

## Snohomish/Skagit Extension Forestry E-Newsletter

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*The Snohomish/Skagit Extension Forestry E-Newsletter is sent out periodically as news and announcements become available. Please feel free to forward and share this information with others who may be interested.*

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### Upcoming Events

*There are several upcoming events of interest. Some are in the next couple of days, so act fast if you are interested!*

- **Spring Forestry Education Seminar will be held March 29th (*this Saturday!!*) in Olympia:** WSU Extension's traditional "Fall Education Seminar" has now become the "Spring Education Seminar." This year's seminar will be a facilitated workshop on succession planning using the new **Ties to the Land** curriculum from OSU. This curriculum, which is getting national attention, was recently featured in the Portland Business Journal (<http://www.bizjournals.com/portland/stories/2008/02/25/daily1.html>). For more details and registration information visit <http://snohomish.wsu.edu/forestry/forestryevents.htm>

- **Lasagna Dinner and Public Presentation of the results of the Family Forest Landowner Study will be held March 31st (*this Monday!!*) in South Everett.** Washington State University Extension, in cooperation with Snohomish County, the Skagit Conservation District, and the Washington Farm Forestry Association, recently completed a comprehensive study of family forest owners in Northwest Washington. Over 1,000 family forest owners participated in this study, which covered forest ownership values, education interests, information and technical assistance delivery preferences, and demographics. The event costs \$15 and an RSVP is required for the food count. Details are available at [http://snohomish.wsu.edu/forestry/ffstudy\\_safdinner.htm](http://snohomish.wsu.edu/forestry/ffstudy_safdinner.htm) (or by calling me at 425-357-6017)
- **Tree Lecture and book signing at Everett Public Library on April 16th.** Tree expert Dr. Stephen Arno will give a talk and slide show about identifying Northwest trees at the Everett Public Library, 2702 Hoyt Avenue in downtown Everett on Wednesday, April 16th. The talk begins at 7 p.m. in the library's auditorium and is free and open to the public. Dr. Arno will sign copies of his new book, *Northwest Trees: Identifying and Understanding the Region's Native Trees* after his talk. For more information about this event, please call 425-257-8000 or 425-257-7659.
- **Earth Walk Adventure on April 19th in Marysville.** Come celebrate Earth Day with WSU Extension and numerous other natural resource organizations. This free, family-friendly event will feature water-themed exhibits and hands-on activities at Waterfront City Park in Marysville. For more information, please contact Adam Bailey, at the City of Marysville, at [abailey@ci.marysville.wa.us](mailto:abailey@ci.marysville.wa.us) or 360-363-8283; or visit <http://www.stillysnofish.org/earthday2008.html>
- **WFFA Annual meeting April 24th-26th in Mount Vernon.** The program includes a mill tour, a tree farm tour, addresses from the gubernatorial candidates and a luncheon to recognize the state Tree Farmer of the Year. For registration information visit: <http://www.westernforestry.org/wffa/wffa.htm> or call Erica Norquist at WFFA at (360) 736-5750.

### Forestry in the News

- Our very own forest stewardship program was featured on Sunday, March 23rd in the Everett Herald (<http://www.heraldnet.com/article/20080323/BIZ/722656528/>) and on Wednesday, March 5th in the Sedro Woolley Courier Times ([http://www.goskagit.com/index.php/community/article/local\\_forest\\_landowners\\_can\\_learn\\_about\\_land\\_management/](http://www.goskagit.com/index.php/community/article/local_forest_landowners_can_learn_about_land_management/)). The reporters and editors at

each newspaper did a fantastic job covering the Snohomish and Skagit County Forest Stewardship Classes.

- The Seattle Times ran an editorial this week about forest conversion, logging, and regulations (oh my!): <http://archives.seattletimes.nwsourc.com/cgi-bin/texis.cgi/web/vortex/display?slug=prestonandrew26&date=20080326>
- King 5 News did a recent spot on unintended consequences of the ESA on family forests: <http://www.king5.com/video/featured-index.html?nvid=226194>
- The Seattle times looks at the timber salvage challenges after the December windstorm: [http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/2004199401\\_salvagelogging25m.html](http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/2004199401_salvagelogging25m.html)
- Another article, this one in the Oregonian, about the challenges of post windstorm salvage: <http://www.oregonlive.com/news/oregonian/index.ssf?/base/news/1204959312271390.xml&coll=7>
- An interesting article in the Sacramento Bee about carbon emissions from wildfires: <http://www.sacbee.com/378/story/778649.html>
- The Washington Post reports on proposals to move the Forest Service from the USDA back to the USDI: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/03/24/AR2008032402510.html>

## **EQIP Deadline**

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) announced a July 15 cutoff for EQIP applications. The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is a voluntary, cost-share assistance program that helps fund conservation practices for both farmers and forest landowners. On forest land, funding has helped landowners to maintain roads, provide wildlife habitat, improve fish passage, and several other management practices. In most instances, producers who participate in the program pay for roughly half of the costs of the conservation measures or practices. In 2006 and 2007, Washington agricultural producers qualified for more than \$30 million in financial assistance through the program, according to the NRCS.

The new application ranking cut-off date represents an on-going agency effort to provide landowners and conservation planners additional time to develop more comprehensive conservation plans for implementing the various practices and activities funded through the program. Landowners can apply for EQIP at any

time, but to be considered for fiscal year 2009 funding, they need to have their applications complete by July 15. A list of local NRCS offices can be found at: <http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?service=page/CountyMap&state=WA&stateName=Washington&stateCode=53>.

You can also call me at 425-357-6017 and I can provide you with additional literature on EQIP and connect you with your local NRCS office.

### **Large Print Newsletters Now Available**

For those who would prefer receiving a large print version of this newsletter, please let me know. You can contact me directly at [kzobrist@wsu.edu](mailto:kzobrist@wsu.edu) or 425-357-6017. You can also change your subscription preferences online at <http://snohomish.wsu.edu/forestry/change.htm>.

### **Future Forest Stewardship Classes**

- **2009 Coached Planning:** For those of you who are interested in taking the next Forest Stewardship Coached Planning class, we won't be doing another class until early 2009, but that will be here before you know it! Tentative locations for 2009 are the Arlington/Silvana area and the Monroe area. As more details become available, they will be published in this newsletter.
- **Advanced Coached Planning:** For those of you who are already graduates of the coached planning class and have been wondering what's next, an advanced class has been planned for this fall (starting in late September) on Tuesday nights in South Everett. The tentative list of topics for this 6-week advanced course are advanced forest health (with emphasis on fire, wind, and other abiotic disturbances), advanced wildlife habitat (with emphasis on advanced silviculture for biodiversity), forest finance and taxes, forest safety and security, invasive species, succession planning, and managing a timber sale. More details will be posted in this newsletter in the coming months. This class is exclusively for those who have already completed the Coached Planning class.

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