

# The Blue Mountain Forester

## **Northeast Oregon Small Woodlands Association**

Quarterly Newsletter



Volume 2, Issue 4

Fall 2022

## **Board of Forestry Approves Changes to Forest Practices Act**

On October 26<sup>th</sup>, the Oregon Board of Forestry approved more than 100 changes to the Oregon Forest Practices Act (OFPA), resulting from the landmark compromise agreement – The Private Forest Accord (PFA). The PFA was signed in 2021, memorializes the agreements made between representatives of Oregon’s timber industry, small woodland owners, and conservation and fisheries groups that set forth future changes to the OFPA. These mediated discussions sought to bring constructive discussion and determine the best approach to mitigate impacts of forest management on streams and fish which establishing regulatory certainty.



Coming Changes to the Oregon Forest Practices Act Include:

- **Riparian Areas** – New and wider stream buffers to protect and support salmon, steelhead, bull trout, and amphibians
- **Steep Slopes** – Specific rules related to harvesting on steep slopes
- **Forest Roads** – Updated standards for fish-bearing stream culvert sizes and instillation procedures, as well as road building rules for minimizing sediment in streams. There will also be a required assessment of road conditions prior to filing a notice of operations
- **Adaptive Management** – All future changes to the OFPA will be coordinated by a new Adaptive Management Program that will advise the Board of Forestry

Recent legislation also directed the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) to establish a Small Forestland Owners (SFO) Assistance Office, which will provide aid to small forestland owners in understanding and following these new regulations. The SFO Office will also provide technical assistance, supporting services, and administer new incentive programs – the Small Forestland Investment in Stream Habitat (SFISH) and the Forest Conservation Tax Credit. ODF is currently hiring to fill these new positions.

OSWA leaders and volunteers will continue to monitor this process and provide input. The Oregon Forest Resources Institute (OFRI) and the Partnership for Forestry Education (PFF) are currently developing new materials and will be offering trainings in the near future. OSWA and the Chapters will be crucial for helping small woodland owners obtain and understand these materials and the impacts of these changes.

For more information on the Forest Practices Act or the Private Forest Accord, please visit the website below. For general questions, contact your local OSU Extension Forester or ODF Stewardship Forester.

PFA Website: <https://www.oregon.gov/odf/pages/private-forest-accord.aspx>

## Tree School to Return in 2023!

Mark your calendars and plan to join us all day on Friday, June 30<sup>th</sup> at Baker City High School in Baker City, Oregon for Tree School East, hosted by OSU Extension Service.

Started in Clackamas County more than 30 years ago, Tree School is a core program within OSU's Forestry & Natural Resources Extension Program, and now includes regional offerings across the State. Tree School East is traditionally held every two years, alternating host locations between Baker City and La Grande. Tree School East was scheduled for June 2020 but was unfortunately cancelled due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. However, I am happy to announce that Tree School East is finally returning in 2023!



Tree School East is a one-day mini-college that will feature classes on a wide variety of forestry and natural resource-related topics. This huge event also includes demonstrations, exhibitors, and vendors, as well as an opportunity to meet and interact with numerous forestry-minded folks. Tree School will offer something for everyone, including small woodland owners, foresters, natural resource professionals, loggers, contractors, teachers, and the public.

Planning is well underway and there are many more details to come! If you have topic ideas for classes, questions, or are interested in being involved, volunteering, and/or offering an exhibit, booth, or display, please contact Jacob Putney ([jacob.putney@oregonstate.edu](mailto:jacob.putney@oregonstate.edu)).

## New Webinar Series – Restoring Oregon’s Dry Side Forests

Your friends from the OSU Forestry & Natural Resources Extension Program are hosting a new webinar series, *Restoring Oregon’s Dry Side Forests*, starting this December! Restoration of forests and other ecosystems seems to be the talk of the town these days, but is it really possible to restore ecosystems that have been altered by decades of fire suppression and other management activities, invaded by non-native plant species, and subjected to altered climatic conditions? This webinar series will delve into the complexities of restoration on Oregon’s Dry Side (east of the Cascades), exploring opportunities and acknowledging challenges. Open to landowners, natural resource professionals and contractors, and anyone interested in these complex topics. Continuing education credits available through SAF and AOL.

The Webinars are **Free** – but registration is **Required**. Find more details on each of the sessions, as well as registration, by going to the course website or following the direct registration links below.

When: First & Third Wednesdays  
Starting at 6:00 PM  
Dec. 2022 – Apr. 2023

Website: [beav.es/drysiderest23](https://beav.es/drysiderest23)

Registration: [beav.es/dsr23reg](https://beav.es/dsr23reg)

QR Code:



## Fall-to-Winter on the Tree Farm

*Jacob D. Putney (Adapted from Northwest Woodlands)*

Fire season is over and bark beetles are no longer active so now is the time to get out and finish those projects you've been waiting to complete. The days may be short, and the weather isn't always cooperating, but the fall and early winter months are an excellent time to get a few key things checked off your to-do list. Here are just a few items to think about:

### **November**

- ✓ Winterize and complete maintenance on your equipment. Be sure to drain hoses and pumps, sharpen tools, drain fuel out of power tools, check antifreeze levels, and make sure everything is clean and free of mud or other debris.
- ✓ Now is a great time to prune or thin around your home or property. Especially for pine species, bark beetle species are now inactive for the winter. But be sure to treat pine slash before next April.
- ✓ Burn your slash piles when conditions allow. Be sure to check with the Oregon Department of Forestry before ignition.
- ✓ Consult your accountant to plan your year-end tax strategies.
- ✓ Check culverts and evaluate your road drainage. Good, clear ditches, water bars, and culverts can prevent washouts over the winter. Damage can be costly and degrade water quality, so prepare now.

### **December**

- ✓ Review your accomplishments and reaffirm your tree farm goals and objectives. Inspect your forest and don't forget to take photos.
- ✓ Complete your record-keeping for 2022 and confirm all of your 2023 plans are in place.
- ✓ Refresh your property boundaries and signage as necessary.
- ✓ Renew your association memberships.

### **January**

- ✓ Confirm your 2023 plans by contacting contractors, consultants, and make sure any necessary permits are in place.
- ✓ If the ground is frozen, it could be a good time to conduct a ground-based logging operations to reduce soil compaction and risk of fire.
- ✓ The winter months can be a good time for cruising, road layout, marking trees, and establishing inventory plots.
- ✓ Monitor nesting activity so you can protect or improve habitat and avoid disturbing wildlife while they are sensitive.



If you have any questions about these checklist items, or would like more information and ideas, contact your local OSU Extension Forester:

Jacob Putney: [jacob.putney@oregonstate.edu](mailto:jacob.putney@oregonstate.edu)  
*Baker & Grant Counties*

John Punches: [john.punches@oregonstate.edu](mailto:john.punches@oregonstate.edu)  
*Umatilla, Union, & Wallowa Counties*

## Eastern Oregon Log Market Report (As of: November 15, 2022)

Pendleton									
Species/Sort:	Douglas-fir/Larch	Ponderosa Pine			Grand/White Fir	Lodgepole Pine	E. Spruce	Pulp/Chip (Ton)	
Price (\$/MBF):	500				475	300	300	48	
La Grande									
Species/Sort:	Douglas-fir/Larch	Ponderosa Pine			Grand/White Fir	Lodgepole Pine	E. Spruce	Pulp/Chip (Ton)	
		6-7"	8"+						
Price (\$/MBF):	540	300	320		440	260	260		
Elgin									
Species/Sort:	Douglas-fir/Larch	Ponderosa Pine			Grand/White Fir	Lodgepole Pine	E. Spruce	Pulp/Chip (Ton)	
Price (\$/MBF):	550				450	320	320	35	
Pilot Rock									
Species/Sort:	Douglas-fir/Larch	Ponderosa Pine			Grand/White Fir	Lodgepole Pine	E. Spruce	Pulp/Chip (Ton)	
		10-11"	12-15"	16"+					
Price (\$/MBF):		360	410	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):	400	120	290	325	390	120-240		18	
Redmond/Bend/Gilchrist									
Species/Sort:	Douglas-fir/Larch	Ponderosa Pine			Grand/White Fir	Lodgepole Pine	E. Spruce	Pulp/Chip (Ton)	
		8-11"	17"+						
Price (\$/MBF):		50 (Ton)		440					
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):		290	325	390	385	300			

*Data Courtesy of John Lindberg (Oregon Log Market Report)*

## Event Calendar

Date & Time	Event	Details & Location
Dec. 2022 – Apr. 2023 6:00 PM	Restoring Oregon’s Dry Side Forests Webinar Series OSU Extension	Join us for OSU Extension’s next series where we will explore the complexities and realities of “restoring” forests and other ecosystems to conditions that facilitate natural processes and are more in line with those found historically. Sessions will be held the first & third Wednesdays, starting at 6:00 PM Website: <a href="https://beav.es/drysiderest23">https://beav.es/drysiderest23</a> Registration: <a href="https://beav.es/dsr23reg">https://beav.es/dsr23reg</a>
Jan. 5 <sup>th</sup> 6:00pm	Board & Member Meeting NEOSWA	Location, Program, and Agenda: TBA
Mar. 2 <sup>nd</sup> 6:00pm	Board & Member Meeting NEOSWA	Location, Program, and Agenda: TBA
Mar. 4 <sup>th</sup>	Forest Crawl Wallowa Resources	Wallowa County. Location & Program: TBA
Month of May	Wildfire Awareness Month	Stay tuned for events during Wildfire Awareness Month
Jun. 22-24 <sup>th</sup>	Oregon Family Forest Convention OSWA & OTFS	Save the Date! The 2023 Oregon Family Forest Convention, the joint meeting between the Oregon Small Woodlands Association (OSWA) and the Oregon Tree Farm System (OTFS), will be held June 22 <sup>nd</sup> – 24 <sup>th</sup> in Estacada, Oregon. Stay tuned for more details.
Jun. 30 <sup>th</sup> All-Day	Tree School East OSU Extension	Mark your calendars and plan to join us on Friday, June 30 <sup>th</sup> at Baker City High School in Baker City, OR for Tree School East, hosted by OSU Extension Service. Stay tuned for more details! If interested in being involved, please contact Jacob Putney ( <a href="mailto:jacob.putney@oregonstate.edu">jacob.putney@oregonstate.edu</a> )

## Notes from the Board

*From: November 3<sup>rd</sup>, Board Meeting*

### **Business Items**

- Firewise Update
  - 18 current or pending Firewise Communities
  - Community assessments completed in Hurricane Creek & Morgan Lake
  - Projects being completed under SB762 Grant
  - 2022 – Successes from Lostine Community
  
- OR Dept. of Forestry Updates
  - Updated Timeline – Wildfire Risk Map & Defensible Space Codes
    - Oct. 2022 – Feb. 2023: Public/Stakeholder Engagement
    - Dec. 2022: State Fire Marshal releases new Defensible Space Codes
    - Mar. 2023: Revised Wildfire Risk Map Draft
    - Mar. – Sept. 2023: Public Outreach/Engagement
    - Oct. – Dec. 2023: Final Risk Map Released & Implemented
  - Private Forest Accord & Forest Practices Act
    - Board of Forestry approved OFPA changes on Oct. 26<sup>th</sup>
    - New rules will take effect between Jul. 2023 and Jan. 2024
  
- Tree School East 2023 – OSU Extension
  - Friday, June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023 (All-day)
  - Baker High School, Baker City, OR
  - Please let Jacob Putney know if you are interested in being involved/volunteering!

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**Next NEOSWA Meeting: Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 6:00 PM**

*Location & Details TBA*



## NEOSWA Leadership

**Debi Lorence, President**

County: Baker

[debilorence@gmail.com](mailto:debilorence@gmail.com)



**Maurizio Valerio, Vice-President**

Counties: Union, Baker

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**Randy Guyer, Treasurer**

County: Baker

[randy@guyercpa.net](mailto:randy@guyercpa.net)



**Jacob Putney, Secretary**

Counties: Baker, Grant

[jacob.putney@oregonstate.edu](mailto:jacob.putney@oregonstate.edu)



**Paul Harlan, Board Member**

County: Wallowa

[paulmharlan@gmail.com](mailto:paulmharlan@gmail.com)



**Jack Kleinhoff, Board Member**

County: Baker

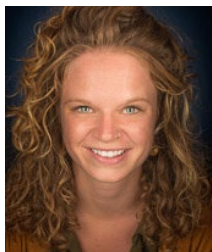
[jrkleinhoff@gmail.com](mailto:jrkleinhoff@gmail.com)



**Alyssa Cudmore, Board Member**

Counties: Wallowa, Union

[alyssa@wallowaresources.org](mailto:alyssa@wallowaresources.org)



**Irene Jerome, Board Member**

Counties: Grant, Baker

[ijeromejnrc@gmail.com](mailto:ijeromejnrc@gmail.com)

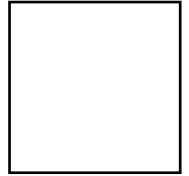


## Classifieds

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](mailto: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](http://neoswa.com)). If you would like to change how you receive this newsletter, please send your preference to Jacob Putney ([jacob.putney@oregonstate.edu](mailto: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**

- Board of Forestry Approves Changes to Oregon Forest Practices Act
- Tree School East Returns in 2023!
- Fall on the Tree Farm
- Eastern Oregon Log Market Prices
- Upcoming Meetings and Events

### **Resources to Explore**

- Restoring Oregon's Dry Side Forests – Webinar Series - **NEW**  
<https://blogs.oregonstate.edu/drysiderest23/>
- Private Forest Accord - **NEW**  
<https://www.oregon.gov/odf/pages/private-forest-accord.aspx>
- Choosing the Right Forestry Services Contractor - **NEW**  
<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/sites/default/files/catalog/auto/EM9365.pdf>
- 2021 Forest Health Highlights in Oregon  
[https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE\\_DOCUMENTS/fseprd1034091.pdf](https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/fseprd1034091.pdf)
- Life on the Dry Side Newsletter  
[extension.oregonstate.edu/newsletter/life-dry-side-forestry-newsletter](https://extension.oregonstate.edu/newsletter/life-dry-side-forestry-newsletter)