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The UPDATE

Jan. 2007

News and Information for and about Small Woodland Owners

Volume 27 Issue 1

INSIDE

New Vision for Federal Forests/5

Fire Protection Costs Rise/7

Oregon Tree Farm News/12

Incentive Programs/13

ODF Governor's Recommended Budget/14

DATES

Board of Forestry Mtg, March 7, Salem

OSWA Board Mtg, Feb. 2, Salem

Visit **OFRI's website** for a calendar of forestry events/tours:
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Chapter news, local, state, and national issues, grants, marketing tips, educational opportunities, & helpful management techniques.

April Symposium to Spur Action in Preserving Oregon's Family Forestlands

By Ron Cease, CFF Chair

The Oregon Small Woodlands Association (OSWA) and Family Forests of Oregon (FFO) have a proud history of engaging a wide set of stakeholders when it comes to family forestland issues. Over the next few months, that tradition will continue as planning occurs for the April 2007 Family Forestlands Symposium, "**Looking forward II - Oregon Families & their Forestlands: What's at Stake.**" A "Big Tent" campaign has been started to encourage as many folks as possible to attend the symposium, OSWA field tours and OSWA Annual meeting.



Mike Gaudern, executive director of OSWA and FFO, commented, "With this 'Big Tent' campaign, we hope to place the power of affecting change well in the hands of woodland owners. This is a great opportunity to set direction for programs and partnerships that will help woodland owners achieve their objectives."

The day has come for dialogue to lead to action that benefits the people who make day-to-day decisions about Oregon's family forestlands. For that to occur, everyone must step up and help. Many feel that the outcomes from the symposium should be owned and carried forward by the woodland owner community, or public support and funding will continue to be eroded. There is also strong consensus that family forestland owners should rely upon themselves and private enterprise to direct change, as the traditional top-down approach is failing to slow the trend of family forestland conversion. Many forest landowners are failing to engage with forestry support services and special interest groups. This has diluted the ability of family forestland owners to muster support from influential policymakers and community opinion leaders.

The Committee for Family Forestlands (CFF), which advises the Board of Forestry on family forest issues, is coordinating the symposium to help get the word out about the roles that family forests play in Oregon. It's hoped that the event will attract a wide range of groups who will come together to create action we can all support."

SEE Symposium/3

The OSWA Vision

To strive to be an influential and proactive organization which is united in its efforts to represent the diverse objectives of family forestland owners who practice and promote good forest stewardship.

Our Mission Statement

Oregon Small Woodlands Association shall be an effective force in addressing statewide forestry issues that are critical to family forestland owners by:

- Communicating with woodland owners and the public in a timely and concise manner.
- Working with natural resource agencies, organizations, and other forestland owners.
- Advocating the interests of family forestland owners
- Promoting forestland stewardship.
- Sponsoring programs, activities and publications, which inform members and the public about forestland stewardship.



President's Message...

The Power of Man and Nature

by Mike Barnes



I am writing this month's message from the OSWA office because my home on Parrett Mountain doesn't have any power. The Big Blow of December took out our power, and it was still out as of this writing on Dec. 18. With family coming for Christmas, Julie is not a happy camper (literally). We do have a generator and heat with wood, so we are not cold, and I hooked up the big screen TV so I won't miss any bowl games (I do have my limits to living like a true pioneer).

On a more serious note, I have seen a lot of damage as a result of this storm. Many landowners have lost a good amount of trees, and this will force some management decisions that might not be according to the "plan." It seems that we sometimes believe that we should be able to have some degree of control over what happens, and then something like this happens to make us understand how insignificant we really are. I hope my experiences help prompt you to make decisions to address the impacts you might have experienced, too, if you haven't already done so.

All of you will soon be receiving information about the upcoming Symposium to be held on the OSU campus April 27 and 28. The OSWA annual meeting will precede this meeting in Corvallis on April 26. These sessions will provide a valuable opportunity to evaluate current programs and issues and move forward with solutions. It is the "solutions" element that represents the greatest opportunity for OSWA and all family forest owners. However, no solutions will be effective without good leadership from family forest owners. As we move forward as an organization and as family forest owners, we must have effective leadership during the years ahead. As I look around, I see a group of dedicated leaders in both the state and county units. ***What I do not see is a group of new and perhaps younger owners who are motivated to take on the tasks for the future.*** We must get these new and younger members involved and ready to take on leadership responsibilities. So, as you work to improve your forest, also work to bring the next generation into the decision-making process.

I would like to mention one other form of potential leadership. A couple of years ago, OSWA created an endowed scholarship at OSU in the College of Forestry. The fund has grown some since its establishment, but opportunities exist for all to assist in the building of the dollars available. This scholarship is awarded to a student with a connection to family forest ownership. With the site of the annual meeting at OSU this year, I would encourage all individuals and chapters to consider building this endowment. Lisa French at the College of Forestry is the person to contact for further information.

We cannot do much more than prepare and react to the power of nature, but we can influence the power of *man* through good leadership. Until next time...

Best Wishes for a Wonderful New Year!

Symposium, con't.

Looking forward II
**Oregon Families & their Forestlands:
 What's at Stake?**

Wow. Every week we seem to get subtle and not so subtle reminders that our way of life in Oregon is changing. Some changes for the better, some maybe not so desirable.

Forestry in Oregon is no exception. We're starting to hear some pretty heart-wrenching stories about private family forest landowners struggling to find ways to hold onto the land they've cherished for generations.

Like in other parts of the country, the threat of forestland being converted to other uses is very real in Oregon. Maybe it's not quite as severe as what you might find back east, but it HAS begun, especially in the central and southwestern parts of our state. A 2005 report by the USDA Forest Service acknowledges that many private forests are "on the edge" of succumbing to development pressures, for a number of reasons. It notes that, nationwide, over 11 percent of private forests (44 million acres) are likely to be replaced with housing developments over the next 30 years. That's an area about the size of New England!

By now you might be saying to yourself, "What can "I" do to help turn this disturbing trend around in Oregon, or at the very least, slow its progress?"

It won't be easy, but for starters, you can join some of Oregon's best and brightest who value our forests from all walks of life in attending "Oregon's Families and their Forestlands: What's at Stake." Hosted by the Board of Forestry and the Committee for Family Forestlands, it will be held on April 27 & 28, 2007 at Oregon State University in Corvallis.

Opportunities lie ahead to help guide the makeup of Oregon's landscape, but we must start now!

***To view the symposium agenda and register on-line, visit
<http://www.ofri.org/conferences/ffl>***

Or, join those below in becoming a sponsor!

Contact: Mike Gaudern, OSWA Director (503) 588-1813

- Oregon Forest Resources Institute
- Oregon Department of Forestry
- Committee for Family Forestlands
- Family Forests of Oregon
- Oregon Small Woodlands Association
- Defenders of Wildlife
- USDA Forest Service
- Lone Rock Timber

Exhibitor Tables

can also be reserved during the symposium for \$150, but are limited in number, so don't delay! To reserve your space, visit:

<http://www.oswa.org/ExhibitorReg2007.pdf>

Exhibitors include: Forest Seedling Network, D.L. Phipps Forest Nursery, Oregon Forest Resources Institute, OSWA and Family Forest of Oregon.

-SEE OSWA Annual Mtg/4

Resources

www.oswa.org

Your connection to the most recent news and information affecting family forestland owners, including technical assistance, legislation and stories on great stewardship.

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OSWA's 2007 Annual Meeting

Prior to the Family Forestland 2007 Symposium on April 26, OSWA's state office and Benton County Chapter will host the **2007 OSWA Annual Meeting**, "Beyond Sustainability—Enhancing our Woodland Neighborhoods," which will be held at the Officer's Club in Adair, OR. The day's activities will include family forestland field tours in Benton County (see next column) and provide terrific networking opportunities for landowners, agency and industry representatives, policymakers and others. An awards presentation and reception will cap off the day. Watch for further details on OSWA's website (www.oswa.org) and in the March issue of the OSWA Update newsletter. The annual meeting is sure to stimulate dialogue that will continue during the symposium, and public attendance is encouraged for both events.

We hope you, too, will join us as we engage with others to find ways to help conserve Oregon's family forestlands and, perhaps, the view from your own back yard.

Something for everyone – OSWA Annual Meeting Tours

The following forestry tours will visit family forestlands in three different areas of Benton and eastern Lincoln counties. Each tour will have its own unique focus, but they all represent some of the best multi-generational family forest management in the area. Each annual meeting attendee can sign up for one tour. Cost is \$20 per registrant.

Tour #1 – North Benton County

This tour will go to the Wren-Kings Valley area and will focus on balancing multiple management goals and working across property lines with neighbors. One stop will introduce us to the Cardwell Hill Project, an innovative landowner cooperative designed to conserve oak savannah. A highlight here will be a visit with the 2006 State Tree Farmers of the Year, Ken and Karin Faulk. We will also see how local family forestland owners incorporate a variety of wildlife habitat objectives into their timber management practices. Finally, we will visit Beazell Forest, a family-owned forest that was recently donated to the citizens of Benton County. We will look at the challenge of Coast Range uneven-aged

SEE Annual Meeting/5

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CONTINUED FROM 4
Annual Meeting

management at Beazell.

Tour #2 – West Benton/East Lincoln County

This tour to the Burnt Woods–Eddyville area will focus on intensive timber and habitat management on Starker Forests land (business started by T. J. Starker in 1936). The Starker family owns some 68,000 acres in the Coast Range. We will look at how they are wrestling with forest health challenges, particularly Swiss Needle Cast. We will also see what’s new in “rapid reforestation” techniques. Finally, a stop on this tour will focus on riparian management options; what can we do under current/new Forest Practices Act rules to protect and enhance riparian areas beyond simply roping off buffers and walking away?

Tour #3 – South Benton County (the easy walking tour)

This tour will head down to the Bell Fountain area of the county. It will focus on tough site management and inter–generational ownership challenges. On one stop, we will look at the challenges of managing young ponderosa pine (from a native Willamette Valley seed source) and hybrid poplar plantations on low–lying and poorly–drained soils. A second stop will be at the historic Hull–Oakes saw mill. This mill cuts big timber and is the last commercially operated steam–driven saw mill west of the Mississippi River. We will also be visiting the Oakes Family Tree Farm, which has been under multi–generational planning and management for 70 years. Handing over the reins to the “kids” will be a topic of discussion.

committee to help it develop a vision for how federal forestlands can better contribute to Oregon’s environmental, economic and social wellbeing.

The Federal Forestland Advisory Committee’s first meeting was Nov. 29 at the Oregon Department of Forestry in Salem. Committee meetings are open to the public.

Federal forests cover more than 16 million acres in Oregon – about 58 percent of the forest land base. The board strives to consider forests of all ownerships – federal, private, state, tribal and other – in seeking a sustainable flow of environmental, economic and social benefits for Oregonians.

Including federal lands in the planning mix is a priority for Gov. Ted Kulongoski, who has directed the board to serve as the state’s main forum for forest policy issues, and to craft a unified vision describing the role of federal lands in making sustainable contributions to Oregon’s well–being.

When the Governor first asked the Board of Forestry to address the federal land issue, he directed the panel to “create a unified vision of how federal lands should contribute to the sustainability of our state forests. And don’t be reluctant to share that vision with the public – or timid in coming up with proposals to make this vision a reality.”

“Make your vision action–oriented and comprehensive,” he told the Board. “Don’t stop at the first

SEE Vision/6

Forestry Board Seeks a New Vision for Oregon’s Federal Forests

by Dan Postrel, ODF Agency Affairs Director

Federal forests make up a huge part of Oregon’s forest landscape, and have equally large influence over the state’s quality of life. However, they’ve been beset by conflict for more than three decades, and their future is as uncertain as their past has been contentious.

The Oregon Board of Forestry has launched an effort to give Oregonians a greater voice in charting that future. The board has named a broad–based advisory

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Vision

or second steps. Go all the way to the *last* step, including implementation. I believe states must be more actively involved in the implementation of policy on federal lands.”

Forestry board Chair Steve Hobbs, who also chairs the advisory committee, said lawsuits, administrative appeals and national policy and budget decisions have all complicated the management of federal lands. The health of those lands – and their ability to provide sustainable benefits – are now threatened, he said.

“Recreational opportunities, timber harvests, clean water and wildlife habitat are just a few of the benefits those forests provide – and could provide in greater quantities,” Hobbs said.

One significant problem is many federal forests’ increased vulnerability to severe wildfire, a result of past fire suppression and logging practices, insect and disease problems and other factors.

Hobbs acknowledged that various groups have differing views about the management of federal forests. “Our committee’s goal isn’t complete agreement, but consensus on an overall vision, and some ideas about how that vision can be put into practice,” he said.

The work also is consistent with Senate Bill 1072, passed by the 2005 legislature, which encourages state–federal collaboration on federal forest management.

The advisory committee will work with the board over the next two years, with the board tentatively scheduled to adopt a guidance document and send it to the governor in early 2009. The document will state Oregon’s interests in forest policy–making at the national level, and also will be used as input in specific management planning conducted by federal forest units within Oregon.

The committee’s 12 members (next column) represent environmental, industry, local government, tribal and other interests. They were selected from a group of candidates that included recommendations from Oregon’s congressional delegation.

Public comment periods are planned at many steps in the process, including during some advisory committee meetings, during workshops the committee will hold with the board, and when drafts of key documents are released.

Federal Forestland Advisory Committee Members

Allyn Ford
Roseburg Forest
Products

Bill Kluting
Western Council of
Industrial Workers

Chuck Graham
Retired national forest
supervisor

R. Wade Mosby
Collins Companies

Steve Grasty
Harney County Judge

Zane Smith, Jr.
Oregon Fish and
Wildlife Commission

Steve Hobbs (Chair)
Oregon Board of
Forestry

Tim Vredenburg
Coquille Indian
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Landowner Fire Protection Costs Rise

by John Rounds, member of Emergency Fire Cost Committee

Several factors are causing landowner fire protection costs to rise. At the last Emergency Fire Cost Committee meeting, members voted to raise the limited liability cap (for operator caused non-negligent fires) from \$300,000 to \$750,000. Members also voted to increase (across the board) the sources to the fund by 25%. Both actions were unanimous, and both actions will also require legislative action.

If a fire caused by an operation or prescribed burning is determined not to be willful, malicious or negligent, then the landowner/operators liability is said to be "limited" to the cost of every reasonable effort (ERE) and is assessed up to \$300,000 for fire costs. This limit was established in 1983 and based on the cost of extinguishing an operator-caused fire. A current consumer price index (CPI) adjustment would suggest bringing the liability cap to \$592,000, although fire-fighting costs, especially aircraft and crew costs, have escalated far above the CPI index. If you add actual fire claim recoveries, including lengthy and contentious litigation, overall costs to the forest landowner have increased.

The last Legislative Assembly increased revenue to the Emergency Fire Fund. They raised the Emergency Fire Fund cost liability (over budget costs) from \$10,000,000 to \$15,000,000 per year. The fund takes in about \$8,000,000 per year.

The most contentious issue was raising the liability limit. The recommendation to raise the limit was not done lightly. Members of the committee feel a responsibility to all forest landowners who have been increasingly bearing added costs because the liability limit is too low.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO WRITE AN ARTICLE FOR OSWA'S UPDATE?

Contact Mike Gaudern, Director,
with your ideas

(503) 588-1813 or www.oswa.org

Special Resource Site Conflicts with Forest Practices Act to be Addressed

by Mike Cafferata, ODF

Do you have a northern spotted owl, bald eagle, blue heron rookery or wetland on your property? If you do, you probably know about the Forest Practices Act's special resource site rules. In 1974, the Land and Conservation Development Committee passed resource rules requiring counties to provide for protection for certain listed resources. Authority to develop and administer these rules on forestland was assigned to the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) by House Bill 3396 in 1987. This House bill placed full regulatory responsibility with the Board of Forestry, while assuring consideration of other natural resource values.

The Forest Practices Act requires the Board of Forestry to inventory resource sites and, where conflicts exist with forest practices, to determine appropriate levels of protection. There are a number of species that have been listed as threatened or endangered that occur in forest habitats that may be sensitive to forest practices, but have not been

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CONTINUED FROM 7
Special

evaluated by the board. These include the marbled murrelet and the peregrine falcon, which are listed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and/or the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission. Implementing additional protection requirements for species such as the marbled murrelet and the peregrine falcon will be complicated by Ballot Measure 37 claims.

The Board of Forestry directed ODF to address this issue through the forest regulation work plan. ODF has developed a background paper and issue paper that outline the options for addressing special resource sites. The proposed alternatives span the range of possibilities—from removing all state protections for species listed under the Federal Endangered Species Act, so that landowners face only one regulating authority—to increasing state regulations so that landowners that comply with state regulation also meet federal regulations.

The board considered special resource sites at their November 2006 meeting. Options to form review committees were presented, as well as the option to work within the policy direction outlined in the Forestry Program for Oregon (FPFO), without further developing the issue paper alternatives. The board directed the department to further explore the FPFO concept, and evaluate how application of the FPFO to special resource sites could improve the social, economic and environmental values derived from Oregon's forests.

Guiding principles from the Forestry Program for Oregon are now being developed, and when completed, department staff will work with stakeholders to gather ideas about how applying these guiding principles to special resource sites could improve the efficiency of forest practices and the overall maintenance of fish and wildlife resources. Findings will then be reported to the Board.

The Woodland Fish and Wildlife Project

Do you own woodlands? Would you like to manage those woodlands with an eye for wildlife?

The Woodland Fish and Wildlife Project is a cooperative effort between state and federal agencies and universities to provide information on fish and wildlife management to private woodland owners and managers.

Organizations involved in this project have cooperatively produced publications that serve as practical guides to woodland owners.

Available Publications:

Beaver, Muskrat and Nutria on Small Woodlands

Coastal Douglas Fir Forests and Wildlife

Habitat Management for Bats on Small Woodlands

Habitat Management for Turkeys on Small Woodlands

Hawk, Eagle and Osprey Management on Small Woodlands

Is there a place for Fish and Wildlife in your Woodland?

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Riparian Areas: Fish and Wildlife Havens

Trout in Small Woodland Areas

Wetlands As Varied As Our Region

Wildlife in Broadleaf Woodlands of Oregon and Washington

Wildlife on White Oaks Woodlands

Wood Ducks on Small Woodlands

More selections listed at:

<http://www.woodlandfishandwildlife.org/>

Committee for Family Forestlands Update

by Gary Springer, CFF member

The Committee for Family Forestlands (CFF) wrapped up another year of activity at its meeting in Salem on December 4th. It was a busy year for the group and we remain engaged in a wide variety of issues affecting Oregon family forestland owners.

As a reminder, the Committee for Family Forestlands was established by statute in 2000 as a standing committee charged with advising the State Forester and Board of Forestry on all matters relating to family forestlands. Our members are appointed by the Board of Forestry for three year terms.

Issues that the committee discussed on December 4th and that we expect to advise the Board on during 2007 included:

Oregon Plan Revisions: The Department of Forestry and landowners are working on updating the list of voluntary actions for the forestland piece of the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds. A recent agreement between the Department

and the Environmental Protection Agency should make it much easier for landowners to place large wood in fish streams, because the need for an Army Corps of Engineers permit has been eliminated. This represents the removal of a major roadblock to voluntary stream improvement projects.

Landslides and Public Safety: Revisions to the landslides and public safety rules in the Forest Practices Act are likely on the way. These rules were developed following the big winter storms of 1996. They apply to forest management activities on steep landslide prone slopes above houses and highways. One of the major issues that has come to light since the rules were implemented is the failure (in some areas) to implement a "shared responsibility" for human safety. Some counties are still allowing new houses to be built in landslide run out zones. Stay tuned on this one!

Invasive species: The Department of Forestry will develop a work plan for Board of Forestry consideration on combating invasive species in Oregon forestlands. We were told that there may be a proposal for an invasive species "emergency program", similar to the ODF fire program.

Phipps Nursery/Seed Trust: The clock keeps ticking on the state seedling nursery at Elkton. It appears likely that the D.L. Phipps Nursery will be offered for sale sometime in 2007, as the state goes out of the

SEE CFF/10



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CFF

forest seedling growing business. It is anticipated that the many private nurseries around the state will pick up the slack and continue to provide the seedlings needed by family forestland owners. The Phipps Nursery (facility and land) has been appraised at about \$2.2 million. Work continues to make sure that seed collected by the state for the full scope of seed zones and species will be grown by the private sector, to meet landowner needs.

Measure 37 Claims: A December 2 deadline brought a flood of Measure 37 claims into local and state government offices. Some of those claims on private forestland created a corresponding flood of headlines in the Oregonian and other newspapers in the state. It is interesting to note that the vast majority of forestland claims have been to regain development rights lost to land use laws enacted during the current ownership, not over value loss due to forest practices rule changes. No doubt we will see many more headlines about M 37 in the coming year.

Improving State Budget Picture: Some good news here! The state's economy has improved dramatically (not currently reflected in log prices!), and with it the budget forecast for state agencies. We will see what happens during the upcoming legislative session, but the Governor's recommended budget would increase program funding for the Department of Forestry and reverse the downward trend of the last three biennium. Included in that budget proposal are three "riparian specialists" that the CFF has been calling for since the committee was formed in 2000. These specialists would be available to help family forestland owners understand complicated stream protection rules and to help landowners design active management projects for riparian areas.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for the April 27-28 2007 Family Forestlands Symposium that will be hosted by the Committee for Family Forestlands and the Board of Forestry, in Corvallis. This will be an excellent opportunity for you to talk about the forest issues of concern to you...to **your** Committee for Family Forestlands and to the Board of Forestry, whose members will attend. OSWA, at both the state and chapter level, is also heavily involved in planning for the symposium and will hold its annual meeting the day before the event, at Adair Village (just north of Corvallis). I hope to see you all there!

Information about both events will come out in the Update and can be found at the OSWA and Oregon Forest Resources Institute websites.

The Committee for Family Forestlands members would like to hear from you. If you have questions, concerns or suggestions for the committee, please contact the Oregon Department of Forestry, or find us on the web at www.oregon.gov/ODF/BOARD/CFF/cff.shtml.

Issues Corner – Legislative Update

by Kristina McNitt



Through a Looking Glass

Oregon's 74th Legislative Assembly will convene on January 8, 2007. So many things remain the same and yet so many will be different! November elections affected about everything political in Oregon, including leadership and policy direction. I anticipate a session that will require lots of work to educate new leaders and more direct involvement by OSWA members coming to Salem and participating in the process. Additionally, OSWA plans a membership "Day at the Capitol" where members will have the opportunity to discuss issues with the own representatives. Look for a date certain, coming soon.

I also anticipate a session that produces many bill concepts requiring defensive lobbying on issues such as right-to-farm-and-forest statutes, pesticide regulations including PURS, spray applications, and preemption, burning restrictions and scrutiny of the Forest Practices Act, among others. Appointments to the Board of Forestry will be critical, as will continued work to keep fire programs funded. Whether or not more radical policy concepts make it through the legislature is the question - committee assignments recently announced reflect a moderate influence and a pragmatic approach to natural resources that has been well-received.

There's a saying that the more things change, the more they stay the same...following are items of note rotating in the kaleidoscope of change:

Same: Session is constitutionally mandated to begin on the second Monday of each odd-numbered year.
Different: Adjournment date projection has been set for June 30, 2007. Incoming leadership has announced plans to close on June 30 and meet for a limited special session in early 2008 as a "trial run" of annual sessions.

CONTINUED FROM 10
Legislative

Same: 60 House members and 30 Senate members and 1 Governor. Numbers to remember: 31 votes are needed in the House to pass policy issues and 16 in the Senate. 3/5th majorities required to pass any revenue raising proposals.

Different: Leadership control has shifted in the House for a Democrat sweep of both legislative chambers and the executive office. Incoming Speaker Jeff Merkley hails from Portland and is partnered by the new House Majority Leader Dave Hunt. Rep Hunt lives in Milwaukie and in the private sector serves as executive director of a group working to deepen the shipping channel in the Columbia River.

Same: Legislative policy work and all amendments in Oregon are derived from committee work. No changes are adopted on the floor of the House or the Senate. Committee agendas and work plans are driven by each committee chair, who is appointed exclusively by the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate.

Different: Previously, four natural resource-related committees operated in the House. Two have been named for 2007, the Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee, chaired by Rep. Arnie Roblan (Coos Bay) and Energy and the Environment, chaired by Rep. Jackie Dingfelder (Portland). Of note: no land use committee was named in the House. On the Senate side, committees include Environment and Natural Resources, chaired by Sen. Brad Avakain (Beaverton) and the Special Committee on Land Use Fairness, chaired by Sen. Floyd Prozanski (Eugene).

Same: OSWA Government Advisory Committee (GAC) will be meeting each Tuesday morning at 7:00 am at the OSWA offices. Every member is invited and encouraged to participate.

Different: Al Thayer will preside as GAC Chair, following several sessions of dedicated leadership by Ron Larson. Also new, the GAC will include a call-in number for those interested in participating but perhaps live too far away for regular meetings. Please note the number: 800.XXX.XXXX code XXXXXX

Best wishes for a healthy and prosperous New Year. Kristina

**Don't miss the Forests, Carbon & Climate Change Conference
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Oregon Tree Farm News



Dallas and Sharon Boge, Gales Creek,
Washington County

Oregon's 2006 Outstanding Tree Farmers of the Year

by Mike Barsotti, Oregon Tree Farm State Chair

Benton County's Ken and Karin Faulk have been selected Oregon Tree Farm System's 2006 Outstanding Tree Farmers of the Year. The Faulks own two Benton County forested properties: 115 acres south of Monroe and 40 acres northwest of Philomath. They purchased the Monroe tree farm in 1994 and the Philomath property in 2002. Their forest management objectives vary by location, with some areas being managed for timber production and others for wildlife, unique plant species or aesthetics. They have joined over 20 other landowners in their area to develop individual management plans that consider landscape-scale issues.

Chris and Georgie Silbernagel of LaGrande have been selected First Runner-up. Additional family forestland owners recognized for the outstanding stewardship of their lands include:

- Gilbert & Barbara Shibley, Estacada, Clackamas County
- Eugene & Gena Fisher, Elkton, Douglas County
- Charles & Margaret Volz, Springfield, Lane County
- Don and Carol Cree, Mill City, Linn County

Local OSWA chapters facilitate the annual selection of landowners who are great examples of woodland management. Landowner recognition serves two purposes—it honors individuals for their commitment to healthy sustainable forest management; and it provides examples of the benefits of active forest management for the public.

Certification Proves Good for ATFS

Forest Certification continues to gain momentum in the U.S. and internationally. The American Tree Farm System (ATFS) decided in the mid-90s to do whatever it took to become a legitimate certification system. As a result, the decision is proving to be good for the organization and family forest landowners. In addition, not to get involved would have left family forest landowners with only one option for certification – the Forest Stewardship Council's program.

The commitment has required the Tree Farm program to develop management standards based on internationally-accepted criteria and indicators; it has also required additional training for the foresters who volunteer their time to certify tree farms; and it has required a better recordkeeping system. It is impacting landowners by requiring a written management plan that meets the defined standards. ATFS is now guided by strategic plans that provide a long-term vision for the organization and is now in its second five-year plan.

In summary, ATFS has changed for the better. It has increased assurance that the private forests behind Tree Farm signs are truly exemplifying sustainable management. Equally important, the commitment to certification sends a strong message to the public that over 90,000 family forest landowners are stewards of their lands, sustainably managing their forests, and voluntarily providing society a broad array of products and values.

Private Forestland Incentive Programs

The following is a list of federal, state and non-profit agencies and programs that can provide private forest landowners with technical aid or financial assistance through grant programs and tax incentives. Be sure to take advantage of funds available to help you protect fish, wildlife and habitat in Oregon. Private forest landowners are essential partners in efforts to protect the wealth of Oregon's natural resources! Thank you for your efforts!

FORESTS:

Forest Resource Trust – Oregon Department of Forestry

http://egov.oregon.gov/ODF/PRIVATE_FORESTS/cslst.shtml/shtml

Contact: Linda Price (503) 945-7368

Description: Grants less than or equal to cost of project to encourage landowners to establish and maintain healthy forests.

Underproductive Forestland Conversion Tax Credit – Oregon Department of Forestry

http://egov.oregon.gov/ODF/PRIVATE_FORESTS/clist.shtml/shtml

Contact: Steve Vaught (503) 945-7385

Description: An Oregon income tax credit for 50% of reasonable project costs for restoring underproductive forestlands that do not require reforestation under the Oregon Forest Practices Act.

Landowner Assistance/Cooperative Forestry programs – U.S. Forest Service

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/coop/programs/landowner/landowner.htm>

<http://www.fs.fed.us/cooperativeforestry/>

Description: Technical advice and financial assistance to help forestland owners through programs, including tax incentives, conservation easements, and reforestation advice.

WETLANDS/RIPARIAN LANDS:

Ducks Unlimited

<http://www.ducks.org/conservation/marsh.asp>

Contact: (901) 758-3825

Description: Grant up to 50% of total project cost with non-federal or in-kind match for projects that restore and improve management of priority bird habitats, particularly for migratory species.

Riparian Lands Tax Incentive Program – Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

http://www.dfw.state.or.us/lands/tax_overview.html

Contact: (503) 947-6073

Description: Tax incentives to protect, conserve or restore healthy riparian habitat on private lands adjacent to perennial or intermittent streams.

North American Wetlands Conservation Act Grant Program – U.S. Fish and Wildlife

<http://www.fws.gov/birdhabitat/Grants/index.shtm>

Description: Matching grants to organizations and individuals who have developed partnerships to carry out wetlands conservation projects for the benefit of wetlands-associated migratory birds and other wildlife.

Bird Stamp Grants

<http://www.dfw.state.or.us/new/lands/bird-stamp/>

Description: Grants through bird stamp funds to improve habitat

FISHERIES & STREAMS

Fish Restoration and Enhancement Program – Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

<http://www.dfw.state.or.us/ODFWhtml/InfoCntrFish/RnEProgram/R%26EHistory.html>

Contact: (503) 947-6211

Description: Grants to enhance recreational and commercial fishing opportunities, improve angling access and fish habitat, and restore fish production and passage facilities.

Partners for Fish and Wildlife – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

<http://partners.fws.gov>

Description: Technical and financial assistance to private landowners improve habitat for Federal Trust Species, including migratory birds; threatened and endangered species; inter-jurisdictional fish; marine mammals; and other declining species.

Western Oregon Stream Restoration Program – Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

<http://www.dfw.state.or.us/lands/wosrp.html>

Description: Technical support to Watershed Councils and private landowners in western Oregon to implement Oregon Plan measures directing the restoration and enhancement of Oregon's salmonid habitats in the region.

Oregon Water Trust

<http://www.owt.org/>

(503) 226-9055

Description: Collaborative efforts with farmers,

CONTINUED FROM 13
Incentive

ranchers and others who own water rights to enhance in-stream flows, usually through purchase of water rights.

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Besides extending a "Thanks!" to all who have supported OSWA through their dues renewal, those below deserve particular recognition for making additional sustainable contributions to OSWA during 2006.

Alvin Sorseth
Sam & Lois Eddy
Sam Vermilyea
Sandra & John Potter
Joan Bryan
Andrew Bryant, Yamhill Environmental Services, Ltd.
Leo Radford
Dean & Jane Muffett
Denis Macey
Jack Seabold, Forevergreen Forests
Rick Krohn, Western Helicopter Services, Inc.
Paul Kunkel, Jr., Sunset Tree Farms
Carl Anderson
Dick Caldwell, Pine Springs Tree Farm
Judson Parsons, Mountevest Limited Partnership
Sue & Marius Favret
Judson Parsons
Steve & Bettie Woodard
John Shelk, Jr., Ochoco Lumber Co.
Ace & Maggie Carter
Tom & Pat Nygren
Linda Hooks, Misty Hills
Mulholland Brothers
Robert Mahaffy
F. Lee Barclay, Barclay Family LLC

Oregon Department of Forestry 2007-09 Governor's Recommended Budget

The 2007-09 Governor's Recommended Budget (GRB) for the Oregon Department of Forestry is \$266.1 million total funds. This is a 13 percent increase from the 2005-07 Legislatively Adopted Budget. The budget continues all existing agency programs, restores a number of critical reductions made over the past four years, and does not include any new General Fund or Other Fund reductions.

In the Protection from Fire program, the budget includes resources to enable the funding for fire protection activities to maintain pace with expenditure levels required for fire suppression on public and private land. It adds resources to enhance and

improve services in the Smoke Management program as recommended by a two-plus year citizen review committee.

In the Private Forests program, the budget restores field and monitoring resources reduced in the last three biennia and adds resources to assist forest landowners to conduct active management of forested riparian areas and meet riparian protection standards. It adds three positions to conduct necessary effectiveness monitoring of Eastern Oregon water protection rules. It adds two positions to focus on biomass utilization to help attain the state's renewable energy goals resulting in increased independence on non-renewable energy sources while improving ecosystem health.

In the State Forests program, the budget establishes 11 existing limited-duration positions as permanent positions to provide resources necessary to implement the forest management plans adopted by the Oregon Board of Forestry, including reforestation, timber sales, forest recreation and monitoring.

In the Urban Forestry program, the budget adds resources to offset projected declines in federal funds in Urban Forestry, and adds new field forester positions to address growing program delivery needs of community forestry and residential forests.

In the Agency Administration program, the budget provides resources to improve agency business systems through the use of enterprise-wide business planning, process redesign, and technology improvement projects, funded with Certificate of Participation proceeds. The debt service will be paid with standard agency-level General Fund and Other Fund revenues. The budget also provides additional resources to keep the agency's current information technology systems up and running.

The budget also provides funding for three capital construction projects with Certificate of Participation proceeds. The debt service would be paid with General Fund and Other Fund revenues. These projects are the John Day Unit Office relocation, the Sisters Sub-Unit Office relocation, and the State Forester's Office restoration and renovation.

Seedling Catalog Now Available Online

"Sources of Native Forest Nursery Seedlings"
2006-07

http://egov.oregon.gov/ODF_PRIVATE_FORESTS/docs/2006seedlings.pdf

This "Wood" Be for Kids Only...

Because YOU are the future of Oregon's family forests!

Natural Enemies of the Forest --

A California "Talk About Trees" Lesson

Volcanoes

They cause forest fires when burning lava covers forests. Mount St. Helens destroyed forests up to 20 miles from its mouth. The wood destroyed could make a board that reaches to the moon & back and wraps around the earth ten more times.

Winds

Hurricanes are powerful enough to destroy a whole forest. Large trees in overcrowded stands are often uprooted by severe storms because of their size and weak condition. The word "hurricane" comes from the Arawak word "jurakan," meaning a bad and destructive spirit.

Wildfires

Wildfires often get so hot that they bake the soil and destroy all the biota in it. Most wildfires aren't started by lightning, they are started by humans. Controlled burns imitate Mother Nature by preventing the unhealthy effects of overcrowding.

Insects

Bark beetles eat a circle around a tree and prevent nutrients and water from reaching all parts of the tree. Insects can more easily attack and destroy trees that are stressed from overcrowding. Insects do more damage than forest fires and diseases put together.

Disease

A fungus takes nutrients away from the tree's cells. Mistletoe and Dutch elm disease are examples of diseases. Overcrowded trees are stressed and are more likely to be attacked by fungus and other diseases.

Stress

Competition for nutrients and water causes trees to become stressed and more likely to be killed or harmed by diseases, insects, drought and violent acts of nature. Overcrowded trees do not make good homes for most wildlife because their shade prevents the growth of ground plants that animals need.

Special Thanks to OSWA's Advertisers during 2006!

Those below have supported family forestland efforts during 2006 by advertising in OSWA's Update newsletter. They deserve special recognition for their patronage:

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LLC

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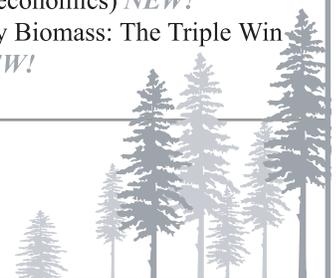
January 19, 2007, 10 am - Noon

OFRI is looking for knowledgeable speakers to teach our neighbors about Oregon's forests. The training session is being held the morning of the SAF Leadership Conference in Hood River. If you would like to attend this training, please call Jordan Benner at 503-673-2951.

Fire in Oregon's Forests
Oregon's Forest Sustainability
Forest Facts **NEW!**
Oregon Forests in the 21st Century
(+ economics) **NEW!**
Woody Biomass: The Triple Win
NEW!



www.oregonforests.org



The UPDATE

The Update is the official publication of the Oregon Small Woodlands Association- 8 issues published during 2006.

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Welcome New OSWA Members!

We encourage you to take full advantage of your local chapter activities and share your experiences with your new friends and neighbors. And, remember to have fun as you protect, manage, use and enhance your family forest resources!

Benton Chapter
Crestmont Farm

Clackamas Chapter
Sister Krista vonBorstel

Columbia Chapter
Larry McLain

Linn Chapter
Wayne & Vita Kuhfahl

Tillamook Chapter
Dave Kiser

Washington Chapter
Gary Carnes
George & Sarah Oh
Art & Tami Ragsdale
Dancil & Sherrie Strickland

Yamhill Chapter
Jim Stonebridge
Robert Vertregt

The Oregon Forest Industry Directory Makes Connections

<http://www.orforestdirectory.com>

SMALL WOODLAND OWNERS WILL FIND: Log buyers that buy large and small diameter logs, non-traditional species, and buyers' preferred diameters and lengths; Niche markets by locating buyers of logs for log homes, utility poles, 'character logs' for furniture, and buyers for non-timber forest products.

SAWMILLS WILL FIND: Suppliers by locating the private woodland owners in the region with logs for sale; Customers interested in buying the type of lumber you produce; Buyers for waste products/downfall, such as sawdust, shavings, bark and low-grade lumber; Service providers for custom lumber drying or machining.

FURNITURE MAKERS & CABINETMAKERS WILL FIND: Suppliers that have the sort of lumber you need; Opportunities for outsourcing or partnerships, such as custom machining, kiln drying and finishing; Buyers for waste products/downfall, such as low-grade lumber or trim ends.

OTHER AUDIENCES: Architects can find firms that provide certified wood products or large timbers; The general public can search for local custom sawyers (for example, for that downed walnut tree), furniture and cabinet makers, boughs for wreaths, etc.

All users welcome to post items they would like to buy or sell in the Classified Ads!