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Multiple-use Forestry: Time for a Change in Federal Forest Management?

BY BOB DEAL

Is the concept of multiple use still valid and applicable to federal forest management or has it evolved into something rather different from its original vision and intent?



The concept of multiple-use forestry was established more than 50 years ago when the Multiple-Use and Sustained-Yield Act (MUSYA) was passed in 1960. However, the idea has evolved and been modified by changing public demands and increasing scrutiny of federal land management where today the focus is on non-timber objectives and the goods and services these lands provide. This article will provide an overview of the history of multiple-use forestry, how it has evolved, challenges, and emerging opportunities. Other articles in this issue will provide different perspectives on multiple-use management from federal forest managers, non-governmental agencies, and private forest managers in the region.

It is helpful to review the concept and set the historical context of multiple-use forestry. The Forest Reserve Act in 1891 and the Organic Act of 1897 set aside forest reserves from public lands that would later become national forests. The purpose of these reserves was primarily timber production and watershed and forest protection, with



PHOTO COURTESY OF USDA FOREST SERVICE

Canoers enjoy Scott Lake in the Willamette National Forest with the Three Sisters Mountains in the background.

the intent to provide a sustainable supply of timber and range, and a dependable flow of water for future generations.

The focus on timber, water, and grazing began to change and by the 1950s national forests no longer held enough of all resources to meet the growing needs of an increasing population and an expanding economy. Changing public demands were also apparent—the public wanted a broader suite of services provided from public lands including fish, wildlife, and recreational uses. This shift led to the passage of the Multiple-Use and Sustained-Yield Act (MUSYA) in 1960, the first of many new environmental laws in the 1960s and 1970s. Other

important laws created during this time included the Wilderness Act, Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

MUSYA, as a starting point, authorized and directed the Secretary of Agriculture to develop and administer the renewable resources on national forests for multiple use and sustained yield. With this law, the Forest Service (USFS) faced a mandate to include the five major uses (timber, water, range, recreation, wildlife) of national forests with no use greater than any other. MUSYA defined multiple use as the “management of all the various renew-

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able surface resources of the national forests so that they are utilized in the combination that will meet all the needs of the American people.” Sustained yield was defined in MUSYA as “the achievement and maintenance in perpetuity of a high-level annual or regular periodic output of the various renewable resources of the national forests without impairment of the productivity of the land.” Essentially, MUSYA directed the USFS to give equal consideration to outdoor recreation, range, timber, water, and wildlife and fish.

Challenges for multiple-use forestry

However, the implementation of MUSYA did not end all conflicts caused by the increasing demand for resources from public lands and an intense debate started to determine the most desirable balance of goods



PHOTO COURTESY OF USDA FOREST SERVICE

A forwarder collects small-diameter bundles of trees that are used for biomass.

and services provided by multiple-use forestry. It was apparent that all resources could not be provided on all lands and the public was becoming more interested in being directly

involved with management decisions. The National Federal Management Act (NFMA) of 1976 directed more public input into management and planning of forestlands. This legislation set up a new process for public input and consultation with scientists and outside organizations on management plans for national forests. However, NFMA did not solve problems, but rather developed into a legal chess match between groups with differing visions of the future forest. Wilderness areas and national monuments in national forests narrowly limited management options and created preserves more analogous to national parks. Other forests continued to harvest timber at levels that many felt were unsustainable with road building and clearcutting that was socially unacceptable with some segments of the public.

Management plans and alternatives developed through NFMA were increasingly challenged in courts and lawsuits delayed or prevented adoption of forest plans. For the Pacific Northwest, conflicts over old-growth forests and the northern spotted owl culminated with the implementation of the Northwest Forest Plan (NWFP) in 1994, and management shifted from sustainable timber production to an emphasis on endangered species.



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Next Issue: Experimental Forests—Bridging Science and Management

In the decade preceding the NWFP, annual timber volume sold averaged about 4.5 billion board feet (BDFT) in the NWFP area of Oregon and Washington, and the final NWFP called for an average probable sale quantity (PSQ) of 805 million BDFT. One of the main goals of the NWFP, along with conserving biodiversity and owl habitat, was “the need for a sustainable supply of timber and other forest products that will help maintain the stability of local and regional economies.” However, this goal of a reduced but predictable and sustainable timber harvest on federal lands was not met and had significant negative effects on rural economies.

In Alaska, subsistence use, fish and wildlife habitat, and recreation came to dominate management plans in the region. The closure of pulp mills in Alaska in the late 1990s led to a greatly scaled back timber program. For the Tongass National Forest, the largest national forest in the country, annual timber harvest declined from over 600 million BDFT to current levels of less than 50 million BDFT. These changes both in Alaska and the Pacific Northwest underscore the continued challenges with multiple-use forestry and the difficulty of providing many goods and services from federal forests in an integrated plan that satisfies the general public.

Perhaps multiple-use forestry is no longer a relevant concept or is too difficult to implement. Part of the problem is that multiple use is difficult to explain to the public in a meaningful fashion. However, I do believe there are opportunities to reframe the discussion more broadly using an ecosystem services framework rather than multiple-use forestry. Some ideas are provided next.

Opportunities and changes for multiple-use forestry

A general agreement among stakeholders is that all lands cannot simultaneously provide all goods and services. Some special or dominant use is necessary to provide a focus on the highest priorities at broad scales. For example, some of this prioritization is already in place with Wilderness and roadless areas, and riparian and late successional reserves that restrict for-

est management. Other areas such as matrix lands in the PNW region have a greater focus on timber production, but still lack consensus relative to timber harvest volume, age of stand to harvest, intensity of management practices (e.g., regeneration harvesting vs. plantation thinning), and local input vs. national support from conservation and timber groups. However, some new programs appear to be effective in getting more projects implemented and with broader public support. Forest collaborative groups, stewardship contracting, and the use of an ecosystem services framework may provide new means for accomplishing necessary improvement projects as an integrating concept for federal agencies.

Interest in developing an all-lands approach to forest restoration led to the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration (CFLR) program to



PHOTO COURTESY OF USDA FOREST SERVICE

A forester evaluates mapping in a riparian area in Josephine County, Oregon.

encourage collaborative, science-based ecosystem restoration of priority forest landscapes. The CFLR has goals to encourage ecological, economic, and social sustainability; leverage local resources with national and private resources; facilitate the reduction of uncharacteristic wildfire; encourage utilization of forest restoration by-products to offset treatment costs to benefit local rural economies; and to improve forest health. Oregon, Washington, and Idaho have seven large CFLR collaboratives and these planning efforts often include both

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public and private lands using a collaborative management approach for forest restoration. In addition to the large CFLR efforts, most national forests in the PNW and Alaska now have formal forest collaborative groups established to develop common goals and consensus on projects that include restoration of timber, water, fish and wildlife habitat, and recreation (multiple-use forestry by a different name).

Stewardship contracting includes management practices designed to improve forest restoration on public lands. With stewardship, agencies have adopted "collaboration" as a means to develop implementable land management projects that meet the goals and objectives of forest plans and benefit local and rural communities. These projects shift the focus of federal forestland management away from the material being removed and toward a desired future resource condition.

Stewardship contracts are also a means for federal agencies to contribute to the development of sustainable rural communities, restore and maintain healthy forest ecosystems, and provide a continuing source of local income and employment. Stewardship contracting blends service and timber sale contracts resulting in a new tool that invests receipts generated back into the projects to com-

plete additional on-the-ground treatments. Examples include road and trail maintenance to restore water quality, thinning of stands to promote older forest characteristics and habitat for wildlife or fisheries, use of prescribed fire to improve stand structure, and reducing fire hazards for watershed restoration or maintenance of wildlife or fish habitat. The concepts of "stewardship" and "restoration" have an appeal to both the public and private sectors and may enable necessary efforts to improve conditions on national forestlands.

Ecosystem services, in conjunction with the concepts of restoration and stewardship, has the potential to provide a new way of framing and describing the comprehensive set of benefits that people receive from forests and landscapes. These include commonly recognized goods such as timber and fresh water, as well as processes like climate regulation, soil formation, and cultural assets. The Forest Service has been exploring use of the framework of ecosystem services as a way to describe forest values provided by federal lands and to attract and build partnerships with stakeholders and non-government organizations to implement needed projects.

The Forest Service is working with a variety of private forest landowners to

develop an ecosystem services framework to broadly conserve biodiversity and integrate management of private and public lands to restore watersheds and enhance wildlife and fisheries habitat across ownership boundaries. The new USFS Planning Rule is also using the concept of ecosystem services to describe and articulate benefits provided from public lands. In addition, the agency is in the early stages of applying ecosystem services to operations and management decisions. Water is increasingly recognized as a critical ecosystem service and federal agencies are investing resources to both quantify and describe the value of water provided from public lands.

Overall, these new programs are showing potential to move forward on the management of federal lands using a more collaborative approach. I also see encouraging signs in the development of an all-lands approach to managing forestlands with many federal, state, and private landowners working together to improve management across broad landscapes. In addition, an ecosystem services approach can help agencies identify why particular management actions are needed and the quantity or quality of services these management activities provide.

Managing forests to provide a broad collection of goods and services encourages an interdisciplinary and landscape-scale perspective that is critical to help land managers integrate and assess potential tradeoffs among different ecosystem services. In summary, the management of federal lands appears to be moving more toward a consensus-based approach that will provide a broad suite of values that may resonate more effectively with the public than the concept of multiple-use forestry. ♦

Bob Deal is a research forester for the USDA Forest Service PNW Research Station in Portland, Ore. Bob is involved in many SAF activities including serving as the Portland Chapter chair, on the national Forest Science and Technology Board, and as editor of the Dictionary of Forestry. He can be reached at 503-808-2015 or rdeal@fs.fed.us.



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"Serving Many of the Reforestation Needs of the World From This Location Since 1889"

Siuslaw National Forest Emphasizes Restoration, Recreation, and Partnerships

BY JERRY INGERSOLL

It's a good time to be a forester.

Forests in western North America are valued today for a wider range of ecosystem services and multiple uses than ever before, and our understanding of forest ecosystems and their connections with human communities has grown along with the demands we ask of forests and foresters.

The SAF Code of Ethics defines our work in terms that resonate today:

The profession of forestry serves society by fostering stewardship of the world's forests. Because forests provide valuable resources and perform critical ecological functions, they are vital to the wellbeing of both society and the biosphere.

...foresters seek to sustain and protect a variety of forest uses and attributes, such as aesthetic values, air and water quality, biodiversity, recreation, timber production, and wildlife habitat.

The profession of forestry is more diverse than ever, and so are the uses for which forests are managed. Anyone who thinks of forestry only in terms of a single objective is missing the richness of the field. But political conflict can sometimes make us forget the opportunities we have to work together. Gifford Pinchot wrote that:

There are many great interests on the national forests which sometimes conflict a little. They must all be made to fit into one another so that the machine runs smoothly as a whole.

The western slopes of the Oregon Coast Range include industrial forestlands, private woodlands and pasture, state forests and parks, Tribal lands, and the Siuslaw National Forest, each managed for different purposes and uses and contributing to a larger whole, in which the landscape provides wood, water, wildlife and fish habitat,



PHOTO COURTESY OF SIUSLAW NATIONAL FOREST

The Siuslaw National Forest is managed for restoration of late-seral conditions.

recreation, and scenic beauty. Retirees and service-sector workers live alongside farmers, loggers, and fishermen. If that's not multiple use, what is?

Once managed chiefly for timber production, the Siuslaw National Forest today emphasizes restoration, recreation, and partnerships. The Forest Service thins plantations, restoring natural successional pathways toward late-seral conditions, growing large trees, increasing species richness, and fostering multi-storied canopies. Proceeds from timber sales are invested in watershed restoration, fisheries, wildlife habitat, and a sustainable road system on public and private lands. The Siuslaw's annual harvest of 40 MMBF brings in receipts of more than \$5 million to support a restoration economy in partnership with local watershed councils and stewardship groups.

The lands of the Siuslaw National Forest serve as refugia for plants and animals that depend on mature forests and late-seral conditions. These temperate rainforests are one of the most productive areas in the world for carbon sequestration. Surrounding private lands, on the other hand, are managed much more intensively for timber production. Working across

boundaries, watershed councils leverage state and federal grants to recover salmon habitat so that "the machine runs smoothly as a whole." Without industrial forests, we could not meet society's demand for wood or sustain local sawmills. Without reserves on federal forests, we could not sustain the ecosystem. Diverse landowners together provide the full suite of multiple-use values and services for people of the coast range.

Challenges for the future include climate change; invasive species; revision of the Northwest Forest Plan; transition from thinning as plantations on public land mature; maintenance of meadows, pollinators, and early seral habitats; and sustaining livable communities and vibrant economies. The complexity of these challenges will continue to require skill and diplomacy from foresters, other natural resource professionals, and community leadership. But if this were an easy job, anyone could do it. ♦

Jerry Ingersoll, an SAF member, is forest supervisor on the Siuslaw National Forest in Corvallis, Ore. He can be reached at 541-750-7010 or jingersoll@fs.fed.us.

Pope Resources Optimizes Uses Across All Operations

BY ADRIAN MILLER

Foresters instinctively think of the forest as having multiple uses. It's a fundamental concept of our training and our job to figure out how to optimize those uses within landowners' objectives. Private forest landowners' objectives can be as diverse as the forest ecosystem itself. My employer, Pope Resources, has a 150-year heritage of land and resource stewardship in the Pacific Northwest stemming from our past linkage to Pope & Talbot, Inc. We operate three primary businesses: managing the company's historic fee timberland ownership, a timber fund business, and a real estate development company.

The tree farms we own and manage through our fee timber and timber



fund businesses are managed to produce a variety of forest products including high-quality sawlogs for domestic and export markets. Like many other private forest landowners, we also seek a range of other revenue opportunities including sand and gravel leases, cell phone tower leases, and harvesting of ornamental greens.

All of these uses provide direct value to our investors, but we are managing for much more than value creation through the harvest and sale of forest products. Where we operate in the western United States, we work under a comprehensive regulatory system that ensures that our land management choices protect and enhance the ecosystem that provides these values. The biological uses of a working forest include carbon sequestration, water quality, and fish and wildlife habitat. While the regulatory structure provides assurance to the public that these values are protected, it is not the only reason we manage for them. Pope



PHOTO COURTESY OF DON WILLIOTT, NORTH TRAILS ASSOCIATION

Pope Resources land is a popular destination for outdoor recreation.

Resources is a participant in the Sustainable Forestry Initiative, a voluntary, third-party environmental certification system that requires policies and procedures to ensure these values are protected, regardless of the regulatory structures in place in the jurisdictions that we operate in.

Because of our historic land ownership, we own forestland that was once in rural areas that is now surrounded by development. As a result, we need to manage around recreational users and neighbors as well as the natural resources found in our forests. Our company policy allows for non-motorized public access on our lands except around active timber harvest operations. Nowhere is this public use on private lands more evident than the timberland south of the town of Port Gamble in Kitsap County Washington that the company owns and manages. This area receives daily use by local residents and is home to the largest mountain bike race in Washington state. We actively work with all of the various trail user groups to ensure cooperation among each of these users and our timber management activities. While this relationship is not completely symbiotic, we believe that the inefficiencies that public use creates for timber management can be offset by the positive working relationship with our neighbors and other

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constituents. This is a natural by-product of providing access to this working forest for recreation. This is not to say that public access is a given and we strongly support the rights of private forest landowners to decide how or if they choose to provide public access.

Since 1998 Pope Resources has sold nearly 32,000 acres of conservation easements (80%) and land sales (20%)—another way we work to optimize uses across all of our businesses, including real estate. We are near completion of a set of transactions in Skamania County Washington that will collectively allow for development and sale of 20-acre parcels for rural recreation use, preservation of riparian areas and



PHOTO COURTESY OF POPE RESOURCES

A Pope Resources working forest landscape shows forest management, sand and gravel operation, and a cell phone tower.

other habitats, and selling the development rights and securing public access on approximately 10,000 acres in perpetuity while retaining the ability to actively manage those lands for forestry.

Adrian Miller is the manager of Policy and Environment for Olympic Resource Management, a subsidiary of Pope Resources. An active SAF member, Adrian served as WSSAF chair in 2011. He can be reached at amiller@orminc.com.

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Land Trust Conserves Habitat, Resources, and Aesthetics in Clallam County

BY LORRIE MITTMANN

North Olympic Land Trust is a local nonprofit organization located on the North Olympic Peninsula of Washington, dedicated to conserving lands that sustain the communities of Clallam County.



We protect farmland, forestland, and wildlife corridors through conservation easements on private land (2,361 acres) and land ownership (725 acres). The land trust's ethic supports multiple values, or uses, which include maintenance of healthy wildlife habitats, preservation of land for sustainable harvest of food, fish, and trees, and aesthetic values that can be appreciated through recreation. We partner with tribal entities in support of their traditional land-use practices and look for opportunities to offer environmental education.

Forests are critical natural-resource assets in the Pacific Northwest. They provide a broad range of goods and



PHOTO COURTESY OF PATRICK DOWNS

The diverse upland and riparian forest at the 280-acre Lyre Conservation Area will be passively managed to maintain its current characteristics. On the same property is a 100-acre one-year-old Douglas-fir plantation with scattered western redcedar that will be actively managed to create a diverse multi-age stand. The property is also home to a half mile of beachfront along the Strait of Juan de Fuca, which includes the Lyre River estuary. After a large restoration project at the beach, the property will be open to the public for non-motorized recreational use.

services that contribute to social and economic vitality, including clean air and drinking water, fiber, fuel, wildlife

corridors, timber industry jobs, and recreation. We believe that it is in the community's best long-term interest to retain locally-owned and managed forests. In our work, we seek to limit conversion of forestlands to subdivisions, keeping forests as forests in perpetuity.

The lands that we own are managed for multiple uses. On our properties we choose to manage forests in a manner that maximizes conservation values. The lands that we own directly are almost exclusively managed for multiple uses. On our forests, we:

- Manage our forested properties in a manner that maximizes its conservation values. To accomplish this, some areas may be left virtually untouched, while in other areas, especially in younger stands, timber harvest methods may be used to enhance these conservation values. Individual forest management plans address the unique characteristic of each property;

- Use revenues created by these efforts or other forest revenue oppor-



PHOTO COURTESY OF LINDSEY ASPELUND

A spruce plantation on a private property protected with a conservation easement held by North Olympic Land Trust. The landowner planted the spruce as part of a 4-H project when he was a youth starting in the 1950s and he continued planting through the 1960s. The plantation is along the river terrace next to the Pysht River.



Volunteers from North Olympic Land Trust, North Olympic Salmon Coalition, and the Backcountry Horsemen Olympic Chapter constructed a pedestrian log bridge over Elk Creek. The crew used five hand and motorized winches to get the log across the creek.

tunities to support the long-term stewardship of these forests;

- Provide public access when appropriate; and
- Contract with local crews and foresters for forestry work.

One example of multiple-use management of our properties includes the Lyre Conservation Area. This 280-acre property hosts the Lyre River estuary, one-half mile of Nelson Creek, and one-half mile of shoreline. On this property:

- Riparian buffers and mature upland forest habitat will be maintained essentially untouched;
- A large restoration project will replace a bridge, remove a dilapidated house, remove noxious weeds, and revegetate a riparian area;
- One hundred acres of one-year-old and three-year-old plantation will be actively managed to create a multi-age diverse forest through brushing, precommercial thinning, and subsequent commercial thinning and harvest; and
- The existing road will be offered for non-motorized public access.

Forests on private lands on which we hold conservation easements are managed in a variety of ways depending on the vision of the landowner who donated the easement. Some landowners manage for a single value or use, including that of a tree farm managed primarily for sustainable commercial harvest, while others allow multiple uses. Prior to accepting

a donated easement we work with the landowner to ensure that his/her vision for the land allows us to steward significant conservation values.

Challenges on our fee-owned properties include vandalism, resource damage, some invasive-species infestation, and garbage dumping. In recent years, through our diligent stewarding as well as concern for the property by dedicated citizens and volunteers, these problems have been curtailed.

In our mission to conserve the lands that sustain the communities of



PHOTOS COURTESY OF LINDSEY ASPELUND

Volunteers constructed an environmental education shelter on the 255-acre Elk Creek Conservation Area in Forks, Wash., in 2011. The property has a 1.5-mile trail along Elk Creek in a mature second-growth riparian corridor that is open for public recreational use. The property also has a 30-acre plantation of 15-20 year-old trees that was recently thinned for diversity and to encourage growth.

Clallam County, we will continue in our obligation to protect and steward local forests. ♦

Lorrie Mittmann is stewardship director for the North Olympic Land Trust in Port Angeles, Wash. She can be reached at 360-417-1815 x7 or lorrie@northolympiclandtrust.org. For additional information on the land trust, visit northolympiclandtrust.org.



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BLM Forest Management: Multiple Use, Multiple Benefits, Multiple Challenges

BY RICK SCHULTZ

The Bureau of Land Management is the public's steward of 245 million acres of the nation's estate, making it the largest federal land managing agency. With nearly one quarter of that acreage being classified as forests and woodlands, these lands offer many benefits to communities and users yet face many challenges as well.



When talking about BLM lands, many immediately think about the revested O&C lands in western Oregon. While these forests are some of the most diverse and productive of any forests in the world, they cover just 2.3 million acres, a small portion of the 58 million acres managed by the BLM in 12 contiguous western states and Alaska.

These forests range from the Douglas-fir and mixed conifer of western Oregon to the spruce-birch forests of interior Alaska to the dry pinon-juniper woodlands. Because of the fragmented juxtaposition of these lands across the landscape, BLM forests provide benefits that solid blocks of public forestlands do not. BLM forests often are an ecotone or transition between two plant communities, leading to ecologically diverse habitats.

In the Pacific Northwest, encompassing Oregon and Washington, BLM manages approximately 16.4 million acres with about 3.7 million acres being forested. The BLM manages

lands under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA). That act prescribes that the 1.4 million acres of forests outside of the O&C, referred to as public domain or PD forests, be managed for multiple-use. The 2.3 million acres of O&C forests are mandated to be managed dominantly for sustained-yield timber production under FLPMA and the 1937 O&C Act to provide timber for local industries and receipts for local governments. These lands are also subject to other laws including the Endangered Species Act and Clean Water Act. In practice, over the years, the O&C lands have been managed for multiple-use while providing an emphasis on timber production; however, increasing public pressure to provide for other uses has reduced the amount of timber produced to meet the purposes of the act.

Management of the PD forests and woodlands scattered throughout eastern Oregon and eastern Washington is guided by the PD Forest Policy, signed by the director in 1990. This policy directs the forests to be managed for forest health and diversity with products derived from the management being a by-product of the management activity.

The BLM forests in Oregon and Washington provide the full array of multiple uses: diverse recreational opportunities, prime wildlife and fish habitat, clean water, livestock forage, and forest products. Forest products include not only traditional timber products, but also biomass, fuelwood, greenery, mushrooms, and other special forest products. BLM manages these lands through traditional service contracts and timber sales; however, over the last several years new tools have been gained that provide the agency more flexibility to work with communities and local watershed councils. These tools include stewardship contracting and the Good Neighbor authority.

BLM's forests face many of the same challenges as other forestland managers and affect BLM's capabilities to assure that lands are maintained in a healthy condition across the landscape. Years of aggressive fire suppression

have led to a buildup of fuel and droughty conditions that have resulted in insect and disease outbreaks requiring aggressive treatments. Budget pressures have limited the capabilities to treat problem areas as quickly as needed. The new tools do give BLM some flexibility to treat acres using goods for services, but not at the scale needed to address the issue.

Another challenge facing BLM forest managers on the eastside is the expansion of western juniper. Each juniper tree might use up to 50 gallons of water per day, which affects the output of water from springs and creeks. The expansion of juniper also impacts vegetation for ground cover and livestock forage, and reduces habitat for some species of wildlife. Project work on juniper management will accelerate with funding opportunities to improve habitat for sage-grouse per newly released Resource Management Plans. Over the past several years the BLM has been working with local watershed councils to implement juniper treatments across landscapes by leveraging funds with private landowners and the watershed councils. The BLM and its partners can point to many areas of success in treating juniper, but it is an area where the scale of treatments needs to increase to address the challenges. Projects also need to be implemented carefully to assure that other ecological values of these woodlands are not threatened.

Multiple-use is not dead on BLM forests, but it does have its challenges, and these challenges will increase as the population grows. The BLM has a long history of providing multiple use on the landscape in Oregon and Washington and plans to do so in the future. ♦

Rick Schultz is the Forestry Section Chief in the BLM Oregon State Office in Portland. In his 32-year career in federal service he has worked for the Bureau of Land Management in California, Wyoming, and Oregon. He can be reached at 503-808-6234 or rschultz@blm.gov.

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Sealaska Practices Traditional Approach to Multiple Use

BY BRIAN KLEINHENZ

For Sealaska, a Native Alaskan-owned company in Southeast Alaska, the land itself provides a source of prosperity and a fundamental cultural link. Timber production has been the primary enterprise for Sealaska for the past 30 years. Salmon, wild berries, venison, mushrooms, wild greens, and herbals commonly find their way from managed forestlands into the kitchens of the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian people.



Members of these groups are the shareholders of Sealaska Corporation and they are blending a 10,000-year-old tradition of food gathering and cultural use of forest products with a modern wood products industry. The challenge for Sealaska land managers is to provide opportunities for traditional and cultural uses while also supporting thriving commerce. Jobs and direct financial benefit from logging and silviculture operations can form an important financial cornerstone for the families of Native Alaskans who are the owners and stewards of the land. People in the villages rely on the opportunities to hunt, fish, and gather on the land to supplement their diets and enrich their lives.

Sealaska develops forest management techniques that create a true win-win between wildlife habitat benefit and tree growth. Foresters deploy a handful of silviculture treatments to huge effect. Precommercial thinning and basal pruning treatments attempt to optimize timber volume, quality, and tree size while allowing sunlight to penetrate to the forest floor. In the cool, wet ecosystem of the temperate rainforest, this small amount of sunlight is enough to create a flush of plant diversity under the crop trees.

Maintaining a thriving understory community is critical to providing forage for many species of wildlife, and in



PHOTO COURTESY OF SEALASKA

Managed forests support vibrant populations of Sitka black-tailed deer.

particular, Sitka black-tail deer. In general, thinning at wider spacing and early in the stand development creates the greatest opportunity to maintain sun-loving species that appear in abundance after even-age harvest. This practical silviculture may give up a small amount of volumetric growth but with a large benefit to key deer forage species. Practices that grow trees and deer at the same time provide both timber revenue and a reliable source of protein for Sealaska shareholders living in remote villages.

Vigorous understory communities also support excellent crops of wild berries. There is a demand for these berries from Alaskan businesses that produce value-added health products and nutraceuticals. Locals are able to harvest 200 pounds at a time from managed stands, earning more than \$600 for a day's work.

For Sealaska shareholders, the forestlands they own and manage must provide a range of benefits throughout the rotation. Income from timber at harvest is a tangible benefit, but providing logs for carving and bark for cedar baskets are also very impor-



PHOTO COURTESY OF SEALASKA

Precommercial thinning optimizes tree growth while enhancing understory communities.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SEALASKA

Pruning lets low-angle Alaska summer sunlight reach the forest floor and stimulates growth of key wildlife forage species.

tant to shareholders of the company. For generations, the forests have been relied upon to provide economic, cultural, and ecological benefits. This traditional approach fits comfortably into the definition of multiple-use forestry. The future is blending science and traditional knowledge to better balance resource management and use. ♦

Brian Kleinhenz is a forester for Sealaska in Juneau, Alaska, and serves as chair of the Alaska SAF. He can be reached at 907-586-9275 or brian.kleinhenz@sealaska.com.

Multiple-use Forestry in the Anthropocene

BY SUSAN JANE BROWN

Judicial interpretation of “multiple use” is on one hand prolific, and on the other hand, so scarce as to be nearly nonexistent. Prolific, because a sizeable (although not the majority) portion of the docket of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals—which hears the vast majority of natural resources cases generally, and forest management cases in particular, due to the geographic jurisdiction of the court that is commensurate with the vast majority of federal public lands—concerns federal forest management, the most familiar type of multiple use. Many of these cases are high profile, both legally and socially, and therefore enter the popular lexicon of federal forest management. They’re rock stars, known by only half of their name: *McNair*, *Inland Empire*, *Headwaters*, *Seattle* (or *Portland*) *Audubon*, *Jamison*.

Scarce, because a review of the case law that actually interprets the meaning of multiple use reveals that there are, in



fact, very few decisions to enlighten the public or public land managers to how to best thread the needle of multiple-use forest management. While the courts have been clear that the Forest Service’s organizing statutes—the 1897 Organic Act and the Multiple-Use Sustained-Yield Act of 1960—convey managerial discretion of the national forests to the Secretary of Agriculture, they have also been loath to dictate how the Secretary should exercise that discretion. As the Ninth Circuit observed, the Forest Service is required to:

...administer the national forests “for multiple use and sustained yield of the several products and services obtained therefrom,” with “due consideration (to) be given to the relative values of the various resources in particular areas.” This language, partially defined in such terms as “that (which) will best meet the needs of the American people” and “making the most judicious use of the land,” can hardly be considered concrete limits upon agency discretion. Rather, it is language which “breathe(s) discretion at every pore.” —*Perkins v. Bergland*, 608 F.2d 803, 806-807 (9th Cir. 1979) (internal citation omitted)

The Ninth Circuit in *Perkins* put a fine point on the oft-repeated observation that the Forest Service’s multiple-use mandate “breathes discretion at every pore” by concluding that this mandate “does not require that all uses will exist in a forest, or that all uses will exist in equal amounts,” which has allowed the agency to at least attempt to balance competing demands on the uses of a scarce public forest resource. The BLM, too, has a broad congressional grant of authority to manage its lands for multiple use, including forestry, in the Federal Land Policy and Management Act and even the Oregon and California Lands Act.

Given that Congress has bestowed the federal land management agencies with ample and broad authority to manage for multiple uses, including forestry (so much discretion, in fact, as to be nearly impossible to “get multiple use wrong”), it may seem incongruent that there is nonetheless a proliferation of “rock star” case law involving the agencies’ exercise of that discretion. I posit that the reason for this apparent disconnect is because it literally misses the forest for the trees: the American people want many different things from their lands of many uses, and sometimes those wants (or needs) come into conflict. Those wants or needs have also changed over time, and are changing again as we look to our public forests to help us confront global climate change. The Anthropocene is the new frontier for multiple-use forestry. ♦

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Susan Jane Brown is a staff attorney with the Western Environmental Law Center. Her primary focus of litigation is federal public lands forest management, but her practice includes cases involving the Endangered Species Act, National Environmental Policy Act, National Forest Management Act, and other land management statutes. She is also heavily engaged in collaborative forest restoration in the Upper John Day Basin in eastern Oregon. She can be reached at 503-914-1323 or brown@westernlaw.org.

SAF Board of Directors: May Meeting Highlights

BY KEITH BLATNER, ED SHEPARD,
AND JIM THINNES

The Board of Directors for SAF met on May 29-30, 2015, at Wild Acres in Bethesda, MD. The Wild Acres property is continuing to evolve. Land clearing and preparation of the site for the new housing development is well along including a few condo sales. It is important to note that while the transformation of the site is dramatic, a riparian buffer has been retained on the far side of the property with deer regularly feeding on the lawn next to the national headquarters. Future architectural upgrades to the headquarters will address some critically needed upgrades to the buildings. Over the course of the project, the circular drive will be repaved, improved parking added, and a new sign added indicating this is the national headquarters for the Society of American Foresters. All of the upgrades are designed to improve the image of the structure and organization, while at the same time maintaining the historic character of the building.

Over the course of the day-and-a-half meeting, the board discussed a number of key issues facing the Society including regionalization, the importance of leadership academies, membership, the SAF website and database issues, the communications plan, linking planning and budgets, the BPM (Board Policy Manual), and current finances, among others. While it is impossible to address all of these issues in this brief summary of the meeting, it is important to point out that we are rapidly moving forward under our new leadership model and these changes are beginning to bear fruit.

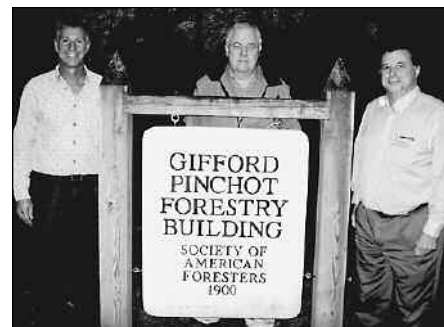
Among the most important highlights of the meeting was that membership has increased relative to the previous two years. In particular, we have been successful at increasing student membership. At the same time a number of retired members have been changing from "Gold" to "Silver" status. This membership change allows members to retain their membership

in the Society at a lower cost, but with reduced services. The change from Gold to Silver membership is an obvious reflection of the graying character of the organization. A great deal of work remains to be done with respect to membership retention and growth.

The SAF website and associated database management issues were another major topic of discussion. The problems with the existing website are manifold and well known. However, the Society's database management issues are less well understood, but are at least as problematic. In order to be effective, we need to integrate the website and other database needs in the future. We have made significant progress in this area and once completed we will have an integrated system that will allow us to communicate more effectively and be more responsive to member needs. Some examples of member services that will be addressed include membership and dues management, certification and CFE tracking, event and meeting management, and even a smart phone app.

In other issues the board finalized and passed the new Board of Directors Policy Manual, reviewed the quarterly budget report, and approved various off budget expenditures including replacement of the building furnace and related system repairs.

The Board of Directors is scheduled to meet face-to-face again on December 5 and 6 and will be holding confer-



Left to right: 2015 Board Members Jim Thinnes, Keith Blatner, and Ed Shepard.

ence calls between now and then as needed. During calendar year 2016, board meetings will be spaced more evenly throughout the course of the year, with meetings likely occurring in late March, late July or early August, and early December. This change reflects the fact that the Board of Directors will no longer have a formal meeting at the national convention. The officers, CEO, and staff continue to maintain a rigorous schedule attending as many state society annual meetings as they can. ♦

This board report is a collaborative effort between District 1 (Washington State, Alaska, and Inland Empire) Board member Keith Blatner; District 2 (Oregon) Board member Ed Shepard; and District 4 (the Intermountain West from Canada to Mexico) Board member Jim Thinnes. Keith can be reached at 509-595-0399 or blatner@wsu.edu; Ed can be reached at 971-832-3945 or sssstr1@comcast.net; and Jim can be reached at 303-218-8547 or jimthinnes2@gmail.com.



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OSAF Presents an Outstanding Slate of Award Winners

Several members and cooperators were recognized for their contributions to OSAF, the community, and forestry in Oregon at the joint OSAF and Oregon Chapter of the Wildlife Society annual meeting held April 29-May 1 in Eugene.

Forester of the Year: Dave Cramsey



PHOTO COURTESY OF STEVE CAFFERATA

Dave Cramsey, left, is congratulated on being this year's Forester of the Year by OSAF Chair Matt Krunglevich.

The Forester of The Year Award is presented annually to an OSAF member for contributing to both the profession and the public. This year's award winner is Dave Cramsey, an Emerald Chapter member and a forester's forester in the Eugene-Springfield area.

Dave graduated from OSU with a BS in Forest Management in 1991 and has worked for Roseburg Forest Products for the last 18 years. He is an active SAF member, currently serving as the Emerald Chapter's Membership chair.

Dave is active in his community and played an instrumental role in the establishment of Forests Today & Forever, an organization that provides educators and students with natural resource learning opportunities. He is also a mentor to young field foresters within Roseburg Forest Products and passes on vital information to the next generation of foresters. He emphasizes that win-win opportunities do exist in forestry, referencing Oregon's ability to sustainably harvest timber while pro-

viding clean water, quality wildlife habitat, and clear air for all Oregonians.

Dave's forestry skill set shined this past summer on a challenging project wildfire. He took aggressive action during initial and extended attack on the fire, making the tough decision to ignite portions of his existing forest plantation in an effort to control the wildfire and reduce smoke emissions headed directly for the people of Eugene. Local District Forester Link Smith wrote that the ODF incident management team honored Dave with an award for meritorious efforts on this fire. Without his professional action, the fire team recognized the wildfire would have grown substantially, incurring additional financial hardship in an already expensive fire season. Dave Cramsey is a shining example of SAF's core values at work in our community.

OSU Outstanding Student Award: Jessica Kessinger

Jessica will graduate from OSU in June 2016 with a BS degree in forest engineering and BA degree in international studies. She participated in Forestry Pro School, Forestry Field School, and the Forestry Pro School Cooperative Education Internship Program. Jessica successfully complet-

ed a six-month Cooperative Education Internship in 2014 where she worked with Western Forest Products in British Columbia, Canada. She was also awarded the Oregon SAF Foundation scholarship in 2014 and 2015.

She currently holds the communications chair position for the OSU Student Chapter and builds student participation through events, trips, and skills workshops. Jessica has an excitement for the profession and the role that students can play in shaping the profession as they move forward with their careers. She leads by example with her hard work on the forest engineering curriculum, positive energy, and effective communication with others.

Community College Outstanding Student Award: Serena Burdick

Serena graduated in June from Mt. Hood Community College's Forest Resource Technology Program. She served as vice president of the MHCC Student Chapter where she helped organize volunteer events and fundraisers and was in charge of correspondence with club members. She has served her community as an active volunteer with the City of Gresham Wildlife and Restoration program. Serena worked as a contract firefighter last summer with Two Feathers, LLC and gained valuable experience in project management, crew dynamics, and training. "Students trust her, value



PHOTO COURTESY OF STEVE CAFFERATA

Jessica Kessinger was awarded the OSU Student of the Year. From left to right: Bob Alverts, SAF president; Jessica Kessinger; Tim Keith, OSAF Awards co-chair; and Matt Krunglevich, OSAF chair.



PHOTO COURTESY OF STEVE CAFFERATA

The Chapter of the Year award goes to the Umpqua Chapter. Accepting the award on behalf of the chapter are Brennan Garrelts and Joe Newton (middle) flanked by, left to right, Tim Keith, OSAF Awards co-chair; Matt Krunglevich, OSAF chair; Bob Alverts, SAF president; and Glenn Lahti, OSAF Awards co-chair.

her leadership skills, and respect her decision making. Her dedication to the students, club, and faculty at Mt. Hood will be greatly missed and extremely difficult to replace," says faculty chapter advisor Jason Pinkerton. Serena was successful at raising \$700 for her chapter this year.

Posthumous Lifetime Achievement Award: Hal Salwasser

The OSAF Lifetime Achievement Award is presented in recognition of a lifetime contribution to SAF and lifetime achievement in the forestry profession by an OSAF member.

Before coming to Oregon State, Hal Salwasser was regional forester for the northern region of the US Forest Service (Idaho, Montana, and the Dakotas) and the chief executive officer of the Pacific Southwest Research Station, supervising the research activities and sustainable forest management practices in California, Hawaii, and the Pacific Islands.

As the Dean of the OSU College of Forestry from 2000 to 2012, Dr. Salwasser guided the college through a period of transition in forest policies and management nationally and globally. He met with incoming freshmen each year to remind them of the beauty and usefulness of forests, and how trees were the solution to so many of the world's problems.

Chapter Achievement Award: Umpqua Chapter

The Umpqua Chapter has a diverse membership of public and private industry members and has substantial membership of early-career foresters. Despite their small size of fifty members, the chapter sponsored the 2014 OSAF annual meetings, which resulted in \$14,000 profit for OSAF and the chapter.

The Umpqua Chapter makes an effort to retain members by contacting current members if their membership is in danger of lapsing. Every other

year, the chapter sponsors a pizza dinner for students considering natural resource careers with OSU and community college representatives making presentations. Within the community, the chapter hosted a booth at the annual Douglas County Earth Day and Energy Fair, ran stations at the Glide Forestry Tour, and assisted an elementary school tree plant on the South Douglas Complex Fire.

Forestry Appreciation Award: Doug Robertson

This award is presented to individuals and organizations outside the forestry profession who have contributed significantly to the advancement of forestry in Oregon.

Doug Robertson has made considerable contributions to the management of forests in western Oregon. As an O&C county commissioner he gave particular attention to the BLM O&C lands, but he was also attentive to the management of USFS lands, state and county forests, and industry and small woodland ownerships.

Over the past 34 years, Robertson has been a dedicated public servant, championing forest management for the economic and social well-being of Oregonians as well as for the health of the forests.

OSAF thanks all award winners for their determination and hard work within the profession and community. ♦



PHOTO COURTESY OF STEVE CAFFERATA

A group photo of all the deserving OSAF award winners and presenters. Left to right: Tim Keith, Kaija Salwasser, Janine Salwasser, Jessica Kessinger, Serena Burdick, Dave Cramsey, Matt Krunglevich, Doug Robertson, Glenn Lahti, and Bob Alverts.

Hiner Named Forester of the Year at WSSAF Annual Meeting

Several awards were presented at this year's WSSAF annual meeting that was held jointly with the Washington Chapter of The Wildlife Society on April 15-17 at the Great Wolf Lodge in Grand Mound.

Forester of the Year: Loren Hinert

This award is presented annually to a member of Washington State SAF for



PHOTO COURTESY OF DON HANLEY

Loren Hinert, center, receives the WSSAF Forester of the Year award from WSSAF Chair Dick Hopkins, left, and SAF President Bob Alverts.

contributing to both the profession and the public through application of his/her professional skills to the advancement of forestry in Washington State and through public service that benefits his/her community or some larger segment of society. The selection committee is made up of the five previous Foresters of the Year with their chair being the most recent recipient.

Loren started out as a forestry technician from 1978-1985 when he graduated from the University of Idaho. During his time at Plum Creek Timberlands LP in Roslyn, Loren rose from seasonal technician to senior forester and was in charge of all aspects of timber harvests, transportation, silviculture, and non-timber forest products, and learned GIS. Loren owned and operated Silvicultural Solutions in Cle Elum from 2003-2007, serving government agencies and private and industrial owners. He became city forester for the City of Montesano in 2007. Loren manages the 5,000-acre



PHOTO COURTESY OF DON HANLEY

Congratulations to the South Puget Sound Chapter for being recognized as Chapter of the Year. Paula Hopkins accepted the award on behalf of the chapter from WSSAF Chair Dick Hopkins, left, and SAF President Bob Alverts.

multiple-use forest for the city with a heavy emphasis on watershed, recreation, timber harvest, stand management, and working with the public. The city tree farm has won several awards and accolades under his guidance. Loren has been featured and quoted many times in the local newspaper (*The Daily World*) on forestry issues. Loren has worked with various GIS applications throughout his career and has hired student interns to help update the database and implement new software.

Loren served as secretary for the Central Washington chapter in the 1990s and has educated the public for many years at the Washington State Fair in Puyallup staffing the WSSAF booth. In 2014, Loren was a speaker at the Working Forests conference sponsored by WSSAF for non-forestry professionals. Loren and the City of Montesano forest were selected by WSSAF to show Northwest diversity of management to incoming SAF CEO Matt Menashes in 2014. Loren currently serves WSSAF as CFE coordinator and has been an SAF member since 1983.

WSSAF Chapter of the Year: South Puget Sound

The South Puget Sound (SPS) Chapter is a diverse group comprised of members from both Tacoma and Seattle metro areas and with years of membership ranging from 1-64. The SPS Chapter strongly encourages mentoring, communication, and support



PHOTO COURTESY OF DON HANLEY

Left to right: Norm Schaaf, Pete Heide, Jay Gruenfeld, and Jeff Boyce enjoy the evening banquet at the WSSAF annual meeting.



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between students and experienced members. The chapter works closely with the University of Washington student chapter and students from Green River Community College. Student participation adds 50 members to the SPS roster.

In 2014, the SPS chapter hosted the WSSAF annual meeting at UW's Pack Forest. Social and mentoring events were held throughout the year. The SPS Chapter and UW student chapter co-hosted a picnic at Magnuson Park on Lake Washington. The chapter's traditional Golden Member Luncheon brings together Golden and younger SAF members. The chapter maintains a modern forestry display at the Murray Museum of the Mt. Rainier Scenic Railroad in Mineral and provided an educational booth display at the Washington State Fair with the theme of Working Forests.

Past Chair Award: Joe Murray

Joe Murray was honored for his leadership as the past chair of WSSAF. Joe worked tirelessly on organizing the



PHOTO COURTESY OF DON HANLEY

WSSAF Past Chair Joe Murray (center) was recognized for his leadership during the WSSAF annual meeting. The award was presented by WSSAF Chair Dick Hopkins (left) and SAF President Bob Alverts.

Working Forests conference with other SAF members, on student recruitment, developing the Olympic Peninsula Visitor Guide, spearheading the updating of the website, and a host of other activities.

Congratulations to the WSSAF award winners this year. Your hard work is appreciated by your colleagues and community. ♦

WSSAF Kicks Off Campaign to Raise \$20K for Forestry Student Scholarships

The Washington State Society of American Foresters Foundation (Foundation) has unveiled a campaign to raise \$20,000 for the Foundation's scholarship program.

Since 2011, the Foundation has granted scholarships to community college and university forestry students in Washington state.

Foundation members Doug St. John and Norm Schaaf outlined the program at the members meeting of the WSSAF annual meeting on April 17, 2015. The purpose of the fund drive is to increase the Foundation's endowment and thereby enhance its ability to provide assistance to deserving students. The current balance of the scholarship fund is \$30,000.

Both Doug and Norm noted that the rapidly rising cost of college is making it more difficult for young students to pursue their goal of a good forestry education. They also noted that the profession is in the midst of a significant demographic shift where many post-war baby boomers are retiring, increasing the need for young foresters to take their places.

Fortunately, there are bright young students interested in forestry careers. Norm introduced Marisa Bass at the meeting. Marisa is one of this year's recipients of a Foundation scholarship and is passionate about a career in forestry. In addition to an outstanding academic record, Marisa has held numerous forestry field positions. She also led students to reinvigorate the student chapter of SAF at the University of Washington. After graduating with a degree in forest management, Marisa plans to pursue a Masters of Forest Resources at University of Washington.

Riley Mowry is also a 2015 scholarship recipient. He will be attending Grays Harbor College in the fall.

The campaign is seeking kick-starters to pledge an initial donation with the promise to match that donation if other fundraising efforts meet a specified goal. The overall goal is \$20,000 in new funds for 2015 comprised of \$5,000 from kick-starter donations, with a promise of an additional \$5,000 match if at least \$5,000 is raised from other sources.

Doug announced that WSSAF members can support students and the future of the profession by pledging an initial amount and a matching amount. Pledges of any amount would be appreciated. Seven giving categories are available: Douglas-fir Club (lifetime gift of > \$2,000); 1-Saw (\$1,000-\$1,999); SM (\$500-\$999); 2-Saw (\$250-\$499); 3-Saw (\$100-\$249); 4-Saw (\$50-\$99); and Other.

Pledges or checks can be sent to: WSSAF, c/o Chuck Lorenz, Treasurer, 777 Hartman St. SE, Tumwater, WA 98501.

WSSAF Foundation Committee members include Bruce Bare, John Gorman, Dick Hopkins, Chuck Lorenz, Joe Murray, Norm Schaaf, and Doug St. John.

SAF members interested in joining the Foundation's scholarship committee are urged to contact Foundation Chair Doug St. John at dstjohn@wradvisors.com. ♦



Marisa Bass received a scholarship from the WSSAF Foundation to continue her studies at the University of Washington.



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We Remember

Gregory Mark Killinger 1961-2014

Gregory Mark Killinger, 52, died May 25, 2014, while hiking the Mount Verstovia trail in Sitka, Alaska. He was born June 1, 1961, in Salem, Ore.



After graduating from Cascade High School, Greg obtained an undergraduate degree in wildlife science from Oregon State University in 1983 and a master's degree in natural resource management, fish, and wildlife from Virginia Technical Institute in 1994.

Greg moved to Sitka in 1983 beginning a more than 30-year career with the US Forest Service. An avid outdoorsman and hunter, Greg was truly in his element in Alaska. At the time of his death, Greg was a staff officer, stationed in Sitka, but respon-

sible for fish, wildlife, watershed, ecology, and subsistence for the entire Tongass National Forest.

Greg first came to Sitka in 1983 and worked as a volunteer and hydrology technician. From 1985 to 1988 he worked as a biology technician for the Forestry Science Lab and the Sitka Ranger District. Before becoming a staff officer on the Tongass, Greg was the ranger for the Craig District on Prince of Wales Island. In 2001, he also served as a temporary assistant to the national watershed staff in Washington, DC. During that same year, he was acting district ranger at the Cordova Ranger District on the Chugach National Forest and acting district ranger at Admiralty National Monument in Juneau.

Greg loved a challenging game of poker and pounding the basketball court. He actively trained for physically challenging hunting trips by strapping on a heavy pack frame and running up the trails on Mt. Verstovia. He died one week before his 53rd birthday enjoying the Tongass that he loved. He and his wife, Lisa, a Sitka native, were married for 24 years.

Survivors include his wife, Lisa Killinger; brother, Martin Killinger and his wife RaeDonna; sister, Karla Kliewer and

her husband Commander Charles Kliewer; nieces; nephews; and grand and great grand nieces and nephews.

Randall Jay Greggs 1949-2015

Randall Greggs, 65, passed away May 11 at home surrounded by his family after a courageous 17-month battle with brain cancer. He was born June 19, 1949.

His love of the outdoors spurred him to earn a master's degree in silviculture and a forestry career that spanned 35 years. He embraced change and challenges and was fully engaged in everything that he undertook. He was a graduate of the Agriculture/Forestry Leadership Program and continued to serve the organization. He served on many different forestry related boards, nurseries, co-ops and committees, including the Society of the American Foresters.

During his grueling cancer journey, Randall had the blessing of welcoming his first grandchild, Jaden Randall Green, into the family. He was able to find joy and happiness in the 10 months that he watched Jaden grow and develop. In spite of the rapid decline of his health, Randall was also able to walk his daughter, Carin, down the aisle to marry her best friend.

Randall is survived by his wife of almost 42 years, Linda Pleticha Greggs; daughter Jessica Green of Spokane and her husband Jordan Green and grandson Jaden Randall Green; daughter Carin Greggs McNeil of Seattle and husband Brian McNeil; and sister, Cassandra (Greggs) Cooley of Seabeck, Wash., and husband Chuck Cooley. ♦

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Calendar of Events

CESCL: Erosion and Sediment Control Lead Training, July 21-22, Aug. 18-19, or Sept. 29-30 in Bellevue, WA. Contact: NWETC.

Visualizing and Analyzing Environmental Data with R, July 28-29 in Tigard, OR, or Dec. 8-9 in Kirkland, WA. Contact: NWETC.

Environmental Forensics—Site Characterization and Remediation, July 29-30, Tigard, OR. Contact: NWETC.

ArcGIS 10: Geoprocessing—Advanced Techniques for Environmental Applications, Aug. 4-6 in Olympia, WA, or Nov. 16-18 in Seattle, WA. Contact: NWETC.

Western Forest Nurseries Association annual meeting, Aug. 11-12, Eugene, OR. Contact: WFCA.

9th Annual OSAF Foundation Golf Tournament, Aug. 14, Corvallis, OR. Contact: Jessica Fitzmorris, 541-990-7264, jessica.fitzmorris@yahoo.com, www.forestry.org/oregon/education/foundation/golf/.

Western Washington Forest Owners Field Day, Aug. 15, Francis, WA. Contact: WSU Extension Forestry.

Western Hardwood Association annual convention, Aug. 18-21, Portland, OR. Contact: https://events.bizzabo.com/WHAconvention/home.

North Puget Sound Forest Owners Field Day, Aug. 29, Conway, WA. Contact: WSU Extension Forestry.

Contact Information

NWETC: Northwest Environmental Training Center, 1445 NW Mall St., Suite 4, Issaquah, WA 98027, 425-270-3274, https://nwetc.org.

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

WSU Extension Forestry: North Puget Sound Extension Forestry, 600 128th St. SE, Everett, WA 98208-6353, 425-357-6017, lauren.grand@wsu.edu, http://forestry.wsu.edu.

Send calendar items to the editor at rasor@safnwo.org.

Forest Products Forum, Sept. 15, Portland, OR. Contact: www.getfea.com/PPF2015.

Habitat Site Restoration, Sept. 15-16, Bellevue, WA. Contact: NWETC.

Who Will Own the Forest? 11, Sept. 15-17, Portland, OR. Contact: Sara Wu, swu@worldforestry.org, http://wwotf.worldforestry.org/wwotf11/.

Planning and Preparing an Ecological Risk Assessment, Sept. 16-17, Bellevue, WA. Contact: NWETC.

Inland Empire SAF annual meeting, Sept. 18, Coeur d'Alene Casino, Worley, ID. Contact: Lynn Kaney, lkaney@conceptable.com.

Forest Watershed Symposium, Sept. 23, Vancouver, WA. Contact: Karen Phelps, NCASI, 541-752-8801, kphelps@ncasi.org.

Site Prep and Release, Oct. 7, Vancouver, WA. Contact: WFCA.

PNW Reforestation Council, Oct. 8, Vancouver, WA. Contact: WFCA.

Pacific Salmonids: Ecology, Oct. 19-20, Bellevue, WA. Contact: NWETC.

Pacific Salmonids: Spawning Habitat Restoration, Oct. 21-23 in Bellevue, WA. Contact: NWETC.

2015 SAF National Convention, Nov. 3-7, Baton Rouge, LA. Contact: 866-897-8720, membership@safnet.org, www.xcdsystem.com/saf/site14/.

Field Technology and Natural Resources Conference, Nov. 18-19, Portland, OR. Contact: WFCA.

Scaling for Non-scalers, Dec. 7, Wilsonville, OR. Contact: WFCA.

Forest Inventory and Analysis Science Symposium, Dec. 8-10, Portland, OR. Contact: Sharon Stanton, sharonmstanton@fs.fed.us, http://fia.fs.fed.us/symposium/.

WSSAF/OSAF Leadership Conference, Feb. 5-6, DuPont, WA. Contact: John Walkowiak, 253-320-5064, jewalkowiak@harbornet.com.

IE annual meeting, joint with Idaho Forest Owners Association, Mar. 28-29, Moscow, ID. Contact: Bill Love, loblollylove@hotmail.com.

Oregon SAF annual meeting, Apr. 26-29, Mill Casino, Coos Bay, OR. Contact: Shaun Harkins, 541-267-1855, shaun.harkins@plumcreek.com.

Washington State SAF annual meeting, May 12-14, La Conner, WA. Contact: Paul Wagner, pwagner@atterbury.com.

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Input Requested on Federal Forest Management Position Statement

The Washington State SAF executive committee is developing a position statement on federal forests managed under the Northwest Forest Plan in Washington and your input is requested. A summary overview of the position statement and the issues discussion for version 10.2 of the position statement follows. The full statement, including background and recommendations for federal legislative changes, is posted on

our website at www.forestry.org/washington/policy/position. *Please provide comments to Harry Bell, harry@greencrow.com, by July 31.* The goal is to incorporate feedback into a version that would be included in the fall election cycle. Comments from other SAF regions are encouraged and WSSAF holds open the option of a joint position statement.

To better assess WSSAF members'

thoughts on federal land management, questions were distributed at the 2015 WSSAF annual membership meeting and via email to all WSSAF members. Fifty members responded and these responses were used to develop the 10.2 version. The table on page 21 provides a summary of the questions and responses. ♦

Management of Federal Lands under the Northwest Forest Plan in Washington State

A Draft Position Statement by the Washington state Society of American Foresters

May 20, 2015 Draft Version 10.2

The Northwest Forest Plan (NWFP) in Washington State needs improved federal legislation in order to achieve healthy and sustainable management of our National Forests that balances social, ecologic, and economic values and services. Social benefits include recreational activities that require an extensive road and trail system. Ecological benefits include landscape-level habitat diversity from all successional stages. Economic benefits include opportunities for timber resources sufficient to restore and maintain economically healthy rural communities.

In order to attain and maintain healthy forests, silvicultural practices—including determination of tree species composition using climate-adapted planting stock, commercial and precommercial thinning, prescribed burning, and regeneration timber harvests—can be planned and implemented recurrently and perpetually in previously harvested areas while retaining important old growth and riparian areas. For both early and late successional habitats, and other unique habitat features, silvicultural tools can play a valuable role in helping restore and maintain them—especially as forest conditions continuously change over time. Where appropriate, road systems can be restored and maintained to provide recreational and management access while restoring and maintaining water quality. **New and improved federal legislation is needed to achieve the broad overarching goal of providing habitat diversity at all forest**



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successional stages, clean water, a sustainable wood supply, revenue to cover management costs, and to eliminate the “paralysis of analysis.” (See WSSAF Position Statement “No-Net-Loss of Working Forests” at <http://bit.ly/1GsHRRL>.) Federal legislation should emphasize hiring and using natural resources professionals in the application of silvicultural and other management activities in order to provide these forest benefits. National Forest and BLM employed professional fish, wildlife, and forestry staff should have the skills and latitude to work collaboratively across disciplines to fulfill this broad legislative goal.

Issue

For many decades, timber harvesting on federal lands contributed to rural community health as well as a key means for natural resources managers to meet diverse resource management objectives. However, “sue and

settle,” the chilling effect of the threat of litigation on collaborative planning, and budget restrictions have greatly reduced the ability of natural resource managers to meet those objectives. Furthermore, budgets and current harvest levels on national forest and other federal lands remain insufficient to: 1) maintain forest health and resiliency; 2) reduce fuels to limit wild-fire hazard; 3) mitigate the effects of catastrophic wildfire; 4) improve habitat for special status plants and animals; 5) maintain multiple-use road systems that protect water quality; 6) fund forest administration and management costs; 7) prepare forests for climate change; 8) sequester and store atmospheric carbon in building materials; 9) reduce atmospheric carbon release by providing sustainable wood as an alternative building material; and 10) provide long-term log supply certainty to maintain and encourage rural community capital investment.

Questions posed to WSSAF members regarding federal land management

Question	Response
Should commercial timber harvest be done only to create or maintain healthy forests?	No, 82%
Should commercial timber harvest even be mentioned in our position statements?	Yes, 96%
Should healthy forests be promoted without a discussion of timber harvest or silvicultural treatments?	No, 84%
Should silviculture be used to mimic an historic natural condition?	Yes, 74%
Should commercial timber harvest occur in already healthy forests?	Yes, 98%
Should the term “healthy forests” equate to late successional habitat?	No, 96%
Should we promote an overarching goal of healthy forests and healthy communities?	Yes, 91%
When we promote science-based forest management should we even refer to communities?	Yes, 86%
Should the term “healthy forests” include intensively managed even-aged plantations?	Yes, 94%
Should the term “restoration” mean only the creation of late successional habitat?	No, 100%
Should the term “restoration” include the creation of early successional habitat via regeneration harvests?	Yes, 96%
Should the NWFP be changed through federal legislation?	Yes, 82%

Forest Watershed Symposium Slated

Standards for aquatic resource stewardship of forested landscapes continue to be controversial. Balancing stewardship needs and viable economic returns to the industry and communities that depend on forest management is a challenge. Paired watershed studies conducted under the auspices of the Watersheds Research Cooperative (WRC) are providing information that will help managers meet this challenge. In spring 2013, a meeting in Corvallis, Ore., presented technical results from WRC paired watershed studies when some of these studies were early in their development. Now, two-and-a-half years later, it is time to share what has been learned. This symposium will include research from the WRC and other efforts in the Pacific Northwest relevant to the forest management community.

The one-day session will take place on September 23 as part of NCASI's West Coast Regional Meeting in Vancouver, Wash., with 16 speakers from across the region providing new and updated information from their scientific investigations. The first half of the day will focus on water quality (stream temperature, dissolved oxygen, and sediment) and forest management relationships. The afternoon session will examine how those relationships affect stream biota (invertebrates, amphibians, and fish). This symposium seeks to provide a better appreciation of what watershed science can contribute to finding balance in the stewardship and economic debate.

Bob Danehy, Forest Watershed program manager for NCASI, and George Ice, retired NCASI, will serve as moderators. The cost for the one-day session is \$75 for corporate/private/other and \$50 for government/academic. Program information and online registration will be available at www.ncasi.org/Events/Regional-Meetings/2015-WCRM.aspx.

Program questions can be directed to Bob Danehy at 541-752-8801 or bdanehy@ncasi.org. For registration questions, contact Karen Phelps at the NCASI West Coast Regional Center at 541-752-8801 or kphelps@ncasi.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.

OSAF Submits Responses to USFS Listening Session

Questions. The US Forest Service (USFS) recently completed a series of Listening Sessions in the region as an initial step in updating individual National Forest (NF) plans that have

operated under the Northwest Forest Plan (NWFP) directives since 1994. The sessions were intended to publicly outline the plan revisions, the role of science, and current agency ideas on plan revision strategy, and to gather ideas on the revision process. The USFS did not provide listening opportunities for those unable or unwilling to attend the sessions, but the Region 6 Office was sent a summary of OSAF responses to three major questions about the planning process that were raised at the local sessions. The questions asked for public input about: 1) desirable considerations in revising the plans; 2) how science should be used; and 3) how the public should be engaged in the process.

On the first question, the OSAF response stressed the importance of:

a) historic laws that set the management purpose and approach for NFs; b) full analysis of the results of the NWFP in achieving objectives, including the role of litigation; c) rural community health; d) the high site productivity of many NFs and their role in supplying green forest products; e) the high compatibility of active management with amenity resources and ecosystem services; f) management for forest resilience; and g) a temporally and spatially dynamic approach to management for diverse forest conditions versus inflexible land allocations.

Regarding the use of science, the OSAF input stressed the need for: a) both technical knowledge and local professional experience; b) more socio-economic and applied research; c) added protocols and standards for reviewing and applying science; and d) avoiding bias and micromanagement by science panels that lack on-the-ground management experience.

On public involvement, OSAF emphasized the importance of: a) routinely highlighting the multiple-use mandate for NFs; b) considering citizens who do not submit comments; and c) input from natural resources professionals independent of their employer interests.

Contact: Paul Adams, OSAF Policy chair, adamspaulw@gmail.com.

OSAF Begins Review of Riparian and Old-growth Forests Position Statements.

Oregon SAF has nine active position statements on important forestry issues (see www.forestry.org/oregon/policy/position/) that are used to articulate a professional perspective to decision makers and the interested public. These statements have a five-year lifespan, and with their expiration dates approaching, the positions on "Managing Riparian Forests" and "Managing Mature and Old-growth Forests" are now being reviewed and updated. Both topics remain timely given current riparian rulemaking by the Board of Forestry and ongoing concerns about federal forest management. OSAF members are encouraged to offer comments about these position statements to their local chapter leaders or the OSAF Policy Committee. Contact: Paul Adams, OSAF Policy chair, adamspaulw@gmail.com ♦



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A Red Flag: "The Science is Clear"

BY PAUL W. ADAMS

The claim that "the science is clear" has been heard a lot in recent years, but it especially caught my attention when I heard a public agency employee say it emphatically to the Oregon Board of Forestry at their June 3 meeting in Salem. A primary focus of that meeting was a discussion of several alternatives for modifying Oregon's riparian protection requirements for some fish-bearing streams on forestlands to maintain cool water temperatures. The agency employee was referring to the environmental science that he believed supported requiring landowners to retain a 90- to 100-foot no-harvest buffer on those streams.

Consider the context: Voluntary remarks given during the public comment period as the board is grappling with a policy decision about potential rule changes that would affect the property and activities of thousands of forest landowners, managers, and operators. Moreover, in its rulemaking, the board is specifically directed by state law to: "choose the least burdensome alternative... and resource benefits achieved by the rule must be proportional to the harm caused by forest practices."

"The science is clear" often seems to be dealt as a trump card to convey a supremacy of some science over other "lesser" concerns or information. Yet, in brief comments at public hearings the science of note is not always clearly iden-



tified or verified. And with forest resource issues, "hard" (technical) science also tends to be given most emphasis, whereas social ("soft") science and socio-economic data that policy makers must consider are often much more limited. Even when the technical science is directly relevant to the policy decision, it is rarely so clear that there is nothing to discuss and debate, especially for an issue as complex and site-specific as the links between riparian forest conditions and small increments of stream temperature.

Thus, when stated in a forest policy context, when we hear that "the science is clear," it should raise a red flag about both the science itself and the person making the proclamation. For the former, we should ask whether the science is inclusive of vital socio-economic knowledge and information, as well as whether the science has been fully vetted to account for variable site-specific conditions and other key influences. And for an individual who states in a policy context that "the sci-

ence is clear," there seems a high likelihood that they have: a) an incomplete or incorrect conception of the relevant science; b) an advocacy agenda that invokes science; or c) both traits.

The issue of science that is unclear, selective, or presented with advocacy is not new. Over two decades ago, the Oregon Board of Forestry was grappling similarly with rulemaking for riparian forests. In 1992, a letter from 12 academic and agency scientists was sent to the Oregon Department of Forestry with a passionate plea for mandatory no-harvest buffers along fish-bearing streams. Later that year, then-Board of Forestry Chair Janet McLennan spoke publicly about that input versus another document on the same issue from the OSU College of Forestry: "...the letter [from the 12 scientists] is perhaps effective as a cry of alarm... [In contrast, the College summary] is a very powerful document, and its power derives not from passion but from the disinterested presentation of relevant facts." ♦

Paul W. Adams is chair of OSAF Policy and Legislation Committee. He can be reached at adamspaulw@gmail.com.

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