

Volume 2 Issue 1

February 2005

Coos & Curry Woodland Update



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HAPPY BELATED NEW YEAR!

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What a great response! This newsletter has sparked some wonderful interest by many folks in the Forestry/Natural Resource community. I hope this newsletter finds you in good health and your forestland endeavors moving along smoothly.

In January we held a Forest Roads Workshop. Steve Bowers, Elissa Wells, and Nicole Strong (All OSU Extension Foresters) came to Coos County OSU Extension Service to provide a great program. The Coquille Watershed also assisted in providing this project. We started out in the classroom (learning the basics), and then headed into the field for an outdoor learning exercise. Local forest landowner, John Isenhardt, allowed educators and forest landowners the opportunity to tour a road that had some ditch relief/culvert replacement work done. The tools provided at this workshop will allow forest landowners in attendance the opportunity to assess the status of their own roads and determine the priority for possible placement/replacement of culverts.

This month we will be having an insect and disease workshop. For more information on this workshop turn to page (5). One final note, the name of this newsletter has changed for the inclusion of Curry County. I will be collaborating with OSWA for information on upcoming tours & events.

Best Regards,

Jonathan Martz

Forestry Educator & 4-H Youth



OSU ECONOMIST REVIEWS COMPENSATION UNDER MEASURE 37

Since the passage of Measure 37 in November, government officials have been grappling with its implementation in cities and counties throughout the state. The ballot measure enables landowners to seek compensation when their property values are reduced by land-use regulations.

But how should that compensation be calculated?

"The text of the measure says that compensation should equal the reduction in the fair market value of the property," said Andrew Plantinga, an economist at Oregon State University. "This sounds simple enough. It isn't."

Plantinga is a professor in OSU's Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics and a researcher with Oregon's Agricultural Experiment Station. He has just completed a study examining ways to calculate compensation for landowners affected by Oregon's historic land-use laws.

The measure requires that city, county and state governments either compensate landowners if land-use regulations lowered their property values, or waive the regulations. Gov. Ted Kulongoski has said he prefers to pay compensation rather than waive regulations.

But Measure 37 does not precisely define how compensation will be calculated, leaving government officials with many possible ways to interpret the measure, according to Plantinga.

Under the measure, landowners can claim compensation for the reduction in fair market

value, which equals the difference between the property's value with and without the land-use regulation.

"We know the value with the regulation in place, because that's the current market value," Plantinga said. "But the value without regulation is hypothetical."

Estimating such hypothetical values poses many challenges, according to Plantinga.

First, a "fair market value" is obtained in a competitive market with many sellers.

An exclusive market with a single seller is not competitive, it's monopolistic, according to Plantinga.

"Suppose we were to calculate the fair-market value for a parcel of land assuming it has no development restrictions," Plantinga said. "Do we assume restrictions still apply to all other parcels?" This treats one landowner like a monopolist with exclusive development rights and allows that landowner to receive higher compensation because the restriction is still imposed on others.

"We should, instead, treat the landowner like a participant in a competitive market," Plantinga said. "In this case, we would calculate the value of the parcel assuming the land-use regulations do not apply anywhere."

In the hypothetical world

without regulations, that single parcel would be one of many that could be developed, according to Plantinga. Competition would drive down its value for development, and only unique advantages such as location would increase its value compared to many others on the market.

"But developing compensation schedules for such hypothetical markets would be a challenging and time-consuming undertaking," he added.

As an alternative, Plantinga notes that the original purchase price, adjusted to current dollar value, indicates the actual competitive market value of the parcel of land before the regulation went into effect.

Because Measure 37 provides compensation only to individuals who acquired their property before the land-use laws were enacted, the price they paid reflects a competitive market without regulations. The difference between the original price and the current market value with the regulation in place equals the reduction in fair market value. The consumer price index can be used to convert the dollar price paid to current dollar value.

The advantage of this approach is that it relies on observable, rather than hypothetical, values. However,

Plantinga points out that in some cases the original purchase price of the land would need to be separated from other assets, such as farm equipment, that may have been included in the original transaction.

In whatever way compensation will be eventually calculated under Measure 37, Plantinga points out that this process is fundamentally different from a taking, where compensation equals the full current fair-market value of the land.

"In a taking, the land is no longer owned by the landowner," Plantinga said.

"Under Measure 37, landowners still own their land and have full entitlement to earn income from all permitted uses," he said.

The study, "Measuring Compensation under Measure 37: An Economist's Perspective" by Andrew J. Plantinga, can be viewed in its entirety at <http://arec.oregonstate.edu/faculty2/plantinga.htm>

"The measure requires that city, county and state governments either compensate landowners if land-use regulations lowered their property values, or waive the regulations."



TAX TIPS FOR FOREST LANDOWNERS FOR THE 2004 TAX YEAR



The white insert included within this newsletter is information to keep in mind when you prepare your Federal income tax return for the 2004 tax year. This discussion is necessarily brief, and you should consult other sources for a more comprehensive treatment of the issues. This information is current as of December 14, 2004, and supersedes Management Bulletin R8-MB 111.

FOREST HARVEST PRODUCTS TAX CHANGE

The Forest Products Harvest Tax rate is revised from \$2.95 per MBF to \$2.85 per MBF for calendar year 2005 harvests. The Oregon Forest Resource Institute rate changed from \$.99 to \$.89.

History on the Forest Products Harvest Tax: Shortly after World War II, Oregon's leadership recognized a need to invest money in the research of forest products and forest practices. Since the purpose was to promote the forest industry, it seemed appropriate that those who benefit directly from it should pay the money raised to support this research.

As a result, beginning in 1947, a "privilege" tax called the Forest Products Harvest Tax (FPHT) was assessed on the owners of timber when it was cut (harvested) from private and public lands. Back then, the FPHT was 5 cents for each one thousand board feet (MBF) harvested and supported the forest research laboratory at Oregon State University.

The FPHT has been expanded to help support the Oregon Department of Forestry to provide emergency fire fighting funds for lands protected by the state of Oregon and administer the Forest Practices Act on private land. It also provides funds for operations of the Oregon Forest Resources Institute. FPHT returns are filed once a year with the Oregon Department of Revenue. The first 25 thousand board feet (MBF) harvested per timber owner each calendar year are exempt from the tax.

The FPHT returns and payments are due January 31, 2005, for harvested timber that is measured between January 1 and December 31 of the prior calendar year. All timber harvested in Oregon is subject to the Forest Products Harvest Tax.

The FPHT rate can change annually due to balances in the emergency fire fighting fund and needs of other programs. The rate (\$2.95 per MBF in 2004) is reviewed each legislative session.

Note: Logs and chips must be reported in MBF. Products not measured in board feet must be reported in thousands of board feet (MBF). You may use your conversion factors, but you must keep records to support them in case of an audit by the Department of Revenue. You may also use the Department of Revenue's conversion table on the back of the return.

For more information check out the web at <http://www.oregon.gov/DOR/TIMBER/index.shtml>



STF OPTIONS DUE APRIL 1, 2005

Landowners have until Apr. 1, 2005, to apply for the STF Option. **Remember, all applications go to the county assessor in which the subject property is located.**

Oregon's 2003 Legislature passed two laws (HB2197 and HB2188) bringing significant change to Oregon forestland taxation. Two forestland property tax programs have resulted:

1. Forestland Program - for all owners with two or more acres of forestland
2. Small Tract Forestland (STF) Option - a special option for owners with 10-4,999 acres of forestland

Starting in 2004, all owners of specially assessed forestland will have been transferred into the Forestland Program. Those with less than 10 or 5,000 and more acres are required by law to remain in the Forestland Program. Owners with 10-4,999 acres who decide that the new STF Option is more advantageous may apply to enroll in it.

OSWA BANQUET A SUCCESS!

A crowd of interested OSWA members showed up for an excellent program at the Coos-Curry Small Woodlands Association Annual meeting held in Coos Bay. This was a neat opportunity for members to listen to the direction OSWA is heading and get a great sense as to what the organization does for small forest landowners. Coos-Curry Small Woodlands Association would like to thank all the members who donated items for door prizes.

Douglas County Weed Day

Feb. 2nd 8 am - 5 pm

**Seven Feathers Convention Center
Canyonville, Oregon 97417**

- Educational Presentations
- Exhibits for weed control equipment & supplies
- Weed Identification
- Pesticide recertification credits available (pending ODA approval)

No pre-registration needed



FOREST BUSINESS PLANNING: MARCH 15, 2005

Make sure and save Tuesday, March 15, 2005 for a Forest Business Planning workshop. The class will be starting at 6:30 on this evening. Registration information will be coming in the mail soon. This should be a great class for participants to learn from an experienced statewide forestry instructor Nicole Strong.

JOIN OREGON SMALL WOODLANDS ASSOCIATION TODAY!

Would you be interested in joining thousands of other small woodland owners to better enhance, manage and protect your woodland investment? Are you interested in learning more about forest management? Do you have management goals and ideas you would like to share with others?

Oregon Small Woodlands Association (OSWA) is a group of forestland owners dedicated to the protection, management and enhancement of Oregon's forest resources.

A non-profit organization founded in 1967, OSWA maintains a professionally staffed office in Salem. With local chapters and thousands of members spread throughout the state, OSWA provides many direct benefits to its members.

Coos & Curry Counties have a local chapter in association with OSWA. Each chapter elects their representative to the board of directors. Membership in a local chapter is part of OSWA membership.

Coos & Curry Chapter of OSWA periodically offers educational programs and forest tours, oftentimes in conjunction with OSU Forestry Extension. These activities are a valuable resource, with neighbors sharing local news, management information and ideas. For membership application contact:

Oregon Small Woodlands Association
1775 32nd place NE, Suite C
Salem, OR 97303

Phone: (503) 588-1813
Fax: (503) 588-1970
Email: oswa@oswa.org
Web: <http://www.oswa.org>



Another option is to phone or write to the Coos County OSU Extension Service and request an Oregon Small Woodlands Association membership application.

Coos County OSU Extension
Ohlsen Baxter Building
631 Alder St.
Myrtle Point, OR 97458

Phone: (Local) 541-572-5263, (Long Distance) 1-800-730-4978
Email: jonathan.martz@oregonstate.edu

WATERSHED STEWARDS CLASSES AVAILABLE

The Master Watershed Steward (MWS) program, a program of Oregon State University (OSU) Extension Service, is underway in Coos County. The MWS program is accredited with the Certified Crop Adviser Program (CCA), the Associated Oregon Loggers' Pro-Logger Program (OPL), the Society of American Foresters (SAF), and the Society for Range Management (SRM).

Schedule of Classes still available

Indoor: 6:30 pm–8:30 / Field: 9 am –4 pm

February 3	Indoor <i>Water Quality</i>
February 17	Indoor <i>Working Together</i>
February 19	Field (morning indoors)
March 3	Indoor <i>Watershed and Stream Processes</i>
March 10	Indoor <i>Riparian Areas</i>
March 12	Field
April 7	Indoor <i>Soils</i>
April 21	Indoor <i>Wetlands</i>
April 28	Field (morning indoors)



Indoor Sessions: Will be held at the South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve (SSNERR) 61907 Seven Devils Road in Charleston.

Outdoor Sessions: Will depart from the SSNERR Visitors center in Charleston.

For Individual sessions: Two indoor sessions and one field day is \$25.00 (also includes a Learning Guide).

For more details please call Jonathan Martz or Paul Heikkila at 572-5263.



INSECT AND DISEASE WORKSHOP FEBURARY 23, 2005

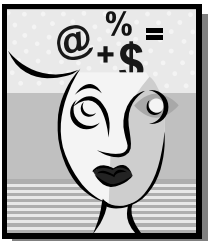
Dave Overhulser and Alan Kanaskie have many years of experience dealing with insects and disease issues. Alan Kanaskie is heavily involved with the latest research and eradication efforts of Sudden Oak Death in Southern Oregon. Alan will talk about diseases that cause potential forest health issues for woodlot owners. Dave Overhulser will share his research/expertise on insects that cause problems for woodlot owners, and give some insight on newly found insects within Coos/Curry Counties.



The workshop will start at 9 AM and run until 3 PM. The workshop will be held at the Oregon Department of Forestry in Coos Bay, OR. This workshop will involve both in class and in the field exercises. **You are strongly advised to wear sturdy boots and bring rain gear!** For additional information on this workshop call Jonathan Martz at 572-5263 today!

The workshop and refreshments are FREE! Lunch is available to purchase at \$5.00 per person. Please **Register by February 14, 2005.**

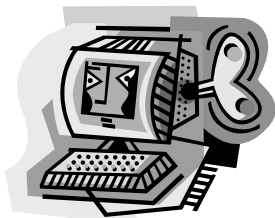
TREE SCHOOL AT CCC ON MARCH 19, 2005



Tree school 2005 is in its 15th year. Tree School in Clackamas County has grown into the largest woodland owner education program in the Pacific Northwest. Tree School will be held at Clackamas Community College. This year Tree School will be offering 58 classes – including 24 brand new, first-time sessions. Classes will cover Business Management, Christmas Trees, Environmental Forestry, Equipment, Harvesting & Marketing, Measurement, Reforestation, Soils, Silviculture, Forest Weed Control, and a variety of general interest classes. There are also more than 50 exhibits set up for participants to view. 48 of the classes offered at Tree School count towards earning AOL credit.

Tree School registration fee is \$40 and includes all classes, lunch and refreshments throughout the day. The deadline to register for this educational opportunity is **February 28th** or when Tree School has 575 participants registered. No walk-ins will be accepted. For more information on registering for this event filled day call Jonathan Martz at 572-5263.

NEED SAF CREDITS OR WANT TO LEARN ONLINE?



Society and Forest Health: Exploring the Links is the theme of this years Starker Lecture series through the college of Forestry. If you want to learn about some hot topics among the forestry community then go online at <http://www.cof.orst.edu/starkerlectures/>. A variety of classes are offered online free.

SAF continuing Education credits available: 1CFE credit, category 1, per lecture (after “passing” a quiz). The previously mentioned web site will guide you to the quiz! Previously aired live videos are still available.

FOREST LANDOWNER QUESTION AND ANSWER?

Submit questions or comments about anything related to forestry/natural resources, and I will make them available in future issues of the Coos & Curry Woodland Update. Your active participation with this newsletter will make it a success. Information can be submitted via email or phone. Please contact Jonathan Martz today at 572-5263 or email at jonathan.martz@oregonstate.edu.

QUESTION: My neighbor gave me some extra tree seedlings after his reforestation efforts. I would like to know how to store the tree seedlings until I can get out to plant them. What should I do?

ANSWER— It is critical to keep your seedlings cool and moist. Keep air flow around the roots down to a minimum amount because too much air flow can dry out the roots. This could possibly kill your trees. It's ideal to store the trees at 33–34 F. Ideally you would store the seedlings in a walk-in cooler, but find the coolest, shadiest and wind free environment you have. If the temperature gets above 40 F then keep roots fairly damp.

QUESTION: I recently purchased a small tract of forestland. There is a bunch of hardwood decked up, and some people have made inquiries into purchasing it for firewood. There is a bunch of Myrtle and Maple in the pile. We have already figured out a price per cord, but I would like to know what the correct unit of measure for firewood is?

ANSWER— The correct unit of measure for firewood is called a Cord. A Cord is 128 cubic feet of compactly stacked wood (in a rectangular form). There are other terms used for the sale of firewood but they are not a verifiable standard. These terms include but are not limited to a rack, pile, or truck load. So what is 128 cubic feet? Two examples of this would be

- 4' High x 4' Wide x 8' Long
- 2' High x 8' Wide x 8' Long

I would advise you give/get a receipt for purchased/sold firewood. It would be wise if it included, the date, price of firewood per cord, number of cords purchased/sold, the species of wood, and the sellers name, address, phone number. This would be good for both parties records and for any possible problems that may arise in the future. For more information on this topic visit the Oregon Department of Agriculture website at <http://oda.state.or.us/msd/programs/fuefacts.html>.

QUESTION: We are having problems with powder post beetles. What are these things and how can we deal with them?

ANSWER— (This following information comes from Ohio State Extension Service, Entomologist, William F. Lyon)

Powderpost beetle is a term used to describe several species of wood-boring insects. Powderpost beetles can be found in dead as well as dried and cured lumber. Damage occurs to many wood products such as rafters, joists, flooring, molding, paneling, crating, furniture, antiques, tool handles, gun stocks, fishing poles and baskets. Sometimes homeowners hear rasping or ticking in the wood at night, notice a blistering appearance on the wood, see powdery frass piled below holes in the wood, find numerous round or oval exit holes at the wood surface, and even collect powderpost beetles around windows or lights. Mistakes are sometimes made determining if the infestation is active or non-active.

For information on control methods and a detailed fact sheet refer to an Ohio State Extension publication at <http://ohioline.osu.edu/hyg-fact/2000/2090.html>

WHY DO TREES STOP GETTING TALLER?

Team tests treetop turgor to get an answer...

Notable notes in forest research at Oregon State University College of Forestry

A special thanks to the Forestry Communication Group for allowing this article to be published in the Coos & Curry Woodland Forestry Update.

Have you ever wondered why trees stop getting taller—even though they live for a long time? Some trees live to be more than a thousand years old, so why don't they stretch hundreds of meters into the sky? That's what Dr. Barbara Bond, Dr. Rick Meinzer, and research assistant Dave Woodruff wanted to find out.

Could the answer have something to do with the way trees transport water? Inside a tree, water travels from the roots to the leaves through a tissue called xylem. The water moves upward because it is pulled towards the leaves, where it evaporates into the air through tiny pores called stomata. The cells inside the leaves and stems are inflated with water, kind of like air in a bike tire. The water generates a pressure called turgor that is needed for

cells to expand and grow.

The scientists hypothesized that perhaps once a tree gets very old, and therefore tall, it becomes difficult for the tree to pull the water all the way to the top, because of the downward pull of gravity. Gravity's pull reduces turgor, and that may be why trees stop growing at a certain height. But how could the scientists check the needles at the top of the tree and test their hypothesis?

The solution to their problem was the Wind River Canopy Crane. The Canopy Crane was once an ordinary construction crane—until it was taken out of the city and moved into the Wind River Experimental Forest in Southwest Washington State. Now, instead of carrying construction materials to the tops of buildings, the 75-meter tall crane carries scientists and foresters to the tops of trees!

"This kind of research," Woodruff says, "was not possible before the crane." Several times a day and in

different seasons, scientists climb into a little gondola and ride up into the canopy of the old-growth forest. It takes about two minutes to go all the way to the top.

To test the hypothesis about gravity and turgor, they take samples from five different trees, at three different levels on each tree. Each sample is a tiny twig, which they put into a little pressurized chamber. Woodruff applies pressure to the twig until it releases the water it has inside, which shows him how much turgor the cells had.

The team is already finding that the older trees have lower turgor near their tops than younger ones do.

Forestry Communications Group, 256 Peavy, Oregon State University, Corvallis OR 97331 • (541) 737-4271, FAX: (541) 737-4077



For additional notable notes go to the web site: <http://www.cof.orst.edu/cof/extended/K-12/notablenotes/>

ANNUAL SEEDLING SALE, FEBRUARY 12

Sponsored by Lane Chapter Oregon Small Woodlands Association, ODF, Lane County OSU Extension Service

The Lane chapter hosts this extremely popular event targeted toward the general public and small woodland owners needing small numbers of seedlings. Information on correct handling, planting and maintenance of seedlings will also be available at

this event for no cost. Event details are listed below.

When: Saturday, February 12, 2005

Time: 8:00 AM to Noon or until supplies run out—which they will!

Where: Under the breezeway at the OSU/Lane County Extension Service, 950 West 13th Avenue, Eugene

Cost: \$.50 to \$1.00 depending on the tree species availability.

This year species selection will include:

- Douglas-fir, Noble fir, Western redcedar, Coast redwood, Grand fir, Red alder, Ponderosa Pine, Giant sequoia, White oak, ...And don't be late!



Jonathan Martz, Forestry Educator
 Coos County OSU Extension Service
 Ohlsen Baxter Building
 631 Alder St.
 Myrtle Point, OR 97458

Non-Profit Rate
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Myrtle Point Oregon
 Permit No. 17

WERE ON THE WEB!

<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/coos/>

MASTER WOODLAND MANAGER PROGRAM AVAILABLE TO COOS & CURRY WOODLOT OWNERS!

Here's a chance to share your passion for forestry with other family forestland owners by becoming a Master Woodland Manager (MWM) volunteer. This course is offered every few years and people from throughout Southwestern Oregon will be coming here to attend it. It is an excellent opportunity to fine-tune forest management skills and gain new insights into woodland management.

If you have participated in the Basic Forestry Short Course and/or the Resource Management Planning Course, or have significant forestry experience, I encourage you to participate in this program.

The MWM course will run concurrently with the Resource Management Planning (RMP) course. MWM trainees will be encouraged to attend RMP course sessions and assist RMP course participants with the plan writing process. Those who have not yet developed a management plan for their property will have the opportunity to do that.

Once the training is complete, MWM's volunteer with our local Extension Forestry programs. Their volunteer duties include assisting with workshops and field tours, writing newsletter articles, and most importantly, helping family forestland owners identify management opportunities & sources of assistance. *For questions please call Jonathan Martz at 572-5263.*

- Fee:** \$75, scholarships are available
- To register:** Call the Douglas County OSU Extension office at 672-4461 **by March 25**
- Instructors:** OSU Campus Faculty/County Agents & local experts

Tentative Course Schedule: (Classes will be held at the Douglas County Extension Service)

- April 4, 8-9pm:** Introduction
- May 5, 8am-5pm:** Ecology, silvics & stand development
- June 2-3, 8am-5pm:** Silvicultural systems, stand density management, forest health, combination of classroom & field activities
- July 7, 8am-5pm:** Reforestation, vegetation management, combination of classroom & field activities
- Aug. 4, 8am-5pm:** Wildlife, fish, watersheds; combination of classroom & field activities
- Sept. 1, 8am-5pm:** Harvesting & marketing, leadership, MWM skills
- Sept. 15, 8am-5pm:** (Combined with RMP) Presenting resource management plans, graduation