

Western Forester

March/April/May 2016

Oregon • Washington State • Inland Empire • Alaska Societies

Volume 61 • Number 2

Political Implications of the 2016 Elections

Why should you engage in the political process?

BY TRAVIS JOSEPH

Forestry is at a crossroads, both professionally and politically. There's growing interest among policymakers at all levels of government to address issues such as forest health, catastrophic wildfire, climate change, and the plight of forested, rural communities. These issues have also helped elevate public awareness and recognition of the forestry profession.



But while there's momentum to bring silvicultural expertise and sound science back to the management of public lands, there's also pressure to perpetuate legal and administrative processes that have tied the hands of managers through arbitrary, one-size-fits-all policies.

Where we go from here depends far less on who is elected in 2016 than on how foresters and forestry professionals engage in the political process overall.

The art of politics is the ability to get decision makers to want what you want, to advocate for your priorities, and to champion your cause. That's not an easy task, especially when key decision makers are not personally or politically inclined to support your priorities. It is even more difficult when decision makers are uninformed about your profession or industry.

Foresters and forestry professionals are all too familiar with this challenge.



PHOTO COURTESY OF AFRC

Pinchot Partners, a forest collaborative, visit the Pinto Stewardship Sale in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. The project is a result of the Partners' efforts on huckleberry restoration.

Forest policy is a complex issue that rarely receives national attention—unless it's summer and wildfires are threatening homes, lives, or public safety. The forestry profession is highly technical and poorly understood by politicians. How many members of Congress know the difference between a regeneration and a variable retention harvest? (Hint: you can count them on one hand.)

Yet, foresters can and should have a prominent place at the table when helping design solutions to some of

our nation's major natural resources challenges: catastrophic fires, bug and disease infestations, climate change, and drought. Foresters and forestry professionals have the perspective, expertise, and experience to help solve these problems but are rarely engaged by key decision makers and leaders.

The 2016 election cycle provides an extraordinary opportunity to change this dynamic—at every level of government. Now is the time for foresters and forestry professionals to raise public

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

Political Implications of the 2016 Elections

(CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE)

awareness about our issues, to educate and engage candidates and decision makers on forestry-related policies, and to establish forestry professionals as constructive, solutions-oriented partners.

Of course, that's easier said than done—especially at the federal level. For example, how does a forester convince a liberal, urban Democrat from the East Coast to support active forest management on public lands? Similarly, how do forestry professionals convince a conservative Republican, who wants to cut the budget, to support increased funding for the Forest Service to do more work in the woods?

The key—and forestry professionals' biggest challenge—is creating a reason for politicians and decision makers to be interested in our issues. How do we make forestry politically and economically relevant? This



PHOTO COURTESY OF AFRC

A huge, old pine tree in western Oregon is being threatened by competing Douglas-fir.

requires understanding the priorities and motivations of the decision makers we seek to influence.

The liberal, urban Democrat might

not prioritize active forest management as a policy goal. But, that same liberal, urban Democrat likely cares about climate change. Linking active forest management to healthier forests, carbon sinks, and reduced carbon emissions from fires possibly turns an adversary into an advocate.

The conservative Republican budget hawk may view increased spending for a public agency as counter to his or her policy goals. But, the message can easily be adapted to fit within the context of the decision-maker's agenda: Would Congress rather spend \$1.7 billion to put out wildfires? Or, would Congress rather invest \$100 million of that \$1.7 billion in proactive forest management to reduce the risk and cost of wildfires, improve forest health and resiliency, create private sector jobs, support the local infrastructure, and provide revenues to counties and the US Treasury? That's a no-brainer.

Forestry professionals have a huge advantage in making their issues relevant to politicians and decision makers because foresters have a compelling narrative. Think about it. Forestry touches on major political and social themes important to local, state, and federal leaders: sustainability, economics and budgets, job creation, clean water and air, recreation, hunting and fishing, infrastructure, trade, and more. It is not difficult to see how a Democrat, Republican, or Independent who knows nothing about trees can be engaged on forest policy—forestry surely touches at least one of their priorities.

Even if you don't have time for or interest in national politics, numerous opportunities exist at the local level to engage and influence decision makers. In fact, given the dysfunction and hyper-partisanship of Washington, D.C., local participation may be the most important use of your limited time. Attending a local debate or town hall, sending an email to a public agency to express your opinion, writing a letter to the editor, or responding to a bad fact in the newspaper are all meaningful actions that foresters and forestry professionals can be taking to advocate for and bring legitimacy to



Western Forester

Society of American Foresters

4033 S.W. Canyon Rd. • Portland, OR 97221 • 503-224-8046 • Fax 503-226-2515
rasor@safnwo.org • www.forestry.org/northwest/westernforester/2016

Editor: Lori Rasor

Western Forester is published five times a year by the Oregon, Washington State, Inland Empire, and Alaska Societies' SAF Northwest Office

State Society Chairs

Oregon: Steve Pilkerton, CF, 5960 NW Primrose St., Albany, OR 97321; 541-737-3236 (o); steve.pilkerton@oregonstate.edu

Washington State: John Walkowiak, CF, 3515 Oakmont St. NE, Tacoma, WA 98422; 253-320-5064; jewalkowiak@harbornet.com

Inland Empire: Bill Love, CF, Inland Forest Management, 214 S. Center Valley Rd., Sandpoint, ID 83864-9542; 208-263-9420; inlandempiresaf@gmail.com

Alaska: Brian Kleinhenz, Sealaska Corporation, One Sealaska Plaza, Suite 400, Juneau, AK 99801; 907-586-9275 (o); brian.kleinhenz@sealaska.com

Northwest Board Members

District 1: Keith Blatner, Professor and Program Leader for Forestry, School of the Environment, Washington State University, Pullman, WA 99164-99164; 509-595-0399 (c); 509-335-4499 (o); blatner@wsu.edu

District 2: Ed Shepard, PO Box 849, Newberg, OR 97132; 971-832-3945; sssstr1@comcast.net

Please send change of address to:
Society of American Foresters
5400 Grosvenor Lane
Bethesda, MD 20814
membership@safnet.org

Anyone is at liberty to make fair use of the material in this publication. To reprint or make multiple reproductions, permission must be obtained from the editor. Proper notice of copyright and credit to the *Western Forester* must appear on all copies made. Permission is granted to quote from the *Western Forester* if the customary acknowledgement accompanies the quote.

Other than general editing, the articles appearing in this publication have not been peer reviewed for technical accuracy. The individual authors are primarily responsible for the content and opinions expressed herein.

Next Issue: Forest Management in the Face of Drought

their profession.

The truth is, if foresters and forestry professionals do not increase their political engagement in 2016 and beyond, we are going to lose the momentum and opportunity that currently exists to build durable, bipartisan relationships with key decision makers who understand our issues and who will advocate for our priorities.

Let's take our rightful seat at the table and bring science, common sense, and expertise back to the discussion on forest management. ♦

SAF member Travis Joseph is president of the American Forest Resource Council, a regional trade association whose purpose is to advocate for sustained yield timber harvests on public timberlands throughout the West to enhance forest health and resistance to fire, insects, and disease. He can be reached at tjoseph@amforest.org.

How Can I Keep Informed of Important Issues?

It is easier than ever to stay informed and engaged with these two newsletters within the AFRC network.

The American Forest Resource Council (AFRC) publishes a free, monthly newsletter covering legislative, legal, and administrative highlights. AFRC's newsletter is a great way to stay informed on federal policies, precedent-setting court cases, and federal projects. You can sign up by visiting www.amforest.org.

Healthy Forests, Healthy Communities (HFHC) is another great resource. HFHC is a grass-roots coalition of individuals and businesses that are passionate about improving the health of our forests and the future of rural, forested communities. The organization submits op-eds on timely forestry issues; writes letters to the editor for members to sign; and generates email campaigns to local, state, and federal leaders. It's free. All you have to do is sign up at www.healthy-forests.org.

Connecting with Policy Makers this Year and Beyond

BY PAUL W. ADAMS

The feature article by Travis Joseph effectively argues that forestry professionals have much to offer our elected officials, even those who represent urban areas. But how do we connect with these public leaders to help them better understand forestry and how SAF can provide a vital perspective on issues they are interested in? One answer lies in developing our experience working with policy makers close to home, i.e., at state and local levels.



Recently, for example, OSAF leaders developed a plan to invite interested members to meet with their state legislators in Salem. Although the Oregon legislators met in a "short session" (even-years) and few bills under consideration involved forest resources, a primary goal was to help raise the profile of OSAF and build relationships for the future. To facilitate member participation, meetings with legislators were arranged by Nick Smith, OSAF Communications chair. Similarly, handout materials for the legislators were prepared for members to use at their scheduled visits.

Another strategy was scheduling a meeting with several OSAF leaders and the respective chairs of the state House and Senate natural resources committees. These committees are "where the action is" for most bills involving forest resources, so cultivating a good relationship between SAF and committee leaders can be one of the most effective ways to influence policy making on forest issues. Such a relationship was developed several years ago between OSAF and the Senate natural resource committee chair, which led to a highly effective forestry field trip that was attended by 21 state legislators and staffers. But relationships with policy makers must be actively maintained, and elections lead to changes that require new relationships to be developed.

In Washington, for the last four years WSSAF has taken the lead organizing a legislative reception during the second week of the legislative session. This meet-and-greet style event is held in the lobby of the Hands On Childrens' Museum in Olympia. This is a wonderful venue with sustainability messages woven throughout the exhibits, which are available throughout the reception for participants to experience. Attendance has increased each year with 2016 having 93 participants, 21 of which were legislators, staff, or other state officials. The thrust of this event is to get to know our legislators on a first name basis and they in turn know someone to contact when they have forestry-related questions.

Other Northwest SAF chapters have scheduled these types of important meetings, field trips, and other events with elected officials at the state and local level. Interested members should watch for announcements about these events in chapter newsletters, the *Western Forester*, and emails. Also, be sure to check out our new "Hot Issues" web page at www.forestry.org/northwest/policyhottopics/, where current forestry issues are highlighted and resources are available (PDFs, etc.) to help SAF members communicate effectively with elected officials and other public leaders.



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

FOREST RESOURCES TECHNOLOGY

• SAF Accredited •

Ron Boldenow, Ph.D., C.F., Forestry
Rebecca Franklin, Ph.D., Dendrochronology
Bret Michalski, M.S., Wildlife Science

<http://cocc.edu/forestry> E-mail: bmichalski@cocc.edu (541) 383-7756

CENTRAL OREGON COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Bend, Oregon

Forestry and Oregon's 2016 Elections: What's on the Horizon?

BY SETH A BARNES

In politics, as is the case in forestry, the least glamorous issues are often the most important. While the Presidential race will likely dominate Oregon's 2016 election cycle, three races on a statewide level could prove to be more impactful, particularly for the natural resource sector.



All three positions on the State Lands Board (governor, secretary of state, and state treasurer) are up for election this year as a result of political re-shuffling. The board serves as trustee for Oregon's Common School Lands and oversees the Department of State Lands. In the governor's race, newly appointed incumbent Kate Brown will be seeking voter approval for the remainder of her first term. Brown's swift ascendancy provided her an opportunity to appoint a new secretary of state, filling her own just-vacated position. Secretary of State Jeanne Atkins will not be seeking re-election, however, leaving the position wide open and incumbent-free. And to round out the trio, Treasurer Ted Wheeler, subject to term limits himself, leaves the treasurer's race wide open as he seeks office as Portland's next mayor.

While these races are certainly worth watching, other aspects of Oregon's 2016 election also warrant close consideration from forestry professionals. Over the past several months, certain groups have been working to build support to amend Oregon's Forest Practices Act, focusing primarily on stirring up fear around aerial application of pesticides. Much of the fear plays on misunderstanding the use, regulation, and oversight of pesticides in forestry.

Beginning in late 2014, concern over herbicides in forestry began gaining traction with some legislators in Oregon, leading to myriad bills in the



PHOTO COURTESY OF OFRI

A working forest landscape in the Douglas-fir region of Oregon. A movement in Oregon wants to ban the practice of clearcut harvesting, a common practice that provides sun-loving Douglas-firs the open sunlight they need to thrive.

2015 legislative session. These bills included everything from all-out bans on pesticide use to increased restrictions on aerially applied pesticides in forestry. In the end, a compromise was struck, and a bill was passed that strengthened agency budgets for oversight, increased penalties for non-compliance, created an additional applicator's license for pilots applying pesticides, and added no-spray buffers around homes and schools. This legislation acknowledged the depth of existing regulation that ensured proper and safe use of these products and sought to address concerns regarding non-compliance or "bad actors." A broad spectrum of moderate leaders put in a lot of work to find this solution, but it did not satisfy groups wishing to see pesticides banned altogether. Community activism continued through the summer and fall, where small anti-herbicide and anti-forestry groups banded together and sought greater support for their message.

As foresters and natural resource professionals know, these products can be effective and useful options for

a number of management objectives, including the control of noxious weeds, maintaining forest roads, and establishing vigorous and healthy new forests. Simply stated, without the use of pesticides as a tool for foresters, many of these challenges would be exacerbated and establishing vigorous young conifer forests in western Oregon would be infinitely more difficult, and in some areas, nearly impossible.

As 2015 drew to a close and the 2016 election cycle came into sight, activists' focus on the use of pesticides expanded into a broader conversation about other forest management practices. In late December, the Secretary of State's office reported the filing of three new statewide initiatives. These initiatives, filed by similar groups, build on one another. The first completely bans aerial applications of pesticides in forestry. The second includes the ban on pesticides and adds severe restrictions on logging practices on hillslopes. The third includes both previous elements and further adds a complete ban on harvests that result

in openings larger than one acre (clearcuts). As I write this article, these initiatives have yet to receive 1,000 signatures, the required threshold needed to kick off the ballot title process. It appears increasingly unlikely that voters will see these initiatives on the ballot this November. That being said, these three ideas are monumentally impactful to forestry in Oregon and likely signal 2017 proposed legislation and a 2018 statewide ballot effort.

Forests, and the professionals that work in them, primarily reside in rural areas separated from the population of urban communities and urban voters. This divide has always presented a political challenge to professional foresters as they seek to have informed conversations with voters and urban representatives regarding complex issues. Never has this been truer than it is today, as Oregon's urban centers continue to grow and its rural communities struggle to survive.

To understand the political landscape in Oregon, it's helpful to have an appreciation of some of the history surrounding forestry in our state. Oregon's first-in-the-nation Forest Practices Act was not the only groundbreaking legislation in the 1970s that targeted conservation. In 1973, Oregonians also passed the Land Conservation and Development Act, paving the way for rigorous land-use planning aimed at protecting forestland and other rural land uses from conversion. This act was very successful, and as a result forests in Oregon are in less peril of being lost to competing uses. In fact, since 1974 only 2% of non-federal forests in Oregon have been converted to other uses. Oregon's forests continue to grow, helping keep our water clear and our air clean. The success of forestry in our state has been a primary factor in attracting many outsiders to migrate to Oregon in search of these "greener" pastures. As the population continues to grow, however, urban centers swell and voters become increasingly removed from life in rural communities. The actual details of forest management are lost on much of Oregon's current population.

As resource professionals, it is increasingly important that we find ways to help fill that gap. Many organi-



PHOTO COURTESY OF SETH A BARNES

Aerial application of herbicides in forestry is a common and effective way to control competing vegetation and allow young conifer forests to establish themselves. Despite constant oversight and regulation, groups in Oregon want to ban this practice altogether.

zations, including SAF, have successfully engaged in this work and their efforts are ongoing. As I write this I am reminded of opportunities I have personally taken to visit classrooms and host field tours with children and adults. These were priceless encounters where I felt I had a chance to give back to society and use my knowledge to educate others. Whether it be school children or legislators, it's important to seize these opportunities and help reconnect the urban-rural divide.

Election cycles will come and go, but the challenges facing forestry are bigger than any election cycle. The debates and ballot initiatives of today will affect our ability to sustainably manage Oregon's forests for decades. ♦

Seth A Barnes, an SAF member, is director of Forest Policy for the Oregon Forest and Industries Council in Salem. He can be reached at 503-586-1243 or seth@ofic.com.

LandVest®

**TIMBERLAND MARKETING &
NATURAL RESOURCE CONSULTING**



Over 900,000 acres of western timberland sold in the last five years.

For over 40 years, LandVest has been a trusted adviser to landowners and buyers of significant regional, national, and international properties. The addition of our local office in Eugene in 2012 enables us to now bring that same level of expertise, professionalism, and care to the brokerage of smaller timberland holdings. With licensed or affiliate brokers in Oregon, Washington, California, Idaho, and British Columbia, we can handle the complexities of marketing timberland across the Pacific Northwest.

In addition to real estate brokerage, our team offers a full range of natural resource consulting services with specialists in biometrics, growth & yield (FPS, FVS), inventory, harvest scheduling, carbon project analysis, acquisition due diligence, and financial analysis.

Joseph L. Taggart
jtaggart@landvest.com

David K. Walters PhD
dwalters@landvest.com

576 Olive Street Ste 203, Eugene, OR 97401 | 541-790-2105
REGIONAL OFFICES: GA • MA • ME • NH • NY • OR • PA • SC • VT

www.landvest.com

What Forest Management Issues in Alaska will be Impacted by the 2016 Elections?

BY RON WOLFE

Fire and ice are national issues that will impact Alaska in 2016 and into the future. Wildfire policy and suppression costs will affect private, state, and federal foresters, possibly dramatically depending on the severity of the fire season. And the ice of climate change will not go away and will continue to be controversial, especially at the national level, and Alaska will unavoidably be embroiled in it too. For our state legislature, the budget shortfall from low oil prices and declining oil production has already dominated this legislative session and this will continue. The election year promises to keep the politics lively.

Both issues represent threats and opportunities for foresters. Wildfire suppression crews are an important source of employment in rural Alaska and elsewhere. Who will pay for these costs and how they will be able to pay are key threats. On the national scene, the debate of what to do about climate change will continue, and here in Alaska we are squarely impacted as sea ice melts and the public worries about polar bears and other things that are near and dear to our Alaskan hearts.

Forest management offers carbon sequestration opportunities that have the potential to be financially rewarding, especially for private landowners. A closely related issue is ecosystem services and these concepts for forestry are early in development with

much to be done. Opportunity lies in voluntary, willing buyer and willing seller free-market transactions. This idea is quite different than wholesale government taking, without any compensation, as a result of the Bald Eagle Protection Act, Clean Water Act, anadromous fish stream protection, and other unfunded government mandates that impact the management of Alaskan forests. Price per ton of carbon sequestered and entry to regulated markets will need to be sorted out to attract Alaskan landowners.

In Southeast Alaska the drama is enhanced by the never-ending debate over the Tongass, which is intertwined with broken federal legislation and policy that includes National Forest Management Act (NFMA), National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Clinton Roadless Rule, Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) recommendations, Tongass Land Management Plan (TLMP) amendment Record of Decision (ROD), and the list goes on.

But in the aftermath, huge issues remain about the ability of a Tongass timber sale program based on harvest and manufacture of young growth to succeed at this time, regardless of the proposed TLMP amendment alternative actually selected. This transition from predominately old-growth harvest to young growth will happen, but the timeframe is the issue and whether the industry will be afforded sufficient opportunity to retool. Some would like for Southeast Alaska's timber industry to dry up and go away. This view leaves those who live, work, and call Southeast Alaska home vulnerable to political trading where the Tongass, or timber in general, gets traded for other climate change, carbon-emitting interests, and possibly even the ever-important oil.

We foresters are frustrated over our inability to move the needle during elections, yet these issues so strongly impact us as we manage Alaskan forests. This situation will not change in 2016, but today a unique opportunity exists for foresters to help with long-term solutions. Historically, foresters

have held their noses to the ground, working hard to do their jobs. All efforts and resources have been focused on our respective missions that have been relatively independent of each other. Commerce and industries such as timber, fishing, tourism, retail, mining, and others have all worked independently as well.

Can we create a climate change wind for new, long-term opportunity?

Today there is a paradigm change at the local community level as these communities are threatened by state budget shortfalls, failing economies, and the loss of state funding and other revenues. Local community revenue sharing from federal timber sales has already disappeared. The dominant debate over the Tongass will continue to threaten communities. Coffman Cove, Whale Pass, and other communities are shadows of what they once were when timber harvest was higher. Thorne Bay, Craig, Wrangell, Petersburg, Ketchikan, and other communities that have fared relatively better as they diversified their local economies will struggle as federal and state issues worsen.

It has been said that all politics are local and this will be especially true for us to prosper in the future. In the short term, community annual budget shortfalls will create huge stresses. In the long term, local population forecasts for the year 2030 predict every community in Southeast will lose population, except Juneau and Sitka. Smaller communities will face the devastation of population losses, some as high as 50%. Community leaders face changing demographics as young families continue to leave due to lack of jobs and opportunity that go with shrinking economies. Schools will get smaller or close, and all local services are threatened.

Local grass roots collaboration is a new paradigm that is an opportunity for a pathway through these dangerous times. The potential for stability and prosperity exists for village com-

Barnes & Associates, Inc.

FORESTER NEEDED

Barnes & Associates, Inc., a forestry consulting firm servicing southwest Oregon, is seeking an experienced professional forester.

Duties include a wide range of forestry tasks including timber cruising and appraisals, management planning, harvesting administration, silviculture, etc. A minimum bachelor's degree in forest management, forest engineering or similar degree required.

**Please send a resume to
rbarnes@barnesinc.com**

munities. Village economies combine for a Southeast regional economy. Natural resource industries have worked independently of each other, and sometimes at odds against each other, but we are all facing a difficult future. Communities will look to these industries for crucial contributions for their mutual benefit and survival; their future will depend on it.

Local planning and cooperative efforts such as the Hoonah Native Forest Partnership represent this paradigm shift to the future. This partnership represents a science-based, landscape scale, community forest approach to watershed planning. Its roots are founded on project implementation with an overall goal to achieve a measurable and resilient blend of timber, salmon, and deer production, local economic diversification, and improved watershed health. This effort represents both cash economies and utilization of subsistence resources, a combination that is so very important to our villages and rural Alaska.

Core partners are Sealaska, Huna Totem, The Hoonah Indian Association,

The City of Hoonah, The Nature Conservancy, Alaska Department of Fish and Game Subsistence Division, and US Forest Service. The 150,000-acre project area is a model for providing long-term benefits to landowners, managers, and community residents that can be replicated in similarly-situated locations throughout Southeast Alaska. For additional information on the partnership, visit <http://sustainable-southeast.net/hoonah-native-forest-partnership/>.

Local grass roots collaboration efforts with resource stakeholders, local officials, and agency and landowner representatives collectively offer benefits to the entire community of Southeast Alaska. As foresters we offer the stability of sustainable forest management to meet the future multi-use demands of our forests: timber, fish, wildlife, mineral development, and commercial and subsistence uses can be managed for the future to benefit locals. Previous collaboration efforts such as the Tongass Futures Roundtable were not sufficiently grounded at the local level and this powerful opportunity failed. The

jury remains out on the recent Tongass Resource Advisory Committee effort. Strength through unity of multi local planning stakeholders will be difficult, but it is a powerful and important opportunity that must not be lost. We foresters should lead the way. Vote your conscience, but remember the larger issue. While elections are clearly important, leadership in local collaborative planning means maintaining a relationship with whomever is elected, and that transcends office terms when planning is founded on local, multi-stakeholder collaborative efforts. ♦

Ron Wolfe has been a Southeast Alaska forester since 1982 and has worked for tribal government, an Alaska native village corporation, and Sealaska, the Southeast Alaska native regional corporation. He is currently on the Alaska Board of Forestry and has been active in Forest Practices Act issues since 1989. A 25-year member of SAF, he can be reached at 907-789-3353 or ron.wolfe@outlook.com.

Got questions? Get answers.

KnowYourForest.org

It's easy. Tap into a wealth of information, to help you manage your forestlands. Best of all, the website's updated regularly and ready when you are.



**Oregon Forest
Resources Institute**



Family forestland
owners Dale Cuyler
and Brenda Woodard

What Forest Management Issues in Washington will be Impacted by the 2016 Elections?

In Washington, Science, Not Politics, Drives Forest Management

BY CINDY MITCHELL

By all accounts, 2016 is shaping up to be a very interesting and unprecedented presidential election year. Some say the national election is between the “establishment” and “outsiders.” Others say that voters are channeling anger and frustration with politics as usual, or that this presidential election will reshape the American political landscape.

In Washington, Democrat Jay Inslee, the self-proclaimed “greenest governor in America,” is running for a second term amidst a host of troubling issues. The state legislature was held in contempt by the State Supreme Court for not making enough progress toward fully funding public education, and three of the major state agencies, facing serious issues, are without an appointed leader, with one recently ousted by the state senate. While Gov. Inslee is providing leadership on

important international issues like climate change, challenges remain back home with lackluster economic recovery in rural communities.

Unemployment numbers are still high, and jobs are being lost in counties that rely on natural resources. Every four years, statewide offices are up for reelection, and uniquely Washington is one of only five states with an elected Public Lands Commissioner who oversees the regulation of forest management activities. Nonfederal forest policy is governed by elected and appointed boards, public policy processes, and extensive public involvement. Additionally, Washington state is one of only 19 states that has an initiative process and even has a procedure for citizen-sponsored legislation. The forest sector could be dramatically impacted by the elections of 2016, and politics in general, but Washington's forest sector has worked very hard over the years to insulate itself from the implications of

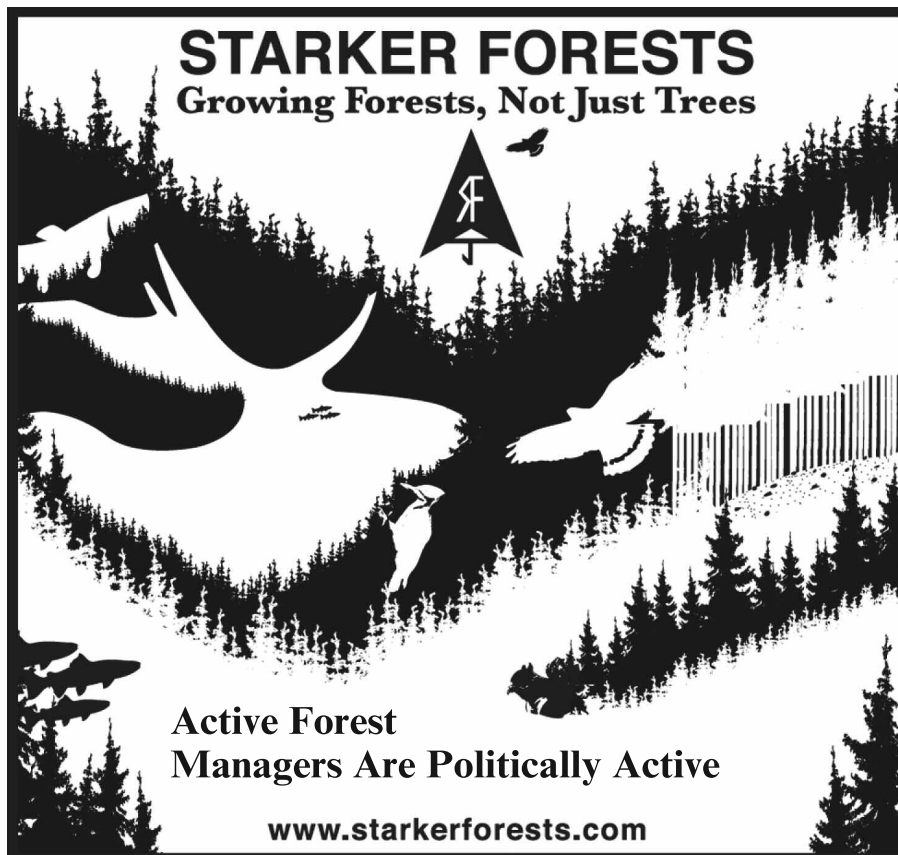
election cycles. In a long-term business like forestry, it is important to base policies on science and adaptive management rather than the politics of short-term elections.

Forest management issues in the west have been dominated by federal endangered species and clean water issues since the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) and Clean Water Act (CWA) were enacted in the 1970s. Implementation of the federal laws are heavily influenced by the politics of the party in control of the White House, which in turn can impact harvest levels in the state, as we've seen with the listings of the northern spotted owl (which reduced federal timber harvest by 92% in Washington alone) and Pacific salmon species.

State and private forest management has been confounded by the dominance of national forests in the west and public land management issues, where management is influenced by litigation from activists groups and timber production is only a small part of their overall mandate for preservation and multiple-use management.

Wildfire is now shaping how forests are managed and has put state and private landowners in a defensive mode to protect their forestland investment from neighboring federal lands which are tangled up in policies and budget conflicts about the best way to reduce the impacts of catastrophic wildfire. Some foresters have said it is easier to anticipate and manage around natural events such as wind, rain, fire, insects and disease, snow, and ice than the uncertainty stemming from changing regulations.

Non-federal forests comprise 56% of Washington's forested landscape, which is the largest proportion of non-federal forests in the west. These forests provide nearly 97% of the total statewide timber harvest and therefore the products, jobs, and economic backbone of rural resource communities. However, forest management is greatly influenced by federal, state,



local, and tribal policies. Washington is unique in that treaty tribes are co-managers of the fishery along with the state Department of Fish and Wildlife. If policies were set by politicians and political parties, then every election would have a potential to impact the way we manage our forests. One thing that timberland owners and investors covet is regulatory stability, as an investment in planting a new crop of trees might take 40-60 years to mature before harvest and any revenue is realized. As mentioned earlier, Washington forest landowners have worked over the years to develop a stable regulatory environment so science, instead of politics, drives forest management.

In response to ESA fish listings, CWA impaired streams, and tribal treaty obligations, in 1996 private forest landowners took a proactive approach to define their property rights and environmental responsibilities. Forest landowners worked in collaboration with local, state, and federal natural resource agencies, tribes, and small and large forest landowners to develop a set of forest practices regulations and processes that would meet the requirements of these federal laws, provide the tribes with a harvestable level of salmon, and protect the viability of the timber industry.

This required a huge investment by non-federal forest landowners in riparian buffers, unstable slopes, and other sensitive area set-asides in addition to repairing roads and culverts for fish passage. The state regulatory system was endorsed by the federal government through a 50-year Forest Practices Habitat Conservation Plan (FPHCP) and incidental take permit that provides regulatory certainty for landowners to conduct forest management operations. The FPHCP was set in motion by the 1999 Forests and Fish Law and is currently the largest multi-species HCP in the nation, protecting all native fish species, seven species of amphibians, and covering 60,000 miles

of streams on 8 million acres of private forestland and 1.3 million acres of state forestland. An on-going Adaptive Management Program was put in place to require the use of peer-reviewed science to change forest practices rules. Washington is the only state with a multi-species Habitat Conservation Plan covering all forest practices on non-federal forests.

Environmental results from 2001 through 2013 include landowners removing 5,641 barriers to fish passage and restoring 3,893 miles of historic fish habitat. This is more than two-thirds of the way to the goal of 100% completion by 2021, which is on track to be accomplished. Large private forest landowners each develop a Road Maintenance and Abandonment Plan (RMAP) to upgrade and repair road systems where needed. A total of 55,482 miles of roads have been inventoried and 8,886 miles of roads identified as "needing improvement." Based on the Department of Natural Resources' RMAP Accomplishments Report, 3,417 miles of road have been decommissioned and 22,793 miles of road have been improved. This success has been achieved through significant investments by the state and large private landowners of more than \$300 million—of which private forest landowners have contributed \$170 million for road improvements through 2013. Regulatory certainty has encouraged economic investments in forestry, which provides stable economies, products, and benefits to the public.

Political, public, legal, and scientific support is necessary to uphold the assurances committed to in the 50-year HCP, which is why we communicate with the public and decision makers about our forest practices. We let them know the FPHCP was developed in collaboration with stakeholders and has strong bi-partisan support from the legislature. Keeping the politics and partisan swings of the election cycle out of

the forest takes dedicated work.

Lessons learned from 15 years of experience is that ongoing collaboration between stakeholders and communication with the public and key decision makers is essential to long-term stability of forestry regulations and the assurance that science, not politics, will drive forest management. ♦

Cindy Mitchell is Senior Director of Public Affairs, Washington Forest Protection Association, in Olympia, Wash. She can be reached at cmitchell@wfpa.org.

There's Still Time to Register for the WSSAF Annual Meeting

Registration is still open for the Washington State SAF annual meeting. The conference will feature expert speakers and exhibitors in the relaxed, unique historic environment of La Conner, a former fishing village. The theme is "A Walk in the Woods."

This meeting brings together experts and professional foresters to discuss pressing questions in wood use and supply, collaborative groups, restoration, forest genetics, and measurement technology. Please join us in this discussion, make new contacts, and renew professional relationships.

Thursday, May 12 is devoted to the WSSAF Executive Committee meeting and an icebreaker that starts at 6:00 p.m.

Kicking off the Friday, May 13, session is keynote speaker Tom DeLuca, director, School of Environmental and Forest Sciences, University of Washington. After a full day of indoor presentations and social hour, we will adjourn to the awards banquet to honor our outstanding SAF members and then listen to banquet speaker Aaron Everett, Washington DNR state forester.

After a WSSAF business meeting on Saturday morning, the group will take to the field and visit Pilchuck Tree Farm operations.

For additional information and to register, visit www.forestry.org/washington/2016Meeting/.

Jackson and Prochnau, Inc.

Since 1954

*Feasibility Studies & Investment Analysis World Wide.
Inventory, Appraisals, Engineering, Management, Log Marketing*

www.jacksonandprochnau.com
Albany, OR Tel: 541-926-3320

Scott@jacksonandprochnau.com
Olympia, WA Tel: 360-352-9680

America's 2016 Elections: Implications for Western Natural Resource Professionals

BY DAVID NEW

The year 2016 once again challenges voters across our nation to wisely choose over 7,183 state and federal government representatives and leaders—challenging because our society, party platforms, candidate positions, and media reporting are becoming more polarized and gridlocked in rhetoric. In this voting environment our public lands management crisis will take a distant back seat to other high profile environmental issues such as climate change policies and national energy independence.

Given current national priorities and professional backgrounds, all of our nation's Presidential candidates have a limited understanding or track record of managing Western natural resource issues, policies, or legislation. Yet this creates a *real and meaningful* opportunity for SAF to vigorously educate Presidential and Congressional candidates and key staff about the many complex forest management issues facing us today. This "educational window"



will take place between May and October of this year, and as SAF members we need to vigorously take up this challenge at the state and local government levels. If we don't, who will? Post Presidential election, it is also vital that SAF actively engage the new President's transition staff.

Our elevator speech message to every political candidate should be nonpolitical and simple: "America's federal public lands and the communities in which they reside need urgent restoration and rejuvenation. The associated governmental and judicial environmental processes require rebuilding. America's natural resource economies are at a tipping point. The timetables of nature and our global economic competitors have absolutely no regard for our political, legislative, or judicial timetables. As a candidate, what are your achievable plans for getting us out of this gridlock?"

Natural resource issues are unpopular with politicians for a reason. For over two decades taking a stand on these issues has earned little or no political power in an urbanized nation, and in fact, has generated copious amounts of scorn from special interest groups. Consequentially, votes on natural resource issues are often traded like cheap Monopoly property and rarely discussed in a meaningful or comprehensive manner. As resource professionals, it's up to us to ask candidates and elected officials to better educate themselves and develop thoughtful, long-term policies that will perpetuate sustainable natural resources for future generations. We also need to point out to candidates that this situation requires

tough decisions, but we elect these folks in hopes that they will do the right thing and make the tough decisions.

At the national level, candidates are increasingly faced with our nation's debt crisis and the economic necessity of better prioritizing and balancing our federal budgets. Ultimately this will impact all federal agencies' non-essential funding. Fortunately, on federal and state budget issues most candidates have clear policies, and more importantly, many have voting track records to guide voter choices. This author is a firm believer in the importance of evaluating the voting records of candidates wherever possible—leopards rarely change their spots. Natural resource professionals need to look carefully past the media rhetoric to search for candidates with pragmatic road maps for dealing with the budget crisis we face. Federal and state candidates' positions on national wildfire prevention and suppression funding can provide a real litmus test for voters of short term "Band-Aid" versus real long-term solutions.

Closer to home in Idaho, Congressional candidates and staff have been very actively engaged in federal land collaborative restoration efforts and securing national wildfire funding. However, none of the candidates have called for a Public Land Law Review as in the 1960s or laid out a plan for addressing the long-identified problems with NEPA or the Endangered Species Act.

Washington, Montana, and Utah will each hold gubernatorial elections in 2016, with a special election in Oregon. Western state governors enjoy increasing opportunities to participate in federal land management through the feder-

**Restore our
federal forests
to restore our
rural communities**

Healthy Forests



**Healthy
Communities**

**Join us @
HealthyForests.Org**



**NORTHWEST
FORESTRY SERVICES**

503-684-8168

1-800-783-6818

11825 SW Greenburg Road, Suite 200
Tigard, OR 97223

www.nwforestryservices.com

- ☐ Professional Forest Management
- ☐ Timber Inventories and Cruising

- ☐ Appraisals
- ☐ Mapping and GIS

al legislated Good Neighbor Authority. These initiatives, however, require both gubernatorial support and legislature budget support to work on the ground. In Utah and Alaska, initiatives continue in regard to the legal review of the state's enabling act and the federal government's commitment to dispose of federal lands. Arizona has the only major 2016 ballot vote that could affect state land management.

State legislatures working in "partnership" with rural county commissioners across the west have the best effective opportunity to increase support of US Forest Service collaborative forest restoration initiatives. I can tell readers from first-hand experience in Arizona that local governments are going to lead the charge in holding collaborative efforts accountable for results on the ground and in improving rural communities. Federal, state, and local government candidates need to recognize that collaborative efforts take "sustained" local community engagement. These are time-consuming processes for which there is no free lunch.

Increasingly, urban congressional and state representative candidates need to be reminded that while federal lands are "all citizens lands" the burden of collaborative forest restoration efforts and consequences of failures fall predominantly on the rural communities of the West.

As an avid student of history and having managed forestry operations in a number of nations, I see the key to truly great national or state leaders as rarely the candidates themselves, instead, it's all about their choices of key cabinet officials, advisors, and department heads. President Truman's choices of Generals Marshall and McArthur to lead the largest ever successful rebuilding of nations and democracies by two totally different personalities by an unpopular President is an example of the very kind of leadership we voters need to seek this year.

As natural resource professionals and as westerners we need to make our voices and votes count. In 1960, 63% of eligible voters participated in federal elections. In 2014, only 36% participat-

ed. This is amongst the worst voter participation among OECD nations. Responsible and accountable government starts with good voter turnout. Each and every SAF member should commit to:

- Inform at least one local or state candidate on two important natural resource opportunities in his or her state;
- Inform at least two of your neighbors about the importance of these opportunities and encourage them to vote; and
- Vote in all 2016 elections. ♦

SAF member David New is currently an international forestry consultant and formerly vice president of Timberlands of Boise Cascade Corporation and past chief forester of Fletcher Challenge New Zealand. He now resides in Boise, Idaho, and can be reached at davenew@growingexcellence.com. He would like to thank Dr. Dennis Becker, Darrel Kenops, and Kevin Boling for their consul and wisdom in preparing this article.

THE ULTIMATE FORESTRY TOOL.

The proven Nikon Forestry Pro is the professional grade rangefinder/hypsometer that provides accurate range, height and angle measurements using conventional vertical separation and 3-point measurement. 3-point measurement provides the difference in height between two targets by measuring horizontal distance, and then the angles to both the target base and the top.

It's just one of thousands of products we sell, and each one is backed with our world class customer service.

Go online, or call 800-360-7788 to order your FREE catalog today.

FORESTRY SUPPLIERS

Sales 800-647-5368

www.forestry-suppliers.com



©2016 Forestry Suppliers, Inc. All rights reserved.



Designed to the exacting demands of the forestry industry, Forestry Pro is equally at-home with arborists and utilities.

Western Foresters Share 2016 Priorities

BY KELSEY DELANEY

The Council of Western State Foresters (CWSF) is a place where Western foresters come together to tackle complex forestry issues. CWSF is a nonpartisan, nonprofit membership organization comprised of state, territorial, and commonwealth foresters whose role is to conserve, protect, and enhance Western and Pacific island forests. CWSF's membership includes the 17 Western US state foresters and six American-affiliated Pacific island foresters. Unlike other organizations focused on just one aspect of forestry, our organization takes a broad and comprehensive approach to forest management and provides expertise on the many complex and interrelated factors at play in Western forestry.



In addition, CWSF works closely with the National Association of State Foresters, the Northeastern Area Association of State Foresters, and the Southern Group of State Foresters to raise awareness and take collective action on issues affecting state forestry agencies nationwide.

An important element of CWSF's work is fulfilled through our relationship with the Western leadership of the USDA Forest Service (Forest Service). This relationship is realized through the Western Forestry Leadership Coalition (WFLC), which is a unique partnership between the Western state foresters and the Forest Service's Western regional foresters, Research Station directors, and Forest Products Laboratory director. CWSF staff is tasked with executing the work of both CWSF and WFLC.

Priority Issues

The Food, Conservation, and

Energy Act of 2008 (Farm Bill) directed all US states and Pacific islands to complete assessments of all forests within their boundaries—federal, state, and private—and to develop strategies to address threats and opportunities. These Statewide Forest Resource Assessments and Strategies (Forest Action Plans) are powerful tools to direct limited resources where they are needed most. Collectively, they represent the first-ever strategic plan for the nation's forests and are the guiding documents for state forestry agencies.

Following the state Forest Action Plans submittals, the WFLC initiated a project to review and analyze the Western states and Pacific islands plans to identify trends and other findings collectively impacting Western forests. The analysis revealed the key issues the entire Western region has in common are forest health, wildland fire, sustainability, climate change, and water quality and quantity.

These key issues serve as the guiding framework for CWSF to educate and inform policymakers and natural resource managers. Examples of CWSF's work in these areas include:

- State foresters continue to prioritize the pursuit of a legislative solution to adequately fund wildfire suppression for the Forest Service and Department of the Interior and end the practice of fire transfers. CWSF members continue to express to Congress the urgent need to identify a solution to this critical problem.
- State foresters engage in the federal appropriations cycle, focusing on the Forest Service State and Private Forestry (S&PF) programs and the Forest Inventory and Analysis program. Nationwide, state foresters deliver technical and financial assistance, along with forest health, water, and wildfire protection for more than two-thirds of the nation's forests. The Forest Service S&PF mission area provides vital support to deliver these services. Each fiscal year, state foresters support funding levels for the individual S&PF programs and make recommendations to Congress on the funding needed to deliver effective

WILBUR-ELLIS®
Ideas to Grow With™

[CHOOSE OPENSIGHT® FOR OUTSTANDING CONTROL]

Opensight® Herbicide is now labeled for forest site preparation in Oregon, Idaho, and Washington states. Outstanding control of many broadleaf weeds, plus inhibition of Scotch broom seed germination!

Bruce Alber 503-227-3525 Western OR & Western WA	Scott Johnson 916-991-4451 California
Joel Fields 509-928-4512 Eastern WA, ID & MT	Jerry Gallagher 530-570-5977 California
Carl Sostrom 509-928-4512 Eastern WA, ID & MT	George Severson 541-810-8387 Southern OR, Northern CA

For information only. Not a label. Prior to use, always read and follow the product label directions.
WILBUR-ELLIS Logo and Ideas to Grow With are registered trademark of Wilbur-Ellis Company. Opensight is a registered trademark of Dow AgroSciences LLC. K-0914-125

and successful S&PF programs.

• State foresters have a strong interest in the health and productivity of all forests and continue to raise concerns that the current level of active management on National Forest System lands, managed by the Forest Service, is insufficient to address the scope, scale, and pace needed to restore these forests to a more resilient condition. CWSF members continue to call for opportunities to advance active management and address the barriers impeding restoration work, and to urge the Forest Service to fully utilize existing forest management authorities.

2016 Elections

CWSF is a leading resource for science-based, nonpartisan information about the sustainable management of Western forests. CWSF members are uniquely positioned to contribute to the creation of information that is used to educate policymakers and government officials about important forestry issues. Organizationally, CWSF takes a comprehensive approach to Western forestry issues irrespective of how it aligns with the priorities of political parties.

CWSF and its members appreciate the strong voices of forestry champions in Congress and their unwavering support for Western forests. Significant interest by members of Congress focusing on accomplishing forest priorities on the ground has been evident. In addition, the Administration continues to communicate the need for a new wildfire suppression budgeting mechanism. CWSF will continue to work with partners to educate members of Congress and the Administration about policy and legislative solutions that support healthy forests during the remainder of the 114th Congress and until the current Administration transitions out of office.

The upcoming 2016 elections present an educational opportunity for CWSF, state foresters, and the forestry community nationwide. We look forward to continuing to be a credible information resource for members of Congress and those that are re-elected to office. In addition, newly elected members of Congress and a new Administration presents educational

and outreach opportunities for CWSF to convey the importance of Western forests and the benefits they provide. The dynamic nature of our forested landscapes creates ever-evolving possibilities to dialogue about, and make progress on improving the health and sustainability of our nation's forests. ♦

Kelsey Delaney is the Forest Policy director for the Council of Western State Foresters and the Western Forestry Leadership Coalition. She can be reached at kdelaney@wflcweb.org. To stay up to date with CWSF's work, subscribe to their newsletter at <http://bit.ly/CWSFnewsletter>.



"Unshakeable commitment"

"SAF's unshakable commitment to forestry as a profession founded on science resonates with me and embodies my core value of lifelong learning. I'm grateful that SAF provides ample opportunities for connections among scientists, managers, practitioners, and policy actors. These lead to real-world, challenging questions that reward my thirst for relevance and impact in the scientific inquiries I pursue."

Jeremy Fried, Resource Forester, Oregon

Discover the latest in science and techniques at www.eforester.org.



Before you decide, find out what you have! Affordable Timber Cruising.



Adam's Timber Service specializes in full harvest on all types of forest land, sustainable forest management, and reforestation.

**Professional Forestry Management
Accurate Timber Cruising / Appraising
Timber Harvesting, Layout, Permitting**

**Timber Sales and Log Marketing
Road Construction - Maintenance
Forest Land Management**

We purchase land and standing timber

(360) 636-7766

www.adamstimbervservice.com - Longview, WA - adam.timber@live.com

Credibility, Connections, and Communities: Tales from the SAF GAEX Team

BY DANIELLE WATSON,
JOHN BARNWELL, AND
BRIAN BARTELS

The Society of American Foresters (SAF) Government Affairs and External Relations (GAEX) team at the national office in Bethesda, Maryland, acts as a liaison to the federal government and partner organizations on behalf of the roughly 12,000 SAF members across the country. From our outreach efforts to forming coalitions and partnerships with other natural resource organizations to our work on policy research and analysis, the GAEX team is committed to making sure the forestry profession has a seat at the table in Washington, DC. We collaborate with Congress, federal agencies, and integral forestry stakeholders to amplify the message of sustainable management and ensure the continued health and resilience of forests for current and future generations.

So what does this look like in practice? What does the GAEX team do all day? Good questions.



Danielle Watson



John Barnwell

People have very different ideas of what our jobs entail, and those perceptions don't always align with reality. Over the years, we have heard all sorts of interesting views of what we do. Some think we spend every day on Capitol Hill talking to legislators. Some think we split our time between visiting Congress and visiting federal agencies. Some even think we spend all our time at DC lunches and happy hours. While receptions and other interesting events do happen on occasion, we can assure you that our jobs are much less glamorous than other policy wonks depicted in the popular media. One thing is for certain, though—no day is exactly the same.

What we do and how we do it

We have three critical assets that serve our team and SAF well: 1) credibility; 2) a wealth of information about forests and forest science gathered over 120 years; and 3) members from across the country with unique expertise and experience. While solid science and knowledgeable and passionate members are essential to our success, our credibility is key. These other aspects certainly strengthen SAF's position as a credible source of information on forests and forest management, but credibility itself can be gained or lost in an instant.

Every decision we make to act (or not to act) is made based on how it will affect SAF's credibility now and in the

future. Sometimes this creates frustrating situations for our allies in Congress, our partner organizations, and even SAF members. To preserve this invaluable asset of credibility, we often have to step back and give the less satisfying answer of "maybe" or "it depends." As the political climate becomes more polarized, these less definitive answers become more difficult to give, but are also more important than ever.

SAF members will note that we do not often express wholesale support or opposition to legislative bills or administrative proposals. Instead, we use science and practice to highlight the pros and cons and advance alternatives. Public endorsement of legislative bills in particular is reserved for those ideas that have the potential to garner widespread, bipartisan support. We do not feel that it is in the best interest of SAF or its members for our team to jump on board when legislators are introducing "statement bills" designed to grab attention and push boundaries. However, we are not disparaging groups that do sign on and support these efforts. In fact, they are a necessary part of the broader advocacy community. All groups have their roles to play, and SAF will continue to play the role of the professional society.

Armed with our credibility, science, and practice, we work with five main groups to further SAF goals and objectives: 1) Congress; 2) partner organizations; 3) federal agencies; 4) SAF Committee on Forest Policy; and 5) other SAF members.

Congress

Maintaining and building congressional relationships on both sides of the aisle is an important element of our



Washington Forestry Consultants, Inc.

Forestry and Vegetation Management Specialists

- Forest Management Plans
- Timber Inventory and Appraisals
- Timber Sale Layout, Permitting and Administration
- Feasibility Studies on New Land Purchases
- Forest Land Management
- Growth and Yield Analysis
- GPS Mapping
- Vegetation Management

Galen M. Wright, ACF, SAF, Certified Forester No. 44 and
Board Certified Master Arborist No. PN-0129BU

1.800.276.1723

www.waforestry.com • galenwfc@aol.com • Olympia, WA

Serving Clients across the U.S. and Canada since 1991

Relaskop™ Need Repair? Calibration out of wack?

I will clean your Relaskop™ inside and out, adjust level & BAF, and make it better than brand new from the factory. Over 20 years experience working on Relaskops.

**ONLY
\$125**

Call Jon 503-707-6236

SUMMERLAKE ENTERPRISES
TIGARD, OR

work in DC. Understandably, this aspect of the job is often what people fixate on when thinking about our team and its contribution to SAF. While we do keep in contact with legislative staff on a regular basis and bring Board members and others to see their representatives and raise specific issues, we do not devote the majority of our time in meetings on the Hill. Instead, we look for opportunities to have more in-depth interactions such as educational field tours or briefing events that draw attention to important scientific discussions. For example, SAF has recently sponsored and organized congressional field trips to Florida, Georgia, and Virginia to educate staff on wildfire funding issues, the importance of strong markets for wood products, and programs that help landowners keep forests as forests.

Partner organizations

Without a doubt, our real strength and impact lies in our work with partner organizations and coalitions. As with many things in life, it is difficult to get important things done alone. Partner organizations and coalitions facilitate opportunities and provide platforms for discussion that would not otherwise exist.

SAF's voice is amplified and credibility is gained when a broad range of diverse organizations are willing to stand behind and speak up for our shared principles. With such diverse perspectives, consensus can be elu-

sive. But our team prides itself on bringing groups back to the table and finding common ground. Not only do we work with long-time partners like the American Forest Foundation, National Association of State Foresters, and The Nature Conservancy, we also work hard to identify untapped partnerships and are hoping to build connections with other professional societies, wildlife groups, sportsmen associations, parks and recreation groups, and urban forestry leaders.

For example, SAF is starting to get more involved with the Sustainable

Urban Forests Coalition to build awareness and support for programs and research related to urban and community forests and their benefits to storm water management, air quality, property values, energy savings, and human health and wellness.

Federal agencies

We also consider federal agencies as valuable partners in our work on behalf of SAF. Not surprisingly, we spend most of our time in this realm working with the Forest Service, but we are also in

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 18)

What about Interns?

Because our policy team is small, interns play an important role in our day-to-day work. Our team employs at least two policy interns per year to assist us at the national office.

The Henry Clepper internship program is named in honor of the late Henry Clepper, who was a forester in the Pennsylvania State Forest Service and US Forest Service. He also served as executive director of SAF, managing editor of the *Journal of Forestry*, and was an active member of the Penn State/Mont Alto Forestry Alumni Association.

Our current policy intern is Brian Bartels, a recent graduate from the University of Florida with a degree in natural resources and conservation and a minor in agricultural/natural resource law. Brian hopes to use the invaluable experiences he has gained as an intern at SAF to shape public policy regarding our shared environment.

Our policy interns serve for approximately the length of an academic semester and undertake a variety of assignments. These include, but are not limited to, preparing background reports, monitoring legislation, serving as a liaison to other natural resource organizations, and writing articles for the *Forestry Source*. We also encourage interns to take advantage of the national office's close proximity to Washington, DC and attend congressional hearings and visit historical sites and museums. Aside from a monthly stipend, the internship offers interns an opportunity to interact with a variety of different professionals in the natural resources field and facilitates essential networking prospects.

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis with the aim to acquire a diverse set of young professionals from across the country to participate in the program each year. Whether majoring in forestry or political science or a graduate student or recent graduate, all can learn valuable lessons and make even more valuable connections through this internship experience. Past interns have gone on to pursue graduate studies, found jobs with partner organizations or congressional offices, or returned to work in more traditional forestry sectors.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SAF

Past SAF intern Bridget Bobick (left) and Danielle Watson participated in a Sustainable Forestry Initiative tree planting event in Baltimore.



**Forest Management Plans
Resource Inventories
Fish/Habitat Surveys
Alternate Plans
Stream Enhancement
Fish Passage
ESA Compliance**

360.456.4621

markt@fishsciences.net

www.fishsciences.net

Calling All Foresters—Philmont Scout Ranch Needs You!



PHOTO COURTESY OF PHILNEWS, 2016, ISSUE 5

Andy Mason uses the 400-year-old tree cookie to explain fire ecology and how the forests of Philmont have changed since the early 1900s.

BY ANDY MASON AND
STEVE JOHNSON

As a teenager, do you remember like we do that one person or experience that made you want to become a forester? The Visiting Forester Program at the Philmont Scout Ranch near Cimarron, New Mexico, is your opportunity to make that same impact on a young person in the 21st century. As foresters we often talk about how important it is increase literacy in natural resources

and to recruit and mentor new foresters. The Visiting Forester program at Philmont is truly a golden opportunity for foresters to make a difference!

Philmont is a premier high adventure camp that provides a wide range of backcountry experiences to over 20,000 visitors annually, including many Boy Scouts, as well as young men and women in the BSA's Venturing program and their adult leaders. During the summer of 2015 an estimated 8,000 Scouts and their leaders stopped at the Philmont Demonstration Forest where Visiting Foresters provided forestry programs to crews typically made up



PHOTO COURTESY OF PHILNEWS, 2016, ISSUE 5

The Philmont Demonstration Forest is a perfect setting for outdoor forestry education. All food and lodging is provided complimentary to Visiting Foresters like Steve Johnson (left) and Andy Mason.

of 6-12 Scouts and their adult leaders. During the weeks at Philmont in 2014 and 2015, Visiting Foresters interacted with crews from every region in the country including Alaska and Puerto Rico. Both summers they talked with Philmont staff about forestry, many of whom are in college and actively exploring career opportunities. In 2015 a special "Carbon in the Forest" workshop was organized and led for 12 students, which was part of Philmont's youth STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) program. STEM students were guided as they used Biltmore sticks, clinometers, and increment borers to measure tree heights, diameters, and age. Then using this data they calculated the amount of carbon sequestered by one ponderosa pine. The STEM workshop showed that some young people will



Cafferata Consulting, LLC
Practical Environmental Solutions

We provide practical solutions for wildlife and other natural resource management. Our goal is to provide you with the highest level of service and the most effective solution to any natural resource concern.

We specialize in:

- Developing wildlife programs for forest certification including SFI and American Tree Farm System
- Wildlife Surveys
- GIS Services

www.cafferataconsulting.com
fran@cafferataconsulting.com • 503-680-7939



Gulley Logging, LLC
P.O. Box 690 • McKenna, WA 98558

253-843-1964

- Ground base and Cable Harvesting
- Land clearing, Road building, and Road Maintenance
- Harvest layout and permitting
- Statewide

Member of WFFA
Accredited Master Logger

have an interest in forestry and natural resources when they can see that it involves science, math, and technology.

Two-person Visiting Forester teams rotate every week at Philmont's Demonstration Forest beginning in early June through mid-August.

You spend your days meeting and talking with crews as they hike north or south by the Demonstration Forest pavilion, which overlooks the scenic Cathedral Rock and Cimarroncito Reservoir. At the pavilion is a wealth of information about the forests, plants and animals at Philmont and forestry tools—everything you need to talk with young people about forest ecology, fire, insects and diseases, silviculture, and more, including a 400-year-old cross section of a ponderosa pine with the years marked when fires occurred.

Philmont provides all your lodging and food at the Hunting Lodge camp, a short walk from the Demonstration Forest. When you first arrive at Philmont base camp around noon on Saturday, Jim Sawyer and other Philmont staff provide a first-class orientation to all Visiting Foresters. The co-leaders of the Visiting Forester program are Mary Stuever, Chama District forester for New Mexico State Forestry and Southwest SAF member, and Mark Anderson, Philmont



PHOTO COURTESY OF PHILNEWS, 2016, ISSUE 5

Participants in Philmont's STEM program get a lesson from Andy Mason on how to measure tree heights with a clinometer.

Director of Program.

Are you interested in being a Visiting Forester at Philmont? Several weeks in 2016 still have openings and planning is underway for the 2017 season as well. For more information and an application, please contact Mary Stuever at mary.stuever@state.nm.us, 575-588-7831 (office) or 575-756-4406 (cell); or Mark Anderson at mark.anderson@scouting.org or 575-376-2281.

For more background and history of the Visiting Foresters program see Mary Stuever's Forester's Log at <http://bit.ly/1piUc5Y>. ♦

Andy Mason, SAF Fellow and Certified Forester, is a retired US Forest Service employee in Carefree, Arizona. He can be reached at 571-214-5536 or acmaison1954@gmail.com. Stephen Johnson is a retired US Forest Service employee in Fort Collins, Colorado. He can be reached at 970-568-6806 or sejohson210@gmail.com.

Norm Michaels Forestry LLC

Forest management to meet your goals

- Management Plans
- Reforestation
- Timber inventory
- Timber cruising

Over 40 years managing forests in Oregon and Washington

541-822-3528

nmichaels2@yahoo.com



LORENZ FORESTRY

CHUCK LORENZ, CF 1770

Forest Management Planning & Operations, Inventory, Valuation for over 40 years

360-951-0117

c_4str@yahoo.com

Let Us Know What's on Your Mind



The SAF Northwest Office Committee will meet in June to determine themes for the 2017 and 2018 issues of the *Western Forester*. We'd like to hear from you, our grassroots members, on what you would like to read about in this publication.

Please submit your ideas to your chapter chair, state chair, or the editor at rasor@safnw.org.



Integrated Resource Management

Consulting Foresters & Restoration Ecologists

"Since 1993"

Philomath, OR
541 929-3408

- Forest Management & Restoration
- Forest Inventory & Unit Layout
- FPS & Database Development
- Experts in FPA Layout Compliance in OR & WA

- GIS & GPS Mapping
- Custom DPP Applications
- Grade & Appraisal Cruising
- Logging Systems Analysis

Marc Barnes, marc@irmforestry.com - CA RPF #2538

www.irmforestry.com



New Members

Welcome new members!

Take a look at this list of new 2016 members for Alaska, Inland Empire, Oregon, and Washington state societies. Please welcome and get to know your new SAF colleagues.

Capitol Chapter

Jesse Bloomfield
Kristen Stewart
Kyle Williams

Central Oregon Chapter

Michael Backstrom

Cook Inlet Chapter

James Schloemer

Coos Chapter

William Carpenter
Garrett Kleiner

Green River Community College Student Chapter

Jordan Crowley
Tyler Kave
Yin Kuang
Carter Manning

Jared Olson

Hattie Palmer

Brian Sewell

Nichole Snorteland

Madeline Sweat

Andrew Wilmoth

Longview Chapter

Mike Little
Will Sari

Marys Peak Chapter

Andrew Taylor

Oregon State University Student Chapter

Olivia Cantwell
Daniel Irvine
Callum Knights
Jason Owens
James Wicker

Portland Chapter

Mitchell Matthews
Heather Pruitt

Sitka Chapter

Gregory Dunn

South Puget Sound Chapter

David Schoenfeld

Southwest Washington Chapter

Martin Edwin
Trevor Kaech

Umpqua Chapter

Paul Ausbeck

University of Idaho Student Chapter

Olivia Lyons

University of Washington Student Chapter

Cole Gross
Corrine Hoffman
Amelia Root

Credibility, Connections, and Communities

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15)

regular contact with the Bureau of Land Management, Environmental Protection Agency, Fish and Wildlife Service, Animal and Plant Inspection Service, and the Department of Agriculture more broadly. Engaging with agency staff and leaders is a great way to gain insight into new and developing challenges and changes facing forestry programs and professionals across the country.

We also look for opportunities to provide comments and suggestions on proposed rules and actions when available and within our expertise. For example, SAF has provided extensive scientific research and analysis to the Environmental Protection Agency on forest biomass and carbon accounting considerations.

The SAF Committee on Forest Policy

The Committee on Forest Policy (CFP) is an important, yet often unknown component of our team. Ten members from across the country serve as our go-to advisers on legislative and administrative proposals. Members are not only selected for regional representation, but also to reflect a cross-section of the profession in terms of employment, subject-matter expertise, and other diversity.

Along with providing invaluable advice, CFP members are also tasked with developing and revising SAF's national position statements on a variety of topics that impact both public and private forests. Currently, SAF has 20 position statements, including Forest Management and Climate Change; Wildland Fire Management; Conservation Easements; Roads in Managed Forests; and Protecting Endangered Species on Private Land. We use these position statements as tools to support our advocacy and outreach efforts. Often, they serve as a foundation to guide our actions on particular issues or act as a catalyst to further dialogue and engage with policymakers, the media, partner organizations, and SAF units.

Other SAF members

Recently, we began working more with SAF chapters and other units to bolster our work on national issues, as well as offering support and advice as they try to get more engaged on policy issues at the state level. Because effective advocacy begins with strong relationships at the local level, we encourage SAF members to make connections with their representatives, local community leaders, businesses, and partner organizations. Relationship building at the state and local level on behalf of SAF and the profession is an often-overlooked activity, but being proactive and strategic about these outreach efforts can pay off dividends in the long run by helping to overcome or even prevent conflicts down the road. The GAEX team is always available and excited to help build and strengthen in-state policy and outreach activities.

Join Us

"The vast possibilities of our great future will become realities only if we make ourselves responsible for that future." This quote by SAF founder Gifford Pinchot underscores the indispensable work SAF provides in promoting the sound stewardship of our nation's forests. Our team will continue to work with policymakers, partner organizations, and key coalitions to provide a unified voice for sustainable forest management and forestry and natural resources professionals.

But we cannot do it alone. With unprecedented threats and challenges facing our forests, we need your ideas and innovations. Join us. Add your voice to the conversation. Together we can reach new audiences and share the unmatched and incredible environmental, economic, and social benefits forests provide. ♦

Danielle Watson is assistant policy director and John Barnwell is director of Forest Policy for the Society of American Foresters in Bethesda, Maryland. Danielle can be reached at 866-897-8720 x202 or watsond@safnet.org. John can be reached at 866-897-8720 or barnwellj@safnet.org. Brian Bartels is the SAF Henry Clepper Forest Policy intern, also located in Bethesda; he can be reached at policyintern@safnet.org.

Calendar of Events

CESCL: Certified Erosion and Sediment Control Lead Training, Apr. 26-27 or May 17-18 in Bellevue, WA. Contact: NWETC.

Oregon SAF annual meeting, Apr. 26-29, Mill Casino, Coos Bay, OR. Contact: Shaun Harkins, 541-267-1855, shaun.harkins@plumcreek.com, www.forestry.org/oregon/2016AnnualMeeting/.

Olympic Logging Conference, Apr. 27-29, Victoria, BC. Contact: Diane Oster-Courtney, 360-202-7014, register@olcnw.com, www.olcnw.com/.

Management and Remediation of Contaminated Sediments, Apr. 28-29, Tigard, OR. Contact: NWETC.

Endangered Species Act: A Practical Primer for Decision Makers, Biologists and Staff Specialists, May 2-5, Portland, OR. Contact: Janice Weis, 503-768-6649, jweis@clark.edu, http://bit.ly/1p2NyQI.

Northwest Wood-Based Biofuels and Co-Products Conference, May 3-4, Seattle, WA. Contact: WFCFA.

Western Forest Economists 2016 Conference, May 3-4, Seattle, WA. Contact: WFCFA.

Washington State SAF annual meeting, May 12-14, La Conner, WA. Contact: Paul Wagner, pwagner@atterbury.com, www.forestry.org/washington/2016Meeting/.

Alaska Arbor Day 50th Anniversary, May 16, Alaska. Contact: www.forestry.org/alaska/arborday2015/.

Pacific Salmonids: Ecology and Spawning Habitat Restoration, May 16-20 in Tigard, OR, or Oct. 17-21 in Kirkland, WA. Contact: NWETC.

Collaborative Negotiations and Conflict Management for Environmental Professionals, May 17-18, Bellevue, WA. Contact: NWETC.

Backpack Electrofishing: Principles and Practices, June 7-9, Anchorage, AK. Contact: NWETC.

OSWA annual meeting, June 9-11, Baker City, OR. Contact: Carrie Berger, carrie.berger@oregonstate.edu, www.oswa.org/blog/2016-oswa-annual-meeting/.

ArcGIS 10: An Introduction to Environmental Applications, June 14-16, Olympia, WA. Contact: NWETC.

Forest Health: Identification and Management of Insects and Diseases, June 15-16, Spokane, WA. Contact: WFCFA.

WFFA annual meeting and 75th anniversary of Tree Farming, June 17-18, Olympia and Montesano, WA. Contact: www.wafarmforestry.com.

FPS 70th International Convention: New Horizons for the Forest Products Industry, June 27-29, Portland, OR. Contact: 1-855-475-0291, www.forestprod.org/ic/index.php.

Environmental Forensics—Site Characterization and Remediation, July 26-27, Bellevue, WA. Contact: NWETC.

Wetlands Delineation, Aug. 9-10, Kirkland, WA. Contact: NWETC.

COFE annual meeting, Sept. 19-21, Vancouver, BC, Canada. Contact: http://cofe.org/.

SAF and Intertribal Timber Council Conference: Partnership Opportunities with Indian Forestry: A Tribal Perspective, Oct. 5-7, Northern Quest Casino, Spokane, WA. Contact: Lori Rasor, 503-224-8046, rasor@safnwo.org.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA): Writing the Perfect EA/FONSI or EIS, Oct. 25-26 in Anchorage, AK or Dec. 13-14 in Tigard, OR. Contact: NEWTC.

SAF National Convention, Nov. 2-6, Madison, WI. Contact: 1-866-897-8720, membership@safnet.org, www.xcdsystem.com/safconference/website/.

Advanced NEPA—Taking the National Environmental Policy Act to the Next Level, Oct. 27 in Anchorage, AK, or Dec. 15 in Tigard, OR. Contact: NWETC.

Habitat Site Restoration, Nov. 2-3, Anchorage, AK. Contact: NWETC.

Contact Information

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

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

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



SILVASEED COMPANY

Seedling Nursery Since 1974



We bring experience with owners that care about their product and customers.

Approximately 10 million seedlings in annual production

1 container site (plugs), 2 bareroot/transplant sites (p+1, 1+1)

Contract growing and spec seedlings for forestry and Christmas tree production

LET US GROW YOUR SEEDLINGS

David Gerdes

Mike Gerdes

inquiries@silvaseed.com

FORESTERS • NURSERYMAN • SEEDSMAN

SILVASEED COMPANY

P.O. Box 118 • Roy, WA 98580 • (253) 843-2246

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



We Remember

Ned Pence 1937-2016

Ned Pence, 78, was born on July 21, 1937, and grew up in Mackay, Idaho, along with four brothers. In 1955 he left Mackay to study at the College of Forestry at University of Idaho. He received his B.S. degree in Forest Management in 1959 and married Arleen Westfall the same year. After graduation he worked at many jobs as a professional forester in Washington, Idaho, Alaska, and Montana. He received a Master's of Forestry in 1967.

Ned believed and practiced active forest management. The high point of his career was his position as district ranger for the Island Park Ranger District on the Targhee National Forest from 1976-1980. The Island Park Ranger District was experiencing an infestation of the mountain pine bark beetle and becoming a dead forest. Ned supervised the harvest of about 150,000 acres of dead and dying lodgepole pine. The 1988 wildfire in Yellowstone National Park stopped at the district boundary where there wasn't any ground fuel to burn. Over 30 years later the area is stocked with rapidly growing lodgepole pine. Today, few people would understand what happened in the 1970s. There are thousands of acres of new forests growing in Washington state, the Boise National Forest, Payette National

Forest, Targhee National Forest, and the Tongass National Forest. These new forest growths are the results of active forest management that involved Ned.

In 1980 Ned transferred to the Petersburg Ranger District of the Tongass National Forest in Alaska. He resigned from the US Forest Service in 1990 to become a forest consultant, working with his wife and son, Don. Ned retired in 2005.

Ned Pence was a 58-year SAF member and was elected Fellow in 2004. Ned is survived by his wife, Arleen, son, Don, daughter, Tammy, and many grandchildren.

Art (Chester) McKee 1929-2015

Art (Chester) McKee, 86, passed away December 10, 2015, at Magnolia House Foster Care in Grants Pass, Ore. He was born January 9, 1929, in Clearfield, Penn.

Art attended and graduated from LaSalle High School in Niagra Falls, N.Y. in 1946. He served in the United States Army from 1946 to 1948. Few are aware that he received the World War II Victory Medal as well as an Army of Occupation Medal of Japan. He then attended the State University of New York and the New York State College of Forestry at Syracuse University, from which he graduated in 1952.

He married Eileen L. Tovey September 27, 1979. Art spent his working career serving the state of Oregon, working for the Forest Service at John Day, Union Creek, and Prospect.

Art had a variety of interests that never failed to engage others in conversation

with him. He enjoyed building model railroads, photography, canoeing, hiking, reading, and playing the harmonica. He traveled to all 50 states and fed many wild birds along the way.

He is survived by his partner, Marvel Lorenz of Grants Pass, Ore., and his sister, Mary St. John of Yellville, Ark. He was preceded in death by his wife Eileen in 2004.

Clyde Kalahan 1923-2015

Clyde Kalahan, 92, passed away December 18, 2015, with his wife Carol at his side. Clyde was born on January 27, 1923, in Yacolt, Wash. His family moved to Longview where he graduated from RA Long High School in 1941; this past summer, at his 74th high school reunion, he enjoyed visiting with "old" friends.

During college in the 1940s, he interrupted his studies to serve on active duty (and later in the reserves) in the Marine Corps. After graduating in 1947 from the University of Washington with a B.S. in Forestry, he started his career with the Weyerhaeuser Company.

Clyde met Jean Ainslie on a blind date and they married on September 16, 1950. On their first wedding anniversary Clyde was called back to active duty, and he shipped out to Korea to serve during the Korean War. Afterward he resumed his career with Weyerhaeuser where he worked at headquarters in Cowlitz County, Wash.

Jean and Clyde raised three daughters in western Oregon and Washington, eventually settling in Tacoma. He retired from Weyerhaeuser in 1983 as a senior vice president for the company's Wood Products Division. He was an avid gardener and gifted in the art of bonsai as both a teacher and a student. He served on many non-profit boards and was active at the Tacoma Golf and Country Club and at St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Clyde and Jean loved Seattle sports, listening to the Mariners on the radio, and from their inaugural season, attending Seahawks games as 12th man season ticket holders.

Although he traveled the world, Clyde was at home in the Northwest where his family was rooted and he fully felt the wonders of nature. Clyde is survived by his second wife, Carol, his three daughters and three step-daughters, as well as many grandchildren, cousins, nieces and nephews, and many, many friends. He was preceded in death by his parents and siblings, and by Jean, his wife of 62 years.



Your best source for:

- Forest and Land Management
- Real Estate Services
- Environmental Services
- Wood Flow Services
- Wildlife Services
- Investment Services
- Technical and Data Services
- Appraisal Services

Chehalis Office
360-740-3757

Kirkland Office
425-820-3420

With offices throughout the Southeast, Northeast, Pacific Northwest, Lake States, Hawaii and Appalachian Regions of the United States.



AFM
American Forest Management
AmericanForestManagement.com

Jack Schoening 1927-2016

Jack Schoening, 88, of Baker City, Ore., passed away in his home January 24, 2016. Jack graduated from Loup City High School, Nebraska, in 1945. Shortly after graduation he entered the U.S. Army. He attended the University of Wyoming at Laramie for six months, a specialized training program, before entering active duty. He received all active duty training at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, and was transferred to Tokyo, Japan, where he played the French horn in the Army band that was assigned to General MacArthur's General Headquarters. He returned home in February 1947 and was discharged with the rank of Sergeant or T3.

Jack received a Bachelor degree in Forest Management from Colorado A&M (now Colorado State University) with distinction. He became a member of Xi Sigma Pi. He started his career with Shasta Forest Company in Redding, Calif., and finished that employment as manager of a 70,000-acre tract. In 1960, Jack was employed by U.S. Plywood Corporation in Anderson, Calif., doing general forestry work and contract logging supervision. He then went to work in 1965 for Weyerhaeuser Company in Tacoma, Wash., where he spent six years in land and timber purchases, sales, and exchanges in the United States.

In 1971, he became woods manager for the Weyerhaeuser Vail—Mc Donald 500,000-acre tree farm headquartered in Chehalis, Wash. Jack accepted a promotion in 1972 to timberland manager with responsibilities in two operations, Coos Bay and Springfield, Ore., with a total acreage of 480,000. His next move was to the Far East as general manager and director of two timber concessions on the east coast of Borneo, Indonesia, with a total area of 1,724,000 acres. He finished his Far East tour late in 1976 as director of operations in Malaysia, Philippines, and Indonesia. He returned as wood manager on the Longview, Wash., operations, which was the largest Weyerhaeuser operation in the United States.

Jack faced his greatest challenge when Weyerhaeuser had 68,000 acres of ownership destroyed by the Mount St. Helens eruption on May 18, 1980. As wood manager, he had the total responsibility to restore the roads and railroads, salvage the timber that had been blown down or heat killed standing, and replanting all of the land following salvage and plantations that were killed. Within 26 months, 638 miles of roads were repaired and built and

850 million board feet of timber was salvaged, which would build 85,000 three-bedroom homes. Over 45,500 acres were planted with 18.4 million seedlings.

Following the entire salvage effort, approximately 23,000 acres were exchanged with the US Forest Service to create the Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument. Sometime after the St. Helens event, Jack assumed more responsibility, not just as wood manager, but marketing logs as well. He was instrumental in managing the important transition from old-growth logging to highly mechanized second-growth logging, and he always believed a good working relationship with the labor unions was critical

to a successful, highly efficient operation. Jack retired from Weyerhaeuser in 1991 after 27 years with the company. He was awarded the Weyerhaeuser President's Special Award for outstanding work five times. He joined the Society of America Foresters in 1951 and was a 64-year member upon his death.

Jack Schoening is preceded in death by his parents, Emil and Ethel, his sister Velma, and his wife Nancy. He leaves three children, Randall Schoening and Joachim Schoening both of Eugene, Ore., and his daughter Kate Brooks of Baker City, Ore. He also leaves six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. ♦



**TODAY'S MOST DESIRABLE TREES WEAR THE
SFI® LABEL. NO WONDER THEY'RE IN DEMAND.**

Once upon a time, certified wood products filled a small market niche. Nowadays, sustainable forestry practices are a basic requirement, and it's no passing fashion. That's why more than 152 million acres of North American forestland are now independently, third-party audited to the rigorous SFI® standard. Join our more than 200 SFI members. It's a new day in the forest.

Find out more at sfiprogram.org



**SUSTAINABLE
FORESTRY
INITIATIVE**

*Good for you.
Good for our forests.™*



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.

Updates of OSAF Old-growth Position Statement and Position Booklet Completed. Under SAF policy guidelines, unit position statements have a 5-year lifespan and OSAF's "Managing Mature and Old-growth Forests" recently was the focus of a review and revision to remain current. In December the OSAF Executive Committee approved the updated position, which is now available at www.forestry.org/oregon/policy/position/. Old-growth forests remain an especially important and timely issue for state and federal forestlands where interest in diameter-, age-, and location-based harvest restrictions persists. OSAF continues to advocate for active management by forestry professionals to achieve diverse benefits from older forests versus arbitrary and inflexible directives that prohibit the effective application of local professional expertise and experience. Some newer issues

and concepts that the updated position incorporates include the need for active management to address the effects of climate change on older forests, and the use of percentage targets for various successional stages of forests (versus fixed locations) that better mimic natural landscape patterns and changes.

OSAF now has nine active position statements on important forestry issues, and members are encouraged to review these statements and use them to articulate a professional perspective when discussing forest resource issues with people outside the profession. The nine current positions, along with background information about SAF and OSAF, have been compiled in an updated PDF that has been formatted for printing as a booklet or for electronic sharing. It is available at the URL listed above. Contact: Paul Adams, OSAF Policy chair, adamspaulw@gmail.com.

OSAF Considers Position Statement on Forestry Professionals as Stakeholders.

Public agencies and other groups often seek input and advice from stakeholders as they evaluate forest resource issues and develop related policies and management plans. Forestry professionals sometimes are among these participants through their affiliation with commonly recognized stakeholder groups (e.g., industry, landowners). However, a professional perspective independent of employer or client interests can provide more complete and candid input about

important forest issues. In addition, such input provides a vital voice for a key group that must deal directly with policies and plans that often are shaped without the unique, independent insights of the professional forestry community. OSAF thus is considering a new position statement to call attention to the need for decision makers to more consistently tap valuable professional forestry expertise and experience as they seek stakeholder input on forest resource issues. The statement is expected to be relatively straightforward and brief and draw from an existing document that is available at www.forestry.org/northwest/policyhottopics/. Contact: Paul Adams, OSAF Policy chair, adamspaulw@gmail.com.

New Riparian Rules Coming to Western Oregon.

This past fall, the Oregon Board of Forestry voted (4-3) to increase management restrictions in riparian areas on private forestlands in western Oregon. The decision was made nearly 4 years after the board initiated the rulemaking process after a study of operational timber harvests under the current rules showed some stream temperature increases that exceeded a state water quality standard for fish habitat. Refinement of the final rule language is expected to extend the implementation date of the rules to September 2017. The new rules will apply to small and medium fish-bearing streams that provide habitat for salmon, steelhead, and bull trout in most of western Oregon (the Oregon Dept. of Forestry has maps). The Riparian Management Area (RMA) widths on these streams will increase by 10 feet, i.e., to 60 feet on small streams and 80 feet on medium streams.

Forest owners with such streams may apply either of two major rule options. One option is that the RMAs are no-cut areas, including the upstream non-fish-bearing reaches that are within a planned harvest unit. The other option maintains the current inner 20-foot no-cut zone, but increases the required tree basal area retention in the RMAs to 112 sq. ft. (now 40) along small streams and 183 sq. ft. (now 120) along medium streams, with an allowance for counting hardwood basal area. There are added requirements for distributing the basal area throughout most of the RMAs and allowance for emphasizing basal area on the south side of east-west oriented streams. The Regional Forest Practices

LASER STOCKPILE VOLUME MEASUREMENT

- + Measure chips, rock, and slash piles by yourself
- + No need to walk on the pile
- + Volumes calculated in the field
- + Ask about package price of \$3997

TruPulse® 360° B
MapSmart+Volume

LAZER TECHNOLOGY
Authorized Dealer

Resource	+	Supply
llc		

Call to set up a free demo!
503.521.0888
www.resourcesupplyllc.com
jon@resourcesupplyllc.com

Committees will help refine the final rule language, and further information about related Committee and Board meetings and decisions can be found via www.oregon.gov/ODF/Board/Pages/default.aspx. Contact: Paul Adams, OSAF Policy chair, adamspaulw@gmail.com.

IDL Seeking Good Neighbor Authority in Idaho.

The Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) is seeking approval from the Idaho Legislature for \$562,000 to enable hiring of three staff positions and professional contract foresters to facilitate implementation of Good Neighbor Authority. The 2014 Farm Bill and the 2014 Consolidated Appropriations Act provided the authority for the US Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management to enter into cooperative agreements with state agencies to perform forest, rangeland, and watershed restoration services on federal lands. Implementation of the authority during the first 3-5 years in Idaho would include financial commitments from the State of Idaho, US Forest Service, and the forest industry. A dedicated fund established by forest industry would cover one-time capital outlay costs in the first year, along with ongoing funds to help cover contractor fees. All projects would be competitively bid, and the proceeds generated from timber sales would be retained by IDL to implement additional restoration work within the geographical area of the initial project. The goal of the IDL agreement is to increase the pace and scale of forest and watershed restoration activities across ownership boundaries in Idaho starting as soon as summer 2016. Information on Good Neighbor Authority can be found at www.fs.fed.us/farmbill/gna.shtml. Contact: Dennis Becker, drbecker@uidaho.edu.

National-level News.

Clean Power Plan. The Supreme Court voted 5-4 on February 9 to stay implementation of the President's Clean Power Plan pending the outcome of liti-

gation before the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals. At that time, the belief was that this unusual development signaled the law would ultimately be overturned. With the death of Justice Scalia, however, the calculus changes. The timing is unaffected as the stay will remain in place likely until 2017 when President Obama has left office. Under one scenario, President Obama is able to nominate and have confirmed a justice that would preside over the case. The other scenario would have a Supreme Court with a vacant seat, which results in a 4-4 tie automatically allowing the law to stand.

Energy Bill. Senator Murkowski (R-AK) introduced the Energy Policy Modernization Act in September 2015 (S. 2012). The bill would amend the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 and include new authorities related to

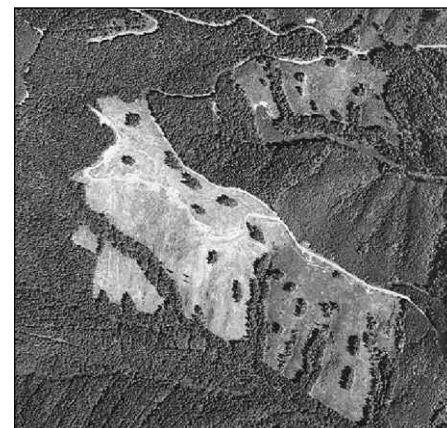
wood energy production. In particular, the bill adds thermal energy to the federal renewable energy purchase requirement. Currently only electricity is recognized. It would add biomass thermal, solar thermal, and geothermal as pathways federal government entities can use to meet their renewable energy obligations. Identical language is in the House-passed H.R. 8. The Senate version would also direct the USDA and EPA to recognize the carbon neutrality of sustainably harvested forest biomass energy and ensure that carbon neutral policy is enforced across all departments and agencies. The bill is expected to pass the Senate and would then move to a conference committee with House-passed energy legislation (H.R. 8). Contact: Dennis Becker, drbecker@uidaho.edu. ♦

2015 NAIP Imagery Available for Washington and Idaho

The 2015 NAIP imagery for Washington and Idaho is now available for download. The imagery can be downloaded in UTM coordinates (Meters) at no charge at this link: <https://gdg.sc.egov.usda.gov/GDGOrder.aspx>.

The new imagery for both states is in 1 meter resolution, color, and it is orthorectified. File sizes range from a few hundred megabytes to over 5 gigabytes per county. Each county is available as a Compressed County Mosaic in a MrSID format. The imagery can be viewed in ArcPad, ArcGIS, MapInfo, and several other mapping programs. Users can download a free viewer at Lizardtech's website: www.lizardtech.com/products/geoviewer/. Lizardtech is the company that originated the MrSID format.

For more information, please contact Jon Aschenbach, Summerlake



A 2015 computer screenshot of Thurston County from the NAIP imagery.

Enterprises, 11607 SW Winter Lake Dr., Tigard, OR 97223; 503-707-6236. ♦

NEW!

2015 NAIP Imagery

2015 NAIP imagery for Washington and Idaho is available now in any Coordinate System. **SPECIAL:** receive both PC and Pocket PC version. Just \$495 per state delivered on a loaner USB drive. Or \$40 per county.

**Call Jon Aschenbach 503-707-6236
SUMMERLAKE ENTERPRISES
TIGARD, OR**



**Connecting Forest Landowners with
Seedlings, Services and Contractors**

DISCOVER Our Interactive Website
www.forestseedlingnetwork.com

BUY/SELL SEEDLINGS • FIND VENDOR SERVICES & CONTRACTORS • VALUABLE RESOURCES



Authorized Dealer

SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS

Western Forester

4033 S.W. Canyon Road
Portland, Oregon 97221

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PORTLAND, OR
PERMIT NO. 16

PRINTED ON
RECYCLED PAPER

LASER RANGEFINDERS FOR TIMBER CRUISING



TruPulse® 360° R

Calculates horizontal distance and height, and contains a built-in compass for 3-D missing line values, azimuth measurements and mapping applications.

 **ATTERBURY CONSULTANTS, INC.**
"Professional State-of-the-Art Forestry"

3800 SW Cedar Hills Blvd., Suite 145
Beaverton, OR 97005

Visit: www.atterbury.com
Call: 503.646.5393

APPRAISALS & CONSULTING:

Timberland Appraisals—Due Diligence—Timber Management

GIS MAPPING & ANALYSES:

Timber Typing—Timberland Owners & Mill Locations

CRUISING & INVENTORY:

Highly Trained with Current Technology—Client-Tailored Reports

SOFTWARE & PRODUCTS WE USE:

Authorized ESRI, Laser Technology (LTI) & TDS Dealer

SEMINARS & TRAINING:

Continuing Education Credit—ArcPad for Foresters—Timber Cruising