



Providing Opportunity to Family Woodland Owners

The main reasons for membership to OSWA are periodicals sent from the state office, professional representation at the state legislature and the belief that support of family forests are critical. Websites are becoming an important tool for advice. 40% expect that the next generation will use this tool to gain information about sustaining their forestland.

The programs they would like OSWA to promote into the future are; tools explaining best management practices in line with their objectives, such as forest health and timber harvest; Tax programs; and issues of sustainability in retaining their land as Family Forest.

Their top three future plans for their forestland are maintaining forest health, harvesting timber products and improving stocking and quality.

Most owners express a deep desire for sustainability—of their own forestland, of their family ties to that land, and of Oregon's natural heritage, in general.

Yet, these landowners feel the social, legal, and economic institutions influencing their stewardship often work against their efforts to achieve sustainability. Landowners are significantly affected by shifting regulations. Regulatory uncertainty is cited as a major factor in management decision-making, and contributes to a steady erosion of acres actively owned and managed by family forestland owners. Oregon loses approximately 26,000 acres of family-owned land each year to development, industry and other uses.

For more information about OSWA visit www.oswa.org or call 503 588 1813