

OSU Extension Update

GLENN AHRENS

New addition to Clackamas Extension Forestry team

Jennifer Gorski began work December 1 as our new Forestry Program Assistant for OSU Extension Clackamas County. She has a great combination of skills and experience in both private business and public education. Even before her start date, we recruited Jennifer to teach two classes at Tree School 2015 based on her strong background in the subject matter of 1) Trees and Shrubs to Know in Oregon and 2) Propagation, Care, and Handling of Tree and Shrub Seedlings. December is a great month for Jennifer to jump on board with preparations for Tree School and our other 2015 program planning.

Forest Science-Management Partnership Highlight of National Forestry Convention

I joined nearly 4,000 foresters, researchers, and forestry students in Salt Lake City, Utah for a rare convergence at the joint Society of American Foresters National Convention, Canadian Forestry Institute Annual Meeting, and the International Union of Forest Research Organizations World Congress on October 8-11, 2014. Preparing for the convention spurred me on in my effort to develop *Decision Tools for Selecting Alder and Douglas-fir Management Regimes* which I presented in a poster. There were other take-home benefits from the sessions to improve my working knowledge of topics including, landowner outreach and engagement methods, neighborhood fuels reduction techniques, silviculture at the urban interface, thinning older forests, bark beetle impact assessment, wood energy development, carbon credit schemes, and more.

After a busy summer here in Oregon, this international convention was an opportunity to step back and



OSU booth at the joint Society of American Foresters National Convention, Canadian Institute of Forestry Annual Meeting, and the International Union of Forest Research Organizations World Congress (October 8-11, 2014).

reflect on the value of our local forestry work in the global context. I think this was captured very well by the remarks of one of the distinguished presenters, Charles, Prince of Wales. He was giving a pep-talk to the international assembly of foresters via streaming video:

“I do hope, ladies and gentlemen, that you will manage to maintain one of the great traditional strengths of your profession, which is to take a longer-term view of the world than ordinary mortals would ever consider. I can imagine that planning and planting for the benefit of generations as yet unborn becomes more difficult year by year, while short-term pressures grow like weeds. Yet it is surely more important than ever to make the good long-term decisions that your successors will appreciate.”

We are in need of such encouragement, given the increasing challenges and demands on our forests:

“In the western US, 46 million acres of forest have been severely impacted by bark beetles... Over the last several decades, fire sea-

sons have grown by 60-80 days while the annual acreage subjected to wildfire has doubled. “
—Robert Bonnie, US Undersecretary for natural resources and environment

“Global demand for forestland and forest products continues to increase in line with the hugely unsustainable growth in global population and consumption.”
—Charles, Prince of Wales

In light of these issues, you can't help but gain renewed appreciation for the good overall health and productivity of the forests we get to manage here in northwest Oregon.

Extension and CFFA Newsletters working together?

Many of you receive both the *Forest-Tree Leader* and the *Woodland Notes* Extension Newsletter, so we try not to be too redundant. If you do not receive *Woodland Notes* and wish to consider it, please see the newsletter at <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/clackamas/woodland-notes> and contact Jean Bremer at 503-655-8631 or jean.bremer@oregonstate.edu if you wish to subscribe. ■