

Emerald Forester Gazette



The Emerald Chapter of OREGON SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS

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

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

April 2015 Meeting

Date: Tuesday April 21st, 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: Gunnar Schlieder
Topic: Oso Slide and Geology

May 2015 Meeting

Date: Tuesday May 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: Dallas Hemphill
Topic: New Zealand logging and forestry

June 2015 Picnic

Date: Friday June 26, 2015
Location: Thompson's Mill State Heritage Site
Shedd, Oregon

More Info: "Thompson's Mills is a unique survivor of times past, chronicling 150 years of Oregon rural life and honoring the owners who adapted the mill to the changing world around it. It is the oldest water-powered mill in the state and its turbines can be seen in action on guided tours. A water right that predates statehood produces the water flow that still runs the milling machines for demonstrations today." –Oregon State Parks
http://www.oregonstateparks.org/index.cfm?do=parkPage.dsp_parkPage&parkId=186

From the Chair – Meghan Tuttle

We are excited to have Gunnar Schlieder at our Tuesday April 21st meeting at Steelhead. Gunnar will discuss the Oso Slide and geology one year after this tragic incident. April is a busy month for our chapter since we are also co-hosting the joint OSAF/ORTWS meeting in Eugene. You can still register for the meeting and we are looking for volunteers to help drive field trip vans (see below). The executive committee is finalizing plans for the summer picnic which will be on June 26th at the Thompson's Mills State Heritage Site in Shedd, Oregon. If you would like to help with picnic planning please contact Meghan.tuttle@weyerhaeuser.com.

Upcoming Joint Annual Meeting & Call for Volunteers!



Mark your calendars! The 2015 Joint Annual Meeting of the OSAF and OTWS will be held April 29 – May 1 at the Eugene Hilton. Schedule and registration at: ortws.wordpress.com
The JAM committee is looking for volunteers to drive passenger vans for the field trips scheduled for May 1st, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Contact Noelle Arena at Noelle.Arena@weyerhaeuser.com for more information.

Managing Forests and Marbled Murrelets

Notes from March's Meeting, courtesy of Steve Cafferata

Marbled murrelets are black and white in winter and change to camouflage plumage for their breeding season. They are solitary nesters, and although birds may co-occur in stands, they will not nest in the same tree. Nests can occur up to 55 miles inland; murrelets will fly 50-100 miles per day in search of food and feed on small fish and crustaceans at sea. They can fly at speeds of up to 60 miles an hour! Murrelets are crepuscular – active at dawn and dusk. They don't vocalize much at nests but call when flying. Breeding occurs at 2-3 years of age and one egg is laid per pair per season. Chicks have no practice flights and must fly to the ocean on their very first flight. They can live 15-20 years.

They were the last species in the Northwest to have their nests found; the first was found in 1976, and the first nest in Oregon was found in 1990. Long-term population surveys are done at sea in six ocean zones; there is a correlation between density at sea and the amount of inland nesting habitat. These surveys have high confidence intervals. In Oregon, we have 5,000-10,000 murrelets. Marbled murrelet populations are declining at 1.2% per annum. There is high adult survival but very low breeding success. Most nests fail from predation – ravens and jays are the main predators of marbled murrelets. Young murrelets need 4" or larger platforms for nesting as their parents do not 'build' nests and the chicks can fall off of platforms that are too small. Nests are often toward the middle to top of tall trees. Mistletoe on western hemlock provides suitable nesting platforms; moss and duff in redwoods is also preferred. One adult stays on the nest for 24 hours and then exchanges with the other adult at dawn. Murrelet like multi-layered canopies with around 80% cover.

Some issues of concern with the murrelet are the amount and distribution of the birds. Human presence, including parks, farms, campgrounds, and garbage, attract crows, jays, and ravens – predators of murrelet. Changes in stand microclimate, habitat fragmentation, and the amount of edge-habitat are also issues.

The Northwest Forest Plan carries the brunt of management of marbled murrelet. The Siuslaw National Forest has the largest area of old growth and the highest concentrations of murrelets. Thinning that opens stands up is bad for the murrelets because it opens up canopy and provides access for predators. There is a need to avoid additional fragmentation; a need to designate some blocks for logging and some for murrelets; and a need to leave buffers next to murrelet habitat – Nelson suggest 300-600 meter buffers. Even aged forests keep out predators, but thinning lightly next to murrelet habitat and minimizing openings is acceptable. California has a predator management program consisting of moving campgrounds, trash cans, and dumps; shooting ravens and jays; and putting up signs that say, "Feed a jay – kill a murrelet!"

The impact of thinning needs to be studied to determine what buffer sizes are needed to protect nest sites. Fish production should be increased to reduce the pressure on marbled murrelet food species (from fishing). Protocol procedures need to be reviewed and standardized; this is being done currently in Oregon. The number of visits necessary to have high probability of occurrence needs to be determined – generally small stands demand more visits. Currently there is a large variation in filling out data sheets, so there is great difficulty in combining data. California provides training to certify observers; Oregon has no audits of surveyors; and Washington has a database as it is required by their FPA. Weyerhaeuser statisticians and NCASI biologists are involved with the protocol reviews. Christina McNitt is working on getting funding for studies. The goal is to have an implementation plan by 2016.

9th Annual SAF Golf Tournament – Save the Date!

Please plan to attend the Ninth Annual SAF Golf Tournament at Trysting Tree Golf Course in Corvallis, OR on Friday August 14th, 2015 for sun, fun, golf and to support the OSAF Foundation. The Foundation was created 30 years ago to support Oregon forestry students prepare for a professional career. The Foundation is going strong because of your support. Over the years the SAF Golf Tournament has raised approximately \$45,000! Please consider supporting the Foundation by attending the event and having a good time with your fellow foresters. For more information you may contact Ted Reiss – 541-912-5471 or oregonrice@gmail.com.

Forest Field Day – Call for Volunteers!

Thank you SAF members who have already volunteered for Forest Field Days this April and May! Out of 126 volunteer spots, we are down to only 7 spots to fill. Can you help?

Please contact Beth at 541-554-342 or email her at coordinator@foreststodayandforever.org to learn more about Forest Field Days and to sign up to be a part of this great event!



Joint Annual Meeting Raffle Request!

Dear Emerald Chapter members,

We are gearing up to host the 2015 OSAF Annual meeting this year. During this time we will have the opportunity to have fun while raising money. Money raised may be split between the National Foresters Fund and Oregon Special Projects Fund. We will be hosting the time honored silent auction and raffle events.

We are soliciting items from all chapter members who may want to participate. These can be large or small items. If you are coming up short on ideas, then bring something that you would want to win. Chances are someone else would feel the same. In the past, people have donated gift cards to overnight stays to an area of interest, handcrafted items, food, beverages, paintings, crafts, etc. We will gladly accept anything you would like to donate – whether it is worth \$5 or \$500.

Handcrafted items will be getting their own table this year. It could be any hand craft such as woodworking, homemade wine or homemade candy, etc. These items will be highlighted by how that person is related to forestry. It could be from a member, spouse, retiree, or a friend. I can't wait to see the variety of skills that will be displayed.

Please send me a note or contact me if you are able to send any items and any details that will help me prepare by April 15th (though the sooner the better please).

Thank you,

Bonny Hammons | 541-510-0556 | bmhammons@gmail.com

Membership Milestones

Congratulations to the following Emerald Chapter Members who have reached these milestones. Thank you for your membership and your service to SAF!

60 Years: Robert Thompson

45 Years: Ronald Heninger, Warren Weathers, Hal Westover

40 Years: Michael Atkinson

35 Years: David Wellman

30 Years: Peter Daugherty

20 Years: Foster Robinson, Edward Reiss, Carl Harrison, Cary Hart, Jeffery Grogan, Douglas Campbell

15 Years: Tash Shaheed, Angelia Kegley, Avel Salgado

10 Years: Daniel Shults, Debbi Dalrymple

5 Years: Ryan Beyer

OFRI Planting Signs



Tree-planting season is here, and it's a good time for forestland managers to remind the driving public that trees are always replanted on private forestland. Managers are encouraged to order free signs from the Oregon Forest Resources Institute (OFRI) and to erect them along well-traveled highways or county roads.

OFRI offers the signs not just for plantings this winter, but for any year – even stands planted 20 or 30 years ago. “This is one simple thing any landowner can do to make sure the public sees that replanting is a routine part of what we do,” says OFRI Executive Director Paul Barnum. “I urge landowners to sign older stands, too. It helps people easily understand that what is today a thriving, mature forest was once a harvest.”

Since initiating the program in 2012, OFRI has shipped out about 200 signs to family and industrial forestland owners. Many of the signs can be seen along busy state highways such as U.S. Route 26 from Portland to the coast. But land along any highway or well-used county road is suitable, too. Barnum says on well-traveled highways, he'd like to see a sign about every five miles.

Order signs at knowyourforest.org/learning-library/landowner-signage. You'll just have to specify the planting year. The durable signs are 5 feet wide, come with nuts and bolts, and are shipped free of charge. Landowners need only supply two metal posts to erect the signs.

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

Editor – Tiffany Roddy

Chair – Meghan Tuttle