



Oregon

S A F ociety of American Foresters



Challenges and Lessons in Working with State Legislators



Paul Adams, Chair
OSAF Policy & Legislation Committee

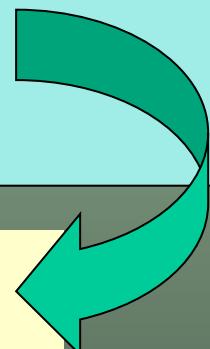


About Oregon SAF

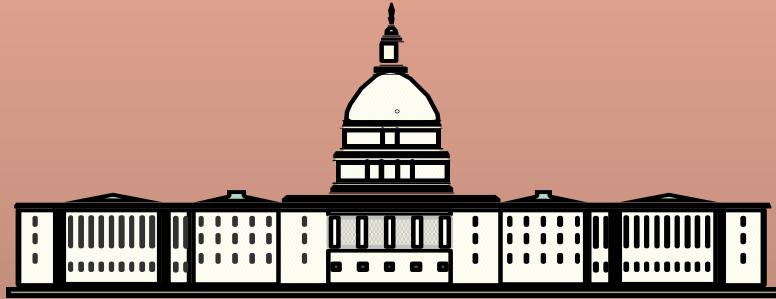


- Over 900 members, 12 local chapters
- Exec. Committee: 40 members, 13 “committees”
- Policy Committee: 14 members
 - 4 federal (2 retired), 2 academia, 1 NGO
 - 4 private company, 3 industry associations

*Significant continuity & experience,
with chair & most members serving
10+ years on the committee*



What do Members of Congress pay attention to?



Survey of 100 Congressional offices
(Burson-Marsteller 1992)

- Direct Contacts**
- News Media**
- Reports, etc.**

1. Spontaneous mail
2. Telephone calls
3. News Stories
4. Office visits
5. Editorials
6. Reports
7. Letters to the editor
8. Orchestrated mail
9. Polls
10. Issue ads

Major Actions: Oregon State Legislature

- ✓ **packets with info & positions sent to 90 legislators**
- ✓ **Capitol events: legislator meetings, OSAF booths**

Oregon Chapter, Society of American Foresters

March 13, 2009



Dear Senator Doe:

With 28 million acres of public and private forest lands in the state, Oregonians don't have to look far to find forest resource issues that are important to both our environment and our economy. Not surprisingly, questions and concerns about the condition, benefits and management of Oregon's forests arise during every legislative session. The Oregon Society of American Foresters (OSAF) can help you and your fellow legislators understand and address these forest issues with our professional perspective.

OSAF has about 1,000 members and includes forestry professionals involved with on-the-ground management, research, education, and administration related to forest resources. Our members work for federal, state and local governments; for universities; for small and large landowners; and for small local businesses and large...



A Professional View of Forestry Issues in Oregon

Position Statements
of the
Oregon Society of
American Foresters



Oregon SAF Position Statements



- Why bother?

- ✓ **To articulate SAF views on key issues**
- ✓ To foster member dialogue & unity
- ✓ National position not available or doesn't fit
- ✓ To give state & local voice/ownership in views
- ✓ **To create communication/educ. tool**

A Professional View of Forestry Issues in Oregon

Position Statements
of the

Oregon Society of American Foresters





Active Positions - OSAF



	<u>Expires</u>
• Commercial Timber Harvest on Public Lands in Oregon	Feb 2012
• Managing Mature & Old-Growth Forests	Oct 2010
• Riparian Forest Management & Fish	Apr 2010
• Salvage harvesting	May 2013
• Using Pesticides on Forest Lands	May 2013
• Clearcutting	Aug 2013
• Active management to achieve & maintain healthy forests	Oct 2013
• Landslides on Forest Land	Jan 2014
• Thinning on Public Lands in Oregon	Aug 2014



Developing & revising such positions have been core policy activities for OSAF for past 10+ years.



Position Prompted by Policy Proposals



Thinning on Public Lands in Oregon

A Position of the Oregon Society of American Foresters

We support the use of thinning as a management tool on public lands in forests of all ages because it can effectively: reduce tree stress, increase forest health and vigor, reduce hazardous fuels, create unique forest structures that enhance biodiversity and wildlife and fish habitat, and provide useful products and public revenues. **Research and management experience do not support the use of inflexible, arbitrarily prescriptive restrictions on thinning, such as fixed age or diameter limits.** With a strong foundation of ecosystem science and ongoing observations of tree competition and other changing conditions, professional foresters and other specialists can prescribe thinning strategies that best achieve diverse, long-term objectives.

Adopted by the OSAF Executive Committee on August 13, 2009



Major Actions: Oregon State Legislature (cont.)

- ✓ **Tracking of forestry-related bills**
- ✓ **Written input & oral testimony**



Comments on Selected Oregon Legislation Related to Forestry Issues¹

By the Oregon Society of American Foresters

SB 345 – Directs the State Board of Forestry to establish permanent conservation reserves on certain state forest lands in Tillamook & Clatsop Counties. **OSAF comments:**

- *The bill contains provisions very similar to Measure 34, which was soundly defeated by Oregon voters in November 2004*
- *The bill second-guesses and would override detailed management plans developed by forest resource professionals in a public process that carefully considered broad values and interests*
- *The bill would inappropriately override the leadership vested by law in the Oregon Board of Forestry*

Conforming with SAF's Policy Guidelines and Code of Ethics

¹OSAF has not adopted formal positions on these bills but, as a service to Oregonians, the OSAF Executive & Policy Committees have compiled these comments to provide a professional forestry perspective. For further information about OSAF's views on forestry issues, please visit www.forestry.org or call 503-224-8046.

May 6, 2009

Natural Resources Subcommittee
Joint Ways & Means Committee
Oregon State Legislature

Dear Co-chairs Walker & Jenson & Subcommittee members:

...Although the OSAF has not taken a formal position on the Oregon Dept. of Forestry (ODF) budget for 2009-2011, my comments today are offered in my role as OSAF Policy Chair & to provide a professional perspective on this issue...

...[an] important concern related to the ODF's firefighting capacity is the level of potential carbon dioxide emissions associated with uncontrolled wildfires. A recent SAF report (http://www.safnet.org/jof_cctf.pdf) cited a CO2 emissions estimate for a relatively small (3,100 acre) wildfire in California that was equal to the annual CO2 produced by about 105,000 cars. At a time when the Legislature is actively seeking ways to reduce CO2 emissions, such estimates suggest that policies that support highly effective wildfire & fuel hazard control programs should be among its highest priorities...

...I hope that these few comments about the implications of the future ODF budget are useful to the Subcommittee. Thank you for your time & attention, & for the valuable opportunity to provide a perspective from the forestry profession.

Sincerely yours,

Paul W. Adams, Ph.D., Certified Forester #2064
Chair, Oregon SAF Policy & Legislation Committee

Professionals advancing the science, technology, practice, & teaching of forestry to benefit society.



OREGON SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS

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CHAPTERS: Blue Mountain • Capital • Central Oregon • Columbia Gorge • Coos • Emerald • John Day
Mary's Peak • Oregon State University • Portland • Shasta-Cascade • Siskiyou • Tillamook-Clatsop • Umpqua

Examples & data expressed
in terms of key issues can
bring talking points to life



voters' pamphlet



**High visibility for
OSAF for \$500**

volume 1 – state measures



Ballot Title

34

REQUIRES BALANCING TIMBER PRODUCTION, RESOURCE CONSERVATION/PRESERVATION IN MANAGING STATE FORESTS; SPECIFICALLY ADDRESSES TWO FORESTS

RESULT OF "YES" VOTE: "Yes" vote requires managing state forests balancing, as equally beneficial, conservation/preservation and timber production; manages Tillamook, Clatsop forests half for restoration, half for production.

RESULT OF "NO" VOTE: "No" vote retains current law allowing mixed use state forest management; rejects: requiring management that values conservation and production equally, separately managing Tillamook, Clatsop Forests.

SUMMARY: Current law directs that Board of Forestry manage all state forests to maximize "permanent value" (defined by board) through mixed use, including timber sales, mining, protecting, conserving, utilizing forests. Measure requires management defining "permanent value" as balancing sustainable timber production with water, wildlife, watershed protection, recreation, forest restoration, considering resource conservation equally beneficial to timber production. Manages Tillamook, Clatsop Forests half for forest restoration, prioritizing drinking water, habitat, fish protection; half for sustainable timber production, with restoration management steps recommended by restoration science team. Addresses using timber revenues for common School Fund, forest restoration management (board providing additional funding as needed); continues current local school funding levels. Measure declares it replaces any other management plan for Clatsop, Tillamook Forests adopted in 2004 election. Other provisions.

Oregon Vote-by

Measure 34 Arguments

Argument in Opposition

The Oregon Society of American Foresters STRONGLY OPPOSES Ballot Measure 34. We agree with Governor Kulongoski's recent (June 28) assessment of the current plan for the Tillamook Forest: "Oregon's economic, environmental, and community well-being are inextricably intertwined with the State's natural resources. We have the chance to

*43 statements in opposition,
Oregon SAF's was first listed*

The state forestry professionals, conservationists, academics, county officials, recreation groups, and other interests. The plan identifies a variety of management methods to meet diverse needs, including the goal of a healthy forest environment today and for future generations. Ballot Measure 34 replaces this thoughtful, broadly based plan with the views of narrow interests.

Oregon law clearly gives the Oregon Board of Forestry and the State Forester the leadership for planning and management of state forests. Measure 34 inappropriately removes this vital authority.

Measure 34 incorrectly asserts that the current plan neither "protects" resources nor "balances" economic values with non-economic values. In fact, it uses advanced practices to protect watershed and wildlife values throughout the forest, and pointedly gives single priority to these resources over about 30% of the total area.

Measure 34 ignores the risks of vast unmanaged areas, including outbreaks of insects, disease, and catastrophic wildfire. The current plan applies new science and active forest management to maintain and improve forest health, reducing hazards.

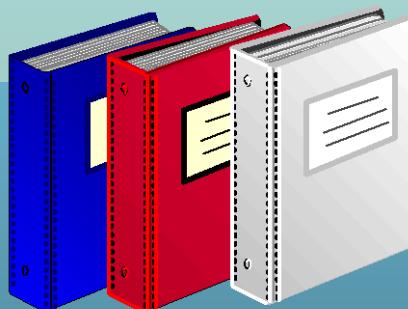
Oregon Society of American Foresters has over 1000 members, including foresters, scientists, administrators and educators who contribute to the management of public and private forestlands throughout Oregon. We support professional, conscientious management of Oregon's forest resources, including state lands. Ballot Measure 34 drastically shifts vast areas of state forests to unmanaged status, the same approach that currently is failing to provide environmental, economic, and social sustainability over extensive areas of federal lands.

(This information furnished by John Herbst, CF, Chairman, Oregon Society of American Foresters.)

This space purchased for \$500 in accordance with ORS 251.255.

Oregon Statutes (ORS 260.432)

"No employee shall...promote or oppose... a candidate... the adoption of a measure... while on the job during working hours. However, this section does not restrict the right of a public employee to express personal political views."



- 2004 -

**RESTRICTIONS ON POLITICAL CAMPAIGNING
by PUBLIC EMPLOYEES, ORS 260.432**

Important concerns when SAF members are public employees!

Measures 66 and 67: Considering the educational losses

Commentary by Patrick M. Emerson
The Oregonian, January 13, 2010

Economists understand that taxes have consequences. But the effect of Measures 66 and 67 on most businesses and individuals in Oregon will be minimal, and the state will remain one of the lowest business tax states in the country...

...we need the temporary fix that 66 and 67 provide right now. Without investment in the education of Oregon's children, the future economic prosperity of the state is at risk.

Patrick M. Emerson is an associate professor in the economics department at Oregon State University.

A violation of Oregon law?

Major Actions: Oregon State Legislature (cont.)

✓ **OFRI-OSAF field tour for legislators** (Oct. '09)
Attended by 4 Senators, 6 Representatives, 11 staffers

Oregon's Private Forestlands – Keeping Working Forests Working



OREGON FOREST
RESOURCES INSTITUTE

(with vital support from a Foresters Fund grant!)

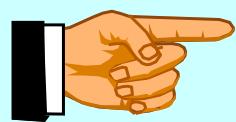


"Green group" that manages
forest land was key participant

Attendance greatly enhanced
by leadership of one senator!



A forest visit is worth 10,000 words!



Talking Points & Tour Sites



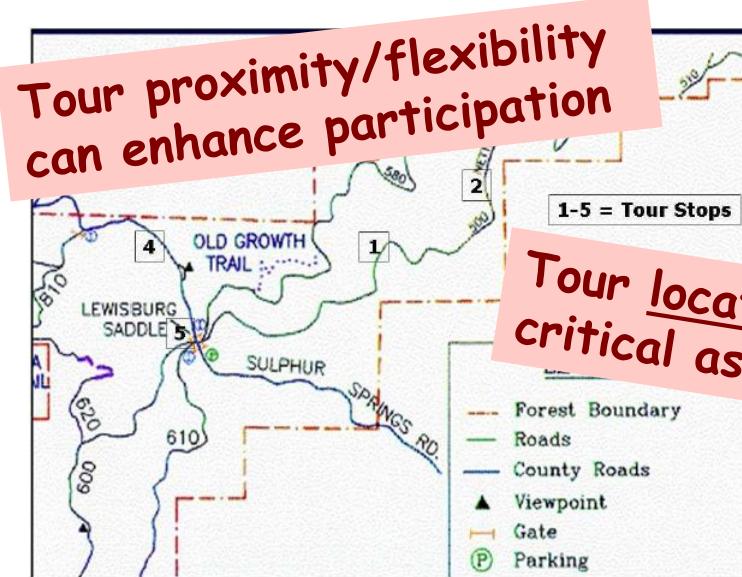
Forestry on Public Lands in Oregon

Field Tour & Discussion
August 20, 2009

Society of American Foresters, Oregon Chapter



College of Forestry, Oregon State University



Photos by S. Cafferata

Linn County Leaders Forestry Tour

(with vital support from a Foresters Fund grant!)



All groups of public leaders are invited

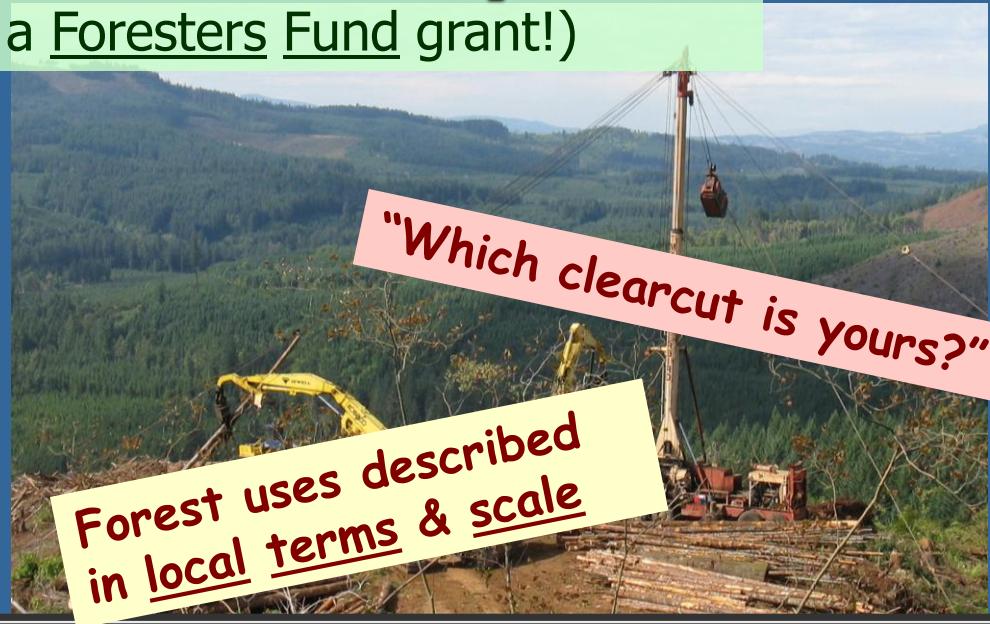
August 26, 2008

Dear _____:

Please join your fellow business and civic leaders on Wed., Sept. 24 for the Linn County Leadership Forestry Tour. This free, all-day educational tour begins at 7:30 AM and adjourns at 4:30 PM.

The purpose of the tour is to inform Linn County leaders about present day forest management practices, engage them in discussing the important role forestry plays in the economic, environmental, and social well being of Linn County...and to learn from each other!

This tour is being convened by the Marys Peak Chapter of the Society of American Foresters, the Linn County Board of Commissioners, Cascade Timber Consulting, and the OSU Extension Service.



Wood Consumption in Linn County – An Example

- Building permits, new single homes, 1998-2007:
5880
- Median size, single homes in West, past 10 yrs:
2100 square feet
- Approx. wood use in 2100 square-foot home:
12,500 board-feet
- Est. Linn County wood use, new homes, 10 yrs:
73.5 million board-feet

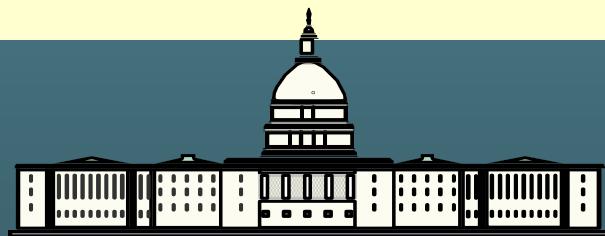


Oregon SAF in the Policy Arena



Some challenges at the state level:

- **Forestry professionals not consistently seen as either “stakeholders” or “experts”**
- **Limits of what member-volunteers can do, especially on short notice**
- **Difficult to separate professional view from employers, negative preconceptions, etc.**
- **Professional view may not provide a “tidy” policy solution**



Forestry Professionals

A key stakeholder group in forest issues, policies and management planning

An important, ongoing message to policy & decision makers...

The Issue

Public agencies & other decision-making groups often seek stakeholder input as they evaluate forest issues & develop related policies & management plans... However, foresters are rarely called upon to provide a professional forestry perspective independent of their employer or client interests. This independence is important because when they represent these interests, forestry professionals in both the public & private sector may be unable or unwilling to offer their full & candid views about important forest issues.

The result is missed opportunities to tap relevant expertise & experience, as well as a limited voice for a key group that must deal directly with policies & plans often shaped without the unique insights of the professional forestry community.

The Professional Response

Recognizing these missed opportunities & voices, the Oregon SAF stands able & willing to represent the professional forestry perspective when stakeholder input is sought. Oregon SAF has about 1000 members & includes field foresters, researchers, administrators & educators who work for federal, state or local governments; for universities; for small & large landowners; & for small businesses & large corporations. Please contact us at...

Forestry: An objectives-oriented profession

The SAF represents much of the forestry profession at the national, state, and local levels. People outside the profession may wonder who belongs to the SAF and what specific perspective(s) they offer, particularly regarding important forest resource issues. The following notes provide some insights about SAF and its members.

its Code of Ethics
organization and

Defining ourselves,
instead of letting others do it!

Most professional members of SAF have earned university degrees from SAF accredited forestry programs. In such programs, forestry professionals are trained to be objectives-oriented. This is similar to other professions (e.g., engineering) that use appropriate expertise and experience to address societal needs and related employer-defined, problem-solving tasks.

Thus, forestry professionals view and manage forests for a full range of uses and values – it's the objectives of the owners and related policies for the forest land that drive what SAF members are oriented toward...

"Is SAF an 'extraction-oriented' organization?"

Policy Issues = Public Issues

The Register-Guard

The Oregonian

Mail Tribune

KEZI 9
abc NEWS

FOX 12
OREGON

OPB

Awareness
Knowledge
Perceptions

of both policy/decision makers & the broader public

How could a key national meeting of 2000+ forestry professionals receive no news media coverage (Portland, Oct. '07) ?



What is seen, read, heard, experienced & trusted



Forestry Professionals are: few in number & have limited visibility with both the public & policy/decision makers

The news media provides the dominant “window” on forestry

- ✓ Topics of controversy & conflict now most newsworthy
- ✓ Urban view (experience, values, empathy, etc.)
- ✓ Govt. & industry watchdog role = skepticism
- ✓ Polarized views sought for "balance" & sound bites



Translating forestry issues into concepts others can relate to...

To the Editor:

Year 2002, Measure 984: Due to unacceptable environmental impacts, all publishers of books, magazines, & newspapers in Oregon must:

- 1) Reduce production & circulation by 60%, including any publishing that uses hydroelectric power,
- 2) Not sell any publication over 2 inches thick or 5 years old,
- 3) Not use colored inks, photocopy toner, or laser-jet cartridges,
- 4) Prepare plans for each new commercial publishing project for review & approval by the Environmental Equity Commission.
- 5) Submit to annual impact & performance audits by federal authorities

Further, any citizen may sue to enforce these provisions with no liability, & those who prevail will be awarded fees & damages...

Letter to Editor, 1998, **Oregon Business** magazine, by P.W. Adams,
following an editorial supporting severe restrictions on private forestry

From a Forestry Field Tour to the Oregonian "Front Page"

Activists rethink view on logging

Timber policy | Some environmental groups say they want to work with private owners to head off sales of forestland

By MICHAEL MILSTEIN
THE OREGONIAN

You might guess environmental groups would be glad timber prices have collapsed to where loggers' chain saws have fallen silent and sawmills are shutting down.

Instead, they're nervous. If logging doesn't pay, the same timber companies some environmentalists have blamed for cutting the forest may get rid of the forest — selling off their prime real estate. Then subdivisions could grow instead of trees, absent the wildlife, clean water and other benefits forests typically present.

A rising number of environmental groups now want to help the timber industry stay in business by providing funds or other support. The question is whether they can save timber companies and mills reeling from the collapse of housing and construction.

"It's a new day — it's a new landscape," said Gauthier Boisjoly, president of the Wild Salmon Center in Portland. "We have to realize private-land timber companies are our friend. Once land gets broken up into smaller pieces, our ability to protect it is eliminated."

Though some logging practices can harm fish, he said, the loss of forests altogether is much worse. That's even more true as trees are increasingly counted on to soak up greenhouse gases that contribute to global warming.

Some land conservation groups such as Trout Unlimited, The Nature Conservancy, The Conservation Fund and Pacific Forest Trust have for years tried to protect prime forest by buying it or purchasing easements that limit development, but they cannot alone safeguard enough land.

"We do not at this point have the capital to be meaningful players," said Lawrence Selzer, president of The Conservation Fund, which is based in Arlington, Va. He said the solution is to work with large forestland owners to help them profit from their forests so they do not sell the land off.

Please see TIMBER, Page A15

- 24 Oct. 08: **OFRI / Starker Forests Field Tour**
- 25 Oct. 08: **Pg. A1 story, Corvallis Gazette-Times**
- 21 Dec. 08: **Pg. A1 story, Sunday Oregonian**
- 29 Dec. 08: **Editorial, The Oregonian**
- 07 Jan. 09: **Guest commentary, The Oregonian**

Value of private forests concerns land owners

Land under forests worth more than trees on them

BY TOM HENDERSON
GAZETTE TIMES REPORTER 10/25/08

Private forest owners can make more money selling their land for subdivisions than harvesting it for timber.

It's a simple equation — and po-

tentially catastrophic, said Matt Donegan, the co-president of Forest Capital Partners.

Donegan was among the industry leaders guiding a tour of some of Benton County's private forest lands Friday afternoon. The tour was hosted by the Oregon Forest Resources Institute and drew participants from both the public and private sectors. The OFRI was created by the 1991 Legislature to educate

the public on forest issues. Institute officials host these tours annually.

Everyone needs to be concerned about America's dwindling private forests, Donegan said. As forests are destroyed, he said, no one escapes unharmed.

Forest Capital Partners buys and manages forests across North America. Donegan said more than a million acres of forest land — roughly the size of Delaware — are

lost every year. "Once these forest lands are gone, they're gone," he said. And they take thousands of jobs with them.

In Oregon, about 85,000 people directly depend on the timber industry for their livelihoods. That doesn't count those who work in mills and manufacturing plants who also depend on productive forests.

SEE FORESTS | A5



Starker Forests representative Dick Powell talks in June about various forestation techniques used by the company during a tour that included a delegation from Gondar, Ethiopia. On Friday, there was a tour of private forest lands such as Starker.
CASEY CAMPBELL
GAZETTE-TIMES

EDITORIALS

Saving private forests

Conservationists are finally recognizing that the danger is not logging private forest land, but losing it



Some environmental groups have evolved from fighting logging on private lands to helping ensure that those timberlands will not be given over to development.

global warming.

Of course, not all environmentalists are prepared to stop fighting logging. Doug Heiken of Oregon Wild said his group will continue to focus on stopping clear-cutting and strengthening forest practices rules. He's not especially worried about private timberland owners selling their land because Oregon's strong land-use laws should block development. As Heiken told Milstein, "I'm a bit hesitant to make forestry a highly profitable enterprise, because it means there's going to be more logging." In other words, Oregon Wild, at least, is fine with seeing Oregon timberland owners struggle economically, betting that no matter how bad it gets for them, state land-use law will block them from doing anything else with their

DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS

Protecting forestland from development

A recent article and supporting editorial in The Oregonian provide a thoughtful perspective on the future of Oregon's private forestlands. There are many public and private benefits of private forestland, including rural employment, water quality, wildlife habitat and carbon sequestration.

But these benefits will be lost if the land is split up into increasingly smaller parcels and developed for residential and other uses.

Thirty-five years ago, the founders of Oregon's land-use planning program decided to encourage continued investment in and management of private forestland by limiting or prohibiting non-forest uses of it. More recently, the Legislature has required forestland to be kept in relatively large lots, making residential conversion less attractive. Both of these steps have meant that the rate that private forestland is converted to other uses is much lower in Oregon than in other Western states.

Nevertheless, even some Oregon for-



RICHARD WHITMAN
IN MY OPINION
11/7/08

to be for timber production. Gov. Ted Kulongoski and the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development are proposing legislation to allow six pilot transfer projects

SAF's "voice" is unique & vital

A highly credible, professional perspective:

- ✓ We follow professional standards & ethics
- ✓ We have essential expertise & experience
- ✓ We're involved in cutting-edge research
- ✓ Our members from "all walks of forestry"



OSAF web site provides wide access & visibility
for position statements & other information