

# Forest Forum

Washington County Small  
Woodlands Association

February, 2009

## ***“Recession-Proof” Native Plant Sale Coming Up***

With Oregon and the nation focusing on the poor economy, job cutbacks, and budget problems – perhaps you need something to “brighten up “your day and your environment!

The Washington County Small Woodlands Association has scheduled its eighth annual **Native Plant Sale for Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup> from 9AM to 3PM.** The location will be Bales Thriftway Store at 17675 SW Farmington Rd., Aloha. The sale is in response to the community’s overwhelming demand for native plants. Besides their beauty, native plants require less water and fertilizer, and attract wildlife. They are a perfect fit for those interested in both cost saving and “green” landscaping.

**\*NEW FEATURE THIS YEAR:** Pre-order online at [wcswa.org](http://wcswa.org).

All plants are certified, quality nursery stock. With almost 2,000 plants, this is the largest  
*See “Native Plant Sale”, page 7*

## **Attorney General Speaker at February 24<sup>th</sup> WCSWA Meeting**

The February monthly meeting of WCSWA will feature the **Oregon Attorney General, John Kroger**, as speaker. Kroger, who has been critical of the LNG (liquefied natural gas) pipelines being proposed for northwest Oregon, will discuss the concerns and actions of the Attorney General’s office concerning the proposed Columbia River Bradwood Landing terminal and the pipelines to transport LNG. The Farm Bureau is co-sponsoring Kroger’s appearance.

*The meeting will be held at the OSU Extension Service conference rooms, located in the Capital Center at the intersection of 185<sup>th</sup> and Walker road, Beaverton. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m.*

John Kroger is a former Marine, and obtained his law degree from Harvard University. He has served as a federal prosecutor in New York State, and as a law professor at Lewis and Clark University in Portland. He was elected to the position of Oregon Attorney General in 2008, achieving 72% of the vote.

Kroger has always had a strong interest in prosecuting environmental pollution, so it was not unexpected when one of his first actions as Attorney General was to establish a team within the AG office dealing solely with that issue. He also hired Brent Foster, formerly executive director of Columbia Riverkeepers, to oversee environmental crime enforcement. Foster has been a strident and vocal LNG terminal opponent.

In his campaign last fall, Kroger stressed his opposition to the way that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) handled the Bradwood Landing Terminal application. If Oregon decides to sue FERC, as threatened by the Governor, Kroger will be heavily involved.

### **IN THIS ISSUE**

<b>Page 2</b>	<b>President’s Notes</b>
<b>Page 6</b>	<b>Tree Talk</b>
<b>Page 8</b>	<b>Lumber Grading</b>
<b>Page 10</b>	<b>Scholarships Open</b>
<b>Page 11</b>	<b>Real Lumber Prices</b>
<b>Page 12</b>	<b>Potpourri</b>

## Notes from the President

by Dallas Boge

2008 certainly went out with a BANG! It is amazing how much damage 30+ inches of snow can do when the affected vegetation is not used to dealing with such loading. Although we haven't been all over our tree farm, hunters who have tell us that damage is minimal, just some broken limbs. That seems to me to be a blessing, saves pruning. Some of our alders didn't fare so well, a lot of tops broken out of the big trees. These trees would never make the grade for saw logs, so it looks like more firewood. It will be interesting to see the broken tops to see if there is decay in them. Mature alder seems to be prone to this problem.

Local buildings mostly fared well, although several sustained considerable damage. A neighbor's large and almost new hay barn lost much of its roof on both sides, the damage pattern quite interesting. The roof has three rows of roofing up the building, all the damage is in the center section. Could be a design flaw in the trusses holding it up. Other older and not so well designed buildings collapsed completely.

We elected not to purchase any replacement seedlings this year for Christmas tree harvest. Planning has been under way for several years to widen the rows between trees to 10 feet by taking out every other row. This will make necessary ground based work in the trees much easier than now with 5 foot row spacing. It is hard to get a tractor between mature trees when the rows are that close together. It caused a lot of limb damage. With just seven acres in Christmas trees, it is too much for two old people to hand spray and not enough for aerial applications, so a tractor is the only practical answer. The inclement weather has caused a postponement of any transplanting we had hoped to accomplish before my busy tax season which starts the first of February.

If you haven't already, get your requests in for Tree School in March. Classes always fill up quickly. There are many new classes this year, something for every taste.

The legislature is back in session. It is important to keep track of what they are doing. The Government Affairs Committee meets about every two weeks during the session, and all are welcome to attend. You can attend from home via the telephone. See the OSWA website for details.

WCSWA has signed on with Columbia Riverkeepers as an intervener in the Palomar LNG pipeline project. This will allow us to offer comments on the process as it proceeds. The recent change of administrations in Washington DC may make the fight to defeat the projects easier, time will tell.

That's all for now.

*Dallas*

***Family Forest Certification: Program and Activity Updates***, by Kathryn Fernholtz, Dr. Jim Bowyer, and Dr. Steve Bratkovich of the Dovetail Partners, Inc. November, 2008. This report presents a good summary of the status of both American Tree Farm (ATFS) and Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification efforts in the United States. This is a good reference to help those interested in understanding the progress and potential; for certification. On-line at:

<http://www.dovetailinc.org/reports/pdf/DovetailATFSFSC1108iz.pdf>

## WCSWA Leadership

**President – Dallas Boge; 503-357-7688**

**Vice-President – Jim Brown; 503-284-6455**

**Secretary-Treasurer – Bob Shumaker; 503-324-7825**

Board of Directors:

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Art Dummer; 503-357-4258

Tom Nygren, 503-628-5472

Neil Schroeder; 503-628-2344

Bonnie Shumaker – 503-324-7825

Bill Triest – 503-646-5220

**Legislative Committee Chair:**

Ron Larson; 503-775-3223

### WCSWA Website

[www.wcswa.org](http://www.wcswa.org)

**Website Manager: Kathy Scott**

Contact Tom Nygren for web postings and information.

### Forest Forum Newsletter

**Editor: Tom Nygren**

503-628-5472

e-mail: [tnygren@juno.com](mailto:tnygren@juno.com)

### The Tree Farm Tradin' Post

*A free service to our members: List tree farm items/land to buy, sell, or trade. Contact Tom Nygren, 503-628-5472. Got a tool or piece of equipment you don't need any more? Or maybe you are looking for tools, equipment, property, or materials? You can place a free advertisement in Forest Forum. Another way for tree farmers to help each other! (3 month limit)*

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## Event Calendar

- February**
- 19-21 Oregon Logging Conference** – Eugene. Call 541-686-9191, or go to [www.oregonloggingconference.com](http://www.oregonloggingconference.com)
  - 24 WCSWA Monthly Meeting** - 7:00 p.m. OSU Extension office. Capital Center, at Walker Road and 185<sup>th</sup> in Beaverton. **AG John Kroger, speaker.**
- March**
- 14 Native Plant Sale** - Bales Thriftway Parking Lot. 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
  - 21 Tree School** – Clackamas Community College, Oregon City. For information and application, contact Cheryl at 503-655-8631. (note: this school fills up quickly, so act immediately!)
  - 24 WCSWA Monthly Meeting** - 7:00 p.m. OSU Extension office. Capital Center, at Walker Road and 185<sup>th</sup> in Beaverton. Program: David Ford (OSWA) and Mike Gaudern (The Woodland Carbon Company)
- April**
- 28 WCSWA Monthly Meeting** - 7:00 p.m. OSU Extension office. Capital Center, at Walker Road and 185<sup>th</sup> in Beaverton. Program: Arborist Loren Radford
- May**
- 26 WCSWA Monthly Meeting** - Program: Potluck at Stub Stewart State Park

***ODF Launching Oregon Roundtable on Sustainable Forest Management***

The Oregon Roundtable on Sustainable Forest Management will be a forum for multiple stakeholders to advance understanding, assessment, and reporting of forest sustainability. The Roundtable creates the opportunity to promote forest resource management in a manner that integrates environmental, economic, and social considerations, using the goals and objectives of the *Forestry Program for Oregon* and the Oregon Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management as common state frameworks.

The first meeting of the Roundtable is scheduled for **Thursday, March 6, from 9 to 12 p.m.** in the Tillamook Conference Room at Oregon Department of Forestry headquarters in Salem.

***More information on this meeting is found on page 9 of this newsletter.*** If you are interested in attending the meeting, contact David Morman, ODF, at [dmorman@odf.state.or.us](mailto:dmorman@odf.state.or.us) or at 503-945-7413

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## Ballot Results Are In!

In spite of a delay in getting ballots out to members, the election is now in the record. Thirteen ballots were returned to the Treasurer, with the following results:

- Director: Art Dummer - 12  
Bill Triest -13
- President Dallas Boge -13
- Vice-President Jim Brown - 12
- Secretary-Treasurer Bob Shumaker -13

*Congratulations, Art, Bill, Dallas, Jim, and Bob!*

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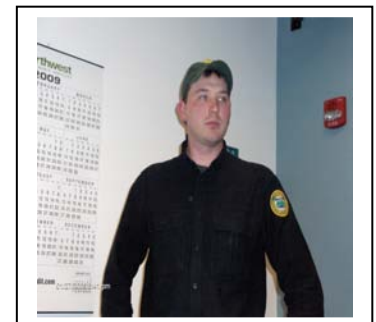
## Stewardship Foresters Update WCSWA Members

The January WCSWA monthly meeting featured a presentation and discussion of the Forest Practices Act notification process and requirements. Notification, often erroneously called “permit” for most forestry activities, is a relatively simple process that can be performed using forms provided by the Oregon Department of Forestry. Forestry activities involving potential fire hazards, usually heavy machinery, however, do require a permit. Forms are available at District offices on on-line at the ODF website.

Eric Perkins and Tom Kennedy, ODF Stewardship Foresters from the Forest Grove District office, led the audience through various forestry activity scenarios, and provided forms for the audience. Eric can be reached at 503-359-7437, and Tom Kennedy at 503-359-7487. Eric’s area of responsibility lies roughly north and west of Forest Grove, and Tom’s area is west and south of Forest Grove – Hillsboro. Call the District office to find out which Stewardship Forester is responsible for your woodland, there are several other areas/Foresters also.



<<< *Eric Perkins*  
*Tom Kennedy* >>>



# Tree Talk

by Bonnie Shumaker

This is the winter where if you look out the window and it isn't snowing and the weather is not too cold, you better get outside and do whatever it is you were planning to do when the mood and the circumstances came together. The circumstances definitely have the upper hand so far this winter. Bob and I have a pruning patch we planned to get done before the seedlings arrived and planting takes priority. I think we may be scaling back the size of that patch because even though we have gone out and given it our best (two hours at a time) when the weather cooperated, we're about half done, it is snowing right now and the seedlings are coming in a week. I suppose we could go out in the snow, but that's one of the glories of tree farming: some projects can wait, even for another year.

The other tree farm work that Bob has been tackling is cleaning up the broken tops from the December storm. Why does it seem to always be the best trees in a stand that break? I guess they're proving that best is a relative term. A tree has to be more than tall and have good dbh (diameter breast height), it must also be strong to the core and perhaps be able to dodge wind and too much ice build-up. We do have a head start on next year's firewood, however. In making a decision on the standing trees that are left with broken tops, we may take Dale Thornton's advice and if they have green left on them, keep them standing until the market improves and at least get one log out of them. Firewood will be the fate of ones that don't make that cut.

Two other activities will be heating up in February, even though the weather may not. One is the pick up and delivery of seedlings from Lewis River. I know Bob has contacted all of you who ordered seedlings about this. The other is gearing up for our eighth annual WCSWA Native Tree and Plant Sale. It is hard to believe it has been eight years. I think I have been head honcho for four of those years. The willing help of WCSWA members makes this busy time also a fun time. If you have helped in the past, be assured you will be contacted to have another chance for fun. If you haven't been a part of the plant sale before, it is a great way to further a positive image of tree farmers with our urban neighbors while enjoying the camaraderie of fellow tree farmers. To volunteer, please contact me at (503)324-7825. Look for the "Plant Sale" article elsewhere in this "Forest Forum" for more information.

In case you haven't read Ken Faulk's message in OSWA'S current "The Woodlander Update", I recommend it to you. He reminds us of the investment value of timberland, especially in the long term, but with current markets and the economy as depressed and depressing as they are, he has the perfect recipe for feeling better. He suggests taking a walk in the woods and listening to your trees and investment grow. I would add that the beauty of the woods is good for the soul, too, even and perhaps especially in the snow!

## *Got Some "Monkey Trees"?*

Mike Heath of Stimson Lumber Company has alerted the Forum to a need for "monkey trees". The Oregon Zoo is refurbishing their primate center, and needs some trees to provide the aerial entertainment for the primates. The Zoo is looking for 15 trees. The species that are suitable are big-leaf maple, alder, Oregon ash, or Oregon white oak. The trees should be 12" to 16" diameter at the base.

If you have trees that meet these requirements, and are willing to provide them for the primate center, please contact Mike Heath ([mheath@stimson.com](mailto:mheath@stimson.com), 503-359-3411, or cell 503-816-0635).

Removal of the trees, and any possible remuneration, is not defined at this point. However, if you have the trees and would like to be part of a public service, follow up and see what develops.

## ***Native Plant Sale, continued from page 1***

one-day sale of its kind in Oregon. Many species are becoming rare in our Oregon forests and non-existent in developed areas. This year's sale offers sixteen new varieties. Master Woodland Managers, "Naturescaping" experts and Master Gardeners will be available to answer questions about selection, suitability, planting and care. All profits from the sale fund scholarships and community education.

This is the eighth year that WCSWA's Native Tree and Plant Sale offers an opportunity for urban gardeners to get to know and appreciate tree farmers through a shared love of plants. Proceeds from the sale make it possible to offer two \$1,000 scholarships to students sponsored by WCSWA members. Native plants are favorable for environmental and cost saving reasons, so we are billing this year's Plant Sale as "recession-proof". Come to the sale yourself and share the information with friends to help make the sale a success. This year we offer the opportunity to pre-order online at [wcswa.org](http://wcswa.org). If you would like to help with the sale, call Bonnie Shumaker (503)324-7825.

### ***A Note From Nicole.....***

### ***"Forestry Scams"***

I have been talking to a journalist with Oregon Public Radio about family forestland owners, forestry extension, and about the risk some landowners face when they are approached by people with poor intentions, or sent letters trying to get you to have them log your forest to "help" you.

Have any of you been approached in this way? Do you know anyone who has? Have you helped someone from becoming a victim to a forestry scam? Are you willing to speak to a reporter?

If so, please contact me via email or phone (listed below) and I will get you in touch with the reporter.

Nicole A. Strong  
OSU College of Forestry  
Forestry Instructor  
(541) 829-1270

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## Special Milling: Getting Past the Grading Problem

With the collapse of commodity log markets, many small woodland owners are wondering if they can use portable mills – theirs or those of small contractors – to produce lumber and specialty wood products for a value-added price. By milling their own logs and marketing to small retail outlets, building contractors, and others with a need for construction and other types of lumber, beams, other wood products, these woodland owners hope to achieve a better return on their wood.

However, lumber grading requirements can pose a roadblock. Local building standards may require that all or some of such products be graded by a certified grader. Some owners have contracted with grading consultants to perform this service. Others are put off by the cost, coordination, and other impediments to using a consultant.

The State of Wisconsin Legislature recently passed a law providing a mechanism for some locally produced dimension lumber (that has not been grade-stamped by a lumber grading bureau, to be used in the construction of a dwelling. The producer must sell directly to the person who will inhabit the building or that person's agent, the lumber must meet all applicable codes, and the person milling the lumber must provide a certificate regarding the lumber, and must have been certified through a training course provided by the state.

A publication "Wisconsin Local-Use Dimension Lumber Grading" has been developed, and will be available on the University of Wisconsin Extension website in the near future.



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## Mountain Beaver: Life history and control

February 14, 2009, 10:00am-Noon  
Hopkins Demonstration Forest,  
16750 S Brockway Rd, Oregon City 97045

One of the most challenging pests on forest lands especially in reforestation areas, is the mountain beaver. No, this isn't "Benny the Beaver" or the great dam builders who insert their structures in local streams and flood the surrounding land. Instead, the mountain beaver is a nocturnal mammal that burrows in the ground and comes out frequently to eat newly planted tree seedlings

The clinic will discuss the life history and biology of the mountain beaver helping landowners better understand their control options. Trapping will be demonstrated. Animal damage seedling protectors, will be described and their installation demonstrated.

Mike Bondi, OSU Extension agent for forestry and Christmas trees, is the instructor for this class. Contact the OSU Extension office (503-655-8631) for more information or if you need directions to Hopkins Demonstration Forest.



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### *Did You Know?*

**80% of Canadian wood comes to the U.S.?  
Wood production is 22% of the Canadian economy?**

### *"The Silent Invasion"* *An OPB Special On-line*

Oregon Public Broadcasting presented a television special last year on the nature and impact of invasive species in Oregon. The program was widely acclaimed, winning national awards. If you missed this special, you can now see it on-line – website below. Many of us do not realize the extent or impact these foreign visitors are having on our environment – check out the program and find out!  
<http://www.opb.org/programs/invasives/videos.php?page=full>

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## Roundtable for Sustainable Forest Management

(additional information from article on page 4)

The Roundtable meeting on March 6<sup>th</sup> will be a place to share information, to evaluate and discuss environmental, economic, and social conditions and trends, to build common ground, and to help shape a common understanding and vision for the future.

The objectives for this facilitated three-hour meeting will be to:

- To provide background information and summarize the Board of Forestry's intent for establishing the Oregon Roundtable on Sustainable Forest Management
- Learn more about each other and the perspectives we bring to the table regarding sustainable forestry
- Share ideas about how the Oregon Roundtable on Sustainable Forest Management might function
- Reach agreement on next steps, including possible formation of a core group of folks committed to drafting a proposed Roundtable charter and a short-term work plan

# STIMSON'S MANAGED FOREST PROGRAM

A landowner assistance program practicing sustainable forestry...

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- Tree Planting
- The Oregon Forest Practices Act
- How to implement sustainable forestry into your plan
- Thinning Systems
- The Coastal Salmon Restoration Initiative

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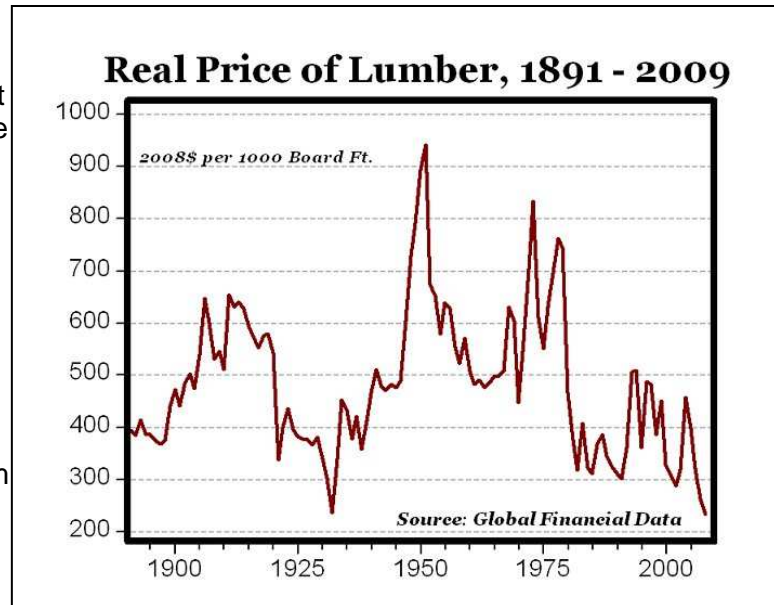
This will be the third year that WCSWA has designated the Plant Sale proceeds to be used to award two scholarships. The scholarship forms are now available. Here are the details:

- Two \$1,000 scholarships will be issued
- A current member of WCSWA must recommend/sponsor an applicant (it need not be a relative)
- The scholarships will be available to graduating high school seniors and college students through their senior year and are not specific to the student's county of residence, field of study, college, university, or trade school
- Full time enrollment will be required for release of funds to the educational institution
- The scholarship application form will require personal and educational information plus two letters of recommendation, but no financial data
- The applicant must submit a 500 word essay explaining his or her distinguishing qualities, educational and life goals and experiences with their family's forest activities or those of their WCSWA sponsor
- Deadline for applications is April 6, 2009
- Winners will be notified as soon as possible and then introduced to our membership at the July Tree Farmer of the Year Picnic or at the annual November Award Banquet.
- Applications will be available at WCSWA monthly meetings or by calling or emailing Bonnie Shumaker at (503)324-7825 or [bshumaker@coho.net](mailto:bshumaker@coho.net)

## Why Your Logs Are Worth Less

The price of logs is at a long-time low, comparable to the early 1980's in recent memory. The economy takes a lot of the blame, and rightly so, but there are a lot of factors that affect lumber prices:

- Substitution of other materials for wood, i.e. steel, plastic
- More efficient utilization of wood, requiring less wood
- Smaller wood use, creating a bigger "wood basket", therefore less competition
- Social trends – moving away from wood as a commodity



## EPA Considers Restriction on Sulfometron Methyl (SM)

Many small woodland owners have used Oust to control grasses and broadleaf weeds for site preparation and vegetative control. SM is the active ingredient in Oust, as well as some other herbicides. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has released its Re-registration Eligibility Decision (RED) for SM (November, 2008). The RED notes the low potential for SM toxicity to wildlife and fish, but specifies new risk mitigation measures to protect non-target plants. These measures include:

- Aerial applications more than 10 feet above canopy are prohibited
- Aerial applications prohibited within 500 feet of surface water, irrigation sources, and crops
- Ground applications prohibited within 100 feet of surface water, irrigation sources, and crops

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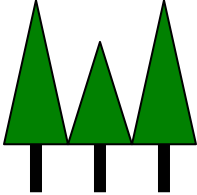
The above referenced EPA action is not a final decision. Comments are being taken at this time. NCASI (National Council for Air and Stream Improvement, Inc.) has submitted the following points:

- State BMPs minimize risk
- Data show minimum introduction of SM in streams
- Proposed mitigation measures decrease productivity and are an economic hardship
- Restrictions on aerial application will force use of other vegetation control practices with greater risks, and may prevent achievement of state reforestation requirements

] Washington County Small Woodlands Association  
Newsletter Editor  
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## **Forest Forum**



COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE  
OREGON SMALL WOODLANDS  
ASSOCIATION

### **Potpourri**

#### ***Welcome to New Members!***

***Zach & Rhonda King of Forest Grove, and Sean and Shari Hathaway of Portland*** have joined OSWA and WCSWA. We are here to help you achieve your management goals for your woodland. To get the most out of your membership, come to the meetings and tours that are scheduled throughout the year. You'll find many kindred spirits among our diverse membership – and many opportunities to learn and share together! If you have any questions, or need help, contact any of the Directors, Officers, or Newsletter Editor (listed on page 3).

#### ***Got Your Records In Order? – Tax Time Is Coming!***

2008 Tax Tips for forest landowners

<http://www.timbertax.org/publications/FS/taxtips/TaxTips08.pdf>

This bulletin summarizes key federal income tax provisions for forestland owners, foresters, loggers, forest product businesses, and tax practitioners

#### ***Thanks To The Rankins – Again!***

For the past several years, Lon and Laura Rankin of Lebanon have provided Forest Forum with a monetary gift in support of the newsletter. Once again we thank the Rankins – your recognition is much appreciated!