

Forest Forum

Washington County Small Woodlands Association

May, 2019

Annual WCSWA Potluck – May 21

RSVP by May 15 to Tony Spiering - 503 680-8112 or e-mail aespiering@gmail.com

Location: Tony and Mary Spiering's
15115 NW Old Pumpkin Ridge Road
North Plains, OR 97133
Phone: 503-680-8112

Agenda:
5 to 6 pm Arrival and Socialize
6 to 7 pm Potluck Meal
6:45 to 7:30 Speaker and Presentation

What to bring:

Potluck dish of choice, lawn chairs and own alcohol (if desired).
WCSWA will furnish Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, & fixings, plus water & punch.

Parking:

Across the road of the residence (follow signs).

Presentation:

Mike Pihl will present a brief history of Pihl Logging with an overview of all aspects of logging from cutting to marketing including the effects of tariffs on the industry. Mike will also be bringing a Kubota mini-hoe with log grapples. This is a unique machine that is great for maneuvering around on small private patches.

Directions: GPS to 15115 NW Old Pumpkin Ridge works! No GPS? Call or email Tony

Looking forward to a good time with friends, food, and a lively discussion on logging in today's environment!



Kristin Slavin, Path Architecture

WCSWA Meeting, April 23

Mass Timber Construction

Contributed by Susan Schmidlin

Seven floors of condo units above a ground floor of retail space is not a unique addition to the Portland skyline, but one comprised mostly of wood is. The 85-foot-tall, 8 storied building known as Carbon 12 features the tallest mass timber and cross-laminated timber (CLT) building in the United States.

Continued on page 8

WCSWA Leadership

President – Bonnie Shumaker, 503-324-7825
Vice-President – Vic Herinckx, 503-645-9434
Secretary-Treasurer – Bob Shumaker; 503-324-7825

Board of Directors:

Pos. #1: Norbert LePage, 503-985-0149
 Pos. #2: Marc Ahrendt, 503—928-2083
 Pos. #3: Susan Schmidlin, 503-429-7861
 Pos. #4: Tony Spiering, 503-680-8112
 Pos. #5: Cathy Dummer, 503-703-6573
 Pos. #6: Kent Grewe 503-701-2087

Legislative Committee Chair: Scott Hayes 503-568-9999

Membership Committee: WCSWA Board members

Program Committee: John and Cathy Dummer – 503-970-8789, Mike Messier, 503-233-2131, Bill Triest – 503-705-5833

Tualatin River Watershed Council Representatives: Tom Nygren, primary, 503-628-5472, Eric Chambers, alternate, 503-647-2458

EMAIL FOR ANYONE ON THIS PAGE: washcosmallwoodlandsassoc@gmail.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 and 503-324-7825
 Proofreaders: Bonnie Shumaker, Dan Hundley, Tom Nygren, Ardis Schroeder

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. (3 month limit)

For Sale: No New Items to List

Wanted: * **Log Sections** for Custom Tabletops. I'm looking to salvage short (approx. 3 ft) sections of freshly-felled logs, 14-18" diameter over bark. Doug fir, cedar or maple. Will trade for a custom table made from your own wood. Miles, 971-285-6960, ridgebacktrees@gmail.com.

* **4x4 truck.** Not too concerned about cosmetic appearance, transmission style (auto/manual), or interior features. Just must be 3/4 or 1 ton rated, 4x4, tow hitch (also interested in getting a trailer), and no major mechanical problems. Marc Ahrendt (503-928-2083)

Event Calendar

May	21	WCSWA Annual Potluck: Presentation by Mike Pihl, and demo of Kubota mini-hoe with log grapples	Tony and Mary Spiering's property – see page 1
June	7	Matteson Forest Work Party	RSVP: Sonia Reagan, 503-397-3462. Article in Potpourri, page 12 & Matteson, page 10
	10-11	Early Seral Biodiversity and Management - OSU	www.forestbiodiversity.org/earlyseral
	20-22	OSWA Annual Meeting, Corvallis	Registrations mailed from OSWA
July	20	Tree Farmer of the Year tour	Ernie and Linda Rieben's tree farm on Cedar Canyon Road
August	23	WCSWA Mill tour, Longview Fibre chip processing plant	Information to follow later

Leadership Notes

Bob and I just got back from a week-long trailer trip, and guess what we saw – trees! Lots of them, big ones, too. Our furthest south destination was the redwood forests around Crescent City, California. The first trees to gather our attention, though, were along I-5 south of Roseburg. The forests growing on both sides of the freeway here were strewn with downed trees like jackstraws, some of which apparently had reached the freeway, judging by the fresh cuts from clean-up.

We can only imagine that this was the result of the March snow and wind storm. This area had record amounts of snow, and we could tell that certain areas must have had significant wind gusts as well to cause the destruction we saw. We also saw the same damage on a day trip out of Reedsport on Hwy 38, but not on our way home where we cut over from Florence to Eugene on Hwy 126. I guess, as in real estate, it's all about location, location, location.

Around Crescent City, the redwoods were as awe-inspiring as ever. These Coast Redwoods, *Sequoia sempervirens*, used to be prevalent in many locations, but since the Ice Age, only grow in this strip of coastal land in Northern California and Southern Oregon. They aren't the most massive tree on earth. The giant sequoia *Sequoiadendron giganteum*, of inland California, claims that, but they are plenty big and claim the distinction of being the tallest trees on earth.



Bob and Bailey on Walker Road

It had been about eight years since we had been in this area. One of the drives we made sure to do was along Highland Hill Road which connects Crescent City to Hwy 199 near where we were camped. This is a narrow, unmaintained road with a speed limit of 15 mph for the most part. Fortunately, it is lightly travelled and has enough pull-outs to make it relatively safe.

We remembered the redwoods that encroached upon the road, sometimes opposite each other making for a very narrow passageway. I was curious to see if I could detect any noticeable difference in further road narrowing from these growing trees since my memory from eight years ago, but it seemed about the same. When you are this huge already, even good growth would result in very little increase in dbh.

At the ranger station, we were told of a dog-friendly walk among these giant trees. Most of the redwoods are now part of either National or State Forests and do not allow dogs on trails, but we were directed to Walker Road, a little-used road where we could enjoy the beauty of these trees up close and personal with our dog, Bailey.

We also visited "Trees of Mystery," a tourist attraction south of Crescent City. It looked very touristy at first, but the trail up to the tram was beautiful with good educational signage. One interesting tree was a huge hollow burned-out snag. One winter, during a huge rainstorm, it was struck by lightning and burned from the top clear down to its roots. Fortunately, the rainstorm kept any surrounding trees from the fire. The tram ride gave a tree-top view of the spruce, fir, and redwood forest below with a great view at the top. We do love trees. It was a great trip.

Bonnie Shumaker

Advertising Opportunity: The Forest Forum is a monthly newsletter sent out to over 300 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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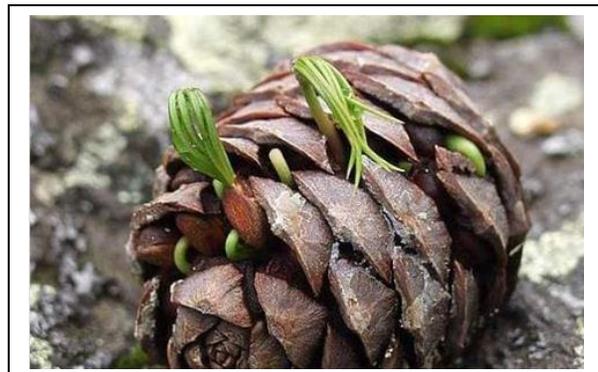


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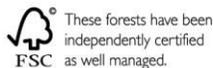


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First Female President Elected to Camp 18 Logging Museum Board

The Daily Astorian, Apr 18, 2019

SEASIDE — Effective in March, the Camp 18 Logging Museum Board voted in its first female president, Allina Schmeltzer. A board member since 2015, she has volunteered to serve in the role after the previous president stepped down. Schmeltzer joined the board to honor her late father, Mark Schmeltzer, who worked in the forestry industry and was dedicated into the Loggers Memorial in 2015.

Schmeltzer has a degree in English with a writing minor from Portland State University, and has been serving as the board's secretary since she joined. As a native Oregonian, she is passionate about educating the public on the importance of the logging industry and for creating a space that will commemorate those who have served it.

The board is raising money for a new museum and memorial building which honors the men and women who served this industry. There are about 400 plaques in the existing building, and space is limited. The Camp 18 Loggers Memorial, at 42364 U.S. Highway 26 in Seaside, holds its annual dedication at 10 a.m. May 11. A live auction follows to raise money for the new building. All are welcome. For information, or to donate, call Allina Schmeltzer at 503-956-4631 or go to camp18loggingmuseum.org

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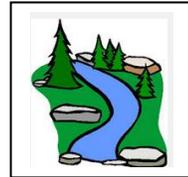
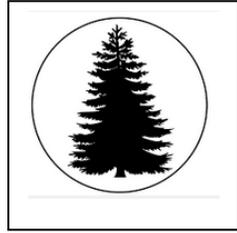
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New Book: Managing Insects and Diseases of Oregon Conifers

This 134-page book is written by current and former OSU Extension forest health experts. It discusses options for managing major insect pests and diseases of conifers in Oregon forests: bark beetles, wood borers, and ambrosia beetles; defoliators; root diseases and stem decays, and more. Full color with extensive reference section. Cost: \$18, order at: <https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/em8980>.

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Interactive Database: America's Forests

The U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities (Endowment) announces the completion of its interactive website, [State of America's Forests](https://usaforests.org/) (<https://usaforests.org/>).

This online multimedia guide puts relevant information related to our nation's forests in the hands of the public and professionals in intuitive ways never before accessible through exploratory maps, graphs, charts, and videos. Check it out!

Mass Timber Construction, Continued from page 1

One of the main goals of using more wood than steel or cement comes down to carbon. Making the products that need to be mined and smelted, or removed from beaches are finite resources using great amounts of carbon to produce.

Growing trees is what we already do and can continue in order to provide a sustainable resource that just happens to sequester carbon.

Working and living in a building that is made of wood is lighter in weight than steel or cement, yet has better acoustics than fabricated materials. The thickness of the wood provides insulation benefits, creating lower heating and cooling costs and seismic benefits from the natural tension strength in the membranes of the wood.

Building with wood components makes for a quick building. Instead of building a framework for the whole structure then coming back to put up corridors, walls and halls, Carbon 12 was built one floor at a time. Once the ground floor was complete the HVAC, electrical, and sprinkler systems could be installed as the next floor was being set up. It took only 8 weeks for the building to be built with the interior systems well on their way.

There are downfalls to building with wood as the main component of a tall building. Manufacturing of the components for mass timber/cross-laminated timber are specialized processes, local companies are few and far between. The panels for Carbon 12 had to be made and shipped from Structurlam in Canada for the building.

The wood panels are precise, in fact they are more exact than cement or steel components. Adjustments had to be built into the architecture designs to ensure the joints between mediums were not only structurally solid but exact within millimeters.

Helping Landowners Learn from Their Peers About Harvest Options

Northwest Natural Resource Group and Oregon State University are reaching out to forest owners for a voluntary study about timber harvesting methods to understand how they affect both financial and forest health outcomes.

The goal of this research project is to help landowners who are considering a timber harvest to learn from the experiences of others. There is limited information about the economics of commercial timber harvests that use thinning or uneven-aged management, and how those results compare with other harvest methods. The researchers are looking to survey Oregon and Washington forest owners who harvested timber from their forest in the past five years (since 2014) and are willing to share information about the silvicultural methods and financial outcomes from these recent timber harvests. The survey asks detailed questions about the harvest techniques and equipment used, the volume of timber harvested, cost of the harvest work, and the harvest revenues.



The results of this study will be shared with forest owners through a variety of methods including articles, papers, and classes taught by NNRG, OSU, and partner organizations. Data in the study will remain confidential within the research team. Information will be aggregated so it cannot be traced to any individual ownership. Data will be collected through June 2019.

If you are willing to share recent harvest information with NNRG and OSU, contact Lindsay Malone, one of the project researchers, at lindsay@nrg.org. Lindsay can provide you with a copy of the survey. Learn more about this research project at nrg.org/thinning_study

Editors Note: This is a repeat article from the April Forest Forum, but it bears repeating. Data will be collected through June and your experience will be valuable to the project

Upcoming workshops with Tualatin SWCD!

Weed Watcher Workshops

These workshops provide an introduction to invasive species control, a walk-through of the weeds of greatest concern in Washington County, and time to practice identifying these plants with live samples. *Free!*

- [Tuesday, May 14th \(6pm - 8pm\) - Pacific University](#)
- [Tuesday, May 21st \(6pm - 8pm\) - St. Andrew Lutheran Church, Beaverton](#)

Rain Barrel Workshops

Tualatin SWCD and Tualatin Riverkeepers are teaming up to provide two rain barrel workshops this spring. Learn how storing rain water is beneficial to the environment and your wallet - and take home a barrel and installation kit! *Free!*

- [Saturday, May 18th \(10am - 2pm\) - Tualatin SWCD](#)

Matteson Demonstration Forest Happenings

From Tall Timber Topics, Spring, 2019, Amy Grotta

We have a lot of things going on at the Matteson Demonstration Forest. Over spring break, we had our first youth field trip to the forest, through a partnership with Beaverton PAL. I've begun a new applied research project involving monitoring for native bee populations. Throughout the summer I'll be out there collecting bees with some enthusiastic citizen scientists (bees only—no yellow jackets!). Also, we are planning to build a new foot trail that will connect the bottom of the property with the parking area, enabling people to walk a loop. On June 7, we'll have our first volunteer work party for those who would like to roll up your sleeves and lend a hand with that and other projects. RSVP: Sonia Reagan, 503-397-3462.

How Tree Diversity Regulates Invading Forest Pests

From an article March 25, 2019 D'Lyn Ford, NC State University News

A national-scale study of U.S. forests found strong relationships between the diversity of native tree species and the number of nonnative pests that pose economic and ecological threats to the nation's forests.

"Every few years we get a new exotic insect or disease that comes in and is able to do a number on our native forests," says Kevin Potter, a North Carolina State University research associate professor in the Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources.

"Emerald ash borer is clobbering a number of ash species in the Midwest and increasingly in the South. The chestnut, a magnificent tree that had immense ecosystem value as well as economic value in the South and North, is pretty much gone because of a pathogen. And hemlocks are under attack by the hemlock woolly adelgid from the Northeast along the Appalachian Mountains into the South."

To better understand how nonnative insects and diseases invade U.S. forests, researchers tested conflicting ideas about biodiversity. The first is that having more tree species can facilitate the diversity of pests by providing more places for them to gain a toehold. Another possibility is that tree biodiversity can have protective effects for forests, such as by diluting the pool of host trees and making it harder for pests to become established.

"We found that both facilitation and dilution seem to be happening at the same time," Potter says. "What we found is that native tree biodiversity really is important, but it's important in different ways at different times. As you have an increasing number of tree species, you have an increasing number of pest species, up to an inflection point where that relationship changes," Potter says. "Then you have a decreasing number of pest species as the number of host tree species increases."

Overall, counties where forests have 30 to 40 different host tree species tend to have the most nonnative pests. But the effects depend on whether the invader is a specialist that can infest only a single tree species or whether it's a generalist, like the gypsy moth, which can spread to more than 60 different hosts.

"Out West we have fewer insect and disease pests, but in some cases, they still do a lot of damage because the forests are not diverse. If you have a specialist pest come in and knock back one of the major components of your biodiversity, then that can have a greater impact. An example of how that works would be Sudden Oak Death, a disease in California that's affecting oaks there."

Researchers also examined other factors that could affect pest invasions, such as human population density and environmental conditions, including precipitation, elevation and average temperature. Tree biodiversity was a better predictor of nonnative pests, Potter says.

Results could help prioritize monitoring efforts for forests most at risk for future pest invasions, he says.

"The unfortunate reality is that a lot of times we don't notice these exotic pests and diseases until they've gotten established and start having an impact on our native species, when it's almost too late."

A millennium of years, and not a single good one

[Robert Mentzer](#), Wausau Daily Herald April 22, 2019

Doug Larson didn't always study trees. He started his career at the University of Guelph doing lichen biology — “rock scum,” he called it in our recent phone conversation. He looked at lots and lots of rock scum, became a world authority on the subject. He applied for a grant from the Canadian government and was told: No one cares about rock scum.

He looked around, and looked to the Niagara Escarpment, which cuts through Ontario near Guelph. In the same places where lichens are abundant, he noticed, there are trees. They're twisted, they're small, they're scraggly. But they *are* trees. Maybe, he thought, we could ask questions about how trees grow on rocks?

Larson would spend the next 30 years of his career meticulously proving the case that cliffs are the site of old-growth forests, and that cliff-dwelling trees are among the world's oldest organisms.

A tree that grows from a cliff doesn't get struck by lightning. It doesn't burn in a forest fire. It isn't cut down by humans who want to grow crops on the land, or build houses with its lumber — not that it has much lumber to give. These trees don't grow much, they don't look like much. But nobody bothers them. And so, they live and live.

The Greenleaf tree, the oldest known tree in Wisconsin at 1290 years. was 9 feet tall and 10 inches in diameter when Larson sampled it. It's inverted, meaning it's growing upside-down, reaching out and down from the cliff face. Its boughs aren't outspread. It doesn't even reach for the sun.

The side of a cliff face, Larson explained, is a terrible place to grow. The trees struggle for nutrition. Their root systems can't spread out and take hold. The water they do get comes from drips, not the great rainwater gulps an oak tree takes from the soil.

These cliff-dwelling trees “never do have a good year,” Larson said. “All the years are equally bad.” To measure their age, he used a ¼-inch drilling device, a biopsy needle for trees, to take a core sample small enough that it wouldn't hurt the tree. He aimed the drill through plastic straws he took from McDonald's. He did all this in full rock-climbing harness, hanging from the side of cliffs of 20 feet or more.

In the lab, Larson and his assistants sanded the samples down using ultra-fine sandpaper and scrutinized them with high-powered microscopes. They counted the rings. Some rings, he said, were literally two cells wide. Some years the trees didn't grow at all.

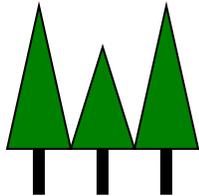
“We spent a fortune on radiocarbon dating,” he said, to confirm findings from their counts. It all showed that the counts were accurate. His research was published in peer-reviewed journals. His book, “Cliff Ecology,” advanced scientific understanding of a type of ecosystem no one had thought to study much before. And the results held up. In Canada, Wisconsin, France, Germany, Australia — on cliffs everywhere he looked, he found ancient trees.

Larson took a sample from a tree in France that had been growing there before the Romans left. The oldest tree he ever measured lived for 1,891 years. That one was dead by the time he found it.



Artist Eileen Dawson's depiction of oldest tree in Wisconsin. No actual pictures are available

Forest Forum



COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE
OREGON SMALL WOODLANDS
ASSOCIATION

Potpourri

New Members: Welcome to Mike Applebee of Banks, Jude Lichtenstein of Forest Grove and Jim LeTourneux of Sheridan. 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.

Volunteer Work Party at Matteson Demonstration Forest

Friday, June 7th, 10:00 am—1:00 pm. We have several projects at the Matteson Forest that require a few extra helping hands. We will be hauling and chipping slash that will be used as mulch in a new demonstration hedgerow planting. Additionally, we'll be lopping brush along the route of a new trail to be constructed beginning this fall. RSVP: Sonia Reagan, 503-397-3462

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