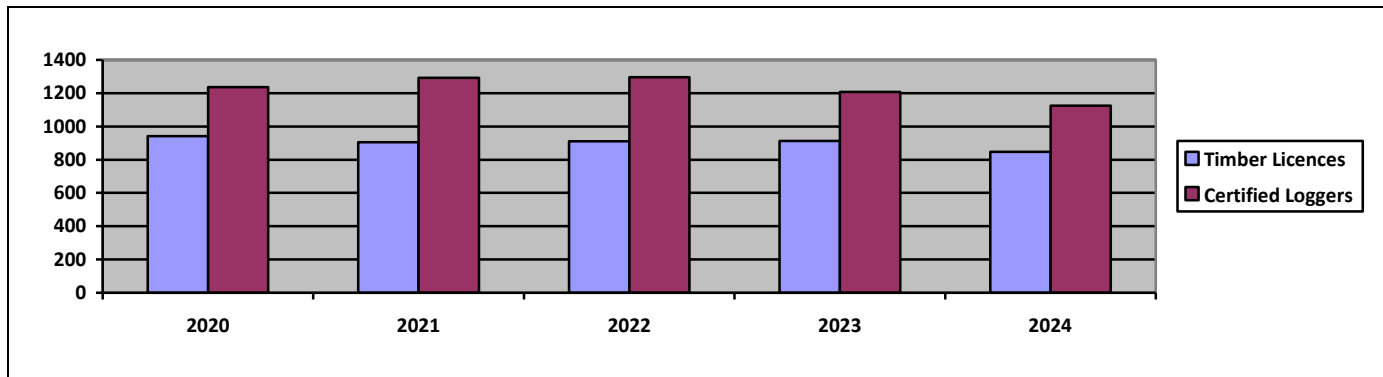
## 2024 Logging Sediment Control Act Annual Report

### West Virginia Division of Forestry

The following accomplishments reflect the Division of Forestry's effort to operate more efficiently in carrying out the mandates of the Logging Sediment Control Act, the WV Flood Protection Plan and also meet the goals and actions listed in the West Virginia Forest Resources and Strategies Plan as well as the FMRC Strategic Plan.

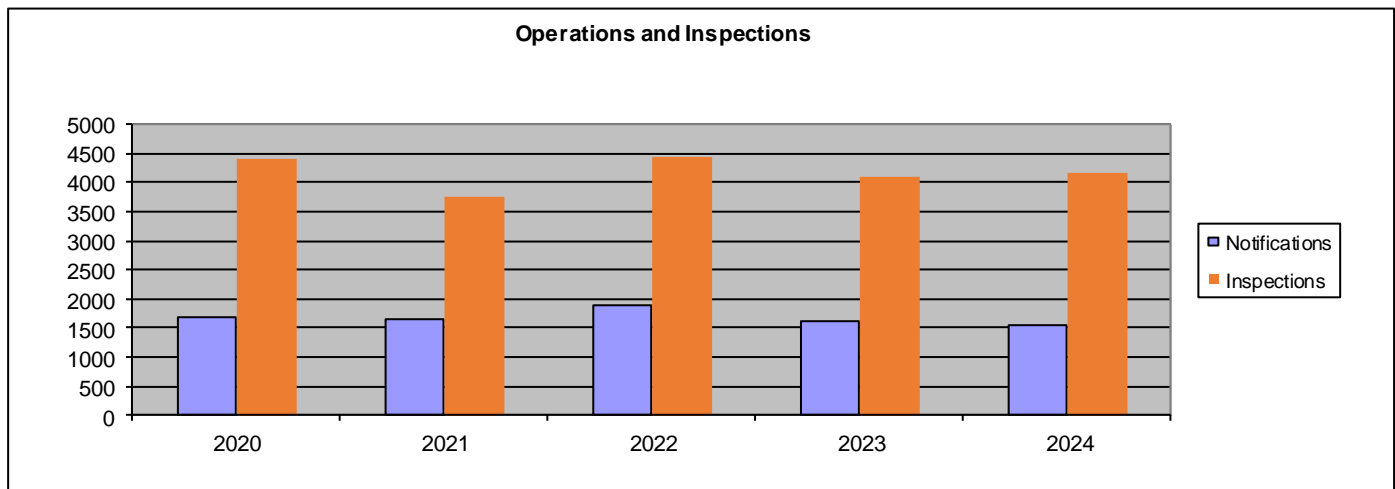
#### Licensing

- 847 operators were licensed by the WV Division of Forestry (WVD OF) to perform timbering operations, buy standing timber or buy logs for resale.
- 1125 professional loggers were issued certified logger certificates to supervise logging operations and assure that Best Management Practices were applied, chain-saw safety was stressed, and first aid/CPR was available in case of an accident.



#### Logging Operations/Inspections

- 1,554 Timber Operation Notifications were filed by timber operators.
- 4,171 site inspections were performed by the WVD OF.



#### Training

- 55 workshops were held, and 513 individuals were trained or retrained in Best Management Practices, the LSCA and chainsaw safety and tree felling.
- The passage of Senate Bill 404 in the 2019 general session and the subsequent rules package passed in 2020

has dramatically changed the way our recertification training works. Loggers now have the option to attend 3<sup>rd</sup> party trainings that have been approved by the WV Division of Forestry for credits. Operators must have 6 credits per year, 2 of which must be WV Laws and BMP review. Online Training is now available for recertifications. Initial Certification must still attend in person trainings.

•Current Training topics that are considered for approval:

- Awareness of sustainable forestry principles.
- Best management practices, including streamside management and road construction, maintenance and retirement;
- Reforestation, invasive exotic plants and animals, forest resource conservation, aesthetics and special sites;
- Awareness of responsibilities under the U.S. Endangered Species Act and other measures to protect wildlife habitat (e.g., Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value); awareness of rare forested natural communities as identified by provincial or state agencies, or by credible organizations such as NatureServe and The Nature Conservancy;
- Logging safety;
- U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations, wage and hour rules, and other provincial, state and local employment laws;
- Transportation issues;
- Business management;
- Public policy and outreach;
- Awareness of emerging technologies.

### **Logging Enforcement**

•185 Compliance Orders, 63 Suspension Orders and 13 citations were issued to individuals/companies for violations of the LSCA and Best Management Practices.

