

Forest Forum

Washington County Small
Woodlands Association

August, 2010

New OSWA President Outlines Changes

Nancy Hathaway, newly installed president of Oregon Small Woodlands Association, recently advised the chapter presidents of changes in the organization and programs:

- Other new officers include Katie Kohl (Linn County) and Scott Hayes, President-elect (Washington County)
- Creation of the President-elect position, which upon completion of a two year term, automatically succeeds to the presidency
- Hiring of Jim James to the Executive Director position, replacing David Ford. Jim is well-known from his past positions with Willamette Industries and Weyerhaeuser
- David Ford is the new Executive Director of L&C Carbon LLC, a new OSWA subsidiary that will focus on long-term carbon opportunities (as opposed to the Woodland Carbon Company, which has a more short-term focus)

See "OSWA", page 2

Mulholland TFOY Tour – From Cows To Trees Over 50 Years!

A group of 80-100 woodland owners, neighbors, and other interested people participated in the annual Tree Farmer of the Year Tour of the John Mulholland tree farm in Patton Valley on Saturday, July 31st. A hay wagon ride tour through a variety of young plantations included stops to observe woodland clearing and log transport equipment, as well as to discuss the history and management issues that face young plantations. The ride culminated at a portable sawmill demonstration, and a fine barbeque luncheon at the Mulholland family cabin area. Stuart Mulholland, one of John's sons, deftly maneuvered the hay wagon through the plantation and he and John provided commentary on the plantations.

The Mulholland Tree Farm began where a dairy operation started by John and his Dad over 50 years ago left off. While a core dairy operation continued, John began converting pasture land to Douglas-fir plantations. Over time, the tree farm gradually changed from agriculture to agro-forestry (grazing in the plantations) to a 20 to 30 year old forest of plantations, with some land leased to agriculture.

One particular problem has plagued John's plantations – the vigorous growth of honeysuckle that has invaded some areas. The honeysuckle climbs the young trees much like English Ivy, gradually choking off the tree by its climbing coils and profuse growth in the crown of the young trees (see picture on page 7). The result is a stunted tree that must be removed. John is still looking for answers to this dilemma, so feel free to contact him if you have a solution!

Demonstrations were provided by Greg Thompson of Landshapers (track-mounted wild-
See "TFOY Tour", page 7

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Notes from the President

The tour of Mulholland's forest on July 31st was a delight and was well-attended. I was fortunate to have family along this time, and we all learned something new. One lesson, demonstrated by my six-year-old granddaughter, was that the very strong fibers in reedy grass do not break easily, but will slice into one's finger quite effectively. She'll be fine....

A surprise gift to our chapter from Tree Farmer of the Year John Mulholland is the sub-soiler he has used to prepare fields to be planted with seedlings. It fits a three-point hitch, is HEAVY, and will save our members considerable planting effort in areas suitable for tractor work. Currently, Bob Shumaker is storing the implement, and it is available for the asking for all members to use. Just call Bob at 503-324-7825. A heart-felt **thank-you, John**, for a gift that will be very useful to WCSWA members, and will encourage us to plant more trees!

The "Ties to the Land" course, which will be the content of our October and January meetings, will educate forest owners and their families about passing forestland to the next generation. Senior citizens make up the majority of small woodland owners, yours truly included. It is important to have a discussion about family members' interest, commitment, etc. before our inevitable departure! The course will help to clarify plans, expectations, and our hopes for the future of the forests we have invested heart and soul in for decades. Often, family members are eager to carry on the plans we have put into action. However, as some of our members have discovered, this is not always the case. Either way, the course will help you determine the best course of action for all concerned.

To allow adequate time for "Ties to the Land", the October and January meetings will start at 6:00 p.m. instead of the usual 7 p.m. The \$25 cost of course materials will be covered by Washington County Small Woodlands Assn. for its members – one set of materials per family. The Extension Service will advertise and present the course. Any non-member may attend at no cost, but must pay the \$25 fee if they want the course materials.

Owners of smaller tracts of forest have sometimes expressed concern that Oregon Small Woodlands Assn. and its chapters are oriented mainly toward the goal of production and monetary gain from forest products. While this is a major focus, OSWA also exists to promote all of the benefits of good forestry and the many different styles of forest management. The Oregon Tree Farm System advocates a balance of wood, water, wildlife, and recreation. I encourage each of our members to look to these organizations for support in achieving their own individual vision for their forestlands.

Management for aesthetics, fun activities, and innovative projects is certainly worthwhile. One benefit of OSWA membership is the opportunity to get together with other members to share ways of getting things done on a small acreage that would not work on a larger scale. Do you have ideas or questions about managing your forest? Bring them with you to the next meeting! See you then.

Jim Brown

OSWA, continued from page 1

- The Woodland Carbon Company will continue under the chairmanship of Ken Faulk, past OSWA president. Ken succeeds Mike Barnes in this role. Mike will continue with the Woodland Carbon Company as Project Manager
- Roger Beyer will provide legislative representation before the state legislature for OSWA. Scott Hayes will chair the Government Advisory Committee

WCSWA Leadership

President – Jim Brown, 503-284-6455 jimbrownorch@msn.com

Vice-President – Scott Hayes, 503- 992-1509 scotthayes@wildblue.net

Secretary-Treasurer – Bob Shumaker; 503-324-7825
bshumaker@coho.net

Board of Directors:

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Sam Sadtler 503-324-0223 sams@teleport.com

Bonnie Shumaker – 503-324-7825 bshumaker@coho.net

Bill Triest – 503-626-1838 wht@gmail.com

Legislative Committee Chair:

Scott Hayes – 503-992-1509, scotthayes@wildblue.net

WCSWA Website

www.wcswa.org

Website Manager: Kathy Scott

Contact Tom Nygren for web postings and information.

Forest Forum Newsletter

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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: No Items Offered

Wanted: Renter-Caretaker for Tree Farm – 2 Bedroom house in Western Washington County. Call 503-357-0781

Trade: No Items Offered

Event Calendar

August

No WCSWA Meeting or Tour Planned
28 NW Oregon/SW Washington Forest Owners Field Day – Woodland, Washington. Contact OSU Extension

September

No WCSWA Meeting or Tour Planned
16-18 Pacific Logging Congress Live-in-the Woods Show, Clatskanie, OR. For more information call 425-413-2808, www.pacificloggingcongress.org
25 TSWCD BBQ – See article on page 10

October

26 WCSWA Monthly Meeting/Ties To The Land Program – 6:00 p.m. OSU Extension, Capital Center, Walker Road and 185th, Beaverton.

November

16 WCSWA Annual Banquet

December

No WCSWA Meeting Planned

Advertising Opportunity:

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“Ties To The Land” Program To Be Offered

The award-winning two-part workshop that focuses on succession planning for family-owned, land-based enterprises will be offered by OSU Extension and Washington County Small Woodlands Association. The program will occur as part of the October, 2010, and January, 2011 regularly scheduled WCSWA monthly meeting times, but will begin one hour earlier, at 6:00 p.m.. If you plan to transfer your woodland to the next generation, or are likely to inherit family land, the communication and planning skills presented in the workshop will be invaluable. More details to come.

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Findings of a national voter survey of public perceptions of “ecosystem services”

“A majority of voters embraces calculating the benefits nature provides to people, and explicitly acknowledging it as part of decisions about how natural resources are managed and used.”

“Voters support the idea of calculating the value of these benefits, and factoring it into decisions about the use and management of natural resources. “

From: *National Voter Survey on Ecosystem Services conducted by a polling service for The Nature Conservancy*

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New OFRI Board Chair Named

Greg Miller, Oregon public affairs manager for Weyerhaeuser Company, has been named to replace Pete Sikora as the Board Chair for the Oregon Forest Resources Council Board of Directors. Greg had previously served in the same position during an earlier appointment to the Board.

Anne Hanschu of WCSWA is a current Board member representing small woodland owners.



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Forest Industry “Roadmap” Unveiled

A new forest products industry “roadmap” has been announced. The roadmap outlines technology objectives and research needs in six areas of critical importance to the industry:

1. reducing energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions
2. reducing freshwater consumption
3. increasing the supply of woody biomass for a variety of purposes
4. creating value from woody biomass in new ways
5. enabling new products and product features
6. and increasing recovery and recycling of waste products

American Forest and Paper Association (AF&PA) President and CEO Donna Harman stated that “the forest products industry is committed to improving the environment that makes our future success possible. We have made great strides in our sustainability efforts so far, and we are committed to doing more. The 2010 Roadmap will help us achieve the breakthrough technologies needed to continue our progress while strengthening our leadership in the use of renewable energy and efficient manufacturing processes that are better for the environment and better for business”. AF&PA is a member of the Technology Alliance that developed the Roadmap, along with the Institute of Paper Science and Technology at Georgia Tech and the U.S. Department of Energy’s Industrial Technology Program.



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Master Naturalist Program

OSU Extension has initiated a new training program similar to their Master Woodland Manager and Master Gardener programs – Master Naturalist. On August 26th and 27th, a Coastal Streams Water School is being held at the Forest Interpretative Center east of Tillamook. This school will satisfy part of the requirements for both Naturalist and Water Steward programs. If you are interested, further information can be obtained at <http://tracker.oregonmasternaturalist.org>. Jason O'Brien of OSU Extension is the coordinator of the program.

Towering northwest forests stand out in global map

Nowhere on Earth can you find forests as tall and vast as those in the Pacific Northwest. They make Canada's great boreal forests look like shrubs. Amazon rain forest trees are mere halflings by comparison. On a scale from one to 10, our forests go to 11.

That's strikingly clear in the first global-scale map charting the heights of the world's forests. Michael Lefsky, a former Oregon State University scientist now at Colorado State University, devised a way to combine millions of observations from NASA satellites to map tree heights around the planet.

Beyond bragging rights, the mapping effort gives scientists an important tool to track how the world's forests draw in carbon dioxide and influence the rate of global warming. While the first map is a rough draft, it shows the potential for making accurate global measurements of forest growth.

Only a tiny fraction of the earth's land mass gives rise to tall forests. In northern California, small patches of coast redwoods exceed 200 feet and from British Columbia to Oregon, rain-drenched stands of Douglas fir and Sitka spruce routinely reach 130 feet or more. Forests along the southern rim of the Himalayas come close, as do forests in Laos, Malaysia and Indonesia. In the Amazon, average heights of forest stands seldom exceed 70 feet. In the huge tracts of boreal forest across North America and Eurasia, trees are lucky to reach 50 feet.

To make the map, Lefsky used a satellite-based Lidar instrument, which bounces laser flashes off the Earth. He calculated tree height from measurements of how much longer it took flashes to bounce back from the ground than from the tops of trees. Lefsky analyzed more than 250 million such observations recorded over seven years, which gave him Lidar measurements of only 2.4 percent of the Earth's forested surface. To complete the map, Lefsky combined the data with imaging from two other NASA satellites.

Lidar mapping may prove useful in auditing credits for carbon storage in forests. Carbon trading schemes reward landowners or companies for storing carbon by planting trees or preventing carbon from being released by protecting forests. To avoid cheating, agencies need ways to verify the amount of carbon that's really sequestered.

by Joe Rojas-Burke, The Oregonian, July 23, 2010

TFOY Tour, continued from page 1

land brush mulcher), the Small Woodlot Tool Company (3-point small tractor/ATV log mover), and Scott Goff and his portable sawmill. John's first tractor, a 50+ year old John Deere recently restored by John's sons Andrew and Stuart, was also on display (picture)

The barbeque took place at the family cabin and retreat – a small pond in a grove of larger trees. John built the cabin in the 1960's for family use. The barbeque was provided by Greg and Carolyn Wildhaber of Dayton, with help from their son Luke and friends. The meal was excellent and enjoyed by all!



John Mulholland on planting:
"We just hope the next generation appreciates the trees"

(left to right) Peter Hayes (John Mulhollands neighbor to the south on Mt Richmond), Jim Brown, WCSWA president, and John Mulholland prepare for the July 31st Tree Farmer of the Year Tour on John's tree farm in Patton Valley



John explains the history of his plantations, and the lessons learned. His trusty "steed" (ATV) is by his side!

The first tractor John had on the tree farm – now restored as a <<< showpiece

A honeysuckle plant slowly strangles and abuses a young Douglas-fir
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WCSWA Board Meeting Summary

The WCSWA Board of Directors met on July 27th. Items discussed included:

- Seedling sale –difficult to anticipate future demand
- Scholarship awards – changes in criteria being considered
- Ties to the Land. WCSWA to pay \$25 fee for members
- OSHA changes (see page 1)
- WCSWA website – need someone to be contact/manager
- 2012 OSHA Annual Meeting, sponsored by WCSWA. Need to generate ideas for venues, tours
- WCSWA to have display at Tualatin SWCD BBQ (see article on page
- Program Committee – need new members, program ideas for coming year

Steelhead or Rainbow?

Seen any large salmonids in the streams lately? The Tualatin River has been the focus of attention – and stream improvement – by groups such as the Tualatin River Watershed Council and others interested in improving the stream for steelhead trout habitat. Seeing these large fish sometimes raises the question, “What is the difference between a steelhead, and a rainbow trout”. Jena Lemke, Research Biologist for ABR, Inc., an environmental and research company, and who is also a member of the Tualatin River Watershed Council, has offered the following information in that regard: “I was happy to hear that Tom (Murtaugh, ODF&W Fisheries Biologist) observed juvenile fish near the large woody debris/logs that were placed in the North Fork and thought you might find this information interesting. The steelhead in the Tualatin, being winter or "ocean-maturing" steelhead, are more likely to spawn multiple times when compared to summer or "stream-maturing" steelhead” (see below).

"Fry emerge in late spring or early summer and are distinguishable from salmon by the spots of the dorsal and adipose fins. Juveniles initially reside in streams, and some remain there but others show fluvial, adfluvial, or anadromous life histories. Steelhead typically spend 1-3 years in freshwater and 1-3 years at sea before returning to spawn."

"Rainbow and steelhead differ from the traditional Pacific salmon by spawning in the spring rather than the fall, and they are also iteroparous. However, the proportion of adults that survive to spawn two or more times varies greatly. Repeat spawning is rare among stream-maturing steelhead, somewhat less so in ocean-maturing steelhead, and common in rainbow trout."

Iteroparous means that an organism will have multiple reproductive cycles and in the case of rainbow trout/steelhead can spawn multiple times over the course of a lifetime.

More information about steelhead/rainbow trout can be found in the book "The Behavior and Ecology of Pacific Salmon and Trout," a great reference by Thomas P. Quinn.

TREE TALK

by Bonnie Shumaker

Each year, sometime in July, I take a walk with notebook and camera in hand to record observations about our forest for a family record. This month's "Tree Talk" has excerpts from my write-up for our family.

2010 Woods Walk – July 19

We entered the South 40 discussing our application with NRCS for their Conservation Stewardship Program. This program recognizes well-managed tree farms with a small payment per acre if the applicant agrees to enhance their stewardship further. Bob and I applied with intent to pre-commercial thin the south 40 over a four year period. We haven't yet heard if our application was accepted or what the payment would be.

I used to always take a picture across the riparian area as the path turns east across the riparian area, but the trees are much too tall now to get the effect, so we head to the pond.

Two items of interest at the pond are the Wood Duck nesting box we put up on a big fir and the skunk cabbage I purchased at the WCSWA plant sale. I am glad I marked the spot where I planted the skunk cabbage because while it never died, it also never grew and the plants around it flourished. As for as the wood ducks, we got very excited when we saw a pair one day, but the dogs scared them off and they never returned.

As we exited the South Forty and came to the Art Station, we remembered the two school tours this May and also the Tree School class that I taught with the help of Norie Dimeo-Ediger entitled "Exploring the Wonder of Forests with Children". Both of these made us realize how we have fine-tuned our field trips over the years, so the main concern now is what the weather might bring.

At the trail's beginning in Unit 1A we took a picture of the "Old Man Tree" that we restored in time for the field trips. The tree's growth from previous years had grown around the screws to which his features are attached and Bob had to put in new screws and touch him up a bit. We may move him higher up the tree next year so the field trip kids who seem so intent on picking his nose will have a harder time reaching it.



On the way back home, we took a picture of Unit 2A which has flourished after Longview Fibre clear-cut the 80 adjacent acres. The trees were suppressed before from lack of sunlight and now are growing fast.

We love the space we live in, woods, house and farm and are forever thankful for the opportunity to steward this land.

15 years old and looking good!



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TSWCD BBQ and Tour

The Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District annual BBQ and tour of conservation projects is scheduled for September 25th. TSWCD partners, including Washington County Small Woodlands Association, are invited to participate in the BBQ and tour, as well as provide an information display. Another popular feature of the event is a silent auction. The event times are not firm yet, but will likely mid-morning to early afternoon.

This year's tour will be at the Blooming Nursery just south of Cornelius. The nursery has completed a number of partnership conservation projects with TSWCD, and is also developing large solar collection facility which is placed on large supports above the nursery. Their plan is to become nearly energy independent through solar collection and storage.

WCSWA members are invited; RSVP to Judy Marsh at TSWCD at 503-648-3174x117, or judy.marsh@or.nacdnet.net

OSU - New Wood Research Project

Oregon State University and Virginia Tech have been chosen by the National Science Foundation to lead a new Industry/University Cooperative Research Center focused on wood-based composite materials, in a \$2.2 million, five-year research initiative.

The new center will facilitate the work of six faculty members and three graduate students per year at OSU, with similar research initiatives at Virginia Tech, and collaborative work with eight private companies.

Estate Tax Back on Horizon

If the current estate tax law is not reformed by 2011, any estate worth over one million dollars will be subject to a 55% tax, which may force some landowners to sell or harvest unsustainably in order to pay the tax. Each year an estimated 2.6 million acres of woodland are harvested, and 1.4 million acres sold, to pay federal estate taxes. One fourth of the woodland acres sold are converted to other uses. A bill being considered, H.R. 5475, is aimed at reforming the estate tax law.

Source: Melissa Harden, American Forest Foundation



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Funding for the OFID expansion provided by a grant to the Institute for Culture and Ecology and OSU Forestry Extension by the USDA CSREES National Research Initiative (See www.ifcae.org/wildforestgoods).



Let's Talk Fire ... Fire Season!

By Scott Hayes

Summer has finally arrived and our July rain gauge captured a miserly 0.23", most of that early in the month. The Oregon State Forester declared fire season in the Northwest Oregon Protection District on July 8. A Regulated Use was declared on July 23.

A declared fire season mandates specific Industrial Fire Precautions for operations on forestland. A Regulated Use, declared as fire danger increases, restricts what people can do on forestland. Remember, forestland is broadly defined to mean most anything that contains flammable material such as trees, brush and grass.

You can check <http://egov.oregon.gov/ODF/FIRE/precautionlevel.shtml> to see current precaution levels.

Most small woodland owners are not affected by Industrial Fire Precautions unless they, or their operator, are working under a Notification of Operation. The notification to the State Forester also triggers a Permit to Operate Power Driven Machinery. Notification must be given two weeks before starting any operation, such as felling trees, bucking, yarding, road construction, pre-commercial thinning, or chemical application. A separate burning permit is needed for burning slash. You also need a permit for your burn barrel. If a fire starts and you don't have a notification or permit, or you don't follow the requirements of the permit, then you are negligent and responsible for fire suppression costs!

Here's a summary of the Industrial Fire Precaution Levels:

- I. Closed Season = Fire Season; Fire Prevention Measures are Required; Fire Watch
- II. Partial Hoot owl = Only between 8pm and 1pm, power saws, cable yarding, welding, blasting
- III. Partial Shutdown = Only between 8pm and 1pm, tractor/other machines can work if they have a blade; log loading/hauling. Prohibited all hours = power saws (ok on landing 8pm-1pm) and some cable yarding
- IV. General Shutdown = All operations prohibited

During fire season an ODF fire specialist will perform a fire inspection of the operation, checking fire tools, spark arresters, fire extinguishers, water supply, and fire watch.

Regulated use closures limit what people can do. You may see those orange signs posted with prevention symbols (yes they are small and, yes, they fade out during the summer and fall). Basically, smoking is prohibited, open fires are prohibited except in designated locations, chainsaw use for woodcutting is prohibited or restricted, off-road ATVs and motorcycles may be prohibited, and of course no fireworks and no welding.

You should have an axe, shovel and a fire extinguisher in vehicles used when traveling in timber, brush or grass.

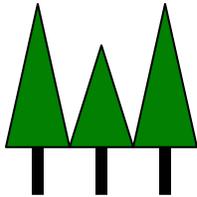
When fire danger really gets bad, the Forester can declare a permit closure (even the landowner needs a permit to travel on their own lands), or even an absolute closure.

Let's hope it rains before we get to a permit closure.

Washington County Small Woodlands Association
Newsletter Editor
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Forest Forum



COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE
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Potpourri

The *Oregon Woodland Cooperative* recently received a working capital grant from the USDA Rural Business and Cooperative Programs office to institute a non-timber forest products harvesting and marketing program. Co-op members have been active over the last two years in harvesting and marketing bundled firewood and floral greenery for value-added markets. That effort will continue and be expanded, but new products will be explored as well. Currently the Co-op is looking at medicinal herbs, craft items, and other products for potential to produce non-timber income for woodland owners.

Educational programs are being planned to provide information to members and potential members about non-timber forest product opportunities.

INSERTS:

There are two inserts in the August Forest Forum:

1. Annual WCSWA Seedling Sale – Each year WCSWA provides quality tree seedlings – usually Douglas-fir and Western Red Cedar – to members and partners. The Douglas-fir seedlings are grown for WCSWA at the Lewis River Nursery from “Elite” seed obtained from the Oregon Department of Forestry Seed. Bob Shumaker, with the help of other volunteers, manages this valuable service.
2. The WCSWA Member Roster is provided for member use in contacting other members during the year. The latest known contact information, updated from the OSWA data file – is used in developing the Roster. Lynn Harrel’s expert help in editing the file is a volunteer service to WCSWA.