

Forest Forum

Washington County Small
Woodlands Association

March, 2012

USDA Programs

The topic for our March 27th monthly meeting will be assistance programs offered by USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) and Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS). Each year we invite Gail Stinnett and Nathan Adelman to bring us up-to-date on changes and additions to the programs.

Gail Stinnett of FSA will inform woodland owners of the Emergency Forest Reforestation Program and also the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and how it applies to small woodlands. The sign-up for CRP is March 12th – April 9th.

Nathan Adelman of the NRCS will outline a variety of programs, how they differ in different counties and the steps to take to apply.

Hope to see you March 27th at the North Plains Fire Hall.

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Estate Planning 202



Clint Bentz presents new information

The WCSWA meeting for February featured a presentation by guest speaker, Clint Bentz. Despite an untimely and unpredictable weather system that affected turn-out, Clint spoke with his hallmark passion and enthusiasm about a topic dear to the hearts of all present.

Most members are familiar with Clint's work through his "**Ties to the Land**", an award winning, succession planning curriculum, and many members have also attended his past presentations. On this night Clint had some new material that he has recently developed. He presented members with a well-organized handout that echoed his slide presentation. While the handouts as well as the slides express the content in neat and precise blocks, Clint's talk is anything but pedantic. He speaks informally, in an engaging way with ease and audience participation. He covered a lot of material and the time went quickly.

The title of Tuesday's presentation was "**Is a LLP or FLP Right for You?**"

See Estate Planning, page 6

The Prez Sez "Trees Can Do Anything" - Not Always Good!

The above quotation is from a headline in our local area newspaper; I added the "Not Always Good". The concept of an urban forest is alluring. Most of my city cousins regard **any** tree as beneficial in **every** way. That is, until limbs fall on their cars or roots lift their sidewalks and plug their sewer lines. Arborists currently think a tree should never be "topped", but a 150-foot Douglas fir is not safe in an urban setting. It also casts a shadow far beyond the yard where it stands. In Portland, we are encouraged to install solar panels and grow vegetable gardens, but the City also will pay up to \$50 to plant a tree in one's own yard, and requires a permit to remove a large tree. Seems like folks in various city bureaus should be comparing notes.

Back in 1973, my young family lived in a tin-can manufactured home next to the house I was building on our first tree farm, north of Camas. During a windstorm, a tall fir fell across the tin can and sliced right into it. I think it would have gone clear to the floor, but it stopped when it hit the house. We escaped without injury to anything except our dignity and sense of security. It was a relatively cheap but scary lesson - now a *free* lesson for you. More recently, I have reluctantly removed many mature trees, including some fantastic, big old oaks from the home-site on my farm near Yamhill.

I like trees, but over the last 32 years I have removed, or paid to have removed, four Douglas firs, two pines, and three locust trees from my yard in Portland. I must admit that I gave three of those firs and one pine to the previous homeowner (my older brother) in 1967; not a good idea, in retrospect. From the yard north of mine, the 5-foot diameter, 122-foot-tall truly giant sequoia bestows six inches of debris a year upon a strip at that end of my yard. Even with debris regularly cleaned up, nothing will grow there but sword ferns. The dense sequoia cones, falling from 100-plus feet, occasionally puncture the roof of my garage. Being to the north, the tree does not block my sunlight. When the top finally blows out, it will probably fall to the north. My point: Growing a large forest tree in an urban yard is like keeping an elk for a pet.

So what does this have to do with your non-urban forest? My forty-five years of experience show that plant growth which could impact (perhaps literally) structures and/or infrastructure must be monitored. In addition to maintaining a fire-defensible space around structures, the effects of roots, shade, debris, and possible wind-throw must be mitigated. Constant shade plus moisture encourages rot. Moss, leaves and needles on a roof are fire hazards when dry, and when wet release acids which corrode roof fasteners, causing them to rust away. Still-good shingles can then be ripped loose by wind. Sweeping debris from roofs and spraying with moss-killer can save time and expense. The risk of wind-throw is increased not only when a stand is thinned, but also as trees grow taller. At greater height, wind speed is generally greater, exerting more force against tree crowns. In general, I would urge folks to leave standing as many magnificent old trees as they like, just not close enough to cause damage when gravity takes over!

Plans are firming up for the OSWA Annual State Meeting - right here in Washington County, June 22nd and 23rd. The Planning Committee has secured Washburne Hall (University Center) at Pacific University for the Friday informational sessions, silent auction, meals, and just hanging out. The Saturday tour will take place at the Pam and Peter Hayes family forest, Hyla Woods. The tour will honor the Hayes Family, this year's Washington County Tree Farmers of the Year and will include innovative forest practices you may find useful. But wait, there's more. The Build Local Alliance and Oregon Forest Resources Institute will sponsor the event along with OSWA and your own WCSWA. It's a big thing! We will need guides, greeters, and grunts to make this event a success. Contact me or any Board member to find out how a little of your time can help extend a friendly Washington County welcome to our visitors from throughout Oregon.

I'll see you at our next meeting on March 27th at the North Plains Fire Hall!

Jim Brown

WCSWA Leadership

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

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Terry Howell – 503-357-2882, John and Cathy Dummer – 503-244-3812

WCSWA Website

www.wcswa.org

Website Manager: Kathy Scott

Contact Tom Nygren or Bonnie Shumaker 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: (none)

Wanted: Small Alaskan Chainsaw Saw Mill (to build an Adirondack Lean-To, also called an Open Camp). Call Scott Hayes if you have a mill...or if you want the plans for a Lean-To... at 503-992-1509.

Event Calendar

March	10	WCSWA Native Plant Sale – 9 to 3, Bales Thriftway parking lot at the corner of Farmington Road and Kinnaman Road, Aloha
	27	WCSWA Monthly Meeting - 7:00pm at the Washington County Fire District 2 Fire Station, 31370 NW Commercial Street, North Plains. USDA programs will be featured.
April	24	WCSWA Monthly Meeting - 7:00pm at the Washington County Fire District 2 Fire Station, 31370 NW Commercial Street, North Plains. A wood products theme will be on the program.
May	22	WCSWA Annual Potluck Meeting - Richard and Anne Hanschu will host the potluck at 14655 NW Parsons Road, Forest Grove
June	22-23	WCSWA Hosts OSWA Annual Meeting – This two-day event will feature guest speakers, seminars, silent auction, a Friday banquet and a tree farm tour at Peter and Pam Hayes. Details to follow.

Advertising Opportunity:

The Forest Forum is a monthly newsletter sent out to over 250 members and friends of WCSWA. Advertisers receive free newsletters for the duration of their ads.

ADVERTISING RATES (PRICE INCLUDES TYPESETTING & AD PREP)

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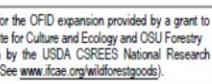
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Funding for the OFID expansion provided by a grant to the Institute for Culture and Ecology and OSU Forestry Extension by the USDA CSREES National Research Initiative (See www.ifcae.org/wildforestgoods).

  Institute for Culture and Ecology

Tree Farm for Sale
37 acres in NW Washington County.
Stocked with Douglas fir planted in 1991-1992. On County road; has two seasonal streams. Probably buildable, with power and telephone at property entrance. **\$179,000 – call 503-659-5003, or cell 971-221-6743**

Plant Sale and Scholarships

As many of you know, our annual Native Plant and Tree Sale is an opportunity for us to offer native plants to urban and rural folks and to help bridge the urban/rural divide.

There is also a benefit to WCSWA members. The proceeds of the sale are designated for college scholarships and any WCSWA members may sponsor a student to apply for a scholarship. We **need** more members on the scholarship committee. Please respond a.s.a.p. if you can help by calling Jim Brown at 503-284-6455. Thanks.



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WCSWA Hosting OSWA

As noted on the calendar page, we will be the host county for the OSWA annual meeting June 22nd and 23rd.

This educational and fun event will need all the volunteers we can get to make it a success. There are many volunteer slots to fill, so if you have not volunteered before, we need you to enhance our regular group of volunteers. Let us do our county proud!

Please contact any committee member: Sam Sadtler, Doug Eddy, Scott Hayes, Jim Brown or other Board Member (contact information on page 3) to ask about how you can help.

Thank you

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Did You Know?

From 1994 through 2008, the amount of older forests decreased 1.9 percent – from about 7.3 million acres to 7.1 million acres – on all federal lands covered by the Northwest Forest Plan. Most losses on federal lands occurred within areas designated as “reserves” under the NWFP. Ninety percent of losses in the reserves were associated with wildfire.

Science Findings. PNW Research Station. January, 2012



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Estate Planning, cont. from pg. 1

Clint explained the major differences between these entities and discussed how recently these options have even come available. Before 1992 a land-owning family wanting structural and legal protections had to resort to a corporation model.

He next discussed the **"Five Alternatives for Property"**, giving examples, risks, benefits and statistics of how these choices get played out.

"Problems with Joint Ownership" covered managing multiple owners, common vision & interest issues, creditor & divorce problems and creating flexibility to deal with the future.

As an interesting emphasis to his talk, Clint's next six boxes/slides spotlighted the differences between the year 1909 and the year 2010. Such a fascinating look back at things like the leading causes of death, the low national population, the lack of any technology but steam, and the over-the-counter sales of marijuana, heroin and morphine were brought into contrast with our current social, moral, economic and technological advances. He certainly made his point that Land Succession Planning needs to be done in a broad and flexible context.

Clint closed with a discussion about problem solving in governance and operations of jointly owned properties, the reasons for using LLP's and FLP's, partnership structures and mechanics and invited more audience questions.

Clint can be reached at cbentz@bcsllc.com. We will have copies of his handout at the April WCSWA meeting.

Submitted by Cee Sadtler

THE NEXT GENERATION

One might think this reference to the “next generation” might be a follow-up on Clint Bentz’ presentation at this month’s WCSWA meeting, but you would be wrong. It is even hard for me to find a good excuse to include this in “Tree Talk” since I try for tree farm related subjects, but there is a loose connection. Here is my announcement of the next generation: We have a new puppy!



Bailey and her long-suffering big sister, Emma

Her name is Bailey. She is a Yellow Labrador born on Christmas Day. Of course she is adorable. We have had her just over a week and except for obvious puppy training needs, she is definitely a keeper. Anyone who knows Bob even a little knows of his love of dogs, especially Labradors. He even professes to have some Labrador in his genetics, and who am I to differ. I am used to playing second fiddle to a dog because it is true that they never argue or have project ideas as I might. I also know that this man who is kind to his dogs has the same kindness

and love for his wife, so I am not complaining.

We have had Labradors for companions for over forty years and when one reaches the end of her life, we introduce a new puppy. Emma is turning ten this spring. We were cautious about getting a puppy because Emma has been lucky enough to come into our home after Bob retired and gives “dogging his tracks” true meaning. We are happy to report that Emma has accepted Bailey, and Bailey is smart enough to respect her big sister and doesn’t have to be snapped at twice if she oversteps her boundaries. The cat has more misgivings, but that is the way with cats.

I promised to try to tie these ramblings in with tree farming and here it is. We attribute much of our love and learning about tree farming to daily walks in our woods. It is a good time to see what is going on with the trees, delight in new growth of trees and understory and plan what projects are on the horizon. With a dog (and now two), very little will get in the way of this daily walk. Dogs are even more prone to routines than old folks. If the weather is rainy or cold, that is no excuse. The dogs know that when the after-breakfast routine comes to an end, it is time for a WALK. If we don’t move, we get the stare first and then the bark. So we have our dogs to thank for our consistency in keeping up with our walks which benefit all involved; ourselves, our dogs and the trees.

Pilot project tests improvements to the ODF notification system

Oregon Department of Forestry – Private Forests Division

The Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) is pilot-testing some changes to its forest operation notification and inspection processing systems from February through April 2012 at the Coos Bay, Dallas, and Klamath Falls offices. This project is in response to direction from the 2011 Legislature to review the administration of the Forest Practices Act and make recommendations that could result in cost savings and improved customer service.

The Department contracted with a business consultant to undertake an extensive analysis and redesign of Forest Practices Act administrative processes. Landowners, forest operators, and public members provided valuable input in meetings and focus group sessions.

Main elements of the notification changes being tested include:

- More consistent entry of notification data into a central geographic information system (GIS)
- Streamlined processing of notifications and capturing field inspection data
- Increased ODF Stewardship Forester field inspection time and landowner/operator interactions, as less time is spent on paperwork and map preparation.

ODF wants to hear your ideas!

ODF's goal for the pilot project is to evaluate and improve customer service, and they appreciate hearing your thoughts and feedback. If you want to provide feedback on the pilot, please send an e-mail, fax or regular mail with the subject line "Budget Note 2" to:
Email: information@odf.state.or.us Fax: (503) 945-7490 Mailing Address: Oregon Department of Forestry, Private Forests – Budget Note 2, 2600 State Street, Salem, OR 97310.

"The Logger's Encyclopedia"

From Nicole Strong, OSU Extension Educator

The other day, while perusing books before my book club at my local Bend bookstore (Between the Covers) I came across this book, "The Logger's Encyclopedia." I asked the owner where she got it, and she said the author, Donald Mathew Alanen, an Oregon native, ex-logger, had dropped them off himself. I thought that many of you might find it interesting.

Here is the review:

Within "The Logger's Encyclopedia" there lie the brief bios and stories of men who risked their lives and family fortune to build a young nation. Trees were harvested to make the land tillable for farming the crops to feed a growing population of immigrants. Lumber was milled to construct the buildings required for the economic growth of a young nation. Many of these men had made their fortunes in harvesting timber in the Lake States. As an incentive, timberlands were given to pioneering homesteaders at little or no cost. As a business incentive, vast timberlands were granted to railroads to push on to the Pacific Ocean. A young nation, not sure of itself, failed to reforest the logged-off timberlands. My sincere hope is that after reading The Logger's Encyclopedia, authors will be compelled to write the numerous books that lie within these pages.

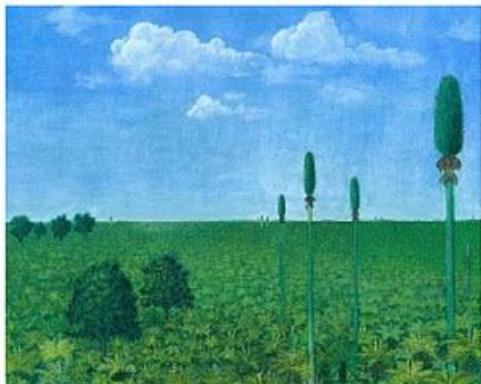
New OFRI Plant and Wildlife Guide Offers Helpful Resource to Forest Landowners, K-12 Students

The Oregon Forest Resources Institute has published a new guidebook designed to help family forest landowners and forestry professionals protect priority plant and animal species as they manage forestlands. The book serves double duty, also providing a resource for K-12 students and teachers who want to learn more about wildlife species and the forest habitats they use.

The new 119-page publication, *A Guide to Priority Plant and Animal Species in Oregon's Forests* defines nine eco-regions within the state. It offers full-color species listings divided by tabs so users can easily find and identify species found in different-aged stands of trees. The book also provides a handy illustrated section for identifying common trees and plants in Oregon forests.

The guide lists species with special status – for example, federal and state threatened, endangered, or part of the Oregon Conservation Strategy – and groups them by forest habitat. Range maps show where each species is known to occur or can potentially occur.

Copies of the guide can be downloaded or ordered at the OFRI website, Oregonforests.org.



A LOST FOREST UNLIKE ANY OTHER Because it is 258 million years old

From Sky Valley Chronicle, Mar 1, 2012

(CHINA) -- It's amazing what one can find buried for millions of years underneath an old coal mine in Wuda, China which is located in Inner Mongolia.

In a major discovery along the lines of Pompeii, a team of American and Chinese scientists stumbled upon a lost forest of the Permian period under a Chinese coal mine. The forest is estimated to be about 298 million years old.

The layout of each plant in the forest was so perfectly preserved that scientists have been able to map out where each plant was and then make images showing what the actual forest looked like when it was alive.

The forest had been buried under the ash of a volcanic eruption of the sort that had suffocated the entire population of Pompeii but left so many artifacts intact that scientists were later able to piece together precisely the last hours of Pompeii and what happened to the population there.

In the case of the lost forest in China, the land had been so perfectly fossilized by volcanic ash that researchers were able to trace even minute details like position of the leaves on branches.

The 1000 square meter forest was buried under what scientists believe were continuous ash showers that came down for days on end.

The scientists that made the discovery were stunned to find things like 80-foot-tall trees from the Permian Era, which provide a true snapshot of plant life 298 million years ago.

The group from China and the U.S. that has been studying the forest, including the University of Pennsylvania's Herman Pfefferkorn, published a paper about it this week in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Scientists*.

The forest was unearthed by machine when workers were mining for the coal that lies above the forest. Over 3,300 square feet of the ancient forest have been examined thus far in the layers of ash from that ancient volcano.



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HISTORY MWM Feb. Update

For you history buffs out there, a historical look at Oregon's wood product industry (via Oregon Dept. of Economic Analysis):

[http://oregneconomicanalysis.wordpress.com/2012/01/23/historical-look-at-oregons-wood-product-industry/](http://oregoneconomicanalysis.wordpress.com/2012/01/23/historical-look-at-oregons-wood-product-industry/)



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Questions: call Don Scott, 503-359-5983

Changes in OSU Extension for NW Forestry Summarized

Many of you have heard of the changes being implemented for Extension Foresters in NW Oregon. Directly affecting Washington County woodland owners is Amy Grotta's now being Extension Forester for Columbia, Washington and Yamhill County.

For those who are interested in the larger picture, here is a rundown of the changes being implemented in northwest Oregon:

- Brad Withrow-Robinson is transitioning from Yamhill, Polk, and Marion Counties to a new service area of Linn, Benton, and Polk Counties.
- Glenn Ahrens is moving from Clatsop & Tillamook County to Clackamas County, and will also pick up coverage for Marion and Hood River Counties
- Amy Grotta will increase her service area to include Columbia, Washington, and Yamhill Counties
- Jim Reeb will transition from a 100% appointment in Lincoln County to a three county service area including Lincoln, Tillamook, and Clatsop Counties

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2012 Starker Lecture Series: Watershed Moments; People, Forests, and Water

February 28, 8am-5pm, CH2MHill Alumni Center, OSU Oregon Forests and Water Symposium

March 8, 3:30-5pm, 107 Richardson Hall, OSU The Clean Water Act, Fundamentals and Effects on Forestry

April 5, 3:30-5pm, 107 Richardson Hall, OSU Forest Watershed Research: Management under the microscope

May 10, 3:30-5pm, 107 Richardson Hall, OSU Land Use, Climate Change, Water and Other Ecosystem Services: Connecting science to users, policies and programs

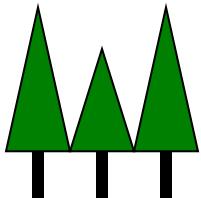
May 31, 9am-3pm, Flynn Creek and Needle BranchWatersheds. Capstone Field Trip: A tour of The "Alsea Revisited" Watershed Study Area

For more details on each lecture or to watch the live video stream on each date, go to: <http://starkerlectures.forestry.oregonstate.edu/>

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Forest Forum



COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE
OREGON SMALL WOODLANDS
ASSOCIATION

Potpourri

Thanks to the Rankings!

Our friends from Lebanon have again made our day! We appreciate Lon and Laura's kind words (and the check) for the Forest Forum. It's nice to get feedback, and we hope we continue to deserve it.

Interested in Wood?

Oregon Forest Resources Institute (OFRI) has been working closely with the Wood Products Council's WoodWorks program to promote awareness of using wood in non-residential applications. WoodWorks will hold Wood Solutions Fairs in Portland on March 13th at the Oregon Convention Center. These fairs are designed for architects, engineers, developers and those in the building professions. However, a look at their schedule of presentations might lead you to want to know more about what's going on in traditional and nontraditional uses of wood. In all, there will be 19 seminars and an exhibition hall with displays. Check their website at www.woodworks.org – it's free!

New TV Ads From OFRI

OFRI's spring educational advertising program officially begins during the week of March 12. Please look for our television ads soon as well as our sponsorships of the Portland Timbers and OPB Radio. This year we will also appear on the Oregonian's website and other selected high-traffic Internet locations. TV is the biggest part of our spring educational effort, so you can expect to see our ads – with a hiatus during the April-May political season – throughout the summer.

You can view the TV spots on YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/user/oregonforests>