Rayonier Reports Third Quarter 2003 Earnings

October 21, 2003

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Oct. 21, 2003--Rayonier (NYSE:RYN) today reported third quarter 2003 net income of \$8.1 million, or 19 cents per share, compared to \$31.7 million, or 74 cents per share, in second quarter 2003 and \$15.6 million, or 37 cents per share, in third quarter 2002. Third quarter 2003 results included 8 cents per share for REIT conversion costs and second quarter 2003 results included 59 cents per share from the Matanzas Marsh land sale.

Lee Nutter, Chairman, President and CEO said: "While we experienced solid results from our land sales business, improved lumber markets and steady U.S. timber prices, third quarter results reflected expenses associated with our planned REIT conversion and an extremely challenging cost environment for our performance fibers business. Nonetheless, we again demonstrated Rayonier's strong cash generating capability through the business cycle, increasing cash by nearly \$40 million to \$86 million at quarter-end. In addition, we remain on schedule for our January 1, 2004, conversion to a REIT and the payment of a special dividend of undistributed earnings and profits this December."

Sales of \$268 million were \$28 million below second quarter primarily due to the Matanzas sale and lower Northwest timber volume. Compared to third quarter 2002, sales declined \$26 million, principally due to lower trading activity, performance fibers volume and timber prices.

Cash provided by operating activities of \$64 million and free cash flow of \$26 million were \$6 million and \$18 million, respectively, below second quarter primarily due to lower operating income. Cash provided by operating activities and free cash flow were \$10 million and \$14 million, respectively, below third quarter 2002 also due to lower operating income. Adjusted EBITDA was \$62 million, a decrease of \$33 million and \$20 million from second quarter 2003 and third quarter 2002, respectively, mainly due to lower operating results. (Adjusted EBITDA and free cash flow are non-GAAP measures defined in Exhibit A.)

Debt at quarter-end of \$620 million was \$2 million and \$33 million below second quarter and year-end 2002, respectively. The continuing improvement in our debt-to-capital ratio to 44.9 percent reflected a decline of 0.9 and 3.0 percentage points from second quarter and year-end 2002, respectively.

Performance Fibers

Sales of \$132 million were comparable to second quarter with higher cellulose specialties volume offset by lower absorbent materials volume. Operating income of \$2 million was \$1 million below the second quarter primarily due to record high weather-related hardwood chip costs and slightly weaker cellulose specialties prices, partly offset by increased cellulose specialties volume and absorbent materials prices. Compared to third quarter 2002, sales and operating income declined \$7 and \$10 million, respectively, due to lower volume and higher hardwood chip, chemical and maintenance costs, partially offset by increased prices in both cellulose specialties and absorbent materials.

Timber and Land

Sales of \$59 million and operating income of \$32 million were below the second quarter by \$32 million and \$27 million, respectively, mainly due to the Matanzas sale as well as seasonally lower third quarter Northwest timber volume. Compared to third quarter 2002, sales decreased \$5 million and operating income declined \$1 million due to lower Northwest timber volume and prices, partly offset by improved land sales margins.

Wood Products

Sales of \$36 million were \$4 million above second quarter and the operating loss of \$1 million reflected an improvement of \$1 million principally due to higher lumber prices and volumes. Compared to third quarter 2002, sales were higher and the operating loss improved by \$3 million due to increased lumber prices and lower lumber manufacturing costs.

Other Operations

Sales of \$42 million were in line with second quarter, while the operating loss of \$0.2 million reflected an improvement of \$0.7 million. Compared to third quarter 2002, sales declined \$15 million due to lower trading activity while the operating loss improved \$0.3 million.

Other Items

Corporate expenses of \$11.0 million were \$3.1 million and \$7.7 million above prior quarter and third quarter 2002, respectively, primarily due to REIT conversion costs of \$4.2 million. The variance to third quarter 2002 also reflected an increase of \$2.4 million in stock price-based incentive compensation accruals.

Intersegment eliminations and other included \$0.5 million in balance sheet-related foreign exchange gains, compared to a \$2.8 million benefit in the second quarter and a \$1.1 million loss in third quarter 2002. Interest expense of \$12.1 million was comparable to second quarter and \$2.4 million below third quarter 2002 primarily due to lower debt.

The effective tax rate of 22.2 percent compared to 24.6 percent for the second quarter and 29.1 percent in third quarter 2002. The lower rate compared to prior year was primarily due to increased foreign and other tax credits.

Outlook

Although demand continues to be strong for cellulose specialties and Northwest timber earnings are forecasted to improve from the seasonally low third quarter, fourth quarter net income is likely to be near break-even. Earnings are expected to be adversely impacted by REIT project expenses (approximately 5 cents per share), delays in realizing Northwest timber earnings (approximately 6 cents per share) as contract terms of sale are revised to take advantage of REIT status in first quarter 2004, and continued exceptionally high hardwood chip costs at performance fibers. For 2003, REIT conversion costs and timber contract-related earnings deferrals are anticipated to reduce income by approximately 20 cents per share.

"We are very pleased with market reaction to our REIT plans and believe the tax-efficient structure will provide additional opportunities for growth and further increases in shareholder value," Nutter said. "In early November we will announce the schedule and election process for the special dividend of

earnings and profits to be paid in December."

Rayonier has more than 2 million acres of timber and land in the U.S. and New Zealand and is the world's premier supplier of high performance specialty cellulose fibers. Approximately 40 percent of Rayonier's sales are outside the U.S. to customers in more than 50 countries.

Reported results are preliminary and not final until filing of the third quarter Form 10-Q with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Comments about anticipated demand, sales, expenses and earnings, and the Company's expected REIT conversion, are forward-looking and are made pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. The following important factors, among others, could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed in the forward-looking statements: changes in global market trends and world events; interest rate and currency movements; fluctuations in demand for cellulose specialties, absorbent materials, timber or wood products; adverse weather conditions; changes in production costs for wood products or performance fibers, particularly for raw materials such as wood, energy and chemicals; unexpected delays in the closing of land sale transactions; the timing of the Company's election to be taxed as a REIT and its ability to satisfy complex rules in order to qualify as a REIT; and implementation or revision of governmental policies and regulations affecting the environment, import and export controls or taxes, including changes in tax laws that could reduce the benefits associated with REIT status. For additional factors that could impact future results, please see the company's most recent Form 10-K/A on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

See Exhibit A for definitions of the non-GAAP financial measures "Adjusted EBITDA" and "free cash flow," and Exhibits G and H for reconciliations of each to cash provided by operating activities.

A conference call will be held on Wednesday, October 22 at 4:15 p.m. EDT to discuss these results. Interested parties are invited to listen to the live webcast by logging on to www.rayonier.com and following the link. Supplemental materials will be available at the website. A replay will be available on the site shortly after the call where it will be archived for one month. Also, investors may access the "listen only" conference call by dialing 719-457-2649.

For more information, visit the company's web site at http://www.rayonier.com. Complimentary copies of Rayonier press releases and other financial documents are also available by mail or fax by calling 1-800-RYN-7611.

RAYONIER FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS (1) SEPTEMBER 30, 2003 (unaudited)

(millions of dollars, except per share information)

Three Months Ended Nine Months Ended

Three Months Ended Nine Months Ended
September June September September September 30, 30, 30, 30, 30, 2003 2002
Profitability
Sales \$267.6 \$295.9 \$293.1 \$829.4 \$831.1
Operating
income \$21.7 \$54.0 \$35.5 \$94.9 \$102.9
Income from continuing
operations \$8.1 \$31.7 \$15.5 \$48.0 \$42.1
Discontinued
operations \$- \$- \$0.1 \$- \$(0.8)
Net income
(after disc.
ops) \$8.1 \$31.7 \$15.6 \$48.0 \$41.3 Diluted
earnings per
share:
Continuing
operations \$0.19 \$0.74 \$0.37 \$1.13 \$0.99
Net income
(after disc. ops) \$0.19 \$0.74 \$0.37 \$1.13 \$0.97
Operating
income
as a percent
of sales 8.1% 18.2% 12.1% 11.4% 12.4%
ROE
(annualized) (a) 0.6% 6.2% 6.6% 6.8% 7.1%
(a) 0.070 0.270 0.070 0.070 7.170

Capital Resources and Liquidity Cash provided by operating activities \$64.0 \$69.5 \$73.5 \$172.8 \$204.0 Cash used for investing \$(26.0) \$(14.5) \$(23.5) \$(58.7) \$(57.1) activities Cash from (used for) financing \$1.5 \$(12.3) \$(52.5) \$(46.5) \$(143.7) activities Adjusted EBITDA (b) \$62.0 \$95.4 \$82.3 \$222.2 \$235.1 Free cash flow (c) \$26.4 \$44.7 \$40.8 \$83.6 \$117.2 Repayment of debt, net \$1.2 \$5.7 \$41.2 \$32.7 \$124.9 \$620.4 \$622.2 \$741.7 \$620.4 \$741.7 Debt Debt / capital 44.9% 45.8% 50.2% 44.9% 50.2%

- (a) From continuing operations; major land sales and REIT conversion costs are not annualized.
- (b) Adjusted EBITDA is defined as earnings from continuing operations before interest expense, income taxes, depreciation, depletion, amortization and the non-cash cost basis of land sold. Adjusted EBITDA is a non-GAAP measure of operating cash generating capacity of the Company. See reconciliation on Schedule G.
- (c) Free cash flow is defined as cash provided by operating activities less net custodial capital spending, dividends at prior year level, required debt repayments and the tax benefit on the exercise of stock options. Free cash flow is a non-GAAP measure of cash generated during a period that was available for discretionary capital expenditures, increasing dividends above the prior year level, repurchasing the Company's common shares and/or reducing debt within the period. Free cash flow is not necessarily indicative of the free cash flow that may be generated in future periods. See reconciliation on Schedule H.
- (1) Prior year earnings per share data have been restated to reflect the June 12, 2003 three-for-two stock split.

- A -

RAYONIER CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF CONSOLIDATED INCOME (2) SEPTEMBER 30, 2003 (unaudited)

(millions of dollars, except per share information)

Three Months Ended Nine Months Ended September June September September September 30, 2003 30, 2003 30, 2002 30, 2003 30, 2002

Sales \$267.6 \$295.9 \$293.1 \$829.4 \$831.1 _____

```
Costs and
expenses
 Cost of
       231.8 231.3 247.8 701.4 697.4
 sales
 Selling and
 general
 expenses
         16.1 13.0
                  8.4
                       39.1
                            30.2
 Other
 operating
 expense
         (2.0) (2.4) 1.4 (6.0) 0.6
 (income)
Operating
income
        21.7 54.0
                  35.5 94.9 102.9
Interest
         (12.1) (12.4) (14.5) (36.9) (45.3)
expense
Interest and
miscellaneous
income
(expense),
      0.8 0.4 0.9 2.3 1.2
net
     -----
Income from
continuing
operations
before income
       10.4 42.0 21.9 60.3 58.8
taxes
Income tax
(expense)
benefit
        (2.3) (10.3) (6.4) (12.3) (16.7)
Income from
continuing
operations
         $8.1 $31.7 $15.5 $48.0 $42.1
Discontinued
operations,
net
      - - 0.1
                  - (0.8)
     -----
        $8.1 $31.7 $15.6 $48.0 $41.3
Net income
     _____
Net income per
Common Share
Basic EPS
 From
 continuing
 operations $0.19 $0.76 $0.37 $1.15 $1.01
     ______
 Net income
 (after
 disc. ops) $0.19 $0.76 $0.37 $1.15 $0.99
     ______
Diluted EPS
 From
 continuing
 operations $0.19 $0.74 $0.37 $1.13 $0.99
     _____
 Net income
 (after
 disc. ops) $0.19 $0.74 $0.37 $1.13 $0.97
     _____
```

Weighted average

(2) Prior year earnings per share and share data have been restated to reflect the June 12, 2003 three-for-two stock split.

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RAYONIER BUSINESS SEGMENT SALES AND OPERATING INCOME SEPTEMBER 30, 2003 (unaudited)

(millions of dollars)

Sales

Performance Fibers

Cellulose specialties \$94.3 \$91.7 \$97.4 \$273.1 \$274.6 Absorbent materials 37.6 40.4 41.7 119.4 117.9

Total Performance

Fibers 131.9 132.1 139.1 392.5 392.5

Timber and Land

Timber 32.5 38.5 35.8 114.6 123.5 Land 26.8 53.1 28.2 97.5 59.9

Total Timber and

Land 59.3 91.6 64.0 212.1 183.4

Wood Products 35.6 31.4 34.7 97.0 107.0

Other Operations 41.6 41.2 56.2 129.3 156.8

Intersegment

eliminations (0.8) (0.4) (0.9) (1.5) (8.6)

Total sales \$267.6 \$295.9 \$293.1 \$829.4 \$831.1

Operating income (loss)

Performance Fibers \$1.5 \$2.8 \$11.1 \$3.1 \$28.9

Timber and Land

Timber 8.4 11.6 14.2 36.7 55.8 Land 23.7 47.6 18.5 80.4 37.9

```
Total Timber and
             32.1 59.2 32.7 117.1 93.7
  Land
Wood Products
                 (1.2) (2.4) (4.4) (6.8) (5.7)
Other Operations
                 (0.2) (0.9) (0.5) (1.1) (1.7)
Corporate
               (11.0) (7.9) (3.3) (23.9) (15.0)
Intersegment
 eliminations and
 other (Including
 Corporate FX)
                0.5 3.2 (0.1) 6.5 2.7
  Total operating
  income $21.7 $54.0 $35.5 $94.9 $102.9
          _____
             - C -
            RAYONIER
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS AND STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
        SEPTEMBER 30, 2003 (unaudited)
          (millions of dollars)
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
                     September December
                      30, 31,
                     2003 2002
                     -----
Assets
Current assets
                           $300.6 $228.8
Timber, timberlands and logging roads,
 net of depletion and amortization
                                 999.1 1,023.2
Property, plant and equipment
                                 1,416.4 1,387.4
Less accumulated depreciation
                                906.4 846.3
                     -----
                      510.0 541.1
                     -----
Other assets
                           90.2 94.1
                     -----
                     $1,899.9 $1,887.2
                     _____
Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity
               $160.4 $171.8
Current liabilities
Deferred income taxes
                            123.8 110.2
Long-term debt
                            616.8 649.6
Non-current reserves for dispositions and
                    139.4 146.3
98.8 99.6
discontinued operations
Other non-current liabilities
                         760.7 709.7
Shareholders' equity
                     -----
                     $1,899.9 $1,887.2
                     ============
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
```

Nine Months Ended

-----2003 2002

Cash provided by operating activities:

Income from continuing operations \$48.0 \$42.1 Depreciation, depletion, amortization and non- cash cost basis of land sold 125.1 131.0 Other non-cash items included in income 6.8 9.9 Changes in working capital and other assets and liabilities (7.1) 21.0
172.8 204.0
Cash used for investing activities: Capital expenditures, net of sales and retirements (53.3) (57.1) Purchase of assets previously leased (5.4) -
(58.7) (57.1)
Cash used for financing activities: Repayment of debt, net (32.7) (124.9) Dividends paid, shares issued, net (13.8) (18.8)
(46.5) (143.7)
Cash provided by discontinued operations - 24.0
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash (0.1) -
Cash and cash equivalents: Increase in cash and cash equivalents Balance, beginning of year 67.5 27.2 18.9 14.1
Balance, end of period \$86.4 \$41.3
- D -
RAYONIER SELECTED SUPPLEMENTAL FINANCIAL DATA SEPTEMBER 30, 2003 (unaudited) (millions of dollars)
There May the Frederic Nive May the Frederic
Three Months Ended Nine Months Ended
September June September September September 30, 30, 30, 30, 30, 2003 2002 2003 2002 Ceographical Data (Non- U.S.)
September June September September 30, 30, 30, 30, 30, 2003 2003 2002 2003 2002
September June September September September 30, 30, 30, 30, 30, 2003 2002 2003 2002 2003 2002 Geographical Data (Non- U.S.) Sales New Zealand \$23.0 \$22.0 \$20.2 \$63.5 \$57.5 Other 1.7 2.9 8.5 9.2 33.3 Total \$24.7 \$24.9 \$28.7 \$72.7 \$90.8
September June September September September 30, 30, 30, 30, 30, 2003 2002 2003 2002 Geographical Data (Non- U.S.) Sales New Zealand \$23.0 \$22.0 \$20.2 \$63.5 \$57.5 Other 1.7 2.9 8.5 9.2 33.3

Timber Sales

 Northwest U.S.
 \$8.9 \$15.0
 \$9.3
 \$44.2
 \$46.9

 Southeast U.S.
 18.3
 18.3
 20.2
 56.0
 64.3

 New Zealand
 5.3
 5.2
 6.3
 14.4
 12.3

Total \$32.5 \$38.5 \$35.8 \$114.6 \$123.5

Operating income

(loss)

 Northwest U.S.
 \$1.6
 \$7.3
 \$4.5
 \$21.5
 \$32.3

 Southeast U.S.
 4.0
 3.9
 5.3
 12.1
 19.2

 New Zealand
 2.8
 0.4
 4.4
 3.1
 4.3

Total \$8.4 \$11.6 \$14.2 \$36.7 \$55.8

Adjusted EBITDA by

Segment

Performance Fibers \$21.9 \$22.3 \$29.7 \$61.7 \$85.4 Timber and Land 48.1 77.6 56.8 174.2 157.9 Wood Products 2.3 0.8 (1.1) 2.8 4.2 Other Operations (0.1) (0.7) 0.1 (0.6) (0.1) Corporate and other (10.2) (4.6) (3.2) (15.9) (12.3)

Total \$62.0 \$95.4 \$82.3 \$222.2 \$235.1

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RAYONIER
SELECTED OPERATING INFORMATION
SEPTEMBER 30, 2003 (unaudited)

Three Months Ended Nine Months Ended

September June September September September 30, 30, 30, 30, 30, 30, 2003 2002 2003 2002

Performance Fibers

Sales Volume

Cellulose

specialties,

in thousands of

metric tons 109 106 114 314 319

Absorbent materials,

in thousands of

metric tons 62 69 74 209 208

Production as a percent

of capacity 97.6% 95.9% 98.3% 97.2% 98.2%

Timber and Land

Sales volume - Timber

Northwest U.S.,

in millions of

board feet 34 67 36 178 186

Southeast U.S.,

```
in thousands of
   short green
             1,150 1,144 1,165 3,488 3,597
   tons
 New Zealand,
  in thousands of
   metric tons
                187 148 243
                                  446
                                        532
Timber sales volume -
Intercompany
 Northwest U.S.,
  in millions of
   board feet
                         2
                                  36
 Southeast U.S.,
  in thousands of
   short green
              19 2 13
                                   21
   tons
                             24
 New Zealand,
  in thousands of
                 40 26
                                85
                                      39
   metric tons
                          16
Acres sold
                Wood Products
Lumber sales volume,
 in millions of
 board feet
                 78 73
                          87
                                222
                                      252
Medium-density
fiberboard
 sales volume,
 in thousands of
                  49 41
 cubic meters
                            40
                                 131
                                       117
              - F -
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RAYONIER RECONCILIATION OF NON-GAAP MEASURES (3) SEPTEMBER 30, 2003 (unaudited)

(millions of dollars)

Performance Timber Wood Other Corporate Fibers and Land Products Operations and other Total

Adjusted EBITDA

Three Months Ended September 30, 2003 Cash provided by operating activities \$14.4 \$63.7 \$2.6 \$(0.5) \$(16.2) \$64.0 Income tax expense 2.3 2.3 Interest expense 12.1 12.1 Working capital increases (decreases) 7.9 (11.0) (0.2) 0.4 (14.8)(17.7)Other balance sheet changes (0.4) (4.6) (0.1) 6.4 1.3

Adjusted

```
EBITDA $21.9 $48.1 $2.3 $(0.1) $(10.2) $62.0
```

June 30, 2003 Cash provided by

operating

activities \$25.7 \$80.4 \$(0.8) \$0.8 \$(36.6) \$69.5

Income tax

expense - - - 10.3 10.3

Interest

expense - - - 12.4 12.4

Working capital

increases

(decreases) (2.9) (0.7) 1.6 (2.1) 21.5 17.4

Other balance

sheet changes (0.5) (2.1) - 0.6 (12.2) (14.2)

Adjusted

EBITDA \$22.3 \$77.6 \$0.8 \$(0.7) \$(4.6) \$95.4

September 30, 2002

Cash provided by

operating

activities \$39.7 \$61.2 \$0.2 \$(2.2) \$(25.4) \$73.5

Income tax

expense - - - 6.4 6.4

Interest

expense - - - 14.5 14.5

Working capital

increases

(decreases) (9.5) (0.4) (1.1) 3.1 15.4 7.5

Other balance

sheet changes (0.5) (4.0) (0.2) (0.8) (14.1) (19.6)

Adjusted

EBITDA \$29.7 \$56.8 \$(1.1) \$0.1 \$(3.2) \$82.3

Nine Months Ended

September 30, 2003

Cash provided by

operating

activities \$51.5 \$193.5 \$(0.4) \$5.7 \$(77.5)\$172.8

Income tax

expense - - - 12.3 12.3

Interest

expense - - - 36.9 36.9

Working capital

increases

(decreases) 10.8 (12.4) 3.4 (6.7) 10.2 5.3

Other balance

sheet changes (0.6) (6.9) (0.2) 0.4 2.2 (5.1)

Adjusted

EBITDA \$61.7 \$174.2 \$2.8 \$(0.6) \$(15.9)\$222.2

September 30, 2002

Cash provided by

operating

activities \$91.4 \$164.5 \$(0.1) \$6.3 \$(58.1)\$204.0

Income tax

```
expense
                           16.7 16.7
Interest
expense
                            45.3 45.3
Working capital
increases
(decreases) (14.9) (1.2)
                            (4.0)
                                   8.5 (6.7)
Other balance
sheet changes 8.9 (5.4) (0.6) (2.4) (24.7) (24.2)
Adjusted
EBITDA
          $85.4 $157.9 $4.2 $(0.1) $(12.3)$235.1
     ______
(3) Unusual, non-trade intercompany items between the segments have
 been eliminated.
            - G -
            RAYONIER
       RECONCILIATION OF NON-GAAP MEASURES
        SEPTEMBER 30, 2003 (unaudited)
          (millions of dollars)
           Three Months Ended Nine Months Ended
          -----
          September June September September September
           30, 30, 30, 30, 30,
          2003 2003 2002 2003 2002
Free cash flow
Cash provided by
operating activities $64.0 $69.5 $73.5 $172.8 $204.0
Custodial capital
spending, net
                (18.1) (13.2) (21.4) (47.3) (49.5)
Purchase of assets
previously leased
                 (5.4) - - (5.4)
Dividends at prior year
level
            (10.1) (10.1) (10.0) (30.2) (29.9)
Required debt
repayments (4)
                 (1.2) (0.7) (1.2) (2.7) (4.9)
Tax benefit on exercise
of stock options (2.8) (0.8) (0.1) (3.6) (2.5)
          -----
Free cash flow
               $26.4 $44.7 $40.8 $83.6 $117.2
          _____
(4) The required repayments represent debt that matured and was paid
 during the period. In addition to the required payments, the
 Company made discretionary debt repayments as indicated below:
Discretionary debt
repayments
                 $- $5.0 $40.0 $30.0 $120.0
          _____
Custodial capital
spending, net
Capital expenditures,
 net of sales and
 retirements
               $20.6 $14.5 $23.5 $53.3 $57.1
Discretionary capital
expenditures
            (2.5) (1.3) (2.1) (6.0) (7.6)
Custodial capital
```

(5) Custodial Capital Spending, net, a non-GAAP measure, is defined as capital expenditures, net of retirements, required to maintain the Company's current earnings level over the cycle and to keep facilities and equipment in safe and reliable condition as well as in compliance with regulatory requirements.

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SOURCE: Rayonier