

Forest Forum

Washington County Small Woodlands Association

August, 2014

Loads of Fun at TFOY Picnic and Tour



Firewood drying shed with A/C

The forecast for July 12th, the day of the Tree Farmer of the Year tour at Chuck and Judy Price's "Third Generation Tree Farm" was for one of the many **HOT** days we have had this summer, and the forecasters were correct. Touring in the woods helped cool things a bit, but the blessing came in the newly finished firewood storage building that Chuck had built. Chuck's plan is to bring newly split firewood into the building where a heat and de-humidifying system will dry the firewood and keep it at the correct moisture level until it is sold. This will keep mold from forming in the wintertime which is important as this firewood is destined for the high-end market. Chuck has 35 acres planted in 1993-95 that is ready to be thinned for firewood.

The blessing on this hot day was that the de-humidifying system was in place and it could be used to air-condition the building that was set up beautifully for the picnic lunch of a slow-cooked whole hog for pulled-pork sandwiches and all the fixings.



Grapple skidder can help thin



Lyal Purinton with 1-cylinder engine

Other highlights of the day were Lyal Purinton's antique collection of one-cylinder machines, Lyal's portable sawmill demonstration and a tour through the forest showing past and present management plans, Chuck's firewood processor in action, a log arch grapple-skidder, and a pneumatic pruner.

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"Timber Wolf" firewood processor

WCSWA Leadership

Co-Presidents – John and Cathy Dummer, 503-970-8789
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www.wcswa.com

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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: No items this month. Send your "Wants" to either newsletter editor (see above).

For Sale: No items this month. Send your "For Sale" items to either newsletter editor (see above).

Event Calendar

August		WCSWA Meeting	Summer Break - No meeting scheduled
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.	WCSWA Tour: Lewis River Reforestation, Woodland, WA	Tour of the facility that grows WCSWA seedlings showing how and where they are grown. Picnic area available after – bring your lunch if you wish.
September 25-26	TBA	Port Blakely Molalla Tree Farm	Pacific Logging Congress – Clackamas Co. Volunteers needed. Contact Julie Woodward, Woodward@ofri.org or 503-807-1614.
October 28	7:00p.m.	North Plains Fire Station	Timber Harvest Equipment – Steve Bowers, speaker
November 18	8:00-4:00	Linn County Fairgrounds - Albany	Wildlife in Managed Forests: Songbirds and Early Seral Habitats

The Woodland Beat

What a fantastic summer so far, and we've still more to come. Recently we attended the Highland Games at Mt. Hood Community College. I'm of German descent so it was a little outside of my immediate heritage, but Cathy has some good Scottish/Irish/English heritage and considered buying a scarf or two. The caber toss was an event that any small woodland owner could appreciate. That's the contest where the contestants "pick" a peeled log that is almost 20 feet long and weighs 120 pounds so their hands are supporting the top end and it is standing butt up (the crowd is kept a good distance away with good reason). They move forward faster and faster and then stop and hurl the log end over end. Only one contestant got the log to turn (the top end to go all the way over). The caber was piped in and out with bagpipes; it was interesting to see such reverence paid to a piece of wood in that fashion. A field full of bagpipes playing Amazing Grace was pretty darn cool too.

It seems likely that the kilt-wearers are not the only culture whose entertainment is a little forestry-focused. Perhaps our members who went on the Scandinavian Tour earlier in the summer have some examples? We look forward to learning more from our tourists about their trip in the near future. Cathy and I plan to join the OSU Extension trip to Chile in November and will keep our eyes peeled as well.

Special thanks to Chuck Price and his family for hosting a fantastic Tree Farmer of the Year tour and barbecue last month. A very fitting celebration!

And finally – I heard this the other day and thought you might get a chuckle out of it: You've probably heard the philosophical question "If a tree falls in the forest and no one is there to hear it did it really happen?" Along those same lines, "If a man speaks his mind in the forest and there isn't a woman there to hear him is he still wrong?"

Until next time – Happy Small Woodlanding!

John and Cathy Dummer



In the human world, some people recycle. Recycling is where used paper and glass and other things can be processed to make new materials. Trees also recycle in different ways.



Naturally, Harry Hemlock wanted everyone to know about how trees recycle. He explained to young humans just how important forests are to the world. Especially the way trees breathe in carbon dioxide made by buses and factories to make oxygen humans breathe.



"Trees also recycle by providing habitat and nutrients for the soil when they, or parts of them, decompose," Harry announced, "so in a way trees are the ultimate recyclers!"

Advertising Opportunity:

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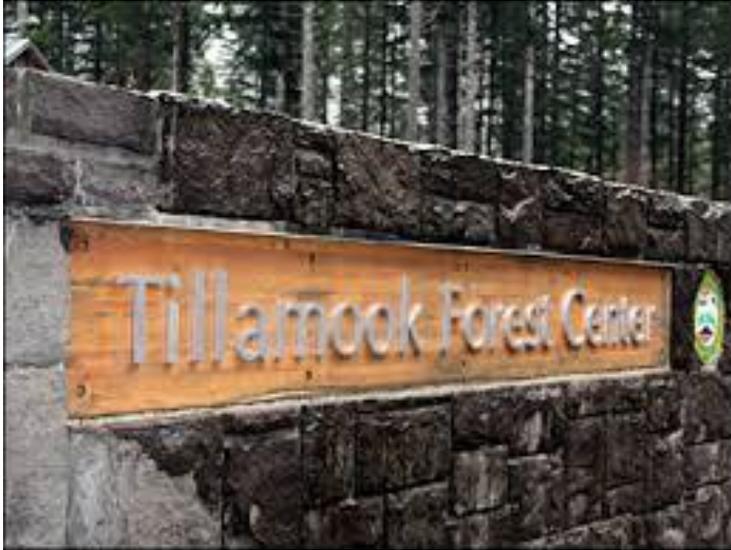
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Tree Talk

by Bonnie Shumaker



We had the good fortune to have out-of-town visitors last week. We had met Doug and Carole Keeler in Maine last summer when we took our cross-country trip in our travel trailer. An Oregon license plate stands out in Maine, and Doug and Carole and their dog Lulu identified with us with their own Oregon license plates. They were camp workers in the RV park in Bar Harbor, Maine where we stayed, but have property in Bend, OR and also in Arizona. We enjoyed visiting, and our 1 ½ year old Labrador, Bailey, especially loved Lulu, a 3 year old Burmese Mountain dog/Labrador

cross. The first thing that Doug did when we all met was show us a large field where dogs could run off-leash. What a joy to watch the dogs play after being mostly leash-confined for weeks.

We extracted a promise from Doug and Carole to visit us this summer, and they did. We even provided hook-ups for their fifth wheel. Part of the fun of showing Doug and Carole around our neck of the woods was a day at the Tillamook Forest Center. Now, these folks who spend much of their time in Arizona might not be such great forest lovers as we are, but they were impressed with the Tillamook Forest Center. We had not been there for a couple of years ourselves, and enjoyed it all over again. The award-winning film of the Tillamook Burn, the steam donkey rescued out of the woods and air-lifted to the Forest Center, the interactive displays, the bridge that will survive anything the Wilson River throws at it, the trails and the bench where we ate our lunch - all was enjoyable. We even located the outdoor bench that Washington County Small Woodlands donated to the Center when it opened. After enjoying the Forest Center, a trip to the Tillamook Cheese Factory for ice cream before returning home added a delicious aftertaste to the experience.

In case any readers have not yet visited the Tillamook Forest Center, I highly recommend it, even if you don't have out-of-town guests. Here is a press release for a special weekend coming up.

“Return from the Burn.”

Partake in a weekend of family fun as the Tillamook Forest Center celebrates 81 years of recovery from one of Oregon's most memorable series of wildfires, known as the Tillamook Burn. The Center will host special activities and displays throughout the August 15 – 17 weekend representing the history of the forest before, during and after the fires.” For more info: <http://www.tillamookforestcenter.org/events>



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.

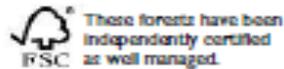
The Pacific Logging Congress, which happens every four years, is working to sign on about 400 volunteers to lead students through tours. Anyone interested please contact the Oregon Forest Resources Institute, Julie Woodward, Woodward@ofri.org or 503-807-1614.

“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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Author Terry Pratchett, quoted in “The Week magazine”



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Fish Habitat and Passage

OFRI just published its fifth book in the Wildlife in Managed Forests series; this one designed to help family forest landowners whose property includes fish-bearing streams and lakes.

Like other books in the series "Fish Habitat and Passage" presents the latest scientific information written in plain language for the small landowner. The 28-page booklet or download – along with others in the series – are available at no charge at OregonForest.org under "More to Learn"/"Learning Resources."

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SEEDLING ORDERS

by Paul Sansone and Bob Shumaker, Seedling Committee

It is time to start thinking about your seedling requirements for 2014-15 winter planting. WCSWA offers a seedling program to its members. We will have available approx. 50,000 DF Vernonia High Gain 1 + 1's, and 5,000 Western Red Cedar 1 + 1 seedlings.

The Vernonia High Gain DF seed is from ODF's Vernonia Seed Orchard. The seedlings are grown for WCSWA at Lewis River Reforestation in Woodland, WA. These seedlings have superior growing characteristics and are intended to maximize the growing potential of your site.

This seedling program is an important service to members and a fund raising source for WCSWA. We take the risk of planting these trees two years before we know your needs and provide pick up and cold storage through volunteers in our organization.

A seedling reservation request form is included in this newsletter. If you wish to order, please complete the form and return it as soon as possible. Trees are reserved on a first-come/first-served basis.

Emerald Ash Borer Research

Voice of America News, July 16, 2014
Steve Baragona

Scientists are pitting insects against insects in a battle to control an invasive species. U.S. Department of Agriculture researchers have released tiny parasitic wasps in forests in Maryland to attack the emerald ash borer, an invader from China that is devastating forests across the northern United States. But rather than spraying pesticides that risk doing additional harm, the USDA scientists are bringing the invasive insect's natural predators in from Asia to try to restore balance.

Ash trees make up 20 to 40 percent of some northern U.S. forests. The emerald ash borer threatens them and all the creatures that depend on them.

When the borer arrived from China in the 1990s - likely in a wooden crate or shipping pallet - it had no natural enemies here.

In Asia, several species of parasitic wasps lay their own eggs inside borers' eggs. The young wasps steal the developing borer's food, and the borer dies. Other wasps lay eggs in the larva itself. The eggs hatch and eat the larva alive as they grow.

It's a grisly but effective way to keep the emerald ash borer's population in check.

Quarantine

Fighting an invasive insect with another import can be risky. It could become invasive, too.

So the lab raises wasps in quarantine while they're tested. Only picky eaters are released: wasps that would much rather attack an emerald ash borer than a native insect.

So far, three species of wasps have been released. There are early signs that they are helping to slow the emerald ash borer's advance, but it will take a while to see if the wasps can return some balance to an ecosystem at risk.



LONE CEDAR

Mark Dreyer

Forestry & Logging Consultant

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mdreyer51@msn.com

Did you know...?

***Fun Forestry Facts from Rob Pierce,
Education Director, World Forestry Center***

Welcome to another great summer here in the Pacific Northwest. Right now, some trees are still in bloom, but most have begun the process of turning those flowers into seeds, nuts, or fruit.

Did you know trees like sun (because they get their energy through photosynthesis) but turn themselves off when it gets too hot? Trees are only "on" when they are transpiring. That is, when they are releasing water vapor from their stomata found on their leaves. Photosynthesis does not take place when stomata are closed. When temperatures in the summer get too hot, the trees attempt to conserve their water supply by shutting down.

Here are a few more neat facts about trees during the summer months:

- Shade trees can make buildings up to 20 degrees cooler in the summer
- Trees provide shade and shelter, reducing yearly heating and cooling costs by 2.1 billion dollars

Cottonwood trees have been showering the landscape with their seeds. The cottonwood seed stays in flight the longest of all trees. The tiny seed is surrounded by ultra-light, white fluff that can carry it on the air for several days.



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100K poplar trees to clean discharged Missoula wastewater

Poplar tree shoots planted this spring at the city of Missoula’s new wastewater ground treatment field will be about 5 feet tall this fall and clean at least 500,000 gallons of clarified sewage water a year. The project will nurture nearly 100,000 poplar trees with nutrient-laden water from the next-door city wastewater treatment plant. The water has gone through the plant’s disinfection and clarification process, and is legal to be dumped back in the river. But the trees will use up the remaining phosphorus and nitrogen that otherwise might stimulate algae growth and choke trout.

rchaney@missoulian.com.

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 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!

It's for the birds

Learn about songbird populations and the early seral habitats they depend on at a free one-day symposium with nearly a dozen expert panelists.



WILDLIFE IN MANAGED FORESTS: SONGBIRDS AND EARLY SERAL HABITATS

Nov. 18
8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Linn County Fairgrounds
Albany

To register or see the agenda:
OregonForests.org/
songbird-symposium

Photo: Jim Rivers

Tour of the Trask Watershed Study – by Bonnie Shumaker

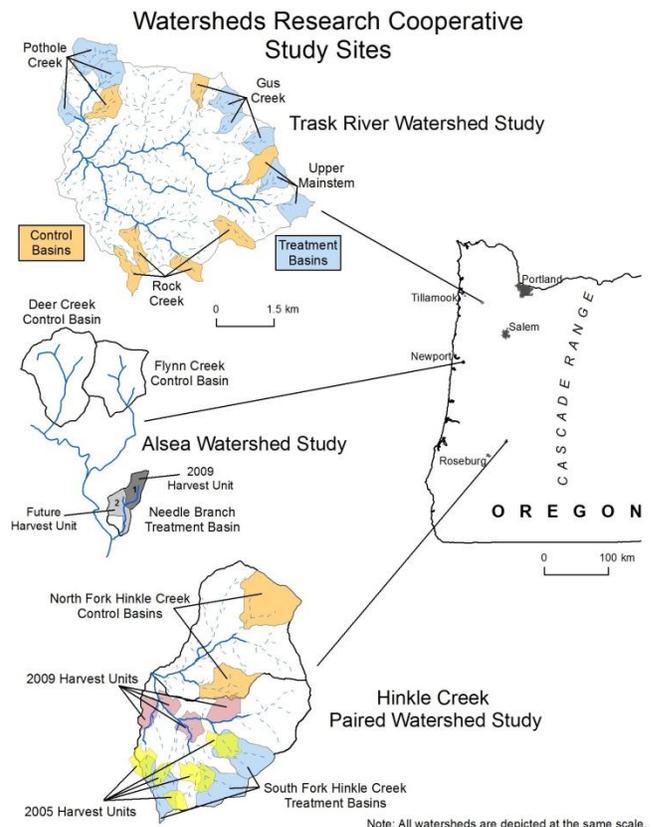
On July 24th, Bob and I accepted an invitation from OSWA on behalf of the Oregon Board of Forestry to attend a tour of the Trask Paired Watershed Study. Several years ago, we toured the Hinkle Creek Paired Watershed Study, learned a lot and were excited to see how the closer-to-home Trask study is progressing. Ninety-five people from diverse interests attended the tour.

Currently, there are three paired watershed studies in Oregon: The Trask, Alsea and Hinkle Creek. In a paired watershed study, a watershed is divided into two similar halves. Baseline data is collected on the entire watershed, followed by planned harvest in one-half the watershed and no harvest in the other. The goal is to quantify the effects of contemporary forest practices on the streams through research that is cooperative, multi-disciplinary and long-term. Each study has a slightly different focus. The Trask study's focus is on small headwater streams. This article will attempt to summarize what we learned on the tour.

For detailed information go to:
<http://watershedsresearch.org>.

The timeline for the Trask Watershed is: 2006-11 baseline data collection, 2011 road upgrades, 2011-2012 headwater harvest in 8 basins and 2012-16 post-treatment data collection.

Per this timeline, on the date of the tour, baseline data, road upgrades and headwater harvest was completed. The Trask River Watershed Study will examine three different best management practices (BMPs) across three ownerships when harvesting around small non-



fish-bearing streams. The study will test the effectiveness of these BMPs in achieving stream protection goals. The study is tackling important questions about the effects of logging on fish, amphibians, birds, insects and water quality. In this study, reference areas are being left unharvested, while treatment areas are being harvested under provisions of the Oregon Forest Practices Act (OFPA), and state and federal forest management plans, with or without stream buffers of differing widths. This study is taking place on property owned by the Weyerhaeuser Company, the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) and the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

Our first stop was a BLM site where light thinning had occurred, mostly by helicopter. This BLM land is managed under the N.W. Forest Plan and is currently in riparian and late successional reserves. There are active bills in the U.S. House and Senate which recognize that the current status quo for BLM lands is not working; surety is needed for management as the original intent of these lands for forest production is not being met.

Our second stop was on Weyerhaeuser land whose emphasis is on the production of Douglas-fir logs using intensive management with the recognition that environmental management is a key element of business success. Besides meeting regulatory obligations, environmental performance helps maintain the “public license to operate” and retains customers.

The harvest we observed surrounded a small non-fish bearing stream where no riparian setback is required under the Oregon Forests Practices Act. Weyerhaeuser chose to group the “leave” trees required around the stream. Initial results show none or a small rise in stream temperature at the harvest site which was not detected further downstream.

The third site was ODF land in the Tillamook Forest. The history of the Tillamook shows the results of a series of Tillamook Forest fires (1933 – 1951) and now has become a “sea of green” with typical 50-80 year old stands. Since 1980, one-half of the Tillamook Forest has been commercially thinned. The goal now is to create diversity out of this “sea of green” with stands of varying ages including using clearcut harvest on 15-25% of the younger forests. Since 2001, the Integrated ODF Plan’s objective emphasizes the “greatest permanent value” for social, economic and environmental values with predictable harvest, jobs, revenue, recreation, clean air and water and native wildlife. Stream buffers are diverse with 25 feet for the small non-fish stream we observed plus leave trees clumped around the riparian zone.

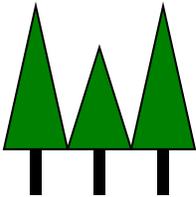
The take home message from State Forester Doug Decker and members of the Board of Forestry is that collaborative science is good and more is even better. The mix of landowner objectives addresses the need for diversification in a healthy landscape and the “greatest permanent value” of social, economic and environmental values is vital. Let the science do the work – initial findings show there is no present crisis requiring the immediate solving of tough policy issues. Rather, manage forests on a landscape level beyond individual species using the best collaborative science available instead of politics, and respect the resiliency of our forests.

It was a day with a lot to absorb. The science is top-rate and collaborative. The measurements for this study will continue on the Trask until 2016 with more time required for drawing conclusions. Stay tuned. On the website mentioned, <http://watershedsresearch.org>, you can sign up for a newsletter that will help you stay informed on this cutting-edge research.

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Forest Forum



COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE
OREGON SMALL WOODLANDS
ASSOCIATION

Potpourri

Welcome to New Members!

Frank and Judy Kolman of Banks, Don and Norie Ediger of Banks, William Ingersoll of Reno, Nev., Ronda Mead from North Plains, Tracey and Bryan Brosius from North Plains, Erik and Tammy King from North Plains and Dale Seed from Buxton.

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.

YouTube “Let it Go” Parody: This parody video is from the Missouri Farm Bureau. The video is designed to help raise awareness on the proposed “Waters of the U.S.” rule pushed by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Army Corp of Engineers. Watch the video by searching for “YouTube” and then “That’s Enough, Let it Go Parody.”

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>
- **Field Guide to Common Fish of the Willamette Valley Floodplain**
<http://ir.library.oregonstate.edu/xmlui/bitstream/handle/1957/50100/em9091.pdf>
- **Habitat relationships of native and non-native fishes of the Willamette River, Oregon Williams, Joshua E. (Joshua Everett)**
<http://ir.library.oregonstate.edu/xmlui/handle/1957/49883>
- **Recorder WEBINAR by Dr. Stan Gregory, Oregon State University.**
Potential Responses of Native and Non-native Fish Communities to Thermal Changes in the Willamette River (scroll down the through the WW2100 webinars)
<http://water.oregonstate.edu/ww2100/webinars>