

Forest Forum

Washington County Small Woodlands Association

March 2023

WCSWA Monthly Meeting-March 28, 7:00 pm Log, Pole, and Pulp Buyers Panel Discussion

Anticipating a timber harvest in the near future? A panel of log, pulp, and pole buyers will share their thoughts on “things you need to know” about marketing the products from your harvest. The speakers were selected for their expertise and experience in log, pole, and pulp markets. For log markets, there is one speaker to cover common softwood markets, and one to cover hardwood log markets. The speakers are Josh Miller of Northwest Hardwoods (hardwood logs), Tyler Robbins of Hampton Lumber Company (conifer logs), Mike Luttrell of Bell Timber (pole timber), and Paul Hadaller of Pacific Fibre (pulpwood).

The speakers will cover a wide range of topics concerning the marketing of wood products by small woodland owners: historical patterns and trends in the near and possible future, log, pole, and pulp factors affecting product value, timing of harvest and sale, and the characteristics of timber product sales by small woodland owners (such as size of sale, quality of product, “freshness” of product, and more). And in a nutshell, what other factors should a small woodland owner know that are important in selling logs?

Past panels of log and pulp buyers have generated a lively interchange between panel members and the audience, and we expect it will be the same this year!

2023 WCSWA Monthly Programs

March	28	Log, pole, and pulp buyers	Panel discussion, 30780 NW Highland Ct., N. Plains, 7:00pm
April	25	ODF Update	30780 NW Highland Ct., North Plains Mike Cafferata, 7:00pm
May	23	Annual Potluck	Jackson Bottom Learning Center Jim Paul, OFRI Exec. Dir.
June	22-24	OSWA Annual Meeting	Estacada High School/ Lodging, camping in Sandy
July	15	TFOY Tour	Jamieson Family Tree Farm SAVE THE DATE!

WCSWA Leadership

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Tony and Mary Spiering – 503-680-8112, Tom Nygren 503-628-5472

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 – <https://wcswa.com/>

Website Manager: Michael Morgan
Contact Cathy Dummer for web postings and information.

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/WashingtonCountySmallWoodlandsAssociation>

Forest Forum Newsletter

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503-432-1733 and 503-324-7825

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Tom Nygren, Ardis Schroeder, Norie Dimeo-Ediger

The Tree Farm Tradin' Post

You can place a free advertisement in Forest Forum. A free service to our members (3 month limit). List tree farm items/land to buy, sell, or trade. Contact Tom Nygren, 503-628-5472.

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Mower in good/operating condition with standard 3-point hitch mount, 5-foot width, and has a standard tail-wheel (360-degree swivel). Call Marc 503-928-2083.



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Tree School Clackamas – March 25, 2023

Organized by Oregon State University's Forestry & Natural Resources Extension Program, Tree Schools are day-long mini-college programs for family forestland owners, foresters, loggers, arborists, teachers, and the public.

Tree School Clackamas is scheduled for Saturday, March 25, 2023, at Clackamas Community College in Oregon City.

Registration is open.

- [LINK FOR ONLINE REGISTRATION](#) went live on February 7th.
- Reviewing the class options and information on how to register below before registration begins is suggested.
- Please note that many classes will fill quickly and due to the high number of registrations, the system may take several minutes to load.
- Go to [Tree School Clackamas | OSU Extension Service \(oregonstate.edu\)](#) for full information.

The seedling sales for 2022-2023 are complete and the results are fantastic with a **record** net profit of \$9,618. Much appreciation to Don Sohler for his 4 years leading the seedling sale committee, Bob Shumaker for lots of support including tracking all the sales receipts and Paul Sansone for the use of his cooler. It's great to be able to offer our membership a consistent supply of high-quality seedlings. We have typically been contributing around 50% of the seedling sale profit to the WCSWA Scholarship Endowment fund at Oregon State University which has a balance of about 61.5K as of 6/30/22. We are planning to contribute \$5,000 of the seedling sale profit this year to the Endowment Fund. The Native Plant Sale on March 11 has probably happened by the time this newsletter comes out so thanks in advance to everyone who is helping by serving on the committee, setting up, selling, or cleaning up. All of the plant sale gear is stored in a trailer that Karen Graham sourced, and Tony Spiering has been storing for the last 5 years. We are currently looking at some wear and tear issues with the deck and canvas on that trailer and may end up with a new trailer.

Until next time, continue to stay safe!



Oregon Dept. of Forestry finishes gathering seeds of Oregon ash ahead of emerald ash borer (EAB) outbreak

ODF SALEM, Ore. – Oregon Department of Forestry staff recently completed an unprecedented effort to collect seeds from populations of Oregon ash (*Fraxinus latifolia*) trees throughout the Oregon portion of the species range, before they are wiped out by an invasive pest. Between 2019 and the end of 2022, five ODF staff members collected more than 900,000 seeds from 245 mother trees representing 27

distinct populations from the Coast Range throughout the Willamette Valley and the western Cascade foothills, and south to the California border.

The collecting effort was made possible by a federal grant from the USDA Forest Service. ODF Invasive Species Specialist Wyatt Williams coordinated the collecting and where the seeds were sent for safe storage and studies. “We learned from our counterparts that almost all the native ash in infested areas in the eastern half of the country were killed within 10 years or so after the arrival of the invasive emerald ash borer,” said Williams. “We sought a grant to help us collect a representative sampling of seeds so we could preserve as much of the genetic variation in Oregon ash as possible before it was lost”, Williams said. Ash seed that was collected was cleaned and sorted at ODF’s JE Schroeder Seed Orchard facility in St. Paul, Oregon.

“Researchers can plant some of the seeds in areas where emerald ash borer is present in significant numbers and see if any of the seedling trees show resistance to the insect,” said Williams. The first two genetic trials of ash were planted recently, using seed collected by ODF and others, and will serve as sentinels for resistance as EAB spreads to those areas. “If some trees survive, those resistant trees could become the basis for reintroducing the species to western Oregon. Resistant trees would be crossed with other Oregon ash to establish resistance while retaining genetic diversity.”

“The strategy in Oregon is to slow the spread to give communities time to deal with the threat,” said Williams. “That way, communities will have more time to inventory their urban forest and identify all their ash trees, then make decisions about which ones to treat or remove pre-emptively. It also gives the time to make arrangements for what to do with all the ash wood that will become available as trees die.” Williams said the cost to replace public ash trees in Portland, Oregon alone was estimated in 2017 to be \$49 million, and is likely higher today.

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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Digital Plant Problem Diagnosis
 Tuesday, April 4th 7 – 8- p.m.
 Free Zoom webinar. Registration required.

Diagnosing plant problems virtually is a special challenge. Washington County Master Gardeners are hosting this webinar with Jay W. Pscheidt, PhD, OSU Professor and Extension Plant Pathology Specialist, who will discuss how to approach these issues despite lack of key information, out of focus pictures and inability to visit the site. For more information and to register, please go to:
<http://washingtoncountymastergardeners.org/>





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503-815-6321 office
503-931-3143 cell

Tillamook

3111 Third St.
Tillamook, OR 97141

Desired Species: White woods

Warrenton

550 NE Skipanon Dr.

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503-324-2681 office
503-728-8192 cell

BANKS

13662 NW Commerce St.
Banks, OR 97106

Desired species: Douglas fir



***Oregon Forest Facts* updated for 2023-24**

The newest edition of *Oregon Forest Facts*, a pocket-size booklet packed with the latest statistics and information about Oregon’s forests and the state’s forestry and forest products industry, is now available to download and order at OregonForests.org.

OFRI publishes a new edition of *Oregon Forest Facts* biennially. The Institute partners with the Oregon Department of Forestry and the Oregon Employment Department, along with other governmental, academic, and private institutions, to update the facts and figures in the booklet using the most currently available data.

Among the statistics included in the *Oregon Forest Facts 2023-24 Edition* are Oregon’s total forestland area and ownership, timber harvest levels, lumber and plywood production, forest-related employment and wages, and total wildland fires and acres burned across the state over the past decade. The updated *Oregon Forest Facts* also includes new information about the economic impacts of the 2020 Labor Day Fires and updates to Oregon’s forest practice regulations resulting from the Private Forest Accord agreement between the timber industry and conservation groups.

The information contained in the *Oregon Forest Facts* booklet is also available on OFRI’s OregonForestFacts.org website.



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2022-2023 Seedling Sale Report By Don Sohler, Seedling Chair

The WCSWA seedling sale was completed on February 18th, just a few days longer than 5 weeks. The 31 customers that ordered seedlings this year came and picked them up in a timely manner, I appreciate that greatly; it makes my volunteer time meaningful. That small gesture allows me time to complete some of my own planting projects in January and February and still help other members meet their schedules with tree planters.

Total seedlings sold were: 55,758 Douglas-fir and 5,000 Hi-Terpene Western red cedar. Bob Shumaker and I would appreciate feedback from anyone that purchased the Western red cedar this year. The Hi-Terpene cedar were purchased at the recommendation of ODF Schroeder Seed Orchard as this species of cedar is supposed to be elk and deer browse resistant. Let us know what kind of success you have.

I would like to thank the following WCSWA members that donated their time, trucks, and trailers to help load, transport and unload the seedlings. This program wouldn't survive without them: Ray Brock, Gordon Dana, Wally Dodge, Mike Jamieson, Rich Gaebel, and Mel Mortensen. David Rabon, a new board member, came along and witnessed the organized chaos that goes along with transporting 525 bags of seedlings. I apologize for missing the turn to the nursery, David. My dog is the guilty one.

In addition, I would like to thank Susan Vosburg and Paul Sansone for the use of their cooler. And last, a non-member, BJ Underwood, for keeping tally of the 500 plus bags of seedlings as they were loaded at the nursery and unloaded at two different coolers.

And a special thanks to Dave Perdue, Jamea Schlegel and the forklift operators at Lieb Foods of Forest Grove for helping the association with cold storage and handling the dozens of bags of seedlings. The employees at Lieb Foods/cold storage play another integral part in this seedling program, and I thank them for their willingness to accommodate tree planters on short notice. They make my volunteer time worthwhile.

For the 2024 tree planting season, Bob Shumaker and I will have 50,000 Douglas-fir seedlings available, about 5,000 to 7,000 less than this year in anticipation of a changing economy (lower log prices) and a slightly lower demand for seedlings since the 2020 fire season demand has peaked. Guessing how many seeds to have planted at the nursery two years in advance can be challenging.



Josh Miller

WA & OR Small Woodlands

120 Industrial Way
Longview, WA 98632
Josh.Miller@nwhardwoods.com

Cell 360.509.3599

Consider yourself invited to explore the Tillamook State Forest

The Tillamook Forest Center is Reopening March 17, 2023.

Hours: 10:00 am-4:00 pm
Friday-Sunday

For current information on Tillamook State Forest recreation facilities (campgrounds, day-use areas, and trails), visit the recreation list on the ODF website.



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Conifers: Allergy-Friendly(ier)-from the National Woodland Owners Association blog 2/22/2023

Depending on where you are this spring, you will, at some point experience the yellow snowstorm that is conifer mating season. It may only be a flurry, a dusting of pollen where you are. Or it might be a blizzard of the yellow stuff. For those who have a love/hate relationship with pollen (mostly hate), here is some good news for you if you are a conifer lover.

Thomas Leo Ogren, a horticulturist and allergy researcher in San Luis Obispo, California created the Ogren Plant Allergy Scale (OPALS) which is a ranking from 1 to 10 and used by the USDA. Evergreens are monoecious, cross-pollination and pollen-production are far less that in most hardwoods and grasses. So, it is possible to select coniferous species for the landscape around your home or business (where you spend the most time fighting off pollen) by checking the OPALS scale.

OPALS is now used by, among others, the American Lung Association and the USDA Urban Foresters. OPALS measures the allergy potential of all garden and landscape plants.

The complete OPALS scale is in the book, *Allergy-Free Gardening*, published by Random House Publishers. Over 5,000 plants are individually allergy-ranked.



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Starker Lecture Series 2023



Register in person or online.

www.forestry.oregonstate.edu/starker-lecture

March 15, 3:30 - 5:00 pm

In person: Starker Forests Classroom, Peavy
Forest Science Center Room 117

Lecture: Precision Forestry: Remote Sensing,
Geospatial Analysis, and More

Speaker: Dr. Monika Moskal, Director of the
Precision Forestry Cooperative, University of
Washington

April 19, 3:30 - 5:00 pm

In person: Starker Forests Classroom, Peavy
Forest Science Center Room 117

Lecture: Innovations in Silviculture and Forest
Management in a Changing World

Speaker: Tom Fox, Vice President, Research,
Productivity, Sustainability, Rayonier Inc.

May 31, 3:30 - 5:00 pm

In person: Starker Forests Classroom, Peavy
Forest Science Center Room 117

Lecture: Social Innovations to Meet Societal
Challenges

Speakers: Michelle Medley-Daniel, Fire Adapted
Communities Learning Network Director and Dr.
Mindy Crandall, OSU, Assistant Professor in
Forest Policy



Little Pussy Willow

*Comes in early spring
Grey and soft and downy;
She's a lovely thing.
Though cold winds still are blowing
O'er field and budding wood,
She knows warm days are coming
And pushes off her hood.*

- Dora I. Buckingham



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All the resources and assistance to manage your forestlands are in one easy to access location that is regularly updated.

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



New Video Series about Woodland Pollinator Habitat

By Lauren Grand, OSU Extension Forester for Lane County

Many local forest and woodland properties provide excellent habitat for pollinators, including our many native bees. Areas such as open woodlands and meadows, and recently harvested or other disturbed areas can provide both the flowering and nesting resources needed to support many of our native bees.

There are many opportunities to improve and maintain pollinator habitats, just as many people do to provide better deer and elk or bird habitats on their property. The key to providing good habitat for bees or other wildlife is to be aware of what a particular kind of animal needs, to think about how management can affect that, and to choose management actions to provide better habitat conditions when possible.

There is a new resource to help that effort. The Bees in the Woods video series gives practical information to help landowners recognize pollinator habitat as well as some simple ways to protect or improve it.

These short videos cover the basics about what bee habitat is, and practical steps to improve it, including adjusting your weed control practices, or seeding flowering plants. There is a short series focusing on our moist habitat of NW Oregon, as well as another short series with tips for people living in drier parts of the state. Explore the videos and other resources at the Bees in the Woods website: <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/collection/bees-woods>

WCSWA February Monthly Meeting Recap



Scott McEwen, Executive Director of the Tualatin River Watershed Council (TRWC) covered four interesting topics; Using eDNA to map hard-to-detect aquatic species, Balm Grove Dam removal, identifying the best steelhead habitat, and Tualatin Basin Beaver Strategy.

Using eDNA to map hard to detect aquatic species

Environmental DNA (eDNA) is in the environment and produced by all living things that include skin, saliva, dead tissue, gametes, hair, etc. It's also found in water, soil, and even air. By using eDNA, organizations such as Clean Water Services can determine whether an organism has been in a particular environment without setting eyes on them. eDNA can persist in stream and river systems for 7-21 days, but seasonal timing may affect detection. In addition, it is used for presence or absence assessment, not abundance. Therefore, while highly accurate, there are some limitations. eDNA stream sampling consists of using a peristaltic pump and filtration system that filters the water through a wafer that is then sent into a lab for analysis. Other methods of species' detection such as snorkel surveys are costly. Cost for eDNA is \$85 for first species and \$35 for additional species, making it much more cost effective. One example of how this analysis was used was the western ridged mussel that has not been documented in the Tualatin Basin since the 1950's. Through this methodology, the mussel was detected and plans for further testing are underway.

Balm Grove Dam removal

Scott touched on why the Balm Grove Dam was removed despite how small the dam appeared. The dam's 90-degree angle blocked access to high quality habitat for multiple fish species, including Pacific lamprey. Prior to removal of the dam in 2022 fish salvage efforts found adult Pacific lamprey downstream, but none were detected upstream using the eDNA method. After removal, coho salmon, coastal cutthroat trout, and Pacific lamprey were detected.

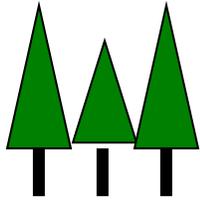
Identifying the best steelhead habitat

In the summer of 2022, the TRWC conducted a snorkel survey and used a GIS tool called NetMap to model landscape features important for steelhead spawning and rearing of over 122 miles of river and stream habitat. The results indicated that 23 stream reaches had high steelhead habitat value. The top three reaches include East Fork Dairy Creek, McKay Creek, and Upper Gales Creek. Despite the good habitat, no steelhead were detected, so the next step is to use eDNA to track where the steelhead may reside.

Tualatin Basin Beaver Strategy

Scott also presented information about the *Tualatin Basin Beaver Strategy* which seeks to provide a broad range of land managers and community members with tools to effectively coexist with beavers. This project is a collaboration between the Tualatin River Watershed Council, the Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District, Clean Water Services, and the Wetlands Conservancy. In the past, landowners may have contacted several agencies to help with beaver related issues, now there is a resource supported by several organizations. Information about this can be found at: <https://trwc.org/>.

Forest Forum



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Potpourri

New Members: 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.

Stay Up-to-date on the Forest Practices Act Requirements

Get a free (shipping free) copy of the updated Third Edition of the OFRI publication *Oregon's Forest Protection Laws* from <https://oregonforests.org/node/549>

Recommended Fire-safe Brochures:

[NFPA - Preparing homes for wildfire](#) (Home Ignition Zone)

[Defensible Space - Ready for Wildfire](#) (Defensible Space)

Firewise Landscaping Checklist: [checklists \(oregon.gov\)](https://checklists.oregon.gov)

[FireWise: Living With Fire | OSU Extension Service \(oregonstate.edu\)](#)

Fire Resistant Plants for the Home Landscape: [Fire-Resistant Plants for Home Landscapes | OSU Extension Catalog | Oregon State University](#)

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