

# **Forest Forum**

## **Washington County Small Woodlands Association**

**October, 2019**

---

### ***Annual Banquet Coming Up – Hampton Guest Speaker***



The 2019 WCSWA Annual Banquet is coming up soon – **November 23<sup>rd</sup>**. This year's banquet will feature David Hampton, Owner and Board Director for Hampton Lumber Company, as our featured speaker. Hampton Lumber is a northwest, family-owned business that has deep roots in the area starting when Bud Hampton, David's grandfather, purchased his first sawmill in Willamina in 1942 to supply his lumber business in Tacoma. Today Hampton remains a family owned business with over 1,600 employees. Hampton Lumber includes a wholesale business that sells lumber throughout the United States and also includes an import/export division that works with customers worldwide.

The focus of Mr. Hampton's presentation will be his insights from the history of the company, its current operations and some notion of what the future might hold. He might also share a few thoughts on the local music scene. In addition to his duties at Hampton Lumber, Mr. Hampton is also a musician and is a member of the "rootsy, jamming rock" band, The Brother's Jam, which performs regularly in the Portland area. Plan to join us for the Washington County Small Woodlands Association Annual Banquet, [November 23, 2019](#) at Meriwether National Golf Club in Hillsboro.

The 2019 WCSWA Tree Farmer of the Year will also be announced. The Tree Farmer selected this year will represent Washington County in the Oregon Tree Farmer of the Year selection process – and could eventually compete for the Western Regional and National Tree Farmer of the Year. See the enclosed flyer for more information, and to RSVP.

### **WCSWA October 22 Meeting – 7:00 pm, North Plains Fire Station**

#### ***The Future of Forest Creatures – Exploring our Roles and Opportunities:***

We know that animals and plants, in addition to trees, are important parts of our local forests. In so many ways we help them and they help us.

This knowledge and appreciation raise questions such as:

- What roles do native animals play in the health and productivity of our forests?
- How are these forest-dependent animals doing in our northern Coast Range forests?
- What are we doing – and could we do – to help them – and how might they benefit us?

During WCSWA's monthly meeting on October 22, scientists **Lori Hennings**, of Metro, and **Sean Matthews** of OSU's Oregon Biodiversity Information Center. **Peter Hayes** of Hyla Woods will lead an exploration of the above questions.

**See WCSWA Meeting, page 8**

**WCSWA Leadership**

**President – Vic Herinckx, 503-645-9434**

**Vice-President – vacant**

**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](mailto:washcosmallwoodlandsassoc@gmail.com)

**WCSWA Website**

[www.wcswa.com](http://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:** No New Items to List

**Event Calendar**

<b>October</b>	22	North Plains Fire Station, 7:00pm	The Future of Forest Creatures – Exploring our Roles and Opportunities. See article page 9
<b>November</b>	2	Creating A Pollinator Hedgerow	10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Matteson Demonstration Forest. See notice on page 10.
	23	Annual WCSWA Banquet and Awards Meeting	Meriwether National Golf Club, Hillsboro. See article on page 1.
<b>December</b>		WCSWA – No Meeting this month	

WCSWA Board Member **Tony Spiering** attended the recent OSWA Board of Directors meeting representing WCSWA. He reported on the following highlights:

- OSWA membership grew by 4% last year to a total of 1742 members –194 new members and 93% existing member retention. Douglas County has the most new members with 62; Washington County was second with 21 new members.
- Succession Planning—Jim James has announced that he will be retiring as Executive Director at the end of 2020. Ken Nygren will chair the Succession Plan Committee, and is presently recruiting for committee positions – please contact Ken if interested!
- OSWA's legislative consultant Roger Beyer presented an overview of the 2019 session followed with a discussion of 2020 priorities. While there were successes in stopping forward movement on the many threatening issues to our beloved forestland, it appears they will be back with some additional negative impact issues in forestry. We need to **Stand up and be Noticed** for the positive impacts that forestry provides and somehow blunt the onslaught of all this non-value detrimental stuff that is flowing our way!
- Item of high interest for all of us—The Department of Forestry has 7 Board members. There will be 2 positions opening up next year and then 2 more in 2021. We need qualified individuals with an interest and passion in Forestry to assure fair representation. There are many current issues and concerns for small woodland owners that will be significantly affected by the Board of Forestry in the next few years – we need someone on the Board who understands our concerns! Are you interested yourself or do you know someone who would be a good Board Member? If so, contact Jim James or your WCSWA Board and let them know.
- Mike Barnes is planning a Forestry Trip to Italy in 2020. He led a successful and informative trip to Ireland in 2019. Anyone interested should contact Jeremy Felty at OSWA. ([Jeremy@oswa.org](mailto:Jeremy@oswa.org))
- Peavy Hall at Oregon State is due to be completed in the Spring of 2020. This will be the new home for Oregon State College of Forestry, complete with a lab for testing and developing Advanced Engineered wood products. Exciting news for our Industry providing a showcase of the forward-thinking stage for wood products. An open house is being scheduled in that time period.
- OSWA and Oregon Tree Farm System are considering applying to the American Tree Farm System to participate in the pilot of a new concept - the Landscape Management Plan. The aim of this concept is to enable a wide range of forest owners to easily access a basic forest planning process. The first step is to apply for financial assistance from the American Forest Foundation to develop the process. After debate, a motion was made and passed to move the plan forward under the support of OSWA and OTFS. When developed and implemented this would be an effective tool to engage a wider audience of forest owners in their properties, provide a gateway for developing a certified management plan, and give our future membership positive growth potential. More information will be forthcoming on this project.

## New Member Spotlight

Many of you will recognize Austin Finster as a past scholarship award winner. Austin is now a member of WCSWA and resides in Corvallis, currently working toward a Master of Science in Sustainable Forest Management. His area of focus is tethered logging systems and he will be spending some time studying tethered logging near Forks, WA. There are currently 40-50 tethered logging systems in the Northwest. Tethered logging involves the use of a ground anchor to assist logging machinery to maneuver on steep slopes. The concept is still pretty new, so Austin will research and compare them to other approaches in terms of productivity, soil compaction/erosion and worker health and safety. During summers and when he wants to get away from campus, Austin does forestry consulting work including management plans, small scale harvesting, fuel reduction and tree service work. He also enjoys working on the family tree farm in Clackamas County.

Austin can be reached at [finsterforestry@gmail.com](mailto:finsterforestry@gmail.com).

**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)

YES! I want to advertise in the WCSWA Forest Forum. Ad size: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is a check or money order for: 1 issue \_\_\_ 4 issues \_\_\_ 12 issues \_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_  
 Contact \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

	1 issue	4 issues	12 issues
1/12 page	\$20	\$40	\$100
1/6 page	30	60	150
1/4 page	40	80	200
1/3 page	50	100	250
1/2 page	75	150	375
2/3 page	100	200	500
Full page	150	300	750

Please send this form, ad copy, logos, photos, etc. to:  
**Bob Shumaker, 52490 NW Cedar Canyon Road, Banks, OR 97106**  
*Thank you for supporting Washington County Small Woodlands Association!*



**Lofthus Forestry Services**

Timber Cruising and Appraisals • Log Marketing • Logging Supervision  
 Forest Management  
*Working for you!*

Home: (503) 637-3145      Don Lofthus  
 Cell: (503) 201-4590      42704 SE Kleinsmith Rd.  
 Fax: (503) 637-6317      Sandy, OR 97055



**503-710-0545**  
 Greg Thompson, owner/operator  
[www.Landshaperllc.com](http://www.Landshaperllc.com)

Land Surveying/Planning/Engineering/Water Rights/Forestry



**Stuntzner Engineering & Forestry, LLC**

TEL 503-357-5717  
 FAX 503-357-5698  
 2318-B Pacific Ave.  
 Forest Grove, OR 97116

Serving small timberland owners in Oregon since 1968  
 Timber Sale Management – Timber Cruising and Appraisal  
 Land Use Planning For Rural Parcels

**“...Of all the paths in life, make sure a few of them are dirt.”**

**John Muir**



**www.ForestSeedlingNetwork.com**

**Bob McNitt, Forester**

bob@forestseedlingnetwork.com      1740 Shaff Rd. #306  
 503-769-9806      Stayton, OR 97383

Interactive website that connects forest landowners with seedling growers, forest management vendors & other technical assistance resources





A BALANCED APPROACH

TIMBER MANAGEMENT

ALTERNATIVES TO  
CLEARCUTTING

FOREST PLANNING  
AND RESTORATION



These forests have been  
independently certified  
as well managed.

PORTLAND FORESTERS – 503-222-9772

Scott Ferguson  
Barry Sims  
Mike Messier

CORVALLIS FORESTERS – 541-435-0383

Mark Miller  
Matt Fehrenbacher  
Shane Hetzler

Pamela Hines, Office Manager  
503-409-2888

info@troutmountain.com

Forest stewardship  
for productivity and diversity

www.TroutMountain.com

FSC Trademark © 1996 Forest Stewardship Council A.C. • SCS-FM/COC-00062GN

*Managing my land is a  
“lifestyle occupation.”  
I cannot imagine doing  
anything better for a living.*

Harry Merlo, Jr. quoted in World  
Forestry Center *Evergreen*  
Newsletter, August 2019

## Habitat Conservation Program HCP

### Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District

The Tualatin SWCD is excited to announce the launch of a new program to assist in the conservation of priority habitats in Washington County.

The Habitat Conservation Program (HCP) was created to fill gaps among the ongoing efforts of partners to conserve and restore native habitats important in Washington County.

This program focuses predominantly on private lands and supports restoration of aquatic/in-stream, oak/prairie, upland forest, wetland and riparian habitats on urban and rural lands.

Ideal candidates for the HCP program are landowners interested in voluntary habitat conservation. Tualatin SWCD provides project management and funds to complete work on the ground.

If you are interested in finding out more, contact Juli Waarvik at [juli.waarvik@tualatinswcd.org](mailto:juli.waarvik@tualatinswcd.org), or 503-334-2288 ext. 108.

## John Ragsdale Logging LLC



*Specializing in mechanical cutting and  
hand falling*

**John Ragsdale 503-858-8618**  
Jragsdale70@aol.com



## Good signs make good neighbors

Oregonians are more accepting of forest practices if they know forests are being planted after harvest. Let them know with a free PLANTED sign provided by the Oregon Forest Resources Institute.

Visit [KnowYourForest.org](http://KnowYourForest.org) and search for "Landowner signage"



Oregon Forest  
Resources Institute



# SILVASEED COMPANY

Seedling Nursery Since 1974

We bring experience with owners that care about their product and customers.

Approximately 10 million seedlings in annual production

1 container site (plugs), 2 bareroot/transplant sites (p+1, I+1)

Contract growing and spec seedlings for forestry and Christmas tree production

## LET US GROW YOUR SEEDLINGS

David Gerdes

Mike Gerdes

[inquiries@silvasced.com](mailto:inquiries@silvasced.com)

FORESTERS • NURSERYMAN • SEEDSMAN

# SILVASEED COMPANY

P.O. Box 118 • Roy, WA 98580 • (253) 843-2246

*"Serving Many of the Reforestation Needs of the World From This Location Since 1889"*

## FORESTLAND FOR SALE in OREGON & WASHINGTON

We market forestland properties in western Oregon and Washington. Check [www.WorldForestInvestment.com](http://www.WorldForestInvestment.com) for the latest properties available under "Forestland for Sale" tab.

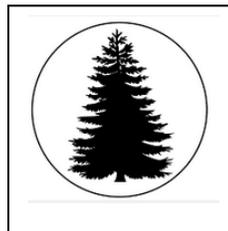
If you have a forestland property that you have considered selling; we offer free consultation and will come look at your land. If you are settling an estate, let us do the job of getting you the best price.

With 40 years of experience in forestry work, we can offer solutions from a practical forestry and financial standpoint.



Licensed Broker in Oregon and Washington.  
Professional Forester  
[Mark.Willhite@juno.com](mailto:Mark.Willhite@juno.com) 503-695-6419

Member: Society of American Foresters, Oregon Small Woodlands Association, Washington Farm Forestry Association, Forestland Owners Association, American Tree Farm System, and the International Society of Tropical Foresters.



### November 23rd: Leadership Changes Coming

The Annual WCSWA Banquet is coming up on Saturday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, at the Meriwether National Golf Club. At the Banquet, we will elect Officers and two Board Members for 2020. The following people have agreed to be considered for election. Nominations can also be made from the floor at the Banquet:

**President:** Vic Herinckx  
**Vice President:** Debi Lorence  
**Secretary-Treasurer:** Bob Shumaker

**Board of Directors:**  
**Position #3:** Susan Schmidlin  
**Position #4:** Tony Spiering



**Marcus Bigsby (503) 828-2047**  
P.O. Box 388  
Banks, Oregon 97106

### ***Some Trees May Shirk Their Parents – But Toxic Soil May Be The Real Culprit!***

In the study of forests, a central mystery has long stood unsolved: The seed that falls far from the tree does a whole lot better in life than the seed that stays close. Though scientists have never fully understood the reasons behind this pattern, they believe that something about the soil of an adult tree makes it unfriendly to seeds of the same species.

In a recent study published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, researchers grew seedlings in soil from various trees to probe this question. And they found an additional, fascinating wrinkle. The deadly effect is very particular: Seeds can actually grow relatively well in soil from trees of their own species. It's the specific soil of their parents that afflicts them most.

Furthermore, the team believes that what ails the offspring is bacteria living in the soil of their parent trees—not dangerous to the adult, but somehow adapted to sicken its own seedlings.

## **October WCSWA Meeting**, continued from page 1

Lori Hennings is a senior natural resource scientist for Metro. For the past 18 years she has helped plan and care for the 17,000+ acres of natural areas Metro tends on behalf of the public. Lori is currently working on Oregon white oak mapping and conservation, recreation ecology, wildlife habitat connectivity, bird and habitat surveys, site conservation plans, TMDL implementation and climate change adaptation. She has a strong interest in integrating conservation across spatial scales and is experienced in natural resource protection policy. Lori received a Master degree in Wildlife Science from OSU, and a B.Sc. from Portland State University.

Sean Mathews is a wildlife ecologist whose research program and teaching experience are focused on human-wildlife coexistence, carnivore ecology, demography and habitat relationships of wildlife populations, and applications of novel technologies to wildlife research and management. Currently, Sean is investigating the ecology of fishers, a house-cat-sized member of the weasel family. Sean is collaborating with tribal, federal, state, private-industry, and academic partners throughout the Pacific Northwest. Sean is also committed to productive engagement and capacity development to ensure sustainable use and conservation of natural and cultural resources in Native American communities. Sean holds Wildlife Management (B.S.) and Natural Resources (M.S.) degrees from Humboldt State University, and a Ph.D. in Environmental Conservation from the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

Peter Hayes is a long time member of Washington County Small Woodlands Association. Peter and his wife Pam own Hyla Woods. Peter is also a founder of the Build Local Alliance, and is well-known for his innovative approach to woodland management. Peter also served on the Oregon Board of Forestry. Peter's father, Edmund, was one of the early members of WCSWA and OSWA.

## **Susan Schmidlin – WCSWA Volunteer of the Year – and More!**

Susan Schmidlin was awarded the 2019 Washington County Small Woodlands Association Volunteer of the Year Award at the June OSWA Annual Meeting. Susan, who with her husband Mike own and manage their tree farm on Timber Road, has stepped up in many areas as a volunteer for WCSWA. She is on the Washington County Board of Directors, volunteers to take minutes, and updates the chapter website bi-monthly with the current chapter Forest Forum newsletter. She also has a daily blog, "Schmidlin Angus Farms," that shares in an educational and humorous way life on their farm – cattle, forest, gardening and wildlife. She is a "citizen scientist" for weather and seasonal changes. Susan volunteers to write for the Forest Forum whenever asked, and shares updating duties with Cathy Dummer for the WCSWA website. Her ever-smiling, cheerful attitude is an asset in any situation.

**But wait** – there's more! Susan has recently been selected to participate in the **Rural Education & Agriculture Leadership program (REAL OREGON)**. This is an annual leadership development program that exposes a cross-section of representatives from Oregon's natural resources community to the diversity of Oregon's geography, economy and cultures. REAL OREGON brings future leaders from agriculture, fishing, and forestry together to learn leadership skills and gain a greater understanding of Oregon through a series of statewide sessions. The mission is to grow natural resource leaders who make a difference for Oregon - leaders who seek positive outcomes, economic vitality, and natural resource stewardship to enhance the quality of life for all Oregonians.

Participants in the program will visit five different locations across the state to gain leadership skills and gain an in-depth understanding of the agriculture and natural resource sectors that define Oregon's economy. They will receive thorough training in many skills needed by leaders in the natural resources community, including board governance, communication skills, strategic planning, conflict resolution, government interaction and public policy, and urban-rural relationship building. REAL Oregon begins in November and concludes in March the following year, with the leadership group meeting one time per month. Class members will spend approximately 2.5 days in each of these locations.

# The Organic Truth: What 22 Years of Monitoring Reveals About Forest Soil Resiliency in the Kootenai National Forest

## Once Disturbed, Always Disturbed?

It is impossible to avoid disturbing the forest when harvesting timber. Trees are felled, and soil is compacted beneath heavy equipment during harvest operations. Yet on many sites, the landscape recovers. A year later, a future forest may already be growing, with saplings and shrubs reclaiming the open ground. Even the soil recovers, as the results of a 22-year monitoring study in western Montana have shown. This finding is contrary to what was the accepted assumption, that compacted soils take a long time to recover, if at all, which in turn affects forest productivity.

## Studying Soils Requires Patience and Getting Your Hands Dirty

Deborah Page-Dumroese, a research soil scientist with the Rocky Mountain Research Station, has spent her career studying the impact of timber harvest activities on soils. She is the lead author of the Forest Soil Disturbance Monitoring Protocol, which was adopted as a U.S. Forest Service standard method in 2009. When presented with the opportunity to work with Kootenai National Forest scientists John Gier, Kenneth Kindel, and Louis Kuennen to synthesize results of a long-term soil monitoring effort to determine soil recovery after timber harvesting and subsequent fuels treatments, Page-Dumroese welcomed the opportunity.

For researchers wanting to observe the recovery of landscapes after a disturbance, patience is required because data collection can span years and even decades to detect change and longer-term trends.

## KEY FINDINGS

- Soil texture and organic matter content greatly influence how soils recover from a disturbance. High organic matter is positively correlated with resilience.
- Over 80 percent of the harvest units showed soil recovery following timber harvest years later. Only 9 percent did not recover, while some units had 100 percent recovery.
- Root growth, freeze-thaw cycles, and soil fauna contribute to soil recovery from compaction.
- Using harvest equipment and methods that reduce forest floor compaction decreases soil disturbance that affects tree growth.

On 183 plots located within the Kootenai, Gier and his team collected soil samples from harvest units between 1992 through 2006, and again in 2012-2013. On each long-term plot, the soil was categorized as undisturbed, moderately disturbed, or heavily disturbed. By collecting samples from the same location years apart, they could determine recovery rates and how fuels treatment and soil type affected recovery.

After 22 years, 86 percent of the long-term plots showed reduced soil disturbance, and some units even had 100 percent soil recovery. Organic matter was a significant factor responsible for this observed recovery, along with an active freeze-thaw cycle, root growth, and presence of soil fauna. Page-Dumroese recalled being surprised by the results. “There are older studies conducted on soil similar to those in western Montana that said soil recovery could take up to 40 years or more,” she explained. “We saw recovery happening in the first five to seven years after harvest.”

Over one hundred crop species in North America require a visit from an insect pollinator to be most productive. Whether growing a hedgerow or windbreak, managing a riparian buffer, or farming near forests, agroforestry practices can increase the overall diversity of plants and physical structure in a landscape and, as a result, provide habitat for native pollinators. Agroforestry plantings can also benefit crop pollination.

Many flowering trees and shrubs used in agroforestry can provide critical pollen and nectar for pollinators, particularly early in the season when other flowering plants have yet to bloom. Some trees and shrubs planted for their production value also have pollinator benefits, such as berry-producing shrubs like blueberries and raspberries, ornamental plants like curly willow, and hardwoods like black cherry. Agroforestry plantings can also provide nesting habitat for bees.

OSU Forestry & Natural Resources Extension

## CREATING A POLLINATOR HEDGEROW

Learn • Help • Share

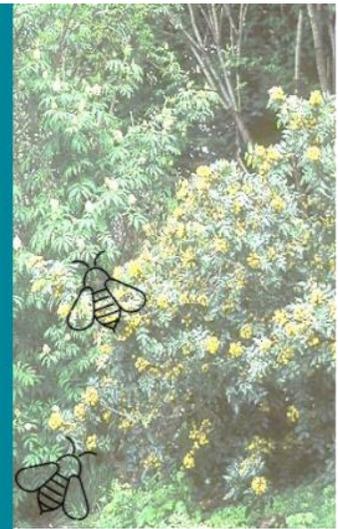
**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2**  
**10 AM - 1 PM**  
**MATTESON**  
**DEMONSTRATION FOREST**

What's a pollinator hedgerow? It's a dense linear planting of native flowering shrubs meant to attract pollinating insects. We are creating a demonstration pollinator hedgerow at the Matteson Forest and you're invited to help plant it and learn how to create one on your own property. We'll discuss site selection, choosing and sourcing plants, design and maintenance. Then we'll grab our shovels and get planting!

RAIN OR SHINE

Children 10 and up are welcome.

Register online: <https://beav.es/Ze2>  
Or call Sonia, 503-397-3462



This event is made possible by a generous Tualatin Watershed Improvement Grant from the Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District.



Accommodations for disabilities may be made by contacting 503-397-3462 or [Sonia.reagan@oregonstate.edu](mailto:Sonia.reagan@oregonstate.edu).

## Batteries From Trees?

Today, Finland's forest products industry is thriving and expanding into new markets by investing in innovative biobased technologies that diversify their product portfolio and increase their resilience in changing consumer markets. Finnish pulp and paper mills' transition to a bioeconomy rooted in forest biomass could provide a model for other forested areas.

One particular Finnish company, Stora Enso, has recently made an exciting and innovative new investment: manufacturing batteries out of trees.

Based in Helsinki, Finland, Stora Enso's history dates back to the 1300s, at which time they used wood for fuel and for heating for metal extraction. Today, Stora Enso uses wood in much more advanced applications. In addition to products in consumer board, packaging solutions, biomaterials, wood products, and paper, Stora Enso just announced an investment of \$11.2 million to build a pilot facility to produce lignin-based battery materials at their Sunila Mill in Finland.

The facility, anticipated for completion in early 2021, will process lignin (one of the three main components of trees) into carbon anode materials for lithium-ion batteries. In the future, these forest-based carbon anode materials could replace the mined and petroleum-based raw materials in widespread use today in electric vehicles, mobile phones, power tools, and more.

**Biobased Maine – August 29, 2019**

# Will We Plant Less Douglas-fir in the Future?

**OSU climate model shows that West Coast forest landowners will adapt to climate change by gradually switching from Douglas-fir to other types of trees such as hardwoods and ponderosa pine, according to a new Oregon State University study.**

The study, the first to estimate an economic model of forest-planting choices by landowners as a function of climate, is published in the *Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists*.

Natural science analyses of forests and climate find evidence that Douglas-fir will be less productive in the Pacific Northwest under a warming climate, but those analyses haven't considered how landowners will respond, said David Lewis, an economist in OSU's College of Agricultural Sciences and co-author on the study. Lewis co-authored the study with lead author Yukiko Hashida, a 2017 Ph.D. graduate from OSU who is now an assistant professor at the University of Georgia. "Our finding is based on evidence of forest planting choices along the West Coast," Lewis said. "The overall share of the forest landscape comprised of Douglas-fir will change gradually since only a small fraction of land is harvested every year."

About half of all non-federal forestland that is harvested in Oregon and Washington is currently replanted with Douglas-fir by landowners. But Douglas-fir will be less productive in the warming climate. The tree's ability to sequester carbon will diminish and landowners are more likely to switch to other trees, Lewis said.

Modeling by Hashida and Lewis suggests that share of Douglas-fir planting by landowners will shrink to 25% by the end of the century as landowners adapt their management to the projected warming climate. The study also finds that a carbon pricing policy that subsidizes forest landowners for sequestering carbon will accelerate the transition out of Douglas-fir. The carbon price rewards the climate-induced relative shift in productivity away from Douglas-fir and to hardwoods and ponderosa pine. Adding a policy that pays landowners to sequester and store carbon in forests will shrink the share of harvested land planted in Douglas-fir even further, to about 15%, he said.

Current policy examples of carbon sequestration in forests include the use of carbon offsets in California's cap-and-trade program for carbon, which was a model for Oregon's proposed program that failed to pass in the recently completed legislative session. The U.S. Conference of Mayors recently passed a resolution calling on Congress to pass a federal carbon pricing bill.

There will be trade-offs resulting from transitions out of Douglas-fir to other trees, Lewis said.

"Our model shows a change in the forest landscapes will generate habitat losses for wildlife specialized to Douglas-fir and habitat gains for wildlife specialized to other forest types," he said. "Subsidizing carbon sequestration may create unintended changes in the composition of forests and wildlife habitat."

[Materials](#) provided by [Oregon State University](#). Original written by Chris Branam.

## Drought Effects Evident in Western Oregon

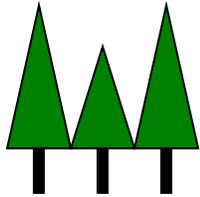
Even though we've had a mild summer, conifers in Oregon are still getting hit hard by several years of drought, to the point that many are dying.

"Beginning in 2013-14, we started to see significant impact on Doug-firs in western Oregon," said Dave Shaw, a forest health specialist with Oregon State University Extension Service. "Since evidence of drought often doesn't show up until the following spring, we are still experiencing problems from the last several dry years."

It's past the point of just Doug-firs dying. Many conifers, including western red cedar, incense cedar, grand fir and even valley ponderosa pine are succumbing, as well.

The first signs of drought damage are dropping more needles than usual and/or an abnormally high number of cones (called "stress crop"). That will be followed by dead branches or tree tops, and sometimes entire trees.

## Forest Forum



COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE  
OREGON SMALL WOODLANDS  
ASSOCIATION

### Potpourri

**New Members:** Welcome to        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.

Do you have a copy of the updated Third Edition of the OFRI publication *Oregon's Forest Protection Laws*? Every forest land owner should have a copy! Get a free (shipping free) copy from <https://oregonforests.org/node/549>

**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](http://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