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What Every Resource Manager Should Know About Collaboration

Collaboration: to work together on a common problem, often with those with whom you disagree

BY CLARE RYAN

As a resource manager, it is likely that you have heard about collaboration. The idea is that by focusing on shared concerns and promoting problem solving, collaboration can better address complex resource management issues such as watershed management, endangered species management, or restoration. Collaborative approaches are place-based, cooperative, involve multiple parties, and strive to create or improve relationships between individuals and groups that may be at odds with each other. Collaboration requires that diverse stakeholders (landowners, tribes, government organizations, non-government organizations, and others) work together over a period of time to address resource management issues. The approach involves interactions with representatives of stakeholder groups and organizations, often over a period of months or years, depending on the scope and complexity of the group's efforts. The efforts often rely on outside neutral facilitators to help them work effectively toward their common goals.



The rise of collaborative approaches reflects the evolution of environmental and social conditions as they relate to resource management. Over the last several decades, communities,



PHOTO COURTESY OF DALE HARRIS

Working together in a collaborative effort can be a good approach to resource management issues that are local and site specific.

governments, private organizations, and individuals have increasingly turned to collaboration as a supplement and alternative to traditional decision-making processes. Many resource management problems are not amenable to or resolved by government agency or court-ordered solutions (e.g., habitat loss as a result of development, nonpoint source pollution). Frustration with and lack of trust in government decision-making processes have fueled interest in collaboration, as have challenges with the multiple jurisdictions and landowners needed to effectively manage resources across landscapes. Societal expectations for increased public

involvement in resource decision making have also increased interest in collaborative approaches. It is useful for resource managers to consider some of the strengths and limitations of collaborative approaches, how stakeholders decide to participate, and how success is evaluated.

Strengths of Collaboration. Collaboration is touted as an appropriate approach because resource management issues are local, site specific, and often cannot be easily managed with top down, or regulatory, solutions. Proponents of collaborative resource management argue that it is a logical response to policy gridlock and litigation.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

Collaboration

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tion, and an alternative to centralized planning and command and control regulation. Collaboration can produce more creative and adaptive solutions to natural resource management problems, encourage shared ownership of the problem, and facilitate implementation of potential solutions. In addition, such efforts can garner sufficient resources or expertise to achieve what cannot be accomplished by one single party or a smaller coalition. In many cases collaboration has proven to be a powerful tool for resolving conflict, building trust, addressing uncertainty, fostering cooperation and coordination, and developing capacity for addressing future resource management issues.

For example, a collaborative effort between the Siuslaw National Forest and The Nature Conservancy to manage Oregon silverspot butterfly habitat has generated improved scientific information, coordinated management

plans and activities across jurisdictional boundaries, increased volunteer efforts, and leveraged financial resources.

Limitations of Collaboration.

Critics of collaborative approaches argue that the process does not necessarily ensure "better" decisions, and that collaboration might reinforce existing power disparities rather than promote diverse stakeholder inclusion and meaningful dialogue. Other concerns relate to collaboration that is used in inappropriate situations (not all stakeholders participating, not enough time, issue is not "ripe," and others), and collaboration that is conducted with improper or poor procedures. A wide variation in the structure, function, and goals of collaborative processes, along with challenges related to time and other resources required, can make it difficult to effectively participate in and facilitate such efforts. Questions have also been raised about the nature and quality of the environmental outcomes from collaborative processes.

For example, is a land management

plan created through a collaborative process different than one created through a traditional agency process? Will the collaborative plan better protect species or local economies? More research is needed that links the products of collaborative processes (plans, policies, projects, etc.) with environmental outcomes.

Deciding to Participate. Participation in collaborative efforts is voluntary, and there are several issues to consider before committing time and resources to such an effort. In general, it is suggested that stakeholders *not participate* in collaboration if the focus of the effort involves fundamental values or principles that simply cannot be resolved through collaboration, or if the effort requires resources or expertise that are not available. If the alternatives to collaboration are expected to be better than participation, then some stakeholders may decide not to participate. In some cases, the outcome from an agency or court decision process (alternatives are modified, court order stops harvest of trees) may be preferred over collaboration due to time and resource constraints. Clarifying the scope, goals, time frame, other participants, and potential outcomes from the collaborative process is a critical first step in deciding whether to participate. For example, if the scope of the process is quite large (wetland restoration in a three-state region), or it is uncertain what the group will be producing (advice, policy



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Avoiding Common Problems

Try it: Collaboration can be creative, fun and rewarding.

Be patient: Collaboration requires long-term commitment.

Ask questions: What are the scope and goals of the collaboration? Who else is participating?

Use best practices: Participate in good faith, demand excellent facilitation, and focus on interests not positions.

Look forward: Think about implementation and future relationships.

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Next Issue: Teamwork: Professional Loggers and Professional Foresters

recommendations, a plan, draft regulations) and how it will be used, some groups may not participate. Similarly, if all relevant stakeholders are not involved, there is uncertainty about what type of collaborative process (facilitation and decision making) will be used, or there is not adequate time to conduct the collaboration, then participation may not be appropriate.

Most stakeholders *will participate* in a collaborative process because they believe there is a benefit to doing so. Most often, they are considering their “best alternative to a negotiated agreement” (BATNA—refer to *Getting to Yes* in Suggested Reading sidebar), or whether they can achieve better results without participating in the collaborative effort. This requires participants to know what the alternatives to the collaborative effort are, and to assess whether their participation makes sense for them. Other reasons to participate in collaboration include a belief that the decision process will be cheaper and quicker; the outcome is likely to be better (more issues addressed, easier to implement); it involves those who could not readily be involved through other decision-making mechanisms; it is the only way to get a “seat at table;” or they need others to achieve their objectives.

In addition, participation can encourage resource sharing; build trust

and relationships; resolve conflicts; address scientific uncertainty; foster cooperation and coordination; and develop capacity for addressing future issues. Participation is more likely if all key parties are willing to participate, if relevant decision makers are supportive of the effort, if there is adequate time to address the issues, and the outcome is likely to be implemented.

Depending on the outcomes from the collaborative process, a strong incentive for participation is the opportunity to be directly involved in shaping management plans or projects that have high probability of being implemented.

What is success? Notions of success depend on the particular goals of the participants in the collaborative process. Evaluations of collaboration have tended to focus on process, socioeconomic, and environmental criteria. For example, collaborative efforts are often deemed successful based on process elements such as whether the effort established a shared vision among participants, clear and feasible goals, diverse and inclusive participation, open and transparent process, links to groups beyond those participating, and decision by consensus. Socioeconomic outcomes relate to relationships built or strengthened, increased trust, whether participants gained knowledge or understanding, increased capacity for dispute resolu-

tion, or changes in existing or new institutions. Perhaps most difficult to evaluate are the environmental outcomes from collaboration, due to monitoring difficulties and relatively long time frames needed to detect environmental responses in some situations. Environmental outcomes can include land protected from development, improved water quality, changed land management practices, preservation or improvement of biodiversity, soil and water conserved, and restoration projects implemented.

Collaborative approaches have become a commonplace tool for many resource managers and are an important strategy for achieving effective resource management in the future. While there is no recipe for success, many individuals and organizations have gained important skills and knowledge that result in positive, on-the-ground work, and perhaps more importantly, improved relationships for future interactions. ♦

Clare Ryan is a professor of environmental policy, urban ecology and management, and conflict management in the School of Forest Resources at the University of Washington in Seattle. She can be reached at 206-616-3987 or cmryan@uw.edu.



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Suggested Reading

Making Collaboration Work: Lessons from Innovation in Natural Resource Management. 2000. J.M. Wondolleck and S.L. Yaffee. Island Press.

Collaboration: A Guide for Environmental Advocates. 2001. E.F. Dukes, K. Firehock. (Charlottesville, Virginia, University of Virginia, The Wilderness Society and National Audubon Society). Available at: www.virginia.edu/ien/publications.htm

Getting to Yes: Negotiating Agreement Without Giving In. 1991. R. Fisher and W. Ury. Penguin Books.

Public Participation in Environmental Assessment and Decision Making. 2008. T. Dietz and P.C. Stern, Eds., Panel on Public Participation in Environmental Assessment and Decision Making, National Research Council. Available at: www.nap.edu/catalog/12434.html.

Working Toward Successful Collaborations

BY JAY CARLSON

Collaboration is a term that evokes different reactions for different people. For some it has the image of collusion with the enemy. For others it is the cure for whatever management problem currently vexes us. In practice it has elements of these two ends of the spectrum as well as most shades of gray in between. Many of us have had the experience of being part of a collaborative undertaking of one sort or another and may have come away with either a sense of deep satisfaction or numbing disappointment. Collaboration is both a suite of behaviors on the part of participants as well as a variety of processes.



The behaviors generally revolve around participants revealing their expectations or needs as well as their limits, building relationships, and building trust. Collaborative processes generally revolve around how participants are able to interact, how key information is developed and shared, how joint decision making is conducted, and how disputes are addressed. The relative success of a collaborative undertaking depends on how behaviors and the processes are accommodated.

In the following I provide my observations on how this has been done with a few collaborative efforts in western Oregon with which I have some experience. For ease of presentation, I group these efforts in three broad categories: Watershed Councils, Resource Advisory Committees, and Prescribed Collaborations.

Watershed Councils. There are approximately 90 watershed councils around the state of Oregon. They are an integral part of an effort initiated in the mid-1990s by Governor John Kitzhaber to restore fish populations and water quality across Oregon under the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds. Most councils are 501(c)(3) nonprofit, non-governmental corporations that are community based and citizen centered.

Membership and participation is voluntary and embraces a broad cross section of individuals, interest groups, business and industry, and various agencies. The organizational hierarchy tends to be a broader membership with a representative council and an executive director. Many watershed councils have a small paid staff that may or may not include the executive director. The council is the decision-making body and performs according to a set of bylaws or similar construct. The decisions of the councils cannot be imposed on an unwilling landowner or agency and thereby avoid much of the resistance that develops around more “regulatory” approaches.

Most decision making within the councils is consensus based, but with protocols in the event that consensus cannot be achieved. The Partnership for Umpqua Rivers (PUR), a watershed council with which I am most familiar, works to achieve “...effective, efficient and doable management solutions for clean water and healthy, native fish populations.” They focus most heavily on instream and riparian zone restoration work. Very little of their attention goes to the more contentious and policy-laden uplands portion of the watershed. The Applegate Partnership and Watershed Council (APWC) is another example of a community-based, citizen-centered council that has its origins in the raging debates over private and public land management in the early 1990s. Like PUR, the APWC also works on the basis of voluntary participation, including agencies. However, because of local fire-prone conditions in and around the Applegate Watershed, the APWC works with willing landowners on terrestrial treatments as well.

Resource Advisory Committees (RACs). Another very effective form of collaboration in western Oregon is through Resource Advisory Committees (RACs) authorized under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self Determination Act of 2000. In western Oregon, there are five each of BLM and Forest Service RACs. These RACs are chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act to provide advice directly to the two federal agencies and

are composed of three representative categories of participants: Category 1—labor, industrial interests, and commercial recreation; Category 2—national and regional environmental organizations, dispersed recreation, and archaeological/historical interests; and Category 3—state or local elected officials, tribal interests, and the public at large. The RACs have the responsibility to recommend how to invest appropriated funds through Title II of the act to, “...*make additional investments in, and create additional employment opportunities through, projects that improve the maintenance of existing infrastructure, implement stewardship objectives that enhance forest ecosystems, and restore and improve land health and water quality.*”

RAC meetings are open to the public and have a specific time allotted for members of the public to speak and even make recommendations to the RAC. Not every RAC meeting has gone smoothly, however. When the RACs were first established, there were significant debates and “posturing” between members over issues of land management philosophy. However, the facilitators, and in some cases the elected chairperson, helped participants through the process of expressing their perspectives and preferences regarding a variety of “investment opportunities” and helped them realize that they were not establishing policy. RACs have established protocols for working through their decision-making process. These are generally consensus based and resort to a majority vote only when consensus cannot be achieved. Because of this, most RACs have been able to rapidly get past the posturing phase and became extremely productive in terms of rating, ranking, and approving project proposals that ultimately resulted in tens of millions of dollars investment in infrastructure, aquatic habitat improvement, and even natural resources employment for youth.

Prescribed Collaboration. A third type of collaboration is what I would characterize as “prescribed” collaboration. An example in which I was directly involved was initiated in early 2010

at the direction of a Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Interior. The direction was very simple, that the Roseburg District should engage in an open collaborative undertaking.

The district developed a framework around the concept of habitat development through active forest management. The concept was to: 1) apply a habitat development and fire resistance/resilience strategy to active forest management; 2) utilize a collaborative approach to develop the building blocks and test them with some on-the-ground projects; and 3) base the collaborative interaction on addressing the three components of sustainability—social, environmental, and economic values.

Within this conceptual framework, the idea was to collaborate on at least one moist-site project and one dry-site project to develop the building blocks and then scale up to a broader district-wide framework that could guide a full year's worth of work. This collaborative undertaking was conducted from February to October of 2010 with a combination of meetings to develop and share information and on-the-ground site visits to consider specific treatments and the rationale behind them. The sessions were facilitated by a professional neutral facilitator and were video recorded. Decision-making authority was retained by the BLM, but was framed around obtaining general agreement by the group and avoiding adamant objections from any faction or member. Where disputes arose the facilitator worked with the parties to resolve them. But if they could not be resolved, the issue was dropped and the group moved on. As with many collaborative undertakings, there were both valuable outcomes and products and frustrations.

The participants could not come to agreement on a dry-site project and there were no bylaws or other mechanisms available to handle the disagreement. Despite deep divisions between participants on a dry-site project, constructive on-the-ground interaction resulted in a moist-site project that has been developed and will be offered for sale in 2012. A compendium of "scoping comments" has also been compiled as a result of the interactions throughout the collaboration and is being uti-

lized to guide timber sale development within the district. In the end, however, it became clear that the collaborative undertaking being agency centered rather than community based and citizen centered was impeding any further progress. The BLM presented this observation to the group in October of 2010 and posed the question of whether or not to make a transition to a community-based collaborative in which BLM would participate. This concept was not pursued by the overall group. Several individuals were interested, but the "loudest voices in the room" declined, so the collaborative was disbanded and the BLM is utilizing the material that was developed in the process.

Observations. There are no hard and fast rules that guarantee a collaborative undertaking will be successful. However, there are traits that seem to contribute to success:

- How a collaborative effort came about is important. Efforts that have grown from a cross section of concerned citizens within a community such as the Partnership for Umpqua Rivers and the Applegate Partnership carry with them the energy and the commitment that is necessary. RACs are an example of another way that successful collaborative efforts can form. Even though they came about through federal legislation, they are organized around participation from a representative cross section of interests from within the community. These examples contrast with a collaborative effort being prescribed. The motivations of participants vary significantly. Community-based, citizen-centered efforts seem to have the greatest success.

- How a collaborative is organized is an important factor. Where there is a recognized leadership role to ensure that meetings are organized, information is shared, and administrative processes are performed is crucial. A defined decision-making body—a council or a board—that represents the broader membership is an important feature. This allows the development of functional relationships and trust building.

- An essential feature that must be embedded in successful collaborative undertakings is a formalized decision-making and dispute-resolution proto-

col. Despite originating in very different ways, the watershed councils and the RACs have employed both of these features. In contrast, the prescribed collaboration had neither, and while substantial products were derived, the effort did not gain sufficient traction to continue on.

- What a collaborative focuses on is a key factor. The narrower the focus, the more readily participants are able to come to agreement and move forward. Efforts that focus on the investment of restoration funds are much more likely to achieve agreement than are efforts that focus on what the policy ought to be. Frequently there are time frames associated with the availability of funds and if they are not invested, they are lost, so there is a penalty by not coming to agreement. This isn't true with policy discussions—they can go on at length with no apparent penalty and therefore no motivation to come to agreement.

As a resource professional I am convinced that collaboration is an essential element of responsible management, especially in the public sector or where multiple land ownerships are involved. Despite the frustrations that come with the multiple and divergent views that make up forest management issues, if collaboration is approached with an understanding of its strengths and its limitations, it can lead to stronger, better informed, and more broadly supported decisions. ♦

Jay Carlson is district manager of the BLM Roseburg District in Roseburg, Ore. He can be reached at 541-440-4930 or jcarlson@blm.gov.

For Additional Information

For those interested in more information on the Partnership for Umpqua Rivers, the Applegate Partnership, or the Roseburg District's Collaborative Forestry Pilot, the following are their respective websites:

www.umpquarivers.org

www.applegatepartnership.org

www.blm.gov/or/districts/roseburg/forestrypilot

Collaboration Opens the Door for Restoration in Idaho's Clearwater Basin

BY WILL WHELAN, DALE HARRIS
AND ALEX IRBY

In North Idaho's Clearwater Basin, a remarkable group of long-time opponents is working together to resolve conflicts over the management of the Clearwater and Nez Perce national forests. The Clearwater Basin Collaborative (CBC) was established in 2008 and has united business, conservation, local government, and tribal interests behind its goal "to improve forest health and economic vitality, and support land protection in the Clearwater Basin by working collaboratively across diverse interests."



Will Whelan



Dale Harris



Alex Irby

Last year, the CBC secured funding from the U.S. Forest Service for an ambitious 10-year restoration project in the 1.4 million-acre ecosystem that includes the Selway and Middle Fork Clearwater rivers. The Selway-Middle Fork Project serves as an important test of whether collaborative groups can deliver on their promise of reducing conflict, restoring forest ecosystems, and providing an economic boost for communities hard hit by job losses in the timber industry.

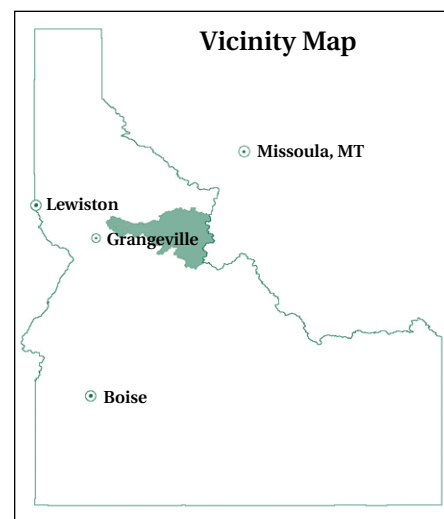
The Clearwater country

The Clearwater River rises in the Bitterroot Mountains on the high divide between Idaho and Montana and flows west to Lewiston on the border with Washington. The basin is the homeland of the Nez Perce Tribe and includes a stretch of the Lewis and Clark Trail that has changed little in 200 years. Today, the Clearwater country is nationally renowned for its

salmon and trout fisheries as well as its big game herds. The headwaters of the basin include the 1.3 million acre Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness, one of the first Wilderness areas designated in the nation. The area's highly productive forests have sustained a vibrant wood products industry that remains the economic life blood for many of the communities along the river. Outdoor recreation—including whitewater boating, fishing, hunting, motorized and Wilderness uses—is an increasingly significant contributor to the area's economic base.

An unlikely place for collaboration

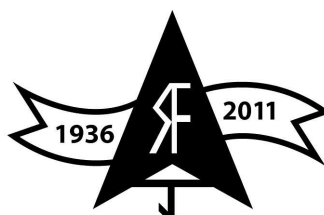
Beginning in the 1970s, the Clearwater Basin became a major battleground in the fight over logging on national forests. This conflict tended to cast conservation, recreation, community, industry, and tribal interests into



SOURCE: CLEARWATER BASIN COLLABORATIVE

either pro-logging or anti-logging factions that were pitted against each other. In the decades that followed, the timber industry in the basin experienced a major decline. At the same time, conservation groups made mea-

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ger progress toward their goal of greater protection for wilderness-quality lands and untamed rivers. And, little action was taken to address the growing threats to forest ecosystems from the effects of fire suppression, invasion of exotic species, past management, and increasing human settlement in the wildland urban interface.

Eventually, all sides came to recognize that their interests were not being fully served by this pattern of conflict and gridlock. Seeking a fresh start, the CBC brought together 24 diverse groups that committed to improve economic and environmental conditions in the basin. What started as a tentative dialogue has matured to the point that traditional rivals are beginning to act as unlikely allies. As Idaho Senator Mike Crapo, an early and consistent supporter of the CBC, explained in an article that appeared in the *Lewiston Tribune* (May 22, 2010, page 1A): "We have spent a lot of time over the decades litigating each other and trying to do end runs around each other to achieve our land manage-

ment objectives. But, it is through this kind of collaborative effort that we can find common ground and create a win-win solution."

The CBC is addressing a wide range of issues. Four subcommittees were formed to find solutions in four major areas: landscape restoration, recreation, rural economies, and land allocation. Proposals on the table address topics as varied as Wilderness designation, support for search and rescue services provided by local government, development of motorized trails, and dispute resolution for forest treatments proposed by the Forest Service.

A restoration blueprint for the Selway-Middle Fork Clearwater ecosystem

From the start, the CBC found consensus support for forest restoration actions that produce positive ecological outcomes while creating jobs. This led the CBC to submit a major grant proposal to the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

Idaho Forest Restoration Partnership Connects Collaborative Efforts

The Idaho Forest Restoration Partnership (IFRP) is a coalition of forestry professionals, industry managers, and conservationists that connects and supports the work of the several locally-driven collaborative efforts working to resolve conflicts over public forest management in Idaho.

Each of these local forest collaborative groups has distinct origins, membership, and objectives; however, all seek to balance the interests of forest ecology, local jobs, community needs, and long-term stewardship of the national forests.

Eight groups participated in IFRP's first statewide workshop for forest collaborative groups held last January. The participants called on IFRP to create a statewide network for training and information sharing among the collaborative groups and to inform public officials about the benefits of forest collaboration. You can visit IFRP's website at idahoforestpartners.org.

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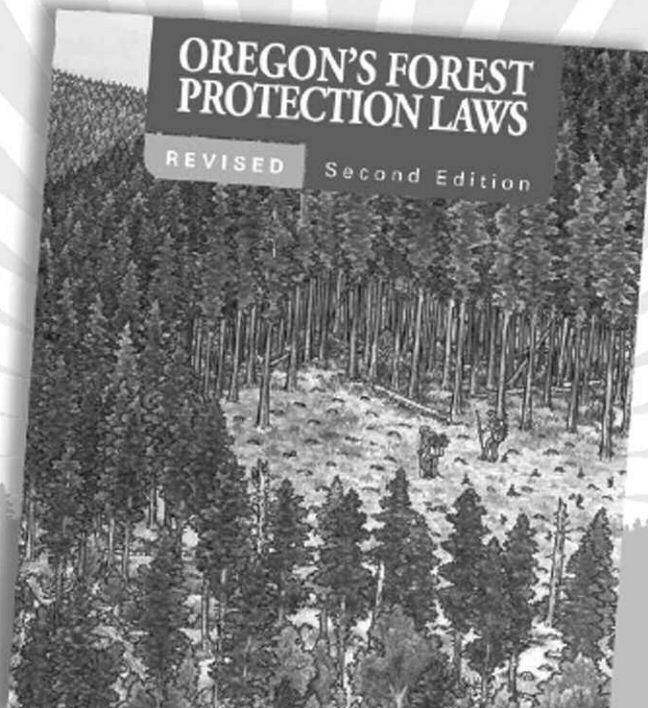
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- Encourage ecological, economic, and social sustainability;
- Leverage local resources with national and private resources;
- Facilitate the reduction of wildfire management costs, including through

reestablishing natural fire regimes and reducing the risk of uncharacteristic wildfire;

- Demonstrate the degree to which various ecological restoration techniques achieve ecological and watershed health objectives; and
- Encourage utilization of forest restoration by-products to offset treatment costs to benefit local rural economies, and to improve forest health (see www.fs.fed.us/restoration/CFLR/index.shtml).

To succeed in the intense national competition for CFLRP dollars, the Clearwater group knew that it had to

think big and long term. The CBC developed a 10-year plan for a 1.4 million acre area that ranges from low elevation river valleys to wilderness high country.

Last year, the CBC's Selway-Middle Fork Clearwater proposal was one of 10 projects selected for funding in the initial round of CFLRP awards totaling \$10 million. The CBC is seeking \$3.4 million in Fiscal Year 2011. The overall CFLRP request over the project's 10-year duration is estimated at about \$35 million. Since CLFRP funding is matched 1-to-1 from other sources, the overall effort will come to roughly \$70 million. The project activities are expected to create 380 full and part-time jobs.

The group proposed several different strategies to respond to critical needs within this large and varied landscape. Key components of the proposal include:

Vegetation Treatment: 53,000 acres of thinning, prescribed fire, salvage, and regeneration harvest. About half of these acres are in the wildland-urban interface. These activities are expected to produce 120-150 mmbf of sawtimber.

Apply Treatments and Prescribed Fire to Emulate Natural Patterns: Projects are designed and located to restore fire as a disturbance process and promote forest health by restoring desired stand structures and variability. Strategic application of prescribed fire and fuel treatments will transition fuel conditions so that naturally ignited fires can be left to burn with less risk of negative ecological or social effects.

Allow Natural Fire on the Landscape: In areas where risks to life, property and other values can be reduced, the CBC will promote landscape conditions that allow fire to serve as the primary restoration agent.

Conduct Whitebark Pine Restoration: 1,400 acres of high-elevation habitat will be restored to address declines in this key species.

Control Invasive Weeds: Weed treatment on 4,000 acres annually, stock grooming stations, use of biocontrol agents, and native plant restoration. Activities will occur inside and outside of the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness.

Aquatic Restoration: Decommission



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Upgrade two recreation sites, maintain trails, implement instream fisheries improvements, and remove non-native brook trout from key streams.

All proposals will undergo agency review and public participation processes before action is taken. Work is expected to begin this year. The Selway-Middle Fork Project lays out an ambitious, multi-year program for restoration in one of the most conflict-prone landscapes in the Northern Rockies. But, it represents just one of



PHOTO COURTESY OF DALE HARRIS

Members of the Clearwater Basin Collaborative tour a mill to better understand local economic conditions.

several dimensions in the CBC's effort to resolve environmental and economic issues affecting the Clearwater Basin. If the Selway-Middle Fork Project succeeds, it will undoubtedly build the parties' confidence in the collaborative process and may be ultimately seen as a stepping stone on the path to resolving even broader issues such as Wilderness designation, recreation management, and the vitality of com-

munities that depend on the national forests. The great distance that the CBC's unlikely allies have already traveled together gives reason for hope. ♦

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Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration: The Deschutes Skyline Project

BY JOHN P. ALLEN

During the past 15 years the Deschutes National Forest has attempted to resolve challenging issues through collaborating with a wide range of citizen stakeholders and groups. Based on this past history and the strong support of community leaders and partners, the Deschutes National Forest is now engaged in a sort of “super” collaborative effort with many of these citizens and groups. This super collaborative is a large group of representative stakeholders and partners working together to find agreements on strategies to restore over 145,000 acres (112,000 acres of Forest Service and 33,000 acres private) of central Oregon landscape near the communities of Bend and Sisters.



Working collaboratively

This collaborative effort began in 2010 as the Deschutes Skyline Project out of the opportunity to submit a proposal for Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Act (CFLRA) funding. The Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council and the Fire Learning Network, two local groups, submitted the original proposal and have provided leadership for the project from the beginning. These two partners believed their proposal for the Deschutes Skyline Project met the goals of the 2009 CFLRA, which are to do forest restoration at a large scale using collaboration and the best available science, and doing the work in a manner that supports local economic development and interests. Ultimately, local community leadership both from the Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council and the Fire Learning Network, as well as local officials, guided the effort through a nationally competitive process where the Deschutes Skyline Project was chosen to receive \$500,000 of funding in FY 2010. Funding is secure for FY2011 and it is

hoped that the project will continue to receive funding through 2020.

Once the Deschutes Skyline Project received the funding, a Steering Group was formed. The Steering Group is composed of citizen stakeholders, local officials, and partners. This Steering Group and its four subcommittees (Restoration, Implementation, Communications, and Monitoring) are working to develop strategies for restoring 145,000 acres of the central Oregon landscape through engaging scientists, educators, state and local agency officials and managers, recreation groups, environmental groups, general citizens, and tourism and business interests. These strategies will be given to the Forest Service to consider as a part of public engagement as the Deschutes moves through its planning and environmental analysis processes on projects within the Deschutes Skyline Project landscape.

The landscape

The Deschutes Skyline Project landscape contains 145,000 acres of which 112,000 acres are National Forest lands under the administration of the Deschutes National Forest. The majority (73 percent) of this landscape is covered by ponderosa pine and dry mixed conifer. Both of these forest types were historically characterized by frequent, low-intensity fire (Fire Regime 1). However, the landscape also contains the variability common to the slopes of the eastern Cascade Mountains in Oregon with wet meadows and riparian areas throughout, and wet mixed conifer, true fir and hemlock forests found at higher elevations and on north-facing slopes. The Deschutes Skyline landscape provides diverse habitats for plant and wildlife species, including the threatened northern spotted owl and the recently re-introduced Middle Columbia ESU steelhead. It is a landscape that has been prioritized for restoration and fire hazard reduction by a combination of collaborative efforts in central Oregon representing one of the broadest multi-stakeholders groups in Forest

Service Region 6. The 33,000 acre private section has a history of intensive forest management under industrial ownership and is currently under negotiations to be protected and managed as a community forest by the Deschutes Basin Land Trust.

Fire played an important role in central Oregon forest structure and composition over the past centuries. In lower elevation forests characterized by ponderosa pine forests, historic fire regime return intervals were 4-15 years. The resulting structure of these low-elevation forests were open with widely spaced trees, dominated by late-successional trees. Higher-elevation forests were adapted to frequent (26-100 year intervals in spruce and fir forests) with the highest intervals (100 years +) found in mountain hemlock and the high-elevation forests at the crest of the Cascade Mountains.

Changes in forest structure have occurred since Euro-American settlement due to multiple factors including fire exclusion, grazing and timber management. In the frequent fire-adapted forests, the changes in forest structure have led to changes in fire behavior resulting in increased fire risk to communities, as well as a decline in or loss of fire-adapted plant and animal species. Current forests lack spatial heterogeneity at the stand and landscape scales, thereby reducing biodiversity and resiliency to natural disturbances. An analysis conducted by the Deschutes Fire Learning Network (DFLN) quantified the ecological departure of all forest types across a two million acre landscape (full methodology found at www.fire-learningnetwork.org). Within the broader landscape, our operational Deschutes Skyline Landscape (97,000 acres + 33,000 Skyliner) has approximately half of the acres in Condition Class 2 or 3.

Restoration goals: watersheds

The Deschutes Skyline Project landscape encompasses the headwaters of two Upper Deschutes Basin Creeks, Whychus and Tumalo, which have

been the focus of intensive restoration efforts in recent years. Whychus and Tumalo are municipal watersheds for the cities of Sisters and Bend, respectively. These larger watersheds have been impacted by stream channelization, road construction, flow diversion and construction of barriers to fish passage, development, and historic vegetation management activities.

Key objectives for restoring these watersheds and facilitating the re-introduction of steelhead and Chinook salmon to Whychus Creek are restoring natural stream channel morphology and floodplain connection, reducing road densities, restoring native riparian plant communities (particularly hardwoods), and addressing barriers to fish passage. Agencies and organizations have been and continue to work toward improving water quality (temperature), enhancing riparian and aquatic habitat, and improving stream bank stability. Wetland and meadow enhancement and noxious weed treatment work is also planned. The Deschutes National Forest has worked closely with the Upper Deschutes Watershed Council on these types of activities for the past decade and will continue this active partnership within the Deschutes Skyline landscape during this project.

Restoration goals: vegetation

The landscape goal for forest vegetation is to be more resilient to natural disturbance, like wildfire and insects, and to protect natural resources and values identified by the Deschutes National Forest Land Management Plan, the Northwest Forest Plan, Whychus Creek Watershed Action Plan (Upper Deschutes Watershed Council), community wildfire protection plans, and local efforts to assess multiple stakeholder values. The desired outcome is to restore a forested landscape that can be managed within a historic range of variability and provide a

diversity of habitats, while protecting the surrounding communities.

Restoration will also help to achieve a variety of community goals such as reducing the risk of high-severity fire in the wildland-urban interface residential areas and drinking water source watersheds; preserving the scenic and environmental quality of extremely high-use recreational areas; protecting the future Skyline community forest; and providing restoration jobs and wood fiber for local economic benefit.

To restore landscape-level forest resiliency to natural disturbance regimes, a variety of restoration treatments will be used to re-establish spatial heterogeneity at the stand and landscape-level. Vegetation treatments are generally designed to be thinning from below using both commercial

and non-commercial thinning prescriptions. Fuel treatments include the use of manual, mechanical, and prescribed fire treatments depending on site-specific objectives. Treatments will include a combination of hand piling, pile burning, mowing, and prescribed fire. Treatments will increase from 2010 levels and peak at over 11,000 acres in 2013 and gradually taper off through the 10-year cycle.

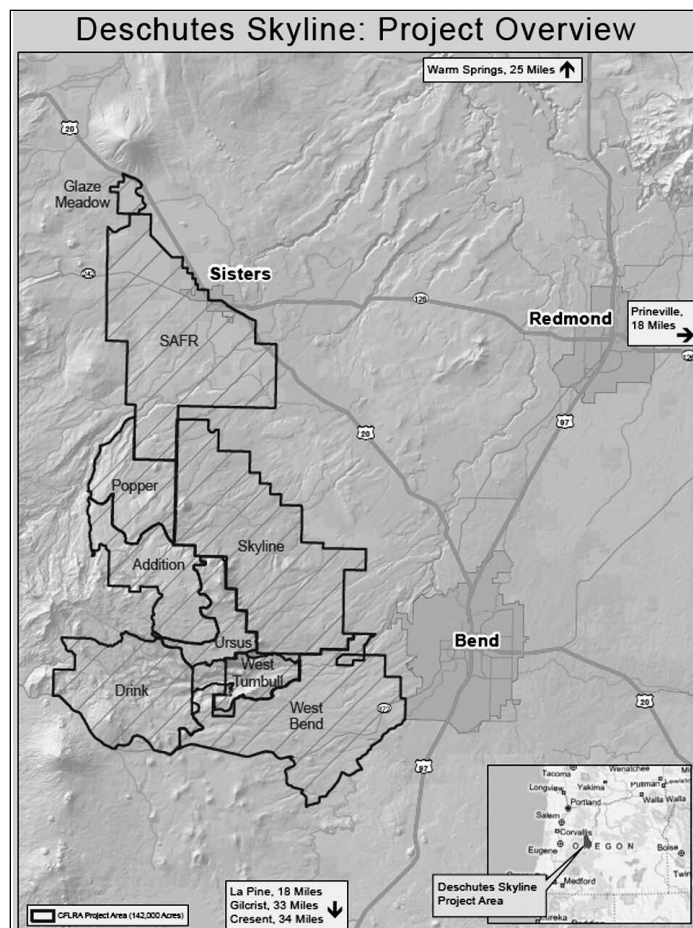
Conclusion

This Deschutes Skyline Project effort is not about receiving additional funding to do work, but about engaging citizens in a meaningful way to discuss forest and watershed management at a landscape scale rather than discussing it project by project. This discussion will help move us forward as a geographic-place-based community in determining

the future management of the Deschutes National Forest. I believe this discussion will not only benefit the Deschutes National Forest, but will help contribute to the public dialogue about the management of all national forests.

This is an experiment and a work in progress, and we can learn a great deal. I believe we will advance our ability to do restoration at the landscape level and increase the public's understanding of the condition of the forests, but also we will learn how to improve our planning processes and public engagement. I look forward to the learnings. ♦

John P. Allen is forest supervisor on the Deschutes National Forest in Bend, Ore. He can be reached at 541-383-5512 or jpollen@fs.fed.us.



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Effective Collaboration Slows the Spread of Sudden Oak Death in Oregon

BY JOE HULBERT AND
SARAH NAVARRO

Anyone can look up historical examples of effective collaboration in their resource management textbook, but can you think of a solid model of collaborative management currently established? Ten years ago, the disease Sudden Oak Death (SOD) was discovered in Curry County, Ore., and since then an incredible model of inter-agency collaboration has been developed for its management. Without collaboration between the agencies, industries, and landowners, the spread of SOD would be far more widespread, resulting in greater impacts across Oregon ecologically and economically. Currently, collaboration exists between regulatory, advisory, and operational agencies to promote a well-balanced, adaptive management strategy appropriate for mitigating the impacts of SOD.

SOD is a disease caused by the water mold *Phytophthora ramorum*, which has had numerous impacts ecologically and economically in Oregon, California, and several European countries. Management of *P. ramorum* is complicated because of its unique dispersal mechanisms involving deciduous spores. Through aerial dispersal, *P. ramorum* can spread across the landscape via wind and rain splash after



Joe Hulbert



Sarah Navarro

spores are produced on leaf surfaces of host species. Spread is correlated with weather patterns but it remains difficult to predict new infections. While there are over 100 known host species for *P. ramorum*, tanoak is the most susceptible species in Oregon forests, with infection resulting in mortality. Major ecological impacts from the spread of SOD include loss of wildlife habitat, cover, and nutrient availability as well as changes in fire behavior from different fuel complexities. Additionally, soil erosion, slope stability, and stream sediment loads are negatively impacted and directly affect water quality. The loss of tanoak results in lower biodiversity and a change in species composition over the landscape, while also impacting many residential landowners through a decline of property aesthetics.

Economic impacts are directly associated with an established quarantine area that covers 162 square miles of Curry County. Within this quarantine, SOD has spread across multiple forestlands, including federal, state, private industrial, private non-industrial, and rural residential.

Douglas-fir is grown throughout Oregon for timber use and is also a host species for *P. ramorum*. The timber market for Douglas-fir has not been affected thus far by SOD, but the timber export market in Oregon could potentially be negatively affected as foreign investors may become concerned about the disease resulting in a decrease in consumer confidence. Fortunately, the effective management and collaboration taking place has allowed Oregon's timber market as a whole to remain generally unaffected. However, South Coast Lumber has a large amount of timberland within the

quarantine and they have been faced with increased timber production costs. On the other hand, they also have benefited from the conversion of mixed conifer tanoak forests to a greater-value Douglas-fir monoculture. The quarantine also negatively affects nurseries and businesses associated with non-timber forest products such as mushrooms, Christmas trees, and wreaths through increased production costs. The increased cost is a result of monitoring for the disease.

Since the initial discovery of SOD in 2001, several agencies and industries quickly joined forces with landowners, creating a strong backbone of landscape-level collaboration. Each agency and industry involved contributes individual roles that are necessary for management across the landscape. No agency can accomplish the management objectives alone.

According to Dr. Everett Hansen, Oregon State University (OSU) forest pathologist, the effectiveness of SOD management in Oregon stems from a core group of managers with three factors influencing its successes. First, the necessary agencies are involved; second, they work cooperatively together; and third, the core management team is limited to a few primary decision makers, minimizing impacts from politics and agency rivalries.

The core is composed of four organizations: 1) Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA), which provides the regulatory authority; 2) Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF), which contributes most of the operational authority through contracting and conducting the on-ground management; 3) federal agencies, such as Forest Service and BLM, that provide the majority of the funding and a portion of on-ground management; and 4) OSU. Through their laboratory capability and capacity, OSU contributes diagnostic support for legal actions as well as the research to inspire adaptive management. Once a tree is diagnosed as positive for *P. ramorum* by OSU, ODA sends the landowner a notice of their responsibility to comply with the current regulations. The



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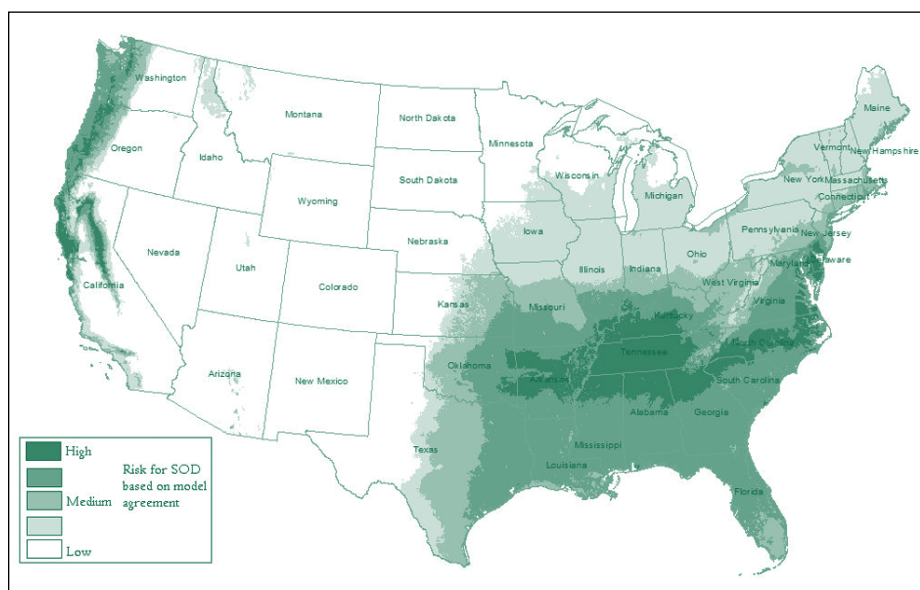
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Forest Service and ODF also contribute to the monitoring by conducting aerial surveys that establish early detection.

Each of these organizations is crucial to the success of slowing the spread of SOD, and it is clear that collaboration between the acting groups is essential. Hansen underlines the importance of the core SOD managing team in Oregon: "I think that because of the core collaboration, we speak with one voice, and it is easier for various 'publics' and governmental bodies to support the effort." Some examples of the publics he mentions include the Oregon Association of Nurseries and the Oregon Forest Industries Council, which generate monetary support through lobbying and raising political awareness. South Coast Lumber, private contractors and individual landowners also contribute significantly to the management. Occasional public meetings are also held in areas of disease occurrence to promote collaboration as a whole. Other governmental bodies involved include the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), which set the quarantine regulations and support, as well as county, city, and state parks. Through the collaboration between these groups, Oregon has been able to maintain an effective and balanced program of SOD management.

Many benefits and success stories can be seen as a result of the effective on-going collaboration in the management of SOD. Benefits include a flexible quarantine zone within Curry County, a quick response to the disease by many agencies that established early collaboration, and a monitoring effort that has generated invaluable data. The quarantine zone in Oregon only accounts for roughly 10 percent of Curry County because of the active disease monitoring efforts in place throughout the county. APHIS has allowed Oregon to maintain this small quarantine zone because of the effective monitoring and collaboration. This has been beneficial to many businesses, especially nurseries and industries that are currently outside of the quarantine, because they are not faced with increased production costs from SOD monitoring.

The continuation of the inter-agency collaboration and the resulting control efforts is crucial to prevent the further



SOURCE: KELLY, M. ET AL., MODELING THE RISK FOR A NEW INVASIVE FOREST ... COMPUTERS, ENVIRONMENT AND URBAN SYSTEMS (2007), DOI:10.1016/J.COMPENVURBSYS.2006.10.002

Figure 1. SOD spread risk map.

spread of SOD. Although Oregon has been able to slow the spread, two major risks still exist. For one, there is potential for the spread of *P. ramorum* to reach the hardwood forests of the Eastern United States, where many ecologically important species may suffer or potentially be eliminated. According to Paul Tooley, USDA, under laboratory conditions chestnut oak was found to be even more susceptible than tanoak to the pathogen. To demonstrate the risk of the spread of SOD a predictive map was created by Dr. Kelly, UC Berkeley, using several spatially referenced risk models (see Figure 1). The second risk involves a potential increase in consumer concern in foreign markets, potentially decreasing the amount of timber purchased from Oregon, and negatively impacting Oregon's timber export market. With its effective management and intrinsic col-

laboration, Oregon is implementing strong efforts to alleviate these risks and their efforts have paid for themselves when considering the potential damage it has prevented.

In conclusion, when managing for invasive pathogens, the collaboration within the landscape level management in Curry County, Ore., is an excellent model to follow and learn from. ♦

Joe Hulbert is an OSU Biological Science Research technician for Everett Hansen in Botany and Plant Pathology in Corvallis, Ore. He can be reached at 541-908-5129 or josephmichaellulbert@gmail.com. Sarah Navarro is an OSU Botany and Plant Pathology Masters student with Everett Hansen, also in Corvallis. She can be reached at 541-737-5242 or navarros@science.oregonstate.edu.



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SAF's Role in the Collaborative Landscape Restoration Coalition

BY KELSEY DELANEY

The Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration (CFLR) Program is a budgeted program of the U.S. Forest Service with the purpose to "encourage the collaborative, science-based ecosystem restoration of priority forest landscapes." Established by Congress under the Title IV Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009, the CFLR Program promotes forest restoration projects on national forests that support forest products infrastructure and local jobs (see www.fs.fed.us/restoration/CFLR/index.shtml).



By SAF's standards, this program is certainly not perfect, but as foresters, SAF believes movement toward active forest management is a positive step. A limiting requirement of the program is that CFLR only allows the removal of small diameter trees. SAF argued against this provision as the bill progressed through Congress, but was unsuccessful in having this prohibition removed. One of the successes we see is that it requires "science-based" projects. This gives SAF members an opportunity to explain the latest science and practices necessary to achieve the goals of the collaborative group and the work implemented on the ground. CFLR projects are a step in the direction toward active management on our national forests and increased benefits to the local communities—regardless of how small that

step might be.

In early 2011, SAF agreed to join four other organizations in creating the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Coalition with the goal to "secure full funding for the success of the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program." The five organizations of the Steering Committee include: American Forests, The Nature Conservancy, Society of American Foresters, Sustainable Northwest, and The Wilderness Society. SAF believes that, as the largest professional society for foresters, we bring well developed and sound forestry principles that add and promote active forest management on public lands. SAF joined the coalition because we see it as a first step in looking at the forest from a landscape level, and again, when developed with the help and assistance of forestry professionals, the projects selected could result in on-the-ground benefits.

An example of some of the coalition's activities include:

(1) To build and maintain a coalition of all non-federal CFLR supporters and participants around the country, including participants in the collaborative process for all submitted, nominated, and funded CFLR landscape projects.

(2) Engage in the budget and appropriations process to seek full funding for CFLR including:

- Sign on letters to the administration and to the Interior Appropriations Subcommittees in support of full CFLR program funding in the President's budget and appropriations bills.
- Assist congressional staff with

Dear Colleague letters; focus on outreach to members of Congress whose districts include CFLR-funded, nominated or related proposals.

- Work with stakeholders to reach out to Congress and the administration on behalf of CFLR funding.

- Utilize communications, including earned media, opinion editorials and letters to the editor, targeted at key members of Congress.

(3) Share information about authorities and policies that relate to CFLR.

This year the coalition has held several events and submitted formal letters to the Senate and House Interior Appropriations Subcommittees to encourage full funding for CFLR in the FY2012 budget. In April, the CFLR Coalition had their first conference call open to coalition members where participants heard from guest speakers including Erica Rhoad, House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee; Scott Miller, Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee; Mary Wagner, USDA Forest Service; and Karen DiBari, National Forest Foundation. The CFLR Coalition also held a short briefing in May to discuss large-scale projects, benefits of bringing stakeholders to the table, the conflicts that can and do arise, and material available to be utilized by stakeholders and collaboratives for improved active management of our forests. Presenters included Michael Goergen, Society of American Foresters, and Cassandra Moseley, Institute for a Sustainable Environment.

The CFLR Program takes a positive step in the right direction for active forest management. It is not the only answer, and there are flaws to the program that SAF would like to see improved. By continued funding of the program our hope is that SAF members and other forestry professionals can educate stakeholders on the latest science-based practices, and move beyond the discussion of collaboration and restoration to implementing practices on the ground. ♦

Kelsey Delaney is SAF Assistant Policy Director, Bethesda, Maryland. She can be reached at 301-897-8720 x202 or delaneyk@safnet.org.



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Tiered Dues Structure and Membership Incentives Highlight Council Actions

BY CHUCK LORENZ, LYNN SPRAGUE
AND BOB ALVERTS

SAF President Roger Dziengeleski led the SAF Council meeting at the national headquarters in Bethesda on June 3-5.

Friday, June 3 was devoted to Council committee meetings. The Finance and Investment, Audit, Strategic Planning, and Executive committees met at different times throughout the day and evening.

On Saturday and Sunday Council continued its work on SAF's financial position, including the adoption of a new dues structure, which provides five optional tiers ranging from \$95 to \$270 per year. This change reflects the recommendations of HSD at the 2010 national convention and comments from members across the nation. This will be the first SAF dues adjustment since 1997. The National Office is developing a news release announcing the new structure, and will be preparing details over the next two months in time for the 2012 dues invoices. This issue will be thoroughly discussed at the 2011 national convention House of Society Delegates (HSD) meeting. A new membership incentive program was also adopted that provides for as much as a \$100 discount on dues (\$20/year for the next five years) for new member recruitment, and the new recruit receives a 30 percent discount on dues if they maintain current membership for at least five years. By August 1 members can contact Christopher Whited, whited@safnet.org, with specific questions on the new membership recruitment program or go to the website at www.eforester.org/members/discounts.cfm (to be online soon) for more detail. The new member recruitment program will also be implemented for 2012.

Council also initiated discussion on new actions for the development of non-dues revenue. As an organization that has largely been funded by membership dues, our declining membership has placed significant stress on SAF's financial position, so new revenue

is needed to grow the capacity of SAF to fully meet mission objectives. Initial ideas on action steps will also be discussed at the upcoming House of Society Delegates (HSD) meeting at the National Convention in Honolulu.

Council agreed to continued development of a proposal for accrediting a Terrestrial Ecosystem Management curriculum. More detail will be shared in the next edition of the *Forestry Source*, and this topic will also be discussed at the upcoming HSD meeting.

On the policy level SAF continues to be active. The Task Force on Carbon and Biomass is on schedule to complete its final product for Council acceptance by the end of June. Kelsey Delaney was also complimented for the support she provided Team Leader Nic Dennis and her overall management of an effective SAF response to the draft Forest Service Planning Rule.

Registration is now open for the Nov. 2-6, 2011, SAF National Convention in Hawaii (visit www.safconvention.org or call 866-897-8720 for assistance and information). The early-bird rate is in effect until August 26. Members are encouraged to make early reservations for savings on air fares, convention hotel rooms, and meeting registration fees. The convention program is excellent, providing members a great opportunity to attend a diverse set of technical sessions and unique field trips.

Council will make a decision at the Hawaii convention on the location of the 2014 National Convention, which includes a possible meeting with IUFRO in Salt Lake City, as well as other locations. Put on your calendar the 2012 convention in Spokane and in 2013 at Charleston, SC.

A new National Student Congress Representative was introduced. He is

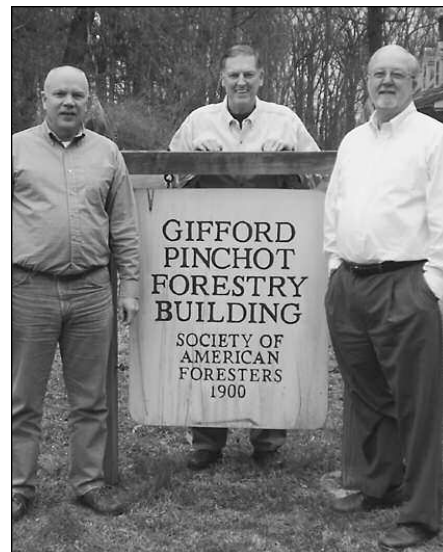


PHOTO COURTESY OF ERNIE HOUGHTON

Left to right: Council representatives Bob Alverts, Lynn Sprague and Chuck Lorenz.

Jarett Cook, a graduate student at Iowa State. He can be reached at 515-321-0417 or jscook@iastate.edu.

This Council report is a collaborative effort between District 2 (Oregon) Council member Bob Alverts, District 4 (the Intermountain West from Canada to Mexico) Council member Lynn Sprague, and District 1 (Washington State, Alaska and Inland Empire) Council member Chuck Lorenz. As always, we are interested in your thoughts for improvements and concerns related to SAF governance and operations. ♦

District 1 Council Representative Chuck Lorenz can be reached at 360-951-0117 or c_4str@yahoo.com. District 2 representative Bob Alverts can be reached at 503-639-0405 or balverts@teleport.com. Lynn Sprague, representing District 4, can be reached at 208-761-3492 or GLSprag@aol.com.

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CENTRAL OREGON COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Bend, Oregon

Forestry Professionals Gather in Portland

Two-hundred eighty-six forestry professionals, students and guests gathered in Portland on May 11-13 for the 2011 Oregon/Washington State Society of American Foresters Joint Conference. The group explored "Keeping Forestlands in Forest," with national and regional expert speakers and field trips that presented new ideas on forest production, ecosystem services and markets, lumber and log exports, and public policies and land conversion. The program kicked off on Wednesday afternoon with a series of five keynote presentations by Matt Donegan (Forest Capital Partners), Sally Collins (USDA Office of Ecosystem Services-retired), Dave Cox (Mason, Bruce & Girard-retired), Cal Joyner (USDA Forest Service Region 6), and Michael Goergen (SAF National Office).

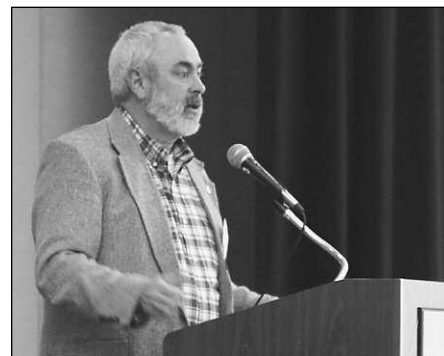
Concurrent technical sessions followed on Thursday with 36 speakers examining the topics of "Improving Timber Resource Values through Forest Production;" "Improving Non-Timber Resource Values (Ecosystem Services);" "Improving Timber Resource Values through Marketing;" "Public Policies Affecting Forest Conversion;" and a full-day "Wildlife in Managed Forests Symposium." The Wildlife Symposium was co-sponsored by the Oregon and Washington Chapters of The Wildlife Society, in addition to SAF.



General Chair Bob Deal warms up the crowd on the first day of the joint annual meeting.

The luncheon featured SAF President Roger Dziengeleski (from New York) speaking on "Sustainable Forest Management for Multiple Values." An awards banquet was held in the evening (see separate article).

On Friday, the central location of the meeting allowed for five far-ranging field trips that complemented the indoor presentations. Highlights included visits to red alder plantations and conifer reforestation and management in the Columbia River area; wildlife and working forests interactive tour with stops at public, industrial and family forest properties; Willamette Valley Ecosystem Services tour including discussions on carbon credits,



Mike Cloughesy was the program chair of this year's joint annual meeting. He also serves as OSAF chair.



Participants listen intently to the general session speakers.

Oregon white oak restoration, wetland mitigation and salmon credits; forest products tour featuring value-added manufacturing with a focus on local wood species; and a hands-on forest inventory and analysis workshop held at the Magness Memorial Tree Farm in Wilsonville.

The joint conference also included a poster session, 15 exhibitors, and Foresters' Fund activities that generated \$5,609 and supported the National SAF Foresters' Fund and various OSAF and WSSAF programs. Fifteen members provided student support for scholarships. Special thanks are given to the 45 sponsors and contributors that provided \$37,575 in financial support for the meeting.

Speaker presentations can be downloaded from our local website at www.forestry.org/oregon/annual-meeting.

The joint conference provided valuable opportunities to network with foresters from both Oregon and Washington as well as with members of The Wildlife Society. ♦

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SAF Awards Presented at Joint Annual Meeting

BY CLARK W. SEELY

On May 12, 2011, at the evening banquet of the Oregon/Washington State SAF Joint Annual Meeting in Portland, Ore., SAF Awards were presented to an outstanding group of well-deserving recipients. Oregon SAF Chair Mike Cloughesy and Washington State SAF Chair Adrian Miller presided over the evening's ceremonies. It was an evening to remember as awards were presented in all seven Oregon SAF categories, and in two of these categories, multiple recipients were honored, and several WSSAF awards were given. In addition, a number of special "Chair's" awards were made by Mike and Adrian including three Joint Chair awards.

The Joint Chair awards were presented to three individuals that have provided outstanding service and significant contributions to both state societies. Their collective efforts span over 40 years of service to the two state societies, and without their efforts, all that we are today as a professional organization would not have been possible.

The first Joint Chair award was presented to former Washington SAF Chair John Walkowiak recognizing his outstanding leadership of the SAF Northwest Office Committee as the 2010 chair. The second Joint Chair award was presented to Leslie Batten, founding webmaster for the Oregon



John Walkowiak (left) is congratulated by WSSAF Chair Adrian Miller on receiving multiple awards. Not only was he honored as Washington State Forester of the Year, he was also recognized for outstanding service to the SAF Northwest Office Committee.



Several awards were presented at the joint annual meeting awards banquet. Left to right: Clark Seely, OSAF Awards chair; Adrian Miller, WSSAF chair; Dan Green, OSAF Lifetime Achievement award; John Walkowiak, WSSAF Forester of the Year and Chair's Award; Glenn Ahrens, OSAF Forester of the Year award; John Arena, OSAF Tough Tree award; David Scharfenberg, OSAF Forestry Appreciation award; Tom Ortman, OSAF Lifetime Achievement award; Adam May, Marys Peak Chapter, OSAF Chapter Achievement award; Brad Cooper, OSU Student award; Arne Skaugset, OSAF Research award; Lori Raser, SAF Northwest Office manager, Chair's award; Paul Wagner, North Puget Sound Chapter, WSSAF Chapter of the Year award; Leslie Batten, OSAF/WSSAF Founding Webmaster, Chair's award; Tim Keith, 2010 OSAF chair, Chair's award; and Mike Cloughesy, OSAF chair. Not shown: Marty Main, Shaun Harkins, Wes Romberg and Todd Bates.

and Washington State SAF website, who gave tirelessly of her time and expertise to the two state societies over 10 years in pursuit of excellence in web presence and information sharing. The final Joint Chair award was presented to SAF Northwest Office manager and *Western Forester* Editor, Lori Raser, who has provided 25 years of leadership, dedication and commitment to the two state societies.

Chair Mike Cloughesy then presented two Oregon SAF Chair awards—recognizing 2010 Oregon SAF Chair Tim Keith for outstanding leadership and service to the Oregon Society, and Shaun Harkins for his development and oversight of the 2010 Northwest Leadership Conference. It is this type of dedication and service of these two Oregon SAF leaders that exemplifies outstanding service to the profession.

Chair Cloughesy then presented the seven Oregon SAF awards. The first award was the Tough Tree Award, presented to two worthy Oregon SAF members, Marty Main and John Arena, who endured challenging and difficult working circumstances throughout the

span of their careers, and yet remained professional and committed to carrying out their work in meaningful ways. The next award was the Chapter Achievement Award, this year presented to the Marys Peak Chapter for their "complete package" of outstanding and sustained chapter leadership and service to members and the community during 2010, including hosting the Oregon SAF Annual Meeting. Accepting the award on behalf of the chapter was Chapter Chair Adam May. The Forestry Appreciation Award was then presented to David Scharfenberg, a 6th grade teacher at Pleasant Valley Elementary School who has been a true natural resource champion and leader in the classroom and the community to hundreds of children and their families in exploring and sharing the forestry story. As an allied professional, David's work leaves lasting impressions with all those he encounters.

The next award, the OSAF Research Award, was presented to OSU associate professor and researcher Arne Skaugset for his pioneering work on watershed

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 20)



We Remember

Howard Roy Heiner 1929-2011

Howard Heiner passed away at the age of 81 at home surrounded by his family following a four-month battle with cancer on April 9, 2011. He was born on July 22, 1929, in Sandpoint Idaho. Howard began working with the Forest Service when he was 15 years old and received his BS in Forest Management from the University of Idaho in 1951 when he joined SAF. Upon graduation he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and became a fighter pilot in the Korean War. Howard married Peggy Flieger in 1951; they have four children, eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Howard left the Air Force in 1955 to work for St. Regis Paper Company in Libby, Montana, until 1968. From 1969 through 1977, Howard began a distinguished career in international forestry with the United Methodist Church as a forestry consultant in La Paz, Bolivia. He returned to the United States in 1972 to earn his MS in Forest Economics from the University of Washington, and then continued in Latin America, teaching forestry at a technical level in Angol, Chile, and the university level in Valdivia, Chile. From 1978-1981, Howard owned Pacific Crest Building Center in Olympia, Wash. In 1981 he returned overseas as field director of the Ali Matan Refugee Camp in Somalia where he began a firewood plantation project. He continued his international forestry work in Nicaragua from 1983-1989, designing agro-forestry and fire protection projects for the Nicaraguan

government, CARE, FAO, and the Council of Protestant Churches (CEPAD). For his contribution, the Nicaraguan president awarded Howard a Meritorious Citation.

In 1990 Howard moved stateside where he worked from the National SAF Office in Bethesda, Maryland, on joint projects with the United Methodist Church. He served as executive director of the International Union of Societies of Foresters, associate director of the International Society of Tropical Foresters, and forestry consultant for the U.S. State Department at the United Nations Conference on the Environment (1992).

Howard was elected Fellow in 1995 and received the Sir William Schlich award from SAF in 2006 in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the field of forestry with emphasis on policy and national or international forestry issues. He was also the recipient of the Oregon SAF Lifetime Achievement Award and Tough Tree Award.

Howard was a big man with a large heart and will sorely be missed by many friends around the world. Donations in his memory may be made to OSFA Foundation, 4033 SW Canyon Rd., Portland, OR 97221.

Howard's Memorial website can be visited at <http://sites.google.com/site/howardheiner/>.

Roy Robert Sines 1922-2011

Roy Robert Sines, 88, of LaGrande, Ore., died March 17, 2011, at a local care facility. Roy was born May 20, 1922, in Bozeman, Montana. He grew up in the Entiat Valley, Wash. Roy enlisted in the military and served his country during World War II in the Army Air Force. He was stationed in the South Pacific during his military service.

While working for the U.S. Forest Service, Roy continued his education at

Wenatchee Valley College. In 1960, he took his family to Pullman, where he received his Bachelor of Science degree in Forestry and Range Management in 1963 from Washington State. Roy spent his entire 38-year career working as a forester for the U.S. Forest Service. He was district ranger for 10 years at Wallowa, Ore., and district ranger for three years in La Grande. Roy was a member of SAF and the Society of Range Management.

After his retirement, Roy and his wife, Rachel, were very active in volunteer service for the U.S. Forest Service. They worked on botany surveys, tree planting, collecting seed cones, and were hosts at the Kirkwood Ranch on the Snake River. He served on the ski patrol and as an avalanche control officer at Stevens Pass Ski area. Roy was an avid outdoorsman and taught each of his grandchildren to snow ski, hike the mountain trails, and identify native plants found along the trails.

Memorial donations in memory of Roy may be made to the National Alzheimer's Association at their website, www.alz.org.

Rodney O. Fety 1915-2010

Rodney O. Fety died at his home on December 24, 2010, with his family at his side, as he wished. He was 95-and-a-half years old, and lived independently until four weeks before his death.

Rod was a fourth generation Oregonian, born in Portland on June 13, 1915, and had been a resident of the Rogue Valley since 1974. He graduated from Oregon State College in 1941 with a bachelor's degree in Forestry, and later earned a master's degree in Economics from the University of Wisconsin.

Rod served his country as a United States Marine prior to attending college, then as an officer in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He was stationed aboard an LST and participated in amphibious assaults at Algeria, North Africa, Licata, Sicily, Salerno, Italy, and Normandy, France on D-Day. He received many awards and retired from military service as a lieutenant commander.

Rod married Jean Platt, a Medford native, in New York City in 1942. She preceded him in death.

Rod's career was with the Bureau of Land Management, where he worked for 37 years, primarily in Salem, Portland, and Washington, D.C. He loved his career and felt it was a close-to-perfect job. He was a member of the SAF Siskiyou Chapter. ♦



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Calendar of Events

Western Forest Genetics

Association annual meeting, July 25-28, Portland, OR. Contact: WFCFA.

Fourth International Workshop on Genetics of Host-parasite Interactions in Forestry

July 31-August 5, Eugene, OR. Contact: Janice Alexander, 415-499-3041, jalexander@ucdavis.edu.

PACT: Pesticide Applicator Certification and Training Workshop

August 8-11, Portland, OR. Contact: WFCFA.

2011 Lincoln County Tree Farmer of the Year tour

August 9, Corvallis, OR. Contact: Bill McKinnie, 541-757-6540, wamckinnie@hotmail.com.

National Tree Farmer Convention

August 9-11, Albuquerque, NM. Contact: Amy Yambor, 202-463-5172, ayambor@forestfoundation.org.

TimberValue Seminar

Aug. 16, or Oct. 11, Beaverton, OR. Contact: FEC Consulting, 503-626-5726, timbervalue@forestmgt.com, www.forestmgt.com.

Forest Owners Field Day, August 20, Chimacum, WA. Contact: Andy Perleberg, 509-667-6658, andyp@wsu.edu.

53rd Annual Pacific Northwest Christmas Tree Association Tree Fair and Show

Sept. 9-10, Vancouver, WA. Contact: PNWCTA, 503-364-2942, bryan@ostlund.com.

Forest Owners Field Day, September 10, Whidbey Island, WA. Contact: Kevin Zobrist, 425-357-6017, kzobrist@wsu.edu.

Field Technology, Remote Sensing and Mapping in Forestry and Natural Resources

Sept. 13-14, Portland, OR. Contact: WFCFA.

Using ArcPAD in Forestry, Sept. 13-14, Beaverton, OR. Contact: Atterbury.

Professional Timber Cruising with SuperACE, Sept. 15-16, Beaverton, OR. Contact: Atterbury.

Who Will Own the Forest?7, Sept. 19-21, Portland, OR. Contact: Sara Wu, 503-488-2130, <http://wwotf.worldforestry.org/wwotf7/>.

Forest Products Forum, Sept. 22, Portland, OR. Contact: Bryan Doyle, 978-496-6338, http://www.getfea.com/component/content/article/210#fea_fpf_portland.

Inland Empire SAF annual meeting, September 23-24, Priest River, ID.

Contact: Dick Reid, IESAF Communications chair, reid66519@aol.com.

Oregon SAF Foundation Golf Tournament

Sept. 30, Trysting Tree Golf Course, Corvallis, OR. Contact: Robin Tucker, 541-968-3291, rctucker@gapac.com, www.forestry.org/oregon/ and click on the golf icon.

OFIC Annual Meeting, Oct. 9-11, Sunriver, OR. Contact: Oregon Forest Industries Council, 503-371-2942, ofic@ofic.com.

Western International Forest Disease Work Conference

Oct. 10-14, Leavenworth, WA. Contact: Greg Filip, gmfilip@fs.fed.us, www.fs.fed.us/forest-health/technology/wif/index.htm.

Silviculture, Fuels Reduction, and Forest Restoration: What's the Vision?

co-sponsored by the Central Oregon SAF Chapter and SAF Northwest Office, Oct. 11-13, Central Oregon Community College, Bend, OR. Contact: SAF Northwest Office, 503-224-8046, rasor@safnwo.org.

National SAF Annual Meeting, Nov. 2-6, Honolulu, HI. Contact: SAF National office, 866-897-8720, www.safnet.org/natcon11/index.cfm.

2012 Oregon/Washington State SAF Leadership Conference

Jan. 20-21, The Monticello Hotel, Longview, WA. Contact: Tom Hanson, 425-820-3420, tom@inforesstry.com.

Contact Information

Atterbury: Atterbury Consultants, 3800 SW Cedar Hills Blvd., Suite 145, Beaverton, OR 97005, 503-646-5393 x10, dsandefur@atterbury.com, www.atterbury.com.

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

Send calendar items to the editor, *Western Forester*, 4033 SW Canyon Rd., Portland, OR 97221; rasor@safnwo.org.



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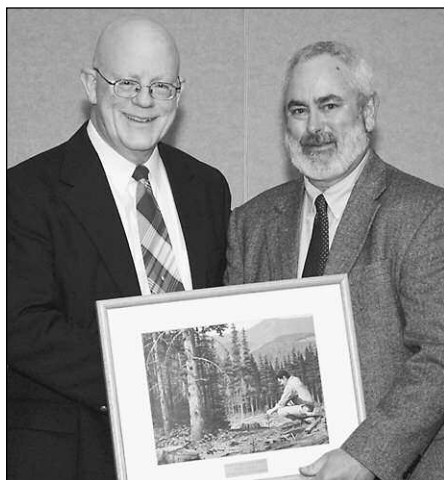
Scott Johnson 916-991-4451 & Jerry Gallagher 530-570-5977—California

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SAF Awards

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17)

functions and land management relationships, in particular the landmark Watershed Research Cooperative. Arne's leadership is contributing to both the science and the practice of forestry and for this, the award is particularly deserving. The next award, the OSU Student Award, was presented to OSU College of Forestry Senior Brad Cooper for his leadership of the student chapter and his involvement with the annual student Job Fair.



Clackamas County Forester Dan Green (left) is recognized with the OSAF Lifetime Achievement award by Mike Cloughesy.

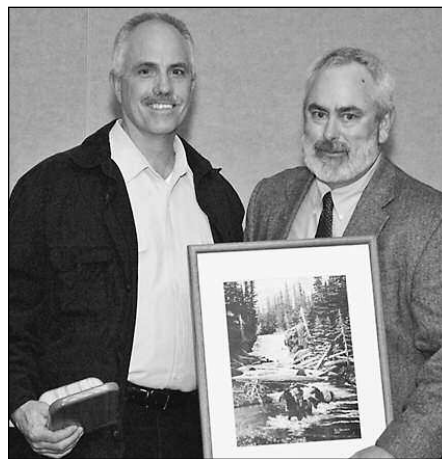
The next award category was the Oregon SAF Lifetime Achievement Award. In many respects, this award is the gold standard of recognition because it reflects a body of work that spans multiple generations. This year,



Portland Chapter member Tom Ortman (left) receives the Lifetime Achievement award from Mike Cloughesy.

we were very fortunate to honor two recipients. The first recipient was Dan Green, Portland Chapter, for his exemplary career spanning 40 years and a lifetime contribution to SAF and the profession. The second recipient was also from the Portland Chapter, Tom Ortman, recognizing his 44-year career and again, exemplary contributions to the Society. What is particularly significant about these two SAF leaders is that they are not yet done—they both continue to contribute to the profession and to SAF, and for that, we are grateful.

The final OSAF award of the evening, the Oregon SAF Forester of the Year, is the capstone of the annual awards. This year, the award was presented to Glenn Ahrens of the Tillamook-Clatsop Chapter. Glenn is currently the OSU Extension forester for Clatsop and Tillamook counties, and has had a stellar career spanning 29 years. Glenn's contributions to the profession, his community and to SAF are significant and of long duration. He is a gifted teacher, scientist, practitioner, community leader, and engaged



Oregon SAF Forester of the Year Glenn Ahrens receives a Ken Brauner print and hand-crafted wood award made by Bob Tokarczyk from OSAF Chair Mike Cloughesy.

SAF leader. His efforts over the years are an inspiration to us all.

Washington State awards included the North Olympia Chapter receiving the Outreach award for organizing and hosting a very successful biomass tour. The award was accepted by Chapter member Wes Romberg. The North Puget Sound Chapter was honored with the Chapter of the Year award. Among their efforts were putting



Paul Wagner shows off the North Puget Sound's Chapter of the Year award.

together an "international" annual meeting in La Conner. Next, the Educator award recognized Todd Bates for his work in developing a successful forestry program at Grays Harbor College and helping to start a new student chapter.

The WSSAF Forester of the Year award was presented to John Walkowiak by Peter Heide, last year's recipient. A South Puget Sound Chapter member, John was chair of the WSSAF in 2010, and provided tremendous leadership that went above and beyond the duties of WSSAF chair. John is a great communicator and did an exceptional job of not only engaging the membership, but listening to and invigorating them.

In a volunteer organization like SAF, recognition of excellence and the opportunity to say "Thank You" for peer contributions are some of the most important things we do. And it's what the annual awards effort is all about—taking the time to express appreciation for efforts that have raised the profession to higher levels that benefit all of us and also all those we serve. ♦

Clark W. Seely is Oregon SAF Awards Committee Chair. He can be reached at cleeoregon@comcast.net.

— PHOTOS COURTESY OF JORDAN BENNER —

Celebrating a Century of Forestry in the Inland Northwest

BY RICHARD REID

In 1911 the Priest River Experimental Forest near the town of Priest River in the Idaho panhandle was established as a base for research on tree species in the Pacific Coast forest region, principally western white pine, the prized tree species. Its establishment signaled the early importance of the Inland Northwest to the fledgling U.S. Forest Service and forestry profession. Over the years researchers such as Bob Marshall, Harry Gisborne, and Richard Bingham used the experimental forest to gather information important to the evolution of forestry practices and to the early economic and cultural development of the region and nation.

From these beginnings, forestry in the Inland Northwest has flourished beyond the early national forests to encompass other federal, state, industrial and nonindustrial private lands. This fall the Inland Empire SAF will celebrate 100 years of research and management in the Inland Northwest. The Priest River Experimental Forest, now part of the USDA Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station, will be celebrating its centennial as well.

The meeting will be held Friday and Saturday, September 23-24, and is tentatively planned for Sandpoint, Idaho. The first day will consist of a visit to the Priest River Experimental Forest to learn about past and current research activities. Some of the earlier experiments, such as a ponderosa pine provenance study, were established in 1911 and still are yielding information useful in vegetation management.

An awards banquet will be held Friday evening with Russ Graham, Scientist-in-Charge of Priest River Experimental Forest since 1975, as featured speaker. Dr. Graham has broad knowledge of the history of the experimental forest and the individuals that have passed through it and contributed to the body of knowledge on Inland Northwest forests. Because of his long tenure at the forest, he also

has detailed knowledge of the forest itself and the changes that have occurred on the ground.

On Saturday, September 24, speakers from various forestry sectors will make presentations on 100 years of Inland Northwest forestry from their perspective and provide insights on what the next 100 years might bring. Speaker presentations will be preceded by a continental breakfast and the IESAF annual business meeting.

An added feature of the meeting will be a visit by French foresters from the Association Futai Irregulaire (AFI) touring the Pacific Northwest to learn about coniferous forest silviculture. After two days visiting westside projects hosted by the Washington State SAF, they will cross the Cascades into

central and northeastern Washington and Idaho, examining the transition to eastside habitats and forest conditions. The tour will conclude by attendance at the IESAF meeting where AFI and Pro Silva Europa member Dr. Max Bruciamacchie will address the group. This will provide an opportunity to learn about the challenges faced and the practices employed today in France where Gifford Pinchot received much of his early training.

Professional foresters from the Pacific Northwest and around the country as well as anyone else who is interested is welcome to attend the meeting. Registration information and more details on speakers and topics will be available later this summer. ♦

Richard Reid is communications chair for the Inland Empire SAF. He can be reached at RReid66519@aol.com.



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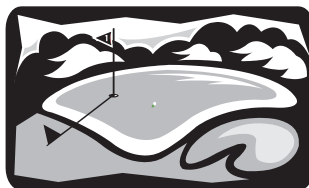
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To sign up or for more information, visit www.forestry.org/oregon/ or contact Robin Tucker at 541-968-3291, rctucker@gapac.com



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.

Oregon Legislature Passes Woody Biomass Bill; Generally Low-key Session for Forestry Issues. The 2011 Oregon legislative session is in the home stretch as of this writing, and the outlook for bills related to forestry is now clearer. Several bills related to management of state forest lands (HBs 2597, 2598, 2736, 3350 and SB 460) were stalled as key deadlines passed, effectively killing them. However, a bill to promote woody biomass use from these lands (SB 862) passed easily, with Governor Kitzhaber's signature expected given his strong support for biomass use. The bill also includes provisions to promote woody biomass inventories and use on federal and private forestlands.

A bill signed by the Governor in May (HB 2165) involves requirements for written plans for forest operations under Oregon's Forest Practices Act.

Included is some streamlining in situations where operations do not directly affect riparian areas or with some scenarios involving significant wetlands or inventoried resource sites (e.g., sensitive bird sites, habitat for listed T&E species). Cutbacks in Oregon Dept. of Forestry enforcement personnel likely added to the interest in such streamlining, although recent agency budget discussions in the Ways and Means committee suggest that some restoration of staffing may be forthcoming.

A bill passed by the House (HB 2840) and being reviewed by the Senate at this writing would formally recognize many forestry jobs as "green." Although focused on the forest products and state investment in "green economy industries," the bill's definition of green jobs includes several criteria that match important benefits provided by the work of forestry professionals. The text and current status of all bills introduced during the 2011 session can be found at www.leg.state.or.us/bills_laws/. Contact: Paul Adams, OSAF Policy chair, 541-737-2946; paul.adams@oregonstate.edu.

Pesticide Issues Reemerge for Board of Forestry. Recent meetings of the Oregon Board of Forestry have included both featured agenda items and less formal attention (i.e., public comments) to issues related to pesticide use on forestlands. These issues, which focus on human health and safe-

ty as well as water quality impacts, are not new—in the 1970s and '80s, Oregon was at the center of a storm of controversy that led to the near-complete elimination of pesticide use on federal forestlands in the region. Since that era there have been some added complexities, including expanded chemical formulations and application technologies, forest practices restrictions, and an increased ability to detect these chemicals in the environment and people. These issues and complexities were highlighted in the "Pesticide Workshop II," and the public comments that followed, at the board's meeting in Salem on April 29. Two SAF members, Bruce Alber and George Ice, gave invited presentations and the Oregon SAF position statement on "Using Pesticides on Forest Lands" was submitted for the written record of public comments. The slide shows and other materials from the meeting presentations, as well as the written public comments, can be found at www.oregon.gov/ODF/BOARD/BOF_042911_Meeting.shtml. Contact: Paul Adams, OSAF Policy chair, 541-737-2946; paul.adams@oregonstate.edu.

Biomass Hot Topic in Washington. On the North Olympic Peninsula there are two biomass-to-electric facilities that are going through the permit approval process. Since each facility is located in close proximity to major towns there is a robust public discussion taking place. A loose federation of national, regional and local conservation groups is mounting a vigorous opposition to both facilities. One of their leading opposition arguments is that harvest of biomass will reduce site productivity and generally forest health. Several members of the North Olympic Chapter have taken umbrage to these allegations and have given presentations to various community groups and business organizations. Chapter member Tom Swanson, in particular, has been doing a first-class job explaining biomass harvest opportunities and benefits to forestland owners.

WSSAF is also working on a working forest position paper that defines for SAF what a working forest is. A group of SAF members have expressed an interest in helping with this effort. Additional help is welcome. Contact: Harry Bell, WSSAF Policy chair, harry@greencrow.com. ♦



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Oregon SAF Foundation Announces Scholarship Recipients

The OSAF Foundation recently awarded two recipients a total of \$9,000 for new scholarships for the 2011-12 school year.

Joel Zeni from Springfield, Ore., is a senior at OSU majoring in Forest Engineering and Civil Engineering. Joel currently owns his own small business, contracting with logging companies and landowners to remove and recycle scrap metal from their lands and operations. Joel intends to start a logging and excavation business upon graduation.



Joel Zeni

Sara Lynch, a nine-year Oregon resident originally from Cape Cod, Massachusetts, is a junior majoring in Recreation Resources Management. Sara works and volunteers at the Findley National Wildlife Refuge and the OSU College Forest performing environmental education and other duties. Sara intends to pursue a career in environmental education upon graduation.



Sara Lynch

The OSAF Foundation, established in 1985, exists to foster forestry education in Oregon and enhance public knowledge about professional forestry. The Foundation is administered by a Board of Trustees, comprised of OSAF members. Most of the Foundation funds are directed toward student scholarships at the OSU College of Forestry. Fundraising to build the

Foundation is an ongoing priority for the trustees, particularly as the cost of a college education increases and more students are in need of financial support. If you are interested in contributing to the Foundation, please contact Mark Buckbee at 541-464-3202. ♦

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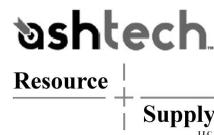
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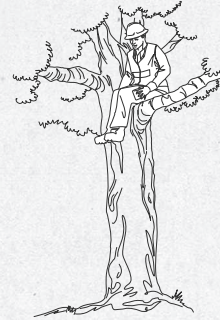
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Timberland Appraisals - Due Diligence - Timber Management

GIS MAPPING & ANALYSES:

Timber Typing - Timberland Owners & Mill Locations

CRUISING & INVENTORY:

Highly Trained with Current Technology - Reports Tailored to Clients Needs

SOFTWARE & PRODUCTS WE USE:

SuperACE, FLIPS, & Pocket SuperEASY

Authorized ESRI, Laser Technology & TDS Dealer

SEMINARS & TRAINING:

Continuing Education Credit - ArcPad for Foresters - Timber Cruising