

Forest Forum

Washington County Small Woodlands Association

January, 2015

WCSWA Monthly Meeting – Tuesday, January 27th

Need Help?

Active and successful small woodland owners often need “just a little help from my friends.” Many small woodland owners have found that help of the financial or technical kind from some of the public agencies and non-profit organizations in the local area. Some of those “ friends” will present their programs for small woodland owners at the January meeting of WCSWA on Tuesday, January 27th, at 7:00 p.m. at the North Plains Fire Station on Commercial Street.



Gail Stinnett, County Executive Director for the USDA-Farm Service Agency, will share details about the Tree Assistance Program now available for Christmas tree growers, the Emergency Forest Reforestation, and the Emergency Conservation Program.

Santiago Misquez, District Conservationist for USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service based in Hillsboro, will update us on EQIP funding available to forest owners for activities such as Forest Stand Improvement, Tree and Shrub Establishment, and Weed Control.



Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District

www.swcd.net Local Solutions for Local Needs

Jennifer Nelson, OVE Program Manager for the Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District, will share recent successes in and changes to the streamside restoration program, and ask for input on classes and other assistance the District may provide forest owners.



April Olbrich, Tualatin River Watershed Council Coordinator, will discuss Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board grant funding for watershed projects such as riparian planting and invasive species removal, and other watershed projects of interest to small woodland owners

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

Board of Directors:

Pos. #1: Deb Kapfer, 503-628-6349 kapferd@upwardaccess.com

Pos. #2: Sam Sadtler 503-324-0223 samsncee@gmail.com

Pos. #3: Bonnie Shumaker – 503-324-7825 bshumaker@coho.net

Pos. #4: Scott Hayes 503-568-5999.scotthayes@wildblue.net

Pos. #5: Doug Eddy, 503-628-1468

douglas.eddy@upwardaccess.com

Pos. #6: Karen Graham, 503-647-0310, kgraham@duckswild.com

Legislative Committee Chair:

Scott Hayes, 503-568-5999, scotthayes@wildblue.net

Membership Committee:

Stuart Mulholland, 503-985-3168, Howell Hughes, 503-201-3748

Program Committee

Bill Triest – 503-626-1838; Beth Adams – 503-341-4943, John and Cathy Dummer – 503-244-3812,

Mike Messier, 503-233-2131, mike@troutmountain.com

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

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)

For Sale: Hyster forklift (\$2000), DR Rapid Splitter (\$1300), Stihl chainsaws: 025, MS192TC, MS250, MS270 (\$25 each), DR ½ ton trailer (\$400), DR 1 ton trailer (\$800), DR 30.0 Pro-XL electric start (\$1500), Chicago Electric dual mg welder (\$500), RADOR cutting torch with cart (\$500).

Handley Tree Farm LLC, kinghandley@gmail.com, 503-319-1727

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

Event Calendar

| | | | |
|----------|-------|--|--|
| January | 16-17 | PNW Forestry Leadership Academy – Oregon Garden Resort, Silverton, OR | Questions? Amanda @forestry.org |
| | 26 | Forest Tax Symposium – OSU, 8:30 – 4:30 pm | Register at http://taxsymposium.eventbrite.com |
| | 27 | WCSWA Monthly Meeting, North Plains Fire Station, 7:00 p.m. | Funding and Assistance Opportunities - See page 1 |
| February | 24 | WCSWA Monthly Meeting, North Plains Fire Station, 7:00 p.m. | Mike Cafferata will speak on Scoggins Valley Road fire; Nate Agalzoff and Kevin Nelson will discuss ODF forest stewardship/FPA |
| March | 14 | WCSWA Native Plant Sale, Bales Thriftway, Aloha, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. | WCSWA's 15 th Annual Native Plant Sale – all profits go to scholarships for OSU Forestry students |

The Woodland Beat

In November we participated in a forestry study tour of Chile organized by the OSU Extension Service. The tour included visits to a number of interesting sites including a lumber mill, FSC certified plantations of eucalyptus and radiata pine, a seed farm, export facilities, experimental forest growing Douglas fir, and to small woodland owners properties. We also met up with people that work in the forest industry in Chile and some small woodland owners. Interaction with the Chilean people we met along the way was also a highlight of the tour.

We'd traveled before, but never with a tour group. That turned out to be a fantastic experience. Our travel companions were other small woodland owners, forest industry professionals, extension service educators, or some combination of the three. There were about 20 of us mostly from Oregon but also a few folks from Northern California, Washington, Idaho, and Pennsylvania. It was a great group and we learned a lot from the questions they asked, were inspired by their knowledge of forestry, the forest products industry, ecology and were often uplifted by their sense of humor.

The port facility we visited really brought home the point that Chile is an international player when it comes to forest products. The port facility had sawn lumber that was labeled for export. It had printing in English, Spanish, Arabic and Chinese (at least that's what the latter two looked like). They also export pulp primarily to China.

The forests we saw varied from plantation forests with harvest cycles of just 10 years (imagine being able to plant this year and expect to harvest in 2025) to old growth araucaria. The araucaria, commonly called the monkey puzzle tree here in the U.S., can live for thousands of years. We also became acquainted with other native trees including the nothofagus genus of trees, which has some species that are deciduous and some species that are evergreen.

We visited a small woodland owner who had taken advantage of a government agroforestry program promoting radiata pine as wind breaks in pastures. The trees provide shelter to farm animals and also provide some additional habitat for birds and other wild animals. At another small woodland site the owner was growing fruit trees in a pasture. The trees were spaced to allow the grass/hay to be harvested between the trees. It was interesting to see these examples of agroforestry and it is always cool to see what others are doing on their property, especially on the other side of the planet. It turns out the Chileans are doing the same sorts of things we do and getting the same satisfaction and probably experiencing the same frustration that we do as we manage our woodlands.

We'll share a few pictures and stories from the road at the annual potluck in May if you are interested in learning more about our trip to Chile.

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.

ADVERTISING RATES (PRICE INCLUDES TYPESETTING & AD PREP)

YES! I want to advertise in the WCSWA Forest Forum. Ad size: _____

Enclosed is a check or money order for: 1 issue ____ 4 issues ____ 12 issues ____

Company _____
 Contact _____
 Address _____
 City/State/Zip _____
 Phone _____
 Fax _____

| | 1 issue | 4 issues | 12 issues |
|--------------|------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1/12 page | \$15 | \$30 | \$75 |
| 1/6 page | 25 | 50 | 125 |
| ¼ page | 35 | 70 | 175 |
| 1/3 page | 45 | 90 | 225 |
| ½ page | 65 | 130 | 325 |
| 2/3 page | 86 | 170 | 425 |
| Full page | 125 | 250 | 625 |

Please send this form, ad copy, logos, photos, etc. to:

Dallas Boge, 10735 NW Thornburg Rd, Gales Creek, OR 97117

Thank you for supporting Washington County Small Woodlands Association!



Northwest Forestry Services (503) 684-8168
 FAX (503) 684-9158
 www.nwforestryservices.com

Professional Forest Management Mapping and GIS
 Timber Inventories and Cruising Appraisals

11825 SW Greenburg Road, #2A • Tigard, Oregon 97223-6466

Land Surveying•Planning•Engineering•Water Rights•Forestry



Stuntzner Engineering & Forestry, LLC
 TEL 503-357-5717
 FAX 503-357-5698
 2137 19th Ave.
 Forest Grove, OR 97116

Serving small timberland owners in Oregon since 1968
 Timber Sale Management – Timber Cruising and Appraisal
 Land Use Planning For Rural Parcels



Lofthus Forestry Services

Timber Cruising and Appraisals • Log Marketing • Logging Supervision
 Forest Management
Working for you!

Home: (503) 637-3145 Don Lofthus
 Cell: (503) 201-4590 42704 SE Kleinsmith Rd.
 Fax: (503) 637-6317 Sandy, OR 97055



FSN
 FOREST SEEDLING NETWORK

www.ForestSeedlingNetwork.com

Bob McNitt, Forester
 bob@forestseedlingnetwork.com 1740 Shaff Rd. #306
 503-769-9806 Stayton, OR 97383

Interactive website that connects forest landowners with seedling growers,
 forest management vendors & other technical assistance resources

Tree Talk

by Bonnie Shumaker

I wish you a happy and healthy 2015! 2015 (if you like counting by fives) sounds like a good time to make a 5-year plan. While 5 years may be a long time-span for some endeavors, it is very modest in the life of a forest. It is, however, a good length of time to be sure a seedling is “free to grow,” to eradicate a stand of Himalayan blackberries or do some permanent plots to chart your trees’ growth over time.

Bob, our son Dan and I have been poking around in a five-acre stand that we pruned up when the trees were probably around eight years old. Now they are sixteen, the brush has grown beyond a healthy understory, and our earlier concern about sunscald is alleviated by the shade of the trees that have grown up around it. To us, that means to get off the couch and get some exercise with loppers and saw. Our contract with NRCS for “conifer release” has been completed and this stand was never part of that, but soon it will match the ten foot or so limbing-up and brush control we did for the acres within the contract. I’d like to share something we found out about the brush control we did: We never set our sights on eliminating brush (if you ignore scotch broom and Himalayan blackberries), so we didn’t use chemicals, just loppers and a chain-saw to cut it back. The brush does regrow, but the shade of the now thirty to forty foot tall trees keeps it under control and the deer, elk and other critters feast on the growth that is now lower to the ground. At this point, we are feeling pretty happy with a healthy understory and trees. Note: if you are interested in cost-sharing contracts for your tree farm, be sure to attend the January WCSWA meeting at 7:00pm on January 27 at North Plains Fire Station.

Forest road maintenance is another topic that fits into even less than a five-year plan. When we were walking such roads the other day, Bob commented, “The water-bars are starting to wear down; I should probably dig them deeper.” I reminded him that when he did this a couple of years ago, he kind of “over-did” so that riding in the RTV, on a horse or even walking was akin to long-ago memories of skiing down a slope full of moguls. My take is that the water-bars have worn down to about normal by now, but I’m not the one with the bulldozer, so we’ll see. Our pond is looking good. It is small, about ¼ acre, and over the last few years had become completely choked out by floating pond weed. This native plant is okay in small quantities, but it had formed a dense mat over the entire pond. Our son, Dan, did the research and after trying various methods of control without success, found one that is approved for aquatic settings and seems to be working. It will be nice to have a healthy pond again. Maybe that pair of mallard ducks that visit each spring will find they can actually swim without getting tangled up in pond weed and may construct a nest.

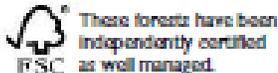
Making permanent plots is another goal. We did a few a couple of years ago, but want to do more. Winter or early spring is a great time to do this when the branches of brush and deciduous trees are bare making it easier to move around and see through the woods. I’ve been bringing this up for a while. I know the NRCS contract kept us busy and now there is this five-acre plot we are working on, but if I can just get Bob to get off the couch without picking up his loppers, perhaps we can cross this off the five-year plan. But then again, a five-year plan, if started in 2015, doesn’t need immediate action.

I’ve only mentioned a few five-year plans that work on our tree farm. ***What is your five-year plan?***



A BALANCED APPROACH

TIMBER MANAGEMENT
▲
ALTERNATIVES TO
CLEARCUTTING
▲
FOREST PLANNING
AND RESTORATION
▲



PORTLAND FORESTERS - 503-222-9772

Scott Ferguson
Barry Sims
Mike Messier

CORVALLIS FORESTERS - 541-435-0383

Mark Miller & Matt Fehrenbacher

Marla Pallin, Business Manager
503-445-0905

or
marla@troutmountain.com

Forest stewardship
for productivity and diversity

FSC. Trademark (c) 1996 Forest Stewardship Council A.C. - C02199/CD-C-000020N

Basic Forestry Course Offered

Registration is now open for this winter's **Basic Woodland Management Short Course**, to be held in St. Helens. This course is offered by the Oregon State University Extension Forester Amy Grotta. The course is an ideal introduction for anyone who is just starting out taking care of their woodland property.

Topics to be covered include:

Getting Started: Assessing your property and your site.
What's Going on in Your Woods? Understanding tree biology and forest ecology.

Taking Care of Your Woods: Tree planting, care for an established forest, weed control.

Getting it Done: Safety, timber sale logistics, and laws and regulations.

When: Monday evenings, Feb. 2, 9, 23, and March 2, 2015. 6:00 – 8:30 pm. Field Session: Saturday, March 7.

Where: Columbia Soil & Water Conservation District office, 35285 Millard Rd., St. Helens

Cost: \$40/individual or \$50/two or more family members

To register: On line at

<https://secure.oregonstate.edu/osuext/register/823>; or call the Columbia County Extension Office: 503-397-3462
Space is limited. Register by January 26th.



LONE CEDAR

Mark Dreyer

Forestry & Logging Consultant

Cell: 503-369-9592

Fax: 503-214-7561

mdreyer51@msn.com



We bring experience with owners that care about their product and customers.

Approximately 10 million seedlings in annual production

1 container site (plugs), 2 bareroot/transplant sites (p+1, 1+1)

Contract growing and spec seedlings for forestry and Christmas tree production

LET US GROW YOUR SEEDLINGS

David Gerdes

Mike Gerdes

inquiries@silvaseed.com

FORESTERS • NURSERYMAN • SEEDSMAN



"Serving Many of the Reforestation Needs of the World From This Location Since 1889"

EPA Reconsiders Biomass As Energy Source

The Environmental Protection Agency signaled November 19th that it may be more open to considering timber byproducts and other biomass as an energy source that fits within the Obama administration's efforts to reduce carbon emissions. In a memo Janet G. McCabe, acting assistant administrator for the Office of Air and Radiation, wrote that the agency is developing a framework to evaluate the carbon dioxide emissions from biomass, with the expectation there will be climate policy benefits to using biomass to generate energy. The memo also opens the door for harvesting timber to burn to generate power, so long as the forests are sustainably managed. "In many cases, the generation of sustainably sourced bioenergy products can be an integral part of regimes that promote conservation and sustainable forest management," the memo states.

Norman Johnson, a professor of forestry at Oregon State University, said the EPA should be applauded for trying to reflect the uniqueness and complexity of forestry in its emissions policy. "They've decided, by sustainably managed, they mean managed for the long run," Johnson said. "They mean that the forest comes back, and the land isn't converted into something besides a healthy, viable forest."

By [Andrew Clevenger](#) The Bend Bulletin, November 20, 2014

The Adventures of Duggy Fir

by Thomas Perkins

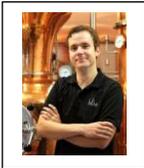


All the trees in the Oregon forest know Sam the Woodcutter well, for he always takes care of them. Lately, Sam has been wearing new clothes, which Harry the Hemlock recently noticed. "I say, what are these fancy new dressings you have on?" Harry asked. Sam turned around "What? Oh, you mean the orange vest, steel-toed shoes, hard hat and goggles. Other humans suggested I wear them. The vest is so other people can see me, the goggles protect my eyes from flying debris, and the steel-toed shoes protect my feet when I cut wood. Everyone should be safe in the forest."

Oregon Juniper Wood - The Secret Ingredient in New Gin From Sweden

OPB | Nov. 17, 2014 6 a.m. | Updated: Nov. 18, 2014

For years, foresters and conservationists have been trying to create new markets for western juniper in Oregon. The species has overrun some parts of the state, and is sucking scarce water from Oregon's high desert. A handful of custom sawmills that are willing to work with the small knotty tree have experimented with juniper fence posts and juniper cabinets and juniper shavings for pet bedding.



Meanwhile, in a tiny town in Sweden not far from the Arctic Circle, master distiller Jon Hillgren wondered what gin would taste like if it were aged in a juniper barrel. Hillgren is the founder of Hernö Gin Distillery, and claims to be the world's northernmost gin maker. Many craft distillers had tried aging gin in oak barrels and old whiskey casks, but Hillgren thought a juniper barrel would be the perfect complement to the juniper berries that give gin its distinctive bite.

To make a traditional Swedish cask, Hillgren needed thick juniper staves with as few knots as possible, to prevent leaks. His distillery is located just a few miles from Sweden's largest sawmills, but he couldn't find juniper wood anywhere in Europe that met his specifications. So he searched Google, and found the ***In The Sticks*** sawmill in Fossil, Oregon.

Kendal Derby, a rangeland ecologist, founded the mill so that juniper cut during range restoration projects wouldn't go to waste. Few of Oregon's larger sawmills are willing to work with it. Hillgren began emailing Derby, and was delighted to find another small artisan business halfway across the world. We haven't met each other, but we're doing business very well. It's all about trust. It's a perfect cooperation," Hillgren says. Derby agrees. "It was fun. When we first started talking about it, I was headed out the door to go elk hunting. Jon promptly wrote back and said 'we go elk hunting in Sweden too,'" he remembers.



Derby custom cut an order of juniper staves for Hillgren. Some of the lumber didn't make the grade, so Derby used the leftovers to make butcher blocks and wooden blanks for flute carvers. In Sweden, Hillgren hired a cooper to build each barrel by hand using traditional techniques, heating the wood to make it easier to bend. Hillgren let his gin age in the barrels for 30 days. He says that gave it a deep, complex flavor and a slight yellow color. He released the first bottles in 2013. This year, the Juniper Cask Gin won a gold medal at the International Wine and Spirits Competition.



Hernö exports gin to eight countries, but it isn't distributing it in the U.S., though it's available on Amazon's website in the United Kingdom. Kendal Derby says he hasn't had a chance to try the finished gin yet. He's more of a beer guy, but he loves what Hillgren has made. "It's a great idea, and now he's winning awards. The wood is a real ingredient for his success and that's pretty exciting to be part of," he says.



Derby primarily mills landscape timber and furniture grade lumber, and struggles to stay in business. The state has invested heavily in juniper, creating an Oregon Solutions project to help develop new markets for it. Nevertheless, Derby says most juniper sawyers go out of business eventually. He says he's trying everything, hoping to hit on a way to make ***In The Sticks*** profitable.



North Plains & Longview

WANTED: Land & Timber, standing timber and pulp logs

Pacific Fibre Products, Inc.

Rob Vance – (360) 355-2817

Paul Hadaller – (360) 431-9661



Timber Marketing

Our timber marketing program is designed to increase competition and insure the highest net return on your timber.



Timber Services

- Logging Supervision
- Timber Cruising
- Reforestation Services
- Management Plans

www.mapforesters.com
503-655-5524

P.O. Box 1200 • Oregon City, OR 97045 • fax 503-824-5527
ken@mapforesters.com

The Ballots Are In!

The election of officers and Board for WCSWA is now completed. A total of 19 ballots were received, with unanimous support for the candidates put forth. The masthead on page 2 of this newsletter lists the officers and Board for 2015.

A couple of comments accompanied the ballots: “We’re so lucky to keep continuity with these great people”, and “Thanks to all”.

The officers and Board appreciate your confidence!

Don’t forget to put this on your calendar!

Washington County Small Woodlands Association Native Plant sale
Saturday March 14, 2015 9-3 at Bales Thriftway, 17675 SW Farmington Rd, Aloha, OR

Huge selection of native trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants at great prices
All proceeds for OSU scholarships
Call Karen Graham 503 647 0310 kgraham@duckswild.com

Oregon Forest Facts

| <u>Forestland</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>Timberland</u> |
|--|--------------|-------------------|
| 30,472,000 | | 24,735,000 |
| Large private landowners (>= 5,000 acres): | | |
| <u>Forestland</u> | | <u>Timberland</u> |
| 5,933,000 | | 5,777,000 |
| Small private landowners (< 5,000 acres) | | |
| <u>Forestland</u> | | <u>Timberland</u> |
| 4,668,000 | | 3,497,000 |
| <u>Total Private Forest</u> | | |
| 10,601,000 | | 9,274,000 |

Oregon acres certified by the three major forest certification systems*

- ATFS - 887,109
- FSC - 566,929
- SFI - 3,228,813
- Total - 4,682,851

*As of autumn 2012

From Oregon Facts and Figures – 2013, published by the Oregon Forest Resource Institute

FORESTLAND FOR SALE in OREGON & WASHINGTON

We market forestland properties in western Oregon and Washington. Check www.WorldForestInvestment.com for the latest properties available under "Forestland for Sale" tab.

If you have a forestland property that you have considered selling; we offer free consultation and will come look at your land. If you are settling an estate, let us do the job of getting you the best price.

With 40 years of experience in forestry work, we can offer solutions from a practical forestry and financial standpoint.



Licensed Broker in Oregon and Washington.
Professional Forester
Mark.Willhite@juno.com 503-695-6419

Member: Society of American Foresters, Oregon Small Woodlands Association, Washington Farm Forestry Association, Forestland Owners Association, American Tree Farm System, and the International Society of Tropical Foresters.

Dead Trees – Life After Death

What is a tree? Boiled down to its basic composition, it is just a narrow layer of living tissue over a dead skeleton of fiber. Living cells only cover a very narrow outer layer of the conical cylinder(s) of wood. Some of that wood acts to move water upward and nutrients down, but most of the wood simply holds the tree in the sky.

But when something goes horribly wrong for the plant, and the living tree dies, all of this already dead tissue that has



<<< Forest fire
burn area

Old fire scarred
snag with Douglas
squirrel cone
cache >>>



been protected by plant functions (such as sap), begins to be fully acted upon by various biological agents, such as insects and fungi to break it down into basic elements that cycle through the ecosystem. This takes time, and fungal action varies by climate and moisture. For example, wood decomposition rates for dry east Cascades forests are very different from those for wet, west side forests.

Dead wood, sometimes LOTS of dead wood, is foundational to forest ecosystems. The roles played by standing and lying dead wood include nutrient cycling, water retention, soil stability and habitat, among other functions. Our understanding of this complex set of ecological processes continues to grow. Dead trees are created in pulses over time, in single or small groups of trees, killed by fungus, wind, competition between trees, or insects. A root rot pocket, for example, can kill an expanding circle of susceptible trees. These small clusters of rotting stems can be a haven for many forest species. Pileated woodpeckers, with their distinctive oval excavations, and the flying squirrels that use their cavities or entrances to hollow trees, can have habitat havens in such places.

A burned sea of black, dead stems causes us to think we must DO something immediately. Not necessarily. Post fire recovery is a complicated process that requires time and care to help the forest heal. Some trees will survive and form the core for the new stand. Dead trees have many important roles and are an integral component of the regenerative process after a fire. They offer some shade to seedlings trying to become established. Roots, although dead, provide soil stability. When the trees fall, (which can occur immediately, or much, much later), down logs help hold the soil in place, provide decaying organic material and habitat for many species such as chipmunks, small birds and snakes. Small mammals are particularly important to forest recovery due to their role in dispersal of colonizing plant seeds and fungal spores that inoculate soils with important microorganisms. Nutrients are released into the system as a result of chemical changes in vegetation and soil. Fire effects can be profound.

Dead trees are critical habitat for many wildlife species, providing nesting and feeding sites for woodpeckers and other cavity dependent species, as perches for song birds, and down logs for ground level habitat. This is true in for stands after fires and in recovered forests where old, burned snags and logs persist for many years.

Salvage logging, if done carefully, can recover lost value from timber crop trees, reduce future fuel loading and enable access to burned areas through roads and skid trails. But it can also damage fragile burned soils and accelerate erosion and weed infestation. Removing dead trees that could help stabilize the soil and provide habitat can sometimes actually inhibit long-term forest health and recovery. Removing dead trees may be necessary for protection of infrastructure such as buildings, or along roads where falling trees could pose safety hazards, or to gather monetary value from trees otherwise destined for harvest. However, dead trees generally do not need to be removed to help the forest recover. Overall, the forest often recovers best when the dead trees remain, especially the larger ones, and nature is allowed to take its course. Dead trees are beautiful and stark reminders of the fury and healing properties of nature. Ponder their grandeur in the wake of fire and death. Leaving them standing as functional landmarks to the power of nature and critical pieces in the puzzle of the forest ecosystem can be a good thing. *(Adapted from an article by Ken Bevis, WA DNR Wildlife Biologist, Small Forest Landowner News, November, 2014)*

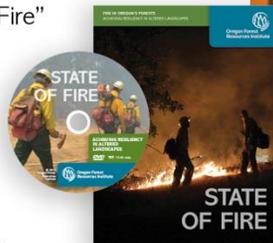
A state of fire

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.

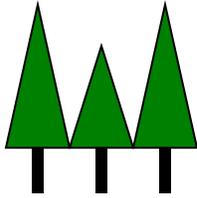
Find them at OregonForests.org



Newsletter Editor
19022 SW Finnigan Hill Road
Hillsboro, OR 97123

**NONPROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
HILLSBORO, OR
PERMIT NO. 54**

Forest Forum



COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE
OREGON SMALL WOODLANDS
ASSOCIATION

Potpourri

New Member Welcome to **Marc Ahrendt** of Forest Grove. We are here to help members achieve their management goals. To get the most out of your membership, come to the meetings and tours that are scheduled throughout the year. (You're always invited to the WCSWA meetings!). 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 2 of this newsletter.

Thoughts for the New Year – by President John Dummer

The article at this link might be a glimpse into the future of the timber industry - and conservation efforts....

<http://abcnews.go.com/Technology/wireStory/conservationists-loggers-team-forest-health-27838922>

Another interesting link that our members might have seen from Tree Farm System....how about a little forest bathing. Break out the Speedo and give it a try. Perhaps not a visual we need to evoke, but some interesting things most of our members probably have already figured out.

<http://www.montereyherald.com/health/20141205/natural-solutions-experience-the-healing-power-of-nature-x2014-go-forest-bathing>

Thanks, Bill!

Bill Triest, a faithful WCSWA Board member for the past 6 years, has retired from the Board. Bill will continue as chair of the Program Committee, however. In the words of one of the Committee members, "Bill is a real leader of the Program Committee. Because of him we've had big league speakers whom I never would have dreamed of asking."

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>