

# **Forest Forum**

## **Washington County Small Woodlands Association**

**July, 2014**

### **Summer 2014 Stream and Fish Abundance Surveys**

Tualatin River Watershed Council is contracting again this summer with Bio-Surveys, LLC, to collect additional information on the streams that juvenile salmon fish are using for summer rearing habitat. The 2014 survey areas will be Gales Creek, upper East Fork Dairy Creek, upper Rock Creek, McFee Creek, Chicken Creek and McKernan Creek. If you live in one of these areas, you may be contacted by Bio-Surveys or Tualatin River Watershed Council for access to the stream area on your property. This method of collecting information is called a rapid bio-assessment (RBA) and provides detailed information on the distribution and abundance of juvenile salmon to help the Tualatin Watershed Council spend our restoration dollars wisely. As the surveyors progress up each main stem and tributary, they snorkel every fifth pool. They count the number of each salmon species observed and quantify habitat characteristics.

**See "Fish Surveys", page 7**

### **Scandinavian Tour: An Outstanding Success!**

Sixteen members of WCSWA were among a group of 43 that toured the small woodlands – and other sights – of Sweden and Norway from May 24<sup>th</sup> thru June 8<sup>th</sup>. The tour, sponsored by the Oregon Woodland Cooperative, provided a close-up and personal look at how small woodlands in Sweden and Norway are owned, managed, and passed down through the generations.

Sherm Sallee, with help from Jim Merzenich, provided a summary of the trip – see page 8. Sherm and Jim are members of the Linn-Benton SWA, and were on the trip, along with Oregon woodland owners – even some from the Northeast!

Several WCSWA members have provided their comments (on page 11) on the trip.

### **Don't Miss it! "Third Generation" Tree Farmer of the Year Tour and Picnic – July 12<sup>th</sup>**

Firewood processors, portable sawmills, local woodworker artistry, and an antique 1-cylinder engine collection will be featured, along with a BBQ lunch and a tour of the property. Chuck Price promises to share a wide range of experiences, both the good and also the "learning experiences" he has garnered during the 51 years he has owned the tree farm. **Directions to Chuck and Judy's place near Gaston are on page 8.**

**Please RSVP by July 8<sup>th</sup> to 503-880-5142.**

**Chuck and Judy Price – 40530 SW Withycombe Rd., Gaston, OR**

**Chuck's "Timber Wolf" firewood processor >>**



## WCSWA Leadership

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

Vice-President – Vic Herinckx, vic.herinckx@gmail.com

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

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Pos. #5: Doug Eddy, 503-628-1468  
douglas.eddy@upwardaccess.com  
Pos. #6: Bill Triest – 503-626-1838 whtriest@gmail.com

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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 – 503-341-4943, Marge Hayes – 503-992-1509;  
Terry Howell – 503-357-2882, John and Cathy Dummer – 503-244-3812

### WCSWA Website

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

### Website Manager: Lia Boyarshinova

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

### Facebook:

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

### Forest Forum Newsletter

Editors: Tom Nygren & Bonnie Shumaker  
503-628-5472 or 503-324-7825

e-mail: tnygren@juno.com or  
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)*

**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](mailto:kgraham@duckswild.com). The Program Committee is also in need of a new member. Call John or Cathy Dummer at 503-970-8789.

**For Sale: Native plants from WCSWA plant sale** - 1 gal mock orange, vine maple, western spirea, sequoia, white oak, pacific yew are \$4 each or 3 for \$10. 5 gal vine maple and white oak are \$6 each. 5+ gal larch and Rocky Mtn maple are \$15. Contact Karen Graham at 503-647-0310, or [kgraham@duckswild.com](mailto:kgraham@duckswild.com).

## Event Calendar

July 12th	10:00 am – 2:00 pm	Chuck Price Tree Farm	Annual Tree Farm of the Year Tour
July 19th	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	56752 SW Sain Creek Road, Gaston	Northwoods Figured Woods – Open House, wood turning demo, and wine tasting
August 23rd	8:30 – 2:30 p.m.	Howell Territorial Park, Sauvie Island	2014 Rural Living Field Day, sponsored by Tualatin, West Multnomah, Columbia SWCDs, and OSWA
September 20th	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Lewis River reforestation, Woodland, WA	Tour of the facility that grows WCSWA showing how and where they are grown. Picnic area available after – bring your lunch if you wish.
September 25-26	TBA	Port Blakely Mollalla Tree Farm	Pacific Logging Congress – Clackamas Co. Volunteers needed. Contact Julie Woodward, <a href="mailto:Woodward@ofri.org">Woodward@ofri.org</a> or 503-807-1614.

# *The Woodland Beat*

This month for your reading entertainment we've put together a slightly cynical top ten list for summer activities in the woods. We hope you can relate to some of these and perhaps find some humor in them.

## ***Top 10 summer activities in the woods:***

10. Enjoy the weather, whatever that might be, because summer doesn't always mean sun in this part of the world nor does it necessarily mean that it'll be warm. A little camping can drive this home in a hurry.
9. Appreciate the growth of your trees. Try not to notice the growth on your invasive scotch broom, black berry, English ivy or [fill in the blank].
8. Look for wildlife. Use a game camera or just get out that scat identification guide and investigate the evidence left behind. This is an especially fun activity with guests and visitors... provided they aren't people you really care to spend a whole lot of time with in the future.
7. Limb your trees with loppers. It's highly unlikely that a pair of loppers will start a fire unless you are really going after it. Plus it will really PUMP YOU UP. Don't drop the gym membership just yet though, unless of course you've got enough trees to be limbed to keep you going throughout the year.
6. Try thinning with your spouse. It'll really make you appreciate all the time you spend together during which you are not constantly making life and death decisions.
5. Mark the trees that need to be thinned with that blue spray paint you got as a Christmas gift. Or just put the cap back on and plan to re-gift. Apologies to anyone who gave us blue spray paint as a gift in the past.
4. Clear trails. John: Come on, it'll be fun! Cathy: Ugh.
3. Mark the property lines using t-posts that you've purchased at random barn sales. Bent? No problem! With all your lopping you'll be ready to just bend them back by hand.
2. Look for the property corners and clear away the brush. This is a great chance for the kids/grandkids to play with that metal detector you also found at the barn sale.
1. And if you're tired and hot just find some shade (trees are good for that) and read a good book.

Until next time – Happy Small Woodlanding!

*John and Cathy Dummer*

## 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.

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**Thank you for supporting Washington County Small Woodlands Association!**



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# ***Tree Talk***

***by Bonnie Shumaker***

## **Musings**

Walking through the woods every day as Bob and I do gives plenty of time for musing about the everyday things we see. Even “short walk” to the mailbox winds its way through afforestation of a prior alfalfa field and cropland, “valley view” where we can look across the valley to other woodland properties and through our oldest stand that we planted in 1980.

The afforestation is the most surprising and a little frustrating to this lover of understory plants. The previous monoculture of clover and hay fields now has strong, healthy trees that are eighteen years old, but the understory is agonizingly slow to grow. Sword fern is the first to appear along the forest edges followed by maple seedlings, most of which get shaded out and die. We leave the strong, straight maples to grow along with the Doug-fir and cedar. Trailing wild blackberry try to get a foothold and some native grasses may grow along a sunny edge or in an opening where a bit of sunlight gets through. I know there are seeds and spores waiting for light. We anticipate our first serious thinning when the trees are about age 25 (7-10 years from now). I would like to anticipate an explosion of understory plants when this happens, but realize that like most things woodland, the change will be slow, but the added sunlight will bring more understory.

When we walk into the stand we planted in 1980, we remember what it looked like when we moved here. It had been logged over and not replanted. A few trees were there and lots of brush. We got a grant and a lot of advice from ODF to remove brush and plant trees. The understory here was never completely gone as in cropland or pasture, and it still delights the eye. In the last few years Calypso Orchid has returned, and there is a wide variety of other plants and no invasive weeds. It brings to mind the saying, “nature abhors a vacuum,” every square inch of ground is covered except the path. It is delightful.

Valley view, one of the favorite spots for the children on the many field trips we have held over the years, is now showing evidence that in a few more years, the trees we planted on this slope will be taller than we can see over the tops. We fantasize building a tower to climb up for a better view, or creating an alleyway for a view as Sam Sadtler did for his view of Mount Hood.

I am reading a book now by Ivan Doig, a favorite author of mine. Most of his books take place in Montana, but this one, “Winter Brothers, A Season at the Edge of America,” is set in the Olympic Peninsula and takes place during a winter he spent chronicling the diary of James Gilchrist Swan, an early settler of the region. Ivan Doig describes this lush rainforest of the Olympic Peninsula with its dominant giant Sitka spruce trees as follows: “The power and loft of the Sitkas, however, are merely the might above the rampant details of the rain forest, like crags over delicate valleys. Nature here tries a little of everything green. Variety and variety of moss and lichen, sprays of fern.” The dampness of the forest here (twelve feet of rain per year) reminds him of a story out of his memory of having read of a visitor who rode through the California redwood forest in the first years of this century. He noted to his guide that the sun was dissipating the chilly fog from around them. No, said the guide looking to canyon walls of wood like these, “No, “the trees is drinkin’ it. That’s what they live on mostly. When they git done breakfast you’ll git warm enough.”

***Forests have delighted humankind forever, and presently!***



Do you like to see students learning in the woods? Would you like to spend a few hours helping students learn about forest management or watching an active logging operation? If your answer is, “YES”, we need your help! The Pacific Logging Congress’ In the Woods Show is coming this fall, to Port Blakely’s Molalla Tree Farm (Clackamas County).

Over three thousand fourth- through 12th-graders are expected at the September 25-26 event. These students will see the most high-tech, environmentally advanced logging methods available. Various forestry organizations and associations are hosting education stations for students to learn about the science, practices and stewardship of forestry. We need volunteers to guide student groups along the trail.

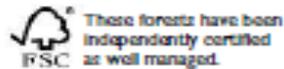
***The Pacific Logging Congress, which happens every four years, is working to sign on about 400 volunteers to lead students through tours. Anyone interested please contact the Oregon Forest Resources Institute, Julie Woodward, [Woodward@ofri.org](mailto:Woodward@ofri.org) or 503-807-1614. We***

“I encourage people to give a few hours of their time. It’s important to our entire forest sector to help future citizens understand what happens in the woods.”  
Duane Evans, Port Blakely Tree Farms and PLC President.



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## NAFO report shows impact of private forest landowners

The National Alliance of Forest Owners (NAFO) released new data confirming the strong value forest owners provide to the U.S. economy. "The Economic Impact of Privately-Owned Forest in the United States" reveals forest owners support 2.4 million jobs, \$87 billion in payroll, \$223 billion in sales and 5.7 percent of all U.S. manufacturing. The report provides national, regional and state-specific data on jobs, payroll, sales, acreage ownership and contribution to overall manufacturing and gross domestic product.

## Fish Surveys, continued from page 1

The survey continues from the mouth of each stream and tributary to a point where at least two consecutive surveyed units (a span of 10 pools) contain no juvenile steelhead or cut-throat trout or Coho salmon.

The data is being collected to improve our understanding as a community of how salmon are utilizing our watersheds for spawning, rearing and summer refuge. In the long term, this information will help us prepare a meaningful restoration plan for the coho salmon, steelhead and cutthroat trout that are known to inhabit the Tualatin basin.

Our hope is that you will join us and your neighbors in taking this important first step to learn more about how the stream in your back yard fits into the larger picture for salmon in the Tualatin basin. We anticipate a final report document available with the results of the 2014 inventory by April, 2015. To read the results of the summer 2013 RBA surveys, the link on the TRWC website is <http://trwc.org/tualatin-basin-info/environmental-reports/tualatin-river-rapid-bio-assessment-summer-2013/>

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact April Olbrich, 503-846-4810, [trwc@trwc.org](mailto:trwc@trwc.org) or Barbara Trask, Bio-Surveys, 541-487-4484, [sbtrask@peak.org](mailto:sbtrask@peak.org).

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# Scandinavian Forestry and Woodland Co-op Trip

By Sherm Sallee

A group of Oregon forestry and Oregon woodland cooperative members along with a couple from Maine and individuals from Vermont and British Columbia spent two weeks in Sweden and Norway in early June. The purpose of the trip was to learn how the Scandinavians make their woodland cooperatives work so successfully. The group also wanted to learn how the productive forests of Scandinavia are managed.

Sweden's woodland cooperatives have been consolidating and merging and now there are four large cooperatives. They are located regionally and their areas do not overlap. The future looks like there will be further mergers and the four may become only two or three in the next few years. The reason for the mergers is that the cooperatives have found the economy of scale reduces administrative costs and makes the cooperatives more efficient. The business of the cooperatives extends from forestry logging operations to bio-fuel use for electrical production.

Sweden's forest operations are at rotations of 90 to 110 years. During this time, they complete a pre-commercial thinning operation to reduce the competition of the small trees. As the trees grow, they enter the stand and perform two or three commercial thinning operations with a final clear cut at age 90 to 110 years. They then replant their forest with 2000 seedlings per hectare or about 800 seedlings per acre. There are three main species of trees raised. The birch is mainly used for firewood. The Norway spruce and Scotch pine are the commercial lumber and pulp species. We found no Himalaya blackberries or Scotch broom competition in the Scandinavian forests. Their harsh winters seem to take care of those problems.

In Norway, the cooperatives were much smaller and more regional. The strongest forest activity is located in the southern portion of the country as heavy glacial activity in the central and northern portion of the country left little soil and area for large forestland. As in Sweden, their primary forest species are birch, spruce and pine. Norway has little need to use bio-fuel for their electrical production as hydro takes care of all their electrical needs. We visited several fjords, a cable logging operation, a dairy farm and a water powered sawmill, among many other interesting sights.

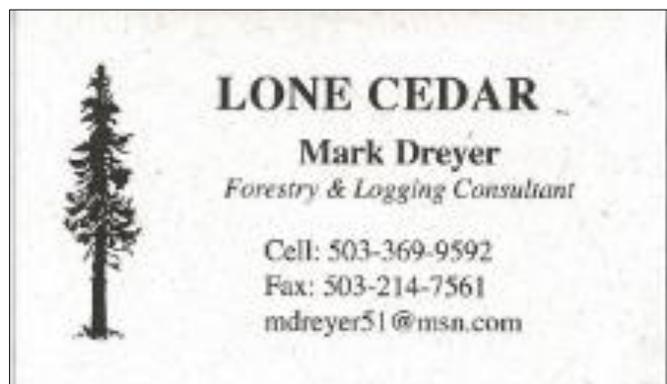
This trip was the brainchild of Richard and Anne Hanschu in Forest Grove. They have been hosting groups from Scandinavia over the years and thought some Oregonians might like to see how things worked in Sweden and Norway. They contacted Rick Fletcher, retired forestry extension agent for Linn and Benton Counties. He joined us on the trip to provide his forestry expertise. The result of their many hours arranging the trip and setting up the connections was an outstanding and very successful educational experience.

## Directions to Chuck and Judy Price's Tree Farm for TFOY Picnic and Tour – July 12, 10:00am-2:00pm

From Forest Grove, go south on Hwy. 47 for 1.7 miles to Spring Hill Road.

Turn left on Spring Hill Road for 2.2 miles to Hardebeck Road. Turn slight left on Hardebeck Road for .4 mile to Withycombe Road. Turn left on Withycombe Road for .9 mile to the end of the road.

Parking will be identified by signs.





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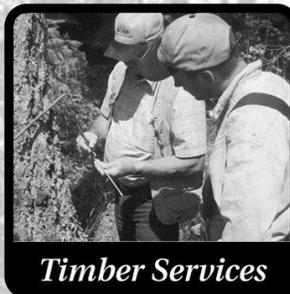
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**New From OFRI – “The Oregon Way”**

The Oregon Forest Resources Institute has issued a new publication dealing with forests and fish – protecting aquatic habitat in Oregon’s forests. The beautifully illustrated publication leads the reader through Oregon’s history on land use law, Forest Practices Act, the Oregon Plan, and how research is leading the way to keep fish and forests as Oregon’s premier resources. Copies of the publication and accompanying DVD are available from OFRI at [www.OregonForests.org](http://www.OregonForests.org), or call at 971-673-2944.

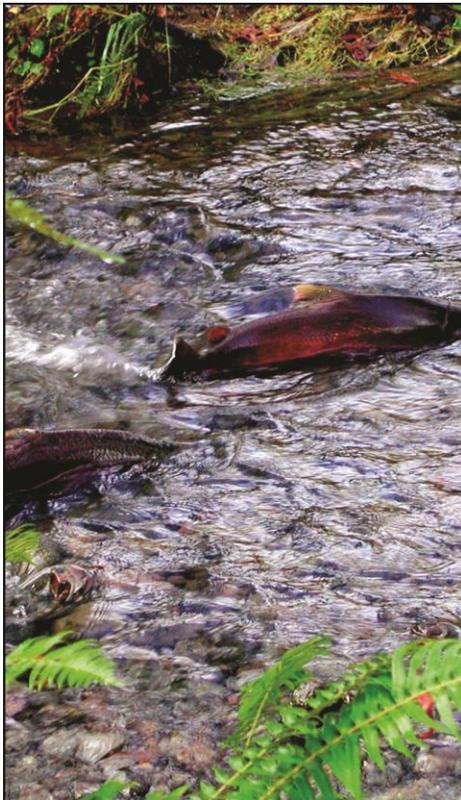
**2014 Rural Living Field Day**

Saturday, August 23, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Howell Territorial Park on Sauvie Island.

Rural Living Field Day is a fun event for rural landowners and this year the event is sponsored by West Multnomah, Tualatin and Columbia Soil & Water Conservation Districts and the Oregon Small Woodland Association. The event features speakers addressing a wide variety of issues that face rural homeowners, farmers, and land managers every day. Topics include wildlife, forests, pollinators, invasive weeds, orchards, riparian restoration, crops and soil health, and manure composting

Participants will have the opportunity to visit a stream riparian area, a woodland stand, an orchard, a working organic farm and barn. Folks may participate in some hands-on demonstrations and will be able to ask the experts about specific concerns during the break-out sessions. Whether you are a seasoned landowner or just starting your own farm, this is the event for you!

To register, just visit the West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District website at [www.wmswcd.org](http://www.wmswcd.org) and click on “Events”. The cost is only \$15 per person or \$20 for families. Morning beverages and snacks will be served as well as a fully catered lunch!



## A fish story Oregon can be proud of

Over four decades, Oregon has used science, laws and volunteerism to continually improve the ways it protects water quality and fish habitat in private forestlands.

Spread the knowledge using the Oregon Forest Resources Institute's newest public education project: "The Oregon Way."

- A 16-page publication, featuring an introduction by Governor John Kitzhaber
- An eight-minute video, with scientist George Ice and others



Find them at  
[OregonForests.org](http://OregonForests.org)

## Rejoinder on Truffle Raking: June Forest Forum

The June issue of the Forum carried a story about the use of truffle dogs to locate truffles. **Eric Jones**, a well-known anthropologist and non-timber forest products (especially truffles) expert, noted the article's reference to problems with truffle-raking, and offered the following response:

It was a little disappointing to see the anti-truffle raking rhetoric get featured, which remains unproven and contrary to the experience of highly skilled harvesters that have been doing far longer than the recent trend of dog harvesting promoted by the Oregon Truffle Festival crowd. I think dogs are great and have an important role to play in the future of truffle harvesting, but if people are only looking at some of the bad practices from trespassers sneaking in and damaging tree farms with rakes without regard to best raking practices, they are really missing an amazing opportunity to combine both dogs and raking.

As an ecological anthropologist I will tell you that the anti-raking view (that left unregulated humans will destroy the environment) simply isn't true by and large. Most humans want to figure out how to live sustainably on their land; it's too risky to do otherwise since so many humans are poor and living on the edge. What biologists and ecologists do, often unknowingly I believe, is single out isolated events that don't represent the norm and use them as a tool to acquire power and control to re-enforce their world views and objectives.

My rake is on the wall behind me. I will lay it down when I see real scientific proof (a two year isolated study won't do) that it is unsustainable!

*Eric Jones*

# Perspectives on the Scandinavian Tour



***The Forests....***



***The Culture....***



***The Scenery....***

## ***Steve and Lynn Harrel:***

We would like to thank Richard and Anne Hanschu, Rick Fletcher, Jan and Oystein for putting together the most interesting, educational, fun filling tour that probably will not be surpassed by any future tours. We ate like Kings and Queens. Exercising was climbing in and off the bus, which kept our weight maintained. Saw picturesque places that most tourists could not go and see. Anne kept the count of 61 tunnels our 50 seated bus went through. Our bus driver, Peter, negotiated the bus up and down switch backs, where only a mountain goat would go. The weather could not be better, was fantastic. We would love now to see the upper and lower lands of Sweden/Norway on another Forest Tour in the future.

## ***Ron and Nicky Larson:***

At the sawmill tour my understanding was that the logs were first measured going through the first deck towards the de-barker, and put up on the deck directly from the log truck, or kept apart until then. That saves the labor of rolling out the logs on the ground for measurement. They did have a pile of much bigger logs to be shipped out.

-All the forest plantings plus the natural seeding seemed very tight, and usually explained as to reduce limb growth. However, the tree diameter at harvest seemed more important than the size of the knots. Like here, trees are planted close to assure there are enough, but at first thinning time, it is all expense, no cash back.

This was a great trip. We enjoyed it very much, and the people on the trip. We were very impressed by how sharply the bus could turn.

## ***Anne and Richard Hanschu:***

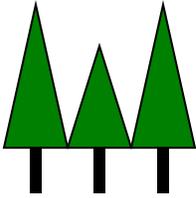
1. Found Logmax stop (plant where the Logmax processor heads are constructed) to be very interesting and the fact the heads are all hand assembled by individuals and not mass produced on an assembly line.
2. I think the tenacity of the people when it comes to harvesting of timber makes us appreciate what we have. Even the east side is not as tough as what we witnessed in Sweden. Their basic timber species are very limited (4/5-pine, spruce, beech, and birch) as compared to what we can harvest. The ability to live for centuries in such remote conditions makes for hardy people.
3. Blown away by the construction and engineering of tunnels in Norway. Norway has over 1100 tunnels and we went thru 61. As Oystein stated, "we will see Norway from the inside and on the outside" The tunnels ranged from a few hundred meters long to 15 miles with roundabouts and a spur tunnel that shot out onto a bridge over a fjord and back into a another tunnel-really awesome.

In general felt the trip was "over the top". Guess our 13 years of hosting Scandinavian tours paid off handsomely.

Newsletter Editor  
19022 SW Finnigan Hill Road  
Hillsboro, OR 97123

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## Forest Forum



COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE  
OREGON SMALL WOODLANDS  
ASSOCIATION

### Potpourri

**Tree Pests** Amy Grotta, OSU Extension Forester, has recently called attention to insect and disease pests which are impacting trees now in the Willamette Valley:

**Insect** – Western Tent caterpillar. Symptom is a thick globular web enclosing a branch or clump of foliage. The web is full of caterpillar larvae. Click on [http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE\\_DOCUMENTS/fsbdev2\\_042847.pdf](http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/fsbdev2_042847.pdf) for more information

**Diseases** – incense cedar rust, and incense cedar branch canker. Symptoms are a mosaic of dead and dying limbs or clumps of foliage. Click on <http://pnwhandbooks.org/plantdisease/node/2914/print> for more information.

These pests tend to go thru population cycles, and seldom result in wholesale die-off of trees before their natural enemies reduce their population.

To learn more, just contact Amy and she'll fill you in!

**EPA has proposed a rule defining “waters of the United States”** The rule, which is intended to clarify the scope of waters subject to federal jurisdiction under the Clean Water Act (CWA), is open for public comment until **October 20, 2014**. The proposed rule will change the terminology from “navigable waters” to waters with a “significant nexus”. Agriculture, forestry, and other interests fear this will mean essentially any water body will qualify for regulation. EPA issued a list of 56 agricultural conservation practices that would be exempt from CWA permits. However, if a conservation practice does not fall within that list or is not done to NRCS standards, it could fall outside the statutory exemption for farming, forestry, and ranching. Rep. Kurt Schrader, D-Oregon on the House Small Business Committee, said, “I don't think anybody with a straight face can say this is anything but a huge grab of jurisdictional power at the end of the day.”

#### Helpful Links:

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