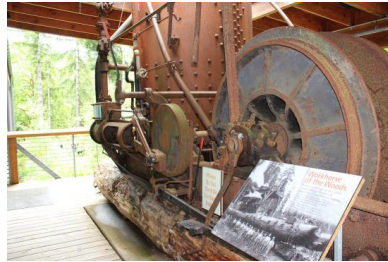


# **Forest Forum**

## **Washington County Small Woodlands Association**

**July 2024**



### **WCSWA September Meeting**

#### **Steam Donkey recovery and move to Tillamook Forest Center in 2005**

**When:** September 21, 2024

**Where:** Tillamook Forest Center, located at 45500 Hwy 6, just west of Jones Creek Road.

**Agenda:**

**10:30am** Gather at the Tillamook Forest Center meeting room. Don Sohler will be the speaker. The TFC is also advertising this to the public in their newsletter, so be on time to get a good seat.

**10:45am:** Don's talk begins and should last about 45 minutes to one hour with time for questions. Don was an integral part of this project. He was there and has amazing facts to recount.

**After Don's talk:** View Steam Donkey

**12:30:** Lunch outside (optional and bring your lunch)

Followed by time viewing TFC exhibits for those who wish.

### **2024 WCSWA Monthly Programs**

<b>July</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>Tree Farmer of the Year tour and picnic</b>	Tom and Julia Tibbs Forest and Tree Farm, Buxton.
<b>August</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>Lewis River Reforestation Tour</b>	See where and how WCSWA seedlings are grown. Article on page 2.
<b>September</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>Steam Donkey – Tillamook Forest Center</b>	Recovery and moving the Steam Donkey to the Tillamook Forest Center. Don Sohler will present.

## WCSWA Leadership

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**Vice-President – Dan Shumaker, 503-680-8943**

**Secretary-Treasurer – Melinda Shumaker, 503-260-2885**

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**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 – <https://wcswa.com/>**

Website Manager: Michael Morgan

Contact Cathy Dummer for web postings and information.

**Facebook:**

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

### Forest Forum Newsletter

Editors: Norie Dimeo-Ediger and Bonnie Shumaker  
503-432-1733 and 503-324-7825

Proofreaders: Bonnie Shumaker, Dan Hundley,  
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. Email ad to [washcosmallwoodlandsassoc@gmail.com](mailto:washcosmallwoodlandsassoc@gmail.com).

**Wanted:** No items wanted this month

**For Sale:** For Sale: western red cedar butt chunk. Art or Architecture? 12 ft long; butt 26"x47"; top 18"x19". You winch onto trailer and haul? \$100 OBO. Vernonia area. Bill Hanson 503-429-9101 or [alpinehi@aol.com](mailto:alpinehi@aol.com)

## Summer tour to Lewis River Reforestation set for August 17

Each year Washington County Small Woodlands Association has a seedling sale that many of us have benefited from. Have you ever wondered where those seedlings come from or what the logistics of growing thousands of seedlings entails?

This is an opportunity to get those questions answered, "visit" our seedlings before they are lifted and have a look at Lewis River Reforestation's operation that produces thousands of seedlings each year for the forestry community. Our host will be Lewis River Reforestation manager Bruce Summers. You won't want to miss it! Here are the details:

Tour Date: Saturday, August 17, 2024

Tour Time: Meet at 10am at Lewis River Reforestation (drive time is about 1 hour from North Plains) or meet at "The Hub" in North Plains at 8:45am if you want to carpool.

Location: Lewis River Restoration, 1203 NW Hayes Road, Woodland, WA (4 miles east of Woodland along the North Fork of the Lewis River)

What to bring: Hat, water, sturdy shoes, sunglasses, sunscreen, sense of humor and positive attitude! Bring a sack lunch and a chair if you'd like and we will find a place in the shade to have lunch together before we return.

## Leadership Notes

by Vic Herinckx

The 2024 Oregon Family Forest Convention was held June 13-15 and several of us were able to attend all three days. The first day included field trip tours, the second day featured speakers and awards and the third day was a tour of 2023 Oregon Tree Farmers of the Year, Jim and Ed Merzenich's property in Linn County.

During the awards ceremony 2024 Oregon Tree Farmers of the Year Pam & Jock Dalton from Polk County were announced. You can see videos of both tree farms on the Oregon Tree Farm System website at [otfs.org/tfoy](https://otfs.org/tfoy).

I took a tour of the Freres Mass Plywood Panel facility in Lyons, OR. This operation produces structural panels that can be used for walls, floors and columns replacing steel and concrete in commercial structures. They are made from high-grade stress tested veneers that create panels up to 12' wide, 48' long and 12" thick. They can also be used for columns and beams up to 48' long, 4' wide and 2' thick. The picture below is a panel being pressed at 1600 pounds/sq inch for about 1.5 hours. Freres said their ideal logs for these panels are from thinnings on stands 50 years or older because of the density and quality of the veneers from those logs. Much of Freres wood supply comes from State timber sales or Freres's own 17,000 acres of timberland. The tour group then visited the Mill City School gymnasium where the entire structure is built with Freres donated mass plywood. More information and example projects using mass plywood can be seen on the Freres website ([Frereswood.com](https://Frereswood.com)).

Looking forward to our WCSWA Tree Farmer of the Year tour July 13 at Tom and Julia Tibbs property. It's always interesting to see different focus areas at each tree farm and learn from what others have done. We will also have the opportunity to meet Jake Barker, our new OSU Extension Forester.



**Until next time, continue to stay safe!**

**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

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1/4 page	40	80	200
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Full page	150	300	750



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**BANKS**



**The Oregon Tree Farm System** is proud to announce that Pam and Jock Dalton of Polk County have been selected as Oregon's Outstanding Tree Farmers of the Year for 2024. Pam and Jock received this title and award at the Oregon Family Forest Convention, jointly hosted by the Oregon Tree Farm System and the Oregon Small Woodlands Association, on June 14, 2024. The Oregon Tree Farm System emphasizes the values of Wood, Water, Wildlife, and Recreation, and Pam and Jock epitomize the attention tree farmers give to the sustainability of all four values. The Daltons harvest timber and replant, as well as promoting forest health and growth through a pre-commercial and commercial thinning regime. They maintain and protect two springs on their forest, as well as a pond, replacing the dike as necessary using their own heavy equipment. Bear, cougar, deer and elk have happy homes on their forest, along with a host of birds and smaller mammals. The Daltons host campouts at their family gathering spot in a shelter built by an earlier generation. Pam and Jock are proud of their Tree Farm Certification and the hard work they do that shows they are managing their forest by the International Standards of Sustainability.

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## Wild Fire Ready Event- June 22 at Hagg Lake

Many thanks to Don Sohler, Anne and Richard Hanschu and Melinda Shumaker for promoting WCSWA and showing ideas for initial wild fire response at this event. Don and Richard demonstrated how their personal fire wagons can be used for initial response to a small fire and when to call 911. Don has published a booklet "Initial Attack Equipment for Woodland Owners" available at [www.wcswa.com](http://www.wcswa.com)

Over 80 attendees came to learn how to be Wild Fire Ready. There were presentations on:

- Best Management Practices and Tools for Outdoors During Fire Season, presented by the WCSWA members mentioned above.
- Strategies for Managing Your Forest or other Natural Areas for Fire Resilience, presented by ODF and OSU Forestry Extension.
- How to Prepare Homes and Other Structures for Wildfire, presented by Oregon State Fire Marshall, Gaston Fire District and Forest Grove Fire and Rescue.

Brandy Saffell from Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District helped organize this event which included many local organizations providing information on resources and assistance in preparing for wildfire. Contact Brandy [Saffell@tualatinswcd.org](mailto:Saffell@tualatinswcd.org) for more information.





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**. Oregon's Forest Protection Laws: An Illustrated Manual 2024**

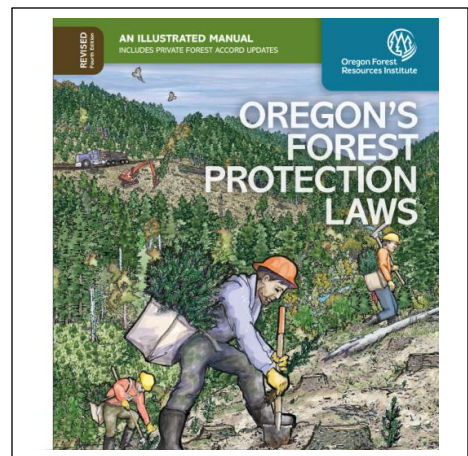
***This edition is only available as a digital download (PDF). Print copies of the manual will be available by early 2025.***

Since it was first published in 2002, *Oregon's Forest Protection Laws: An Illustrated Manual* has become a standard reference for those planning and executing timber harvests. The publication fosters easy understanding of the Oregon Forest Practices Act and Rules, and the other best management practices, laws and rules that apply to Oregon's forest landowners.

This Revised Fourth Edition was necessary following major changes to the Forest Practices Act resulting from the Private Forest Accord agreement between the timber industry and environmental groups. This includes new rules regarding riparian management, logging on steep slopes, and forest road construction and maintenance.

In this edition, individual chapter downloads are available on

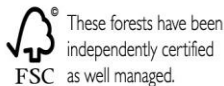
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You can download this manual at <https://oregonforests.org/publication-library/oregons-forest-protection-laws-an-illustrated-manual-2024>



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### Forestry in a Changing Climate: Seed and Seedlings for Future Forests

A free tour of the JE Schroeder Seed Orchard by Clackamas County Farm Forestry Association with a chance to learn about planning for future forests from local experts.

Date: Wednesday, August 21 · 9am - 12pm

Location: 3700 Mahony Road Northeast Saint Paul, OR 97137

The climate is changing, and many believe we will need to adapt some of our forest management practices to choose and care for appropriate tree species (or their varieties) that will successfully grow on our forestlands today and into the future. Learn from the experts about what efforts are being made to help small forestland owners in this regard.

Topics will include:

- Environmental factors limiting forest survival and growth such as climate, insects, and diseases and how these interrelate and may change over time
- What improvements in tree genetics are occurring to potentially address these issues
- Tree physiological and morphological mechanisms influencing survival
- What the small forestland owner can do in their own forest management practices to incorporate these recommendations
- Demonstrations of tree seed collection and seedling propagation activities.

Need assistance registering? Contact Jean at [jean.bremer@oregonstate.edu](mailto:jean.bremer@oregonstate.edu) or 503-655-8631. Registration is limited to 30. Registration deadline: August 9, 2024.



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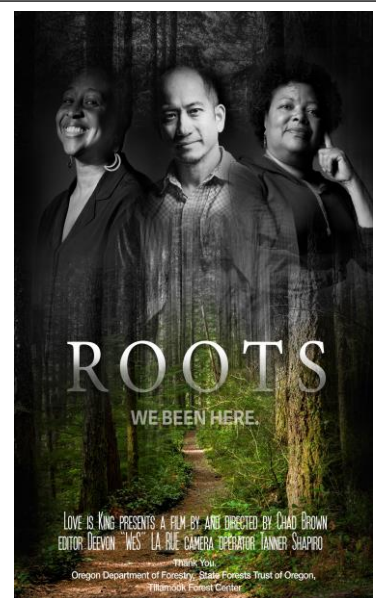
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## ROOTS

**Tillamook Forest Center  
June 15<sup>th</sup> – September 15<sup>th</sup>**

The Oregon Department of Forestry's Recreation, Education, and Interpretation Program partnered with Chad Brown, nonprofit leader, film director, cinematographer, creative director, and photographer, to advance the narrative and recognize outdoor recreation leaders of color with connections to Oregon's state forests. Chad Brown is an accomplished documentary-style portrait and adventure photographer, outdoor enthusiast, and Navy veteran. The result is an exhibit which highlights three BIPOC individuals who have established themselves as leaders in the outdoor recreation industry, highlighting their connection to state forest lands, and particularly the Tillamook State Forest.



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## Artificial intelligence enhances monitoring of threatened marbled murrelet From OSU College of Forestry Focus June 2024 E-news

CORVALLIS, Ore. – Artificial intelligence analysis of data gathered by acoustic recording devices is a promising new tool for monitoring the marbled murrelet and other secretive, hard-to-study species, research by Oregon State University and the U.S. Forest Service has shown.

The threatened marbled murrelet is an iconic Pacific Northwest seabird that's closely related to puffins and murrelets, but unlike those birds, murrelets raise their young as far as 60 miles inland in mature and old-growth forests.

"There are very few species like it," said co-author Matt Betts of the OSU College of Forestry. "And there's no other bird that feeds in the ocean and travels such long distances to inland nest sites. This behavior is super unusual, and it makes studying this bird really challenging."

A research team led by Adam Duarte of the U.S. Forest Service's Pacific Northwest Research Station used data from acoustic recorders, originally placed to assist in monitoring northern spotted owl populations, at thousands of locations in federally managed forests in the Oregon Coast Range and Washington's Olympic Peninsula.

Researchers developed a machine learning algorithm known as a convolutional neural network to mine the recordings for murrelet calls. Findings, published in *Ecological Indicators*, were tested against known murrelet population data and determined to be correct at a rate exceeding 90%, meaning the recorders and AI are able to provide an accurate look at how much murrelets are calling in a given area. "Next, we're testing whether murrelet sounds can actually predict reproduction and occupancy in the species, but that is still a few steps off," Betts said.

The dove-sized marbled murrelet spends most of its time in coastal waters eating krill, other invertebrates and forage fish such as herring, anchovies, smelt and capelin. Murrelets can only produce one offspring per year, if the nest is successful, and their young require forage fish for proper growth and development.

The birds typically lay their single egg high in a tree on a horizontal limb at least 4 inches in diameter. Steller's jays, crows and ravens are the main predators of murrelet nests.

Along the West Coast, marbled murrelets are found regularly from Santa Cruz, California, to the Aleutian Islands. The species is listed as threatened under the U.S. Endangered Species Act in Washington, Oregon and California.

"The greatest number of detections in our study typically occurred where late-successional forest dominates, and nearer to ocean habitats," Duarte said. Late-successional refers to mature and old-growth forests.

"Our results offer considerable promise for species distribution modeling and long-term population monitoring for rare species," Duarte said. "Monitoring that's far less labor intensive than nest searching via telemetry, ground-based nest searches or traditional audio/visual techniques."

Matthew Weldy of the College of Forestry, Zachary Ruff of the OSU College of Agricultural Sciences and Jonathon Valente, a former Oregon State postdoctoral researcher now at the U.S. Geological Survey, joined Betts and Duarte in the study, along with Damon Lesmeister and Julianna Jenkins of the Forest Service.

Funding was provided by the Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management and the National Park Service.

# So You Want to be a Tree Farmer It Ain't Neurosurgery – It Can Be Harder

By Bob and Bonnie Shumaker

As a kid, WCSWA member Kent Grewe always loved planting stuff and it shows. There are 44-yr-old trees near OSU that he planted while a student there on his way to becoming a neurosurgeon. The on-ramp leading to Emanuel Hospital where Kent has been in neurosurgery practice since 1990 has almost 30-year-old trees that he, a co-worker and their sons planted.

When Kent realized that becoming a tree farmer was his destiny and couldn't afford land with actual trees, he started as a "stump farmer" in 1992 with 80 acres near Elsie, Oregon. Over the past 32 years, Kent was able to piece together 420 acres in Elsie that abuts the 288 acre "Sports Acres" site. He has been trying to buy this piece for 25 years and finally acquired it in March 2024. Kent showed us pictures on his phone of this recent purchase at the OSWA/OTFS Convention and invited us to tour his new parcel.

"Sports Acres," was a summer camp with a lodge, gym, cabins, basketball court, swimming pool, baseball field and barn including a mile and a half of Nehalem River frontage. It ceased business more than forty years ago. The structures that remain are in a very dilapidated state. Only the gym and barn might be salvageable.

Then there is the land. Almost all the merchantable timber was logged off five years ago. It was technically replanted, but there was no site prep or management afterward. Brush and maple tree sprouts have taken over.

After our tour of "Sports Acres," Kent showed us his adjacent land. It is growing beautifully and even has a five acre "food plot" complete with three small ponds planned with ODF's help.

Kent's 1992 tree farm was commercially thinned in 2017 and now looks like a real forest. In Kent's words, "They do grow back, but it's a ton of work and patience to make it happen. Like neurosurgery at a level-1 trauma center or raising kids, learning to expect the unexpected with patience and persistence is required for tree farming as well." We asked Kent about his time frame for getting "Sports Acres" looking good. He courageously stated five to ten years. We believe him.



**Sports Acres Lodge**



**Gym has steel I-beams.**



**Barn has hand-hewn cedar supports.**



**There are very few seedlings, mostly brush.**



**This is Kent's adjoining property after 11 years.**

## Native Seed Propagation Workshop

Date: September 14, 2024, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

This workshop is a combination of learning the biology behind propagation and hands on experience cleaning many different types of fruit. You'll learn:

- How to clean fleshy fruit like Flowering Redcurrant, Serviceberry, Snowberry, Red Osier Dogwood and Twinberry
- Learn the fleshy fermentation process
- How to clean dry fruit like Pacific Ninebark and Douglas Spirea
- How to ripen cones
- How to clean seeds from Valley Ponderosa Pine, Western Redcedar, Noble Fir, and Western White Pine
- When it's best to buy seed and when it's helpful to pick your own
- How to store seed
- How to pretreat and overcome dormancy in seed to get it ready for sowing

You're welcome to bring your own collected native fruit or work with what we've been busy collecting all summer. You will take home some of all provided seed and obtain propagation protocols to know how to grow all on your own. For more information about the workshop or if you wish to bring in your own collected native fruit to clean, please contact Sarah Cameron, so we can ensure we review best cleaning practices for all species prior to the workshop: [sarah.cameron@oregonstate.edu](mailto:sarah.cameron@oregonstate.edu) or (503) 655-8631.

Registration is required. Teens and older are welcome to attend, but if less than 18, must be accompanied by an adult. Registration is \$30 per person, which includes lunch and all workshop materials. Register online or by contacting Jean: [jean.bremer@oregonstate.edu](mailto:jean.bremer@oregonstate.edu) or (503) 655-8631.



**Whatever you need to know**

Gail and Gordon Culbertson (2019 Oregon Tree Farmers of the Year) working with Lauren Grand (center), OSU Forestry Extension Agent

Keep your forest healthy • Improve wildlife habitat  
Reduce wildfire risk • Learn about certification

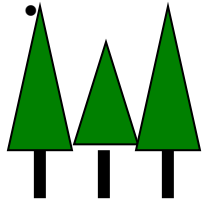
## Find it at KnowYourForest.org

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



# 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.

**Forestry for the Birds: *Western Oregon*** was produced by the Forest Stewards Guild.

Download at: <https://foreststewardsguild.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/ForestryfortheBirdsWesternOregonGuide.pdf>

### Recommended Fire Related Brochures:

***Initial Attack Fire Equipment for Woodland Owners Booklet.*** Go to [www.wcswa.com](http://www.wcswa.com).  
**About us/links.**

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

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

Firewise Landscaping Checklist: [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:

- [www.oregonwoodlandcooperative.com](http://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