

Emerald Forester Gazette



The Emerald Chapter of OREGON SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS

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Editor: Jeff Grogan

Visit The Emerald Chapter Website Here: <http://www.forestry.org/oregon/chapter/5/>

May 2016 Chapter Meeting

Date: Tuesday May 17, 2016

Location: The Steelhead Brewery
199 E. 5th Ave, Eugene, OR

Time: 5:00 PM Exec. Meeting

6:00 PM Social Hour/Dinner

6:30 PM: Forestry related County
and State wide ballot initiatives
(Dave Cramsey and Ted Reiss)

7:00 PM Program

Speaker: Ed Shepard

Topic: SAF Update

[May Meeting Evite Meeting Link](#)

June 2016 Picnic

Date: TBA

Location: TBA

Announcement to come!

Next Chapter meeting will be October 18

Reminder that after the June picnic, we will be in summer break for our monthly chapter meetings. Our first fall meeting is scheduled for October 18.

From the Chair: Noelle Arena

April showers brings May flowers! The weather has been far too nice to not get out there and enjoy it! There was certainly perfect weather for the OSAF conference in Coos Bay. The conference was very successful. Shaun Harkins and his crew did an amazing job. The programs were enlightening and spurred some great conversations. We heard from our District 2 nominees, Ron Boldenow and Mike Cloughesy. It is going to be a close race! The banquet was a great chance to socialize and recognize some amazing OSAF members. Jordan Ryder nominated the winner of the Forester Appreciation Award, Lindsay Reaves and Tom Bauman. Steve Cafferata nominated the winner of the Tough Tree Award, Gary Springer. Emerald Chapter won the Chapter Achievement Award!! I am so proud of our chapter! There is no one person that made this happen. We did this as a team, and I know we will continue to be great! Look forward to some more announcements at the meeting, including details on the June picnic. I hope to see you all next Tuesday!

See Page 3 for OSAF award details. Editor

May Speaker: Ed Shepard

Our SAF District II (Oregon) Board Representative will give an update on SAF news, events and activities.

Notes from April's Speaker *courtesy of Steve & Wylda Cafferata*

Dr. George Ice, Certified Forester, Certified Hydrologist, Alumnus of CAL Berkeley and Oregon State, and retired NCASI (National Council for Air and Stream Improvement) affiliate, addressed the Emerald Chapter on “The Science Supporting Riparian Forest Management.”

George began by reviewing the **RipStream Study** data. The key question of the Study was: Are the Forest Practice Act's rules meeting the Protect Cold Water Standards. He said the study was done well, with controls and replications. The RipStream Study found temperature increased in the study streams to .7 °C forty percent of the time. An increase of .3 °C is the maximum allowable under the cold water standards. The increase in stream temperature is related to a reduction in shade. Annual pre-treatment differences are more than 2° C within watersheds and .5° between watersheds. This is a measurement of natural variability. The .3 ° standard was selected because it was the lowest temperature variation able to be measured with technology available at the time.

Next George summarized the **Oregon Board of Forestry's new riparian rules**, and reminded chapter members and guests that regulations to implement these rule changes are currently being written. A committee is working to address important questions such as how to identify SSBT streams, how far to extend buffers upstream, and how is “well-distributed” defined. George advised that Oregon is a target of EPA criticism due to the difference between our forest practice rules and those of California and Washington. No evidence exists to show that other states' rules do a better job. George also reminded the group that there is a consent decree on forest roads and a decision is coming on whether or not forest roads are a point source for pollution. The federal government has also cut funding on the Coastal Zone Management Plan due to a perceived failure to protect coastal waters from logging.

In his work with **NCASI**, George said he was always looking for new ideas. It is crucial to understand that how and where you do something is equally as important as what you do. He discussed how forest soils process water differently from agricultural soils and have faster infiltration rates. He referenced the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and Clean Water Act where point source and non-point sources of pollution were defined. Interim goals were fishable/swimmable, but the final goal was zero discharges. He said that there was “no free lunch” and zero was not attainable. George noted the general agreement among scientists on the importance of sediment control, shade (temperature), large wood, nutrient uptake, litter fall etc. He pointed out how far we have come with improving practices, citing, for example, early tractor yarding in streambeds on the South Coast. He discussed the tremendous annual sediment variability even before any management, with 1959-65 Alsea pre-treatment data showing 300-900% variability. Hinkle Creek data shows 40-50% increase in sediment after management. This used to be 100 to 500%. George asserted that our current Forest Practice rules are working.

George described the public's distorted view of looking only at immediate response, whereas to get an accurate picture one **must examine responses to management over time**. For example, sediment shows an increase of 3.3 tons/acre immediately after harvest, but one tenth of this over a rotation and one tenth of that with good practices. Clear cuts result in less evapo-transpiration so stream flow is increased, leading to cooler downstream temperatures. Water temperature recovers in 250-1000 meters downstream, as Hinkle Creek data clearly shows. There is published data detailing the benefits to fish population of opening riparian areas, including a meta-analysis of 25 studies showing positive results for both salmonid density and biomass, but showing negative effects for large wood and pools. The data shows fish productivity responds to more light. The main response is to food.

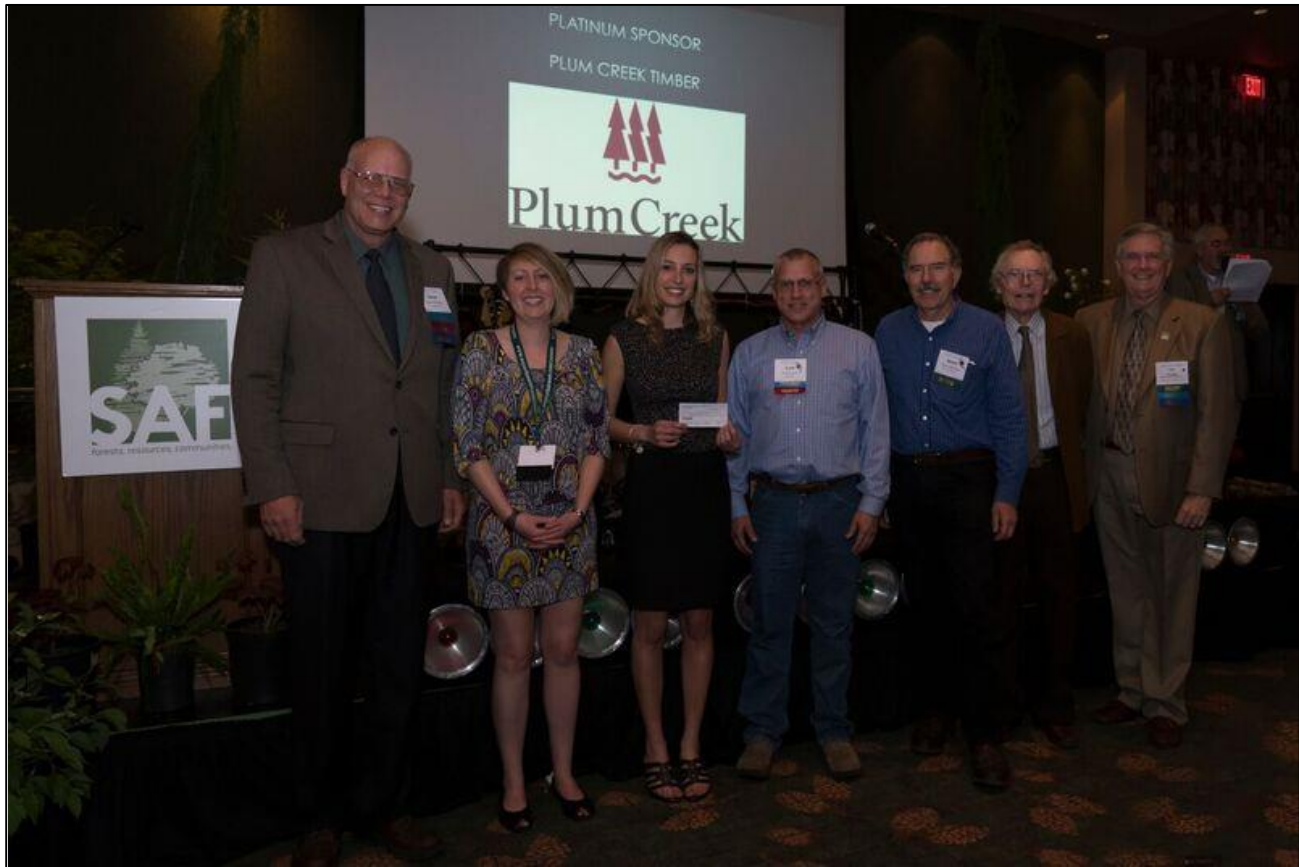
Water quality criteria are sometimes unattainable on forested watersheds, George said. One example is the nitrogen standard where alder are present. On the subject of shade, there is lots of discussion on how wide is wide enough, and on the law of diminishing returns with wider and wider buffers. However, George pointed out the discussion needs to include three dimensions to buffers: width, extent of buffer, and restriction of activities in the buffer. George explained how new technological tools allow us to measure smaller and smaller changes, amassing huge data bases, but these small variations we can now measure are not ecologically important. What have not been published from the RipStream Study are the biological criteria to protect the health of fish, and that 10% of the sites showed those standards were exceeded, and there were also pre-treatment exceedances. George also expressed frustration that in a meeting last week with the Willamette River Water Quality group, he learned that greater than 50% of streams in Oregon's agricultural lands are in the lowest water-quality grouping, whereas forest streams are in the highest grouping.

April Speaker notes, continued from page 2

An upcoming **publication coauthored by Mike Newton** will make the points that the Forest Practice rules are improving water quality, that water quality recovers over time, and that while new technology helps us measure smaller and smaller changes, we must prioritize where we put our resources, using the law of diminishing returns in that process.

In conclusion, George emphasized that riparian rules must meet site-specific requirements and be ecologically significant. He reminded the group that keeping land in forests is the most important factor in protecting water quality. The Chapter meeting ended with a lively but inconclusive discussion of how to get the concepts of George's presentation accepted by the general public.

Emerald Chapter receives OSAF Chapter Achievement Award



OSAF Chair Steve Pilkerton presenting 2015 Chapter Achievement Award to our chapter members in attendance at the OSAF Annual Meeting in Coos Bay.

Eugene Tree Farmers receive OSAF Forestry Appreciation Award

Bauman Tree Farm owners Lindsay Reaves and Tom Bauman, received the Forestry Appreciation Award. The award is given to individuals and organizations who have contributed significantly to the advancement of forestry in Oregon. Emerald Chapter will be presenting the reward to Lindsay and Tom at the May chapter meeting.

Note that the full list of OSAF 2015 Annual Award Winners can be found here:

<http://www.forestry.org/oregon/> ; and also on the newsfeed: <http://flashalert.net/id/SAF>

OSU College of Forestry's Peavy Hall Celebration – Wednesday May 18

To all Fernhoppers : Celebrate the Past and Future of the Peavy Hall
Wednesday May 18, 2016
Peavy Courtyard
BBQ 12 – 2 pm
Open House 2-4 pm

RSVP to jessica.fitzmorris@oregonstate.edu or call 541-737-3161 ASAP

See the weblink here: [Event Flyer](#)

OSAF and Forestry Website Resources:

- SAF News feed on FlashAlert: <http://flashalert.net/id/SAF>
 - SAF Position Statements: <http://www.forestry.org/oregon/policy/position/>
 - OSAF NW Events Calendar: <http://www.forestry.org/calendar/#may2016>
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SAF National Notes

SAF Website Redesign coming in the next few months. New URL (web address) will be: www.eforester.org
The new site will feature a new look and offer increased on-line networking and interaction, as well as improved mobile device access.

SAF Membership

A member is required to be a graduate of an associate degree program (at a minimum) within the broad field of forestry. "Broad field of forestry" is defined as those biological, quantitative, managerial, and social subject areas that are focused on the management and conservation of forest resources. "Qualifying experience" occurs when one spends at least one-half of one's employment duties within the broad field of forestry.

Student Membership

A student member is required to be an undergraduate or graduate student in forestry, pre-forestry, or a forestry technician program, or in another program within the broad field of forestry.

Your 2016 Emerald Chapter Officers

Chair: Noelle Arena
Chair Elect: **Open (but accepting nominations)**
Treasurer: Norm Michaels
Secretary/Newsletter: Jeff Grogan
Membership Chair: Meghan Tuttle
Program Chair: **Open**

Newsletter Questions/Comments/Suggestions can be sent via email to: emeraldsaf@gmail.com