

The Blue Mountain Forester



Northeast Oregon Small Woodlands Association
Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 3

Holiday Edition 2021

Happy Holidays from NEOSWA

We wanted to create a special holiday edition of *The Blue Mountain Forester* to say thank you and wish you all a Happy Holidays, and to reflect on what we have accomplished this year and look ahead for what's to come.



2021 – NEOSWA is Born

After a period of inactivity, the former Baker County Private Woodlands Association convened to restart and revitalize the Chapter, to provide a place for learning, engagement, and camaraderie for small woodland owners and those with a passion for forestry and natural resources. After electing a new Board, we began reviewing Bylaws and determining a vision for the Chapter. Following some discussion, and meetings with OSWA State leadership, we decided to structure the Chapter to include Baker, Grant, Union, and Wallowa Counties. Grant had traditionally been apart of the Baker Chapter since their Chapter's dissolution in 2011, but Union and Wallowa Counties hadn't had a formal Chapter. Because we share the Blue Mountains as our home and wanted to provide opportunity for all woodland owners in our region, we decided to include all four Counties and officially establish the Northeast Oregon Small Woodlands Association (NEOSWA).

Building the Chapter

Since then, we have held several member meetings, created a website (neoswa.com), started a quarterly newsletter, and held our first big event – the NEOSWA Neighbor to Neighbor Tour.

The NEOSWA N2N Tour was held on October 30th and was a huge success, with over 50 folks in attendance, including small woodland owners, neighbors, friends, family, professionals, and policy makers. We had beautiful weather, great speakers, and a fantastic lunch. Thank you to everyone who attended, helped plan and coordinate the event, and an even bigger thank you to the Defrees for being such gracious hosts. We also want to thank the Oregon Forest Resources Institute (OFRI), OSWA, and OSU Extension for sponsoring the event.

If you couldn't make it to this tour, don't worry, this will be the first of many!



*Discussing Water Development Projects
Photo: Debi Lorence*



*Enjoying a Great BBQ lunch
Photo: Debi Lorence*

Welcome New Board Members!

We are also excited to announce that we have elected two new board members:

Jack Kleinhoff – A small woodland owner and part-time consultant, Jack has joined as a board member representing Baker County. Jack has extensive forestry knowledge from a career in the forest industry, as a forest consultant, and working on his parent’s tree farm in Pennsylvania.

Paul Harlan – Also a small woodland owner and a retired forester, Paul has joined as a board member representing Wallowa County. Paul also has vast forestry experience, working for Collins Pine for more than 30 years before retiring as VP of Resources in 2019.

Welcome Jack and Paul! We are so glad to have you.

Looking Ahead

Lastly, we want to thank all of you for your support as we build and grow our Chapter, and for your commitment to being good stewards of the land. Through our Chapter we can identify challenges, work to find solutions, learn, explore, build partnerships, and most of all friendship. Looking ahead, plans are currently underway for a tour of the Valerio Tree Farm in Medical Springs on either May 7th or 14th. This tour will feature an overview of the great work the Valerio’s have accomplished, invited speakers, machinery demonstration, and will cover a variety of forestry related topics. We plan to fill 2022 with fun and exciting events like this and hope you will be there to join us.

Wishing you the Happiest Holidays and New Year,

NEOSWA Board

Debi, Maurizio, Randy, Jacob, Jack, & Paul

Don't Forget to Renew!

As a reminder, don't forget to renew your OSWA membership for 2022. If you are currently an OSWA member, you should have received a renewal notice in the mail this month. If you didn't, or would like to join OSWA, there are two ways to apply for membership:



1. Fill out and mail in the Membership Application (attached to this newsletter); or
2. Apply online on the OSWA website: <https://www.oswa.org/blog/memberships/>

As part of the application, you will be asked which Chapter you want to be associated with. The online application may not be updated with the "Northeast Chapter" yet, so select the "Baker/Union Chapter" to join NEOSWA. Once you've joined, we will receive your contact information, and you will begin to receive updates and information from OSWA and NEOSWA (if you don't already).

Funding Programs and Opportunities

As part of a legislative package commonly known as the Farm Bill, there are a number of programs that have funding available for various activities, including conservation and natural resource management. These programs are administered by agencies under the USDA and provide financial and technical assistance to help landowners accomplish their management objectives.

In Northeast Oregon, the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP), Conservation Implementation Strategy (CIS), Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), and the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) are the key programs that can help small woodland owners. These programs are administered by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), with technical assistance provided by the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF).

Each year, or timeframes, priority areas in the region are identified, and landowners within these areas can apply for funding for specific management activities that meet the programs' criteria. This is a great way to get the financial and technical assistance needed to accomplish things like precommercial thinning, fuels reduction, slash treatment, reforestation, water development, and much more.

To determine current and upcoming priority areas, qualification, and how to apply, contact your local NRCS office or Stewardship Forester in your County. If you aren't sure where to start, want to learn more, or need help finding contact information, contact NEOSWA Secretary and OSU Extension Forester Jacob Putney (jacob.putney@oregonstate.edu).



Eastern Oregon Log Market Report (As of: November 15, 2021)

Pendleton									
Species/Sort:	Douglas-fir/Larch	Ponderosa Pine			Grand/White Fir	Lodgepole Pine	E. Spruce	Pulp/Chip (Ton)	
		6-11"	12-18"	19"+					
Price (\$/MBF):	450	250	300	325	380	275	275	35	
La Grande									
Species/Sort:	Douglas-fir/Larch	Ponderosa Pine			Grand/White Fir	Lodgepole Pine	E. Spruce	Pulp/Chip (Ton)	
		6-7"	8"+						
Price (\$/MBF):	300-420	280	330		300-370		340		
Elgin									
Species/Sort:	Douglas-fir/Larch	Ponderosa Pine			Grand/White Fir	Lodgepole Pine	E. Spruce	Pulp/Chip (Ton)	
Price (\$/MBF):	460				350	300	300	26	
Pilot Rock									
Species/Sort:	Douglas-fir/Larch	Ponderosa Pine			Grand/White Fir	Lodgepole Pine	E. Spruce	Pulp/Chip (Ton)	
		12-15"	16"+						
Price (\$/MBF):		400	440						
Burns/John Day									
Species/Sort:	Douglas-fir/Larch	Ponderosa Pine				Grand/White Fir	Lodgepole Pine	E. Spruce	Pulp/Chip (Ton)
		6-7"	8-11"	12-17"	18"+				
Price (\$/MBF):	380	120	275	305	390	120-285		21	
Redmond/Bend/Gilchrist									
Species/Sort:	Douglas-fir/Larch	Ponderosa Pine			Grand/White Fir	Lodgepole Pine	E. Spruce	Pulp/Chip (Ton)	
		6-16"	17"+	SM					
Price (\$/MBF):		370	410	450					
Lakeview/Klamath Falls									
Species/Sort:	Douglas-fir/Larch	Ponderosa Pine			Grand/White Fir	Lodgepole Pine	E. Spruce	Pulp/Chip (Ton)	
		6-11"	12-16"	17"+	8"+	8"+			
Price (\$/MBF):		285	300	350	350	300			

Data Courtesy of John Lindberg (Oregon Log Market Report)

Event Calendar

Date & Time	Event	Details & Location
Jan. 6 6:00 pm	NEOSWA Board & Member Meeting	Small Meeting Room, Baker Co. Fairgrounds (in-person or virtual) Agenda: 2022 meeting and event planning
Mar. 3 6:00 pm	NEOSWA Board & Member Meeting	Small Meeting Room, Baker Co. Fairgrounds (in-person or virtual) Agenda: TBA
May 5 6:00 pm	NEOSWA Board & Member Meeting	Small Meeting Room, Baker Co. Fairgrounds (in-person or virtual) Agenda: TBA
May 7 OR May 14 All Day	NEOSWA Annual Meeting and Tour	Valerio Tree Farm, Medical Springs, OR Plans are currently underway for a tree farm tour at the Valerio's on either May 7 th or May 14 th , including a tour, invited speakers, and machinery demonstration, covering a variety of topics. Stay tuned for more details and let us know if you are interested in being involved with planning.
Spring	Tree School East OSU Extension	OSU Extension is currently planning a Spring Programming series, similar to Tree School East. Details and format are still being determined but stay tuned for more details.

Notes from the Board

From: November 4th Board Meeting

Business Items

- Treasurers Report
 - \$10,685.88
 - Just deposited Chapter dues
 - ~\$2000 in Sid Johnson Memorial Fund
 - Brainstorm activities to use these funds in Sid's memory
- NEOSWA Messaging
 - Want to engage everyone interested in forestry & natural resources
 - Meeting/events open to public
 - Encourage everyone to attend, landowner or not
- Develop Fact & Resources Sheet for Landowners
 - Funding sources/programs; Definitions; Eligibility; Contacts
 - Jacob to explore and develop
- NEOSWA Board
 - Motion to elect Paul Harlan to Board as Wallowa Representative
 - Seconded; No Discussion; Approved unanimously
 - (Post meeting) Motion to elect Jack Kleinhoff to Board
 - Seconded; Discussed via email; Approved unanimously via email
 - Welcome Paul and Jack!
- Future Activities/Events
 - Wood products tour (Union/Wallowa); Partner with Wallowa Resources
 - Tour of Valerio's

Next NEOSWA Meeting:

- Thursday, January 6th at 6:00 PM (in-person or virtual)
- Small Meeting Room, Baker County Fairgrounds/Extension Office
 - 2600 East St., Baker City, OR 97814

NEOSWA Leadership

Debi Lorence

President

debilorence@gmail.com



Maurizio Valerio

Vice-President

maurizio.valerio@gmail.com



Randy Guyer

Treasurer

randy@guyercpa.net



Jacob Putney

Secretary

jacob.putney@oregonstate.edu



Paul Harlan

Board Member

paulmharlan@gmail.com



Jack Kleinhoff

Board Member

jrkleinhoff@gmail.com

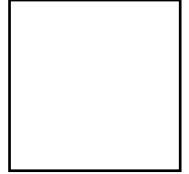


Classifieds

Do you have something to sell or rent? We invite members to submit appropriate items to be listed in this section of the newsletter. If you are interested in listing an item, please submit a photo and description to Jacob Putney (jacob.putney@oregonstate.edu) and it will be listed in the next issue of the newsletter.

Newsletter Distribution

The Blue Mountain Forester will be distributed either by email or mail, depending on what information we have on file. Additionally, the newsletter will be posted on our website (neoswa.com). If you would like to change how you receive this newsletter, please send your preference to Jacob Putney (jacob.putney@oregonstate.edu). Note, email is the quickest way to receive information from the Chapter.



The Blue Mountain Forester

Northeast Oregon Small Woodlands Association
Baker, Grant, Union, and Wallowa Counties

A Newsletter for Small Woodland Owners in Northeast Oregon

At a Glance

- Happy Holidays from NEOSWA
- 2021 – Review of What We’ve Accomplished
- Don’t Forget to Renew your Membership
- Funding Programs and Opportunities
- Eastern Oregon Log Market Prices
- Upcoming Meetings and Events

Resources to Explore

- Holiday-, Non-timber Forest Products-Themed DIY Projects:
 - Wreath: <https://beav.es/UCG>
 - Garland: <https://beav.es/UCN>
 - Centerpiece: <https://beav.es/UCx>
- Life on the Dry Side Newsletter
extension.oregonstate.edu/newsletter/life-dry-side-forestry-newsletter
- 2018 Farm Bill Programs
<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/farmbill/>