The WOODLANDER UPDATE

December 2011
News and Information for-and-about Small Woodland Owners
Volume 31 Issue 6

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Jan 3rd GAC Conference call
Jan 5th Exec Comm Mtg
Jan 5th Membership Comm Mtg
Jan 19th Board call
Feb 3rd OSWA Board Mtg
Feb 7th GAC Conference call

OSWA NEWS

Awesome OSWA Products Make Great Christmas Gifts

OSWA offers a wide-range of high quality OSWA logo products, suitable for use in all your small woodlands activities, both out in the field or in the office. They make great Christmas gifts for friends and family. Order now!

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If you have questions, contact our Awesome OSWA Products Coordinator, Ilene Waldorf by email (iwal@molalla.net or phone (503-829-3181) or you can mail your orders to:

Awesome OSWA Products
c/ Ilene Waldorf
PO Box 214
Molalla, OR 97038

Season's Greetings and a Year in Review

The end of the year is a time to reflect on our accomplishments in the year past and to look ahead on our plans for the future. OSWA did accomplish a lot in 2011, but we have lots yet to do in 2012.

In 2011, OSWA enjoyed having 15 active County Chapters who had countless events, newsletters, and activities for their members. Our partnership with OSU Extension continued to be as strong as ever and our partnership with the Oregon Tree Farm System (OTFS) became stronger than it has been for a long time when we developed a new Memorandum of Understanding. 2012 promises to be another exciting year for chapter activities and a strong partnership with OSU Extension and OTFS.

Legislatively, the modification in Oregon’s inheritance tax and the improvements in Oregon’s Natural Resource Inheritance Tax Credit was a major accomplishment. With our allies we were able to maintain the 50/50 split (50% landowners and 50% General Fund) for Oregon Department of Forestry’s (ODF) forest fire funding and the 40/60 split (40% landowners and 60% General Fund) for ODF’s private forest funding as well as secure adequate funding for both ODF and OSU Extention. With the state’s economic forecast, keeping those funding levels for ODF and OSU Extention will be a challenge in the short 2012 Legislative Session. con't on page 3
OUR MISSION STATEMENT
To provide opportunity to Family Woodland Owner by:

· Educating and informing the owners of forested tracts and the public regarding forestry and family forestland management issues.
· Providing a medium for the exchange of ideas about family forestland by land owners, public agencies, consultants and timber industry personnel.
· Serving as a forum to make recommendations for investigating and solving problems, and for improving forest management, harvesting, and marketing.
· Disseminating information on the establishment, growth, harvesting and marketing of forest crops produced on family forestlands, and to foster the wise use and protection of forests and encourage better forestry practices.
· Representing the owners of family forestlands to the general public and before legislative bodies and regulatory agencies.
· Complying with ORS Chapter 65 and as authorized by ORS 65.061.

THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

December brings with it the spirit of giving and love. We thrill to the stories and songs of the season, the anticipation of snow falling somewhere, the excitement of children, and for us tree people—the smell of boughs and trees freshly cut.

Families often chose this time to get together. And what a perfect time for talking about the greatest gift you can ever give them. To include your heirs in the management decisions and/or ownership of the family tree farm in which you’ve invested years of effort is a huge gift of love. And to let them know their role ahead of time so they can learn from you is another wonderful gift. Planning to pass on the “gift that keeps on giving” is a process that will develop young confident stewards of your land. So, in your holiday get-together, take walks in the woods and talk about the past year’s activities. They will hear the pride in your voice as you point out your projects.

If your family has an LLC, this is a good time to have the required annual meeting, take written minutes, and plan next year’s activities. In this case your lawyer and tax preparer insist on it, but it’s a good idea for everyone.

Imagine inheriting a parcel of timberland with absolutely no background knowledge or experience in owning land! This happened in Bulgaria. When the Communists came to power, they confiscated all the private land and for years managed it. The original landowners never had a hope of getting it back. Then, lo and behold, the regime changed and the land was given back to the original families—3 generations and 40 years down the line. These folks have no experience with management and are reluctant to go to the agencies who could help because they are staffed with former Communists. Extension Agent Rick Fletcher just returned from helping the Forestry University of Bulgaria set up an Extension program to help these new landowners.

This situation may not be so different from new landowners we know who are excited to own land but uncertain what to do first, second, and third. Although we in Oregon are rich in forestry information resources sometimes it’s encouraging to have a neighbor or fellow tree farmer take you by the hand, so to speak. We Oregon Small Woodland members can do that for new members or a neighbor who is not yet an OSWA member. Sharing what you know about your forest is rewarding whether it is a family member or a neighbor who needs some advice. Don’t forget to invite your friends and neighbors to be part of a forest owner’s extended family known as OSWA.

We, who are so attached to our land, can make inheriting and managing property a smooth process. It just takes a little thought and love.

Happy Holidays!
MESSAGE FROM JIM JAMES

Con't from front page

The Governmental Advisory Committee has scheduled conference calls for Dec. 6th, January 3rd, and February 7th to develop our legislative strategies. The Wildlife Reduction Act which would increase fire protection on the Eastside of Oregon without raising landowner's costs will be OSWA's primary legislative effort in 2012. See Legislative Priorities in the Members Only section of OSWA's website for a complete list of our priorities in 2012.

Four Northwest Woodlands magazines and six Woodlander Update newsletters kept members informed on issues of importance in 2011. The winter edition of Northwest Woodlands, which focused on taxes, has proven to be a very popular edition with requests from those outside the normal distribution network asking for access to copies. The Northwest Woodlands continues to be an exclusive magazine for members of small woodland organizations in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Montana. The themes for the 2012 editions will be “Threats to Your Property”, “Markets”, “Management Plans”, and “Biofuels and Benefits of Slash Retention.” Copies of past Northwest Woodlands and Woodlander Updates can be found in the Members Only section of OSWA's website.

In 2011, we had a successful Annual Meeting in Baker City focusing on the “Dealing with Changing Realities in Woodland Management.” We owe a thank you to our host, Baker County Chapter, for a job well done. The 2012 Annual Meeting will be hosted by Washington County Chapter. It will be held at Pacific University in Forest Grove on June 22nd with a Howdy Neighbor Tour on June 23. Be sure to mark your calendars and plan to attend.

We had five Howdy Neighbor Tours in 2011: two associated with our Annual Meeting in Baker City visiting Kerry and Kari Borgen’s and Sid & Nancy Johnson’s forests, one in Coos County visiting Marie Gales’ Chandler Family Ranch, one in Washington County in partnership with the Tualatin Soil & Water Conservation District visiting Terry Howell’s forest, and one in Multnomah County partnering with the West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District visiting Greg Malinowski’s property. We have partnered again with Oregon Forest Resource Institute (OFRI) to fund four Howdy Neighbor Tours in 2012. One will be in Washington County in conjunction with our annual meeting. The locations for the remaining three have yet to be determined. If an OSWA member or chapter would like to host a Howdy Neighbor Tour in 2012 please let me know.

The biggest disappointment in 2011 was OSWA’s continual drop in memberships. In 2011 our membership dropped 3% which was an improvement over the 8% drop in 2010, but far short of our goal to grow our membership by 5%. The Board did approve OSWA’s new Membership Plan developed by the Membership Committee and is in process of developing a Marketing Strategy. OSWA’s 1425 memberships represent only 1% of the potential OSWA members in Oregon. I encourage all OSWA members to invite your neighbors and friends to become OSWA members and to enjoy the benefits of this great organization.

I continue to enjoy serving as your Executive Director and look forward to our challenges in 2012. I am always interested in ideas in how OSWA can better serve its members’ needs. I hope everyone enjoys a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Resources

Visit the OSWA web site at www.oswa.org for information about your local chapter. Be sure to click on “Your Local Chapter” for a link to local chapter information.
OSWA NEWS

OSWA, OTFS and OSU Extension Plan “Ties to the Land” Programs for 2012

The challenges associated with passing one’s property to family members continues to be near the top of the list of concerns for small woodland owners. OSU Extension, OSWA, and the Oregon Tree Farm System are currently making plans to conduct Ties to the Land workshops throughout Oregon in 2012. The workshop was developed here in Oregon to help families plan an orderly transition for their woodland properties. Those who have participated in this program in the past give it high marks for giving them some of the tools they need to help them family keep their land in the family over time. This is a great opportunity for a Chapter to host a workshop for their members, or as a way to reach out to other woodland and agricultural landowners in their area. Planning is underway to offer 8 to 10 Ties to the Land workshops in 2012.

Hosting a workshop is pretty easy. Ties to the Land workshop takes about 5 hours, typically done in two, 2 ½ hour sessions in the evening, about a month apart. It is a pre-recorded workshop presented by Clint Bentz and Mark Green who use a case study and classroom activities to help families begin a conversation and start the process. The workshop and activities are facilitated by a local Extension agent. The workshop emphasizes the role of communication and introduces a number of approaches families can use to steer their way through the process. As one would expect, it is encouraged to have as many family members as possible to participate, but it is still a valuable program regardless of the number of family participants. To host a local workshop, a Chapter would need to work with their local agent to choose a time and location, set the price, do outreach and publicity, and help host the actual event (set up the room, provide snacks, etc.). OSWA will assist chapters as needed.

We hope to present these workshops across the state this spring, probably in March and April. The locations and timing for these programs will be determined by your interest and demand. These 2 ½ hour sessions could be a great event for a chapter monthly meeting or get together. Please contact Jim James at (541) 619-4252, your local Extension agent, or Brad Withrow-Robinson at (503) 434-8914 if you are interested in hosting or participating in one of these programs.

You’re looking out for your land.
Who’s looking out for you?

Your land is important to you and your family. And you and your family are important to J.D. Fulwiler. That’s why we have been providing personalized insurance coverage to OSWA members for over five years. If you are looking for options for your liability insurance, please contact Jan Oyala at 800-735-8325 for more information about how we can help you.

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Jim & Phyllis Dahm selected Outstanding Tree Farmers of the Year

A Klamath Falls couple, Jim and Phyllis Dahm, are Oregon’s 2011 Outstanding Tree Farmers of the Year. The Dahms were selected on Monday, November 21st at the Oregon Tree Farm System’s (OTFS) 45th Annual Awards Luncheon held at the World Forestry Center in Portland.

The Dahms own and manage 1,900 acres of forest scattered across Klamath and Lake Counties. The first parcels were purchased in 1978.

The Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year honor was given to the Dahms for how they effectively manage their forests for an array of timber, wildlife habitat and water quality objectives. In addition, Jim and Phyllis have hosted tours on resource management for local schools and organizations. OTFS will host a tour of the Dahm’s property this upcoming summer. Watch for the tour information and plan to attend.

Henry and Mollie Wolfhuis, Linn County Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year was the Western Oregon winner for 2011 and Jerri O’Brien, Benton County Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year was Western Oregon runner up. Other candidates for the 2011 award were Outstanding Tree Farmers of the Year from Clackamas County - Harmon Family, LLC; Coos County - Jane and Dean Muffett; Lane County - Ron and Karen Gilson; Lincoln County - Virginia and William McKinnie; Washington County - Howell Tree Farm, LP; and Yamhill County - Michael Barnes. Each county winner received a plaque and a clock from the Oregon Department of Forestry and the US Forest Service.

The members of Oregon’s Tree Farmer of the Year program’s Selection Committee are Dick Courter - Chair, Jim Rombach, Rick Barnes, John Rounds, Marv Rowley, Gary Groth, Ed Auerlich, and Bob Tokarczyk. Dick Courter mentioned at the award ceremony that it becomes harder and harder to select a state winner each year because of the quality of all the candidates is so high.

Jim Denison named as Inspector of the Year

At the OTFS’s Award Luncheon, Jim Denison was awarded Oregon’s Tree Farm Inspector of the Year. Jim has been an inspector for the Tree Farm program since 1986. He has served on the OTFS Board and is a Past President of OSWA. Jim has been a Society of American Foresters (SAF) member from his college days. He started a SAF chapter on the Oregon coast many years ago and received the honor of “Fellow” in 1991 from SAF. Jim and his wife Betty, served on the national Tree Farm committee for two years, have attended many of the National Tree Farm conventions and are dedicated members of OTFS. Congratulations to Jim for his many accomplishments.
State Forester appoints David Furtwangler to OFRI board of directors

On November 16th, the Oregon Forest Resources Institute (OFRI) announced that Oregon State Forester Doug Decker appointed David Furtwangler of Sweet Home to join OFRI’s board of directors. Furtwangler is owner and president of Cascade Timber Consulting, Inc., which manages 145,000 acres of private timberland in Linn County. By Oregon statute, the state forester appoints 11 of OFRI’s 13 board members, from three forest-products producer classes – small, medium and large producers – as well as members who represent small woodlands owners and forest sector employees. Two additional members serve ex officio: the dean of the College of Forestry at Oregon State University and a public representative appointed by the speaker of the Oregon House of Representatives and the president of the Oregon Senate.

OFRI also announced the reappointment of Wade Mosby, senior vice president of The Collins Companies (small producer class), and Steve Zika, chief executive officer of Hampton Affiliates (large producer class), who will serve their second three-year terms from 2012 to 2015. Furtwangler (medium producer class) replaces retiring board member Jake Gibbs of Lone Rock Timber Company. Furtwangler’s term extends to January 2015.

OSWA currently has two members serving on the OFRI Board, Anne Hanschu and Dave Schmidt. OSWA partners with OFRI on a variety of issues including OSWA’s Howdy Neighbor Tours.

OFRI was created in 1991 by the Oregon Legislature to improve public understanding of the state’s forest resources and to encourage environmentally sound forest management through education.

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**OREGON NEWS**

**Board of Forestry Tour November 4th Focuses on Small Woodlands**

The Board of Forestry met on November 3rd in Forest Grove and toured small woodland owner properties in Washington County on November 4th. On November 3rd, Governor Kitzhaber spoke to the Board about his vision for Oregon's forests. The Board approved the plan for the Elliot State Forest. It also reviewed the results of a study on stream temperatures and began to discuss its strategy in response. The RipStream study, conducted over the last eight years by ODF in cooperation with Oregon State University, Department of Environmental Quality, and forest landowners suggests that Forest Practices Act riparian protections for small and medium fish-bearing streams may not be adequate to insure that forest operations meet the statewide water quality standard for protecting cold water. The Board began to discuss the legal landscape it must now operate in as it determines how best to respond to the study. This work will likely define the Board’s work in Private Forests in 2012.

The woods tour on November 4th focused entirely on issues associated with small woodland ownership. Two of the three sites visited were forests owned by OSWA members Bob and Bonnie Shumaker and Anne and Richard Hanschu. The third site was owned by Cary and Kristin Renzema. The tour was coordinated by the Committee for Family Forests (CFF) and the Department of Forestry. The overall theme was keeping forestlands as forests in light of challenges in succession planning, marketing, and the variety of landscapes surrounding small woodland owners. OSWA member, Susan Watkins, Vice-Chair of CFF kicked of the tour with an overview of family forests. Marketing strategies and challenges were discussed by Cary Renzema, Ben Deumling, Jay Worley, and OSWA member Dick Courter. The role of the forestry consultant was discussed by OSWA member Rick Barnes. Succession Planning was discussed by OSU Extension forester Brad Withrow-Robinson and OSWA members Bob and Bonnie Shumaker, Sandy and Jim Letourneux, Anne and Richard Hanschu, and Clint Bentz. Neighbor issues were discussed by Bob Shumaker and Richard Hanschu. A panel of next generation members Aretta Christie, Ben Beumling, John Helmer, and Elizabeth Mottner discussed succession planning issues from the next generation's perspective. OSWA member Roje Gootee discussed these same challenges from the perspective of Eastside small woodland owners. There was a great exchange of ideas and issues with the Board and it was obvious the Board appreciated the flow of information from the perspective of small woodland owners. The day was helpful in backgrounding Board members on the unique aspects of small woodlands, and focusing on the importance of these lands to forestry in Oregon.

**OFRI to hold Oregon Forests and Water Symposium Feb. 28th**

OFRI will hold a free symposium on Forests and Water on February 28th from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm at the OSU Alumni Center in Corvallis. Topics at the one-day symposium will include paired watershed studies, herbicides and runoff, silviculture as point or non-point source pollution, roads and sediment, and stream buffers and temperature. Speakers will also address the Oregon Plan for Salmon & Watersheds, fish passage simulation, the Clean Water Act, a state-by-state comparison for forest road BPMs, and Oregon’s cold water and anti-degradation standards. Registration will be required. For more information email Mike Cloughesy: cloughesy@ofri.org

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The Oregon Forest Resources Institute is your source for information on Oregon’s forests. Visit our Web site and explore OFRI’s new online library where you can download our publications and order copies by mail.

[www.oregonforests.org](http://www.oregonforests.org)
2011 Fire Season
by Tom Fields, Fire Prevention Coordinator, ODF

The 2011 fire season will go down as one of the most successful on record in the 100 year history of the Oregon Department of Forestry. Just 529 human-caused fires occurred statewide in 2011 that burned 2,034 acres. Lightning accounted for another 160 fires and 515 acres. Unbelievable when you consider that the 10-year annual average is 1,014 total fires and 21,446 acres. Fire suppression costs for 2011 were just a fraction of the 10-year average as well. The Department expended just under $4.7 million in 2011 compared to the average of $16.5 million. While moderate weather conditions played a role, much of the success can be attributed to fire prevention efforts across the board.

Weather can sometimes be a misleading factor. Sure, fires are more likely to occur when fire danger teeters on extreme. However, when the sun shines and temperature soar, the public tends to stay indoors and reduce activities that could start a fire. Consequently, people become more active under moderate conditions, increasing the potential for more fire starts. The bottom line here is that the combination of fair weather, a fire conscious public and outstanding firefighting led to fewer fires and fewer acres burned. The bar has been set for 2012; a goal proven achievable.

The largest fire of the year took place in Jackson County on August 18th when the North River Road Fire burned 565 acres. The cause was determined to be carbon sparks from vehicle exhaust.

Oregon dodged the lightning bullet in 2011, although it did get a little dicey in late August when a thunderstorm produced 8,500 plus strikes across the state. Most fires were handled at initial attack with a few requiring some extended attack by local districts. Much of ODF’s success was attributed to preparedness: prepositioning resources; utilization of Special Purpose Appropriation (SPA) funding; and support from forest landowners and cooperators such as rural fire departments and federal agencies.

SPA funding allowed the Department to implement contracts, negotiated before fire season, for two large air tankers and three helicopters, which guaranteed availability for ODF fires. In addition, as fire conditions worsened and the availability of resources dwindled, ODF was able to retain the last two contract helicopters available in the state. With matters well in hand on ODF protected ground, some of these helicopters were made available for federal fires, which reduced the Department’s General Fund costs.

It’s never too early to start thinking about next fire season. As a small woodland owner, some of you may have your home, or other homes, near your property. Use this opportunity to create defensible space between structures and the forest. Remove flammable vegetation anywhere from 30 to 100 feet around the perimeter and keep the forest floor “clean” by eliminating ladder fuels that can carry fire into the canopy. To defend your trees, thin where you can and prune low hanging branches up to at least a 3 to 1 ratio from the underlying vegetation. This will not only slow fire spread, it will allow firefighters to do their job more efficiently in a safer environment. Have a great winter and thank you for doing your part in “Keeping Oregon Green.”
Kitzhaber meets with the Board of Forestry

In a wide-ranging presentation, Governor Kitzhaber told the Board of Forestry at its November meeting in Forest Grove that changes are needed in the management of both state and federal forestland in Oregon.

On state lands, Kitzhaber asked the board to “reexamine the tenets of ‘structure based management’ and consider instead how a ‘land allocation approach’ with both a wood emphasis and conservation emphasis – clearly defined conservation areas and timber production areas – might help provide a better degree of certainty for all interests.” The Structure Based Management Plan adopted a decade ago for the Tillamook and Clatsop State Forests has never come close to providing the timber outputs projected at the time it was approved. As such, it has been bitterly opposed by both industry and the trust counties. Meanwhile, environmental groups have continued to push for conservation set-aside areas – even though their attempt to achieve that goal through a ballot measure was overwhelmingly rejected by voters in 2004.

Kitzhaber’s land allocation proposal for state lands is similar to options under discussion in Congress for the management of the O&C timberlands in southwest Oregon. Citing meager federal timber harvest levels, Kitzhaber also called for a new approach to federal forest management: “The local mill infrastructure and Forest Service management capacity has suffered greatly in the federal land-dominated parts of Oregon and, not coincidentally, so have the surrounding communities… In terms of federal land management, I have intentionally focused today on what I see as a need to increase management activity.”

Although his emphasis was on public forests, Kitzhaber’s most provocative comments at the Board of Forestry meeting came on the sensitive issue of log exports from private lands. He said workers and communities in areas dominated by private forest lands “are likely seeing real trouble as well because so many of the trees being cut on these lands today are being shipped across the Pacific Ocean as raw logs… This amounts to nothing more than exporting our natural capital and our jobs. We are at risk of becoming a timber colony for Asia, while undermining our mill infrastructure and their surrounding communities.” The Governor called for the development of “policies and strategies that will result in logs harvested off private lands being as valuable here in Oregon as they are in Asia… we need to be exporting value added products, not our natural capital and our jobs.” He also expressed concern that private log exports are “further increasing the pressure for harvest on public forest lands.”

NEDC v Brown update

The U.S. Supreme Court is expected to act in January on two petitions asking them to review the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals opinion in the long-standing NEDC v. Brown forest roads/Clean Water Act lawsuit.

The Court will likely consider the “cert” petitions from OFIC and the state of Oregon on January 6, and decide to do one of three things on January 9: grant petitions, deny petitions, or ask the U.S. Solicitor General to file a brief stating the views of the federal government on whether the Court should take the case. Even though the Court accepts only a handful of the 8,000 cert petitions it receives each year, this case would seem to be sufficiently prominent to make the third option the most likely scenario in January. If so, the Solicitor’s brief would likely be filed several months later.
OSWA’s Wildfire Reduction Act

OSWA’s primary bill in the 2012 Legislative Session will be the Wildfire Reduction Act. Legislative Concept 38 has been drafted and OSWA is anticipating a pre-session hearing on its bill on January 18th. A copy of LC 38 can be found in the Members Only section of the OSWA website under the Legislative Priorities Tab. If passed, this bill would have three major results:

1) Change the landowner-General Fund split in funding Oregon’s forest fire costs from the current 50-50 split to 40% landowner – 60% General Fund for landowners East of the summit of the Cascade Range, in Hood River County, and on fire districts in Jackson and Josephine counties (all other landowners would continue the current 50-50 split),

2) Change the way the General Fund pays its 50-50 split in the Emergency Fire Fund by sharing the expense on the first dollars spent instead of the current system where landowners pay the first $10 MM before the General Fund begins paying it share, and

3) Provide more initial attack fire funding in portions of the state where fire dangers are the highest.

The next conference call for the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) is scheduled for January 3rd from 7:00 am to 8:00 am. Anyone who is interested in participating in who is not already receiving GAC’s Legislative Updates can contact Jim James jimjamesoswa@yahoo.com to be added to the GAC.

ODF to Receive Competitive Federal Grants for Fire and Private Forests

In mid-November the Oregon Department of Forestry was informed that they will be the recipients of two major USDA competitive grants related to funding for fire related to the wildland urban interface and State and Private Forestry programs. Among the 18 western states and Pacific Islands who competed for these grants, Oregon had the most competitive grants and consistently received high marks from the grant committees. These grants will bring an estimated $2.5 million in federal funds to Oregon.

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America’s Forest Heritage: It’s Worth Holding On To.

Most of America’s forests are owned privately, not by the federal government and not by big companies. The largest ownership group? People like me; family forest owners who work hard to keep our forests healthy. But sometimes our own investments in resources and sweat equity just isn’t enough.

That’s why forest conservation programs in the Farm Bill matter – a lot. These programs help us protect wildlife habitat, keep the air and water clean, and keep our forests intact. That benefits everyone.

Tell Congress: keep the Farm Bill’s forest conservation programs working.

www.familyforestaction.org

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We grow stewardship from the roots.
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November Update on State Budget

In late November, the Oregon’s State Economist released his quarterly economic and revenue forecast. While it wasn't the rosiest of pictures, it wasn’t as bad as some had feared, and it’s unlikely to trigger major budget reductions experienced in the last couple of years. Revenue growth has slowed slightly, but remains stable.

The current forecast showed that 1) growth in personal income taxes from both labor and investment income remains stronger than in other states and is well above what would be consistent with a recession, 2) corporate tax collections have come to a screeching halt, and are now falling faster than was forecast, and 3) lottery revenues remain weak (down about $23 million).

The forecast projected a General Fund ending balance for the current biennium of $169 million. Last July, recognizing the economy was soft, and as a hedge against triggering major reductions, the Legislature set aside a $446 million General Fund ending balance. All agencies, including the Department of Forestry, were recently asked to prepare up to 10.5 percent in General Fund reductions. At this time, it appears there may not be a need to trigger those reductions, but as one might expect the Governor’s Office and Oregon’s legislative leadership will be watching this very closely, and will be focused on the next revenue forecast, scheduled for February 2012.

THANK YOU! NEW & RETURNING MEMBERS

BAKER:
CODY HINDMAN

CLACKAMAS:
GRACE CHAMBERLAIN
CHRISTOPHER KLEPS
JOHN MAACK
RAMONA NELSON
GREG PAULY
PAULA SORENSEN

COLUMBIA:
CORY COLBURN
ARMOND KALESSE

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TRACY FITCHHORN

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GARY NELSON

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MICHAEL KENNEDY

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DOUG EDDY

YAMHILL:
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