

# Forest Forum

Washington County Small  
Woodlands Association

December, 2008

## ***WCSWA Recognizes "Tall Timbers" – Contributions To Woodland Community***

Three annual "Tall Timbers" awards were present by WCSWA at the Annual Awards Banquet for outstanding contributions to the woodland community:

***Stimson Lumber Company***, for their support of small woodland owners over the years through their Managed Forest Program (MFP), participation in the Tree Farmer of the Year awards (including providing the handsome sign shown in the photo to the right), and supporting the OSWA membership drive by providing a \$25 match to any new member who joins OSWA. Mike Heath, the Company's MFP manager, received the award. *(Photo on page 8)*

***Richard and Anne Hanschu***, for their educational work over the years, and especially for providing an outstanding "model woodland" that has been site of many woodland events, including the 2008 National Tree Farm System Field Day. *(Photo on page 8)*

*See Awards, page 2*



## **Tree Farmers of Year 2008 – Scott and Marge Hayes**

Scott and Marge Hayes, owners of "Arbor House Tree Farm" in the Gales Creek area, are the 2008 Tree Farmers of the Year for Washington County. The honor was awarded at the WCSWA Annual Awards Banquet on November 18<sup>th</sup> by Mike Heath, chairman of the WCSWA Tree Farm Committee.

Marge and Scott's tree farm is 40 acres in size, and was certified by the American Tree Farm System in 1996. It consists of a mix of old Christmas tree plantations that have "escaped", to riparian area of mixed fir and hardwood, to recently established fir plantation. Scott and Marge manage their tree farm for a variety of values – wildlife, timber, and minor tree species such as madrone, white oak, and cherry.

Scott and Marge met while both were working for the Oregon Department of Forestry – Scott has a forestry degree and Marge's degree was in home economics. They both retired from the Department in 2005, and volunteer at the Tillamook Forest Center when they're not working on their tree farm.

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## Notes from the President

by Dallas Boge

Another momentous year is in the history books. The price of gasoline and diesel hit never-before-seen prices, and has since retreated. This in turn helped an economy already suffering from some problems to accelerate into what is now an unpleasant time. Log prices and the log market demand are at lows not seen for a long time.

And yet, we have much to be thankful for as a people. The sun comes up every morning for its usual round trip. We all for the most part are enjoying good health. If the recent Black Friday is any indicator, some people seem to still have money. And more than 93% of Oregonians still are working. This is truly a season to be thankful for what we have.

This month we exercise one of the rights we enjoy as American citizens, that is, the right to vote. Yes, I know that it is for officers and directors of the local chapter, but still I encourage each of you to cast your ballot for the officer and director of your choice.

Congratulations to Bob and Bonnie Shumaker for their runner-up finish in the contest for Oregon tree farmer of the year! Congratulations to the Browns of Union County for being selected outstanding tree farmers of the year. I look forward to seeing their tree farm next summer.

I want to give special thanks to Wendell Walker for his service to Washington County OSWA over these many years. He is finishing his term as director and has decided not to run again. Wendell served many years as our treasurer, a thankless job. Thank you, Wendell!

Next month is a month in which many dues renewals are mailed out. It also marks the start of the legislative session. What do these have in common? Each membership is allowed to have up to three members. Please, if you haven't already done so, add the extra names to have three members on each membership. When we are talking to our legislators, the number of members we represent is very important. The more we have, the better we are heard.

On the farm, our annual bough harvest is over and Christmas tree harvest is just getting going. I, for one, am looking forward to Christmas Eve.

That's all for now.

*Dallas*

### ***Awards, continued from page 1***

***Chal Landgren*** was recognized for his many valuable contributions to woodland owners, WCSWA, and the Oregon Woodland Co-op as Extension Forester for Washington and Columbia Counties. Chal is now the Christmas Tree Extension Specialist for Oregon, but his expertise and innovation have benefited many aspiring tree farmers – both Christmas tree and timber tree types. Chal was instrumental in obtaining two economic development grants for WCSWA, resulting in a county wide survey of woodland owners and other benefits. Chal has provided expertise and material support for the Co-op in obtaining and implementing two value-added program grants, resulting in a high quality Co-op business plan, and several value-added projects which are continuing. (*photo on page 5*)

## WCSWA Leadership

**President – Dallas Boge; 503-357-7688**

**Vice-President – Jim Brown; 503-284-6455**

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

Board of Directors:

Dick Courter; 503-297-1660

Art Dummer; 503-357-4258

Tom Nygren, 503-628-5472

Neil Schroeder; 503-628-2344

Bonnie Shumaker – 503-324-7825

Wendell Walker, 503-353-0328

**Legislative Committee Chair:**

Ron Larson; 503-775-3223

### WCSWA Website

[www.wcswa.org](http://www.wcswa.org)

**Website Manager: Kathy Scott**

Contact Tom Nygren for web postings and information.

### Forest Forum Newsletter

**Editor:** Tom Nygren

503-628-5472

e-mail: [tnygren@juno.com](mailto:tnygren@juno.com)

### 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. Another way for tree farmers to help each other! (3 month limit)*

**Wanted:** Chipper, PTO or trailer mounted, with 4"+ capacity and hydraulic feed, Tom, 503-628-5472

## Event Calendar

<b>December</b>	<b>No WCSWA Meeting Scheduled</b>
<b>January</b>	<b>10 Ecological Forestry: Restoring Habitat in Managed Forests.</b> Northwest Trek, Eatonville, WA. 1:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Information at <a href="http://www.nnrq.org/news-events/habitat-complexity-in-managed-forests">http://www.nnrq.org/news-events/habitat-complexity-in-managed-forests</a>
	<b>26 WCSWA Monthly Meeting.</b> OSU Extension office at 7:00 p.m. Location: Capital Center at 185 <sup>th</sup> and Walker Road in Beaverton. The program will be a presentation on the Oregon Forest Practice Act – how to interpret and comply with it – especially filling out notifications. Tom Kennedy and Eric Perkins of the Forest Grove office of ODF.
<b>February</b>	<b>19-21 Oregon Logging Conference</b> – Eugene. Call 541-686-9191, or go to <a href="http://www.oregonloggingconference.com">www.oregonloggingconference.com</a>
	<b>24 WCSWA Monthly Meeting</b> - 7:00 p.m. OSU Extension office. Capital Center, at Walker Road and 185 <sup>th</sup> in Beaverton.
<b>March</b>	<b>24 WCSWA Monthly Meeting</b>
<b>April</b>	<b>28 WCSWA Monthly Meeting</b>
<b>May</b>	<b>26 WCSWA Monthly Meeting</b>
<b>June</b>	<b>Beginning of Field Tours – Schedule not yet developed</b>

***Farmer's Advice:***

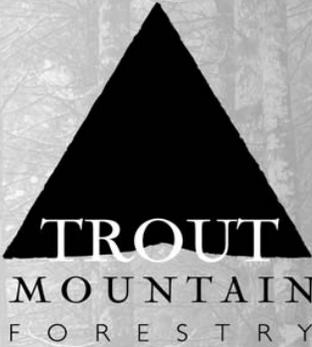
*Life is simpler when you plow around the stump*

*Timing has a lot to do with the outcome of a rain dance*

*Good judgment comes from experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgment*

*Letting the cat out of the bag is a whole lot easier than putting it back in*

*A yellowjacket is considerably faster than a John Deere tractor*



A balanced approach

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TIMBER MANAGEMENT

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ALTERNATIVES TO CLEARCUTTING

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***Dealing with Scotch Broom on Old Fields***

Recent research suggests that, when sown into an existing seedbank of Scotch broom, blue wild-rye and spike bentgrass are likely to inhibit development of this aggressive shrub species; however, western fescue will not be as aggressive at inhibiting Scotch broom. Nutrient amendments strongly stimulated biomass development of Scotch broom and grass; however, broom biomass was lowest when it was grown with grass without any nutrient amendments. Because relative competitive effects of the grass increased with nutrient amendments, the potential may exist to combine fertilization and mowing treatments to create an aggressive stand of grass that may effectively eliminate Scotch broom and inhibit further germination of the species. **Tim Harrington, USFS PNW Research, Olympia, WA**

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2/3 page	86	170	425
Full page	125	250	625

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**Chal Landgren holding his "Tall Timber" award – see page 2**

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## Oregon Forest Inventory Report Available

The first 5-year forest inventory report for Oregon's private and public lands is now available to the public: *Oregon's Forest Resources, 2001-2005: Five-Year Forest Inventory and Analysis Report*. Read it online at <http://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/publications/qtr765/>.

Here are some key findings from the report:

- Oregon's forests span about 30 million acres; about half of Oregon's total land area of 61 million acres.
- Forest land is being converted to other uses particularly near urban areas. The rate of conversion had slowed in the past decade, but it's not clear what protections will remain on rural forest and agricultural land.
- The majority of old-growth forest is now found on federal land, although the current percentage is estimated to be less than half of that existing before Euro-American settlement.
- Data spanning 1953 to 1987 show a decrease in timberland area and volume, but inventories in the late 1990s and 2001-2005 suggest recent increases in timberland acreage and volume.
- Economic activity increased in the forest products industry, with an 8-percent increase in harvest since 2003.
- Private landowners provide most of Oregon's wood products, industry jobs, and timber revenue.
- Ownership is rapidly changing as some industry owners sell their lands to timber investment management organizations (TIMO) or real-estate investment trusts (REIT) who may manage the land for a variety of purposes.
- A single fuel-management prescription does not fit all landscapes in Oregon. Less than half of forested lands are predicted to develop crown fires, and an even smaller fraction can be expected to develop active crown fire.
- Oregon's forests are a net sink for carbon. More carbon is sequestered in growing wood than is emitted in decaying wood.

The data from the FIA reports are used by state, federal, and private land managers, investors, and others for a variety of purposes including the assessment of fuels and potential fire hazard, biomass and carbon storage, the effects of insects and disease, growth and mortality, wildlife habitat, plant diversity, and the supply of goods and services.

Since the 1930s, the U.S. Forest Service has conducted inventories of private lands throughout the United States. In the early days, inventories focused primarily on trees: how much timber was out there? Today's inventory is still about measuring and counting trees, but it also accounts for understory vegetation, down woody material, lichens, damage caused by insects and disease, and more.

Whereas the original inventory design produced resource bulletins about every 10 to 12 years from data collected over a 2- to 3-year period, today's inventory in the Western United States is conducted on a 10-year cycle where 1/10 of the field plots are measured annually on public and private forest land. Data are now posted each year and summary reports are issued every 5 years.

For more information about the national Forest Inventory and Analysis Program visit <http://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/fia/>.

The PNW Research Station is headquartered in Portland, Oregon. It has 11 laboratories and centers located in Alaska, Oregon, and Washington and about 500 employees.

# Tree Talk

by Bonnie Shumaker

December in the woods conjures up a medley of delights. Christmas first comes to mind with the celebration of Christ's birth. The forest is perhaps God's most elegant cathedral, especially after a snowfall. Many children's books set the scene in a snowy wood. "Stranger in the Woods" and "Owl Moon" come first to mind with their dreamlike pictures and prose. Frosted cobwebs decorate our trees as we take our daily walk and animal tracks draw our eyes and the nose of our dog as she romps off trail to follow scent. The quail and grouse are adept at whirring to flight well ahead of her advances. Our first snowfall has yet to come, but like so much tree farm delight, a snowy wood has its practical side as well.

Bob and I have spent many days at our Vernonia road property clearing brush from about ten under-stocked acres for which 1500 seedlings are on order. Several inches of snow before we plant will pack the grasses and last year's fern fronds down making the finding of planting spots much easier come February. The elevation there is 800 feet, so we're hoping that a couple of cold Pacific storms will dump a load of heavy snow and flatten down the tangle of forbs.

We're planning an experiment when we plant here. We've purchased bud caps from IFA; the peel-and-stick kind. The idea is threefold. First, we hope to discourage the many deer and elk from eating our seedlings. Reportedly, the bud caps can even be used a second year by boosting them up the prior year's leader. Second, we hope to kick off the planting with a fun three generation "ties to the land" planting day and weenie roast with the five grandkids applying the bud caps and helping with the planting. We keep reminding ourselves that we must keep it fun and not expect tremendous output. We can finish the planting on other days when we'll slog through the rest of the seedlings ourselves. I know we won't work the grandkids too hard, because Bob and I are only good for about two hours of this kind of work at a time. This explains why it took us so many days to get the brush cutting done. The third part of the idea behind the bud caps is so we will be able to find the trees two weeks or so later when it is time to spray for grass control around the trees. It's an experiment we've decided is worth a try. I'll report on its level of success later.

I'd like to share one thing I learned when we were cutting brush. My job was to follow Bob and his brush cutter around and spray the stems he cut with basal spray so they won't re-sprout next spring. After a few days, my backpack sprayer wouldn't hold pressure for more than a few seconds and would only pump up a couple of times. I reported this to our son, Dan who knows about all things mechanical. He said I needed to empty the sprayer and then pump with the nozzle open until only air came out. The problem was that we hadn't been emptying the back pack sprayer each day and in getting ready for the next day had been just "topping off" the sprayer with the herbicide. Apparently this allows liquid to get into the "thingamajig" that pumps air pressure into the sprayer so it can't pressurize well. I'm sure this isn't news to many of you, but it was important for me to learn, so I'm passing it on to those of you who may encounter this problem and not know how to fix it and don't have a mechanical son to help out.

Bob and I both wish everyone a blessed Christmas and holiday season. With no meeting in December, we'll see those of you who can make it at the January meeting.

## WCSWA Director Election – Ballot Enclosed

Two positions will open up this year for the WCSWA Board of Directors. At the November 18<sup>th</sup> Awards Banquet, nominations were sought for the Director and Officer positions. The existing officers (Dallas Boge, president, Jim Brown, Vice-President, and Bob Shumaker, Secretary-Treasurer agreed to run for their positions. For the two Director positions, two candidates were identified: Art Dummer (incumbent), and Bill Triest. Additional nominations were sought from the floor, but none were offered and nominations were closed by vote of those attending.

**A mail-in ballot is enclosed for your use in voting for these positions.** Note that there are spaces for write-in candidates for all positions.

## 2008 Farm – Opportunities for Woodland Owners

The 2008 Farm bill, passed by Congress and signed by the President, offers more opportunity for woodland owners than past farm bills. The programs are not yet funded, so there is some question about when they will be available. Major programs of interest to woodland owners are:

- EQIP – Environmental Quality Incentive Program
- Conservation Stewardship Program
- Farmland Protection
- WHIP – Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program
- Healthy Forest Reserve
- Community Forestry, Open Space
- Energy
- Community Wood Energy
- Forest Biomass
- Biomass Crop Assistance

Details about these programs and other aspects about the Farm Bill can be found at

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/FarmBill/2008/Titles/TitleVIIIForestry.htm>

## WCSWA Native Plant Sale – Get It On Your Calendar!

The 2009 WCSWA Native Plant Sale is scheduled for March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Possibly new this time – an online pre-order option.



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Mike Heath, Stimson Lumber Company, with his Tall Timber award. Story on page 1



Richard and Anne Hanschu with their Tall Timber Award. Story on page 1.

## Just the Facts

Family forest owners account for 92 percent of all forestland owners, and 62 percent of the private forest land in the U.S.

Sixty-one percent of the family forest owners own less than 10 acres, but 53 percent of the family forest land is owned by people with more than 100 acres.

Fifty-eight percent of family forest land is owned by people who have commercially harvested trees.

One in 5 family forest land owners is at least 75 years of age.

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A balanced approach

TIMBER MANAGEMENT

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FOREST PLANNING AND RESTORATION

Forest stewardship for productivity and diversity

## *Seven Concepts of Sustainable Forestry:*

1. *Sustained Yield* – grow more than you harvest
2. *Timber harvests are unattractive and unappreciated* – Modify to retain public support
3. *The U.S. consumes a lot of wood* – decreasing per capita use is good
4. *The U.S. is a net wood importer* – we have a large “footprint”
5. *Importing wood exports consequences* – “out of sight, out of mind”
6. *Wood is better than most substitutes* – wood – the original “green” building material
7. *There is a finite area from which wood must come* – as they say, “Land - they aren’t making any more of it”

Stephen Shifley, Northern Research Station, U.S. Forest Service

## ***Chainsaws and E-10***

Oregon filling stations now sell gasoline with 10% ethanol – “E-10.” What affect does that fuel blend have on two-stroke engines such as on chainsaws? Two Roseburg service representatives offered to consult with operators:

- Myrl Davis, at Hobi Equipment, 1810 NE Stephens, Roseburg, said preliminary observations suggest E-10 is acceptable in Stihl chainsaws. The key, he said, is to use fresh fuel and lubricating oil reformulated by Stihl for gasoline-with-ethanol. He recommended not leaving gasoline in the carburetor for weeks; in his repair shop he sees a lot of build up in fuel systems. He advised not to add other substances to the gasoline because it may reduce energy output.
- For Husqvarna chainsaws, Steffan Ihrcke, Diamond Power Equipment, 7445 Old Hwy 99 N., Roseburg, has found the alcohol itself has not proved a real problem. The problem, he said is that alcohol absorbs moisture in this climate and that additives used in four-stroke engines are not adapted for two-stroke engines. He recommended buying gasoline from a major dealer and only the volume an operator uses in a month. He described a test for water in gasoline: Pour gasoline in a clean glass jar; let it set for a few minutes; watch for signs of water in the gasoline.

(Article from the Douglas County Woodlander, October, 2008 – Thanks, Douglas County!)

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*Conservation  
is a state of harmony  
between  
man and the land*

Aldo Leopold

## Russian Log Export Taxes Rise Up to 80% For Some Species!

As a move to force more lumber, plywood, and pulp manufacturing to stay in Russia, the country plans to increase their export tax on logs on January 1<sup>st</sup>. Softwood log tax will increase from 20% to 80%, poplar logs from 10% to 80%, and hardwood logs from 20% to 40%.

The high tax will likely cause sharp reductions in log exports, and will have both short and long term effects on the world forest products markets. China and Finland will feel the effects first, but ripple effects will circle the globe. One possible effect is an increase of log exports from North America to Asia. Another possible effect is that these countries will opt to purchase lumber rather than logs from North America.

A key question: How will log markets in the Pacific Northwest be affected?

### *Six Trends Driving Sustainable Development:*

1. Global market forces
  2. Changes in financial models for corporations and government
  3. Innovation in core industries
  4. Globalization; international institutions
  5. Evolution, not revolution; incremental change
  6. Communication and the influence of global media in changing policy and behavior
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## OSU Extension Selects New Forester

The Oregon State University Extension Service has selected a new Extension Forester for Washington and Columbia Counties, replacing Chal Landgren. Amy Grotta has just accepted the position of Extension Agent and Assistant Professor (tenure track). Amy will begin her position on July 1, 2009, and will work out of the Columbia County office in St. Helens. Amy has a B.S. degree from the University of California-Berkeley and an M.S. in Forest Science from OSU. She has worked as the King County Extension Agent for Forestry & Natural Resources for the past five years, with Washington State University Extension. Amy also was an Agroforestry Peace Corps volunteer in Paraguay and a former high school Spanish teacher.

In her work as Extension Forester in King County, Washington, Amy developed tools to help small woodland owners to improve their economies of scale by working together, and prepared and delivered programs to help the general public understand and appreciate the benefits of active forest management and the role of working forests.

To help woodland owners keep up on Extension programs and information about forest management, Amy also developed a list-serve to send out weekly e-mails. The result was more engaged landowners, and two-way communication with landowners.

Amy has also been active in youth education, and in developing partnerships with local government, non-profits, and other entities.



Washington County Small Woodlands Association looks forward to working with Amy next year!

## ***American Tree Farm System Reviewing Tree Farm Certification Standards***

*Editors Note: Since receiving recognition by the Program for Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC), an international certification auditing and accrediting system, the Tree Farm System has begun reviewing their standards for receiving tree farm certification. Currently there are 24 million acres of certified tree farms, owned by over 90,000 tree farmers.*

The American Forest Foundation needs to hear from you! AFF is now accepting comments on its [2004-2009 Standards of Sustainability for Forest Certification on Private Lands](#) until Tuesday, December 30, 2008, 5:00PM Eastern Standard Time. The AFF Standards are the basis for the American Tree Farm System® (ATFS) program and are currently being reviewed by an independent panel.

During this review process, it is extremely important that we gather comments from family forest landowners, Tree Farmers, volunteer inspectors, natural resource and forestry professionals, PLT® educators, and our other partners.

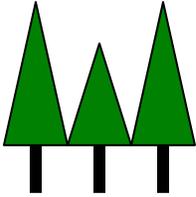
**The pre-revision public comment period will be open until December 30, 2008 at 5:00 PM Eastern Standard Time.**

To submit comments on the current AFF Standards, please visit [www.forestfoundation.org>Standards](http://www.forestfoundation.org>Standards) or email Victoria Lockhart @ [vlockhart@forestfoundation.org](mailto:vlockhart@forestfoundation.org) for more information.

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## ***Forest Forum***



COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE  
OREGON SMALL WOODLANDS  
ASSOCIATION

### ***Potpourri***

#### ***Ned and Sis Hayes Receive Award***

Ned and Sis Hayes, longtime woodland owners and members of WCSWA, received the Lifetime Conservation Leadership Award from The Nature Conservancy. Ned and Sis, in addition to providing excellent stewardship of their woodlands, have provided resources to Oregon State University, and supported many conservation related efforts, such as protecting Sycan Marsh and Zumwalt Prairie. Congratulations, Ned and Sis!

#### ***Think Ahead – Tax Time Is Coming!***

2008 Tax Tips for forest landowners

<http://www.timbertax.org/publications/FS/taxtips/TaxTips08.pdf>

This bulletin summarizes key federal income tax provisions for forestland owners, foresters, loggers, forest product businesses, and tax practitioners

