

Forest Forum

Washington County Small Woodlands Association

March, 2014



Mike Cafferata explains trail project

Salmonberry Rails AND Trails

Oregon Department of Forestry District Forester, Mike Cafferata, was the guest speaker at the February 25th WCSWA meeting at the North Plains Fire Hall. He brought us up-to-date on the development of the idea of an 86 mile trail (for hikers, bicycles, horses) starting in Banks at the Banks/Vernonia Linear Trail and veering off at Manning to a summit at Cochran Pond, west of Timber, through Salmonberry Canyon to where it enters the Nehalem River and on to Tillamook. The last part already has a scenic railroad which runs to the Nehalem confluence.

The route was a railroad for many years transporting mainly forest products. Extensive storm damage occurred in 1996 and was repaired, but additional severe storm damage in 2007 brought costs to an unacceptable level, and except for the scenic railroad, the rest was left idle and unusable.

A coalition to further this idea consists of some 50+ entities, the main ones being Oregon Department of Forestry, Oregon State Parks, Port of Tillamook Bay and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. The main goals are: Preserve the route, improve the economy of the rural communities, provide access to multiple users, and maintain and improve the environment. A Master Plan was started in September, 2013; public input was gathered until February, 2014, alternatives are planned for July 2014, with plan adoption in November, 2014.

See "Rails and Trails", page 7

Herbicides in Forestry: Best Practices for Controlling Invasives – March 25

Please join us at 7:00pm March 25th for our monthly meeting at the North Plains Fire Station. The speaker will be Bruce Alber. Bruce is a sales representative for the Wilbur-Ellis Company in Wilsonville and is also a certified forester. The focus of the presentation will be the use of herbicides on forests. Reasons for considering the use of herbicides on your forest property will be discussed along with the responsibilities and potential hazards of doing so. Also covered will be the types of products available, their use, how to choose which product might be a good fit, proper application (methods, rates, time of year, weather conditions), and best practices when using herbicides (safety measures, storage and transport). Please plan to attend and bring your questions about herbicide use and controlling invasive species for the expert.

WCSWA Leadership

Co-Presidents – John and Cathy Dummer, 503-970-8789
cannbuckley@hotmail.com

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WCSWA Website

www.wcswa.com

Website Manager: Lia Boyarshinova

Contact Tom Nygren or Bonnie Shumaker for web postings and information.

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/WashingtonCountySmallWoodlandsAssociation>

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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)

Wanted: WCSWA NEEDS YOU! To join the Native Tree and Plant Sale Planning Committee, call Karen Graham at 503-647-0310 or kgraham@duckswild.com

LOCAL NURSERY looking for a place to dig Sword Fern this winter. Would prefer to work with a local, small woodland owner as this has worked out well in the past. Please give Endre a call at 503 516-9129 for more information.

Event Calendar

March 20	6:00pm	Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation Office	Importance of Dead Wood for Wildlife - 1080 SW Baseline Suite B-2 Hillsboro,
March 25 th	7:00 P.M.	North Plains Fire Station	WCSWA Monthly Meeting - Bruce Alber, Wilbur- Ellis- Herbicides in Forestry - best practices
April 12 th	9:00 to 3:00 p.m.	Jackson Bottom Wetland Preserve – Back Deck	Jackson Bottom Wetland Preserve Native Plant Sale
April 22 nd	7:00 P.M.	North Plains Fire Station	WCSWA Monthly Meeting - Managing Forests for Wildlife
May (TBD)			Annual WCSWA Potluck - more information to follow
July 12 – save the date		Chuck Price's Tree Farm in Gaston	Tree Farmer of the Year Picnic

The Woodland Beat

For the two of us water is part of our everyday work life. Our careers center around pumping, treating, storing and just about anything else you can think of related to municipal water use. Most often we are dealing with wastewater, which makes us highly sought after dinner party guests...NOT. (The “ick” factor can get pretty high during our conversations. Code words like bio-solids and tertiary treatment are common at our dinner table.) Since treated wastewater is generally discharged to rivers or streams, we are somewhat familiar with stream and river pollution and the regulations and regulators that come into play.

Water quality has recently been a topic of interest among the forest industry in Oregon and there is some spill over (no pun intended) between work life and our small woodland. Last year there was the issue of runoff from logging roads and whether or not it should be considered a “point source” or a “non-point source” of pollution as it pertains to the Clean Water Act. In the end the current requirements in the Forest Practices Act, which were designed to meet the requirements of the Clean Water Act, were upheld leaving it as a “non-point source” of pollution.

More recently, stream temperature has arisen as an issue that could impact small woodland owners. The “natural conditions criterion” and a lawsuit which resulted in the EPA disapproving it as a key provision of Oregon’s temperature standard on August 8, 2013 is at the root of it. For more information you can check out this document:

<http://www.deq.state.or.us/wq/standards/docs/TempStandardNatCond.pdf>.

In summary, the lawsuit took issue with how the DEQ (Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, EPA’s delegated authority in Oregon) has been establishing the temperature goal for watersheds in Oregon. In some cases DEQ has not been strict enough. Once these temperature goals are established for a watershed, the overall goal is allocated to all the known contributors, both “point source” (like wastewater treatment plants) and “non-point source” (like farms and forests). For us forestry folks a stricter temperature goal could translate into more required shading of streams. There would be impacts to other contributors as well.

Two governing bodies in Oregon are responsible for enforcing the Clean Water Act in forests: the Oregon Board of Forestry and the Environmental Quality Commission (EQC), DEQ’s policy and rulemaking board. Currently the Board and Commission are working on figuring out how to address this issue so the Forest Practices Act meets the Clean Water Act in the eyes of the EPA (and will stand up to future lawsuits). Likely you’ll hear more about this in the future. In the meantime the DEQ is encouraging landowners to continue our good work to improve water quality and restore stream habitat and streamside vegetation. One potential solution to this dilemma could be to form an incentive program for forest owners for stream enhancement and perhaps even for not harvesting a certain distance from a stream. Perhaps it would be something like a conservation easement that could be sold to people interested in water quality enhancement.....just a thought.

Until next time – Happy Small Woodlanding!

John and Cathy Dummer

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Timber industry may struggle to keep up with market rebound

Mateusz Perkowski, *Capitalpress.com*. Published: January 26, 2014 8:03PM

The rebounding market for Pacific Northwest logs has raised questions about the timber industry's ability to keep up with demand, experts say. Strong exports to Asia and the recovering housing market have boosted log prices and harvest levels since the depth of the timber downturn in 2009, according to analysts at a recent industry conference.

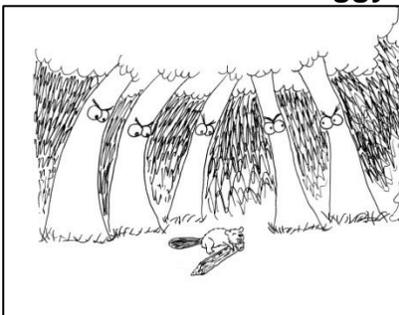
While current logging levels are still lower than in the mid-2000s, concerns about tight log supplies are emerging, said Rocky Goodnow, an executive at Forest Economic Advisors. "We think we're rapidly approaching the sustainable (harvest) yield," he said during a recent conference organized by the Western Forestry and Conservation Association in Vancouver, Wash.

The harvest of logs along the West Coast exceeded the rate of timber growth between 2004 and 2006, he said. During the housing bust, though, logging levels plummeted well below the tree growth rate, boosting the inventory of timber, Goodnow said. This period of "undercutting" mitigated the possibility of a timber shortage, but the industry nonetheless faces serious constraints, he said. Deferred maintenance and a lack of investment during the downturn have strained logging and hauling capacity, Goodnow said. Machinery costs are high and securing financing is a challenge, since loggers generally work on six-month contracts, he said.

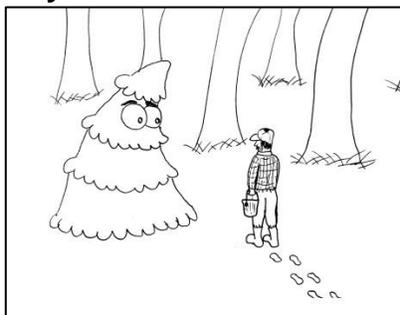
The dearth of jobs during the housing bust also prompted many loggers to seek employment in the booming oil and gas sector, Goodnow said. "We've seen an exodus of labor from the logging and hauling sector," he said. The timber industry's workforce is aging, but attracting new loggers to the industry will likely raise costs, Goodnow said. Logging is dangerous and requires expertise, which makes it difficult for companies to quickly "staff up" when market conditions improve, said Richard Zabel, executive director of the WFCOA.

There's also a cultural bias against working in the woods, said Gordon Culbertson, Pacific Northwest manager for the Forest2Market consulting firm. Fewer people are willing to awaken at 3 a.m. to work in the rain, while many parents discourage kids from entering the timber industry, he said.

The Adventures of Duggy Fir by Thomas Perkins



Beavers have lived in the Oregon forests as long as Duggy could remember. These fuzzy creatures crept close by the trees. Some trees didn't like them. "They are always eating us!" the big ones sneered. Duggy considered. "I wish I could learn more about them" he thought.



Sam the woodsman came into the forest. "Sam, humans need trees for fire, furniture and lumber, right?" asked Duggy. "Yes," said Sam. "Do beavers need furniture, fires and lumber too?" Duggy was curious.



Sam the smart woodsman replied, "No, but the beavers build dams along the water around here. They build lodges in the banks where they sleep and live with their families. That is one reason they cut down trees, Duggy." After that, Duggy ran to tell the other trees why beavers need wood.



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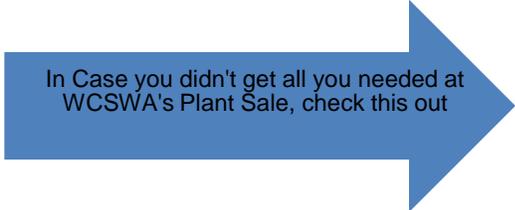
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In Case you didn't get all you needed at WCSWA's Plant Sale, check this out



Recharting the Flow of the Maple's Sap

"The Week," magazine, February 21, 2014, Health and Science section

For centuries New England's maple syrup makers have worked on the principle that sap flows downward from the tops of mature maple trees. When the weather is right – on a warm day following a below-freezing night – they tap a spot near the trunk's bottom to collect the vital fluid before boiling it down to syrup. But apparently they've had it wrong all along. University of Vermont researchers have discovered that sap actually flows up from the ground, an insight that could revolutionize the maple syrup industry. "It had never occurred to anyone. It's just always been done this way," Vermont syrup-maker Laura Sorkin tells *NPR.org*. Researchers made the discovery when a vacuum pump extracted far more sap than expected from an older maple tree that had lost its crown, and confirmed it with tests on saplings that had their tops lopped off. They've since concluded that rows of chest-high, branchless saplings could produce 10 times more syrup per acre than a stand of mature maples does. Sorkin, for one, worries that the new approach could open syrup production to entrepreneurs anywhere. "And on a more visceral level," she says, "I feel that maple syrup is and should remain a product of the wild."

JBWP Native Plant Sale

The Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve invites you to support its mission of "Connecting Water, Wildlife, and People" through a Native Plant Sale & Fair

Saturday, April 12
9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
2600 SW Hillsboro Highway
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Tualatin SWCD Events

Dead Wood for Wildlife:

March 20: 6:00 – 7:00 pm at the Tualatin SWCD offices, 1080 SW Baseline Suite B-2 Hillsboro. Sarah L. Pinnock, wetlands education specialist at Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve, will help us understand why it is so important to leave dead wood lying about (or in the case of snags, standing about) for wildlife of all sizes. This Tiny Talk will be a great preview of our upcoming display at the Tualatin library on the same topic, hosted March 23-29 in collaboration with Tualatin Riverkeeper. Light refreshments (cookies, coffee, etc.) will be provided.

Streambank Erosion Control Workshop.

April 26: 9:00am – 1:00pm.



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Rails and Trails, from page 1

The main problems to overcome are fire and having access to fight fire, trail crossing private agriculture and forestland, repair - especially in Salmonberry Canyon where most of the damage is, invasive species and maintenance.

Mike emphasized that the idea is not: a restriction on adjacent land uses, a single trail design or standard, a change to existing hunting access, or a motorized trail. Oregon Senate Bill 1516 gives ODF and Oregon State Parks direction to develop a plan by 2015 and establish a trust fund in the State Treasury that can take in donations from various interested groups to spend on the trail.

Comments and questions may be directed to:

Oregon Parks and Recreation

ATTN: Rocky Houston

725 Summer St. NE, Suite C

Salem, OR 97301

Email: rocky.houston@oregon.gov

Phone: 503-986-0750

2013-14 Seedling Sale

**Note that this month's "Tree Talk" is written by Bob Shumaker*

The 2013 - 2014 seedling sale started in October, 2011 with the order of two pounds of Vernonia High Gain seed from ODF Schroeder Seed Orchard at \$500 per pound and a contract to plant this seed in the spring of 2012 to Lewis River Reforestation in Woodland, Washington.

The seeds were planted in the nursery bed in 2012 and lifted in the fall of 2012 and stored in Lewis River's cooler and replanted in the spring of 2013 with greater spacing to allow more growth, resulting in a 1 + 1 seedling.

In August of 2013, a seedling order form was included in the WCSWA Forest Forum and orders started coming in. In September, 2013, Lewis River gives us an estimated count of available seedlings to sell, usually within + or - 10% of what is actually bagged for sale.

We received 29 orders for seedlings ranging in size from 34 seedlings (short last bag of lift) to 12,000 seedlings. We require a 50% deposit with each order, and it is on a first come basis because we do not have an actual count until the seedlings are actually bagged for delivery to us by Lewis River.

Seedlings were lifted on 1-27-14 and picked up on 1-28-14 and 1-29-14 for delivery to the Walker's cooler in North Plains for distribution over the next month.

On 1-27-14, we had a convoy of five trucks, some with trailers, to go to Woodland, Washington. This consisted of the following volunteers:

- Bob and Bonnie Shumaker – truck and trailer
- Mike Jamieson – truck
- Rich Gaebel and his brother-in-law – truck and trailer
- Richard and Anne Hanschu – truck and trailer
- Dick Enger – truck and trailer

We picked up 514 bags of Douglas-fir and Western Red Cedar seedlings, but didn't have the room to complete the order.

On 1-28-14, we had to return to Lewis River to pick up the balance of 160 bags. Three rigs went back to complete this task consisting of the following volunteers:

- Bob Shumaker – truck and trailer
- Mel Mortensen – truck
- Doug Eddy – truck

This year, Paul Sansone and Sue Vosberg stepped up to help with the seedling sale and help phase me out as I get older. They have a cooler on their property in Gales Creek, and we decided to place the smaller orders there for pick up. This seems to work out well as Paul and Sue live there and are more flexible to delivery times to accommodate our customers.

As of 2-28-14, we have delivered all but 24 bags of the seedlings for this year and should be done by 3-8-14. Total sales for this season were 67,334 seedlings – enough to plant about 170 acres – with gross revenue of \$31,000. Thank you to both volunteers and seedling customers!

Forest Practices Act: Update on Possible Streamside Buffer Changes

WCSWA members Anne and Richard Hanschu have volunteered their tree farm for a study on streamside buffers. The Hanschu's have large, medium and small streams on their property. New streamside buffers from 50 ft. to 100 ft. (with no entry) have been proposed and are currently being studied by Oregon Department of Forestry.

Streams on the Hanschu's property will be evaluated as to different treatment options from no entry to some entry with the financial impact to such changes. Results will be discussed at the June Oregon Department of Forestry meeting.

From Mike Cafferata-February WCSWA meeting

Report sheds light on tree growth

The rate at which a tree grows vertically slows as it gets older, so it's long been the assumption of scientists that a tree's girth rate slows, too. "What we found was the exact opposite," says Nate Stephenson, a forest ecologist with the U.S. Geological Survey, based in California's Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks. "Tree growth rate increases continuously as trees get bigger and bigger," Stephenson says.

More than three dozen scientists representing 16 countries collaborated to research nearly 700,000 trees. Their conclusion: While trees did stop getting taller, they continued to get wider. And unlike added weight for aging human, a tree's added girth is normal, healthy growth.

Scientists also suggested the research links mature trees and carbon storage. "Not only do they hold a lot of carbon, but they're adding carbon at a tremendous rate," Stephenson says. "And that's going to be really important to understand when we're trying to predict how the forests are going to change in the future — in the face of a changing climate or other environmental changes."



LONE CEDAR

Mark Dreyer

Forestry & Logging Consultant

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Defining Special Forest Products and Firewood Permits on State Forest Lands

The primary rule change within this rulemaking process is reflected in OAR 629-028-0005 to include a definition of special forest products, which will include the change in identifying mushrooms and truffles as "wild, edible fungi", as required in passing of the 2013 House Bill 2615.

Two public information meetings regarding the bill and the rulemaking process have been held at ODF offices in Forest Grove on February 13 and Salem on February 18. Two formal hearings will be held at Department of Forestry offices in March 2014:

- March 4, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in Springfield, Oregon, at 3150 Main Street
- March 18, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in Salem, Oregon at 2600 State Street

The agency requests public comment on whether other options should be considered for achieving the rule's substantial goals while reducing negative economic impact of the rule on business.

Written comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. on April 1, 2014. Submissions should be addressed to: Private Forests HB 2615 Rulemaking, Oregon Department of Forestry, 2600 State Street, Salem, OR 97310; email to ODFPFComments@odf.state.or.us; or fax (503) 945-7490

Tualatin Basin Weed Watcher Workshops Coming Up

A free workshop on the invasive weeds in our area will be held on April 7th. The workshop, sponsored by the Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District, Tualatin River Watershed Council, Clean Water Services, and the Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District, will give you the information needed to identify new invaders, and report them before they become a problem. No registration is required. The workshop information follows:

Monday, April 7th – 6:30-8:30 p.m. Clean Water Services Administrative Building Complex, 2550 SW Hillsboro Highway (Highway 219), Hillsboro.

For more information, contact tualatinswcd@gmail.com



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Log Price Information

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Species	Grade	2013 1 st Q	2013 2 nd Q	2013 3 rd Q	2013 4 th Q
Douglas-fir	2S	635	600	600	675
	3S	590	560	555	635
Hemlock	2S	490	515	475	515
	3S	480	485	455	505
Cedar	2S	1,000	950	1,000	1,050
	3S	1,000	950	1,000	1,050
Red Alder	CR	555	575	580	605



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Report Hopes to get to "Root" of Disease Affecting Doug-fir

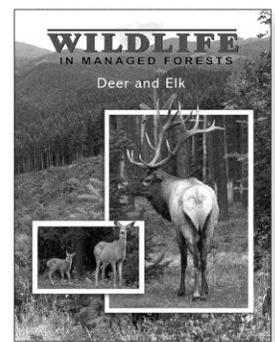
A new report has offered insight into root rot disease affecting Douglas-fir trees. The report, entitled "Opportunities for Addressing Laminated Root Rot Caused By Phellinus Sulphurascens in Washington's Forests," recommends consideration of several approaches to manage laminated root rot. The commercial harvest of Douglas-fir on Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR)-managed, state-owned public land in the 2011-2013 biennium accounted for \$250 million in non-tax revenue for DNR's trust beneficiaries, which include public schools and universities. The Washington State Academy of Sciences published the report.



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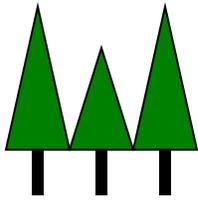
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Forest Forum



COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE
OREGON SMALL WOODLANDS
ASSOCIATION

Potpourri

New Members: Welcome to **Anthony Spiering** of North Plains and **Cathy Marinelli** of West Linn.

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 listed on page 3 of this newsletter.

Save the Date: July 12th will be the Washington County Tree Farmer of the Year picnic at Chuck Price's Tree Farm in Gaston. Details will follow, but we wanted people to mark their calendars early.

More from ODF: Electronic filing of "Notification of Operations" is almost ready. The electronic system for filing is now being Beta tested and should be live this spring. Watch for more information from ODF or in this newsletter.

Helpful Links:

- <http://blogs.oregonstate.edu/treetopics> to read Amy Grotta's "Tree Topics" blog
- www.oregonwoodlandcooperative.com to learn about the Oregon Woodland Cooperative
- <https://www.facebook.com/WashingtonCountySmallWoodlandsAssociation>