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The WOODLANDER UPDATE

April 2008

News and Information for-and-about Small Woodland Owners

Volume 28 Issue 3

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DATES

Next OSWA Directors Meeting

April 24-26

OSWA Annual Meeting
Florence, Oregon

June 11 (Note Date Change)
Joint Executive Committee and
Governmental Action Committee
Salem Oregon

E NEWS

WWW.OSWA.ORG
for local chapter, state, and
national news and events,
grants, marketing tips, educa-
tional opportunities, & helpful
management techniques.

NEW FEATURE

You can now download The Up-
date on the web at
<http://www.oswa.org/Update.html>

Leadership

OSWA Elections - Time for Thanks and Opportunity to Build Upon Success

By Mike Gaudern

As we approach our 50th anniversary in 2010, we once again see opportunity for volunteers with an interest in the future of family forests and the association to step up to the plate and continue the fine work of the men and women who have served at various times at state level.

John Poppino, chair of the nominating committee has already had three members express an interest to him in running for the Executive Committee positions available this year. (See Leadership page 12.) Ken Faulk of Benton County will run for President, Sonya Chapman and Nancy Hathaway will run for the two Vice-President slots. All three have offered biographies for publication in this month's Update, and we are still accepting candidates until the annual meeting.

Mike Barnes has decided that is time for him to take on the role of President Emeritus, This election will, therefore, be the last for John Poppino who will step down as President Emeritus and his position as OSWA's representative at Oregon Forest Industries Council and Natural Resource Conservation Service OTAC committee. Mike will step into these roles.

I know that I speak for all in the Association when I thank John and his wife Mary for all the countless sacrifices they have made to OSWA and its members over the past decades. It has been a great privilege working with him and seeing where we as a group have come with John on the bridge of the good ship OSWA.

Annual Conference Fills Fast Howdy Neighbor! Membership Drive Begins

As we write this Update, many members and others are signing up for the 2008 OSWA conference with Tree School West and Howdy Neighbor! programs. Exhibit space is already full and classes are going fast.

We are looking forward to the revival of an old OSWA tradition: That of working closely with OSU extension staff to find a sum greater than the individual parts. By having a joint conference, tree school and Howdy Neighbor! event we all gain from working together rather than competing for attention and dollars. On that note, OSWA is focusing a lot of energy in boosting our membership with these landowner inspired, cost effective education outreach programs. (Continued on page 3)

The OSWA Vision

To see privately owned family woodlands are a thriving part of Oregon's landscape in 2050.

Our Mission Statement

To provide opportunity to Family Woodland Owner by:

- Educating and informing the owners of forested tracts and the public regarding forestry and family forestland management issues.
- Providing a medium for the exchange of ideas about family forestland by land owners, public agencies, consultants and timber industry personnel.
- Serving as a forum to make recommendations for investigating and solving problems, and for improving forest management, harvesting, and marketing.
- Disseminating information on the establishment, growth, harvesting and marketing of forest crops produced on family forestlands, and to foster the wise use and protection of forests and encourage better forestry practices.
- Representing the owners of family forestlands to the general public and before legislative bodies and regulatory agencies.
- Complying with ORS Chapter 65 and as authorized by ORS 65.061.



President's Message...

by Mike Barnes

OSWA has been engaged in a number of discussions in the last few weeks that may have long lasting affects on family forest owners. The carbon market continues to be a topic of much discussion and confusion. Mike Gaudern has been involved with a diverse group of industry and environmental interests in an attempt to develop a workable strategy for a carbon market in the northwest forests.



On a broader scale, the Western Climate Initiative process is attempting to develop a broader approach to greenhouse gas reductions and carbon. And, if you listen to Senator Obama, he pledges a cap on greenhouse gasses during his first year in office, if elected.

If one were to look at the weather forecast on this date as I write these words (March 26), it is for snow down to 500 feet and cold temperatures for the next week. Some would say that global warming is cooling off. But other regions are experiencing a different pattern.

Some scientists contend that we need to look at the life cycle analysis of forests and forest products in developing a carbon credit for wood and forests. Other scientists say the benefits are not clear when looking at products and young forests.

With this degree of confusion and lack of scientific agreement, the best strategy is to urge caution in rushing to any law or program that might limit our ability to manage our forests into the future.

It seems like a long time before the state legislature convenes again to take care of the peoples' business, but it will come quickly. We, at OSWA, are in the early stages of developing our list of items which we determine to be of interest and value to family forest owners during the upcoming 2009 session. It may prove to be an interesting session, depending on the majority in the legislature, the economic health of the state budget and the outcome of national elections. We are asking for individuals to step forward and be willing to provide personal contacts to legislators in their areas. We have found these personal contacts make an impression on legislators and can influence the outcome of legislation. We will provide the training and background information to make you more comfortable. So step up and be engaged. You have nothing but your freedom to manage your lands as you have in the past to loose, if you sit idly by and just let things happen.

Now a few closing remarks regarding the annual meeting. All is set, the program, the social events, the Howdy Neighbor! event and the chowder. Now all we need is YOU! So fill out the registration and come to my home town. It will be worth your time and a few dollars. Perhaps the weather will even cooperate and the sun will shine. See you all in sunny Florence for a great annual meeting.

Until next time... Mike

Leadership

As reported last month, we have already mailed every landowner holding 10 to 5000 acres of forestland a copy of the March Woodlander, with membership brochure and "Fire" information, inviting folks to our 2008 Howdy Neighbor! events around the state.

We hope you take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to introduce your friends and neighbors to the association and the joys of woodland ownership. Last year's events proved to be a great recruitment tool, a cost effective way of engaging with new folks, and most importantly, a fun packed educational event for all involved.

NEXT STEPS

We have begun discussions about a joint "convention" event in Southern Oregon in 2009, Eastern Oregon in 2010 and Northwest Oregon in 2011.

This type of cooperation is a win-win for OSWA members and the groups involved. It is cost effective and builds upon a strong network of woodlanders who are helping themselves and others. We are very excited about this approach and want to thank all who have added to the effort.

So for now, here is a list of exhibitors you can visit with in Florence. We thank them and our patrons for their support, we'll see you at the Beach!!!

Forest Seedling Network, J. D. Fulwiler & Co. Insurance, OSU Extension Forestry Program, Pacforest Supply Co., Silvaseed Company, Tanglewood Timber Products representing Logrite tools and Future Forestry Arches, Davidson Industries, Oregon Forest Resources Institute, World Forestry Center, Oregon Small Woodlands, WOWnet, Northwest Farm Credit Services, ODF Private Forest Program, IFA Nurseries, Inc., Forests Today & Forever, Association of Consulting Foresters, Society of American Foresters.

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.

Visit the OSWA web site at www.oswa.org for information about your local chapter. Be sure to click on "Your Local Chapter" for a map link to your own chapter website!

Advertise in the Update!

The Update is sent to over 2,900 OSWA members and friends eight times per year.

Our members grow over one million acres of family forestland in Oregon!

	1 Issue	4 Issues
1/12 page	\$70	\$210
1/6 page	\$90	\$270
1/4 page	\$110	\$330
1/3 page	\$145	\$445
1/2 page	\$170	\$510
2/3 page	\$200	\$600
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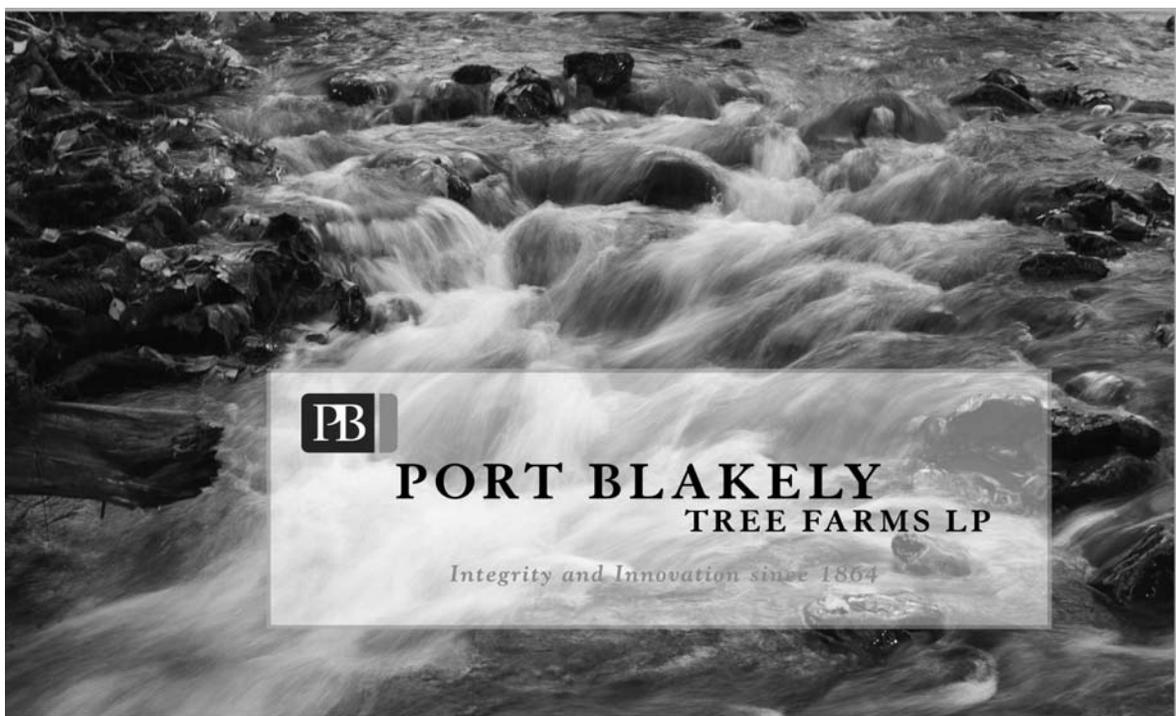
By Mike Gaudern and Kristina McNitt

Believe it or not, it's time to develop legislation for the 2009 session. The OSWA Governmental Action Committee (GAC) is asking YOU to make your voice heard. Have you ever thought, "there ought to be a law to..." Now's the time to fill in the blank. Let us know what's on your mind and maybe the GAC will pick it up, and OSWA will roll it out of the 2009 session. We are developing a grass roots system that has active and engaged members across the state. Based upon suggestions by Mitch Triplett of Clackamas Chapter, we will be rolling our new OSWA "Town Hall" List Serve, where members can discuss issues important to us all. Give it a try at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/oswa/>.

We also have a number of requests for volunteers to sit on committees advising agencies on issues such as Sudden Oak Death and Climate Change and family forests. While staff can do this on your behalf in the short term, it's not how we operate most effectively. OSWA is built upon a volunteer model that has worked successfully because folks not only had ideas, but also got involved and, quite frankly, worked their tails off for the common good of the membership. So if you are interested in continuing this tradition of representing OSWA and yourself, please let President Barnes know. When you are given a charge from Mike on behalf of OSWA, you'll be sent a committee handbook, a set of OSWA policies, and a copy of our strategic plan.

OSWA Government Advisory Committee met on March 20 in Salem to discuss many issues for its quarterly interim meeting. The meeting started with a review of OSWA's bylaws and advocacy strategy; staff laid out some suggested changes to our strategy based upon experience and recent changes to the Oregon State Legislature, including the "Supplemental Session".

The committee reviewed the February Supplemental Session. Issues included; Inheritance Tax, Hybrid Poplar, Board of Forestry Appointments, and the refunding of the "Big Look" committee. The committee also heard an update about the Western Climate Initiative, a regional effort to address climate change (see page 7), Fires Issues, including EFFC Forest Land Protection Fund projected deficit and Sudden Oak Death. A new item, ODFW Commission Rule Change regarding Landowner Preference Tag Program was also discussed, as well as 2008 election activities including ballot measures, candidate elections, and AG-PAC. (Continued Page 14)



Education

Nest Sites for Native Bees

*By Mace Vaughan, Conservation Director
Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation*



Pollinators are a diverse and fascinating group of animals. In addition to their beauty, pollinators provide an important link in our environment by moving pollen between flowers and ensuring the growth of seeds and fruits. The work of pollinators touches our lives every day through the food we eat. Even our seasons are marked by their work: the bloom of springtime meadows, summer berry picking, pumpkins in the fall.

There are 4,000 species of native bees in North America. Together they form the most important group of pollinators. Like all wildlife they are affected by changes in our landscapes, especially the loss of nesting sites. Bees make nests in which they create and provision brood cells for their offspring. In many modern landscapes, a desire for neatness has usually resulted in the removal of bare ground, dead trees, and untidy corners of rough grass—all important nesting sites for bees.

About 30 percent of our native bee species make their nests in old beetle tunnels in snags or similar locations. The female bee builds dividing walls across the tunnel to make a line of brood cells. Where you can, retain snags. Where you can't, make some nesting blocks. (Alternatively, many garden centers and back yard bird shops sell them.)

- **Nesting blocks.** Bee blocks can be made by drilling nesting holes between 3/32" and 3/8" in diameter, at approximate 3/4" centers, into the side of a block of preservative-free lumber. The holes should be smooth inside, and closed at one end. The height of the nest is not critical—8" or more is good—but the depth of the holes is. Holes less than 1/4" diameter should be 3-4" deep. For holes 1/4" or larger, a 5-6" depth is best.
- **Logs and snags.** Get some logs or old stumps and place them in sunny areas. Those with beetle tunnels are ideal. Plant a few upright, like dead trees, to ensure some dead wood habitat stays dry. On the southeast side of each log, drill a range of holes, as out lined above.
- **Stem or tube bundles.** Some plants, like teasel, bamboo, and reeds, have naturally hollow stems. Cut the stems into 6" to 8" lengths. Be careful to cut the stems close to a stem node to create a tube with one end closed. Fifteen to twenty stem pieces tied into a bundle (with the closed ends of the stems together) makes a fine nest. Or, make a wooden frame to hold as many stems as you like. Paper tubes can be used as well. Just make sure they stay dry.

Location of the nesting sites is important. These nests should be placed where they are sheltered from the worst of the weather, with entrance holes facing towards east or southeast, so they get the morning sun. With stem bundles, be sure that the stems are horizontal. The nests can be any height from the ground, but between three and six feet is convenient. Put them on a building, fence, or stake, or place them in a tree. Fix them firmly so they don't shake in the wind.

To learn more about pollinator conservation, you can visit the Xerces Society web site at www.xerces.org, where you will find fact sheets and more detailed guidelines on how to enhance habitat for pollinators. You'll also find information about the Pollinator Conservation Handbook.

Education

World Forestry Center, Forestry & Leadership Youth Summer Camp
 Sunday, June 22 – Saturday, June 28, 2008, Magness Memorial Tree Farm

Become a camp sponsor! Donate to the scholarship fund!, Recruit campers from your community! Scholarships for summer campers have traditionally been donated by individual members of the World Forestry Center, woodland owners, professional and trade associations, local businesses, and interested individuals. We welcome your interest and support of this unique youth outreach program.

For more, contact Rick Zenn, Education Director, World Forestry Center, 4033 SW Canyon Road, Portland, OR 97221, 503-488-2103, rzenn@worldforestry.org .

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Education

Carbon Markets, An Update

By Jim Cathcart, Oregon Department of Forestry

The concept that family forest landowners can get paid for how their forests and their management offset carbon dioxide emissions from non-forest emitters, is getting talk. But, talk is cheap and the current status of carbon offset markets – an offset being a ton of carbon dioxide sequestered or emission avoided - is talk. Yes, carbon is being sold on the European Union market at \$29.05 (US) per ton CO₂; and at \$4.50 per ton CO₂ on the Chicago Climate Exchange (CCX)*. But these markets are like country clubs – you need to be a member to play.

Markets are emerging for forest landowners through the CCX through organizations that aggregate non-CCX member projects that meet the CCX standards for carbon offsets. Family forest landowners in other states are gaining access to the CCX market through aggregating organizations such as the Delta Institute (in Michigan), the National Carbon Offset Coalition (in Montana) and AgraGate (in Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas). California, Georgia and Wisconsin are creating carbon registries – that test the accounting measures for reporting carbon offsets from various activities including forestry – but stop short of becoming a trading platform. In Oregon, The Climate Trust is currently accepting grant proposals for carbon offset projects through its 2008 Open Solicitation Program – but this request is tepid on forestry.

Discussions are underway regarding recognizing forest lands as a source of carbon offsets to energy and possibly other sectors that will have their carbon dioxide emissions capped under the Western Climate Initiative (WCI). This could open markets to Oregon family forest landowners – especially if existing forest landowner organizations step up and serve as an aggregator, representing individual landowners as a group. Final acceptance of forestry – and the types of projects allowed – will be known by August, 2008.

*February 13, 2008 prices as reported by the U.S. Department of Energy.

OSWA Joins Many Others as Signature to Western Climate Initiative Letter

By Mike Gaudern

In a related story to the development of carbon markets, OSWA's executive committee accepted the recommendation of the OSWA Governmental Action Committee, staff and volunteers involved in the WCI "Forestry Offsets" working group and added OSWA's signature to the following letter.

We also offered the following comments to other members of the WCI Forest Offsets working group as we move forward.

Given the recent history of forest land politics in the Pacific Northwest, we are pleased at the range of support for the general concept that landowners should be given credit for maintaining forest land as forest land. We are hopeful to build upon the need to retain economically viable forests in Oregon, and recognizing the additional cultural and ecological benefits they have over other types of offset projects. This is a cornerstone of OSWA's low carbon economy policy. We recognize the words used relating to additional and permanence are vague at this time, and relate to carbon stored, not to management practice or easement requirements and, therefore, do not contradict OSWA policy on developing a low carbon economy by 2050.

The working group and signatures to the letter include, American Forest Resources Council, Boise Cascade, California Forestry Association, Defenders of Wildlife, Ecotrust, Forest Capital Partners, Lone Rock Timber Company, Oregon Association of Loggers - Oregon Forest Industries Council - Oregon Small Woodlands Association - Oregon Woodland Cooperative - Roseburg Forest Products - Mark Copeland - The Collins Company - The Conservation Fund - The Nature Conservancy - The Pacific Forest Trust - Washington Forest Protection Association - Weyerhaeuser Company.

Education and Assistance

From page 7

March 19, 2008

Tim Lesiuk
Chair, Western Climate Initiatives Offsets Subcommittee
PO BOX 9486
Victoria, BC V8W9W6
Canada

Dear Mr. Lesiuk,

Land owners, forest managers, wood products manufacturers, conservation groups and technical experts from Oregon and Washington are meeting regularly with the support of the Oregon Governor's staff and state agency personnel from Oregon and Washington to forge recommendations for the inclusion of the role of forest carbon in the Western Climate Initiative (WCI) cap-and-trade program. We are a diverse stakeholder group representing a wide spectrum of interests.

Forests are an important icon of the west, and are intrinsic to our economies and cultures. They also play a vital role in the earth's carbon cycle and will be affected by global climate change. For these reasons, we strongly recommend that forests be incorporated into the WCI process.

One of the primary purposes of an offsets or credits program is to enable sectors not subject to the cap to contribute to lower-cost carbon reductions than would be the case without offsets or credits while also stimulating innovation in methods of carbon reduction outside the capped sectors. Forest carbon offsets or credits can meet these purposes while providing economic incentives to avoid conversion of forest land, promoting practices that achieve higher levels of carbon sequestration and storage, in addition to enhancing water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, recreation, and other benefits. We believe this program can be developed in an efficient and cost-effective manner, learning the lessons from other efforts in the United States and around the world.

Continued on page 9



Weyerhaeuser is now purchasing timberland throughout Washington and Oregon. For a free evaluation of your timberland, please call Jim Bunker at 503-551-1735.

 Weyerhaeuser

Education

We appreciate the obstacles you face when considering forests as part of the WCI process, and acknowledge the comments regarding forestry and land-use change outlined in the March 3rd Draft Scoping Recommendations paper. But we must note that of all the sectors discussed in the draft paper, only forestry represents a potential carbon sink. After reviewing the WCI program design principles, we are convinced that forest carbon offset or credit projects can deliver real, additional, permanent and verifiable emission reductions, with reliable, cost effective measuring and monitoring with the appropriate accounting for leakage. We pledge to work with you to apply these principles to forestry and make the WCI program a model for other regions and nations.

To assist your efforts, we strongly urge you to formalize a discussion of forests into a working group. Our organizations would be ready to provide the technical resources and political support necessary to make this effort successful.

Thank you, for considering our comments. We look forward to providing you with more detailed comments in May. We are excited about the potential that a forest offsets system can have in addressing this important global issue, while providing financial benefits to buyers and sellers who are committed to carbon management.

Sincerely,

*cc: Honorable Gordon Campbell, Premier, British Columbia
Honorable Christine Gregoire, Governor, Washington
Honorable Ted Kulongoski, Governor, Oregon
Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor, California*



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Education

OSWA has a long and proud tradition of assisting agencies with issues facing Oregon woodlanders. On Wednesday, March 10th, President Mike Barnes added to that tradition by making the statement below to the Board of Forestry on issues family woodlanders face in the aftermath of the December storm on the coast. (Photo shows President Barnes discussing OSWA's statement with others at the Board Of Forestry meeting.)

Dear Members of the Oregon Board of Forestry,

Thank you for the opportunity to allow OSWA to update you on the issues facing family forestlands after the storm, and the actions we have taken to address them.

OSWA identified a need to contact family forest owners regarding the issues they face after the December 2007 storm. OSWA, with help from OSU Extension, conducted and summarized a survey of all Family Woodland Owners who own between 10-5000 acres in Tillamook, Clatsop and Lincoln counties.

We have supplied summaries of our survey data to the Department on at least two occasions. We continue to see a need to review and revise our regulatory approach: One-size-fits-all approaches to regulations often have the unintended consequence of reducing the economic viability of small forestland owners and further drive conversions. These findings are also in line with our members' comments to the Board of Forestry issues scan.

Related to our regulatory approach. It is OSWA policy to support responsible use of economically viable silvicultural tools to maintain/create desired conditions in forests and a landowner/state Department of Forestry partnership in which forest practices are outcome driven.

Many of our regulations are driven by state and federal laws (ESA, FPA, etc.) and provide landowners little incentive for doing the right thing in times of market down turns and emergency. The need to develop regulatory policy based upon holistic and sound science is a must if we are to retain our family forestlands. During time of emergency combined with very low market conditions meeting the full extent of the Forest Practices Act may prove to be difficult for small landowners. Reforestation requirements and riparian area management are of particular concern.

Related to cost effective delivery systems for landowner and neighbor education, we would like to re-emphasize our ongoing commitments to work with the department on educational issues facing family forestlands and their neighbors. We spent considerable resources in December posting storm related items to our website, including ODF links. We would like to thank department staff for their contributions to our December and January Update.

We have, at our own cost, mailed each respondent who requested more information, an illustrated guide of the Forest Practices Act and have scheduled an additional Howdy Neighbor! Full Spectrum Forestry Tour for the Astoria region in July 2008. OSWA has raised funds to allow us to mail Howdy Neighbor! invitations, a copy of our March Update and the new Wildfire Am I at Risk? leaflet to all woodland owners in the state, later this month.

We have also joined forces with our sister organization in Washington to promote to our members the 2008 Family Forest Field Day that this year will be hosted close to the mouth of the Columbia River in late August.

OSWA suggest that, before adding any new policy work to its numerous work plans, the Board and Department staff should strengthen its work with partners such as OSWA to stabilize budgets for stewardship positions in the field and new cost effective delivery systems for landowner and neighbor education .

The Board should consider additional, innovative ways of meeting family forestland owners' needs for cost-effective, science-based means of meeting and influencing regulatory requirements, and developing land management plans that lead to desired action. This should include creative thinking about a range of possibilities, including working with partners to provide information to a large group of volunteers, who could then work directly with landowners.

Sincerely, Mike Barnes, President





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Bob McNitt
bob@forestseedlingnetwork.com
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Leadership

OSWA Election Candidates' Statements

Ken Faulk (Presidential Nominee)

I have been a member of OSWA for 25 years. I have volunteered and served as Lane County Chapter president and OSWA board member. I held the position of second vice-president on the OSWA executive board and for the last eight years have served on the OSWA governmental advisory committee.

The experience I brought to these positions includes 20 years as a rural volunteer firefighter, officer and fire chief, five years as a self-employed logger and consulting forester, ten years as a forest practices and service forester for ODF and ten years as a private industrial forester. As a forest landowner, I believe very strongly in the mission and goals of OSWA. I have been asked to run for the office of president of OSWA and am honored and pleased to do so.

Sonya Chapman (1st Vice Presidential Nominee)

As well as being a member of our local chapter level for a number of years, I have volunteered and run our Awesome OSWA store for the past two years. You may have seen me around the state at various events. I'm enjoying meeting so many of you and helping the association.

I would like to stand as 1st Vice President and welcome some competition. My qualifications are a deep and abiding love of our forests and what the association stands for as well as being a fellow forest landowner. I have spent years going to tree school, basic forestry classes, tree farm tours and any thing else I can find associated with forests. I've even set a few chokers myself and have a good understanding of the issues faced by the small woodland owner.

My primary focus is increasing our membership in the association and increasing the number of volunteers. The strength of numbers can not be denied. We need a good pool of volunteer talent to speak on our behalf, give direction to state agencies, and to help with work and I for one am ready to step forward on all three fronts.

Nancy Hathaway (2nd Vice Presidential Nominee)

I am the current OSWA Executive Committee and Directors' Secretary, and would like to continue in this role. I've been a member of the Benton County Chapter for almost three decades. I've held almost every position on our local board, serving six years as president. I became more active after I retired from my 30 year career in education. In 1999 I received Master Woodland Manager training from OSU Extension staff.

Currently, I am managing eleven properties in five counties for my mother, myself, and my son. I'm a city girl who accompanied her dad to the woods. I will confess I was a reluctant tree farmer initially, but after completing an indoor career, I found it a refreshing change being outside and working with charges who didn't talk back.

A huge plus for me is that I am privileged to work with other tree farmers and foresters as I'm engaged in a lifelong learning situation. This was my father's goal when he first encouraged me to join OSWA. As the old joke goes: the farmer entered his mule in the Kentucky Derby with no chance of winning, nevertheless he knew the association with thoroughbreds would do the mule good.

Although most of us would rather work on our property, there comes a time when we need to step up and work as a unit to meet our common goals. As the political and social climate changes, we need to move together for win-win solutions. I see OSWA as moving forward to become a political force to be acknowledged in the legislature and the public eye.



MAILBAG

Letter to the Editor

Dear Mike and Friends in OSWA,

Sorry to have put off my membership dues but I was uncertain about renewal. Under present conditions I have decided the time has come to drop out. I am 86 years old and simply short of energy to continue. I have sold the two main tracks of timberland to buyers who will keep them as timberland. Have only the home place where I live and only about ten acres of the forty can be called timberland; and certainly not the best. I can "play" here for the balance of my time and stay close to my dominant natural interest.

I believe in what you are doing in OSWA and hope you can keep it close to natural to still be the real thing.

Sincerely Earl F Lillard
Pleasant Hill, Oregon

Dear Earl,

On behalf of all your friends at OSWA, I'd like to thank you for your letter and to pass on a message of thanks for all your support over the past decades. All at OSWA understand your situation and wish you the best of luck as you play on your ten acres for the balance of your time.

I hope that you can find time to join us once in a while at local events, such as our Howdy Neighbor! tours. You'll be more than welcome.

Cheers, Mike

The Update accepts letters to the editor and opinions from members and others on topics reflecting our interests. Such letters represent the voice of the writer(s) and not necessarily that of OSWA, the Board of Directors or officers. Letters should be no longer than 300 words and may be edited for grammar and length. All contributions should be signed legibly with address and telephone number. Mail to OSWA, 1775 32nd Place NE, Suite C, Salem, OR 97301.

Up to two pages of each issue may be dedicated to letters and opinion pieces. OSWA reserves the right to reject any contributions deemed objectionable, harmful or derogatory.

OSWA / Family Forests of Oregon 2008 Patrons

Platinum: Davidson Industries, Oregon Forest Resources Institute

Gold: Stimson Lumber Co, Port Blakely Tree Farms

Silver: Starker Forests, Edmund Hayes Jr., Marion and Polk SWA Chapter, Lone Rock Timber, Oregon Forest Industries Council

Bronze: Coast Range Conifers, JD Fulwiler Insurance, SafeCo Insurance, IFA Nurseries

Thank you patrons! To become a patron, please visit http://www.oswa.org/OSWA-FFO_Patron_letter.pdf, or call Mike Gaudern at the State Office.

Advocacy

Staff asked for issues that we need to discuss further. Members suggested the following: Climate change and carbon markets, inheritance tax, ODF Private Forests Program, in an open forum. Envisioning PFP in a perfect world, related urban "forestry" issues, programs, and who should oversee them.

Issues on the "Radar" included: Department of Revenue tax forms, the LNG pipeline, NRCS programs, building permits vis-à-vis farm land versus forest land.

So Looking Forward...

Our next GAC meeting, scheduled for June 13th, will be combined with our Executive Committee meeting where we will discuss OSWA legislation for 2009. In keeping with the tradition of OSWA's GAC, all OSWA members are invited and encouraged to participate. All meetings are open meetings. The GAC relies on a diverse spectrum of interests within the family forestlands community to develop and make recommendations for consideration by the OSWA Board. The success of the GAC relies on the strength of vigorous participation by our grass roots membership. Conference call service is available. Free to members.

Call in number (800) 861-4084 Participation code 1036304.

Estate Tax Changes Cost Landowners – If They Are Lucky

By Kristina McNitt

At the close of the 2007 Legislature just eight months ago, lawmakers included tax relief for farm, forest and commercial fishing properties in an omnibus tax bill. The idea was to provide a pathway to pass up to \$7.5 million of natural resources property to the next generation without, as the saying goes, killing the goose that lays the golden egg by developing your resource land, prematurely harvesting your trees, selling the combine - the list goes on.

Along with implementation of the new law came legitimate questions among the tax planning and preparer community and the Department of Revenue. Lawmakers are now spending time fixing these provisions in the midst of Oregon's fast-track special session. The trick in the fix, though, is a significant departure from current law. HB 3618 increases taxes on almost all farm, forest and commercial fishing estates, legislates a statutory bias towards larger estates, out-right excludes smaller estates, and repeals indexing provisions on the initial value of \$7.5 million.

If you are a small farmer or a forest landowner, your goose is plated up for dinner.

Unlike current law, the rewrite now requires you to prove that 50% of the value of your adjusted gross estate is comprised of natural resource properties. No sort of qualification percentage was contemplated under any scenario in the original bill. This is particularly onerous on smaller forest parcels that typically do not include a dwelling or equipment that could potentially be included towards the 50% criteria. Further, timber and timberland in Central Oregon has such a low value for its resource purpose that the 50% threshold is punitive. These are the very lands at risk of conversion, yet excluded from the program.

(Continued next page)



Advocacy

If your estate does pass the 50% threshold, your estate will receive less than a dollar-for-dollar credit on taxes paid. A progressive tax table calculates a credit that increases as the estate increases in size. For all estates under \$7.5 million in value, your tax credit will be less under the rewrite than current law. Part of the problem is the tax credit table is not integrated with the rest of the estate, and relief is calculated at the bottom of the table rather than the top. The rates range from 0.8% to 13.6%. Depending on the value of your other ordinary assets, this adds up.

- Example A: if a decedent has \$2 million of natural resource property and \$1 million in other assets, they would owe no tax under current law. Under HB 3618, they would owe \$82,400 for a tax increase of \$82,400.
- Example B: If a decedent has \$3 million of NR property and \$2 million in other assets, they would owe \$99,600 of tax under the current law. Under HB 3618, they would owe \$209,600, for a tax increase of \$110,000.

Finally, the indexing provisions of current law that apply to the \$7.5 million have been repealed. Despite the fact that the indexing provisions do not “cost” the state in the short term, this protection against inflation for natural resource properties has been deleted. As a natural resource community, we all know the effect of indexing wages for our workers. At the cost of another fowl analogy, what’s good for the goose should be good for the gander.

If you asked family forest landowners why they plant trees they are likely never to see harvested in their own lifetimes, answers would speak to family legacy, sustainability, fish and wildlife habitat, keeping forested vistas – the answers would encompass a broad set of values. There is little question that family forests, with their diverse mix of ownerships, management styles and wildlife habitat contribute to the diversity of our state’s landscape and economy. The next question should be whether or not these families will be continuing into the next generation. The challenges are significant, and HB 3618 should go a lot further in helping them.

Committee for Family Forestlands Report

By Gary Springer

Established by the Oregon Legislature, at the request of the Board of Forestry, the Committee for Family Forestlands (CFF) was formed in 2000 to give advice to the Board and the State Forester on all issues of relevance to Oregon’s family forestland owners. I represent northwest Oregon, as one of the four landowners on the committee. The committee includes environmental and forest industry representatives and a “citizen-at-large” member. These are the seven voting members of the CFF. Non-voting ex-officio members include representatives from the Oregon Forest Resources Institute, OSU Extension, Associated Oregon Loggers and the Department of Forestry.

We have had a fair amount of turnover on the committee in the past couple of months. Our newly appointed citizen-at-large and chair is Dr. Craig Shinn, from Portland State University. Craig has a lengthy background in both public policy and forestry. Our newest environmental community representative (and fellow forest manager) is Sarah Deumling, from Rickreall. Our two newest ex-officio members are Brad Withrow-Robinson and Rex Storm. Brad is the Extension Forester for Marion, Polk and Yamhill counties, and Rex is the Forest Policy Manager for Associated Oregon Loggers.

The committee is currently working on a number of issues raised during the Family Forestland Symposium held last year at OSU. We have also been providing testimony, commentary, letters and other input on diverse family forestland topics to the Board and Department of Forestry, as well as to legislators, the Federal Forestlands Advisory Committee and others. Too much to go into detail within the space I have here, but stay tuned for future Update articles!

You are welcome to attend the CFF meetings and we are always looking for landowner input and future committee members. We meet at the ODF headquarters in Salem and you can call (503) 945-7472 for meeting schedules, agendas, or just more information. Also visit the committee at our website by typing “Oregon Department of Forestry Committee for Family Forestlands” in your web browser. The website has information about the CFF charter, what we have been up to, and backgrounds and contacts for all of our members.

2008 National Tree Farmer Convention
October 16-18, 2008
Portland, Oregon



SILENT AUCTION

The 2008 National Tree Farmer Convention will feature a Silent Auction. Proceeds from the Auction will be divided between Washington and Oregon to support their Tree Farm Program.

WHERE TALL TREES GROW

Donations are needed! We ask that you please respond before Friday, October 3, 2008. The

donor is acknowledged on the bid sheet displayed at the silent auction. Donations are tax deductible. Items should be valued at \$25.00 or above, and easily transported and/or shipped.

Some examples of items from previous years include antiques; quilted wall hangings; hunt/fishing excursions; numbered & signed prints; and handcrafted items (child's sled, chairs, bird houses etc).

It is important that we know about donated items before the Convention. You can bring the item with you or mail it, but please help us by letting us know your intentions to donate in advance.

Items may be shipped to the addresses below or mailed to: Sherry Fox PO Box 311, Ethel, WA. 98542

Washington
Sherry Fox
462 Tucker Road
Toledo, WA 98591

Oregon
OSU Extension
200 Warner-Milne
Oregon City, OR. 97045

Please send this form to Sherry Fox at the PO Box 311 Ethel, WA. 98542 or email: tstmp@tds.net.

Solicitors Name and Phone Number _____

Describe item: _____

Made By: _____

Approximate value \$ _____ Donated by: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

____ Person donating will bring the item directly to the Convention in Portland.

____ Person donating will mail the item in advance.

____ The Solicitor will deliver or ship the item to the above address.

Northwest Woodland Owners Council Update

By Art Harwood (CA), Ilene Waldorf (OR), Steve Stinson (WA), Arleen Pence (ID), and Mike Gaudern (OR), on behalf of NWOC Directors

For many years OSWA and its state partners in Washington, California, Idaho and Montana have joined forces to provide members of each association cost effective education via Northwest Woodlands and National Advocacy via Northwest Woodland Owners Council (NWOC) programs.

Many changes have occurred since we formed both groups including the habits of volunteers, the way in which we as a state association operate with help from professional staff, and the issues that face us.

Yet some things remain constant. One is the power of a real grass roots membership to call on when an issue affects us all.

A second is the need for us to represent ourselves from the ground up. With all due respect to many national organizations that claim to speak for us all, the only way we feel that we can be effective campaigners for our issues is to have a cost effective bottom up, volunteer membership-driven program. OSWA for one is seeing its membership grow as they build their advocacy program upon this philosophy along with their educational efforts. OSWA will soon be launching a new "Town Hall" List Serve where members can discuss issues important to us all. They have offered the use of this tool for us to keep each other informed of our issues and experiences.

We are committed to monitoring that tool and national events and programs as effectively as we can. As we enter a new phase of local, regional and national politics, we will continue to monitor the issues you as woodland owners face and to try and influence the nationally funded "Farm Bill" programs that we work with, such as EQIP and Forestry Assistance program. When a joint issue of concern appears on the "town hall" site and fits with the policies of the associations we will develop a strategy for addressing that issue.

The Directors see a need for an effective voice and have first hand experience at the difficulty in financing such an effort. We hope for a day when the public and government backs up their opinion of a desire to see woodlands on the landscape with dollars and effective programs to help us woodlanders survive. Until then, we are asking for your support this year to help fund our monitoring activities. This is based upon the final constant we see, a generosity of woodland owners to invest in their and the public future.



If you would like to make a donation please continue to mail contributions for NWOC to P.O. Box 214-Molalla, OR, 97038.

YES! I want to help The Northwest Woodland Owners Council with a donation

Financial Support

\$5000 \$1000 \$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 Other \$_____

Leadership and In-kind support

I would be willing to serve on the Board of Directors
Sign me up to the NWOC list serve (Email address needed _____)
Offer In-Kind support such as computers and IT back up, secretarial and printing services.
Please specify _____

Contact Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone/Fax _____

Thank you for your generous support of NWOC

The UPDATE

The Woodlander Update is the official publication of the Oregon Small Woodlands Association-

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The UPDATE

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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!

Feb. 11 - March 21

**Special Congratulations
to Columbia County on an
outstanding effort at recruiting**

this month-

Tom Alexander

Paul Ater

Charles Bickford

Cadenza, Inc.

Joe Cernac

Mark Cross

Bart Grabhorn

Nate Holm

Dean Johnson

Tony and Julie Keim

Jaime Meadows

Rick Mock

Kori Olson

Jim Reeds

Darryl and Shawna Sykes

Thomas Weber

Steve Wilson

Clackamas

Ingle Tree Farm

Douglas

James Langdon

Lane

Forests Today & Forever

Lincoln

Burgundy Featherkile

Marion-Polk

Dennis Brown

Washington

Bill Zander

Yamhill

Shelley Olson

Forest Dan and Friends say Howdy, Neighbor!

Do you have a question about the wonderful forests of Oregon just outside your doorstep?

Then come to a ...

Full Spectrum Forestry Field Tour



Open to the Public, bring your Family and Neighbors

Free and Fun for the entire family!!!

These ground-breaking events are scheduled from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at family forests in Florence (Saturday April 26th), Medford (Saturday May 17th), Portland (Saturday June 7th), Astoria (Saturday July 26th), Monroe (Saturday September 6th), and Prineville (Saturday September 27th).

Each tour will start with an interactive question and answer session about Full Spectrum Forestry, hosted by Forest Dan! Every aspect of forestland ownership will be touched upon, including best practices in planting, wildlife management, streams and water protection, with references to further information, as well as the combined knowledge of helpful volunteers to help guide you on your quest.

So if you have any interest in supporting family forests; where to find out something about forests, or want to get out in the fresh air and enjoy the family forests, these are events for you!!! Come join us for a blast of information, experiences and vision, for the wonderful family forests of Oregon.

To help us answer your questions please fill out the registration page and return form to the OSWA state office, or email Mike Gaudern at oswaed@oswa.org or call 503 588 1813. Please state your contact details, issues you wish to discuss, tour/s you wish to attend and number of attendees at each.

Hosted By: Forest Dan and Volunteers and Staff of Oregon Small Woodlands Association.

Supported by: Davidson Industries, Port Blakely Tree Farms, Stimson Lumber Managed Forest Program, Family Forests of Oregon, Oregon Forest Resources Institute, The World Forestry Center.

2008 Full Spectrum Tours Registration Form

Howdy Forest Dan and Friends,

I/ We would like to find out more about

We are also interested in? Pick a/or many subject

These Wonderful Forests of Oregon

- Understanding Forest Species and Succession
- Education Resources, Public and Private
- Full Vigor Forestry and Forestry, as if the Future Mattered

Because It's the Right Thing to Do

- The Oregon Forest Practices Act, understanding resource protection
- Tree planting and seedling selection
- Fire Prevention
- Wildlife, Water/Fish habitat
- Noxious weeds
- Marketing all products forest provide
- Logging safety

Passing on the Passion to Others

- Promoting Family Forest to the public
- Planning for the next generation
- Getting the Family and Friends involved

I / We want to register for Full Spectrum Forestry Field Tour (please circle)

Saturday April 26th	Florence	Saturday May 17th	Medford
Saturday June 7th	Portland	Saturday July 26th	Astoria
Saturday September 6th	Monroe	Saturday September 27th	Prineville

Contact _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone/Fax _____

Email _____

(Please add us to the O.S.W.A. Woodlander list serve.)

Mail form to: O.S.W.A. Tours, 1775 - 32nd Place NE, Suite C, Salem OR 97301