

Forest Forum

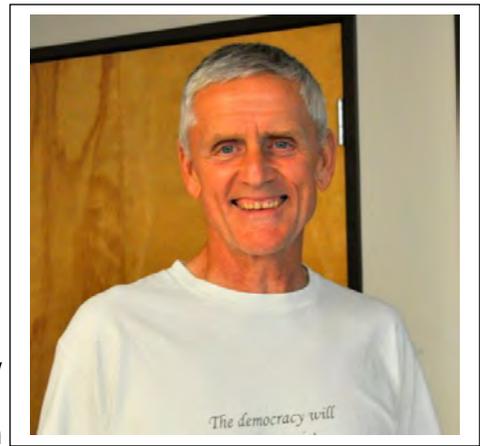
Washington County Small Woodlands Association

November, 2014

“A Mile Wide and an Inch Deep” - Harvest Systems: Hiring A Logger, Or Doing It Yourself

“There is a very wide range of small woodland owner involvement in logging”, stated **Steve Bowers (aka the Treeman)**, Douglas County Extension Forester, at the October 28th WCSWA monthly meeting. Steve was the featured speaker, and he kept a large audience both entertained and informed with his presentation.

Steve led off with a discussion of the presumption that many small woodland owners will need to hire a logger to do the harvest they want to do on their woodland. He listed several options for locating a logger: independent sources (Association of Oregon Loggers, ODF Stewardship Foresters, consulting foresters, Extension foresters), sources involved in forest industry (log buyers, industrial foresters), peers and neighbors (other woodland owners who have logged), and media (newspapers, trade magazines). Each of these types of sources has potential advantages and drawbacks. Woodland owners harvest goals, site conditions, timing needs, costs, availability, and other factors need to be matched up with the potential logging contractors – as well as consideration of their general reputation and reliability.



Following selection of a logging contractor, Steve pointed out that the next important step is to have a contract for the job. A contract should cover at least the following areas: logging specifications, road access, operating conditions, financial conditions, and liability.

Logging specifications include what equipment will be used, who will do the work (if subcontractors are used), adherence to the Forest Practices Act, and timing of the operation. The latter specification – when the logging may stop and when it must be completed – are very important, as seasonal markets, weather changes, and other factors can make a significant difference in the income that the woodland owner will receive. Starting and ending dates should be realistic – something as simple as figuring out the number of truckloads and amount of timber (total volume expected divided by the average load volume) and then spacing out the truckloads depending on normal seasonal and truck availability will help. Remember, the logger will want to take the best (most profitable and/or easiest to remove) first. That may mean the woodland owner may get stuck with the least profitable of the timber still left in the woods when operating conditions (weather, access, etc.) go “gunny-sack”.

See Harvest, page 11

Don't Forget – Annual WCSWA Banquet

When: Saturday, November 22nd

Social - 5:30 pm, Dinner – 6:15 pm, Program – 7 pm “Sights and Sounds of Scandinavia”

Where: Meriwether National Golf Course Clubhouse

For information, contact Anne Hanschu (503-357-2551) or Ardis Schroeder (503-628-2344)

For Reservations, contact Bonnie Shumaker (503)324-7825

WCSWA Leadership

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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

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)

Wanted: Caretaker-Renter at Gales Creek timber property. Call 503-357-4258.

For Sale: Protect your fire hazard. John Deere 8 foot farm disk. Call 503-357-4258.

Free: Back issues of Forest Forum – several years. If interested, contact Don Olson at 503-357-2942

Event Calendar

November 18	8:00-4:00	Linn County Fairgrounds - Albany	Wildlife in Managed Forests: Songbirds and Early Seral Habitats
November 22	5:30 p.m.	Meriwether Golf Club, Hillsboro	Annual Banquet: TFOY award; Program: Sights and Scenes of Scandinavia
November 22	9:00 am – 5:00 pm	Clackamas County Events Center, 4-H Exhibit Hall, 694 NE 4th Ave., Canby	Local Forest Products Displays of the many great products and materials from local woodlands. Contact OSU Extension, Oregon City (503-655-8631) for more information
November 24	Workshop 8:30 am Lunch 11:45 am	World Forestry Center	Oregon Tree Farm Annual Luncheon and Meeting. Call 503-357-2551 or e-mail netvetrdh@gmail.com
December		No Meetings/Activities Scheduled	

The Woodland Beat

It is likely that many of you are planting trees this time of year or gearing up to do so. Clean Water Services (CWS) is doing the same thing. In fact, their target this year for the Tree for All (www.JoinTreeForAll.org) partnership is to plant one million trees and shrubs during this planting season.

Why would a wastewater and stormwater utility be interested in planting trees? Turns out it is all about the water. About 12 years ago information emerged on stream temperature needs of salmon and CWS needed to find a way to cool 50 million gallons of treated water per day heading into the Tualatin River from their wastewater treatment plants. CWS considered available options: installing refrigeration at the treatment plants to cool the water, building a new pipeline to transfer water to other rivers, or plant trees to provide shade to cool water in the river and its tributaries in exchange for the higher temperatures of water discharged from the wastewater treatment plants (this last option is known as water quality trading). The cost of the first two options was in excess of \$100 million, and operations would have been energy intensive. So CWS decided to go with the less expensive tree planting alternative and use water quality trading, and they've been planting trees ever since. Trees planted in riparian areas cool the water by shading it and also filter water, enhance habitat and improve aesthetic appeal.

Ten years into this program, the collective impact is over 4 million new native trees and shrubs planted, conserving 15,000 acres and planting vegetation along 60 stream miles. These efforts have helped build a local nursery industry that specializes in growing native plants and has matured to the point that obtaining 1 million plants for this year's effort is possible.

The way the trees get planted is a little bit unique too. In addition to contractors, some trees are also planted by groups of volunteers led by non-profit organizations. Having volunteers do the planting helps form a sense of community and educates members of the community about tree planting, and also about how wastewater is treated. This approach also promotes long-term stewardship of restored areas by involving people living near these areas. As part of the program to plant trees, CWS has also extended a hand to rural landowners to enhance water quality by providing assistance to plant riparian areas. These programs are administered through the Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District – you can check with them to see if you qualify for assistance.

Special thanks to Rich Hunter and Laura Porter from the Watershed Management Department at Clean Water Services for their input on this.

Until next time – Happy Small Woodlanding!

John and Cathy Dummer

Study Shows Increase In Harvests

Based on analysis by Wood Resources International (WRI) in 2013, timber harvests in North America were up for the fourth consecutive year. Although there has been an annual increase over the last four years, harvest levels are still shown to be significantly lower than they were before the great recession. As reported in the latest issue of the Wood Resource Quarterly (WRQ), the total timber harvest in North America 10 years ago was about 40% higher than in 2013, and the harvest in the U.S. itself at that time was more than what was logged in all of North America last year.

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Tree Talk

by Bonnie Shumaker

Tree of Mystery



You can visit the “Trees of Mystery,” a popular attraction on the north California coast, but I have my own tree of mystery in my mother’s back yard in Beaverton. For the last three years, she has lived in an adult care home on the edge of the Fanno Creek Wetlands. I know my love of the outdoors was justly earned through both nature and nurture from my mom, and we visit the wetland trail which is wheelchair accessible whenever the weather allows. Even in bad weather

we can observe this mystery tree since it hangs over the

back deck of her house. The tree is evergreen, large and loved by birds and squirrels alike. The mysteries surrounding the tree are that the bark looks like spruce and also the cones, however the needles are not stiff like spruce and are in dense clusters. The amazing thing about the tree is that it releases yellow pollen from green cones each fall. What tree does that? My first musing was that it was a tree from south of the equator and didn’t understand our seasons, but knowing that Steve Bowers aka “The Treeman,” was



coming to the WCSWA meeting on October 28th, I plucked a bough with cones to show Steve. He declared it probably Deodar Cedar. I took this newfound information back to mom’s and together we Googled for more information. Her computer described the tree to a “T” except it said pollen was released in early spring. Researching for this article, I had a hard time finding that same reference, but after considerable research, found a website at the University of Redlands describing a signature tree on campus as *Cedrus deodara* with the following information. “This species is native to the Western Himalayas and features long needle-like, bluish-green leaves. The female cones are barrel shaped and release their seeds at maturity, while the male cones shed pollen in the autumn.” Voila! The mystery is solved.



Oregon Woodland Cooperative Expands Web Marketing

The Oregon Woodland Cooperative (OWC), a service and marketing cooperative owned and operated by small woodland owner members, has expanded their marketing medium to include three websites.

The existing OWC website,



www.oregonwoodlandcooperative.com, is the primary website for OWC. It provides basic information about OWC, but is also an entry to the other two marketing websites. It puts a "face" on OWC, with photos of members and video interviews.



www.oregonheartwood.com/glow/ is the website for Oregon Heartwood. This website offers a variety of natural and handmade products, such as evergreen boughs, luminaria and scented candles, wood pens, and furniture.



www.oregoncanopy.com/essential-oils/ is the website for Canopy Essential Oils and aromatherapy products that capture the evergreen scents of Oregon native forests.



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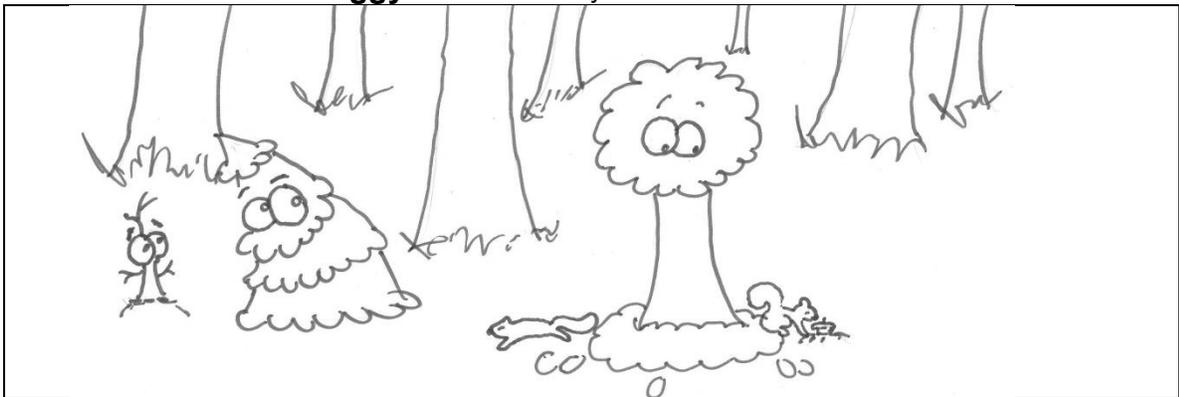
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Native Plant Guide

Interested in using native plants in your yard? Good choice, native plants can support wildlife, protect waterways and save time and money. If you need a little help to get started, check out *Native Plants For Willamette Valley Yards*. This guide offers detailed information for 140 plants including sun and moisture requirements, wildlife benefits and native range within northwestern Oregon and southwestern Washington. It also lists resources for design help, plant sources, invasive plant information and botanical references. You can [download a copy online](#) or request a printed copy by calling (503) 234-3000.

The Adventures of Duggy Fir

by Thomas Perkins



One fall day, one of the young seedlings asked Duggy, "How did Orion the Oak come to live in our forest?"

Duggy replied, "Orion started out as a nut that has fallen from another oak tree. The Squirrels collect the nuts, bury them, and use them later on for food in the winter. When the squirrels dig them up to eat them some of the nuts get left behind. They grow into fine trees such as Orion."

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Tree Root bridges, common in certain regions of India. *Atlantic Monthly Aug. 27, 2014*



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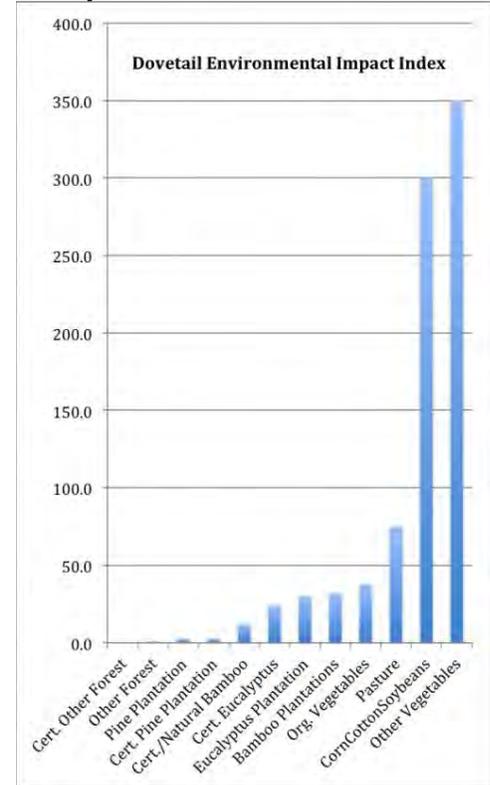
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Forest or Farm - It's All in the Perspective



All renewable materials are not created equal environmentally, and that the devil's in the details when analyzing material choices, renewable or not. Dovetail sought a way to look at this issue that might help clarify at least the scale of concerns related to various renewable materials. The above chart is one approach in an attempt to illustrate the relative environmental impacts of a number of major natural materials over a 100-year period.

Dr. Jeff Howe, Dovetail Partners. March 2014

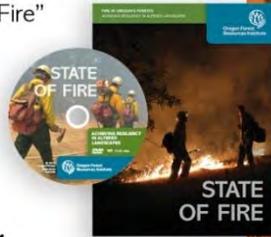
A state of fire

Oregon is coming off another brutal fire season.

What's going on in the forests? Why have wildfires grown so costly? Why have the risks worsened? What can we do?

Check out "State of Fire" to learn more – a 16-page report and a companion 11-minute video.

Find them at OregonForests.org



Awesome OSWA Products *Looking for some good gifts for Family and Friends?*

Awesome OSWA products may be just the ticket! Caps, shirts, jackets, mugs, vests, briefcases, pins, and log scale ticket books are available – all embossed with the OSWA logo. For budgetary reasons, the inventory of OSWA Awesome Products is a little smaller than we would normally prefer. Ilene Waldorf is keeping the inventory tight. As always, all items are available and can be easily purchased, but if it is not currently in inventory, the delivery time may be a little longer than preferred, so order early if you are purchasing for Christmas or other events. OSWA Products make great presents for family members and others. Do not forget them as an option. We will rebuild our inventory prior to Tree School. To see what is available, go to www.oswa.org, and look at the Products page.

Got Maple? Drink Up!

From coconut and *maple* to cactus and *birch*, plant waters are being touted as natural alternatives to sugary sodas and fitness drinks. A quick inventory of beverages in the produce section makes it clear — plant waters are rising. Soda and non-fresh juice sales are flat or slipping slightly, but plant-based products like coconut water — along with other alternative beverages such as kombucha and tea-based drinks — are growing, particularly those sold alongside your fruits and veggies, according to data compiled by market research firm Nielsen. Introduced several years ago, coconut water has been big for a while. **Maple water** is a newer entry and is essentially maple sap, the stuff that normally is boiled down to syrup. Brands include Vertical Water and SEVA. And that's not the only tree water on the market. There's also **birch water** and, on the plant side, cactus, barley and artichoke waters. Sales of all waters, including the new products, "fitness" and enhanced waters, as well as regular sparkling and still, grew 4 percent by value and nearly 7 percent by volume since July 2013.

As described in earlier Forest Forum issues, maple sap from big-leaf maple can also be used to produce maple syrup. Syrup and maple water offer two more marketing possibilities for small woodland owners!

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CLT – The New Kid on the Block (Portland Tribune – Steve Law, Oct. 16, 2014)

It's rare to see Oregon environmentalists and the timber industry on the same page. But both camps are high on **cross-laminated timber**, an engineered wood product that visionaries say can be used to erect high-rises up to 40 stories. If this "plywood on steroids" supplants concrete and steel in larger buildings, it could lower carbon emissions and construction costs while creating new jobs in rural Oregon.

Cross-laminated timber is made of 2-by-6s glued together in huge sheets, then cross-hatched in three to nine layers. It can be up to 18 inches thick, 10 feet wide and 80 feet long. CLT makes wood much stronger, so it can substitute for concrete and steel in bigger, taller structures. CLT can't compete with stick framing in homes and small buildings, says Ethan Martin, Northwest regional director of WoodWorks, a nonprofit funded by the lumber industry. Its niche is in larger buildings, where it becomes cheaper to build with than concrete and steel once a structure gets up to eight or more stories, Martin says.

Many environmentalists and timber industry leaders concur that thinning some forests can improve forest health and minimize fire dangers near cities. CLT promoters say it could be a perfect use for smaller trees cut in those efforts. Often that wood is only marketable as firewood, but the price of firewood doesn't pay for the harvesting work.

DR Johnson, a Riddle, Oregon lumber mill and laminating business, will debut the first U.S. cross-laminated timber manufacturing plant after securing a \$150,000 investment by Oregon BEST. The investment promises to transform the family-owned firm, said Valerie Johnson, president. (Portland Business Journal, Wendy Culverwell, Oct. 28, 2014). She said the glulam business has been a steady performer that carried DR Johnson through economic ups and downs, including the most recent recession and her father's death following a stroke. CLT offers a welcome new opportunity to diversify and bring production to the U.S. The only CLT plants in North America are in Canada. "It doesn't feel that risky. This feels like business as usual," she said. The company will invest in presses and a bigger planer, among other upgrades needed to produce the large panels. In time it will invest in technology to cut doors, windows and other openings specified by architects. Johnson said the biggest challenge is ensuring building codes allow for CLT panels in taller buildings, and that architects and engineers begin using them in U.S. projects.

Harvest, continued from page 1

Road access must be clear and free of legal restrictions. Easements may be necessary if the access crosses other ownerships. Maintenance of the access route should be required by contract. Maintaining good relationships with neighbors may require that their concerns be dealt with up front. Rocking the road may be needed to extend the operating season – particularly if this fits into a long-term management plan need.

Operating conditions need to be specified – who will do the slash clean-up, and how? How will the residual stand be protected during logging? When will the post-operations inspection be, and how - and when will the needed restoration and clean-up be done?

Money matters, and it is especially important that the price and measure of payment, and payment schedule, be clearly stated in the contract. Loggers may want to split the mill payment on a percentage basis. Often the percentage the logger prefers is 50-50. Depending on the logging conditions, quality of timber, proximity to mills, and other factors, this may be disadvantageous to the woodland owner. If several loggers are competing for the job, see which offers the best percentage. The range of logger share may range from 1/3rd to 1/2 of the mill payment – the owner should seek a fair share for their harvest. Don't predicate the job on the strength of the market at any one point in time – it changes, sometimes quickly.

Alternate methods are to pay on the basis of dollars per thousand board feet, or to pay the logger an hourly operation rate. Steve prefers the dollar-per-thousand method – and for average conditions, \$200-250 per thousand board feet would be a good price. Though loggers may say that a percentage basis will get a higher quality job – based on better felling and bucking - Steve thinks this is not usually the case, and that at most it could make 3-4% difference. Finally, **liability concerns** must be considered. A common and effective method to cover the exposure of the woodland owner from logging operations is to require the logger to include the owner as an “additional named insured” on the logger’s policy. The woodland owner may also want to have their own general liability policy for \$2 million or more.

To cover potential costs of road and site restoration, the owner may want to include a contract stipulation that a specified sum be withheld from mill payments for that purpose. Steve suggests that 10—20% may be appropriate.

The bottom line: the woodland owner is where the buck stops; the owner is financially and legally responsible for the harvest operation in most aspects: regulatory, taxation, trespass, neighbor issues, and others.

Harvest System	Timber size	Production	Cost	Topography	Road Access	System Availability	Other
Horse	Small	Low	Low/mod.	Flat	<500'	Few	High imp
ATV	Small	Low	Low/mod.	Flat/mod.	<1000'	Few/mod.	Safety?
Tractor	Small	Low	Low/mod.	Flat/mod.	<1000'	Mod./many	Safety?
Skidder	All sizes	Moderate	Low/mod.	Moderate	<1500'	Many	
Dozer	All sizes	Moderate	Low/mod.	Mod./severe	<1000'	Many	
Harvester	Sm./medium	High	Mod./high	Moderate	>1500	Moderate	Efficient
Shov.log	Sm/med/lg	High	Mod./high	Moderate	<500'	Mod, incr.	Efficient
Cable	Sm/med/lg	Mod./high	Mod./high	Extreme	>1500	Mod, decl.	Low imp
Helicopter	Sm/med/lg	Mod./high	Very high	Any	No limit	Few	

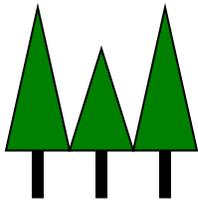
So, thinking of doing a timber harvest on your woodland? Before you get too far in planning it out, think about what your goals and objectives are – why are you harvesting, and what do you want your woodland to look like when you're done? Don't forget that you are making big changes – there will be slash to deal with, possibly some residual tree damage, and there will be other impacts to the site (soil, minor vegetation, etc). Then decide what kind of harvest (thinning, clearcut-regeneration, improvement, salvage) will give you those results.

Now you're ready to get down to the practical aspects of logging: harvest systems and contract loggers. What kind of machinery, and which logger, are the best for you!

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Forest Forum



COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE
OREGON SMALL WOODLANDS
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Potpourri

Congratulations to **Sam Sadtler**, who received an award for Outstanding Master Woodland Manager service at the October 28th WCSWA meeting. Sam received the award from OSU Extension Forester Amy Grotta, who described the many hours of service Sam had provided to the woodland community in Washington County.

Got A Fiskars Lopper? Fiskars has issued a recall of Fiskars® 32-Inch Bypass Lopper Shears (sold only at Home Depot). The lopper handles can break when attempting to cut branches, posing a risk of serious injury and laceration. Consumer Contact: Fiskars toll-free at (855) 544-0151 anytime or visit Fiskars' website at www2.fiskars.com and click on "Product Notifications" for more information.

WCSWA By-law Revision

At our annual banquet on November 22, we will vote on the revision to our By-laws. You may check out the Revised By-laws and Summary of Proposed Changes at wcswa.com

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>
- wcswa.com to view proposed revisions to by-laws