

Forest Forum

Washington County Small Woodlands Association

February, 2021

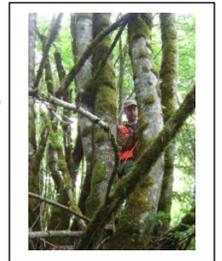
Wednesday, February 24th WCSWA Monthly Meeting: 7:00pm

Double Feature!

- **The Forest Floor: Managing for Beneficial Understory Vegetation**

A healthy forest consists of more than just vigorously growing trees. An intact understory of forbs and “middlestory” of shrubs is also highly important to support wildlife, biodiversity, and soil health. **Michael Ahr**, Forest Conservationist, and **Laura Taylor**, Conservationist & Education Coordinator, of West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District will briefly discuss replacing unwanted vegetation such as ivy, blackberry, and holly with beneficial native plants. They will dive into the details of replacing the unwanted weeds by planting shade tolerant wildflowers, grasses, and native shrubs. They will also focus on some of the key species that wildlife and forest pollinator species use, and share some take-home lessons from their planting trials in the Tualatin Mountains northwest of Portland.

Michael Ahr’s primary focus at West Multnomah SWCD is to assist woodland owners in developing and implementing management plans for their properties. Forest restoration projects include thinning, habitat enhancements such as native pollinator work, invasive species control, and erosion prevention often related to forest roads. He has a B.S. in Natural Resources & Wildlife Management from Ohio State University and Masters of Science in Forest Resources at Oregon State University. Before coming to WMSWCD, he also worked for two years as the Outreach Specialist in the Small Forest Landowner Office at the Washington Department of Natural Resources.



Laura Taylor manages field monitoring and data collection efforts for the MWSWCD District’s conservation projects, provides expertise on plants and pollinators, and develops maps and conservation plans. She also provides support to schools and community groups for projects ranging from edible and native gardens to environmental science programming. Laura has worked for public, non-profit, and private organizations including The Nature Conservancy, the environmental consulting company Tetra Tech, and the Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District (where she provided botanical and ecological technical support). Laura earned her B.S. in botany and forest ecology from Evergreen State College, and her M.S. in invasive plant ecology from Portland State University.

- **Oregon Natural Resource Education Fund**



Jennifer Beathe, Forester and Outreach Manager at Starker Forests, Inc. will present information about the past and present activities, and future planning of the Oregon Natural Resource Education Fund (ONREF). OSWA, through several chapters, including ours, raised \$25,000 to establish an Oregon Small Woodlands (OSWA) ONREF sub-fund. The Oregon Community Foundation will manage the OSWA sub-fund, along with three other sub-funds, as part of the general Oregon Natural Resource Education Fund. These funds will be used to promote natural resource education in high schools throughout Oregon.

Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/96223386784?pwd=NVkxSDB2T01aQ0R5cFpYWnJ3ck8zQT09>

WCSWA Leadership

President – Vic Herinckx, 503-645-9434

Vice-President – Barrett Brown, 503-647-6499

Secretary-Treasurer – Bob Shumaker; 503-324-7825

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Pos. #1: Norbert LePage, 503-985-0149

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Pos. #4: Tony Spiering, 503-680-8112

Pos. #5: Cathy Dummer, 503-703-6573

Pos. #6: Kent Grewe 503-701-2087

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Membership Committee: WCSWA Board members

Program Committee: John and Cathy Dummer – 503-970-8789, Bill Triest – 503-705-5833, Tony Spiering – 503-680-8112

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:



Powered Nutcracker, produced and manufactured by the MAVE company in Newberg, Oregon. It is adjustable to crack hard shelled nuts like hazelnuts or walnuts and others. \$150. Contact Neil or Ardis Schroeder 503 628-2344.

Wanted: Looking for *Massey-Ferguson 165 diesel tractor steering box*. Also *need dry firewood* (Scholls area). Contact Mike at 503-628-3631

Event Calendar

Fall Tree School Online		Outline of Programs	See page 7 or go to www.knowyourforest.org/TreeSchoolOnline
February	24	The Forest Floor ONREF	7 pm Zoom Michael Ahr and Laura Taylor, West Multnomah SWCD and Jennifer Beathe, Starker Forests
March	24	Oregon Legislative Session New Director's Vision	7 pm Zoom. Roger Beyer, OSWA Lobbyist Amy Jahnke, OSWA's new Executive Director
April	28	Tualatin River Watershed Council	7 pm Zoom, Scott McEuen, Executive Director
May	TBA	TBA	TBA

Just as we seemed to be sliding through winter without a big snow or ice event the week of January 24 brought many of us the beauty of fresh snow-dusted Douglas-fir. For some the dusting went all the way to a snow load with totals nearing a foot. I don't think this snow event crossed the line from scenic to damaging but it's certainly possible over the course of the winter to end up with a few horizontal tree tops. I call this unplanned thinning and frequently remove those damaged trees and turn them into firewood.

The WCSWA board met via zoom on January 28 and here are a few of the discussion items and decisions:

- Discussed whether or not to invest WCSWA funds more aggressively and decided to stay invested in cash and treasuries which is safe but yields little
- Reviewed treasurer duties documentation just in case Bob Shumaker ever decides to retire
- Confirmed that we will not hold the Native Plant Sale in 2021
- Approved funding for a few needed website upgrades and potential enhancements. If you have ideas for or comments about the website please contact Cathy Dummer
- Discussed outreach approach and activities for new forest landowners
- Discussed the possibility of in-person tours, potlucks and other activities this summer. It's still a little early to tell how the summer will look but we should know and make some decisions at our April board meeting

Membership renewals were due on January 31 and if the OSWA membership renewal that came in the mail late in 2020 is lost you might try renewing online. OSWA needs your support more than ever with new executive director Amy Jahnke starting Feb 1 which includes 3 months of salary/transition overlap with Jim James. This year is also our long legislative session and about 10% of the OSWA budget is dedicated to lobbying for our collective benefit. If you would like to renew right now online it's pretty simple, here are the steps:

1. Navigate to <https://www.oswa.org/blog/>
2. Select the Join/Renew -> Regular Membership option on the menu
3. Choose the number of acres you have in the Choose an option box
4. Click Add to Cart
5. Click Proceed to checkout
6. Enter Billing Details and Additional Information
7. Click Proceed to PayPal. At this point you can login with a PayPal account or click Pay with Debit or Credit Card and check out as a guest.

Until next time, continue to stay safe!

“Acts of creation are customarily reserved for gods and poets, but humbler folks may circumvent this restriction if they know how. To plant a pine, for example, one need be neither god nor poet.; one need only own a shovel.”

Aldo Leopold

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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Find it at KnowYourForest.org

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- Search by County for local resources
- Find educational materials in the Learning Library
- Refer to forest practice laws
- Register for classes



Technical and Financial Assistance Available -

The Natural Resource Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS) in Oregon continues its successful forest health funding with an initiative to encourage diversity on forest land. Forest diversity – species, structure, and more) maintains and/or increases productivity while improving habitat, soil quality, and reducing wildfire danger and disease.

NRCS offers technical and financial assistance to private non-industrial forest landowners interested in conserving natural resources on the land. Financial assistance may be available to help you implement the following conservation activities on your forest. * **Forest Management Plans** * **Pre-commercial Thinning** * **Pruning** * **Slash Treatment** * **Diversity Plantings** * **Wildlife Habitat Improvement** and more... Don't delay, contact the Washington County NRCS field office to learn more about how NRCS can help!

Contact : Washington Co. NRCS (503) 207-7949 –Jessica Jessica.Wells@usda.gov

Deadline for applying for these practices is April 16th

Each year the County NRCS offices have a Local Working Group meeting (LWG) – involving community partners such as Oregon Department of Forestry, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife – and community members interested in NRCS programs – **this means you!**

This year's LWG meeting will be held via zoom, March 4th 2:00-3:30. If you would like to attend, email or call Jessica Wells and she will get you the link. If you can't attend but would like the opportunity to be involved NRCS will be creating a survey and can get you the information. They are working on updating their forestry Conservation Implementation Strategy, and would like input on where the next round of financial assistance will be. ***They need to hear from you!***

LAND STEWARD ONLINE COURSE BEGINS

Are you an owner of a woodland, small farm, or other rural land? Learn how to manage your property's natural resources more effectively with this online offering from OSU's Land Steward Program. It is well-suited for busy adults who enjoy online learning and want to figure out what their land needs. Included are three live virtual classes with resource experts and nine self-paced, online lessons. Topics include wildfire risk reduction, forest management, encouraging and controlling wildlife, stream/riparian ecology, pasture management, healthy soils, water systems, rural economics, and land management planning. For more information, visit <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/land-steward/land-steward-training-online>.

Basics:

First Online Class: 6 – 8 pm on Feb. 11, 2021
 Two Virtual Classes 6 – 8pm on March 17 and April 20, 2021
Cost: \$150 (Washington County residents use code **TSWCD21** for \$60 off)

If you have questions about this program, please contact Rachel Werling, Land Steward Program Coordinator, at 541-776-7371, ext. 211 or Rachel.Werling@oregonstate.edu.



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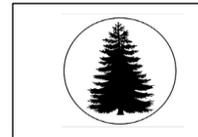
Tillamook
 3111 Third St.
 Tillamook, OR 97141
 Desired Species: White woods

Warrenton
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 Warrenton, OR 97146
 Desired Species:
 Douglas fir & White woods

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 503-728-8192 cell

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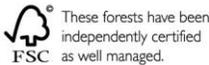


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Oregon State University Extension is continuing to work with the Partnership for Forestry Education to continue the Tree School Online webinar series to our Oregon forestry community.

Sign up for any of these classes which include FREE Registration and Webinar description at www.knowyourforest.org/TreeSchoolOnline

Biology & Management of Oregon White Oak February 16, 3:00 – 4:30 PM

Oregonians love their oak trees. This course will review the biology and management of Oregon white oak including regeneration, thinning in oak stands, removing conifers from around or above oaks, and predicting growth.

Register here:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_3eszoXKpRrG6pNHurRG_Vw

Choosing the Right Forestry Professionals March 2, 3:00 – 4:30 PM

Consulting foresters, loggers, tree planters and more - is an important decision. How do you go about selecting the right person and organization for your property and your particular project? The relationships established with forestry professionals will help you meet your goals and ensure work is carried out to high standards. An experienced forestry professional can generate better financial returns, enhance the long-term value of your forest, and help you attain your management objectives. This session will share resources and lessons learned to assist landowners in thinking about how and when to hire forestry professionals to provide important services.

Register here:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_hEP2WUbfScGfKs48rh6zvA

April 6:

Native Trees of Western Oregon

April 20:

Trees on the Move

“Land, then, is not merely soil. It is a fountain of energy flowing through a circuit of soils, plants, and animals. The circuit is not closed... but it is a sustained circuit, like a slowly augmented revolving fund of life.”

Aldo Leopold



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Gayanne Courter

Gayanne Courter, wife of Dick Courter, passed away on Jan. 9th. Dick and Gayanne have been longtime members of OSWA and WCSWA. Their Family Tree Farm, certified through the American Tree Farm System, is located near Vernonia. Her parents, Art and Veda Johnson, owned timber land near Vernonia for over 75 years.



Gayanne worked with Dick in managing their co-owned Forestry Consulting Firm Genetechs. The family has respectfully requested that any memorial contributions be made to the Oregon Tree Farm Memorial Fund at 1600 NW Skyline Blvd., Portland, Oregon 97229

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Are you curious about what is happening this legislative session in Salem that is relevant to small woodland owners? Also: Who's the new OSWA Executive Director?

Please plan to join us on March 24 at 7pm on Zoom for a few minutes with **Roger Beyer**, small woodland owner, former legislator and current lobbyist for Oregon Small Woodlands Association. Roger will share with us what it has been like this session to make connections during distanced times and will also give us an update on recent and upcoming legislation of interest to our community. **Amy Jahnke**, OSWA's new Executive Director will also be joining us for an introduction. We look forward to learning more about Amy and her vision for the organization. You won't want to miss this meeting!

Oregon Forest Facts updated for 2021-22

The 2021-22 edition of *Oregon Forest Facts* – one of the Oregon Forest Resources Institute's most popular publications – has been released, complete with the latest data about Oregon's forests and forest-based economy, including newly compiled statistics and information on the impacts of the 2020 Labor Day fires. The Oregon Forest Facts 2020-21 Edition is now available for digital download and to order online. The pocket-size booklet offers a detailed reference guide to Oregon's forest sector, including information, maps, graphs and statistics about forestland ownership, timber harvest, forest-based employment and wood products production. The 2021-22 edition also includes a map of the major wildfires during Oregon's 2020 fire season, as well as other new content on fire trends, carbon storage in forests and the effects of forest management on drinking water.

"Oregon Forest Facts uses compelling graphics and fully cited information to help readers gain a better understanding of Oregon's forests, forest management and forest products," says Oregon Forest Resources Institute Director of Forestry Mike Cloughesy. "This newest edition also highlights the important role forests play in combating climate change and providing us with clean drinking water, giving an even fuller picture of how the forests that cover nearly half of Oregon touch our everyday lives." The latest data from the Oregon Forest Facts 2021-22 Edition can also be accessed online at OregonForestFacts.org. The mobile-friendly site includes the option to easily share charts and graphs containing information about Oregon's forests, via email or social media.

About the Oregon Forest Resources Institute: The Oregon Forest Resources Institute (OFRI) was created by the Oregon Legislature in 1991 to advance public understanding of forests, forest management and forest products, and to encourage sustainable forestry through landowner education. A 13-member board of directors governs OFRI. It is funded by a portion of the forest products harvest tax.

Starker Lecture Series Continues on February 16th

This year's Starker Lecture Series focuses on how communities, industries and organizations across the forest landscape have responded to recent and previous disasters, shown resilience in the face of adversity, and are ready to play critical roles in creating a better future. The four-part panel series will focus on forest economics, recreation, education, and research. The series will provide insight into the difficulties of the past year, the issues we might face in the future, and what we can do to ensure a better future for ourselves, the organizations we work for, and the communities where we live. The Starker Lectures Series is sponsored by the Starker Family in honor of TJ and Bruce Starker, the Oregon Forest Resources Institute and the Oregon State University College of Forestry.

Lecture Three: Economics *March 3, 2021, 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm*

The COVID-19 pandemic and the 2020 Labor Day Fires have had major economic impacts on Oregon's forest sector. Our speakers represent small and large Oregon land and processing facility owners and a major forestry consultant. They will discuss the impact and how the Oregon forest sector is responding to them.

Panelists: (Host: Tammy Cushing)

- Kyle Freres, Vice President of Operations, Freres Lumber Company
- Grady Mulbery, President and CEO, Roseburg Forest Products
- Roger Lord, President, Mason, Bruce & Girard

Lecture Four: Research *March 10, 2021, 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm*

How do we best study rare disturbances? What have we learned about disturbances? How can these research findings help prepare research studies, forests, buildings, and society as a whole for future disturbances?

Panelists: (Hosts: Klaus Puettmann, John Nairn)

- Fred Swanson, Research Geologist (retired), US Forest Service
- Katy Kavanagh, Associate Dean of Research, College of Forestry
- John van de Lindt, George T. Abell Professor in Infrastructure Civil and Environmental Engineering, Colorado State University

Register at <https://www.forestry.oregonstate.edu/starker-lectures>

Who Will Own the Forest?

By Bill Triest

Last fall I had the pleasure of attending six different virtual programs presented by the World Forestry Center titled "Who Will Own the Forest" series 2020. For that opportunity I would like to thank the WCSWA Board of Directors for allowing me to attend. Topics ranged from timberland investing, US southland investing potential, the need for increased diversity in forestry, artificial intelligence and forest management and mass timber and the future for Timberland Investing. Economic considerations were a player in most of the sessions and some of the they time were at a level beyond my ready knowledge. However, careful attention provided the general direction or gist of the discussion.

For this article I am going to select one of the sessions for discussion and provide some takeaways from session #2 titled "The US South Timberland Conundrum: Two Takes on the Value Position." The speakers came at their analysis of southern timberland (investing) values, in simple terms as Bullish or Bearish. Speaker one, Douglas Reed, president of Green Diamond Resource Company, which owns and manages 500,000 acres of southern pine, felt that housing demand, good margins between logs and lumber and many newer more efficient mills lead his company to be very optimistic about the Southern Yellow Pine industry. Will Sonnenfeld, principle of WillSonn Advisory took a more reticent approach, feeling that there was an oversupply and hence low stumpage prices that probably not going away soon therefore, continued low stumpage prices. So, did I come away feeling that the SYP industry was on a roll or not? I heard two reasoned presentations but it is hard to ignore facts.

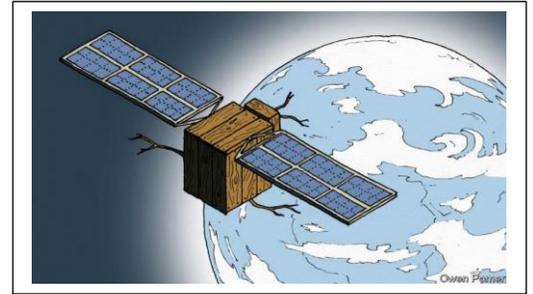
Let me digress for a moment to fill in the blanks for those, (including the writer) as to what comprises the southland timber industry through the lens of our Northwest timber industry. The Southern Yellow Pine, SYP, sawlog market is comprised of four major species, of which Loblolly and Longleaf pine are the dominant players. The native range for these trees is from eastern Texas east through the deep South then north as far as Delaware. Today forestland that was previously naturally reseeded, then later planted with seedlings is today being reforested with genetically superior seedlings. Seed stock is selected from parent stock for its rate of growth, straightness and freedom from defects. By and large, when I look at a southern plantation I am reminded of a corn field with orderly rows and distinct spacing. But then the coastal plain or Piedmont areas, where major plantations are held, are basically level to moderately sloped allowing a geometric spacing pattern. As a sawlog, SYP is utilized in construction, (housing), flooring, pallets, furniture and because of its long fibers the pulp and paper industry it is a direct competitor of Douglas fir. And in the construction industry Douglas fir and SYP are considered interchangeable. In the US approximately 1/3 of sawlog lumber consumption comes from the Pacific NW, 1/3 from Canada and the final third from the South. If you look at US softwood production about 1/2 is from the South.

What may this mean to those of us growing our relatively small acreages of timber and expecting decent log prices, and up against the ever present economics of supply and demand? Here's what we know - the Pacific Northwest contains some of the prime timber growing area in the country. The less restrictive land use and zoning in the SE United States region places its' forestry areas at risk for urbanization and land base loss over the long term. We have an expanding cross laminated timber and mass panel acceptance and utilization in building along with re-gearred mill production facilities and continued research in their application. . We have a better correlation between log and lumber prices than the South enjoys. This helps flatten lumber cycles somewhat. The country as a whole is woefully under-built in new home construction and while new housing starts are expanding it will take years to fill the pipeline. This bodes well for timber demand. So stop reading, pick up your planting shovel and start planting our needed next harvest!

Cheers, Bill Triest

Broker/Consultant, Agricultural, Timber & Vineyard Properties Keller Williams Realty

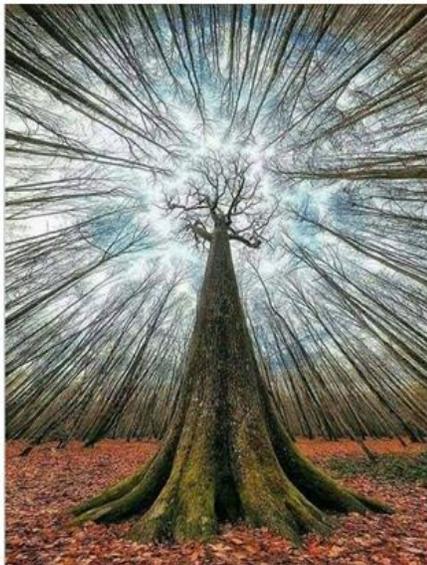
“A Bird? A Plane? – No, It’s A Wooden Satelllite!”



The space age was built on clever materials. The business ends of rocket engines are composed of Inconel, a family of heat-and-corrosion-resistant nickel-chromium alloys developed in the 1940s. The “gold foil” adorning many satellites is, in fact, a form of insulation made from layers of Kapton and metallized Mylar, a pair of artificial polymers from the 1950s and 1960s. SpaceX’s Dragon spacecraft use a heat shield made of phenolic-impregnated carbon to protect astronauts during atmospheric re-entry.

But it is not just humans in lab coats who can come up with whizzy substances. Sumitomo Forestry, a Japanese firm, and Kyoto University are pondering the idea of building satellites out of an advanced, high-performance composite made from cellulose and lignin, a pair of complex polymers which are strong in tension and compression respectively. This material is both cheap and abundant. It is self-assembling and requires only simple chemical inputs. Manufacture can be entirely automated, requiring no human oversight. Translated from chemist-speak, they want to make satellites out of wood.

The research team argue that wood offers two advantages. Unlike metal, seasoned timber is easily penetrated by radio waves. That means communication antennas, sensors and the like could be kept inside the body of the satellite. This, they hope, will simplify construction. The second advantage is that, on atmospheric re-entry, the wooden parts of the satellite should burn up entirely, making disposal cleaner. The researchers hope to launch a prototype version of what they have dubbed a LignoSat by 2023. Space is both extremely cold and very hot, and can switch quickly between the two as a spacecraft moves from shade into direct sunlight. Processing wood to cope with such extremes will be crucial to success. Sumitomo has said merely that its way of doing this is an “R&D secret”. Sending wood into space is not Sumitomo’s only ambition for the material. It hopes that lessons from the satellite project might assist its plan to build the world’s tallest wooden skyscraper, in Tokyo. This building, dubbed w350, would celebrate the firm’s 350th birthday in 2041, and would, therefore, be 350 metres tall —roughly as high as the Empire State Building without its spire.



"Trees are poems the Earth writes upon the sky."

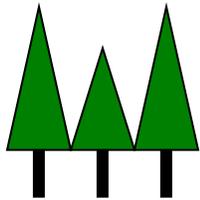
Khalil Gibran

How Do They Do That!

Woodpeckers powerfully peck at trees to remove the bark while searching for food, or to create nest holes. Similar to what happens when we hammer a nail into wood, their beak regularly gets stuck. Our high-speed videos of pecking by black woodpeckers (*Dryocopus martius*) showed that these birds are able to free their beak quickly and seemingly effortlessly. A kinematic analysis revealed what happens shortly after the beak is fully immobilized after impact into the wood. With a view on the woodpecker facing the left, the head rotates clockwise. This head rotation is inevitably linked to a counter-clockwise rotation of the upper beak: while the proximal end is lifted, the tip of the upper beak is retracted. This backward pull of only the tip of the upper beak creates free space between the beak and the punctured hole, and therefore subsequently enables the retraction of the entire beak without substantial shear. The entire process of beak liberation generally takes less than 20 milliseconds.

Van Wassenbergh, S; Pauly, E; Abourachid, A; University of Antwerp, Belgium; University of Antwerp, Belgium; Muséum National D'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France*

Forest Forum



COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE
OREGON SMALL WOODLANDS
ASSOCIATION

Potpourri

New Members: Welcome to **Neil and Ragan Borzcik**, and **James Partlow**, of Forest Grove, and the **Donald M. Blair Trust** of Dallas, OR. 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'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> read OSU Extension's "Tree Topics" blog
- www.oregonwoodlandcooperative.com learn about the Oregon Woodland Cooperative
- <https://www.facebook.com/WashingtonCountySmallWoodlandsAssociation>
- For E-Notification: : <https://ferns.odf.state.or.us/E-Notification> or visit an ODF Office