

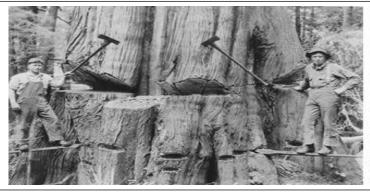
Forest Forum

Washington County Small Woodlands Association

March 2025

WCSWA March 25 Meeting: "Logging Oregon's Coastal Forests" by Mark Beach and Carl Vandervoort

For the first 60 years of the 20th century, logging dominated the physical, economic and social landscape of the Oregon coast. Millions of trees fell while millions of dollars were made as lumber was shipped around the world. Every decade brought new technologies and more modern mills. Millions of young men sweated in the woods and swaggered in the towns. The industry went from boom to bust and back to boom, all with the skills and determination of thousands of loggers. This fascinating film captures the culture of logging, the dangers loggers faced, and the pride they took in their work. Author **Mark Beach**, a historian who has lived on the Oregon coast for over 30 years, explains the many ways loggers turned trees into logs, then moved them to mills to cut them into lumber. **Carl Vandervoort** has been a director, cinematographer and editor on myriad film & video projects since the early '80s, including producing and directing six long-form documentaries. This project was a chance to expand public access to Mark's lifelong work as a historian. Musical accompaniment on the video provided by The Choker Setters.





2025 WCSWA Monthly Programs

March	25	Logging Oregon's Coastal Forest, a documentary video	7:00pm Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District Office. 7175 NE Evergreen Pkwy, Ste. 400, Hillsboro.
April	22	Mike Cafferata, ODF District Forester update on the Washington County Climate Smart Forestry initiative. See page 4 for more information.	7:00pm Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District Office. 7175 NE Evergreen Pkwy, Ste. 400, Hillsboro

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WCSWA Website - https://wcswa.com/

Website Manager: Michael Morgan

Contact Cathy Dummer for web postings and information.

Facebook:

https://www.facebook.com/WashingtonCountySmall WoodlandsAssociation

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

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

The Tree Farm Tradin' Post

You can place an advertisement in *Forest Forum*. This is 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.

Wanted: No items wanted this month.

For Sale: From Scott Hayes in Arizona: Land Pride WC 1504 PTO woodchipper, \$2,500. One owner. On consignment sale with Pacific Tractor and Implement in Cornelius, Oregon.

The Care and Planting of Tree Seedlings on Your Woodland By Mark Elefritz, Mary M. Atkinson and Stephen Fitzgerald

This publication covers the care and handling of seedlings. It discusses proper seedling planting techniques, including timing, tree spacing, planting spot selection, and tools. It highlights common mistakes made when planting, such as crooked roots, improper planting depth, loose trees, and damaged bark. It includes trees per acre and spacing requirements, a list of commonly asked questions and answers, a seedling checklist, and figures that illustrate planting techniques.

Download the full report here: https://extension.oregonstate.edu/sites/extd8/files/documents/ec1504.pdf

Here are some highlights:

Handling Seedlings Checklist:

- Handle seedlings gently and as little as possible.
- Keep seedlings cool (34–36°F) and protect them from freezing temperatures or temperatures above 40°F.
- At the field site, store seedlings in the shade or under a reflective space blanket. Don't use canvas
 or dark-color coverings. Minimize field storage.
- Protect seedlings from drying out (especially the roots) by reducing exposure to drying air and by adding water when needed during storage as well as just before planting.
- Use bags or boxes that are constructed or coated to prevent water loss. Keep them securely closed. Use tape to repair rips and tears.
- Dip seedlings in water for 1 minute before you place them in the planting bag to provide added protection to the root system.
- Handle seedlings gently and avoid touching roots.

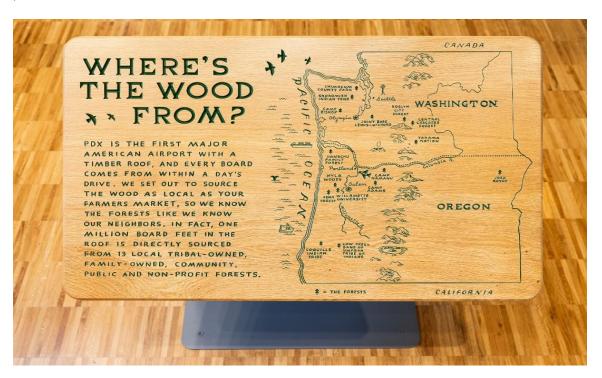
Leadership Notes

by Dan Shumaker

The PCT project in our timber property has been completed. Of course, along the way, I had some mechanical breakdowns such as throwing a track, busting some hydraulic lines and breaking part of a hydraulic cylinder. All are part of operating machinery in the forest. It's nice to get this done now before the trees come out of hibernation as the bark slips easily then and makes it harder to control.

We received additional information from Port of Portland regarding the Timber Roof at PDX. On February 1st PDX installed two maps, one in the South Mezzanine and one in the North Mezzanine acknowledging the good stewardship of small woodland owners and our members. On these maps you can see the Hanschu Family Forest and others listed. See the photo below (credit photographer Mario Gallucci). They will also be posting the story on the PDX social channels and have a local media relationship planned for March 6, 2025.

(Editor's note: See page 9 for information on a WFC program March 10th entitled "PDX Airport & Mass Timber").



Reference sheet focuses on little brown bat

A new digital-only reference sheet from OFRI's Wildlife in Managed Forests program offers guidance for landowners on managing forests to support habitat for the little brown bat, one of 15 native bat species found in Oregon.

Little Brown Bats and Forestry, part of the Wildlife in Managed Forests reference sheet series, discusses the identifying features, range and habitat needs of the little brown bat, which the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is currently considering for listing as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act. It also covers threats to these bats, as well as best management practice recommendations from wildlife biologists

to benefit bat conservation and avoid disturbance during roosting and breeding seasons.

The three-page reference sheet can be downloaded for free from OFRI's website through the publication library.



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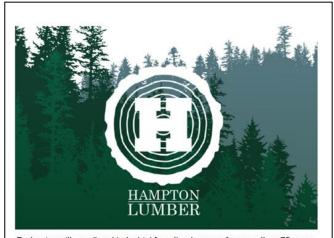
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WCSWA April 22 Meeting: Climate Smarter Forestry in Washington County

There is a multi-agency group that has been working on guidance for the forestry community in Washington County to address climate change. The project is called Climate Smarter Forestry in Washington County and their idea is to offer forest owners and forestry professionals information on the anticipated changes and what the implications of those changes might be on your forest regardless of where it is in terms of development.

The effort has brought together forestry professionals from ODF, Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District, Oregon State University Extension Service, private forestry consulting firms and landowners from Washington County Small Woodlands Association.

Our speaker will be Mike Cafferata, Forest Grove District Forester for the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF). The presentation will include discussion of the development of the project, the intended audience and format of the deliverables and their planned timeline for completion and will also give a preview of key messages from the work. Look forward to seeing you there.

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If interested, please contact the PNW Truffle Collaborative at:

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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





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Wildfire Ready 2025 Event Series

This free wildfire preparedness event series is for residents of Washington County. Wildfires are a growing risk in Washington County, and it's essential for residents to work together to prepare. The series provides resources, strategies, and community connections to help you be ready for wildfire season.

Home Hardening Workshop

March 13th, 2025 | 6pm – 8pm

Gaston Union Jr/Sr High School, Gaston, OR
This workshop will provide practical tips and guidance from local wildfire professionals. The evening includes a presentation on home wildfire defense strategies, a Q&A session, group discussions, and opportunities to connect with neighbors and share preparedness ideas. Learn how to reduce wildfire risks, protect your home, and build a more resilient community. Bring a neighbor and take the next step toward wildfire preparedness!

Register at: https://tualatinswcd.org/event/wildfire-ready-part-2-home-hardening-workshop/

Wildfire Ready Forest Tour

April 26th, 2025 | 9am – 12pm

Chehalem Ridge Nature Park, Gaston, OR

Explore the connection between forest health and wildfire preparedness. This guided tour is designed for landowners and forest managers interested in practical strategies for reducing wildfire risks.

Register at: https://tualatinswcd.org/event/wildfire-ready-part-3-forest-tour/

Browse Control Part 6 By Susan Schmidlin

While recently reading *House Digest*, I came upon an article titled 'The Worst Deer Fence Materials (& Better Alternatives to Try)'. With a name like that, I had to dig deeper.

The article talked about the downfalls of electric fencing and mesh tubing with regard to plantings not near buildings with power and lots of time to monitor seedlings. In the forest, the animals reign supreme while we have minimal daily or yearly attention given to the plants that are in danger of browse. For most forests, fencing is more of a nuisance than an actual deterrent to wild creatures. Along our farm fields, fencing is needed to keep cattle where they belong. Depending on the time of year, sometimes the fence keeps the cows out of the hayfields while later in the year and into the winter, the fence keeps them in the fields and off the muddy outer areas of the farm. We try to keep the fencing low enough so that the deer and elk can bound over easily without destroying the cattle barrier of the line.

Woven wire mesh fencing along a back line of the farm turned out to be two big mistakes. Deer do not recognize the thin woven wire blocks of the fence and crash right through making very large holes big enough for the calves to sneak out. The fence was also over 4 ½ feet tall so when a group of elk were spooked, the early fence jumpers hit the top wires with their hooves and ripped large sections loose from the steel or metal posts holding the wire or breaking the wires completely. The result left large swaths of fencing either down on the ground or strung along the trail as the elk ploughed through.

Trevor Norman and Mike Conroy, Habitat Program Specialists with Tualatin SWCD responded to an inquiry about browse along riparian zones. 'It can be complicated to address browse along creeks – a lot depends on the species doing the browse, which species you're trying to protect, the site hydrology.... etc. The three main browsers at our sites are deer, elk, and beaver. Each of them brings their own set of issues.

For some context, at our projects thousands of plants are installed during an initial planting. There are dozens of species we normally plant at riparian sites – each with different growing requirements and ability to survive browse. Protection for every plant is usually not feasible or necessary, but we do prioritize certain species depending on the context or goals of the planting. For instance, we would protect oaks in a savannah project or willow blocks in a beaver habitat project if browse by beaver/elk/deer was going to hamper establishment of those plant species.

Douglas-firs and shrubs generally are not a high priority for protection – firs are not very susceptible to browse and shrubs usually grow through browse pressure. There are also lots of instances where we just accept slower rates of establishment in areas with browse but eventually continued interplanting and planting growth overwhelms the browsers. Additionally, our projects are long-term (sometimes up to 30 years) so we have the advantage of time and money, as opposed to many foresters who are on a shorter timescale with fewer resources.'

Interplanting seedlings with species that the animals do not care for was an item that the House Digest article addressed. The scents of Boxwood, Potentilla, Mountain Laurel, Juniper, Viburnum, Swamp Rose, Alberta Spruce, Bayberry, Russian Sage and Daphne were all suggestions to plant for deterring browsing critters.

DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

If you haven't already, please renew your OSWA, Washington County Chapter, membership. OSWA and WCSWA strive to educate, encourage sustainability and provide community through meetings, tours and this newsletter. The interests of small woodland owners are also represented before legislative bodies, including this session of the Oregon Legislature. If you have misplaced your renewal form, go to OSWA.org. Thank you to those of you who have renewed already.



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Forest Pubs, A New World Forestry Center Monthly Program

Step into the world of our forests at *Forest Pub*, a monthly program brought to you in partnership with McMenamins History at the Mission Theater in NW Portland.

Every second Monday, dynamic guest speakers explore how forests touch every part of our lives — from the natural wonders we depend on to the creativity, culture, and cuttingedge solutions they inspire. Tickets are on a sliding scale – \$5, \$7, or \$11. Location is Mission Theater 1624 NW Glisan St, Portland, OR 97209.

Here are the currently scheduled programs.

March 10 at 7:00 pm: PDX Airport & Mass Timber

Hear stories from Port of Portland and project partners behind the design, construction, and sourcing of the new main terminal at Portland International Airport. Utilizing Mass Timber and locally sourced timber, PDX has gained international recognition for its innovation and first-of-its-kind approach to a large-scale civic project.

April 14 at 7:00 pm: Walking Trees with All Science No Fiction and the Oregon Field Guide by OPB

May 12 at 7:00 pm: Reading Tree Rings with the OSU Tree Ring Lab

For more information and to buy tickets, go to https://worldforestry.org/forestpub/

Spring reminds us that resilience is only a season away.

~ Angie Weiland-Crosby



Increasing costs and impacts of regulation changes make planning for and planting 2.3M seedlings in Oregon state forests a challenge

Tillamook State Forest, Ore. — More than 6,100 acres of harvested timber areas in Oregon's state forests are getting nearly 2.3 million seedlings planted this year. Planting is underway or soon to be started in the Tillamook, Clatsop, and Santiam, while planting the Sun Pass and Gilchrist State Forests will start in May. "Depending on weather, soil conditions, and planting crew availability each state forest typically gets their planting done in six-to-eight weeks," said John Walter, Oregon Department of Forestry's (ODF) State Forests Silviculturist. Although the planting window is short, the planning and coordination to get those trees in the ground by ODF's experts is much longer. "We are looking at our seedling needs about two to three years out," said Walter. "We come up with the number of seedlings needed and then contract with several nurseries to get them grown at the time we need them."

It sounds simple enough; however, the way the timber sale contracts are set up makes coming up with an accurate number tricky. "Winning bidders have two to three years to harvest that sale," said Walter. "That means we may need to replant in that area after year one, two, or three. So how do we come up with the number of seedlings each year? We get with ODF district folks and make a best guess based on past performance of the winning bidder, operator availability, and market conditions."

Another issue in 2023, especially for ODF's Tillamook District, was the implementation of the Private Forest Accord and the resulting changes to the Forest Practices Act (FPA). Some of the small forestland owners who infrequently harvest decided they wanted to harvest under the old rules. This created an increase in the demand for the limited number of timber operators in the district. "Nearly all the operators were working on private forestland in 2023," said Nick Stumpf, Unit Manager for ODF's Tillamook District. "In a normal year we would have 10-12 harvest operations, but that year we had one." Private timber operators are the ones who run the harvest equipment and are typically contracted by the winning bidders of a state forest timber sale "For state forests our contracts already met or exceeded the requirements of the FPA changes in many areas so there was no rush to harvest on state sales," said Stumpf. "The operators were focused on getting timber out of private lands before the rule changes. This one-time shift changed the prediction of how many seedlings we would need to plant in our district."

Not only are they taking an educated guess at the number of seedlings needed, but they are also having to project the costs of the seedling itself but the labor and contract costs to plant them. Those combined costs used to be fairly consistent," said Walter. "However, over the past five years or so those combined costs have climbed from around 50 cents a tree to more than \$1 a tree. "These cost increases are hard for ODF to manage since revenue from state forest timber sales is split, with the host counties getting approximately two-thirds while one-third is kept by ODF to manage the forests. However, ODF pays for all costs associated with managing state forestlands, including timber sales, post-harvest replanting, trail and campground maintenance and improvements, and improving wildlife habitat. So, when costs increase, like doubling planting costs, it takes funding away from other important work on state forestlands, as ODF must absorb those increases without being able to access more of the sales revenue.

Another cost and planning challenge when replanting is state forests are managed for a concept called greatest permanent value (GPV). GPV means that the approximately 745,000 acres of forestlands ODF manages across the state needs to provide for economic, environmental, and social benefits to Oregonians. Zach Rabe, Tillamook District Operations Coordinator, explained that, although Doug-fir is typically the most valuable species in western Oregon, state forestlands are planted with a mixture of species after harvest to support GPV goals. "We plant about 70 percent Doug-fir and 30 percent other species," said Rabe. "Our goal is to promote diverse and thus resilient forests to provide environmental benefits. We mimic what was likely the natural conifer mix of the forests to provide those environmental benefits like wildlife habitat. This mix also improves social benefits like clean water and seeing more than one species when you are on a state forest trail or road." The mix of tree types means ordering seedlings from nurseries is more complex than a one species order. "We have to consolidate all the needs for each district and then come up with a list of the species and numbers of seedlings we need," said Walter. "So again, we are trying to predict our seedling needs nearly three years out, so it is a best guess; however, we want to make sure we have enough seedlings, so we typically have leftover trees." (Continued on page 11)

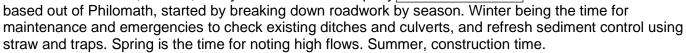
(Continued from page 10)

Last year ODF had a lot of seedlings left over after planting all ODF lands. "We sold 580,000 seedlings to private and industrial landowners. We donated 20,000 to non-profits, mostly watershed groups, and gave about 60,000 seedlings to tribal governments," said Walter. "We don't want to come up short because that impacts future activities; however, we do not want these seedlings to go to waste so we try to make sure they all get used." Organizations that buy or receive free seedlings still must pay for the planting costs. "We are still doing final calculations on how many trees we will plant this year, but like last year we will offer up the extras we do not use," said Walter.

WCSWA February Meeting: Forest Roads for Small Woodland Owners By Susan Schmidlin

Our speaker, Corinne Walters-Finster a forester

from Starker Forests, a small, family-owned timber company



Fall, making plans for next summer. She stressed planning cannot begin too early especially if you need to order supplies, get permissions/permits, acquire equipment and/or hire installation help. You should utilize every season for observation and upkeep.

Road surveys are part of ODF harvest requirements. This is new for many woodland owners. Road Building Rules, Division 625 has guidelines for the implementation and a form online. Keep in mind abandoned roads are those built before 1972, and you may need to check a box stating that you are not aware of known abandoned roads. Vacated roads can be water-barred and planted with possibility of using in future. Written plans with specific information is needed on Type N (non-fish) and Type F (fish bearing) streams with regard to nearby forest roads.

Things to consider when building a road:

- 1. Critical locations of stream beds, avoiding if possible
- 2. Keeping roadway away from riparian management areas
- 3. Steep slopes
- 4. Road drainage; possible impact to streams, wetlands, shape as inslope, outslope or crowned, and need for relief culverts

Knowing the purpose behind your road will help determine the next steps. Is it a spur off an existing forest road, a mainline, or property access? Double checking boundary lines and shared-use areas will avoid costly mistakes in the future.

If culverts are needed for stream crossing, fish bearing vs. non-fish will determine how advanced the planning and implementation will need to be. Rule of thumb for fish bearing is 1.2 times stream width plus 2 feet, with 100-year peak flow and stream simulation to match natural grade. For non-fish stream, calculate 1.25 stream width with times 50-year peak flow, although ODF has no specific guide for this yet.

A culvert inventory as part of the overall land plan works well when implemented correctly. Tools to have handy include notebook, flashlight, tape measure, dull knife or machete (to check stability of culvert bottom), shovel and a clinometer to check grade (yes there is an app for that).

- 1. Each culvert on a property should be identified (a number, name, corresponding coordinates)
- 2. Diameter, length and grade noted
- 3. How much and kind of fill above pipe
- 4. Stream or cross-drain
- 5. Condition
- 6. Notes, how is culvert tagged (blue t-post, sign), date inspected/installed

March 2025

Corinne receiving

WCSWA speaker gift from Dan Shumaker

Forest Forum



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Potpourri

New Members: We welcome new members **Curtis and Elizabeth Crawford** of Portland, **Dan and Melinda Fischer** of Forest Grove and **Alan and Shannon Hallberg** of North Plains. 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! Questions? Contact any of the Directors, Officers, or Newsletter Editors listed on page 2.

Helpful Links:

Oregon's Forest Protection Laws: An Illustrated Manual 2024

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

<u>Forestry for the Birds: Western Oregon</u> was produced by the Forest Stewards Guild. Download at: https://foreststewardsguild.org/foresters-for-the-birds</u>

Recommended Fire Related Brochures:

Initial Attack Fire Equipment for Woodland Owners Booklet: www.wcswa.com. About us/links. Firewise Landscaping Basics | OSU Extension Service (oregonstate.edu)

Wildfire Prevention: Oregon Wildfire Response and Recovery: Wildfire Prevention: State of Oregon

Other Helpful Links:

- <u>www.oregonwoodlandcooperative.com</u> learn about the Oregon Woodland Cooperative
- https://www.facebook.com/WashingtonCountySmallWoodlandsAssociation
- For E-Notification: : FERNS Welcome (oregon.gov) or visit an ODF Office