

Forest Forum

Washington County Small
Woodlands Association

September, 2009

SPECIAL EDITION

This edition of the Forest Forum is being sent to a wider audience. The members of Washington County Small Woodlands Association (WCSWA), the county chapter of Oregon Small Woodlands Association (OSWA) wish to share our newsletter and vision with most of the woodland owners in Washington County this month.

The vision of OSWA is "To see privately owned family woodlands are a thriving part of Oregon's landscape in 2050." This is done through:

- Education
- Providing a medium for the exchange of ideas
- Serving as a forum to for solving problems and improving forest management
- Encouraging better forestry practices
- Representing owners of family forestlands to the public and legislative and regulatory agencies

*We hope you enjoy this newsletter.
Information on joining OSWA with
chapter membership in WCSWA can be
found at oswa.org.*

Exciting Zena Woods Tour



The barn being built at Zena Woods is a tribute to the family's German heritage using timber construction with mortise and wooden peg joints

On August 22nd, about twenty WCSWA members were welcomed by Sarah Deumling, owner of Zena Woods. At one time, Sarah and her husband managed 1600 acres here for a German company. After Sarah's husband died in 1996, Sarah convinced the German foresters to train her to manage the land with which she had fallen in love. The land was certified under the Forest Stewardship Council and when the Germans decided to sell in 2004, their requirement to keep the FSC certification made selling the parcel difficult. The German company then sold a conservation easement on the land which allows for timber management and oak conservation. At this time, Sarah was able to purchase 1300 acres which has both FSC certification and the conservation easement, and she couldn't be happier. Willamette University owns 305 acres adjacent to Sarah's with the same restrictions. Dr. Joe Bowersox, Director of the Center for Sustainable Communities at Willamette University, helped conduct the tour and explained the University's teaching and management goals.

See "Zena" on page 2

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Notes from the President

by Dallas Boge

This month's *Forest Forum* goes to most of the timber owners in Washington County. Oregon Small Woodlands Association (OSWA) is an organization whose members own timberland and are interested in learning more about managing and using their resource. The Washington County chapter serves those owners living and owning timberland in and around Washington County.

Washington County Small Woodlands Association (WCSWA) publishes *Forest Forum* each month to inform its members of upcoming meetings and events, as well as keeping them informed about topics of interest from national and international sources. Members also receive the *Update* from the state organization eight times a year and the magazine *Northwest Woodlands* four times a year.

WCSWA has been a leader in opposing the proposed LNG projects in Oregon. We were among the first to pass a resolution against the pipelines proposed to connect the terminals to the existing pipelines running to California, the ultimate destination of virtually all of the foreign gas to be imported. Since that time, many other organizations and cities have joined in opposing these projects.

Proponents of the LNG projects tried in the last Oregon legislature to pass a bill (HB 3058) that would have allowed linear projects to obtain cut/fill permits without any landowner permission. OSWA was very active in opposing this bill because of the loss of private property rights, and it was successfully killed.

Several years ago WCSWA obtained a grant to assist landowners in preparing management plans for their land. Not all of the funds were used at that time, so the board of directors recently decided to sponsor another short-course to help more people prepare a management plan for their properties. An added emphasis is that the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) also has funds available to do the same. Oregon State Extension Service is also leading the way in planning these meetings. In addition, the Woodlands Carbon Company (WCC) has funds available to help with inventorying standing timber for possible sale of carbon credits, a source of possible income from standing timber year after year. Woodland Carbon Company is wholly owned by OSWA.

To partake in the sale of carbon credits, you must be a member of OSWA and be a certified tree farm, which requires a management plan. In addition, NCRS requires a management plan for partaking in their programs.

As you will see elsewhere in this issue, WCSWA members receive a 50% discount for attending the management plan short-course. I have a limited number of \$25.00 discount coupons for new members, courtesy of Stimson Lumber Company. Contact me at 503 357-7688 for details, first come, first served.

WCSWA and OSU Extension look forward to seeing many of you October 7 for the Management Planning workshop at the Extension office in Beaverton (see flier insert).

That's all for now.

Zena, continued from page 1

Sarah's property is stocked with 56% Douglas fir, 34% oak, 9% maple with some madrone and ash thrown in. Rainfall at the site is 30+ inches per year. Sarah feels the mixed species and multi-generational stands help the forest thrive in this moisture stressed area. Her management plan stresses careful production management (single tree selection and minimal soil compaction) and habitat conservation. With two sawmills and a kiln on the property, she and her son Ben market through vertical integration by cutting, sawing, drying and milling their own boards using all the species available on the woodland. Sarah's son Ben runs the sawmill. Both Ben and his brother Reuben are building the barn shown on page one with wood from their woodland. It will be used for a shop and lumber storage. Their next project is to build a new kiln on the south slope which will run on solar power when available and wood waste when the sun doesn't shine.

Products from Zena Woods are marketed through the "Build Local Alliance" and word of mouth. They have all the business they can handle.

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

Bill Triest – 503-626-1838

Legislative Committee Chair:

Ron Larson; 503-775-3223

WCSWA Website

www.wcswa.org

Website Manager: Kathy Scott

Contact Tom Nygren for web postings and information.

Forest Forum Newsletter

Editor: Tom Nygren & Bonnie Shumaker

503-628-5472 or 503-324-7825

E-mail: tnygren@juno.com or

bshumaker@coho.net

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)

For Sale: 1 x 6 Recycled Cedar Channel Siding. Various lengths. Approximately 500 board feet. 20 cents per foot or \$80 for all. Perfect for a playhouse, chicken coop or sprucing up an old out-building. Call Dan or Melinda Shumaker at 503-324-0949.

Wanted: Nothing this month.

Trade: Nothing this month

Event Calendar

September

No WCSWA Monthly meeting is scheduled

26 The Game of Logging, Oakville, WA. How to do your own low-impact logging.

Contact Kirk Hanson, <<mailto:kirk@nnrg.org>> kirk@nnrg.org, 360-316-9317

26 Forest Neighbors Field Day and BBQ – sponsored by West Multnomah SWCD, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the home of Kate and John Eskew, 15604 NW Rock Creek Road. \$10 per person or \$15 per family. Forest talks and demonstrations. Register at registration@wmswcd.org. Contact Scott Gall, scott@wmswcd.org for more information

October

27 WCSWA Monthly Meeting - Don Rice, Managing Director of the Resource Management Group of Greenwood Resources. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m., at The OSU Extension office, Capital Center, 185th and Walker Road, Beaverton.

November

17 WCSWA Annual Awards Banquet at Jennings-McCall banquet facility in Forest Grove. Peter Hayes will be our guest speaker. The 2009 Tree Farmer of the Year for Washington County will be announced.

December

No meeting is scheduled

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Dallas Boge, 10735 NW Thornburg Rd, Gales Creek, OR 97117

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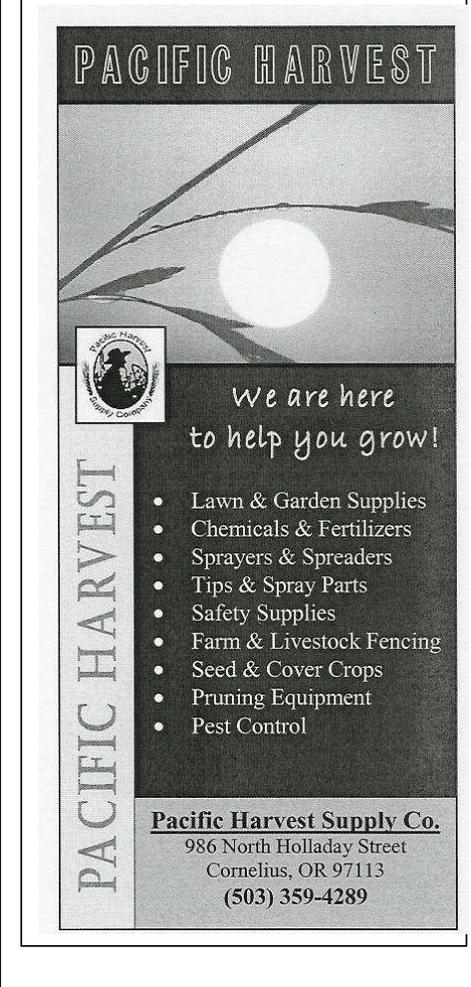


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Tree Talk

by Bonnie Shumaker

I asked WCSWA members why the organization is important to them. Here are their responses.

Susan Vosburg and Paul Sansone - We have a 32 acre property along Gales Creek. Thirty acres of former farm land has been replanted in woodlands and presents different problems and opportunities than replanting logged over timberland. The trees have been laid-out in a precise planting pattern to allow future cropping of floral crops or other specialty forest products. It has been managed without the use of herbicides or synthetic fertilizers, and is planted intensively to be thinned mechanically for early timber revenues. WCSWA has been invaluable in networking and negotiating the maze of government programs and regulations confronting small woodland owners. Membership is easily the best investment we have made in our woodlot.

Eloise Binns - I moved from Pennsylvania to about 8 acres of filberts in 1988. A few years of dealing with eastern filbert blight was enough. I had the filberts taken out and "built me a woods." I got in touch with Chal soon after my wild idea hit. Along with much helpful information he directed me to WCSWA, the perfect group for a novice like me. There is always new information at meetings, friendships, seedling and wild flower sales and much more. Over the years I've planted (with help) mostly natives. My woods is now a joy to walk through. I'm considering putting a conservation easement on it.

Scott and Marge Hayes - When Scott and I purchased our 40 acres of mostly Doug Fir timber 13 years ago, we were elated that we finally had our dream tree farm. Now what? Scott's a forest manager by profession and I simply have a great love of the outdoors and nature, but we knew we could benefit by connecting with an organization of like-minded folks. We joined OSWA and WCSWA to share ideas with woodland owners, learn new management techniques, and better understand issues concerning harvesting, taxation, and wildlife preservation. The benefits include increased knowledge, responsible woodland practices, and friendship.

Miles and Libby Merwin - We are fortunate to be able to establish and manage our own small-scale tree farm after many years of work in forestry and agro-forestry research. WCSWA and OSWA are great information resources for new tree farmers like ourselves. Other members of WCSWA are the best resource and share their knowledge and experience. We have also learned a lot from the speakers, field trips and publications. The info and contacts we've received from WCSWA and OSWA more than outweigh the modest membership dues.

Lyal and Sandy Purinton - When my wife and I bought our first property in 1992 we were just looking to live in the country and needed a few acres for our horses. We wound up purchasing 40 acres of mostly logged over woodland. It had been replanted but we knew nothing about forestry. We found that the brush seemed to grow like wildfire and the seedlings hardly at all. As my interest in the forest grew, I invited a co-worker who owned woodland to our property. He confirmed that the brush was winning the battle and recommended a forester and joining OSWA. That's when our education and connection to the woodland community began.

Bill Triest: The top 10 Reasons why I joined OSWA and WCSWA

10. Cool clothes @ OSWA
9. Political power through the organization at state legislation
8. Interesting speakers or activities at monthly meetings
7. Information and exchange of ideas
6. Potlucks
5. Networking
4. Visits to members' tree farms
3. Field trips to sites beyond our membership area
2. New friends and allies

And the #1 reason;

Sharing your love of the forest is even better with others around!

See "Tree Talk" page 7

Vic Herinckx -The Herinckx woodland is in the Cascade foothills outside of Silverton. The property was purchased last fall from California owners and was pretty much unmanaged for the last 15-20 years. Over the last year we've been planting, spraying, thinning, pruning, cleaning up blow down, trail blazing and even playing. It seems the more we do, the more we'd like to do. OSWA/WCSWA members, newsletters and conferences have all been great resources to educate and inspire. Active woodland management has been a learning journey with some successes and some failures (like planting cedar treats for the deer). It's nice to be able to share experiences with other members and to learn from each other.

By Rick Sohn, Umpqua Coquille LLC

Lumber prices have gone up 25% in July! Unsold home inventories and national homebuilding rates are moving in the right direction, albeit slowly. Logs have remained stable, moving up slightly. This is all good news, relatively speaking. See the 3-year price comparisons for lumber, logs, housing starts, permits, and unsold home inventories below.

Prices in Dollars per Thousand Board Feet

	July '09	June '09	May '09	June '08	June '06
Southern Oregon Studs¹	\$207	\$165	\$155	\$215	\$275
Southern Oregon Logs²		\$353	\$352	\$ 518	\$ 696

Thousands of Housing units

	June '09	May '09	June '08	June '06
US Private Housing Starts³	582	562	1078	1802
US Private Building Permits³	563	518	1174	1867

Months of Inventory of Unsold Homes

	June '09	May '09	June '08	June '06
Portland OR Unsold Home Inventory⁴	8.2	10.2	9.5	2.6

Article taken from Oregon Natural Resources Report - <http://naturalresourcereport.com>
 URL to article: <http://naturalresourcereport.com/2009/08/timber-report-lumber-prices-up-25/>

**Woodlands Carbon Helps Family Landowners
 Access Voluntary Carbon Markets.**

Family woodlands in Oregon provide many ecological benefits to society that do not result in an economic return for the landowner. The list includes clean water, clean air, aesthetic beauty, habitat for wildlife, and protection of threatened or endangered plants and animals.

Not included is removal of atmospheric carbon.

The Oregon Small Woodlands Association and the American Forest Foundation have partnered to form Woodlands Carbon, to aggregate and trade sequestered carbon credits from third party certified family forest lands.

Burning fossil fuel releases carbon dioxide (CO2) into the atmosphere, which is generally acknowledged as contributing to global warming. In theory we can neutralize CO2 emissions by techniques such as carbon sequestration. Carbon sequestration is the storage of carbon dioxide captured from the atmosphere in a solid material.

See "**Carbon Markets**", page 8

Carbon Markets, continued from page 7

Family forests are carbon stores, and they are CO₂ sinks when they are increasing in density or area. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) concluded that “a sustainable forest management strategy aimed at maintaining or increasing forest carbon stocks, while producing an annual sustained yield of timber fibre or energy from the forest, will generate the largest sustained mitigation benefit.” IPCC is a scientific intergovernmental body tasked to evaluate the risk of climate change caused by human activity.

In order to assure credibility and demonstrate carbon sequestration is taking place, participating landowners will be required to conduct an inventory of their carbon, based upon inventory guidelines and procedures. Over the next 18 months Woodlands Carbon is hosting a number of workshops for landowners and consultant foresters to introduce both the inventory guidelines and procedures and the landowner contract.



Landowners visit a riparian area on C and M Tree farm near Hillsboro to familiarize themselves with the new carbon inventory guidelines.

Mike Gaudern of Woodlands Carbon was delighted with the response to two initial workshops held in Benton and Washington Counties in July this year. “It appears that we have interest from landowners with woodlands of all sizes and types. We are looking forward to assembling our first pool for sale this fall.

“The price of carbon is very volatile at present so we are looking at pool assembly costs as we put pools together, setting a target price and searching for the right buyer. We still feel that a price between \$6-\$12 / ton is a realistic target to make this pencil out for most landowners.”

“Younger stands of less complexity and fast growing species seem to be the most cost effective to inventory. But with the stratification and ability to pool landowners together we think that all stands have a chance if we see prices rise to where economists have suggested once a national cap and trade system is implemented.”

For more information, to register for a workshop or to arrange a field visit to see if your property is a good candidate for Woodlands Carbon please contact:

Michael Gaudern

Woodlands Carbon, 1775 32nd Place, Ste. C, Salem, Oregon, 97301 Tel - 503 588 8356

Email - woodlandscarbonco@gmail.com; web www.woodlandscarbon.com

What's this?

(Photo at right is from August Forest Forum)

Dick Beers got this one right.. It is a spring-board stuck in an old stump.

See this month's puzzler on page 10



Family Forestland Owners Benefit through OSWA Membership

By David Ford, OSWA Executive Director

Joining OSWA as a member in 2004 has provided me with many years of quality benefits. I originally joined because I believed in the organization's mission and I wanted to support an organization that looked out for my interests, especially with the politicians in Salem. However, I soon learned that participating in organization events and volunteering my time provided the greatest benefit to me.

I often get asked by my friends and neighbors about OSWA and I love to share with them information about our organization. I tell them that OSWA is a 3000 strong member-driven organization that is dedicated to assisting owners in achieving their own goals and objectives for their family woodlands. I also tell them that our members have a shared focus that allows a diverse group of individuals and families to unite for a greater good.

Since becoming your executive director late last year, I have gained an even greater appreciation for all the benefits available to OSWA members. I want to share with you a brief summary of the benefits of being an OSWA member.

OSWA is a Chapter-driven organization. There are 18 chapters state-wide representing members in 26 counties. Chapters provide value to their members locally through their programs and activities; including regular meetings and field tours, newsletters, tree seedling and native plant sales and access to knowledgeable members who love to share information and help others be successful at owning and managing their family forests.

OSWA's state office provides an array of services and benefits to members, such as:

- Access to award-winning educational publications;
 - *Northwest Woodlands* magazine, sent to members quarterly – this is the premier publication dedicated to family woodland owners in the northwest.
 - *The Woodlander Update*, OSWA's statewide newsletter sent to members 8X/yr.
 - *The Legislative Update*, OSWA's statewide electronic newsletter sent to members each week that the State Legislature is in session. It tracks legislative bills of interest.
- Effective representation by professional staff before the Governor's office, state agencies (Oregon Department of Forestry, Fish & Wildlife, Revenue, DEQ), the State Legislature, allied organizations on issues of common concern to family forestland owners.
- Access to OSWA's website that offers a wealth of information for family forestland owners.
- Opportunity to attend the state-wide annual meeting that offers educational workshops and excellent networking opportunities for members.
- Access to special discounted fire liability insurance.

To learn about our full array of membership benefits and services, visit our website at www.oswa.org or call the state office at 503-588-1813.

For those of you who are members, I thank you for your support and participation in our organization. And I hope you talk to your friends and neighbors about the value of OSWA membership.

Those of you who are not yet members, I invite you join OSWA today. I am confident that you will find value in belonging to an organization that, since 1960, has been working to promote and advocate for family forestland ownership across Oregon and in the Nation's Capital.

Flowers for Clean Energy

Paul Sansone and Susan Vosburg are offering the sale of Crocosmia "Lucifer" corms to help raise money to oppose LNG terminals and pipelines proposed for Oregon. These speculative energy projects are not needed extensions of Oregon's fossil fuel infrastructure and will damage hundreds of farms and small woodlands in their path. If the projects are built, West Coast energy markets could be flooded with LNG from Russia, Qatar, or Iran, increasing our energy dependence upon foreign suppliers who are not our friends. In addition, these same terminals could be used to export the large reserves of North American natural gas. Under either development scenario LNG import/export terminals will subject all Americans to energy speculation that will cause natural gas pricing to become more volatile and rise to the world price which has historically been higher. Biomass energy can not be financed or developed in such a market.

Crocosmia 'Lucifer' Corms
25 corms for \$50.00 donation, shipped to you first week in October

Crocosmia 'Lucifer' is a hardy perennial flower that grows to 3-4' tall with long strappy foliage. Plant the corms 2" deep, 6" – 12" apart, in the fall for flowers next year. Plants like full sun to part-shade, and are tolerant of most soils. Top dress with compost and plant food for faster growth. Fill out the shipping label below with a mailing address, and your plants will arrive the first week of October for optimum fall planting.



Order plants by sending the shipping label below and a check for \$50 payable to Columbia Riverkeeper to Sansone & Associates, 9922 NW Gales Creek Rd., Gales Creek, OR 97117. Questions? Ask for Paul, 503 359-3491 or psansone@hughes.net

25 CROCOSMIA CORMS TO BE SHIPPED IN OCTOBER

Ship To Address:

Name: _____

Street address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Contact phone #: _____

Why is This?

This picture shows a Madrone tree next to a Douglas fir. The Madrone's bark is smooth and peeling which is its nature.

The Douglas fir's bark is craggy, but solid.

What causes the difference between the two trees' bark?

Send responses to tnygren@juno.com

(Answer will be published in next month's newsletter)





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Oregon Watersheds Research Cooperative

The Oregon Watersheds Research Cooperative designs and conducts field-based research to study the effects of modern forest practices on fish and other aquatic organisms, along with water quality and quantity. The OSU Forest Engineering Department is providing primary leadership at this time with the help of many other cooperating members.

Three modern paired watershed studies of unprecedented scope – on Hinkle Creek and the Trask and Alsea Rivers – have been designed to help guide future stream protection practices in the Pacific Northwest. Each study is a ten-year study.

Paired watershed studies monitor two similar streams to evaluate the effects of forest harvests on those streams. One area (the control basin) is left unharvested. Another area (the treatment basin) is logged using current harvest practices. Effects are measured on water, soils, habitat and wildlife.

Each of the three studies are large enough – 5,000 acres or more to look at fish and wildlife behavior in a whole system.

For more information request “Watershed Science at Work in Oregon’s Forests” at oregonforests.org or www.watershedsresearch.org.

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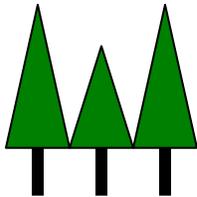
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Forest Forum



COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE
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Potpourri

Land Use in Oregon: Did you know?

- 45% of Oregon's land is forested
- 59% of the forested land is Federally owned (USFS and BLM); 3% is State owned; 2% is tribally owned
- 35% is privately owned (roughly ½ by forest products companies and ½ by small woodland owners). Together they contribute about 80% of the state's timber harvest

From "The Oregon Forest Book: Ecology, Economy and Society" available at www.oregonforests.org

Restoration logs needed:

The Portland Bureau of Environmental Services (BES) is looking for restoration logs for streams in the Portland area - Johnson Creek, Fanno Creek, Columbia Slough and others. They would like to buy a bunch of logs and logs with root wads and stockpile them for projects during the next year.

They are looking for Douglas fir and cedar logs, 24 to 40 feet long, and a minimum of 24" dbh. Prices would be subject to negotiation. BES understands the work involved in getting logs with these specifications, and that they involve heavy and expensive equipment. Transportation of the logs to their storage area would likely be their responsibility.

If you have some blow down or low-quality fir or cedar logs that would be suitable and available, contact Tom Nygren for information and follow-up – 503-628-5472, e-mail: tnygren@juno.com