

Forest Forum

Washington County Small Woodlands Association

September, 2017

Banks Hampton Mill – Local Market, Local Opportunities!

60 WCSWA members met at the Hampton Lumber Mill in Banks on August 24th. The purpose was a unique opportunity to tour a sawmill that provides a local market for their logs. The mill, which was closed over a year ago, acquired new life when it was purchased by Hampton Lumber Company. It has undergone some modernization, and as part of a network of Hampton mills in the region, provides greater flexibility in marketing opportunities for small woodland owners.

The tour began with some history and an overview of Hampton Lumber Company policies by David Hampton, one of the family owners of the Company. David explained that the bedrock principles of Hampton are:

1) Sustainability – the ability of the company to survive in an industry that is known for its up and down markets. David pointed out that sustainability requires a reliable inventory of logs, a skilled workforce, and efficient mills.

2) Independence – the ability to adapt and be flexible in a turbulent industry requires being able to chart their own course. David said that the independence Hampton desires and needs is similar to what small woodland owners desire and need.



Safety First! Safety vest – *check*; hardhat – *check*, safety glasses – *check*.
David Hampton, Bonnie Shumaker, Cathy Dummer

(See “Hampton”, page 9)

September 23rd Tour – Mechanized Trail Building

Think you’d like to have a trail on your property? Access to the far and near corners of your property may be just what you need to do the periodic monitoring of forest health, or preparing for a needed management activity – or just a trail to walk on and enjoy the blessings of forest land ownership!

WCSWA has arranged an opportunity for you to see how trails can be designed and laid out on the ground, with the help of experts from the Oregon Department of Forestry. Trails can be hand constructed, but there are also some useful mechanized tools that can do the job. ODF experts Jamaal Rebb, Reid Brown, and Pat Dunlap will host a workshop and demonstration on Saturday, September 23rd at Brown’s Camp – Kids Sandpile Play Area - in the Tillamook State Forest. The program will start at 9:00 a.m. and go until noon.

The program will include trail location and design, and a review and demonstration of several mechanized trail building machines. **More information on the program, and directions to the site, can be found on page 10.**

WCSWA Leadership

President – Bonnie Shumaker, 503-324-7825, bshumaker@coho.net

Vice-President – Vic Herinckx, vic.herinckx@gmail.com

Secretary-Treasurer – Bob Shumaker; 503-324-7825
bshumaker@coho.net

Board of Directors:

Pos. #1: Deb Kapfer, 503-628-6349 kapferd@upwardaccess.com

Pos. #2: Sam Sadtler 503-324-0223 samsncee@gmail.com

Pos. #3: Susan Schmidlin, 503-429-7861, mrs.susan.schmidlin@gmail.com

Pos. #4: Tony Spiering, 503-680-8051, aespierring@gmail.com

Pos. #5: Doug Eddy, 503-628-1468

douglas.eddy@upwardaccess.com

Pos. #6: Karen Graham, 503-647-0310, kgraham@duckswild.com

Legislative Committee Chair:

Scott Hayes, scotthayes8888@gmail.com

Membership Committee: WCSWA Board members

Program Committee: Bill Triest – 503-705-5833, whtriest@gmail.com

; John and Cathy Dummer – 503-970-8789, cannbuckley@hotmail.com;

mike@troutmountain.com

Tualatin River Watershed Council Representatives: Tom Nygren, primary, 503-628-5472,

tnygren@juno.com; Eric Chambers, alternate, 503-647-2458, eric870@hotmail.com

WCSWA Website

www.wcswa.com

Website Manager: Michael Morgan

Contact Tom Nygren or Bonnie Shumaker for web postings and information.

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/WashingtonCountySmallWoodlandsAssociation>

Forest Forum Newsletter

Editors: Tom Nygren & Bonnie Shumaker

503-628-5472 or 503-324-7825

e-mail: tnygren@juno.com or bshumaker@coho.net

Proofreaders: Bonnie Shumaker, Dan Hundley, Tom

Nygren, Ardis Schroeder

Mike Messier, 503-233-2131,

The Tree Farm Tradin' Post

A free service to our members: List tree farm items/land to buy, sell, or trade. Contact Tom Nygren, 503-628-5472. Got a tool or piece of equipment you don't need any more? Or maybe you are looking for tools, equipment, property, or materials? You can place a free advertisement in Forest Forum. Another way for tree farmers to help each other! (3 month limit)

Wanted:

1) **Timber Helper** near Gales Creek. Possible quarters. Call 503-357-4258

2) **WCSWA** needs you! Please consider the following:

- a) Join the Program Committee and help generate ideas or simply do the grunt work to set up our monthly programs and tours.
- b) Help WCSWA improve communication on Social Media.

Event Calendar

September	16	Tillamook Forest Center "Rootball"	5:30 p.m. at the Tillamook Forest Center. More information at http://tillamookforestcenter.org/about_04-5.html
	23	WCSWA Tour: Mechanized Trail Building	9-12 am at the "Kids Sandpile Play Area", Tillamook State Forest (see article, page 10)
October	21	Oregon Tree Farm Annual Meeting	9-2 pm at the Oregon Garden Resort. See description on page 7 and at http://www.ofs.org
	24	"Oregon Forests of the Future"	WCSWA monthly meeting, 7 pm, North Plains Fire Station. Glenn Ahrens speaker
November	18	WCSWA Annual Banquet	5:30 pm, Meriwether Golf Course.
December		No Meeting Scheduled	

Leadership Notes

While visiting with a WCSWA member before the tour at Hampton Lumber Mill on August 24th, Bob asked him what he had been up to. His reply, "Well, I'm hanging up my chain saw for two months." That made sense for this fire-prone hot, dry summer. Knowing this individual we can be pretty sure he has his firewood cut and stacked and is making good use of his time with other endeavors. Professional loggers can still work during very early hours according to the assigned fire level, but unless you are in a fire-safe space, it is probably best to just hang up that chain saw until the rains come.

"We'll wait until the rains come," had almost become a mantra as Bob and I took our regular walks checking out what needs to be done. It was making me tired thinking about that long list, so we decided to write it down. Some needs to be done before our September trailer trip, and other work needs to wait until the rains come. Here's what we came up with:

Before Labor Day:

- Following an old farmer's adage, we'll "plant in the dust of fall" the roads and landings that need grass where we hope the seeds will happily await the fall rains to germinate
- Flag places to plant the wildflower seeds I bought. Chosen places are where weeds did not come up after thinning. Seed directions are to "wait until after the first killing frost."
- Harvest what garden is ready
- Work on equipment – our harvester now looks great with new paint and runs good, too
- Tarp slash piles

After the rains come:

- Clean up the mess that results from thinning:
Burn slash piles
Clear trails
- Finish thinning trees in former alfalfa field with our harvester, thanks to our son, Dan
- Hope for enough snow this winter to flatten slash that was purposely left scattered

Your list probably looks different than ours. However, this is the time of year when small woodland owners mostly do stay out of the woods. It's not only because of fire danger, but also those ground-nesting yellow jackets seem to like to lie in wait this time of year for a foot to tromp on their nest. Then we suffer as they become "madder than hornets." I did risk going into the woods to flag wildflower plots. I stepped gently and got lucky – no yellowjackets!

In other WCSWA news, a special thanks to the folks at the Hampton Lumber in Banks for a spectacular tour in August. Sixty WCSWA members were there! When asked where the logs come from that feed the mill, the answer was, "industrial forest, state forest and small woodland owners." They want our wood, so check out Hampton's prices when you are logging.

The Program Committee does such a great job setting up all these great tours. It's a great committee looking for an additional member or two. They meet once a year to do a general plan and then take turns with the logistics of the programs. Want to volunteer? Contact any member of the Program Committee on page 2.

Bonnie Shumaker

Advertising Opportunity: The Forest Forum is a monthly newsletter sent out to over 250 members and friends of WCSWA. Advertisers receive free newsletters for the duration of their ads. ADVERTISING RATES (PRICE INCLUDES TYPESETTING & AD PREP)

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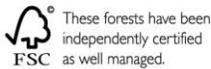


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Drought-Caused Tree Death Laid to Hydraulic Failure and Carbon Starvation

A research report out of the University of Sydney (Australia), based on a meta-analysis by 62 scientists from across the world, concluded that drought-caused tree deaths are produced by a combination of hydraulic failure and carbon starvation. ***The report finds that hydraulic failure, which is the inability of a plant to move water from roots to leaves to be almost universally present when trees died, while carbon starvation was a contributing factor roughly half of the time.***

The paper's lead author, Dr. Henry Adams at Oklahoma State University explains that 99 percent of the water moving through a tree is used to keep stomata open, the pores that let in carbon dioxide, allowing it to carry out photosynthesis. Trees respond to the stress of drought by closing those pores that let in carbon dioxide. At that point, they need to rely on their stored sugars and starches to stay alive, and could die from carbon starvation if they run out before the drought is over.

On the other hand, if the tree loses too much water too quickly, an air bubble (embolism) will form and the tree has hydraulic failure, it cannot transport water from the roots to the leaves, which becomes lethal as the whole tree dries out.

The report notes that in many cases, both carbon starvation and hydraulic failure appeared to occur as trees died.

This makes sense, because the stored sugars and starches that could be reduced in carbon starvation are also important for preventing hydraulic failure. When converted to sugar, these can act as "osmoprotectants," increasing the tree's ability to hold on to its water. "It's kind of like antifreeze in a car that keeps the engine from overheating," Adams says.

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OREGON TREE FARM SYSTEM

Oregon Tree Farm System Annual Meeting and Tree Farmer of the Year Awards

The Oregon Tree Farm System will host its 2017 annual meeting on **Saturday, Oct. 21, in Silverton.**

The meeting is scheduled for **9 a.m. to 2 p.m.** at the **Oregon Garden Resort, 895 W. Main St., Silverton.** It will feature a hands-on field workshop in the Rediscovery Forest and an awards recognition luncheon honoring the County Tree Farmers of the Year. The 2017 Inspector of the Year and Oregon Tree Farmer of the Year awards will be announced at the luncheon.

The theme this year is ***"Emphasizing the Family of Family Forest Landowners."*** Family activities and tours will be available in the Oregon Garden. Come celebrate being a family of tree farmers!

Registration and more information is available on the Oregon Tree Farm System website.

<http://www.otfs.org/index.htm>

Study Shows Tree Root Tolerant to Compaction

Soil compaction is known to limit plant growth by reducing soil macroporosity and restricting gas, water, and root movement. Recent evidence from study sites across the United States and Canada, however, suggests that tree growth is not universally affected by soil compaction from forest harvesting practices.

Rooting was extensive in compacted plots despite consistently high soil strength values (~3 MPa). No differences in rooting patterns or in fine or lateral root numbers were detected between compaction treatments. The results indicated long-term tolerance by conifer roots to soil compaction without clear use of preferential channels or uncompacted zones. (2017 Busse, Fiddler, and Shestak, PSW Research Station, U.S. Forest Service)

<https://doi.org/10.5849/FS-2016-053>

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One must be wise in knowing what to prepare for, and equally wise in being prepared for the unknowable

Yup-ik Alaska Native saying

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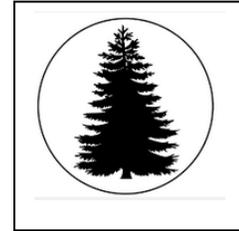
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Upcoming funding opportunity for landowners to address watershed concerns

Landowners looking for financial and technical assistance to prevent runoff of nutrients and sediments into streams, better manage vegetation to control invasive and noxious weeds, reduce erosion, improve fish habitat, remove fish passage barriers, better manage storm water runoff or improve irrigation practices should consider applying for a grant tailored to these and similar small projects.

The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) is a state agency that provides grants to help Oregonians take care of local streams, rivers, wetlands, uplands, and natural areas. Its small grant program provides up to \$15,000 in Oregon Lottery funds for individual projects that help restore watershed elements such as streams, wetlands and uplands. For projects located in the Tualatin River watershed and Washington County, at least 30 percent of the OWEB funds must be matched from other sources. The application deadline for this competitive process in this region is October 1-15, 2017.

The Lower Willamette West (LWW) OWEB small grant area is located west of the Willamette River from Wilsonville to Sauvie Island and inland to the Coast Range. It includes Washington County and portions of Clackamas and Multnomah Counties. The LWW OWEB small grant team has established priorities for types of projects to be funded under this program in our area. The LWW team will review submitted applications and forward recommendations for funding to OWEB.

How do I apply? Grant applications must be submitted by watershed councils or soil and water conservation districts on behalf of local landowners. Contact Lower Willamette West team members April Olbrich, Tualatin River Watershed Council coordinator (trwc@trwc.org; 503-846-4810) or Lacey Townsend, Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District (lacey.townsend@tualatinswcd.org; 503-207-7942) for more information. Anyone interested in applying for this funding should first contact either April or Lacey.

Trail Building Program and Demonstration – September 23rd

Agenda: 9-12 a.m.

- **Introductions**
- **Trail location and design: What to consider when laying out a trail**
- **Mechanized equipment review:**
 1. **SWECO Trail Dozer**
 2. **Bobcat E32 Excavator**
 3. **ST 240 Single Track Trail Machine**

The program hosts will be Jamaal Rebb, Reid Brown, and Pat Dunlap. Jamaal and Reid are Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) specialists with the Tillamook State Forest, and Pat is an OHV Program Equipment Operator. Collectively they have over 35 years of experience locating, designing, constructing, and maintaining trails on the Tillamook State Forest.

An interesting side note: the ST 240 Single Track Trail Machine was developed by a Washington County small woodland owner, Barrett Brown. Barrett worked for several years to develop the concept and a working model. It was tested and found to be feasible. It is now being used by a variety of land management agencies. Barrett has served on ODF recreation advisory committees and is well known as a state-wide citizen expert. Further information on this machine can be found at the website www.singletracktools.com

Directions to the Kids Sandpile Play Area from Forest Grove:

- Take Hwy 8 west to Hwy 6
- Turn west on Hwy 6. Stay on Hwy 6 to milepost 33. Milepost 33 is at the summit of Hwy 6.
- At milepost 33 and the summit of Hwy 6 turn south onto Beaver Dam Road. The Oregon Department of Transportation Sandshed is located on the south side of Hwy 6 at the junction of Beaver Dam Road and Hwy 6.
- Stay on Beaver Dam Road for a little more than two miles until you reach a stop sign.
- At the stop sign turn left onto Scoggins Road.
- Follow Scoggins Road to the second road on the right. The first road on the right is the Powerline Trail. Both are shown on the map.
- Turn right onto the second spur road and follow it to the Kids Sandpile Play Area. Parking will be on the left once you arrive at the site.

On Hwy 6 there are approach road signs for Browns Camp about ¼ to ½ mile before the turn. Once on Beaver Dam Road there are directional signs to Browns Camp. The Kids Sandpile Play Area is located on the way to Browns Camp. It is about 3 miles or so from Hwy 6 to the Kids Sandpile Play Area. From Forest Grove people should plan on about 45 minutes to get to the demo site.

Beaver Dam Road and Scoggins Road are gravel forest roads. People should expect to see other traffic, including motorcycles and ATVs on these roads as they are driving to the Kids Sandpile Play Area

OSU Study Confirms Current Road Standard Effectiveness

Logging roads in the uplands of the northern Oregon Coast Range aren't sending enough sediment into streams to harm fish and aquatic insects, according to a new Oregon State University study. Ivan Arismendi, an aquatic ecologist in OSU's College of Agricultural Sciences, and his colleagues investigated whether current road-building practices were sending excessive sediment into the water. They found that five sampled streams above and below unpaved roads in the Trask River watershed in the northern Oregon Coast Range were contributing only minimal levels of silt to the streams, not enough to be "biologically significant" for aquatic life, Arismendi said. Their findings, he said, suggest that current road-building practices are solving an important environmental challenge associated with logging in the steep, wet forests of the Oregon Coast Range. <http://naturalresourcereport.com/2017/08/osu-extension-service-better-forest-roads-lead-to-healthy-waterways/>

Matteson Demonstration Forest

On August 10th, a group of woodland owners met with Amy Grotta, OSU Extension Forester, as well as Steve Fitzgerald, Brent Klumph, and Steve Pilkerton, staff from the OSU Research Forests, at the Matteson Demonstration Forest near Haag Lake outside of Forest Grove. The Matteson Forest consists of 181 acres donated to OSU College of Forestry in 2013 by the estate of Marion Matteson. The Matteson family was original homesteaders in Scoggins Valley,



Discussing thinning prescriptions in 30 acre, 30 year old stand

- Stand improvement: removing all trees that will never make a pole due to defects, plus thinning from below if necessary to open up the stand
- Thin from below, removing 1/2 of the trees keeping uniform spacing
- Diameter thinning: cut anything 11" dbh and under resulting in more variable spacing
- Control (no thin)

We met at the new staging area near the entrance of the forest. It will be used as parking for educational groups as well as a landing during logging. The two Steves, Brendt and Amy then led us on a hike to show off improved roads, young forest patches needing improvement where weed work is being done, and the 30 acres that will be thinned in 2018. Steve Pilkerton is the forest engineer working on the roads. He shared his expertise that small woodland owners can use. His key words are compaction and drainage, drainage, drainage. He showed different sections of road that have been improved using ditches, crowning, out-slope and/or drain dips depending on strategic locations. He recommends the publication "Managing Woodland Roads: A Field Guide," by Steve Bowers and Paul Adams available at <https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/pnw641>.

The 30 acres to be thinned next year has trees marked for the different thinning prescriptions. Eleven permanent plots have been put in and there are two 1/2 acre control plots. Advice for small woodland owners regarding hiring a logger for thinning: You can either mark all the trees you want thinned, or mark a sample and give your prescription to the logger. Then after 1 to 2 acres have been thinned, if the prescription needs improving, ride in the processor with the logger to discuss changes. Steve Fitzgerald told us that not only does this get you what you want, "it's a whole lot of fun." He told us to save dominant and co-dominant trees since they put on 2/3 of the growth in a stand. To avoid pre-commercial thinning, he recommends planting on 11 x 11 or 12 x 12 foot spacing. Regarding subsequent thinning, you can choose between "light and often" or "longer and heavier." This was an afternoon well spent, even though it happened during one of our HOT spells of weather. Be sure not to miss the next time there is an invitation to see the progress on the Matteson Demonstration Forest. While it is not officially open to the public yet, the education has already begun, and it is exciting to see the progress.



This sign will be put up to welcome visitors to the Matteson

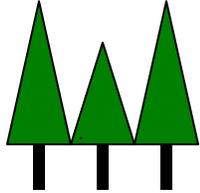
although the original homestead now resides under Hagg Lake. Rubie Matteson, for whom the forest is named, was Marion Matteson's mother. The Matteson Forest is the newest in a total of 15,000 acres of OSU Research Forests owned by the OSU College of Forestry. The Matteson tract is to be managed for public use, education, and demonstration, and to provide income from timber sales to the OSU College of Forestry. Much of the education will be directed to benefit small woodland owners. The land had been a dairy farm. Mr. Matteson planted all of the former pasture and orchard (30 acres) to Douglas-fir himself in the 1980's. It's a beautiful healthy stand; the rows are straight, invasives are few; but it is now crying out to be thinned. Thinning will begin in 2018, and trees have already been marked to reflect several different thinning prescriptions:



Roads: It's all about drainage!

By Bonnie Shumaker

Forest Forum



COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE
OREGON SMALL WOODLANDS
ASSOCIATION

Potpourri

New Members: Welcome to new members: **Nancy Gathright** and **Doug Holz** of Banks, and **Jim and Sandy Evans** of Gales Creek. We are here to help members achieve their management goals. To get the most out of your membership, come to the meetings and tours that are scheduled throughout the year. (You're always invited to the WCSWA meetings!). You'll find many kindred spirits among our diverse membership – and many opportunities to learn and share together! If you have any questions or need help, contact any of the Directors, Officers, or Newsletter Editors listed on page 2 of this newsletter.

Member Roster enclosed – Each year a roster of WCSWA members is enclosed with a late summer or early fall issue of the Forum. This year's roster is enclosed with the September issue. We usually find some incorrect information in the roster: name spelling, address changes, phone numbers that are no longer valid, etc. If you find that your contact information is incorrect, please let us know so we can advise OSWA that their data base needs to be corrected.

Helpful Links:

- <http://blogs.oregonstate.edu/treetopics> to read Amy Grotta's "Tree Topics" blog
- www.oregonwoodlandcooperative.com to learn about the Oregon Woodland Cooperative
- <https://www.facebook.com/WashingtonCountySmallWoodlandsAssociation>
- For E-Notification: : <https://ferns.odf.state.or.us/E-Notification> or visit ODF Office

A land ethic, then, reflects the existence of an ecological conscience, and this in turn reflects a conviction of individual responsibility for the health of the land. Health is the capacity of the land for self-renewal. Conservation is our effort to understand and preserve this capacity."

- Aldo Leopold. The Land Ethic