

Marc Brinkmeyer

Marc Brinkmeyer is the owner and chairman of the board of Idaho Forest Group (IFG), one of America's largest lumber producers. Across Idaho and Montana, IFG owns six sawmills and a finger-joint facility, with capacity for over one billion board feet per year. Brinkmeyer is an accomplished business leader, a champion of education and innovation, and a longtime philanthropist.

Born and raised in Iowa, Brinkmeyer graduated from Buena Vista University with a bachelor's degree in finance in 1968. He began his career in Portland, Oregon, as a certified public accountant with Arthur Anderson and Company, before becoming Chief Financial Officer and a member of the board of directors for the Brand S Corporation forest products company.

In 1981 Brinkmeyer purchased the Laclede sawmill from Brand-S and formed Riley Creek Lumber Co. In 2003, Riley Creek purchased two additional mills from Louisiana-Pacific Corp. in Chilco and Moyie Springs, becoming the largest lumber producer in the Intermountain West. In 2008 Riley Creek Lumber merged with Bennett Forest Industries to form Idaho Forest Group.

Based in Coeur d'Alene, IFG grows, harvests, manufactures, and distributes lumber and other wood by-products to customers in the United States and abroad. The company emphasizes a talented workforce of more than 1,000 employees and 2,000 partner contractors. IFG's mission is to "enhance the lives and livelihoods of our employees, customers, and partners and the communities in which we operate by providing the earth's best renewable building products."

Brinkmeyer has decades of involvement in industry organizations. He is a former chair and current member of the Executive Committee of the Softwood Lumber Association, a past chairman of the Western Wood Products Association, and the former president of the Intermountain Forest Industry Association. He has been a member of the Lakes Commission, a member of the Negotiating Committee for the Coalition for Fair Trade Lumber Imports, and a U.S. delegate to the European Softwood Conferences.

Brinkmeyer's commitment to education includes service on U of I forestry's advisory council and as a director at Buena Vista University. He contributes generously to U of I academic programs and initiatives, recently supporting a lecture series in the College of Natural Resources. His community and cultural leadership includes sponsorship of the Festival at Sandpoint and the Idaho Humanities Council lecture series. He and his wife, Vicki, live in northern Idaho. He has two sons.