

## **Timberland Bank Corp Reports Profit, Remains Cautiously Optimistic**

### **Local News**

Posted by: David Haviland

Posted on : July 28, 2009 at 5:30 pm

HOQUIAM, Wash. -- 07/28/09 -- Timberland Bancorp, Inc. (NASDAQ: TSBK) ("Timberland" or "the Company") today reported fiscal third quarter profits of \$1.06 million. Third quarter income available to common shareholders after being adjusted for preferred stock dividends of \$210,000 and preferred stock discount accretion of \$79,000 was \$769,000, or \$0.12 per diluted common share. This compares to a net loss of \$546,000, or (\$0.08) per diluted common share, for the quarter ended June 30, 2008 and a net loss of \$1.60 million, or (\$0.24) per diluted common share, for the quarter ended March 31, 2009.

For the first nine months of fiscal 2009, the Company reported net income of \$27,000. However, income available to common shareholders after adjusting for the preferred stock dividend and the preferred stock discount accretion was a loss of \$489,000, or (\$0.07) per diluted common share. This compares to net income of \$2.66 million or \$0.40 per diluted common share for the first nine months of fiscal 2008 when no preferred dividends were due. Fiscal Third Quarter 2009 Highlights: (quarter ended June 30, 2009 compared to the quarter ended June 30, 2008) -- Capital levels remain exceptionally strong: Tier 1 Capital Ratio at 12.30%; Total Risk Based Capital at 16.19% -- Revenues (excluding OTTI charges and the June 2008 loss on securities) increased 7% to \$9.0 million from \$8.4 million -- Non-interest income (excluding OTTI charges and the June 2008 loss on securities) increased 45% to \$2.8 million -- Construction and land development loans decreased 30% year over year and 12% from the prior fiscal quarter -- Tangible book value per common share was \$9.36 at quarter end -- Full service branch in Chehalis opened in May 2009 "The economic recession has significantly impacted the Pacific Northwest," said Michael R. Sand, President and CEO. "There are numerous opinions regarding the duration of this recession however, according to the July 13th Current Economic Indicators Letter produced by the Puget Sound Economic Forecaster, the Northwest may be seeing early signs of recovery." The newsletter states: "…we may be witnessing the first signs of the regional economic recovery. Over the three-month period ending in May, closed home sales increased at a 28.9 percent annual rate, while residential building permits rose at a 48.9 percent rate. Home prices fell at a 19.9 percent rate between February and May but increased at a 15.3 percent rate between March and May. More specifically, the average house price, after dropping from \$368,600 in February to \$341,500 in March, rose to \$350,200 in May. It is too early to conclude that the housing market has found its way back, especially considering the extremely low volume of home sales and housing permits at the present time, but these are the kind of numbers that one would expect to see around the turning point." "Possibly the authors of the above quote, the economists Conway and Pedersen, are correct in their analysis. We remain cautiously optimistic that our region will begin to climb out of one of the worst economic recessions this country has experienced," Sand continued. "The upturn in home sales is reducing the housing supply and low mortgage rates are contributing to better affordability. With that said, we continue to see stress in our loan portfolio, primarily in the construction and land related segments. We are well positioned from a capital and a potential earnings perspective to succeed during this downturn. Timberland retains excellent liquidity, substantial capital and a diversified deposit base not dependent on brokered deposits." Capital Ratios and Asset Quality Timberland

Bancorp remains very well capitalized with a total risk-based capital ratio of 16.19% and a Tier 1 capital ratio of 12.30% at June 30, 2009. The non-performing assets ("NPAs") to total assets ratio was 4.94% at June 30, 2009 compared to 3.32% at March 31, 2009. During the quarter ended March 31, 2009 net charge-offs were \$609,000 compared to \$1.17 million during the quarter ended March 31, 2009. The allowance for loan losses totaled \$12.4 million at June 30, 2009, or 2.23% of total loans compared to \$12.0 million, or 2.13% of loans receivable at March 31, 2009 and \$7.1 million, or 1.26% of loans receivable one year ago. Non-performing loans ("NPLs") increased to \$25.1 million at June 30, 2009 and were comprised of 46 loans and 38 credit relationships. Included in the NPLs are:

- 5 - Land development loans totaling \$5.88 million of which the largest has a balance of \$2.12 million
- 2 - Condominium construction loans totaling \$5.68 million of which the largest has a balance of \$4.29 million
- 8 - Commercial real estate loans totaling \$5.50 million of which the largest has a balance of \$1.65 million
- 13 - Land loans totaling \$3.38 million of which the largest has a balance of \$986,000
- 7 - One-to-four family home loans totaling \$2.32 million of which the largest loan has a balance of \$995,000
- 7 - One-to-four family spec construction loans totaling \$2.17 million of which the largest loan has a balance of \$546,000
- 2 - Second mortgage loans secured by liens on one-to-four family homes totaling \$92,000 of which the largest loan has a balance of \$62,000
- 1 - Commercial business loan with a balance of \$78,000 secured by a lien on three condominium units
- 1 - Equipment loan with a balance of \$15,000

Since June 30, 2009 one land loan with a balance of \$81,000 was brought current and one condominium construction loan with a balance of \$1.39 million became other real estate owned ("OREO"). The OREO total at June 30, 2009 was \$7.70 million. The balance was comprised of 27 individual properties representing 11 relationships. Eight of the properties have accepted earnest money agreements on them which, if closed, will result in a \$1.73 million reduction in the OREO balance. The largest OREO property has a balance of \$2.26 million and consists of a 78 lot plat located in Richland, Washington. The Richland/Kennewick/Pasco market is currently one of Washington State's better performing economic areas. Timberland continues to actively manage the disposition of OREO properties and has seen increased buyer interest in OREO properties. Net charge-offs totaled \$609,000 for the quarter ended June 30, 2009 and included the following:

- \$340,000 on one land development loan
- \$215,000 on eight speculative construction loans
- \$39,000 on two single family home loans
- \$11,000 on a consumer auto loan
- \$4,000 on six land loans

Balance Sheet Management Total assets decreased 2% during the quarter to \$675.7 million at June 30, 2009 from \$693.0 million at March 31, 2009. The \$17.3 million decrease in total assets is primarily a result of a \$12.9 million decrease in cash equivalents and an \$8.6 million decrease in net loans receivable. During the quarter the Company used a portion of its excess liquidity to repay \$26.0 million in brokered certificates of deposit. The Company continues to maintain a high level of liquidity, both on balance sheet and through off-balance sheet access to funds. Liquidity as measured by cash equivalents and available for sale investments securities to liabilities increased to 9.9% at June 30, 2009, from 7.2% one year ago. "We continue to work to improve the mix of loans in our portfolio, specifically by reducing our exposure to construction and land development loans, which have decreased more than \$60 million year over year," said Dean Brydon, Chief Financial Officer. Although loan originations totaled \$94.8 million during the current quarter, net loans receivable decreased 2% to \$545.8 million at June 30, 2009, from \$554.4 million at March 31, 2009. During the current quarter the one-to-four family speculative construction portfolio decreased by 21% and the land development portfolio decreased by 14%. "Combined, we have reduced our exposure to construction and land development loans by 30% from a year ago," Brydon added.

LOAN PORTFOLIO (\$ in thousands)		June 30, 2009		March 31, 2009		June 30, 2008		Amount	Percent	Amount
Percent	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent	Amount			
Mortgage Loans:										
One-to-four family	\$110,338	19%	\$120,519	20%	\$105,791	17%	Multi-family			
25,702	4	22,472	4	37,465	6	Commercial	178,941	30	164,778	27

140,785	23	Construction and land development	142,006	24	160,980	26	
202,029	32	Land	65,736	11	67,388	11	56,489 9 -----
----- Total mortgage loans			522,723	88	536,137	88	
542,559	87	Consumer Loans: Home equity and second mortgage	41,950	7	43,948		
7 46,771	7	Other	10,107	2	10,767	2	11,292 2 -----
----- Total consumer loans			52,057	9	54,715	9	
58,063	9	Commercial business loans	15,199	3	15,624	3	23,307 4
----- Total loans			\$589,979	100%	\$606,476		
100% \$623,929	100%	Less: Undisbursed portion of construction loans in process					
(29,447)	(37,543)	(57,335)	Unearned income	(2,326)	(2,511)	(2,865)	
Allowance for loan losses	(12,440)	(12,049)	(7,076)				-----
----- Total loans receivable, net			\$545,766	\$554,373	\$556,653		

===== (1) Includes loans held for sale CONSTRUCTION

LOAN COMPOSITION (\$ in thousands) June 30, 2009 March 31, 2009 June 30, 2008

Loan	Percent	Amount	Portfolio	Percent	Amount	Portfolio	Percent	Amount	Portfolio
----- Custom and owner / builder		\$ 34,373	6%	\$ 35,061	6%	\$			
48,384 8% Speculative		19,332	3	24,393	4	36,979	6	Commercial real	
estate 42,056	7	47,642	8	66,846	10	Multi-family (including condominium)			
25,631 4 29,979	5	19,044	3	Land development	20,614	4	23,905	4	
30,776 5									
----- Total construction loans									
\$142,006	\$160,980	\$202,029	Loan demand remained strong as loan originations						

totaled \$94.8 million for the quarter ended June 30, 2009 compared to \$98.3 million for the preceding quarter and \$80.1 million for the quarter ended one year ago. Increased loan originations in the past two quarters were primarily a result of increased demand to refinance one-to-four family mortgage loans at historically low interest rates. Timberland Bank continues to sell fixed rate one-to-four family mortgage loans into the secondary market for asset-liability management purposes and to generate non-interest income. During the quarter ended June 30, 2009, fixed-rate one-to-four family mortgage loan sales totaled \$69.6 million compared to \$60.7 million for the preceding quarter and \$16.0 million for the quarter ended one year ago. Timberland's investment securities decreased by \$837,000 during the quarter to \$24.5 million at June 30, 2009 from \$25.3 million at March 31, 2009, primarily as a result of regular amortization and prepayments and a \$125,000 credit related other-than-temporary impairment ("OTTI") charge on 17 private label mortgage-backed securities that were acquired in the in-kind redemption from the AMF family of mutual funds in June 2008.

DEPOSIT BREAKDOWN (\$ in thousands) June 30, 2009 March 31, 2009 June 30, 2008

	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent
----- Non-interest bearing	\$ 50,153	10%	\$ 53,783	11%	\$	
50,701 11% N.O.W. checking	102,186	21	95,093	19	90,476	19
56,303 11 54,525	11	58,604	12	Money market	61,992	13
48,082 10 Certificates of deposit under \$100		140,924	29	139,863	28	128,791
27 Certificates of deposit \$100 and over		75,861	16	73,703	14	77,343
16 Certificates of deposit - brokered	--	--	25,991	5	25,937	5
----- Total deposits			\$487,419	100%	\$505,898	100%
\$479,934	100%					

Total deposits decreased 4% to \$487.4 million at June 30, 2009, from \$505.9 million at March 31, 2009 primarily as a result of a \$26.0 million decrease in brokered certificate of deposit ("CDs") accounts. Excluding brokered CDs, deposits increased 2% to \$487.4 million at June 30, 2009, from \$479.9 million at March 31, 2009. This increase was primarily due to an increase in N.O.W. checking account balances. Total shareholders' equity increased \$644,000 to \$89.0 million at June 30,

2009, from \$88.3 million at March 31, 2009 primarily due to net income of \$1.06 million and a \$474,000 reduction in accumulated other comprehensive loss. These increases to shareholders' equity were partially offset by dividends to common and preferred shareholders. Operating Results Fiscal third quarter operating revenue (net interest income before provision for loan losses, plus non-interest income excluding OTTI charges and the June 2008 loss on the redemption of mutual funds) increased 7% to \$9.0 million compared to \$8.4 million in the like quarter a year ago. The increase was primarily a result of increased non-interest income from loan sales (gain on sale of loans and servicing income recorded) and increased non-interest income from service charges on deposits. For the first nine months of fiscal 2009, operating revenues (excluding OTTI charges and loss on redemption of mutual funds) increased 7% to \$26.9 million from \$25.1 million in the first nine months of fiscal 2008. The increase was primarily a result of increased non-interest income from loan sales, increased fee income on deposit accounts and a \$134,000 non-recurring gain from a change in the Bank's investment in bank owned life insurance ("BOLI"). Net interest income before the provision for loan losses decreased 5% to \$6.2 million for the quarter ended June 30, 2009, from \$6.5 million for the like quarter one year ago with interest and dividend income decreasing 7% and interest expense decreasing 12%. The decrease in net interest income was primarily due to an increase in non-accrual interest and margin compression due to the lower interest rate environment. In spite of the challenging interest rate environment, Timberland's net interest margin remained strong at 3.86% for the current quarter, a decrease of 20 basis points from 4.06% for the quarter ended March 31, 2009 and a decrease of 37 basis points from 4.23% for the quarter a year ago. The reversal of interest income on loans placed on non-accrual status during the quarter ended June 30, 2009 reduced the net interest margin by approximately 22 basis points. For the first nine months of fiscal 2009, net interest income before the provision for loan losses decreased 5% to \$19.1 million from \$20.1 million in the like period a year ago. Net interest margin year to date was 4.03%, down 39 basis points from a year ago. In the third fiscal quarter Timberland recorded a provision of \$1.0 million to its allowance for loan losses, compared to \$5.2 million in the preceding quarter and \$500,000 in the like quarter in the prior fiscal year. For the first nine months of fiscal 2009, the provision for loan losses totaled \$7.5 million, compared to \$2.4 million in the first nine months of fiscal 2008. Net charge-offs for the quarter ended June 30, 2009 totaled \$609,000 compared to \$1.17 million for the quarter ended March 31, 2009 and \$121,000 for the quarter ended June 30, 2008. Year to date, net charge-offs were \$3.0 million compared to \$121,000 in the first nine months one year ago. Timberland's total operating (non-interest) expenses increased 30% to \$6.4 million for the third fiscal quarter from \$4.9 million from the like quarter one year ago and increased 17% from \$5.4 million from the immediately prior quarter. The increased expenses during the current quarter were primarily due to increased FDIC insurance expenses (including a special FDIC assessment of \$300,000), increased OREO related expenses and increased loan monitoring and collection related expenses. Year to date, total operating expenses increased 16% to \$17.4 million from \$15.0 million in the first nine months of fiscal 2008. About Timberland Bancorp, Inc. Timberland Bancorp operates 22 branches in the state of Washington in Hoquiam, Aberdeen, Ocean Shores, Montesano, Elma, Olympia, Lacey, Tumwater, Yelm, Puyallup, Edgewood, Tacoma, Spanaway (Bethel Station), Gig Harbor, Poulsbo, Silverdale, Auburn, Chehalis, Winlock, and Toledo. Timberland Bank received a four-star rating from Bauer Financial, a widely recognized independent bank rating agency. TIMBERLAND BANCORP INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT Three Months Ended (\$ in thousands, except per share amounts) June 30, 2009, March 31, 2009, June 30, 2008 (unaudited)

	2009	2009	2008				
dividend income				\$	9,240	\$	9,419
and mortgage-backed					322		347
mutual funds and					9		272
FHLB stock							
Loans receivable							
securities							
Federal funds sold							

	8	5	28	Interest bearing deposits in banks	32	21	8	
				Total interest and dividend			income	
	9,611	9,801	10,368	Interest expense	Deposits		2,440	
2,385	2,703	FHLB advances		979	999	1,161	Other borrowings	
	--	--	4				Total	
interest expense		3,419	3,384	3,868				
				Net interest income	6,192	6,417	6,500	Provision for loan losses
1,000	5,176	500						Net interest
income after		provision for loan losses		5,192	1,241	6,000		Non-interest
income		Total OTTI on securities		(522)	(1,742)	--		Less: portion recorded as
other		comprehensive loss		397	749	--		other
				Net OTTI loss recognized	(125)	(993)	--	Service charges
on deposits		1,066	1,009	948	Gain on sale of loans, net		414	340
127	Loss on redemption of mutual funds			--	--	(2,822)	Bank owned life	
insurance ("BOLI")		net earnings		123	256	121	Servicing income	
on loans sold		607	703	234	ATM transaction fees		326	306
329	Other			263	291	170		
				Total non-interest income	2,674	1,912	(893)	Non-interest
expense		Salaries and employee benefits		2,919	2,826	2,812		Premises and
equipment		719	696	519	Advertising		252	229
				OREO and other repossessed items	expense		391	99
ATM expenses				162	161	136	FDIC insurance expense	400
99	25	Postage and courier				203	126	129
core deposit		intangible		54	54	62	State and local taxes	
152	154	149	Professional fees			199	213	175
				922	785	684		
Total non-interest expense		6,373	5,442	4,919			Income (loss) before federal and	
state income taxes		1,493	(2,289)	188			Provision (benefit) for federal and	
state income taxes		435	(896)	734				
		Net income (loss)		\$ 1,058	\$ (1,393)	\$ (546)		
				Preferred stock dividends		\$ 210	\$ 208	\$
--	Preferred stock discount accretion			79	--	--		
		Net income (loss) avail. to common		shareholders:			\$ 769	\$
(1,601)	\$ (546)						Earnings	
(loss) per common share:		Basic		\$ 0.12	\$ (0.24)	\$ (0.08)	Diluted	
		\$ 0.12	\$ (0.24)	\$ (0.08)	Weighted average common shares		outstanding:	
		Basic		6,645,229	6,614,216	6,446,303	Diluted	
6,645,229	6,614,216	6,524,818		TIMBERLAND BANCORP INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES				
CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT				Nine Months Ended		(\$ in thousands, except		
per share) June 30,		June 30,		(unaudited)		2009		2008
				Interest and dividend income		Loans receivable		
				Investments and mortgage-backed		securities		
				Dividends from mutual funds and		FHLB stock		
				Federal funds sold		Interest bearing		
				deposits in banks				
				Total interest and dividend		income		
				expense		Deposits		
				3,042		3,510		
				Other borrowings		1		
				Total interest expense		10,364		
						12,681		



===== Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity									
Non-interest-bearing deposits	\$ 50,153	\$ 53,783	\$ 50,697	Interest-bearing deposits					
437,266	452,115	429,237							Total
deposits	487,419	505,898	479,934	FHLB advances					95,000
95,000	104,645	Other borrowings: repurchase agreements	666	689	1,007	Other			
liabilities and accrued expenses	3,652	3,074	3,393						
-----	-----	Total Liabilities	586,737	604,661	588,979				
-----	-----	Shareholders' Equity Preferred stock - \$.01 par value; 1,000,000 shares authorized;	15,487	15,437	--	June 30, 2009 - 16,641 shares issued and outstanding March 31, 2009 - 16,641 shares issued and outstanding			
value; 50,000,000 shares authorized;			10,328	10,301	8,775	June 30, 2009 - 7,045,036 shares issued and outstanding			
June 30, 2008 - 6,901,453 shares issued and outstanding						Unearned shares - Employee Stock Ownership Plan	(2,578)	(2,644)	(2,842)
earnings	66,802	66,775	68,822	Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)			(1,052)	(1,526)	20
-----	-----	Total Shareholders' Equity	88,987	88,343	74,775				
-----	-----	Total Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity	\$ 675,724	\$ 693,004	\$ 663,754				

===== KEY FINANCIAL RATIOS AND DATA (\$ in thousands, except per share amounts) (unaudited)

Three Months Ended											
June 30, March 31, June 30,			2009			2009			2008		
----- PERFORMANCE RATIOS: Return (loss) on average assets (a)											
0.61%	(0.82%)	(0.33%)	Return (loss) on average equity (a)	4.79%	(6.10%)						
(2.91%)	Net interest margin (a)	3.86%	4.06%	4.23%	Efficiency ratio (b)						
71.88%	65.34%	87.73%	-----			Nine Months Ended					
						June 30,	June 30,		Return on		
	2009	2008				-----	-----		average assets (a)		
0.04%	4.73%	Net interest margin (a)	4.03%	4.42%	Efficiency ratio						
(b)	70.64%	67.31%			June 30, March 31, June						
30,	2009	2009	2008		-----	-----					
----- ASSET QUALITY RATIOS: Non-performing loans											
						\$ 25,113	\$ 19,867	\$ 9,391			
Non-performing investment securities	572	310	--	OREO and other repossessed							
assets	7,698	2,827	879						Total		
non-performing assets	\$ 33,383	\$ 23,004	\$ 10,270	Non-performing assets to total					assets (c)		
4.94%	3.32%	1.55%	Allowance for loan losses to non-performing loans								
50%	61%	75%	Troubled debt restructured loans	\$ --	\$ --	\$ --	\$ --	\$ --	\$		
-- Past due 90 days and still accruing											
	\$ 830	\$ --	\$ --	CAPITAL RATIOS: Tier 1							
leverage capital	12.30%	12.47%	10.41%	Tier 1 risk based capital							
14.93%	15.01%	12.08%	Total risk based capital	16.19%	16.27%	13.33%					
BOOK VALUES: Book value per common share (d)											
	\$ 10.42	\$ 10.18	\$ 10.83	Book value							
per common share (e)	\$ 10.80	\$ 10.72	\$ 11.46	Tangible book value per common share							
(d) (f)	\$ 9.36	\$ 9.26	\$ 9.87	Tangible book value per common share (e) (f)							
	\$ 9.84	\$ 9.75	\$ 10.44	(a) Annualized (b) Calculation includes the OTTI							

charge incurred during the periods ended March 31, 2009 and June 30, 2009. Excluding OTTI charges the efficiency ratio was 70.88% for three months ended June 30, 2009; 58.38% for the three months ended March 31, 2009; and 64.62% for the nine months ended June 30, 2009. (c) Non-performing assets include non-accrual loans, non-accrual investment securities, and other

real estate owned and other repossessed assets (d) Calculation includes ESOP shares not committed to be released (e) Calculation excludes ESOP shares not committed to be released (f) Calculation subtracts goodwill and core deposit intangible from the equity component

Three Months Ended AVERAGE BALANCE SHEET:

-----			June 30, March 31, June 30,			-----		
2009	2009	2008				Average total		
loans	\$ 562,105	\$ 568,981	\$ 560,515	Average total interest earning assets (a)				
641,468	632,479	614,383	Average total assets			688,411	678,750	659,998
Average total interest bearing deposits			450,974	434,896	415,495	Average FHLB advances and other borrowings		
88,433	91,368	74,956	95,612	97,786	110,903	Average shareholders' equity		
-----			Nine Months Ended					
			June 30, June 30,			-----		
2009	2008					Average total loans		
\$ 565,274	\$ 548,346		Average total interest earning assets (a)			630,421		
605,949	Average total assets		676,809			652,804		
Average total interest bearing deposits			438,762	412,904		Average FHLB advances and other borrowings		
109,794			Average shareholders' equity			85,445	74,901	

(a) Includes loans on non-accrual status  
 Disclaimer This report contains certain "forward-looking statements." The Company desires to take advantage of the "safe harbor" provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and is including this statement for the express purpose of availing itself of the protection of such safe harbor with forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements may describe future plans or strategies and include the Company's expectations of future financial results. Forward-looking statements are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties that might cause actual results to differ materially from stated objectives. These risk factors include but are not limited to the effect of interest rate changes, competition in the financial services market for both deposits and loans as well as regional and general economic conditions. The words "believe," "expect," "anticipate," "estimate," "project," and similar expressions identify forward-looking statements. The Company's ability to predict results or the effect of future plans or strategies is inherently uncertain and undue reliance should not be placed on such statements.