

Forest Forum

Washington County Small Woodlands Association

December, 2017

WCSWA 2017 Banquet Speaker Timm Locke on New Forest Products



John Dummer presents speaker gift to Timm Locke

Timm Locke of the Oregon Forest Resource Institute was the guest speaker for the 2017 Annual Meeting of the Washington County Small Woodlands Association held at the Meriwether National Golf Club. Timm spoke about the emerging market of **Mass Timber** in commercial construction. Mass Timber is the term used to describe several types of engineered wood, the processes of turning raw wood into value-added wood products and how the new products can be used in new construction. The types of Mass Timber include:

Cross-Laminated Timber (CLT) is made by adhering lumber into large panels several layers thick. Each layer runs perpendicular to the adjacent layers and the end product can be used to build walls, floors and roofs.

Glued-Laminated Timber (Glulam) is made of wood laminations that are bonded together with strong

adhesives. The uses for Glulam include garage door headers, floor beams and curving beams for arches and decorative structural beams.

Laminated Veneer Lumber (LVL) is constructed by bonding thin wood veneers together into a large board called a billet. The billet can be sawed into desired dimensions for rafters, beams, rim board, scaffolding and studs.

Mass Plywood Panel (MPP) is veneer-based engineering similar to plywood only on a larger scale up to 12 feet wide, 48 feet long and 24 inches thick and is used similar to CLT.

Nail-Laminated Timber (NLT) uses nails as the binder to adhere the wood pieces together and can be used in floors, decks, roofs, and shafts for elevators or stairs. **(See Mass Timber, page 7)**

January WCSWA Program

What's Involved In A Logging Operation?

The January presentation will be given by Banks' **Marcus Bigsby** (and possibly another local logger) and will focus on the logger's perspective regarding logging options for small woodland owners. Many small woodland owners will have the opportunity to harvest timber only one or two times during their tenure on their property. Even if a small woodland owner harvests more than once, logging technology, markets, site conditions, and logging goals may be different from one harvest to another. These factors can make a significant difference in the feasibility, cost, and results of the logging operation.

Tuesday, January 23rd Time: 7:00 p.m. Place: North Plains Fire Hall

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

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

Legislative Committee Chair:

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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;

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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

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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) Facebook users: Help WCSWA keep our Facebook page up-to-date.

Event Calendar

December		No Meeting Scheduled	Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays
January	23 rd	What's Involved in a Logging Operation?	7 p.m., North Plains Fire Hall
February	27 th	Forest Land Assessment and Surveying	7 p.m., North Plains Fire Hall
March	27 th	Chehalem Ridge Nature Park	7 p.m., North Plains Fire Hall
April	24 th	Forest Inventory and Assessment – National, State and Local (tentative)	7 p.m., North Plains Fire Hall

Leadership Notes

The Washington County Small Woodlands Association (WCSWA) Annual Banquet was held November 18th at the Meriwether National Golf Club in Hillsboro. 104 people enjoyed the banquet! The program included: good company, good food, door prizes, scholarship benefit raffle, election of Officers and Board members, various awards including the 2017 Tree Farmer of the Year for Washington County, and keynote speaker, Timm Locke. This was my first year as MC of the event, and I wish to thank Beth Adams and her crew for the outstanding organization, and to Stuart and Leah Mulholland for acquiring and awarding door prizes in such a fun way and to runner Lynn Harrel for keeping up the pace to deliver the prizes. There was a map of Washington County for you to mark the location of your tree farm, and Marge Hayes brought some of her intriguing artwork of encaustic painting which features mixed media representing very realistic tree-type designs. With so much to offer, I'm entertaining the thought of starting next year's Banquet at 5:00 instead of 5:30 to give people more time to enjoy.

Something new this year was the Scholarship Benefit Raffle. Six lovely and diverse items were donated and you could choose where put your raffle tickets. We raised \$640 for scholarships. This will be added to the \$25,000 WCSWA Endowment Fund at OSU from which we give a \$2,000 scholarship each year to a student in the Department of Forestry with a preference for a Washington County student. Our goal is to increase the Endowment to \$50,000 which will generate \$2,000 per year just from interest alone. Thank you everyone who enjoyed the raffle.

The first order of business was election of Officers and Board Members. Board positions #5 and #6 were open this year. Doug Eddy and Karen Graham have served in these positions for a long time and were retiring. Kent Grewe agreed to run for position #5 and Cathy Dummer for position #6. Kent is a neurosurgeon when he is not messing around on one of his woodlands. He has planted thousands of seedlings over the years, even by the light of his headlamp. We welcome his insight to the Board. Cathy is past co-president of WCSWA. She and John were Tree Farmers of the Year for Washington County in 2014. We value Cathy's experience on the Board. Officer positions are one-year terms, and all Officers agreed to run for another year. There were no nominations from the floor, and the slate offered was passed unanimously. The following people will take office on January 1st, 2018. It should be a strong leadership team.

President: Bonnie Shumaker Board Position #3: Susan Schmidlin
Vice President: Vic Herinckx Board Position #4: Tony Spiering
Secretary/Treasurer: Bob Shumaker Board Position #5: Kent Grewe
Board Position #1: Deb Kapfer Board Position #6: Cathy Dummer
Board Position #2: Sam Sadtler

Jim James, OSWA's Executive Director, gave a short speech on the happenings and value of our organization which is the voice of the small woodland owner in Oregon. He presented John and Cathy Dummer with the 2017 Volunteer of the Year Award for WCSWA.

Dallas Boge then announced the 2017 Tree Farmer of the Year for Washington County: Richard and Connie Gaebel. They were presented with a handsome sign donated by Stimson Lumber. Please see the article on page 8 to find out more about Richard and Connie's tree farm and their exemplary stewardship.

Bonnie Shumaker

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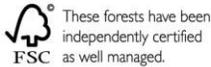
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Tax Season – Are You Ready?

With the end of 2017 in sight, you might need to start thinking about preparing your tax return. Dr. Linda Wang, National Timber Tax Specialist for the US Forest Service, reminds us of some important considerations in the federal tax code:

- Maintaining capital gains treatment of timber sales – 20% long-term capital gains rate beats the ordinary income rate!
- Reforestation cost deduction – Deduct the first \$10,000 for reforestation, amortize the rest.
- Timber management expense deduction – deduct expenses for road maintenance, consultants, etc.
- Net investment tax of 3.8% - if you've had a big harvest, you may have to pay an additional tax!
- Casualty loss from wind, fire – If you've been hit with a natural disaster, you may qualify.
- Timber depletion deduction – Know your basis, and claim your depletion when you harvest.
- Federal estate tax – the current exemption is \$5.45 for an individual; \$10.9 million for a couple, and heirs receive a stepped-up basis. Timber owners may elect to value the timber property at its current use vs. the highest and best use. Current tax law proposals may change these provisions.
- For more information, visit the National Timber Tax website, www.timbertax.org

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Mass Timber, from page 1

Traditional steel and concrete make up the major components of building materials, but they come at a cost. Mining the components, making the individual components into product, and shipment of product all cost money and valuable resources. Energy efficiency of the completed structure does not come close to making up for the amount of emissions deposited into the atmosphere and back into the ground water during the removal and production process. Mass Timber construction could be the more 'green' approach to building.

Oregon is front and center with innovative uses for wood designs including high rise buildings and large structures. A benefit of wood as the structural design allows for natural lighting to be used where steel and concrete would not allow gaps in beams and retaining walls. An example of an interior stair well that allowed sunlight into the center of a tall building was described. The environmental benefits of wood include storing carbon that is inherent in natural fiber. The appeal of natural materials goes well beyond the structures themselves. The beauty of wood makes businesses and homes more comfortable with studies showing advanced productivity of those who spend time in structures that are comprised of natural materials.

OFRI in connection with OSU, U of O, and the US Forest Service are spreading the word that since Oregon is in the business of growing trees, the raw material is readily available. The new uses that are being developed for Mass Timber fits well with the State and what small woodland owners are doing to make sure there is enough supply for the future of buildings not only here in Oregon but perhaps all over the world.

"We get into trouble only if we see the tree in the garden as wholly artificial and the tree in wilderness as wholly natural. Both trees in some ultimate sense are wild; both in a practical sense now require our care. We need to reconcile them, to see a natural landscape that is also cultural, in which city, suburb, countryside and wilderness each has its own place." F. William Cronon, from "The Trouble with Wilderness."

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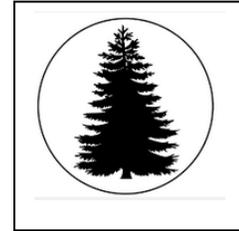
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Gaebel Tree Farm: 2017 Tree Farm of the Year

Rich and Connie Gaebel, owners of the Gaebel Tree Farm, were announced as the Washington County Small Woodlands Association Tree Farmers of the Year at the WCSWA Annual Banquet. Dallas Boge, chair of the WCSWA Tree Farm Committee, announced the award. Stimson Lumber Company has generously provided a colorful sign to memorialize their achievement, and the sign was presented to Rich and Connie by Roger Van Dyke of Stimson Lumber Company.

The 40 acre Gaebel Tree Farm lies along the East Fork of Dairy Creek, and is accessible by a bridge constructed by the Gaebels across the creek. The farm is fully stocked with a mixture of large second growth and various aged plantations. Over the years the Gaebels have done their share of forest stewardship activities, including planting, thinning, brush control – and even installed a small pond that is stocked with fish. They live on their tree farm, and their passion for it is evident in the work they have done over the years.

An old railroad grade and sawmill site – as well as the remains of a "Rose City Bus" (pulled onto the property and used as a rest stop for a well-developed trail system that previous owners in the area had established), are evidence of a rich history of early settlement in the East Fork Dairy Creek area.



Forest heroes: it begins with logging

by Bill Cook, Michigan State University Extension, June 14, 2017

Every material thing we use begins with extraction of natural resources and ends with disposal.

The only truly renewable and sustainable raw material is wood and that begins with logging.

The extraction, processing, manufacturing and eventual disposal of raw materials and goods entails a complex web of economic activity and energy consumption. The full “life cycle” of a particular product describes the impacts of that product from its cradle to its grave. The impacts can have various measures, such as energy consumption, carbon balance or water use.

Wood, by any measure, is the most environmentally-friendly raw material at our disposal. For these reasons, an environmentally-conscious person ought to be favoring wood use over other natural resources, within the sustainability limits of the forests, of course. Loggers are our allies in building a more sustainable society.

Tree harvesting is a noble thing. Thousands of products that we use every day are made from wood or have wood elements in them. This includes the obvious, such as our homes, paper products and furniture. However, there are also chemicals, pharmaceuticals, clothing fiber, carbon fiber, foods, “plastic” bottles, energy products and many other things. Organic aspirin comes from willows. Rayon fabric is made largely from wood pulp. Even tall buildings are increasingly being constructed of wood.

Forests grow back after a harvest. Other natural resources such as metal ores, coal, petroleum and natural gas do not grow back. We can reduce, reuse and recycle, but only wood is also renewable. The extraction and processing of wood products takes far less energy, carbon and water than other raw materials.

A managed forest landscape captures solar energy, extracts carbon at no financial cost to us and produces a wide range of goods and environmental services, including wood, water and habitat. This can't be said about a soybean field. A managed forest provides more of all these benefits and logging is an integral part of that process. Logging may be the only extractive operation that contributes to environmental health. For example, it's nearly impossible to remove trees damaged by exotic species if loggers are not available.

A forest cannot be managed without adding and subtracting trees. Logging cannot occur without a healthy forest industry. Better forest management happens where the forest product markets are more diverse and robust, as there is greater demand for the range of harvest products. A healthy forest industry not only contributes to the economic health of our communities, but contributes mightily to our environmental health through increased management opportunities. This all begins with the logging contractor.

The media often boldly report about renewable energy in the form of solar and wind technologies, and even some rather currently obscure ideas. Those are fine, however, the majority of renewable energy is currently produced by woody biomass. We often hear about advances in the production of alternative technologies for electricity generation and sometimes for transportation fuels. Yet, we seldom hear about the largest energy consumption need in the Lake States: heating. Many heating and cooling needs can be readily accommodated using existing advanced wood-based technologies. The fuel source is local, and the jobs and economic impacts cannot be outsourced.

Loggers are typically family-owned businesses, often with over a million dollars on the line. They operate under difficult conditions, physically, regulatory and economically. And, it's getting harder, not easier. They're a hard-working, versatile bunch that, by and large, are excellent community role models. Few industries are scrutinized as closely as the forest industry. Yet, few industries have as many collateral benefits as logging and the forest industry

**John & Cathy Dummer Honored –
OSWA Volunteers of the Year for
Washington County**

For their years of service as Chapter officers, and for valuable contributions to many WCSWA events, John and Cathy Dummer are presented with a certificate – **2017 Volunteers of the Year for Washington County**, by Jim James, OSWA Executive Director.

The certificate was presented at the 2017 Annual WCSWA Banquet.



Study Finds That Logging Roads Have Minimal Effects On Fish Habitat

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 sampled five streams above and below unpaved roads in the Trask River watershed in the northern Oregon Coast Range from 2010-2013. They found that roads in these watersheds were contributing only minimal levels of silt to the streams - not enough to be "biologically significant" for aquatic life. Their findings 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.

An excess of fine-grained suspended sediment in forest streams has long been known to harm fish and other organisms and degrade the aquatic ecosystem. The silt clogs the gills of fish, makes it harder for them to see and suffocates their eggs. Even relatively small changes in suspended sediment concentrations can adversely affect aquatic biodiversity, Arismendi said. Decades ago, forest roads were built by bulldozers dumping unstable material down steep slopes. Early forest roads and their ditches also delivered water and sediment directly into streams. By the 1980s, forest management practices were being refined to mitigate and minimize stream sedimentation. Road builders hauled away the displaced soil instead of leaving it to be washed downhill. The practice now, said Arismendi, is to route forest road runoff to the hillslopes instead of into the stream.

The research team included scientists from OSU, the U.S. Forest Service Pacific Northwest Research Station, Weyerhaeuser Co., and the Oregon Department of Forestry. They sampled before and after road construction and after forest harvest and hauling. They tested whether the differences between paired samples from above and below road crossing exceeded various biological thresholds. They predicted there would be significantly higher suspended sediment and turbidity, which is a measure of cloudiness in water. The team was surprised to find only minimal increases, said Sherri Johnson, a scientist with the U.S. Forest Service Pacific Northwest Research Station and co-author of the study. They did find that concentrations and transport of suspended sediment seemed to be highly influenced by local conditions, such as one case of a streamside tree uprooted in a windstorm.

Article taken from Natural Resource Report - <http://naturalresourcereport.com>

URL to article: <http://naturalresourcereport.com/2017/08/osu-extension-service-better-forest-roads-lead-to-healthy-waterways/>

Habitat Logs: How to Help the Creepy Crawlies on the Forest Floor

Downed logs provide shelter to many forest species, including the rough-skinned newt, which sometimes overwinters in old logs. The forest floor is rich with life, largely unseen, largely small. Salamanders and small mammals creep and crawl about in the great struggle for survival that is nature. While battling with red teeth and claws, they need quiet places to rest, reproduce, feed and regroup. All of this drama quietly unfolds beneath our very feet, and downed logs play an integral role.



These creatures live beneath and within the rich decayed material that is derived from our forests. Wood and leaves break down mostly through fungus, enhanced by the actions of insects, amphibians, reptiles and small mammals that chew wood, and move spores about. Dead trees that have fallen over and become down logs offer some of the richest habitats in this universe of decay.

Many amphibians and small mammals make use of cavities in down wood for important life history phases. For example, many salamanders breed and feed in decayed wood and use spaces in rotting logs for critical cover. Red-backed voles and deer mice use interstitial spaces in dead logs and snags for cover and places to look for food. Douglas squirrels cache cones in down logs and use cavities large enough for them to enter. Pine marten and snowshoe hares covet large cavities in, and cover under, down logs.

Yet, the down log can be a solid eminence for many years, and these animals sometimes have to wait for time to open up the logs to allow their entrance. Breaks, cracks and holes created by physical damage, animals or the action of fungus can take a long time to appear, or might never exist at all, before the log crumbles away into soil.

Can we help? Of course! Targeted management action can enhance this process and provide immediate habitat for these small, unheralded but essential organisms. The normal tools of forestry applied in the cause of habitat creation will suffice; in other words, a chainsaw and a thoughtful operator. The purpose is to expedite the processes where the animals can get inside of the log to propagate, feed and hide. Wildlife species that benefit from this work include salamanders, mollusks (snails and slugs), beetles and other arthropods, ants, spiders and many small mammals such as mice or voles. Logs that are still sound and not too soft are best. Any species is good, but in western Washington the best are, (in order), cedar, fir, hemlock and then any hardwoods like alder or cottonwood. Bigger is better, always. Since many of these creatures we are targeting like moist places, the closer to the riparian areas the better." Lying across, rather than down, a slope is preferred, as the uphill portion of the log will collect soil and moisture.

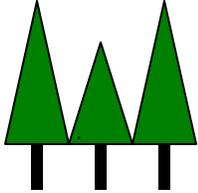
A "habitat log" is created by using a chainsaw to cut into the log at various angles and provide entrances and cavities within the log for the use of small wildlife. A series of slits and slashes into the log allows wildlife to access the inside of the log right away. Some cuts should be down low so that creatures on the ground can access the interior of the log. Slits should be about three times the saw's width to be large enough for these small critters to enter.



Down logs benefit many forest wildlife species, and provide opportunity for the small forest landowner to enhance habitats. Be creative. Use your saw to hollow out solid logs and help the little critters use them more, and sooner, in the decay process.

Article and photos by Ken Bevis, Washington DNR

Forest Forum



COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE
OREGON SMALL WOODLANDS
ASSOCIATION

Potpourri

New Members: Welcome to new members **Nels Gabbert** of Portland, and **Scott Gray** of Gaston. 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.

OSU Extension has published 3 pamphlets to help family forest owners find or hire professionals including:

- Finding the right accountant/preparer <https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/em9169>
- Choosing the right logging contractor <https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/em9170>
- Choosing the right chemical applicator <https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/em9171>

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