

Emerald Forester Gazette



The Emerald Chapter of
OREGON SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS

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

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

December Meeting

Date: Tuesday December 17th, 2013

Location: HILTON INN, EUGENE
66 East 6th Ave. Downtown

Time: 6:00 PM SOCIAL, 7:00 PM Program
Buffet Dinner at 6:00 for \$10.

Speaker: Dominique Bachelet – Senior
Climate Change Scientist Dept. of
Biological and Ecological
Engineering, OSU

Topic: Dominique Bachelet's career has
included stops in France, Colorado,
Thailand, New Mexico, Oregon,
New Hampshire and Washington.
See her full bio at
<http://consbio.org/people/staff/dominique-bachelet>. If you have time
before our meeting, read her blog
post at
<http://consbio.org/newsroom/blog/how-much-carbon-do-you-cost>

Exec Committee Mtg: 4:00 PM at Valley River
Inn to tour facilities. Meet in lobby.
Then meet at Hilton at 5:00 PM for
abbreviated meeting.

January 2014 Meeting

Date: Tuesday January 21st, 2014

Location: GATEWAY BUFFET REST.,
3198 Gateway Street, Springfield

Time: 4:30 PM Exec. Meeting
6:00 PM SOCIAL, 7:00 PM Program

Speaker: Emmor Nile – ODF Salem

Topic: Lidar – tools and analysis
opportunities

Dale Claassen Presented with National SAF Presidential Field Forester Award



Dale Claassen was recently announced as the recipient of the SAF Presidential Field Forester Award for District 2 (Oregon). The award recipients were identified by district council members, Bob Alverts for district 2, who were asked to identify outstanding field foresters from their district.

Dale has served SAF since being the chapter chair at OSU in 1982. He is currently chair of the Emerald Chapter. His broad experience over 25 years in the professional field ranks makes him an excellent choice to represent the quality and ethic that exemplifies Oregon's professional foresters.

Dale was presented with this honor during the 2013 SAF National Convention in Charleston, South Carolina.

Evite Reminders

Please respond to Evite invitations and reminders from The Emerald Chapter of SAF when you receive them. Your responses help us give good information to the restaurant host where we gather.

NOVEMBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING RECAP

State Forester Doug Decker: State Forests Update

ODF spent almost \$123 million beyond the \$40 million Fire Program budget. The department will ask the legislature for \$40 million from the general fund to help cover costs. They also need to increase their biennium budget level, as they have spent most of their budget in the first half of the biennium. Doug says there is strong support in the legislature right now for the Fire Program specifically and for the department in general.

2013 was a year of better cooperation with federal partners. There was a better understanding of private land resource values. While it was a bad fire season by almost any measure, Doug pointed out that many things went right.

Current issues

- ODF is about to launch a new online notification processing system.
- Water quality is a major focus right now.
- Doug says there has been an increase in conflict between near-urban landowners and forestry operations, especially spraying. Doug notes that this is not a legality issue, but rather an “education gap” issue.
- Forest Practices Act audit results should be out this spring.

State Forests

This is a time of change and challenge. The Elliott is affected by a lawsuit challenging the department’s compliance with marbled murrelet survey protocol. As a result of the suit filing, the murrelet protection policy has been changed; this has significantly decreased the acres available for harvest. The much smaller timber sale program resulted in layoffs of seven employees. ODF is doing a literature review on the Pacific Seabird Protocol, which the lawsuit plaintiff alleges should be used by ODF, even though it is not part of the statutory ESA protocol. However, after a ruling on the protocol by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, that protocol has become “best science”.

The State Land Board (SLB) is grappling with how to meet obligations to the Common School Fund (CSF) and also meet ESA requirements. One solution is to put three Elliott parcels up for sale. Doug explained how the SLB is tightly focused on creating revenue back to the CSF.

Northwest Oregon

ODF has cut funding in recent years for research and insects and disease to the extent that the State Forests Program is no longer adequately funded. They estimate ten years of operations under the current structure-based management plan process, and then NW Oregon starts to bump up against the same T&E issues that are plaguing the Elliott. The Program gives two-thirds of its proceeds to the counties and one-third stays with the program to self-fund it.

Analysis shows that State Forests leaves 30% of the resource value in the woods if compared to harvest allowed under the Forest Practices Act. All of this has led to a committee taking a hard look at the program to see if a different business model or a different resource management strategy would benefit. ODF annually harvests 180 MMBF off the Northwest Oregon Area and a total of 220 MMBF statewide.

In response to questions, Doug noted that the Gilchrist SF is doing fuels management work and is also providing 1 MMBF per year of volume to the Interfor Pacific sawmill in Gilchrist. He also talked about Oregon’s unusual funding by the legislature of almost \$3 million for collaboratives to help guide federal lands policy—an effort in which the governor is very involved.

Emerald SAF Executive Committee News

Information from the October meeting of the Executive Committee.

- 1) The Emerald Chapter will co-host the 2015 SAF State meeting. Formal leadership committee for this event is being planned. An event such as a state meeting takes many volunteers. Your help will surely be needed. Program considerations currently: a joint meeting with the Wildlife Society (TWS) in the first or second quarter of 2015, potential registration of 400 + attendees from SAF and TWS.
 - 2) Program planning for membership meetings for the spring of 2014 is underway. If you have a suggestion for an interesting topic or tour please speak up.
 - 3) Emerald SAF is looking for a Chair-Elect for 2014. Dale will be contacting current members.
- Next Exec Meeting: December 2013 immediately preceding membership meeting. See notes in above.

ForestEd - SAF's Online Forestry Information Repository...now in Beta

<http://forested.org/>

SAF is pleased to announce that its forestry information and learning portal is now online and ready for beta testing. The website, called ForestEd, will aggregate online forestry content in a single repository to provide the most streamlined possible learning and social experience. Content is broken down into topics, where relevant content from a range of media types and sources including news articles, SAF publications, policy, and SAF's national convention are all in one easy to navigate location. Eventual goals for the site include incorporation of a continuing education calendar and quizzes, encouraging user-driven content by teaching SAF members how to create and manage their own topics, adding content from other educational groups/organizations such as webinars, other publications, course materials, and more. The site is currently open to members, and we are eager for your feedback. If you have questions or comments, please e-mail starrsc@safnet.org (the above item is from a recent Oregon SAF Facebook posting--just one more effort to connect with all of our members!)

2014 OSAF ANNUAL MEETING

The 2014 annual meeting will be hosted by the Umpqua Chapter from April 30th through May 2nd at the Seven Feathers Resort and Casino in Canyonville, Oregon.

Quotable Quotes

“Do you want to know who you are? Don’t ask. Act! Action will delineate and define you.” Thomas Jefferson



200 year old Live oaks line the drive to the Boone Hill Plantation near Charleston SC.
Photo Courtesy of Dale Claassen

Editor – Ted Reiss

Chair – Dale Claassen