

# Forest Forum

Washington County Small  
Woodlands Association

February, 2011

## Rural Reserves Topic of February 22<sup>nd</sup> WCSWA Meeting

Mike Dahlstrom, a program educator and spokesperson for Washington County's Department of Land Use and Transportation Community and Long Range Planning Divisions, will discuss the recent Rural Reserves designation in Washington County. Mike has been with the county since early 2008. He focuses on community involvement and building awareness of planning issues.

*The WCSWA Monthly Meeting is on February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 7:00 p.m., at the OSU Extension office, Capital Center, 185<sup>th</sup> and Walker Road, Beaverton.*

Mike's career includes more than 40 years in communications, community visioning processes, public policy and environmental mediation and facilitation. He is an active member of the Oregon Mediation Association and the International Association for Public Participation. His philosophy is that conflict can produce wonderful outcomes when participants engage with an open mind and share information.

## *Firewood Threat Faces Oregon Forest Owners*

The Oregon Invasive Species Council (OISC) has joined a nation-wide effort to combat the threat to Oregon's forests from insect and disease due to importation of firewood from other parts of the U.S. and Canada (and even Europe and Asia).

The OISC is working hard to keep the threat from reaching disastrous proportions here, by focusing their efforts on non-local firewood – a major method by which these pests are often imported into an area. Education of the public – through school districts, outdoor recreation venues such as local, state, and federal campgrounds, as well as the Oregon Forest Resources Institute, is important in making people aware of the threat.

Small woodland owners are an important piece of the solution – by providing local firewood to supplant imported wood and reduce the potential for unwanted “hitchhikers” to ride into Oregon and lay waste to our forests. The Oregon Woodland Cooperative, along with other small woodland owners, offers local firewood that is pest-free. OISC uses a slogan, “Buy Local, Burn Local”, to promote local wood. The Cooperative also points out that “Local Wood Burns Better”, emphasizing that the quality of our local firewood species is generally higher than some of the imported wood.

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## Ralph Raines, Sr. Passes

*Ralph Raines, Sr. of the Cherry Grove area passed away on Wednesday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> at the age of 90. Ralph had been a long time tree farm owner, converting his land from agriculture to forest land a half century ago. He lived on his tree farm until recently being hospitalized.*

**Deadline** (Hope that got your attention) for scholarship applications is **April 8th!** Briefly, WCSWA grants two or three \$1000 scholarships each year. Funds generated by our March **plant sale** are dedicated to supporting the scholarships, which are to be used for post-secondary education. Applicants must be recommended by a WCSWA member. Scholarship Committee Chairperson Sharon Boge has applications ready now. Just call Sharon, 503-357-7688 or e-mail, [kayboge@juno.com](mailto:kayboge@juno.com) and she will send you forms and instructions. The **deadline** must be met so the Committee can complete the selection process promptly.

WCSWA welcomes our new **Vice President, Dan Logan**. Dan was a write-in candidate, is a long-time member, and comes well-recommended. Board members unanimously confirmed his election at our January meeting. He is already busy helping WCSWA organize an upcoming event.

Another welcome appointment is our new **State Forester, Doug Decker**. Around our county, he is best known as the person who oversaw development of the Tillamook Forest Center. He has accomplished much in his 24 years with ODF and knows the Department well. In addition to his work in the ODF, I know Doug as the historian for the Alameda Neighborhood in Portland, where I live. He is a good person to work with, and a very competent administrator.

Just a reminder: Our chapter will host the 2012 OSWA Annual Meeting. I encourage all members to be considering ways we can put a Washington County "brand" on the event.

As I worked in my forest a few days ago, some thoughts came to mind to share. The stand has widely-spaced, mature fir and oak trees plus some tall maple and cherry. My goal is to gradually convert it to mixed-conifer and oak. About ten years ago, I interplanted Douglas fir, coast redwood, and cedar, after removing some maple and cherry to open the canopy. It was time to re-enter and remove overhanging hazel-brush and more maple and cherry trees. My planted conifers are doing OK, but it was time to let in more light.

Yarding will have to be carefully planned and executed. To facilitate yarding of logs, I left high stumps. These will provide "rub trees", protecting trees I want to retain. I will strap scrap plywood to trees that remain vulnerable. My first choice to deal with limbs and brush is to leave the material well-distributed in the forest, where it will gradually rot and feed the plants I want to grow - the natural process. Some quick chain-saw pruning gets that material in contact with the ground so it remains damp. If there is enough debris to cause concern about fire, it will be chipped. I prefer not to burn debris, so seldom resort to doing so. The whole process is labor-intensive, but it minimizes disturbance of the forest.

A funny thing happened on the way to.... In my last *Prez Sez*, I referred to our new year as 2012! Three times!! I missed it and so did our Editor and our proof-readers. I'll bet you did, too....

See you on February 22nd.

***Jim Brown***

## WCSWA Leadership

**President – Jim Brown, 503-284-6455 [jimbrownorch@msn.com](mailto:jimbrownorch@msn.com)**  
**Vice-President – Dan Logan, 503-647-5213, [danlogan@easystreet.com](mailto:danlogan@easystreet.com)**  
**Secretary-Treasurer – Bob Shumaker; 503-324-7825**  
**[bshumaker@coho.net](mailto:bshumaker@coho.net)**

### Board of Directors:

Pos. #1: Tom Nygren, 503-628-5472 [tnygren@juno.com](mailto:tnygren@juno.com)  
Pos. #2: Sam Sadtler 503-324-0223 [samsncee@gmail.com](mailto:samsncee@gmail.com)  
Pos. #3: Bonnie Shumaker – 503-324-7825 [bshumaker@coho.net](mailto:bshumaker@coho.net)  
Pos. #4: Scott Hayes 503-992-1509 [scotthayes@wildblue.net](mailto:scotthayes@wildblue.net)  
Pos. #5: Doug Eddy, 503-628-1468 [douglas.eddy@upwardaccess.com](mailto:douglas.eddy@upwardaccess.com)  
Pos. #6: Bill Triest – 503-626-1838 [whtriest@gmail.com](mailto:whtriest@gmail.com)

### Legislative Committee Chair:

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### Membership Committee:

Stuart Mulholland, 503-985-3168  
Howell Hughes, 503-201-3748

### Program Committee

Bill Triest – 503-626-1838; Beth Adams – 503-628-0722, Marge Hayes – 503-992-1509;  
Terry Howell – 503-357-2882

### WCSWA Website

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

**Website Manager: Kathy Scott**

Contact Tom Nygren for web postings and information.

### Forest Forum Newsletter

Editors: Tom Nygren & Bonnie Shumaker

503-628-5472 or 503-324-7825

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

[bshumaker@coho.net](mailto:bshumaker@coho.net)

Proofreaders: Bonnie Shumaker, Dan Hundley, Tom Nygren, Ardis Schroeder

## 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: T-Bar Posts:** New, still in bundle – One bundle of five 5'6" and three bundles of five 6' posts; and Used - ten 6' and ten 5' posts. Also, one 14' and two 12' farm gates. King Handley, 503-319-1727, [kinghandley@gmail.com](mailto:kinghandley@gmail.com)

**Wanted: (none)**

**Trade: (none)**

## Event Calendar

<b>February</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>WCSWA Monthly Meeting</b> – A talk regarding Metro's Rural/Urban Reserve Program and how it pertains to Washington County residents. Mike Dahlstrom Washington County program educator will speak.
	<b>24-26</b>	<b>Oregon Logging Conference</b> - Eugene, OR, 541-686-9191 <a href="http://www.oregonloggingconference.com/">www.oregonloggingconference.com/</a>
<b>March</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>WCSWA's 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Native Tree and Plant Sale</b> - Bales Thriftway, Farmington and Kinnaman, 9 a.m.- 3 p.m.
	<b>22</b>	<b>WCSWA Monthly Meeting</b> – Gail Stinnet and Nathan Adelman from USDA Farm Service Agency will present programs of interest to woodland owners.
<b>April</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>WCSWA Monthly Meeting</b> – Charles Lefevere, well-known Oregon truffle expert, will speak on Oregon truffles and small woodland owners
<b>May</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>WCSWA Potluck</b> – Bob and Bonnie Shumaker are hosting WCSWA's annual potluck at their home in Banks

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### Russia Lowers Timber Duties

The high demand for timber from China, which has fueled increased US and Canadian export recently, may cool off. Russia has reduced their export tariff from 25% to an expected 15% or less. As timber imports from Russia increase to previous levels, US and Canadian exports may drop. We are truly in an international wood market!

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# DEQ Rules To Override Forest Practices Act?

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) proposes to revise the water quality standards regulation to address the human health criteria for toxic pollutants. DEQ seeks to significantly raise water quality standards for point (end of a pipe) and nonpoint sources of pollution. The proposed rules expand the role of DEQ to include directly setting and enforcing water quality standards it deems necessary to implement the federal Clean Water Act. This includes explicitly allowing DEQ to establish and assign Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) load allocations to forest landowners where water quality standards are not being met. If the Oregon Board of Forestry is unwilling to change its forest practices rules to meet future water quality standards set by the Environmental Quality Commission (EQC), the proposed rules will allow DEQ to take direct enforcement action against landowners who it deems are violating water quality standards.

Small woodland owners and all other natural resource producers in Oregon will be affected by the rulemaking if adopted by the Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) at its June 2011 commission meeting. The rules, as proposed, will potentially have significant effects on how family forest landowners will be able to manage their lands.

Currently, Oregon Statute (ORS 527.770) states: "A forest operator conducting, or in good faith proposing to conduct, operations in accordance with best management practices currently in effect shall not be considered in violation of any water quality standards." Thus, forest landowners are protected against enforcement action by DEQ if their operations are conducted in compliance with the Forest Practices Act, including BMPs (Best Management Practices) designed to protect soil and water quality.

Under this proposed rulemaking, DEQ seems to throw out the protections for forest landowners established in ORS 527.770, commonly referred to as the "BMP Shield". Instead, if DEQ determines that water quality standards are not being met as a result of forest operations on specific land areas, it can use its authority to establish load allocations that must be met by landowners or they will be subject to enforcement action. These actions by DEQ should only occur if the Oregon Board of Forestry does not change Forest Practices Act requirements to the satisfaction of DEQ. In our opinion, these proposed rules are setting up a clear conflict between the Environmental Quality Commission and the Board of Forestry on who controls water quality on the state's forestland.

**OSWA opposes any proposed regulation by DEQ that shifts regulatory authority and/or enforcement responsibility for water quality standards away from the Oregon Board of Forestry and the Oregon Department of Forestry to the Environmental Quality Commission and the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality.**

The deadline for written comments is currently Wednesday, February 23, 2011 at 5pm. Public hearings are scheduled around the state between February 1<sup>st</sup> and February 10<sup>th</sup> – too late to be included in this newsletter. However, you are encouraged to submit written comments by the February 23<sup>rd</sup> deadline.

The information in this article was provided by OSWA. Additional information on the proposed rule and how you can respond can be found on the OSWA website, [www.oswa.org](http://www.oswa.org). DEQ's website has a copy of the proposed rulemaking and background documents if you would like to review them. They can be found at: <http://www.deq.state.or.us/regulations/proposedrules.htm>

# TREE TALK

by Bonnie Shumaker

January may have the well-deserved reputation for being cold and wet, but it is also the time when we can actually feel the slightly longer daylight hours, and can anticipate seed catalogs arriving in the mail. It is also the time when “hope springs eternal.” While last year’s “cold, wet spring” and “green tomato summer” will still be discussed years from now, the picture in my head of the vegetables and flowers I plan to grow resembles instead their picture in those provocative seed catalogs. The weather image in my head fits the travel brochure we perused before taking a ferry boat along the inside passage towards Alaska many years ago. The skies in the brochure were clear and blue; the actual weather - not so. I’ll settle for somewhere in between. Regardless, this time of year promises a return to spring and the miracle of new growth.

For me and the rest of the WCSWA Native Plant and Tree Sale Committee, it also brings a flurry of activity to implement the organization that is necessary for a successful sale. I am very delighted to announce that Marge Hayes has agreed to join me as co-chair of the plant sale to be held on Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup>. This will be our tenth annual plant sale. I have always had many willing volunteers, but now there is someone other than I who knows how the sale runs and can bring new ideas into the mix. Other members of the committee are Ardis Schroeder, Eloise Binns and Jolene Adams. All the plants have been ordered and the list and descriptions can be viewed on our website, [www.wcswa.org](http://www.wcswa.org). The space in Bales Thriftway, Aloha’s parking lot is reserved as well as the large tent which will insure comfortable and dry plant shopping. Advertising has already been sent out to newspapers, radio and TV stations, garden clubs and several internet sites that deal with encouraging the use of native plants. Clean Water Services has agreed to send an announcement of our sale when they send out water bills. A flier has been handed out to anyone who knows of a place to post it and it is included in this month’s Forest Forum to encourage more people to post it.

You can probably guess that I am excited about the sale as well as an approaching spring. I still haven’t ordered from the seed catalogs, but probably will have by the time you read this. The rest of the time on the tree farm in January and February has been spent on our conifer release project. I still am shocked that we are finding the amount of Himalayan blackberries that we are. I guess they have been hiding behind the shrubs or more accurately shooting up through the tree branches to try to find a piece of sky. If I can, I try to pull them out of the trees after cutting them off at the roots. This is mostly for aesthetic reasons, and if I cannot pull them to the ground, I do cut them off above eye level. Time will tell if we need to chemically treat these invasives this spring and next fall. I’m hoping the trees at thirteen years old will shade them out now that we have cut them back – again, hope springs eternal.

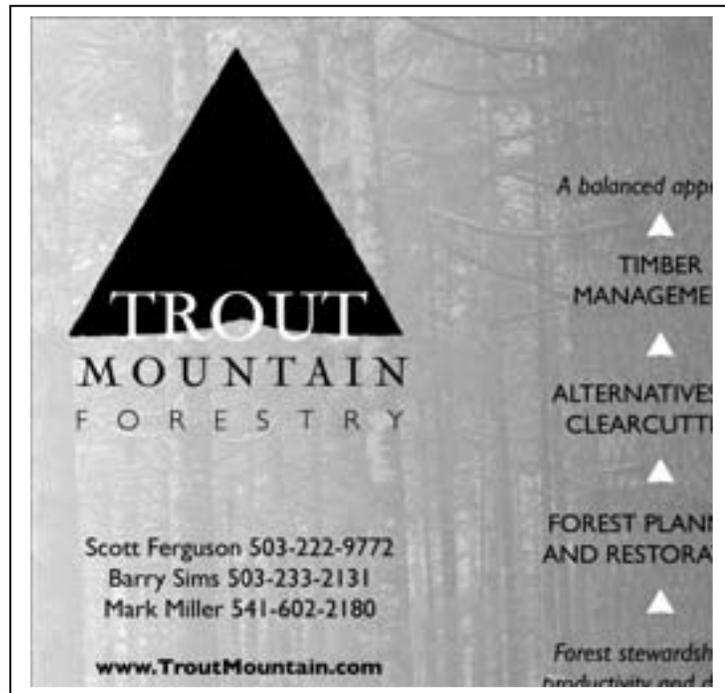
This is the first year since Bob and I became serious about tree farming, that we planted only a few seedlings. I guess we have those good planting holes pretty well filled by now. Bob was again in charge of the seedling sale which in cooperation with Lewis River Reforestation, a good supply of customers and agreeable weather, has gone well. Bob is looking for a co-chair for this committee, so please contact him if you are interested or want more information.

***Native Plant Sale Flier The enclosed flier in this newsletter is to be used for your information, but also with the hope that you will find someplace to post it (at your office, church, shopping center) so our advertising efforts are extended beyond all the ideas our plant sale committee has brainstormed so far. If you live far away from the sale, perhaps you know someone closer to send it to. You probably know that all profits from the sale go to scholarships for students recommended by WCSWA members, so it goes to a worthy cause. Thanks for helping out!***

### ***Keep Oregon Green – Photo History***

The Keep Oregon Green Campaign has played a long and important role in making the public aware of the value of Oregon forests, and the need to protect them from wildfire. Many of today's adults participated in Keep Oregon Green programs as children, and they still remember how they first became aware of the need to protect our forests. The Forest History Society has an on-line photo collection from the Keep Oregon Green Campaign, dating back to its inception in 1940. It can be accessed at

<http://www.foresthistory.org/Research/Galleries/KeepGreenCampaign/OregonGallery/index.htm>



*It is not the strongest of the species that survives, nor the most intelligent, but the one most responsive to change - Charles Darwin*

### ***Notes From January 25<sup>th</sup> WCSWA Board of Directors Meeting***

**By Sam Sadtler, Board member**

The Board discussed the following topics at their January 25<sup>th</sup> meeting:

- Scholarships – Sharon Boge discussed changes the Scholarship Committee is considering for 2011, including changes in the candidate scoring sheet, and limiting the scholarships to one per individual. The Board agreed with Committee recommendations.
- Programs – Bill Triest presented the 2011 program as known at this time:
  - February – Rural Reserve Program, Washington County
  - March - USDA Program Opportunities
  - April - Oregon Truffles
  - May – Potluck at Shumakers’
  - June – Trail building Washington County (and OSWA/OTFS annual meeting in Baker City)
  - July – Tree Farmer of the Year tour
  - August – (potential) Schroeder Tree Orchard or Lewis River Nursery
- Treasurer’s Report – Bob Shumaker – We had a good year! Seedling sale sold out at 59,000 trees
- Dan Logan was unanimously elected as WCSWA Vice-President
- WCSWA is responsible for hosting the 2012 OSWA Annual Meeting. A committee will be formed to begin preparing for the host county responsibilities.
- Board agreed to recommend that OSWA consider a three-tier dues structure
- Other topics discussed: “Youth” movement for WCSWA Board, Native Plant sale, Legislative Committee participation.

## Institute for Natural Resources Reviews ODF Science

On behalf of the Board of Forestry, the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) approached the Oregon University System's (OUS) Institute for Natural Resources (INR) to conduct an independent, outside review of the body of science ODF considered as it evaluated forest management plans and developed the Species of Concern (SOC) Strategy. Two products developed by ODF staff were the focus of this science review: The Influence of Modeled Management Scenarios on Habitat for Species of Concern and The Board of Forestry State Forests Performance Measures: An Evaluation of the Achievement.

To conduct this review, INR convened a Science Advisory Team (SAT). The purpose of the review and the SAT review report was to: (1) characterize the environmental, economic, and social analyses that were conducted by ODF in 2009 and discuss whether ODF analyses were consistent with best available science in each field; (2) identify and discuss gaps; (3) discuss the range of uncertainty of expected outcomes as detailed in the ODF reports; (4) present other ways to conduct analysis or think about the questions, if applicable; and (5) recommend, if necessary, performance measures for measuring environmental, economic, and social outcomes. We welcome public comments on the SAT report. Substantive comments will be added (anonymously) to the appendix of the final report. The final report will be presented at the Board of Forestry meeting in April 2011.

A direct link to the SAT report can be found on the Institute for Natural Resources website at [http://oregonstate.edu/inr/sites/default/files/project\\_odf\\_sr/DRAFT\\_Report\\_ODF\\_31\\_Jan\\_public\\_comm\\_ent.pdf](http://oregonstate.edu/inr/sites/default/files/project_odf_sr/DRAFT_Report_ODF_31_Jan_public_comm_ent.pdf), or on the INR webpage dedicated to the ODF Science Review Project: direct link to the <http://oregonstate.edu/inr/odf-science-review>. Please submit your comments to Lisa Gaines by e-mail at [lisa.gaines@oregonstate.edu](mailto:lisa.gaines@oregonstate.edu) or by U.S. mail at the address below by Monday, 14 February at 12:00 PM (noon).



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### *Timber Tax Update*

Be prepared for the 2010 tax return preparation: timber tax laws including latest law changes.

### *Session Details:*

February 16, 2011, from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM PST

### *Presenters:*

- \* Dr. Linda Wang, National Timber Tax Specialist, USDA Forest Service
- \* Dr. John Greene, Research Forester, Southern Research Station, USDA Forest Service

### Webinar Access Instructions!

To participate, visit [forestrywebinar.net](http://forestrywebinar.net) <<http://forestrywebinar.net%20>> on the day of the webinar. Click on Upcoming Webinars to find the session.

If you are interested, contact Tom Nygren for additional details.

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## *Tree Planter Wisdom*

“Old man,” cried a fellow passing near  
 “You are wasting your strength planting here,  
 “Your journey will end with the ending day;  
 you will never again pass this way.  
 You have crossed the chasm deep and wide,  
 Why plant a tree at eventide?”

And the planter raised his old gray head,  
 “Good friend, on the path I have come,” he said,  
 “There follows after me today,  
 A youth whose feet will pass this way,  
 He has not come to twilight dim,  
 Good friend, I am planting a tree for him.”

*Author Unknown, from IFA Nurseries,  
 “Growing the Future – A Guide to Reforestation”, April, 1994*

## How Do You See It? >>>>>>

A recent article in the Journal of Forestry offered an explanation for the angst that many foresters – and forest landowners as well – are feeling about how forestry and forest product producers are seen and treated in today’s society. *Do you see it the same way?*

## *Forestry’s Conundrum: High Value, Low Relevance*

Forests have never been more at risk. So why isn’t public attention riveted on forests? Why isn’t Forestry’s relevance increasing? The Journal (for Forestry) is full of laments about Forestry being misunderstood by the public and misrepresented by the media. This is a legitimate concern. However, a bigger problem exists: the declining political and economic power of Forestry’s traditional patrons. Forestry is a service-oriented profession that emerged and evolved to meet the needs of powerful patrons, and several of these patrons – government agencies, forest industry, and commodity-producing landowners, have declining power and influence. Forestry’s future lies with new patrons: environmental non-governmental organizations, residential forest investors, and the working green infrastructure. Servicing these groups will require Forestry to develop new tools and tactics.

*Prof. R. Bruce Hull, Dept. of Forest Resources and Environmental Conservation, Virginia Tech Journal of Forestry, January-February, 2011*



**Greg Thompson 503-710-0545**

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## **US and Canadian log and lumber exports to China up over 150 percent in 2010, reports Wood Resources Quarterly**

*Jan 06, 2011* – Seattle, USA. China has come to the rescue for many sawmills and timberland owners in the US and Canada the past year. The value of softwood logs and lumber shipped from North America to China is estimated to reach over 1.6 billion US dollar in 2010, which is up dramatically from just a few years ago. In 2008, total exports were valued at 350 million dollars, while they were only 125 million dollars five years ago.

The increased demand for both wood raw-material and processed forest products in China has, to a large degree, benefited the forest industry in British Columbia and the states of Washington and Oregon in the US. It is interesting to note that the two countries have chosen different paths over the past few years. In Canada, sawmills historically shipped over 90 percent of their exports to US markets, but this changed as demand for lumber fell when the housing bubble burst in 2008. In the 3Q/10, less than 70 percent of exported lumber was destined for the US market. On the other hand, lumber shipments to China have gone up seven-fold the past three years and are expected to reach almost four million cubic meters (m3) in 2010, reports the Wood Resource Quarterly. This makes Canada the largest softwood lumber supplier to China, having surpassed Russia in the 4Q/10.

Another factor that has had an impact on the higher Canadian lumber exports to China is the abundant supply of low-cost beetle-killed timber in British Columbia. Sawmills in the interior of the province have increased their production levels lately, ending up almost 20 percent higher in the 3Q/10 as compared to the same quarter in 2009. Much of the additional volume has been low-grade lumber targeted for the construction market in China. An estimated 16 percent of the BC lumber production in 2010 was exported to China.

While Canada has drastically raised lumber shipments to China in recent years, the US has instead expanded exportation of logs to Chinese sawmills and plywood manufacturers. In 2007, the US exported less than 100,000 m3; in 2010 an estimated 2.4 million m3 was exported. The US is now the third largest softwood log supplier to China, after Russia and New Zealand. The strong export market has caused sawlog prices in the US Northwest to go up more than in any other region of North America the past year, according to the Wood Resource Quarterly.

### **Oregon Woodland Co-op Celebrates 30 Years!**

The Oregon Woodland Cooperative is celebrating 30 years of service to its members and the woodland community in 2011. The Cooperative, first formed in 1981 as the Woodland Management and Sales Cooperative, has diversified its portfolio of services to members over time, changing from a primary focus on timber management services, to a focus on the entire suite of possible products from the forest – both timber and non-timber. Its current name – Oregon Woodland Cooperative – reflects this change. The membership has also changed – with over twice as many members now (60), as in the early days. The current membership owns and manages over 20,000 acres.

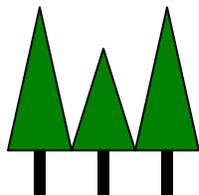
The Co-op is currently utilizing a Value-Added Program grant from USDA Rural Development and Cooperative Programs to establish several non-timber forest product enterprises, including essential oils, special milling for craft materials and niche products, and medicinal plant products, as well as expanding the bundled firewood and floral greens projects.

Washington County Small Woodlands Association

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## ***Forest Forum***



COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE  
OREGON SMALL WOODLANDS  
ASSOCIATION

### ***Welcome to New Members!***

**Peter Bours** of Forest Grove, **Albert DiPiero** of Beaverton, **Rodney Linz** of Banks, and **Sandy Scott** of Port Gamble, WA have joined OSWA and WCSWA.

We are here to help you achieve your management goals for your woodland. To get the most out of your membership, come to the meetings and tours that are scheduled throughout the year. You'll find many kindred spirits among our diverse membership – and many opportunities to learn and share together! If you have any questions, or need help, contact any of the Directors, Officers, or Newsletter Editors.

### ***Thank You, Rankins!***

Laura and Lon Rankin of Lebanon, who have been supporters of Forest Forum for many years, continue to warm the hearts of the editors with their kind words and annual gift. The Rankins are one of the many OSWA members outside of Washington County who receive the Forest Forum. We appreciate their interest and support!

### ***WCSWA Group Tour to OSWA/OTFS Events?***

Linn County SWA is planning to offer a group tour to the June 23-25 OSWA Annual Meeting and Oregon Tree Farmer of the Year tour (which are scheduled back-to-back to encourage joint attendance). They will use OSU vans, and plan to make stops at sites of interest along the way such as the B&B Fire Complex and other eastern Oregon tree farms. Participants would be responsible for their lodging and meal costs along the way.

**Are any of our members interested in participating in a similar tour to be organized by WCSWA? If you are interested, contact a Board member (see page 3) soon!**