

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/>

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

January 2016 Meeting

Date: Tuesday January 19, 2015
Location: The Steelhead
199 E. 5th Ave, Eugene, OR
Time: 5:00 PM Exec. Meeting
6:00 PM SOCIAL, 7:00 PM Program
Speaker: Doug Decker, Oregon State Forester
Topic: The State of Oregon's Forests

February 2016 Meeting

Date: Tuesday February 16, 2016
Location: The Steelhead
199 E. 5th Ave, Eugene, OR
Time: 5:00 PM Exec. Meeting
6:00 PM SOCIAL, 7:00 PM Program
Speaker: A.J. Kroll, Weyerhaeuser
Topic: Young Stand Management in the Pacific Northwest

March 2016 Meeting

Date: Tuesday March 15, 2016
Location: The Steelhead
199 E. 5th Ave, Eugene, OR
Time: 5:00 PM Exec. Meeting
6:00 PM SOCIAL, 7:00 PM Program
Speaker: Ed Shepard
Topic: The State of SAF

From the Chair: Noelle Arena

Happy New Year! Not only am I excited to see what 2016 brings, I am also thrilled to be the new Emerald Chapter Chair! 2015 was a great year with Meghan Tuttle as our Chair and I'm happy to say she will be serving as our new Membership Chair. Also, thanks to Meghan we will be providing CFE credits for all of our programs. Bonny Hammons, our Program Chair, has some very exciting and engaging programs planned for us this year. We start off the year with our Oregon State Forester, Doug Decker, and move into some interesting topics including a discussion on the new riparian buffer rules. Steve and Wylde Cafferata will continue providing notes from our presentations in the newsletter each month. I always look forward to reading these well written summaries, and want to remind anyone who cannot attend a meeting that they are there.

All the members of the executive committee are actively working together to produce a fun and educating experience. I am always open to feedback and suggestions on how we can improve even more. Let's all work together to make 2016 the best year for the Emerald Chapter!!

January Speaker: Doug Decker

Doug Decker, Oregon State Forester

Appointment: Named Director in 2011

Education: University of Montana (BA Journalism)

Career highlights:

- * 2010 - 2011 Acting Chief of ODF's State Forests Division
- * Spearheaded Gilchrist Forest 43,000 acre tract acquisition
- * Established Tillamook Forest Heritage Trust and award-winning Tillamook Forest Center interpretive public facility



Photo and bio credit: <http://www.oregon.gov/ODF/AboutODF/Pages/default.aspx>

Notes from December's Meeting, courtesy of Steve & Wylda Cafferata

On December 15, 2015, Maryanne Reiter, Hydrologist, Weyerhaeuser Company, addressed about thirty chapter members on the topic: Current Science on the Effects of Forest Practices on Aquatic Ecosystems. Her talk summarized the science on the effects of forest practices across five studies: the ODF Riparian/Temperature Study (Coast Range); the Oregon Watersheds Research Cooperative (Western Oregon: Hinkle Creek; Alsea, and Trask); the National Council on Air and Stream Improvement (Alsea Herbicide Study and Coast Range Drift Study); the Cooperative Monitoring and Evaluation Research (CMER) Small Non-Fish Watershed Study (Western Washington); and the Weyerhaeuser Company's Deschutes River, Washington Long Term Water Quality Study. Maryanne described each study briefly, and went on to summarize the over-all effects of forest practices on stream temperature, sediment/turbidity, forest chemicals, aquatic macro-invertebrates, fish, and amphibians. Using multiple graphs and complex analysis methods, Maryanne presented a wealth of data. Here's a brief sample:

- A more biologically meaningful way to look at stream temperature changes following harvesting uses numeric criteria and shows that on the private sites studied, temperatures were well below the cold water standard and that temperature increases do not persist indefinitely downstream.
- Little direct evidence was found across studies of increased sediment concentration and export after timber harvesting. Modern road design and maintenance do a good job controlling turbidity. Statistical significance does not equal biological significance.
- What was noteworthy across all herbicide studies was the chemicals found in water samples were at tiny fractions of no-effect levels, and that riparian buffers prevent a substantial portion of airborne droplets from deposition in streams.
- No effect was detected on downstream invertebrates after harvest in headwaters.
- Adult cut-throat trout increased in biomass downstream of timber harvest areas, and also along fish-bearing stream reaches with harvest and buffers. Alsea Coho showed no evidence of management effect.
- No change in density after harvest was found on Pacific giant salamanders, but increased growth.

Maryanne's over-all conclusions were that current forest practices sometimes resulted in detectable changes (+ and -) but in general were well within background variability, and that changes from current forest practices were far less than from earlier practices. There is a huge body of work in the Pacific Northwest on the effects of contemporary forest practice.

SAF's 2015 National Convention—Baton Rouge, LA

Contributed by Sue Bowers

It's been a couple of months already since I attended part of SAF's 2015 National Convention in Baton Rouge, LA, and nearly that long since Meghan asked me to write something about it for our newsletter. (My getting-older-and-apparently-more-forgetful brain forgot about doing that until I saw yesterday's meeting announcement. At this rate, I may well have missed both the December and January newsletters. If so, this can be filler for February!)

I decided to attend this convention because my grandfather's forestry career was spent mostly in Louisiana, where he was (and actually still is, I discovered) well-known for his early research in genetics and reforestation. I thought I might have a chance to learn more about his work and the challenges he faced. I also still have family members in the area I hadn't seen for decades, which made another good reason to go. And finally, my new "work" schedule gives me the flexibility to do things like this, which helped make the trip possible.

I have had the opportunity to attend five different SAF National meetings now; two in Portland, one in Fort Worth and one in Pittsburg before this year's in Louisiana. All have been enlightening and enjoyable, particularly to help me realize how much energy there is within SAF and remind me of the caliber of those who make up the forestry community. And learning about forestry issues, some the same and others quite different than here in Oregon, is both interesting and helpful.

For me, the highlight of this year's trip was a pre-convention field trip to some of Weyerhaeuser's nearby holdings to view loblolly pine silviculture. First was the realization of how small the forestry world is, as my van of 10 folks, none of whom I'd ever met, turned out to include the son-in-law of my old boss (from Washington), brother-in-law of long-time Weyerhaeuser Coos Bay forester Doug Soules (from New York) and a young man from South Carolina who had interned with the Eugene District of the BLM. Our tour hosts have had the experience of managing the same land through a series of at least four different owners, which I know is familiar to many SAF members these days. It was interesting to learn that we have much in common with southern foresters—regulatory challenges and concern about fire among the big ones. Differences include topography (one speaker described his company's land as having one or two *inches* of if elevation change over a mile, if you can believe that!) and of course, species. As I found over the years of leading forest tours here, getting out in the field with the folks who are managing the land you visit is the best way to learn what is happening, get questions answered, and understand how valuable their work is.

After the field trip on Tuesday, I attended the general sessions on the first official day of the convention back in Baton Rouge before skipping out on the later sessions to visit family members and play tourist in New Orleans. (For those still working, I don't recommend this, as there are many valuable break-out sessions worth attending over the next two days. And if your employer is sending you, it probably wouldn't be appreciated. But as my own boss these days, it was OK with me!) I enjoyed the general sessions, but also came away with an impression that I think is worth sharing.

One of the speakers was a land manager in the area whose holdings included cypress stands that had been negatively impacted by man-made changes to the natural drainage patterns. His presentation was highly technical, used PowerPoint slides that he mostly read from, and was, frankly, rather boring. Another speaker, a member of a regional sort-of-environmental organization, was very engaging, in contrast. My notes from her talk include her quote to the foresters that, "People don't know who you are, what you do and what you can contribute." Having worked away from forestry myself for the past almost dozen years, I know that is true for most of those outside our profession. And, if and when those folks might interact with a forester, they won't be interested in technical, boring presentations.

So to summarize my November experience, field trips are great, SAF members are inspiring, a national convention can really get one energized about the value of SAF, and we still have lots we need to do to help the rest of the world appreciate active forest management. *Sue Bowers*

Election Results/2016 Chapter Officers



Election Results

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

An added note of appreciation to Jordan Ryder and Tiffany Roddy, who are leaving the chapter executive committee to devote time to other projects. Thank you for your service to the Emerald Chapter!

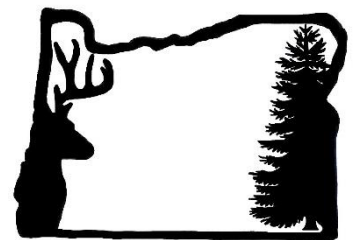
2016 PNW Forestry Leadership Conference

February 4-6, 2016. DuPont, WA

A new year offers state society and local chapter leaders a fresh start to address professional member recruitment and retention. The Washington State Society of American Foresters (WSSAF) is inviting forest natural resource managers and students from Washington, Oregon, Alaska, and Inland Empire to participate in the Leadership Conference. Full details and registration can be found on the Washington State SAF Web Page: <http://www.forestry.org/washington/leadershipconference/2016/>

2016 OSAF Convention in Coos Bay

The 2016 Oregon State Convention is scheduled to be held in Coos Bay. After jointly hosting the 2015 annual convention with The Wildlife Society, our Emerald Chapter is excited to share our resources with Coos Bay as they finalize the convention planning. We look forward to an exciting program tentatively planned to address the intersection of forestry and transportation. For information on the convention, you can contact convention chair Shaun Harkins at Shaun.Harkins@plumcreek.com



Did You Know?

SAF members can save up to 55% off prescriptions with the SAF Prescription Discount Card? Learn more here: <http://myfreerxcard.com/foresters/>

SAF members can save money on travel services like: Travelocity, Orbitz, Southwest, JetBlue, Hotwire, and more. Members can also receive rewards and discounts at online home and garden stores like: ACE, Home Depot, Lowes, Sears, TSC and more. Start planning and shopping at: www.saf.achievelinks.com



Photo Credit: Emerald Chapter SAF Member Anna Grabhorn

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