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Working in Forestry: Making the Grade

BY ARA ANDREA AND
KATY KAVANAGH

Measuring, conserving, utilizing, analyzing or managing our world's forests requires a broad base of knowledge, skills and experience. The universities and community colleges in the *Western Forester* geographical region offer some of the finest opportunities in forestry higher education. With each of these institutions offering in-depth course work and hands-on field work, students integrate silviculture, forest ecology, stewardship, forest engineering, policy and myriad other natural-resources elements into meaningful curricula, equipping them to be successful, forward-thinking forest managers and technicians.



Ara Andrea

It's a great time to be a forestry student. Strong hiring trends in forest management in the 1960s and 1970s have resulted in a significant portion of the workforce preparing for retirement. Forestry agencies, industries and consultants have drastically increased new hires, especially ramping up their hiring of student interns in preparation for filling the increased vacancies formed by these retirees. Two Northwest BLM directors said it best:

Baby boomers launched the post-war housing boom and were part of the job surge in the woods. They're having a big impact again, as many start planning for their retirement years. BLM cannot afford to lose their know-how,



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ED JENSEN,
OSU COLLEGE OF FORESTRY

Oregon State University students learn about forestry in an outdoor lab setting.

so we're recruiting people who are willing to learn alongside the experts, while bringing diversity and a new perspective to the task. This year, we'll hire about 25 people (in WA and OR) to train alongside our seasoned workforce, and will continue to overlap new hires with retiring foresters and technicians as we move ahead.

A major forest products company has indicated that about 40 percent of the company's salaried workforce will be eligible for retirement by 2014, along with another 38 percent of their hourly employees, requiring the hiring of approximately 30 student interns nationwide to help prepare students to



fill these upcoming vacancies.

The Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) reports that in the early- to mid-1990s, prior to the baby-boomer generation beginning to retire, they averaged 10-12 retirements per year total (not all are forester positions). Since the late 1990s, as the boomers began to retire, the department has seen a

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)



Bend, Oregon

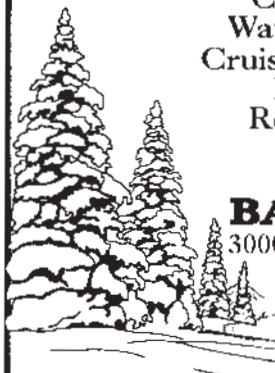
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Working in Forestry

(CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE)

total of 15-20 retirements total.

Specific to the forester positions, ODF projects that this retirement pattern will hold for at least the next six to nine years, and that they will be seeking to fill 9-12 forester positions each year.

Public presentations from Hal Salwasser, dean of the College of Forestry at Oregon State University, report that initial information from Oregon's largest forest sector employers—industry and federal agencies—indicates that the greatest challenges to meeting demand for new hires in the next 5-10 years will be with professional foresters, forest operations managers, forest engineers and wood technologists from universities. This translates to the need for more than 300 professional foresters, more than 150 forest engineers, approximately 100 other natural resource specialists and about 100 wood technologists in the next 10 years. Currently, demand for graduates outnumbers the supply that Oregon State can supply; essentially all graduates of forest management, forest engineering, and wood science and technology either get jobs in those fields or decide to pursue graduate degrees.

The same story pervades the Oregon and Washington community college setting as well. Oregon is already seeing an undersupply in vocational graduates for new hires with technician and logging skills. Federal agencies (USDA Forest Service and USDI Bureau of Land Management), state agencies (Alaska Department of Natural Resources,

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Next Issue: Environmental Education

Idaho Department of Lands, Oregon Department of Forestry, Washington Department of Natural Resources), industries and consultants are hiring community college students as interns or as full-time employees in record numbers.

Recent reports from former and present Forest Service managers clearly show the changing nature of successfully managing our nation's federal forestlands. In the 1990s, the agency's timber-sale program was decreased by 80 percent. At the same time, the area burned by wildfires has drastically increased and suppression costs have soared, along with emphasis in prescribed fire and other fuels treatments.

Northwest university and college forestry programs have responded to this shift in management challenges with new curricula being developed to meet these changing management focal points. The University of Idaho College of Natural Resources is offering the first four-year degree entirely focused on wildland fire ecology and management, and Oregon State University offers a wildland fire management option with their Forest Management degree. Among the local two-year programs in forestry, Central Oregon Community College, Green River Community College and Treasure Valley Community College all offer Associate's Degrees in fire management.

Whether it be changing management objectives, new technologies, improved wildlife habitat, increased amounts of wildland-urban interface, water-quality issues or climate



PHOTO COURTESY OF ED JENSEN,
OSU COLLEGE OF FORESTRY

The forestry job market looks good for students.

change, these forestry programs in our Northwest colleges and universities are on task, ready to improvise, adapt and lead the academic way in preparing students to be leaders in profes-

sional forestry fields.

The dynamic nature of forest management ensures a special lure for potential students who like the thought of a challenging, always-changing "puzzle" that continually makes their work exciting, tough and rewarding. ♦

At the time of this writing, Ara Andrea was the program chair for the Forest Management Transfer Program at Chemeketa Community College in Salem, Ore. Starting in July 2007, she is the Forest Practices Program manager in the Panhandle Region of the Idaho Department of Lands in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. She can be contacted at gara@chemeketa.edu. Katy Kavanagh is an associate professor at the University of Idaho's College of Natural Resources. She can be reached at 208-885-2552 or katyk@uidaho.edu.

Oregon's Forests Are Protected By Law

~ And By Forest Engineer Jennifer Beattie ~



Jennifer Beattie is a forest engineer for Seathur Forests. In her job, she plans and supervises complex forest road improvement projects. Beattie has worked to replace stream culverts that were hindering salmon runs. She knows the importance of Oregon laws that protect water and wildlife habitat and require planning before harvesting.

For Jennifer, there's nothing quite like working in a well-managed forest. "Even on the roughest of days, I enjoy working in the forest."



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Path to the Woods: Forestry Higher Education Options in the Northwest

BY ARA ANDREA

Working in forestry is a dynamic and rewarding occupation, and the colleges and universities in the Northwest offer some of the best forestry education opportunities in the nation. Five community colleges in Oregon and Washington offer two-year degrees (Associate of Applied Science or AAS) in forestry, and five universities in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington offer four-year degrees (Bachelor of Science or BS) degrees in a field of forest management, forest engineering or wood products management.

The charts on pages six and seven list the broad descriptions of AAS degrees and BS degrees offered in forestry education within the *Western Forester* geographical area. In addition to the specific degrees offered at

these institutions, many of these colleges and universities offer one-year certificates, and degree options (or minors) in specialized fields of natural-resources management.

The charts only list degreed programs at the colleges or universities that offer curriculum specifically in forestry. In addition to forestry degrees offered, the charts exhibit other forestry and natural resources degrees offered by the institutions *if these degreed programs are housed within the same department or college in which the forestry program is housed.* (For example, while a BS degree in rangeland management may be offered at these universities within a College of Agriculture, it is not listed in this chart since the program is not housed within the College of Forestry.

Two-year degree (AAS) forestry pro-

grams prepare students to be successful as forest technicians or forestry professionals who collect and interpret on-the-ground data, and build skills necessary to perform specific inventory processes. Four-year degree (BS) forestry programs prepare students to be professional forest managers, forest engineers, forest recreation managers, forest operations managers, fire operations managers, wood-products production managers or wood-products engineers. Each forestry program is unique to the university in which it is offered.

Four-year degree forestry programs

The University of Alaska—Fairbanks School of Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences offers students an SAF-accredited forestry degree as well as a more general degree in natural resources within their Department of Forest Sciences. Students take coursework at UA amidst the white spruce interior forestlands of Alaska.

The University of Idaho College of Natural Resources offers an SAF-accredited degree in Forest Resources as well as BS degrees in forest recreation, fisheries and wildlife management, forest products, natural resource ecology and conservation biology, and rangeland management within the college's six specialized departments. The UI College of Natural Resources will also debut a new BS degree in fire ecology management in the fall of 2007.

The Oregon State University College of Forestry offers students three SAF-accredited forestry degrees within the fields of forest management, forest engineering and recreation management, along with additional degrees in wood science (also accredited by the Forest Products Society), outdoor recreation leadership, and a relatively new degree in forest operations management. The OSU College of Forestry also allows students the opportunity to earn a BS degree in natural resources entirely online and, within their forest man-



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agement degree, offers specialized options in forest environmental consulting, plantation silviculture, forest ecosystem science, restoration of forested landscapes, international forestry, wildland fire management and human-forest interactions.

The University of Washington College of Forest Resources currently offers students two undergraduate degrees. The Environmental Science and Resource Management degree allows student-directed course-schedule development to meet students' needs to specialize in fields like urban forestry and restoration ecology. A second degree, accredited by ABET (formerly the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology) in Paper Science and Engineering is designed for students seeking training in chemical and physical sciences as applied to the pulp and paper processing industries. While the UW College of Forest Resources currently does not have an SAF-accredited four-year degreed program, they are offering students a 5th year Master of Forest Resources degree that will be SAF-accredited effective in the fall of 2007.

The Washington State University College of Agricultural, Human and Natural Resources Sciences offers students BS degrees in forestry (SAF-accredited), natural resources and wildlife ecology, with degree options in forest business and wildlife habitat management. The WSU Department of Natural Resources prepares students to enter specialized fields including conservation biology, landscape and restoration ecology, natural resource policy or environmental law.

Two-year forestry programs

SAF-recognized two-year forestry programs are offered in four community colleges in the Northwest. These two-year colleges offer two-year terminal degrees for students wishing to obtain a forest technician position, and most also offer transferable forestry coursework, allowing their students to articulate many of their courses to a university. Forestry curricula at these colleges give students rigorous coursework along with frequent in-the-field lab experiences, allowing students a chance to acquire the skills to cruise timber, inventory a

variety of forest resources, and perform a wide array of mensuration tasks.

Currently, two-year programs are *recognized* by SAF, but due to the increased role played by trained technicians in forest management, the evolution of the forest technology school recognition program, and the precedent for accreditation of associate degree programs set by other accreditors, SAF has created an eight-member task force to evaluate the merits of establishing an SAF program to fully *accredit* forest technology programs. If approved, this accreditation program would replace the existing recognition program. Monica Spicker of Spokane Community College and Joan De Young of Mt. Hood Community College serve as two of these task force members.

Spokane Community College, nestled in the ponderosa pine-dominated forests of the Inland Empire, allows students the opportunity to earn AAS degrees in Natural Resources with specializations in forestry, recreation, soils or wildlife and fisheries.

The Green River Community College Natural Resources Program offers students outdoor learning opportunities in the forests around Auburn, Wash., as they earn two-year degrees in natural resources, fire management, park management, water quality and GIS.

Mt. Hood Community College, sitting in the Douglas-fir-dominated forests between the city of Portland and the entrance to the Columbia River Gorge Recreation Area, offers students AAS degrees in forest resources and wildlife resources.

The Central Oregon Community College Forestry Resources Technology Program, located at the eastern base of the Oregon Cascades, allows students the opportunity to earn AAS degrees in forestry, GIS and wildland fire management, with close proximity to their

own school forest and a recent 90,000-acre burn from the 2003 B&B fires.

Treasure Valley Community College, located on the Snake River at the eastern edge of Oregon, offers students an AAS degree and several one-year certificates in forestry, focusing on wildland fire management and noxious weed control.

Chemeketa Community College, in the central Willamette Valley, offers students specific transferable coursework in dendrology, silviculture and forest surveying.

Many community colleges throughout the Northwest offer general studies and science coursework that will transfer to universities, helping students prepare to earn forestry BS degrees at local universities.

With professional foresters retiring at an all-time high rate, it's a great time to be in forestry education. The changing nature of, and increased expenditures on fire management and research devoted to the effects of global warming bring added dimensions to the world of forest management. Management-objective focal points are continually changing and public perceptions exert a lot of pressures on the movements of forest management activities. Forestry students today are participating in exciting, always-changing learning experiences that prepare them to deal with the social, ecological and economic impacts of managing our country's timber resources. ♦

At the time of this writing, Ara Andrea was the program chair for the Forest Management Transfer Program at Chemeketa Community College in Salem, Ore. Starting in July 2007, she will be the Forest Practices Program Manager in the Panhandle Region of the Idaho Department of Lands in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. She can be reached at gara@chemeketa.edu.

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FORESTRY EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AT NORTHWEST UNIVERSITIES

Forest management jobs generally require at least a four-year degree in forest/natural resources management. This chart provides information on educational opportunities in forestry, or in natural resources with an emphasis on forest resources, at universities in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington. In addition to their degrees in forestry, these university forestry colleges also offer BS degrees in other natural resources fields.

FOUR-YEAR FORESTRY PROGRAMS AT NORTHWEST UNIVERSITIES

BS Degree Programs	University of Alaska—Fairbanks (Fairbanks, AK)	University of Idaho (Moscow, ID)	Oregon State University (Corvallis, OR)	University of Washington (Seattle, WA)	Washington State University (Pullman, WA)
Bachelor of Science Degree (BS) in Forest Resources/Forest Management/Natural Resources with Forestry emphasis	● ^A	● ^A	● ^A	● [*]	● ^A
BS in Forest Engineering			● ^A		
BS in Fire Management/Fire Ecology		●			
BS in Recreation/Park Management		●	● ^A		
BS in Wildlife/Wildlife Ecology and/or Fisheries		●			●
BS in Wood Science/Wood Products/Forest Products		●	●		
BS in Paper Science/Engineering				●	
BS in Forest Ecology/Conservation Biology		●	●		
BS in Natural Resources	●		●		●
BS in Forest Operations Management			●		
BS in Rangeland Ecology		●			

^A Program Accredited by the Society of American Foresters

^{*} 5th year Master of Forest Resources (Forest Management) is SAF accredited.

FORESTRY EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AT NORTHWEST COLLEGES

Thinking of a career in forestry? This chart provides information on educational opportunities in forestry, or in natural resources with an emphasis on forest resources, at two-year colleges in the Pacific Northwest. Two-year programs provide hands-on, in-the-field education with an end result of an Associate of Applied Science Degree, or two years of transferable coursework toward a BS degree. In addition to their specific coursework in forestry, some college forestry departments also offer one-year certificates in specific natural resources fields.

TWO-YEAR FORESTRY PROGRAMS AT NORTHWEST COMMUNITY COLLEGES

AAS Degree Programs	Central Oregon Community College (Bend, OR)	Chemeketa Community College (Salem, OR)	Green River Community College (Auburn, WA)	Mt. Hood Community College (Gresham, OR)	Spokane Community College (Spokane, WA)	Treasure Valley Community College (Ontario, OR)
Assoc. of Applied Science Degree (AAS) in Forestry/Forest Management/ Natural Resources with Forestry emphasis	• ^R		• ^R	• ^R	• ^R	
AAS in Wildlife and/or Fisheries				•	•	
AAS in Fire Management/Fire Ecology	•		•			•
AAS in Recreation or Park Management			•		•	
AAS in Soils					•	
AAS in Water Quality/ Management			•		•	
AAS in Geographic Information Systems (GIS)			•			
Transfer Programs						
Articulated forestry coursework to Northwest universities	•	•	•	•	•	•
One-Year Certificates						
Forestry						•
Noxious Weeds Management						•
Range Management						•
Wildland Fire Management	•					•
Natural Resources				•		

^R Program Recognized by the Society of American Foresters

Interest in Science Leads to Forestry Career

Eric Geyer, shown here in a tree nursery monitoring the growth of Douglas-fir seedlings from seeds collected on his company's forestland, is a field forester, a position where most practitioners develop their on-the-ground knowledge of managing forests. As a silviculturist, he is involved with the care and cultivation of forest trees on the roughly 200,000 acres of timberland that Roseburg Forest Products Company (RFP) owns around Roseburg, Ore. RFP owns about 750,000 acres in Oregon and California.

Forestry was an interest that came to Eric while majoring in biology and geology as an undergraduate student. During the first two years of this program, he was exposed to a wide variety of biological processes and scientific research. "I was designing a research project on the college forest to study the chemical responses of leaves to increased sunlight. While reading through scientific journals, I was fascinated by the scientific principles involved in growing and harvesting trees, and I realized that I had found my career.

"By my senior year, I was willing to do whatever it took to enter the field of forestry. I decided to apply to graduate forestry programs based upon my science background." Geyer was accepted into the master's program in forest management at Oregon State's College



PHOTO COURTESY OF OFRI

of Forestry. He was particularly excited about OSU because it had the widest variety of forestry options, it was located in the heart of timber country, and he was offered a research assistant position that would pay his tuition and provide a monthly stipend. "I already had enough debt from my time as an undergrad."

Because he did not have previous forestry education, Geyer took several undergraduate forestry classes in addition to his graduate-level studies. "I did not take the traditional path to a career in forestry, which would typically be a four-year degree. However, I was committed to this career and

found it very satisfying. The science that goes into forest management is simply a different application of the same principles that go into many other applied biological science fields."

Between degrees, he worked as a Forest Service firefighter in central Idaho and, after completing his master's coursework, set chokers for two years on a logging crew based out of Dallas, Oregon. "Such field experience, along with a background in science, is a big plus for foresters who want to advance in their careers," he said. "Not only do you learn the skills associated with these professions, but you also learn how to interact and communicate with people who are so integral to the success of forest management."

Although he didn't specifically set out to work for private industry, it quickly became clear that the business of managing a renewable resource added another exciting layer of complexity to the profession. "The work I do is a great fit with my interests because I love being in the woods and applying science and economics in this environment," he said. "Managing and maximizing stand growth is both a challenge and an art."

In addition to a strong educational background, Geyer says that foresters need to be self-starters and willing to work in a variety of weather conditions and terrain. "You know you are in the right profession when you are excited to get up early, head into the mountains, jump out of the pickup in a cold, driving rain, and spend the day crawling up and down hills through trees and brush."

Eric is also proud of his profession and is an active member of the SAF. "I am passionate about forestry and the future of our profession," he said. He is a past chair of OSAF's Umpqua Chapter and received its Chapter Achievement Award for 2004. In 2005, OSAF named him Oregon Forester of the Year. ♦

Eric Geyer can be reached at EricG@rfpco.com.



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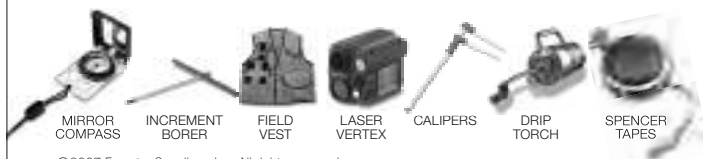
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Student Well Prepared for BLM Job

BY ARA ANDREA

Josh Weathers works as a recreation manager for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), overseeing six parks in Oregon's Cascade foothills. He holds a bachelor's degree in Natural Resources with a specialty emphasis in Forest Management from Oregon State University. Prior to that, Josh earned his Associate's Degree in Forest Resources Technology at Chemeketa Community College.

When asked about what his education in forestry did for him in his current position, he states, "One of the best things I did in my life was go back to school for something I had always wanted to do. The key was having the opportunity available for an education in a field such as forestry. For someone who never really enjoyed school, Chemeketa provided the perfect stepping stone to come back and learn some skills that would be valuable in

getting a job. It also provided the needed confidence and motivation for learning to get my bachelor's degree at Oregon State University."

Continues Josh, "I'd have to say that besides the preparation that school can give a person for a job in the fields of natural resources and forestry, the next biggest thing that my education gave me was a fantastic opportunity at social networking. Going to Chemeketa and Oregon State either gave me an actual connection, or showed me how to find a connection to nearly every local expert in the wide-ranging disciplines related to natural resources. With these connections, I was able to meet my future employers and supervisors, as well as others from different agencies.

"Now, as one of the few permanent



PHOTO COURTESY OF ARA ANDREA

Talking with the public is BLM Recreation Manager Josh Weathers' favorite part of his job.

employees with the BLM, I try and keep in close contact with my previous instructors at college, not only for informative purposes, but also for giving opportunities of employment to students of theirs. In my position, and for those I hire, we have the chance to educate the public on forest practices, and with a background in forestry, it helps to make an even more valuable connection for the public."

When asked about what he likes most about his job, Weathers ranks "talking to the public" as his number one, favorite thing to do. He states that with his upcoming membership with the Society of American Foresters he can definitely keep up on the current trends and information about forestry and natural resources. "I'm excited to become an active member in my local chapter of the SAF. I feel that it will allow me to make more connections with professionals, as well as keeping me up to date on current forest practices in the region." ♦

Ara Andrea can be reached at gara@chemeketa.edu.

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Why stay with old technology...

Forestry a Perfect Fit

BY KIM HUDNALL

I went back to school at age 25, a single mother with three children who desperately needed to find a profession I could support my family with, and also one where going to work each day didn't make me yearn for a healthy dose of Prozac. I knew I wanted to have a career where I could work outside, doing something that truly made a difference in the world.

I began my educational journey at Chemeketa Community College in the Forest Resources Technology Program because forestry was something I was interested in. I spent two years there, and what I expected from the program was an education—what I got was self confidence, friends and the belief that whatever I could dream I could do. I received my Associates degree in 1998 and decided I would further my edu-



PHOTO COURTESY OF ARA ANDREA

Kim Hudnall, a graduate of Chemeketa Community College and Oregon State University, is now a soil conservationist with the NRCS.

cation and attend Oregon State University. Although it took a bit longer than expected, I graduated with a Bachelor's of Science in Natural

Resources in 2004. I immediately went to work for the Natural Resources Conservation Service as a soil conservationist, a job I love.

Even though in my job I lean toward being a jack of all trades, I am able to bring forestry knowledge and technical abilities to my job, a skill that is rare in my agency. I am currently working in the McMinnville, Ore., field office, where, in addition to my soil con duties, I am also the forestry lead for a six-county basin. I approve practice specifications and do site visits for forestry-related conservation plans. I am lucky. I have a good job that supports my family and that I love. And everyday, I can say that in some small way, I have made a difference. What more could I ask for? ♦

Kim Hudnall is a soil conservationist with the USDA NRCS in McMinnville, Ore. She can be reached at 503-472-1474 or kim.hudnall@or.usda.gov.

Reaching Out to the Forest Sector's Future Workforce

BY NORIE DIMEO-EDIGER AND JULIE WOODWARD

The role of K-12 education usually comes up in discussions about where the forest sector workforce will come from in the future. The question is, what can be done to better expose high school students to information about forestry and forest products manufacturing so that they see attractive career options in the forest sector?

K-12 teachers and students always have been priority audiences for the Oregon Forest Resources Institute (OFRI). This is demonstrated by the variety of programs that OFRI supports and by the number of students served by those programs—more than 200,000 each year.

To expose high school students to career opportunities in the forest sector, OFRI is preparing two new publications on forestry and forest products manufacturing professions for classroom use. The first focuses on foresters and forestry-related careers requiring a college education. It will be mailed to high school career counselors and available to teachers on request this fall. The second looks at careers in logging and other forestry operations, as well as in wood products manufacturing where a college degree might not be required, but where on-the-job training is important. It will be mailed to counselors and available to teachers in the fall of 2008.

OFRI is also addressing careers in the forest sector in three publications in its magazine-style Special Report series. These include *Oregon's Forestry Professionals*, published in 2005, and two published in 2007: *Oregon's Forest Operators* and *Oregon's Skilled Forest Products Workforce*. All are available free from OFRI on request—visit www.oregon-forests.org or call 971-673-2944. ♦

Norie Dimeo-Ediger is the K-12 Program manager and Julie Woodward is the Rediscovery Forest Education specialist for the Oregon Forest Resources Institute. Norie can be reached at 971-673-2956 or dimeo-ediger@ofri.com. Julie can be reached at 503-584-7259 or woodward@ofri.com.

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So You Want to be a Forester?

BY BILL PETERSON

I'm not sure that this is my favorite recollection about being a forester. But perhaps it is the most memorable story to date—at least to me.

Back in the late 1970s, I hired on to an inventory crew on the Shoshone National Forest in northwestern Wyoming. The job was to hike into the mostly unroaded forest and collect data on timber stands, noting the details on slope, access, species, sizes and plant communities. We were a field-going group, and the handful of us (mostly) recent college graduates worked out of temporary camps that summer and fall. It was rugged work, but we were young men and up for the adventures that came with arduous daily hikes.

Now, northwest Wyoming is known for the spectacular Yellowstone National Park and our inventory crew was working in the undeveloped forestlands that bordered the park boundary. We were well aware of the fact that this area had one of the highest densities of grizzly bears in the lower 48 states, although none of us had actually encountered a “griz” in the wild. That situation, however, was about to change.

I was in my third summer on the Shoshone National Forest, having worked the first year running a chainsaw on the thinning crew and the following year marking and cruising timber for sale to the one sawmill in Cody. Stand inventory was considered top-notch work, in that it allowed us young technicians to employ more of our forestry skills, from aerial photo interpretation to stand examinations to rudimentary ecology work.

Due to the remote locations, the limited access and long distances into the wild, there was a safety concern about working alone. So we worked in pairs and kept track of our coworker's location a couple times a day. My partner was a strapping Midwestern lad who had recently graduated from Iowa State University in Ames, majoring in horticulture. Rob had a real knack for

keying botanical species, something that eluded my specific interest or coarser forestry training. I, too, had recently graduated, but from a New England forestry program, and was thrilled to be living a more independent life in the big sky country out west.

That particular morning was routine. We had arisen from our tents at daybreak to fix breakfast, clean up camp and get on the trail by 8:00 a.m. As four of the crew members were working in the same general area, we piled our gear and ourselves into the Ford Bronco and headed up Sunlight Creek as the sun began to crest the distant ridges.

Sunlight Creek is a relatively shallow, but wide trout stream, and we parked the rig on the shoulder of the road to walk a downfall across to the other side. We were often able to find a suitable log for crossing, and only occasionally fell into the stream that summer. On this morning, all four of us successfully crossed Sunlight Creek and then split into pairs to hike to our backcountry assignments. Rob and I first headed for an old clearing, got our bearings and began to record detailed information on the unharvested stands that surrounded the old opening.

Lunchtime found us in the middle of the clearing, sunning ourselves and grabbing a bite to eat before heading back into the thick lodgepole pine woods. We were sitting on an old buckskin log, facing into the center of the opening when we both noticed a light-brown critter ambling across our field of vision. A moose? No, it's a young bear. Just at that moment we noticed the distinctive hump on its back. A griz! In our excitement, we both stood, turned around and tripped over the log that we had just been sitting on. Quickly scrambling to our feet, we hot-footed it over to the only standing tree in the vicinity, figuring that this would be a safer perch. Rob, remembering the bear country safety etiquette of always helping your partner first, hoisted me up the snag so I could reach the lowest limbs. Snap! Both branches broke and I fell backwards on top of Rob.

The young bear was now long gone.

We headed back to the downed log and our day packs, gathering up the remains of our lunches, and started to walk across the clearcut in the direction that we had seen the young bear run. After a minute or two, we noticed some movement in the shadows at the end of the clearing a couple hundred yards away. It was another bear, this time a fully-grown adult. It was the mother griz! We now found ourselves between the yearling and the mother bear. Not a good situation to be in, and we didn't take long to convince ourselves that we needed to quickly exit this area.

Rob and I inched ourselves away from the mother bear, straining to look over our shoulders while heading to the edge of the clearing and toward the safety of Sunlight Creek. When we had reached the creek we didn't even stop to look for a log to cross, instead just waded through the cold mountain stream as if it wasn't there. We then hiked onto Sunlight Road and back to the safety of our vehicle. For the rest of the afternoon, we collected stand data on the safe side of the creek, although we both remained a bit jumpy.

The other crew members drifted back to our rendezvous spot at the previously agreed hour and Rob and I held court that evening on our adventures over the nightly campfire. We had never before felt so alive! ♦

At the time of this writing, Bill Peterson was an active SAF Central Oregon Chapter member and Natural Resources team leader on the Bend/Fort Rock Ranger District, Deschutes National Forest. In late May, Bill moved to the Green Mountain National Forest in Vermont, where he was offered the forest management program lead position, located in Rutland. That forest is just beginning to build a small timber sales program, and he will be the contracting officer for that effort. He was looking forward to moving to the New England area during black fly season. Bill can be reached at bpeterson@fs.fed.us.

Countdown to Convention '07

National Convention Offers Students Opportunities to Learn, Network, Find Jobs and Have a Good Time

BY LINDSAY MALONE

During these dog days of summer it can feel as if you're jumping the gun to think ahead to autumn classes or even beyond the upcoming term. But for students contemplating a career in one of the natural resources professions, this is an opportune time to take a moment and think about future aspirations. However, if the thought of making long-term plans right now sounds as appealing as bushwhacking up a 70 percent slope through devil's club and vine maple on a 90-degree day, why not set aside some time to earnestly explore your professional and academic goals by coming to Portland for the National Convention this October 23-28. Book those reservations now and you can enjoy the remaining weeks of freedom from homework.

For students just beginning to consider a career in forestry, attending the National Convention provides a setting conducive for gauging where their interests fit under the big tent of natural resource professions. This year's convention offers science and technical program tracks to gain knowledge on a broad spectrum of topics, ranging from bio-energy development and measurement technologies to recreation management and the business strategies of forest products companies. Bringing together more than 2,000 forestry professionals to talk shop and exchange ideas also provides student attendees with ample opportunities to converse with professional members about their experiences and find out what skills and expertise companies, agencies and organizations are looking for in future employees.

Checking out the Job Fair is a must: Some employers will be holding interviews and hiring on the spot, so don't forget to bring along a few copies of your resume.

Amid these learning and networking

opportunities are activities specifically designed for student attendees. Slated for the first evening of the convention are Student Orientation and the evening's signature event:

Quiz Bowl. Student teams from forestry schools across the country will test their forestry know-how in a head-to-head competition involving forestry trivia and a chance to take home the winning title. At the end of the week, the National Student Assembly (NSA) will take place at the World Forestry Center. Plans for the NSA include a reception, guest speaker and update on national SAF activities. This more formal part of the evening will be followed by the Stumptown Stomp—a self-guided tour highlighting Portland landmarks and ending with an all-ages gathering to celebrate a successful 2007 National Convention.

If this sounds like an appealing way to jumpstart your forestry career, take a few minutes to check out the National Convention website (safconvention.org), register and then congratulate yourself for making plans that will benefit you for years to come. To get the best bargain, sign up for "early-bird" registration before August 14. Reserve a hotel room now to increase the chance of securing accommodations at the discounted rates arranged for by SAF. Finally, talk to the academic advisors in your natural resources or forestry department to find out if your school has a program to assist students with the costs involved in attending the National Convention. ♦

Lindsay Malone is a member of the University of Washington Student Chapter in Seattle. She can be reached at lmalone@u.washington.edu.



Donations Sought for the Foresters' Fund Silent Auction and Raffle

BY NANCY PECKMAN

Sustaining America's Forests is the 2007 National Convention theme. We need your help in not only sustaining our forests, but sustaining the Foresters' Fund program through this year's Foresters' Fund raffle and silent auction.

A great idea began in 1962 to promote education and enhance public understanding of the forestry profession, and it is still working 45 years later! This year, \$30,000 will be available to state societies, divisions and chapters to promote education and enhance public understanding of the role of professional foresters and the importance of forests and forestry to society. Most of the money in this endowment has come from the raffle and silent auctions held during national conventions. The Oregon and Washington State Societies are seeking donations for two exciting National Convention events that benefit the Foresters' Fund.

We are also soliciting local businesses in western Oregon and Washington for donated items. The convention is a great place to advertise. There will be over 2,000 people participating in this event. Donations of "large" items before the convention will be highlighted in a Foresters' Fund brochure in the On-Site Convention Packet. If you know of a unique business that may be interested in this type of advertising through a donation, contact Tom Ortman at 360-695-8062 or Nancy Peckman at 360-537-8285.

It is best to get your donated items to us early. We have a safe storage place. Items can be sent to: Foresters' Fund, c/o Tom Ortman, 821 Friedel Ave., Vancouver, WA 98664.

Remember, all the proceeds go to a great cause—the Foresters' Fund. ♦

Nancy Peckman is co-chair of the 2007 National Convention Foresters' Fund Committee.

Is SAF "Extraction-oriented?"

BY PAUL W. ADAMS

Earlier this year, an Oregon SAF (OSAF) member attended a meeting of the Federal Forestlands Advisory Committee (FFAC) of the Oregon Board of Forestry. During the public comment period the member submitted and verbally highlighted the newly revised OSAF position statement on "Commercial Timber Harvest on Public Forest Lands in Oregon," a perspective that's clearly relevant to the work of the FFAC.

Following the brief input about the position statement, a member of the FFAC pointedly asked whether SAF was an "extraction-oriented" organization. The OSAF member was caught a bit off-guard by the question, but mustered a reasonable response for those in attendance. When I heard this story, it reminded me that people outside of SAF that have an interest in forestry issues will have perceptions of SAF and its members, and they may not be always what we expect or hope for.

So, consistent with the "Be Prepared" motto of the Boy Scouts, I offer the following notes and observations that may be useful when such questions arise about the "orientation" of SAF and its members. Of course, the SAF Mission and Code of Ethics also play a key role, and both are reflected here to some degree.

Although more broadly applicable than to just SAF and its members (e.g., even non-members are influ-



enced by SAF accreditation of university and continuing education programs), professional foresters 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 forestland that drive what SAF members are oriented toward. A clear example of this within SAF is that there are technical Working Groups and formal member affiliation for such areas as Recreation, Wilderness Management and Wildlife and Fish Ecology.

Another important and related characteristic of SAF and its members is their focus on active management of forestlands. This focus stems from:

- (1) Substantial knowledge (research and education) and experience with what works and what doesn't (all are vital given the site-specific, extended lives of forests); and
- (2) A service-to-society mission that compels actions that are most effective and efficient for providing for society's desires and needs/demands.

It's valuable to remember that some individuals and professional groups involved with forest resource issues do not have a service-to-society focus and world view like SAF. And a subset of these follow a philosophy in which nature with little or no human influence is considered supe-

rior in form and function. Such distinctions are important to recognize and highlight, particularly with forest issues that are often debated as science/technical matters when instead they are largely values or philosophy based.

Although somewhat imperfect, the employment affiliation of SAF members can provide some indication of their "orientation." However, looking at the March 2007 numbers for Oregon, there's little to suggest that a particular perspective is dominant: 27 percent public employment, 24 percent private industry/business, 26 percent retired, 11 percent consultants, and 12 percent students or other employment. We come from "all walks of forestry" and for a professional society such diversity clearly is an asset, particularly when SAF leaders and members offer our individual and collective views on important forestry issues.

Finally, the phrase "extraction-oriented" clearly presents some negative images and perceptions. Is this how we portray and perceive Native Americans who often fish for salmon? Do we use this phrase to describe shoppers at Fred Meyer or Safeway? It's important that SAF members challenge this negative image, whether or not the phrase is used intentionally to convey this impression.

Thus, many forestry professionals and SAF members do indeed work to provide a vital, renewable resource that our society demands and benefits from in many ways. And with their unique training, experience, and interaction with many other specialists, these professionals play a central role in helping ensure the fundamental benefits of environmental, economic and social sustainability from our forestlands and resources. ♦

Paul W. Adams is chair of the Oregon SAF Policy and Legislation Committee, and also serves as a professor and Extension specialist in the Forest Engineering Department at Oregon State University. He can be reached at 541-737-2946 or paul.adams@oregon-state.edu.



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Bob Deal Named OSAF Forester of the Year at Annual Meeting

Ninety members and guests attended this year's Oregon SAF Annual Meeting May 17-18 at The Riverhouse in Bend. The Central Oregon Chapter hosted the annual event, which was condensed due to the national convention coming to town in October. The meeting provided a combination of excellent indoor presentations along with a field trip centered on the theme of "Changing Facets of the Forest Community."

The evening of May 17 included a no-host social, banquet and program. After an informative presentation by Bob Boyd, historian for the High Desert Museum, Jim Rombach emceed the awards section of the evening.

Marvin Brown and Paul Adams, recently elected SAF Fellows, were recognized with a framed certificate for their outstanding contributions to the Society and the profession of forestry.



Newly elected Fellow Paul Adams, left, receives congratulations from OSAF Chair John Prendergast.

Lena Tucker, past chair of the Oregon Society, received a framed certificate for her leadership as state society chair in 2006.

The Lifetime Achievement Award is presented to members who have demonstrated lifetime contribution to SAF and the forestry profession. The award was given to Jim Brown, a former Oregon state forester who served in that position for 16 years. He then served as Governor Kulongowski's Natural Resource Policy director. He now has a consulting company, Jim Brown Consulting, LLC. Jim has been active in the National Association of State Foresters and has served on many boards and commissions. An

SAF member since 1962, he was elected Fellow in 1988. He has held various SAF offices at all levels.



Edie Neff receives a special award from John Prendergast.

A special "Chairman's Appreciation Award" was given to Edie Neff for her extraordinary service to the OSAF and the forestry profession over a significant amount of time. Edie graduated from the University of New Hampshire in 1944 with a major in botany and a minor in forestry, and a masters in botany in 1948, again from UNH. She would have majored in forestry, but was not allowed to because she was a female; however, she took as many forestry classes as possible. While in college, the war was on and a lot of the men were in the service, so she was able to do a lot of field work that would normally have been done by men. She gained excellent field experience in surveying, logging layout and cruising. She worked in the experiment lab so she was able to practice botany as well as forestry. She married Al Neff, also a forester, in 1947, and proceeded to have five girls and a boy, thus taking her out of the workforce.

Al became a member of SAF in 1949. Edie kept up with the goings on of SAF through Al. However, in 1978, she decided it was time she obtained her "own" SAF membership. During her past 63 years connected with forestry, 29 of those were as an SAF member. She has served in many different SAF capacities over the years. Says Foxie Proctor, a fellow female

SAFer, "I met Edie 25 years ago when I thought I was one of the first women in the industry. I have always admired Edie for her energy, her love of forestry and her positive attitude. She was and will remain a role model for me."

The Coos Chapter took the Chapter Achievement award home this year. They received \$100 to celebrate their achievements. While the chapter's accomplishments are too numerous to outline here, a few highlights include:

- Hosting the 2006 OSAF annual meeting and raising \$4,535 toward the Foresters' Fund.
- Provided \$2,460 in scholarships to Coos County high school students.
- Charitable contributions given to Humboldt State University SAF Student Chapter, Coos County Logging Museum, SAF Leadership Conference, Coos County 4H Leaders Association and Keep Oregon Green.
- Crafted educational partnerships with other organizations to provide Natural Resource Days and Project Learning Tree workshops.

Stefanie Larew and Sarah Davison were awarded the Outstanding Student Member Award. Both received a framed certificate and paid attendance to the annual meeting.

Stefanie graduated this year with a degree in forest management from OSU. Last year she worked as an intern for the Oregon Department of Forestry and has also worked summers fire fighting in southern Oregon. Nominator



Stefanie Larew receives the outstanding student member award at the annual meeting.

Matthew Krunglevich says, "Stefanie will make an excellent professional forester and will continue to promote SAF values." She is seeking employment in the Salem area.

Sarah Davison, who was unable to attend the meeting, graduated this year with a degree in forest management. She worked as an intern for

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 21)



OSAF Foundation Forum

Scholarship Recipients Attend Fellows' Luncheon

Thirty-five SAF Fellows, OSAF Foundation Trustees and guests congregated at OSU's College of Forestry's Peavy Arboretum near Corvallis for the annual Fellows Luncheon on June 14. The group heard comments from SAF President John McMahon, OSU College of Forestry Dean Hal Salwasser, Oregon State Forester Marvin Brown, and Mary Beth McNair, Zach Peterson and Justin McMinds, this year's Foundation's scholarship recipients.

Mary Beth McNair is a post-baccalaureate student and is finishing up her last year as a dual Forest Engineering/Civil Engineering degree. This summer she is completing a civil engineering internship for Kiewit in Hawaii and working on a project



PHOTO COURTESY OF LORI RASOR

OSAF Foundation Scholarship recipients Mary Beth McNair, Justin McMinds and Zach Peterson were introduced to members at the OSAF Fellow's Luncheon.

researching the history of forest engineering licensure in the state of Oregon. She assisted in the rebuilding of Fort Clatsop and participates in many SAF and College of Forestry activities, including serving as SAF secretary and founding the OSU Chapter of Engineers without Borders.

Zach Peterson will be entering his senior year in Forest Management and plans to graduate with a bachelor's degree in 2008. This summer he is working as a prevention technician and forest protection officer on the McKenzie River Ranger District, Willamette National Forest. Originally from Oakridge, Ore., he is an active member of the SAF OSU Student Chapter and serves as vice president of Xi Sigma Pi Forestry Honor Society. He plans to continue his schooling in a master's program.

Justin McMinds is a Forest Management student entering his third year of college. From Jefferson, Ore., he is spending his summer in Grants Pass with the Oregon Department of Forestry completing a forest management internship. He is involved in Scouting and recently started a new unit out of Albany. He is also a volunteer instructor for a wood shop class through Linn-Benton Community College. Upon graduation, he would like to work for ODF as a contract administrator like his father.

In addition to the Fellows Luncheon, the OSAF Foundation held a meeting in the morning to discuss the strategic plan, budget details and other Foundation business. A special thanks goes to Starker Forests for hosting the lunches. ♦

Biomass Workshop Slated for September

A two-day workshop titled: "Biomass Workshop from Feedstock to Product," will be held September 19-20 at the College of the Siskiyous in Weed, Calif. Organized by the Center for Forestry at UC Berkeley, it will provide a forum for key players to discuss biomass resource and market development opportunities in northern

California and southern Oregon.

The first day will consist of panel presentations in the areas of feedstocks and fiber supply, biomass conversion technologies (products and energy), policy and environmental considerations, and will conclude with identification of funding and sources of assistance. The second day will consist of a

field tour to a number of existing biomass utilization facilities in northern California and southern Oregon.

The target audience includes public, private and tribal forest resource managers, policy makers, natural resource professionals, loggers, biomass contractors, interested businesses, utility companies and interested citizens.

Speakers are currently being finalized by the organizing committee and will include respected representatives from the public, private and nonprofit sectors.

For further information, contact Sherry Cooper at UC Cooperative Extension via slcooper@nature.berkeley.edu or 530-224-4902, or visit the conference website at <http://forestry.berkeley.edu/biomass>. ♦

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Calendar of Events

International Conference on Forest Growth and Timber Quality, Aug. 7-10, Portland, OR. Contact: WFCa.

IMBA Trailbuilding School, Aug. 23-26, Port Angeles, WA; Sept. 6-9, Idaho Falls, ID; Sept. 13-16, Spokane, WA; and Sept. 27-30, Medford, OR. Contact: www.imba.com/tcc/trailschool.html.

Worker Protection Standard, Aug. 24, Salem, OR. Contact: Chemeketa Community College, 503-399-5139.

Investing Globally in Forestland Summit, Sept. 10-12, Portland, OR. Contact: Sara Wu, sarawu@world-forestry.org, 503-488-2130.

PNW-ISA Annual Training Conference, Sept. 16-19, Corvallis, OR. Contact: www.pnwisa.org/conference.html.

Biomass Workshop: From Feedstock to Product, Sept. 19-20, Weed, CA. Contact: Sherry Cooper, UC Coop Extension, 530-224-4902, slcooper@nature.berkeley.edu.

Building and Maintaining Eastside Low Volume Forest Roads, Sept. 20, Spokane, WA. Contact: WFCa.

Intro to GIS Applications in Natural Resources with ArcGIS, Sept. 20-21 and Dec. 6-7, Corvallis, OR. Contact: Wing.

Low Volume Eastside Forest Road Surfacing, Sept. 21, Spokane, WA. Contact: WFCa.

Contact Information

WFCa: Western Forestry and Conservation Association, 4033 SW Canyon Rd., Portland, OR 97221, 503-226-4562; richard@westernforestry.org; www.westernforestry.org.

Wing: Michael Wing, 541-737-4009, michael.wing@oregonstate.edu.

Send calendar items to the editor, *Western Forester*, 4033 SW Canyon Rd., Portland, OR 97221; fax 503-226-2515; rasor@safnwo.org. The deadline for the Sept./Oct. 2007 issue is August 13, 2007.

Convention Website

For all your convention needs, visit www.safconvention.org

Practical Application of New Technology for Foresters seminar, Sept. 26-27 and Nov. 14-15, both in Beaverton, OR. Contact: Jon Aschenbach, 503-646-5393, jaschenbach@atterbury.com, www.atterbury.com.

Inland Empire Dry Kiln Drying Workshop, Oct. 1-4, Moscow, ID. Contact: University of Idaho Forest Products Dept., 208-885-9663, fprod@uidaho.edu.

SAF National Convention, Oct. 23-27, Portland, OR. Contact: www.safconvention.org.

Pacific Logging Congress, Nov. 5-7, Maui, Hawaii. Contact: www.pacific-loggingcongress.org.

PNW Integrated Vegetation Management Association Annual

Meeting, Nov. 6-7, Portland, OR. Contact: WFCa.

Water Policy Conference, Nov. 7-9, Stevenson, WA. Contact: Joy Thompson, 509-335-3530, joyt@wsu.edu.

Forestland Security, Nov. 9, Portland, OR. Contact: WFCa.

The Basics of Accurate Forest Land Appraisal—Precisely! Nov. 12-15, Corvallis, OR. Contact: OSU Conference Services, 541-737-9300.

Forest Health: Identification and Management of Forest Insects and Diseases, Dec. 11-12, Spokane, WA. Contact: WFCa.

Advanced GIS Applications in Natural Resources with ArcGIS, Dec. 13-14, Corvallis, OR. Contact: Wing.

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Council Report: SAF is Working and Improving in Many Arenas

BY G. KIRK DAVID

SAF Council met June 9-10, 2007, at Wild Acres in Bethesda, Maryland. Interim actions ratified include:



(1) President John McMahon's April 19 Fiscal Year 2008 Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Budget testimony to the Senate Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Interior and Related Agencies.

(2) Past President John Helms' April 26 "Forests and Climate Change" testimony before the House of Representatives Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming.

(3) EVP Michael Goergen's April 30 letter to the Tongass National Forest Supervisor commenting on the Tongass Land Management Plan Amendment Draft Environmental Impact Statement. AKSAF provided extensive background information and specifically asked for national office support for this significant issue.

(4) EVP Michael Goergen's May 1

"Role of Forests in Climate Change" testimony to the House of Representatives Natural Resources Committee.

(5) President John McMahon's June 1 letter to Congressman Jim Ramstad in support of the Community Forestry Conservation Act.

Strategic Outcome #1: Be the Leading Professional Forestry Organization in the World

- House of Society Delegates (HSD) Chair Craig Vollmer reported progress with Convener Calls in preparation for the October HSD meeting. He encourages more participation in the process from state society chairs.

- Forest Science & Technology Board (FS&TB) Chair Bill Rockwell reported on the board's numerous activities. Of particular note is preparation for the online version of the *Dictionary of Forestry* and development of an online *Forestry Encyclopedia*.

- Council moved to accept the Committee on Professional Recognition and FS&TB selected nominees for the 2007 SAF National Awards.

- Council received a marketing and membership update. Our member

retention rate is holding steady and matches the current average of other associations. Staff and volunteer member interviews and four focus groups have been completed. The remaining two focus groups and outside "environmental scan" are scheduled to be completed so member surveys can be distributed by July and results compiled in time for the October Council meeting.

- Council spent extensive time considering recommendations for revisions to voting, office holding and membership categories—with the aim of maintaining the professional forester status of the Society while providing for allied natural resource professionals and associated interests in the broad field of forestry to participate. Of course, any proposals for constitutional changes would require an affirmative vote of the membership before they could be enacted.

- Council moved to make formatting improvements for the 2008 SAF Strategic Plan. This version is forwarded to HSD for comment.

- Council moved to form a subcommittee to explore new SAF Funding and Development opportunities, with a goal of reducing membership dues from 40 down to 20 percent of our revenue stream.

Strategic Outcome #3: Provide Enhanced Service to Society at Large

- With reference to his February 2007 *Forestry Source* commentary, Vice President Tom Thompson engaged Council in a discussion of the urban communication "disconnect" with natural resource issue realities. He posed several questions for SAF to consider, including whether we think we have a role in addressing the situation, and ways we might want to partner with others to approach solutions.

Strategic Outcome #4: Accomplish Effective Engagement in Forest Policy

- Committee on Forest Policy (CFP) representative Doug Williams updated Council on the 10 expiring or new position statements the committee is currently reviewing and the 14 other projects they are engaging or tracking. Council moved to approve completed



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position statement revisions of: 1) Conservation Easements; and 2) Timber Harvesting on Federal, State and Other Public Forest Lands. CFP continues to encourage advice from state policy chairs on whether to expire, renew or revise our position statements. AKSAF has expressed interest in renewing the Clearcutting statement.

- EVP Michael Goergen reported on an SAF proposal to create a Center for Evidence Based Natural Resource Management.

Strategic Outcome #5: Enhance Professional Education, Performance and Leadership

As a result of the SAF Certification Review Board (CRB) seeking Personnel Certification Accreditation for the Certified Forester® program from the American National Standards Institute, Council moved to give the CRB oversight of the Continuing Forestry Education Certificate program in order to bring international credentialing compliance to both programs.

- Dr. George Brown, Diversity chair of the National Association of University Forest Resource Programs, proposed the efficiency of coordinating the duplicative natural resource profession's diversity efforts and activities of the various industries, agencies and associations be in one place. Council moved to provide the SAF Diversity Committee as that mechanism.

- Council moved to approve: 1) the urban forestry accreditation standards, procedures and guidelines for incorporation into the SAF Accreditation Handbook effective August 1, 2007; and 2) a Committee on Accreditation charter revision prepared by the Educational Policy Review Committee.

- Council moved to approve revisions to the Task Force on Forest Technology School Accreditation (Monica Spicker of Spokane Community College and Joan DeYoung, CF, of Mt. Hood Community College are Task Force members).

- Council received an update on the 2007 National Convention and moved to accept Albuquerque, NM as the 2010 convention site.

Strategic Outcome #6: Ensure Development and Sound Stewardship of SAF's Resources

- Larry Burner, CFO, and Finance and Investment Committee member Rick Barnes presented Council with a positive update on both topics.

- To assist state societies with additional time to include candidates on the SAF electronic ballot, Council moved to amend SAF Bylaws to have ballots activated by October 1 rather than September 1. Voting deadline will be October 31.

- SAF's insurance broker reviewed our comprehensive general liability coverage. Other than for an indoor meeting involving only SAF members, all SAF event organizers need to notify mcreech@jzainc.com at 301-664-9487 at least 30 days in advance to obtain coverage for that event.

This report can only highlight the many issues discussed and actions taken by Council at this meeting. For a more in-depth explanation of any of these subjects, feel free to contact your Council representative. We are always glad to clarify topics and to receive commentary from SAF members. ♦

District 1 Council Representative Kirk David can be reached at 208-683-3168 or kirkdavid@earthlink.net. District 2 Council Representative Rick Barnes can be reached at 541-673-1208 or rbarnes@barnesinc.com.

OSAF Awards

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17)

Weyerhaeuser last summer in coastal Carolina, and also had academic and extracurricular success at OSU. She is currently working as a federal career intern with the BLM in Grants Pass.



Bob Deal, left, receives the Forester of the Year award from OSAF Chair John Prendergast.

Portland Chapter member Bob Deal received the Forester of the Year award for his exceptional service to SAF at many levels. Bob is a research silviculturist at the USFS Pacific Northwest Research Station in Portland and a team leader for the Sustainable Wood Production Initiative. Bob's SAF functions have been particularly diverse and productive. For the Portland Chapter, he did yeoman's duty when he stepped into the chapter chair position to fill the unexpired term of Dick Holmes. He served in this capacity until, for federal policy reasons, he had to resign from this role. He has also served as program committee chair. Bob was co-chair of the SAF Tri-State Society meeting in 2005 and has served as chair of the Silviculture Working Group. He is currently a member of the Forest Science and Technology Board. He also serves as editor of the *Western Journal of Applied Forestry*. Bob is to be commended for his contributions to the profession in Oregon and beyond. ♦

SUGGESTIONS WANTED

The Western Forester wants your ideas for themes for 2008.

Please take a moment to send a few suggestions on the topics and emerging issues you would like to read about to editor Lori Rasor at rasor@safnw.org.



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Policy Scoreboard

Editor's Note: To keep SAF members informed of state society policy activities, Policy Scoreboard is a regular feature in the Western Forester. The intent is to provide a brief explanation of the policy activity—you are encouraged to follow up with the listed contact person for detailed information.



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Idaho Legislature. During the 2007 legislative session, concurrent resolutions created interim committees to study two key forestry issues. The eight-member National Forest System and Woody Biomass Interim Committee will deal with both issues. The committee's charge is "to study the decline in receipts on national forest system lands and to study issues related to woody biomass and incentives to make woody biomass available to be processed into value-added products." Contact: Jay O'Laughlin, IESAF policy chair, 208-885-5776, jayo@uidaho.edu.

Idaho Bill on Conservation

Easement Incentives. A bill patterned after a Colorado law was introduced in 2007 as the Idaho Ranch, Farm and Forest Protection Act. It would provide state income tax credits for half the value of qualifying conservation easements and has the support of many interest groups, including The Nature Conservancy, Intermountain Forest Association, and Idaho Forest Owners Association. Although the bill did not get a hearing in 2007, supporters are expected to reintroduce it in 2008. The Inland Empire SAF has created a task force to consider a position statement supporting conservation easements in the state, and will be working on it with the Intermountain SAF. Contact: Jay O'Laughlin, IESAF policy chair, 208-885-5776, jayo@uidaho.edu.

Washington State Bill on

Registration of Consultants. A bill that would require consulting foresters to be licensed in the state of Washington was introduced in the legislature in 2007. The bill and its associated controversies were

featured on page 1, *The Forestry Source*, April 2007. The Inland Empire and Washington State Societies have created a joint task force to consider a position statement on this bill. Contact: Doug St. John, WSSAF policy co-chair, dougstjohn@greencrow.com.

Oregon Nature Conservancy Urges More Fuel Treatments.

Oregon Nature Conservancy Director Russ Hoeflich makes a strong case for stepping up the pace of fuel treatments in Oregon's federal forests, where 11.3 million acres of land outside Wilderness and roadless areas are in fire regime condition classes 2 and 3. Addressing the 42nd annual meeting of the Western Forest Economists at the Resort on the Mountain in Welches, Ore., he said the bottom line is that federal agencies need to increase treatments three to five times above current levels. See PowerPoint presentation at www.masonbruce.com/wfe/2007Program/Hoeflich_1.pdf.

Updated Commercial Harvest Position Shared, Others Under Review.

OSAF's newly updated position statement on "Commercial Timber Harvest on Public Lands in Oregon" has been widely shared with policy and decision makers. This position, along with OSAF's seven other active statements on key forestry issues, were sent to each member of the Oregon Legislature during the 2007 session. In addition, OSAF leaders distributed and called attention to the position statement at public meetings of the Board of Forestry and its Federal Forest Lands Advisory Committee. This issue remains very timely given extensive forest management needs and costs on federal lands, and



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long-held economic obligations to communities by adjacent state and federal forests. In addition to some specifics about the county payments issue, the position update incorporates new statements about energy, safety and restoration.

Within the next 15 months, several OSAF position statements are set to expire, and the OSAF Policy and Legislation Committee has begun reviewing them for potential revision and update. "Landslides on Forest Lands" will expire in December 2007, and those expiring in 2008 include "Salvage Harvesting," "Clearcutting," "Using Pesticides on Forest Lands," and "Active Management to Achieve and Maintain Healthy Forests." All OSAF members are encouraged to take a fresh look at these statements and pass along any comments to your local chapter officers or the Policy Committee. All OSAF position statements are online and a useful two-page handout with the eight core positions is available at www.forestry.org/pdf/core_position07.pdf. Contact: Paul Adams, OSAF Policy chair, 541-737-2946; paul.adams@oregonstate.edu.

OSAF Offers Comments on Biomass Definition in Energy Bill.

In May, OSAF sent a letter to the Oregon House Committee that was considering a bill (SB 838) that would establish renewable energy standards and compliance guidelines for electric utilities and suppliers in the state. Although OSAF did not take a position on SB 838, it did comment that the bill's definition of forest biomass seemed unnecessarily restrictive and was inconsistent with the broader definition (from SAF's *Dictionary of Forestry*) accepted among forestry professionals. The letter also emphasized that Oregon's forest productivity provides great potential for energy production from forest biomass, and that such expanded uses could provide important markets for landowners and related benefits, including reduced smoke from slash burning and less pressure for

alternate land uses. Although the bill passed without a change in the biomass definition, OSAF may be able to weigh in again as a review of this bill is likely during the 2009 session. Contact: Paul Adams, OSAF Policy chair, 541-737-2946; paul.adams@oregonstate.edu.

Washington DNR reduces harvest.

Washington's trust land harvest level of 700 million board feet per year (set in 2004) was set knowing several estimated factors likely would change the harvest level. In addition, shortly after the harvest level was set, a lawsuit was filed surrounding spotted owl management, mostly on the Olympic Experimental State Forest. The bottom line is that once the Riparian Strategy and lawsuit settlement were factored into the sustained harvest, the newly revised harvest level is 50 mmbf lower than the original estimate. Still to come is a marbled murrelet strategy and land use planning requirements that could again

modify the harvest level. In a quirk of harvest level mathematics, DNR's sales levels will continue to rise over the next two fiscal years to make up for an arrearage in the first years of the decadal harvest schedule. Contact: Bob Dick, WSSAF Policy co-chair, bdick@amforest.org.

Washington DNR Aquatics Habitat Conservation Plan.

Washington DNR manages the state's tidelands and appurtenant uplands, including a number of log transfer facilities. DNR is writing an aquatics HCP to deal with heightened interests in such lands, particularly in Puget Sound. Log transport and storage are vital for many log users on or near Washington's deepwater ports, and while not strictly a forestry issue, is of substantial interest to many in the forestry community. Interested parties should contact DNR's David Pallazzi at 360-902-1000 or David.Pallazzi@dnr.wa.gov. ♦



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