

Forest Forum

Washington County Small Woodlands Association

October, 2017

Machine Trail Building – WCSWA’s Sept. 23 Tour

Reported by Susan Schmidlin



ODF’s Off Highway Vehicle Specialist, Jahmaal N.K. Rebb and OHV Program Heavy Equipment Operator, Pat Dunlap were on hand with three pieces of equipment to demonstrate the workings of the machines and setting up a trail for motorized access into a forested landscape. The SWEDCO Trail Dozer, A Bobcat E32 Excavator and a ST 240 Single Track Trail Machine were on hand for us to see.

Before the trail making began, the group walked a current track that is well used by ATV enthusiasts to get an overall idea. As the day went on, the volume of people increased. Those wanting to enjoy the woods for recreation geared up and set out onto the trails with areas for Class

I (Quads), Class II (Four-Wheel Drives), Class III (Motorcycles) and Class IV (Side-by-Sides). There are even equestrian and walking trails through the forest at this site.

The trail was to be set up specifically for youth riders and while you may not be planning to make trails for dirt bikes in your forest the plans would start the same. Know your woods (where are the slopes, water areas, unstable ground) know what you want to accomplish (how much access you want from a walking path to hauling roads), make a plan (including turns and drainage) and adjust as needed.

See “Trail” on page 6

Oregon Forests of the Future

Tuesday, October 24, North Plains Fire Station, 7:00pm



After a summer of enjoyable outdoor tours, we return to the North Plains Fire Station meeting room for our equally enjoyable regular 4th Tuesday of the month meeting. This should be an interesting and informative discussion.

Glenn Ahrens, Forestry Extension Agent operating out of Oregon City, will present "Oregon Forests of the Future" in which he will give an Extension Forester’s perspective on future forests and climate change.

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

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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

October	15	Voices in Forestry	World Forestry Center – see article page 11. Free, but must register
	18	“Into the Woods” Workshop	World Forestry Center – see article page 10. Free, but must register
	21	Oregon Tree Farm Annual Meeting	9-2 pm at the Oregon Garden Resort. See description on page 8 and at http://www.otfs.org
	24	“Oregon Forests of the Future”	WCSWA monthly meeting, 7 pm, North Plains Fire Station. Glenn Ahrens speaker, see page 1
November	18	WCSWA Annual Banquet	5:30 pm, Meriwether Golf Course. Timm Locke from OFRI, speaker on new forest products. See insert
December		No Meeting Scheduled	

Leadership Notes

In September, Bob and I took our planned trailer trip to British Columbia. I'm betting we are not the only woodland people that love to travel to areas with lots of trees, and BC certainly qualifies. We were in Central BC, equivalent to Central Washington or Oregon. While most of the trees were Douglas-fir, cedar and hemlock, pine interspersed as we turned east. The trees are smaller and slower growing than in the Pacific Northwest in this northern climate. This was evident when we were on a ferry ride with a log truck parked next to us. The ring count on the truck's Hemlock logs was almost too small to count.

Revelstoke was our most northern point, and it was here that we walked the Giant Cedars Trail. This forest has its own micro-climate, and is the world's only temperate inland rainforest. Even this late in the season in this dry climate, after an unusually hot, dry summer, there were trickles of water feeding these trees that are up to 500 years old. There were lots of fallen cedars as well as young, medium and old hemlock and cedar. It was a beautiful example of the many characteristics of an old growth forest, and I had to remind myself how far east we were.

We also took a beautiful drive on the "Meadows in the Sky Parkway" to the summit of Mt. Revelstoke. The road is 16 miles long with 16 switchbacks climbing 4,000 feet and takes you from a Douglas-fir to Alpine fir forest surrounding a huge meadow. This "Meadow in the Sky" was discovered by energetic hikers in the late 1800's when Revelstoke was founded during the building of the Canadian Pacific Railroad. The meadow is awash with wildflowers during the late spring and summer months, but I could only imagine their beauty in late September. We did get to experience the summit after it had the first snow of the season the night before.



Wildflower meadow and Alpine fir forest after first snow - flowers bloom June - August

The other forest related happening in our lives is buying the 80 acres to the west of us from Weyerhaeuser. This puts the original homestead back together. In 1886 Ludwig and Magdalena Kahler came from the Dakota Territory with a group of relatives who together started the "Hayward Community". We are not related to any of these folks, but putting the original homestead back together is something we have wanted to do for a long time. When Weyerhaeuser bought Longview Fibre they started selling off some of the smaller acreages, and we were able to make the purchase. Bob and I discussed the wisdom of buying more property with young trees at our not young age. That reminded us of the great poem by Robert Mealey "When You're So Old" about why an old man plants a tree. (You can easily find this poem on the internet). That got my creative juices flowing to write the "Call of the Woodland" poem on the next page. Painter Bob Schlegel, who is also a WCSWA member, agreed to add the artist's touch to the poem. I think many of you will relate to the poem, and hope you enjoy reading it.

Bonnie Shumaker

Call of the Woodland

Led by the hand when a child
To spy out Trilliums in the spring
Trailing blackberries of summer
Crunchy colorful leaves, animal tracks in the snow
The hook of love set without ever feeling the tug

Youthful hikes with a sweetheart
Traversing tree-covered mountainsides
Exchanging knowledge, memories, constructing plans
Pausing by a majestic tree to take in the view
Love of all sorts expanding

Children of our own
To introduce to the woodlands
Exploring, sharing, touching, tasting
Camping, boating, fishing, hiking
Lure of the forest extended

Dreams of our own place realized
Penning signatures on a deed
Becoming stewards of a piece of forest
Lifetime of new learning and adventure
Giving back what we've been given

Growing old, why still plant trees? A habit of renewal
Growing old, why add more land? Increase township, range and partial section
To put a homestead back together
More simply put, the lure began when the hook was set
Stewardship an addiction that knows no boundaries

Three-legged stool of forestry
Needs a seat on which to peg the legs
Sit down on it, rest, recline against a tree
Look up through the branches, feel the breeze
Touch the bark, pay attention to the sounds

Alongside birdsong and ambient woodland noise
You just might hear
The soft whirr of the reel
As the hook draws you happily closer
To the everlasting woodland call



Poem by Bonnie Shumaker,
Artwork by Bob Schlegel

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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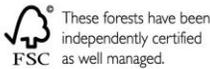
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“Trail” continued from page 1

To begin the demonstration, Jahmaal and Pat discussed an area near a parking lot that looked like a fairly open spot with large trees throughout the plot. The layout consisted of the group walking the path and marking the proposed trail.



Once the layout was complete, Pat took the controls of the mid-sized machine and showed the capabilities of mechanization to begin the rough cut into the track while Jahmaal worked with a chain saw to clean up fallen and damaged trees that were blocking the proposed path. It took only a matter of minutes for the shape of the trail to wind its way through the tall timbers.

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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>

Oregon Redwoods 'Severely Burned' By Chetco Bar Fire

by **Zach Urness** Statesman Journal | Sept. 26, 2017 4

One of the last groves of Oregon redwoods was "severely burned" by the Chetco Bar Fire, according to U.S. Forest officials. Oregon's largest wildfire, burning in southwest Oregon, roared into the Wheeler Creek Natural Area and torched 25 percent of the area's old-growth redwoods, U.S. Forest Service officials said last week.

There are around four groves of naturally-occurring redwoods remaining on Oregon soil, located mostly in small patches just north of the California state line.

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WCSWA Elections at Annual Banquet Nominees for officers and Board Members:

President: Bonnie Shumaker

Vice-President: Vic Herinckx

Secretary/Treasurer: Bob Shumaker

Board Position #5: Kent Grewe

Board Position #6: Cathy Dummer

Nominations will also be taken from the floor

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We market forestland properties in western Oregon and Washington. Check www.WorldForestInvestment.com for the latest properties available under "Forestland for Sale" tab.

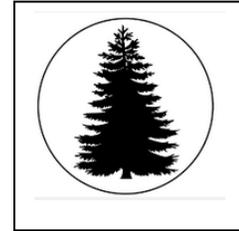
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Forest Oddities

from Susan Schmidlin's blog at <https://mrssusanschmidlin.wordpress.com/2017> (used with permission)



These logs were brought down off the hill where we are cleaning up storm damage from last year's winter and had come across a figure 8 Douglas-fir. The tree on the left shows the base of the tree at the bottom of the picture. Up the tree about 30 feet the tree began forming two tops.



10 feet above where the two tops started, the twins melded back together and bark formed over the spot where the tops twisted around each other for a short foot or two then separated again into two tops.

Another 10 feet up the twins once again wrapped around each other and bonded together as they twisted once again before breaking into two distinct tops once again.

Ring count showed the tree to be between 50 to 60 years old. There was good wood found in this tree, one 26 foot long log was harvested from this oddball from the base to almost the first split. The rest became firewood in an effort to keep the landing as clean as possible.

Biologist: ‘Life goes on’ for wildlife affected by Chetco Bar Fire

Jane Stebbens, Curry Coastal Pilot, Sept. 24, 2017

Wild animals burned out of house and home by the Chetco Bar Fire likely fared well during the disaster and will do even better in the months to come, said Dan Ethridge, assistant district wildlife biologist with the state Department of Fish and Wildlife. “Life goes on, and it won’t be as bad as everyone thinks,” he said. “The future’s bright; there will be new growth, habitat, and a lot of animals thrive off the new stuff.” The ODFW — nor any other agency Ethridge knows of — does not tabulate the number nor type of animals that might get killed in a fire. The Chetco Bar Fire is 97 percent contained and has burned more than 190,000 acres. People who lived along the flanks of the fire indicated on social media that they were seeing more animals moving through as if to escape, and some reported more road kill. Ethridge said the animals that typically live on the edge of the forest and are more comfortable with humans might meander through town, but most of the deep-forest critters merely try to keep ahead of the fire as it progresses.

It is rare the large animals — deer, elk, coyote and bear — would be trapped by a fire. “They’re mobile and big enough to get out and go,” Ethridge said. “Smaller animals; a lot of them live underground and can escape that way. But other ones, like squirrels that live in trees, don’t have that great an ability to move as quickly.” Animals are more likely to be killed if a fire blows up unexpectedly, as did the Chetco Bar Fire on Aug. 18, when Chetco Effect winds pushed it from 6,500 acres to 22,000 acres in 24 hours. “For the most part, they can all move ahead of a fire,” Ethridge said. “It’s when those big fires get going, when the winds pick up and carry the fire fast, that some of the smaller animals might get killed.” Officials at the Gold Beach ODFW offices said they’d received a second-hand report of a cougar that climbed a tree that caught fire. Ethridge said that while that’s possible, he’s only ever seen one photo of such an incident — and the photograph appeared doctored. “Anything’s possible,” he said. “Just like our firefighters can get caught in flames real quick.”

Ethridge said winter might be a little harder than usual, but that many larger animals will be eager to get back to the scorched ground. “The deer love it right after a fire,” he said. “They roll around to get the ticks off of them.” And the Southwest Oregon coast’s mild weather will contribute to a quick greening of the terrain. “As soon as we get some moisture and sun, we’ll get green-up in the fire area,” Ethridge said. “Typically, fires don’t burn to a crisp (to the point) things won’t grow. It won’t take much, and (animals) will move back into it.” Smaller animals such as squirrels and chipmunks also have food caches to keep them going through the season. “As far as predators getting them, though, that’s the way life is,” Ethridge said of the now-bare ground. “But give it a year. It won’t take long; they’ll be back. It’ll be a new life, and it’ll be brighter.

Into the Woods – An Informative Workshop for Friends of Wood and Woods

You’ll learn about:

- The unique and surprising traits and needs of more than twelve native tree species –and the roles they play in the forest ecology
- The distinctive characteristics of the wood that comes from these trees and the roles that each play in our daily lives
- The impact your wood-related choices have, and can have, on forests, near and far
- Ways that you and fellow wood choosers can strengthen your connections to and have a positive influence on local forests

When? Oct. 18, 2017, 7-9 PM

Where? World Forestry Center, David Douglas Room, 4033 SW Canyon Rd, Portland

Cost? No charge

Reserve Your Spot (space is limited)

<https://intothewoodsportland.eventbrite.com/>

Juniper mill illustrates ‘new natural resource economy’

[George Plaven](#), East Oregonian, Sept. 20, 2017 (excerpts) Photo contributed by Eric Sines



Caleb Morris with the Ritter Land Management Team runs the first juniper log through a portable sawmill, which was delivered to the nonprofit group earlier this month.

Like much of the high desert landscape across central and Eastern Oregon, the community of Ritter in rural Grant County is dealing with a scourge of unwanted Western juniper trees, crowding out native vegetation for wildlife and livestock.

In response, a collaborative group of landowners known as the Ritter Land Management Team recently purchased a small portable sawmill to turn the pesky plants into valuable lumber, while also providing much-needed jobs for the area.

The first juniper logs were milled at Ritter last week, and the team expects to sell the finished product to Sustainable Northwest Wood, a Portland lumberyard owned by the nonprofit Sustainable Northwest where juniper sales have jumped to 50 percent annually.

The operation is a prime example of what University of Oregon researchers are calling the “new natural resource economy” in Eastern Oregon, where entrepreneurs and small businesses are finding innovative ways to complement traditional farming and timber production.

The project in Ritter first took shape in 2013 when a group of about 30 landowners formed the Ritter Land Management Team, promoting sustainable development and environmental stewardship. Landowners soon identified the spread of Western juniper as one of the biggest threats to their farms and ranches. Fully grown Western juniper can consume as much as 30 gallons of water a day, taking over rangeland and cutting into native forage. The trees are also susceptible to wildfire, exacerbating fire conditions on the range.

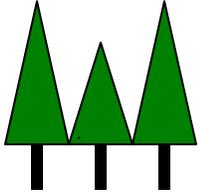
Last year, the team reached out to a consulting company based in California to determine if a juniper sawmill would be feasible. The final report showed that, within the total 105.650-acre study area, the group had enough juniper to feed the mill for 21 years. The team was then able to tap into the Western Juniper Industry Fund, which was made available by the 2015 Legislature. The Oregon Community Foundation stepped up with matching funds, and a sawmill was finally delivered to Ritter about three weeks ago.

Hagenstein Lectures – Emerging Voices in Forestry

The World Forestry Center and Society of American Foresters invite you to join us on October 15th from 1-5 pm at the World Forestry Center (Cheatham Hall) for The Hagenstein Lectures. We are honored to introduce you to our Emerging Voices in Forestry – all under the age of 45. Welcome these new leaders working at the forefront of social, economic, and environmental change.

Craft beer, wine, food, new friends, provocative ideas, great conversation. Cost is FREE with registration at www.hagensteinlectures.org .

Forest Forum



COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE
OREGON SMALL WOODLANDS
ASSOCIATION

Potpourri

New Members: Welcome to new members **Anna Jesse** of Cornelius, **Eric and Cheryl Belt** of North Plains, **Hans Koch and Lindsey Laughlin** of Portland, **Frances Sterns** of Hillsboro and **Kate Grandusky** 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.

OSWA Board Meeting, Sept. 29: OSWA (Oregon Small Woodlands Association) is the glue that holds the county chapters together and the strength of the chapters support OSWA as well. Membership was an important topic at this meeting as increasing membership not only funds the budget, but reflects the strength and influence of OSWA in forestry related issues. We are proud to announce that WCSWA had the most new members this year – 25. Let's keep new members coming! Partner reports were given from ODF, OSU Extension, OFIC, OTFS, OFRI and CFF. OSWA Committees reported from membership, Government Affairs Committee and Smoke Management. Doug Eddy represented WCSWA at the September 29th Board Meeting in Salem. Thank you, Doug

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