



# Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

## Department of Forestry

State Forester's Office

2600 State Street

Salem, OR 97310

503-945-7200

FAX 503-945-7212

TTY 503-945-7213 / 800-437-4490

<http://www.odf.state.or.us>

March 18, 2008

Lance Christensen, President  
Clackamas-Marion Forest Protective Association  
14995 South Hwy 211  
Molalla, OR 97038



"STEWARDSHIP IN FORESTRY"

Dear Lance,

Thank you for the recent letter on behalf of the Clackamas-Marion Forest Protection Association.

I truly appreciate your comments concerning the successful fire season and the contribution the district employees made. It is very rewarding to hear about the level of cooperation between the landowners and the district. I will be sure to pass on your appreciation to Gregg Cline, the District Forester. The amount of human caused fires, especially in the Molalla River Corridor, is a concern for us all. I know the district is working closely with many agencies in trying to bring some closure to the problem.

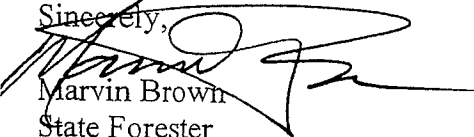
The department has much work to do with the Legislature and others in telling our story. At the direction of the 2007 Legislature, ODF has engaged in an effort to collect "In-Kind" data that demonstrates the contributions made by landowners that are over and above the level of protection already being paid for through assessments to support district budgets. We are hopeful, that once again, this important effort from the private landowners will be validated as an integral part of the protection program.

Additionally we are working on a Legislative Concept called the "Wildland Fire Reduction Act" that if successful will build additional capacity into the complete and coordinated system helping to reduce the costs of large fires. You will be hearing more details about this concept and your input and support will be critical to making it successful.

I would also like to pass along my thanks to Dan Fink for his year long participation on the Forestland Classification Steering Committee. Dan's work and that of the other committee members has been very productive in developing recommendations that the Department will be moving forward to improve our classification system.

Thank you again for your continued support and I'm looking forward to continuing a close working relationship this coming year with the Clackamas-Marion Forest Protective Association.

Sincerely,

  
Marvin Brown  
State Forester

AGENDA ITEM F  
Attachment 1  
Page 1 of 34

**CLACKAMAS-MARION  
FOREST PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION**

14995 South Hwy 211, Molalla OR 97038 503-829-2216, FAX 503-829-4736

Organized to Promote Cooperative Forest Protection

"A Partnership with the Oregon Department of Forestry"

Founded 1912, Incorporated December 21, 1936

President:

**Lance Christensen**

Port Blakely Tree Farms

Vice President:

**Dan Fink**

Longview Timberlands LLC

Directors:

**David Lake**

Portland General Electric

**Tyson Losli**

Weyerhaeuser Company

**Roger Beyer**

Beyer Tree Farm

**Robbie Moule**

Avery Interests

**Randy Silbernagel**

Freres Lumber Co., Inc.

**John Poppino**

Lazy RB Tree Farm

Advisory Directors:

Clackamas Farm Forestry  
Association

**Scott Hanson**

Keep Oregon Green

**Mary Ellen Holly**

Oregon Dept. Fish & Wildlife

**Jeff Boechler**

Clackamas County Fire  
Defense Board

**Doug Branch**

ODF Area Director

**Mike Bordelon**

Willamette National Forest

**Paul Matter**

Oregon Forest Industries  
Council

**Mike Dykzeul**

Clackamas County

**Tom Ortman**

Bureau Land Management

**Cindy Enstrom**

Mt. Hood National Forest

**Debora Roy**

January 30, 2008

Marvin Brown

State Forester

Oregon Department of Forestry

Salem, OR 97310

Dear Marvin,

On behalf of the Clackamas-Marion Forest Protection Association, I would like to take a few moments of your time to look back on the past year.

The North Cascade District's fire season was a success in large part because of the hard work done by the ODF's employees. The number of statistical fires in 2007 was 121; this is 82 more than the ten year average but 57 fewer than last 2006. The employees are aggressive on initial attack which keeps the total acres involved low and helps reduce costs. The difficult work on the investigations for arson fires in the Molalla River Corridor is appreciated and hopefully will someday lead to an arrest. Another item that is functioning well is the communications between ODF and the landowners for the industrial fire level and the weather forecasting during the burning season. The ODF employees are doing a great job of providing a high quality service.

The biggest concern in 2007 was the funding shift for HB 5024. The Clackamas-Marion District has a high potential for human causes fires, we had 69 debris burning fires this year, well above the 10 year average of 16. Since landowners are paying assessments for forest land protection and supporting the protection system with in-kind contributions it's import that the public pay their fair share.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our appreciation and concerns. The great work being done by the ODF staff will lead to another successful new year.

Sincerely,



Lance Christensen

Clackamas-Marion Forest Protection Association

c: Mike Bordelon, ODF NW Area Director

Greg Cline, ODF North Cascade District Forester

AGENDA ITEM F  
Attachment 1  
Page 2 of 34



# Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

April 28, 2008

Mr. Ted Reiss  
Eastern Lane Forest Protective Association  
3150 Main Street  
Springfield, OR 97478

Department of Forestry

State Forester's Office

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Dear Ted,

Thank you for your recent letter explaining some of the current issues facing the Eastern Lane Forest Protective Association (ELFPA). I also appreciate the many accomplishments the association and numerous organizations and agencies share.

Having the fire suppression forces spread throughout the district is an excellent choice. ODF has had trouble filling firefighter positions in some of our more remote locations. Building the crew house is an excellent way to encourage participation on our summer fire crews.

I very much appreciate the effort the association has gone through to develop your Landowner Activation Plan. The importance of having landowners comprehensively involved in the fire protection program adds much strength to our shared goals in fire prevention and suppression. The example shared in your letter about the Weyerhaeuser Company commitment for continued use of their helicopter really shows a working partnership developed with ELFPA.

There was a lot of effort in responding to the in-kind resource tracking initiative. I too am very pleased with the response to produce the necessary information, and that this information shows, once again, how important landowner contributions are in sustaining a complete and coordinated wildfire protection system for Oregon. It is important that landowners continue to participate in the survey. I'm confident that the new processes are sustainable and will continue to show the Legislature and the Governor's Office information that is informative and helpful in meeting state fiscal goals for wildfire prevention and protection.

Summer tours are a great way of highlighting the many accomplishments to many interest groups. Having Senator Brad Avakian attend Linn Forest Protective Association's tour was an excellent opportunity to do just that! The cooperation with the Linn Forest Protective Association in organizing the tour and other activities of the South Cascades District is indicative of partnerships that foster Oregon's complete and coordinated system.

Eastern Lane Forest Protective Association  
April 28, 2008  
Page Two

Throughout the Western states, wildland fires are becoming larger and more destructive, requiring additional resources to suppress. The Interagency Firefighting Crew Agreement is stretched very thin during the peak of fire season. There are ongoing efforts to diversify paths for obtaining firefighting resources that will hopefully provide necessary resources when needed in Oregon.

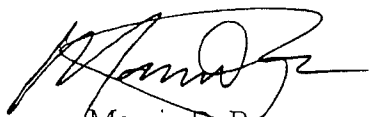
Fire investigation is an important part of our fire management program and succession management of fire investigators is a concern for the fire program. In the past few years, we have had several top fire investigators retire from public service, which has left us with some large gaps to fill. The fire investigator position is considered a critical resource shortage for the program which conveys a sense of importance and helps recruitment of department employees.

The department's Private Forest Program is aware of the amount of regulations imposed on private forest land owners. Our new Division Chief, Jim Paul, is diligently working with his staff, continuing to articulate to a wide array of groups, agencies and organizations the importance of using scientific knowledge in managing our state's natural resources.

The updated Smoke Management Plan brings the program more in line with modern forestry, adjusts to current on-the-ground practices, and clarifies the definitions to improve consistency and reduce the need for interpretation. The smoke management section is conducting training early this year for all districts and landowners. The section's implementation plan for the new smoke management plan includes the development of educational materials for the public.

Thank you again for your letter and I appreciate your insights and comments. I'm looking forward to working with the Eastern Lane Forest Protective Association this coming year.

Sincerely,



Marvin D. Brown  
State Forester



## EASTERN LANE FOREST PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION

3150 Main Street  
Springfield, OR. 97478  
(Incorporated)

President:

**Ted Reiss**

*Seneca Jones Timber Co.*

Vice President:

**Paul Wagner**

*Giustina Resources*

Directors:

**Dee Anderson**

*Robert Anderson*

**Cary Hart**

*Giustina Land and Timber Co.*

**Karl Morgenstern**

*Eugene Water and Electric Bd.*

**Mike McDowell**

*Weyerhaeuser Company*

**Leroy Petersen**

*Petersen Family Properties*

**Gene Stevens**

*Rosboro Lumber Co.*

Advisory Directors:

*ODF Area Manager:*

**Dan Shults**

*ODF District Forester:*

**Lena Tucker**

*ODF Unit Forester:*

**Greg Wagenblast**

*Bureau of Land Mgt:*

**Nancy Ashlock**

*US Forest Service:*

**Doug Ledgerwood**

*Oregon Forest*

*Industries Council:*

**Mike Dykzeul**

*Keep Oregon Green  
Association:*

**Mary Ellen Holly**

January 11, 2008

Mr. Marvin Brown  
State Forester's Office  
2600 State Street  
Salem, OR. 97310

Dear Marvin,

It is my pleasure as the President of the Eastern Lane Forest Protective Association to report on the successes of our partnership with the Oregon Department of Forestry over the past year. We have completed several initiatives that will sustain our strong cooperative working relationship and maintain our common goal of excellent fire prevention and suppression. I would like to highlight a few of these undertakings.

Rapid fire response and local knowledge of the far corners of our wide district are of particular concern at Eastern Lane. To provide the best protection affordable we have made a commitment to secure a base of operations in these outlying areas. They are: an agreement with USFS Cottage Grove for parking and crew space at the ranger station; potential future agreement with the Oakridge Rural Fire Dept. for crew and parking space in Oakridge; and most specifically, we have completed construction on a crew house in Nimrod, McKenzie River, for housing the fire crew while providing additional space for the McKenzie Rural Fire Dept. for operations. This new crew house will provide incentive for fire fighting personnel to work for ODF in this remote area. This construction also proves our commitment to our rural fire fighting partners. These improvements and future agreements will help our overall efforts in fire protection while saving money for daily transportation of fire vehicles.

The East Lane leadership has instituted a Landowner Activation Plan for use in critical fire detection and suppression situations. This plan is modeled after the plan developed by Douglas Fire Protection Association for the same purpose. We are working cooperatively at a higher level of commitment to maintain our working forests in a healthy condition.

A very important member of ELFPA, Weyerhaeuser Company, maintained helicopter presence in the Eugene/Springfield area and continued their commitment, along with the Board of ELFPA, for the cooperative agreement with ODF for aerial fire suppression work. This is a highly successful example of the cooperative manner in which fire is suppressed through our contract with ODF. We look forward to another great year in 2008 with this highly valuable resource ready to respond.

The in-kind resource tracking initiative was completed with excellent results under time constraints that point to the strength and support of this cooperative fire fighting effort we call the "complete and coordinated system". It is not only during fire fighting itself that ODF and the landowner community need to support each other. Legislative maneuvering required quick mobilization for accurate and all-inclusive in-kind resource accounting. Your local leadership at all districts made this possible with support from landowners. Streamlining reporting procedures will help solidify this effort for future budget discussions at the legislative level. The ELFPA Board of Directors is very supportive of this effort.

We took part in a joint summer tour with Linn Forest Protective Association for touring the Middle Fork Fire area of 2006. We had an excellent tour, supported by many district and Salem ODF staff. We are particularly excited that Senator Brad Ovakian joined our tour group and was very intrigued about the extent to which we cooperatively protect our natural resources. He thanked us for the tour and undoubtedly gained new appreciation for how complex, professional, and dedicated our relationship remains.

Although we have accomplished many successful cooperative projects this past year, it is always with an eye to the future and the challenges we face that make the promise of another year interesting. We have a few concerns about initiatives not yet accomplished or potential threats to ELFPA's goals that I would like to share with you.

Hand trail and mop-up crews who perform groundwork during fire suppression activities are of vital importance to fire fighting endeavors. These resources are becoming very expensive and hard to find during our normal fire season. Efforts have been undertaken to remedy this situation at the Salem level within ODF. ELFPA supports this initiative and looks forward to ODF finding an alternative method of incentive for maintaining excellent status within private fire crew ranks. It is clear that we must formulate emergency plans for circumstances in which we find crews unavailable due to fire disasters in other states. This past fall we had a minor taste of this situation. The east wind event that hit in late October provided burning conditions during a period of time when most contract crews were engaged in Southern California. The district resources responded with excellent results, despite having very limited staff. Obviously, if this situation had taken place during fire season, it would have been much worse.

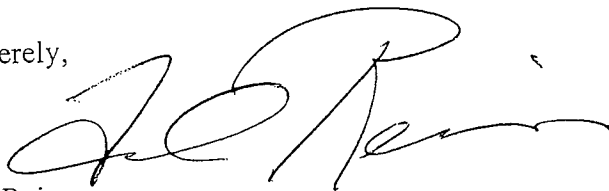
ODF fire investigator ranks have shrunk over the past several years. This is a highly technical and important job for all state districts across Oregon. Proper investigation leads to enhanced fire behavior knowledge, increased opportunity for fire cost collection, and the ability to identify threats with a high probability of large fire potential. These positions are extremely important for fire prevention and suppression. We support opportunities and initiatives to increase the fire investigative workforce within ODF.

Increased land management costs can take many forms. Regulations creep over time has the potential to place an insurmountable burden on forestland owners in Oregon. We see this potential with local initiatives concerning decreasing sediment discharge, herbicide use, and requiring the placement of leave trees in slide prone areas, for example. We strongly advise our ODF partners to take a scientific stance on these and other regulation issues facing us in the future. These issues are controversial and have the ability to create fear without real damage being suffered. However, fear in our local communities and new, burdensome regulations will damage our ability to grow and harvest valuable timber resources.

The newly enacted Smoke Management Plan (SMP) is a great start to securing the future of hazardous fuel reductions on the landscape. Burning hazardous fuels during proper weather conditions is far superior to dealing with wildfire from these same fuels during the fire season. We are hopeful that the new SMP will increase opportunity during the correct atmospheric conditions for excellent consumption with very limited risk to our neighbors in the public. As land stewards we work very hard to maintain health and vigor on our lands while not impacting our neighbors through forest management activities. What remains to be done is simply following through with the SMP, tracking incidents, provide training at the local level for reporting and billing consistency, and providing feedback to concerned citizens and landowners. Following through with these opportunities will ensure SMP success.

2007 was a good year for fire prevention and suppression activities in the East Lane District. As I have outlined above, we have accomplished goals that will enable us to maintain our fire fighting abilities. We also have some challenges ahead. We are committed to facing these challenges with our ODF partners as active cooperators in the complete and coordinated system of fire protection in Oregon. We wish you success in the New Year and look forward to any opportunity we may have to discuss these issues further.

Sincerely,



Ted Reiss

President – Eastern Lane Forest Protective Association

Cc: Lena Tucker – ODF District Forester, South Cascade District  
Dan Shults – ODF, Southern Oregon Area Director  
Rep. Bruce Hanna – Oregon District 7 Representative  
Rep. Phil Barnhart – Oregon District 11 Representative  
Rep. Terry Beyer – Oregon District 12 Representative  
Sen. Floyd Prozanski – Oregon District 4 Senator  
Sen. Bill Morrisette – Oregon District 6 Senator  
Bill Dwyer – Lane County Commissioner  
Faye Stewart – Lane County Commissioner  
Mike Dykzeul – Oregon Forest Industries Council



# Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

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April 14, 2008

Milton I. Moran Jr., President  
Linn Forest Protective Association  
4690 Highway 20  
Sweet Home, OR 97386



"STEWARDSHIP IN FORESTRY"

Dear Milt,

Thank you for the recent letter outlining some of the highlights and issues affecting the Linn Forest Protective Association. I will also pass on the compliments to Lena Tucker for recognition of the efforts of the South Cascade District employees as I know they will appreciate it.

We're all very fortunate that the South Cascade District had a good fire season. The aggressive initial attack by the district and the support from the landowners goes a long way toward defining that success. The Landowner Activation Plan allowing for quick communication for detection and suppression activities will only improve coordination efforts. Some parts of the state did not fare as well as LFPA in regard to the 2007 fire season. And, I would like to thank the association for sending needed firefighting resources out of district, where they proved most helpful!

There are many aspects of a well designed fire management program. Your letter has described many of the key components necessary such as; hosting the interagency fire school, fire prevention activities that include educational opportunities for children and adults, development of Community Wildfire Protection Plans, and keeping the infrastructure well maintained. I applaud those efforts and encourage the Association to continue building and preparing for the future.

I'm glad the summer tour was such a success. Inviting the Legislators and other interested people certainly provides a forum for important discussions and learning opportunities for all attending.

The health and stability of the Oregon Forest Land Protection Fund is extremely important to the department. The ongoing effort, as demonstrated at the fall OFIC Protection Committee meeting along with the work the Forestland Classification Committee has done could provide opportunities to make the fund more stable.

Additionally, we are working on a Legislative Concept called the "Wildland Fire Reduction Act" that if successful will build additional capacity into the complete and

Milton I. Moran Jr., President  
April 16, 2008  
Page Two

coordinated system helping to reduce the costs of large fires. You will be hearing more details about this concept and your input and support will be critical to making it successful.


Revision of the Smoke Management Plan was a multi-year process that considered the requirements and desires of individuals and agencies across a broad spectrum. The plan balances many, often competing needs for this diverse set of stakeholders. Ultimately, a successful plan must maintain the ability to manage forest fuels and ensure overall forest productivity with continued support from all. I agree with you on the need to have a comprehensive approach to utilization of forest residue including the development of bio-mass products. The department, along with other cooperators, is continuing to research and improve the ability to market bio-mass products.

In regard to the work of the Forestland Classification Steering committee staff is already formulating a Legislative Concept (LC) based on committee recommendations to move forward in the upcoming legislative process. Other committee recommendations dealing with rules, department directives and guidance are being incorporated into a work plan to be presented to the Board of Forestry in June. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you Milt for your work with the Forestland Classification Steering committee. Having forest landowner involvement in these types of processes is very important to making them successful.

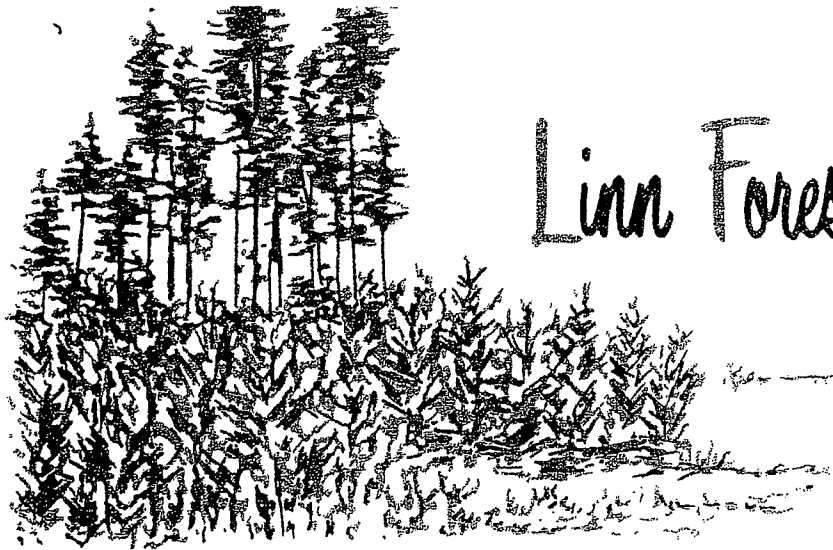
I understand the process to review the "reverse" contract is well on it's way and I look forward to seeing the final product.

Thank you for a review of the highlights and issues from the perspective of the Linn Forest Protective Association. I'm looking forward to working with you and the rest of the Association this coming year!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marvin D. Brown". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping initial "M".

Marvin D. Brown  
State Forester



# Linn Forest Protective Association

INCORPORATED  
4690 HIGHWAY 20  
SWEET HOME, OREGON  
97386  
TELEPHONE 367-6108

President:

**Milt Moran**

*Cascade Timber Consulting, Inc.  
South Santiam Tree Farm*

Vice President:

**Eric Kranzush**

*Giustina Land & Timber*

Treasurer/Secretary:

**Nels Jensen**

*Hampton Affiliates*

Directors:

**Ron Borisch**

*Longview Timberlands LLC*

**Randy Silbernagel**

*Freres Lumber Company, Inc.*

**Pete Sikora**

*Giustina Resources*

**Dennis St. Clair**

*Weyerhaeuser Company*

**Sherm Sallee**

*SNO-Peak Nobles*

Advisory Directors:

*ODF Area Director (SOA):*

**Dan Shults**

*Bureau of Land Mgt:*

**Nancy Ashlock**

**Carl West**

*US Forest Service:*

**Melany Glossa**

*Army Corp of Engineers:*

**Chad Stewart**

*Oregon Forest*

*Industries Council:*

**Mike Dykzeul**

*Keep Oregon Green Association:*

**Mary Ellen Holly**

ODF:

*District Forester*

**Lena Tucker**

*Unit Forester:*

**Kevin Crowell**

February 5, 2008

Marvin Brown  
State Forester  
Oregon Dept. of Forestry  
2600 State Street  
Salem, Oregon 97310

Dear Marvin:

Thank you for the opportunity to address the current state of affairs at the Linn Forest Protective Association (LFPA) and the Sweet Home Unit of the State Department of Forestry within the South Cascade District. I would also like to discuss current issues facing the department. We are very proud of the work done locally by District Forester, Lena Tucker, Unit Forester Kevin Crowell and the entire crew in maintaining an adequate Level of Protection for the landowners and neighboring landowners of our association. The spirit of cooperation of all landowners and the agency continue to be very successful. These levels of cooperation expand to our adjacent federal landowner community, continually building higher levels of communication and cooperation. We have noted and welcomed a more aggressive tactical attitude from the USFS on fires near association lands.

The Fire Season of 2007 was a good one for our district. Closed Fire Season was shorter than average with 97 days. There were 34 fires totaling 13.08 acres. One of these fires was recreationist caused and totaled 11 acres. A late, post season fire, caused by a rekindled slash burn during an east wind episode burned a total of 75 acres. This fire burned in the unit of origin, was not planted, consuming untreated slash with less than ¼ acre of slop over. There was minimal resource damage and the fire did not escape to neighboring properties. Throughout the Fire Season ODF staff safely and aggressively performed successful initial attack and management of all fires.

The unit hosted the annual Interagency Fire School for the eighth year. This successful program is an essential part of fire fighter training. This program builds strong individuals and teams that learn how to work safely and effectively, with a variety of agencies. We invite you to attend the welcome briefing on Monday, June 23, for the 2008 Fire School.

Educational opportunities by district staff included visits with Smokey Bear to local schools, the Sportsman's Holiday Parade and the 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Fire Prevention Poster Contest. The unit in cooperation with Oregon State University Forestry Extension and an industrial landowner provided fire prevention and wildfire tactical training to some of our small landowner community. We feel these educational opportunities must remain an integral part of the prevention process.

**AGENDA ITEM F**  
**Attachment 1**  
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*Providing Fire Protection in Linn County sin*

The landowner and operator community continue to play an important role in the early detection and suppression efforts of the unit. We have implemented a Landowner Activation Plan that supplements the district staff in the event of multiple fire starts or the potential for multiple starts. All industrial owners have predetermined areas and blocks of areas to patrol and take action as may be necessary. Dispatch and incident reporting are handled through the dispatcher at the Sweet Home Unit Headquarters. The ability for landowners to communicate directly by radio to the ODF dispatcher on state frequencies is of great importance. This communications plan allows for direct tactical planning and continued incident size up and reporting. Landowners and district fire managers are able to maintain efficient and safe fire operations. Our Board of Directors is committed to maintain a successful Activation and Communications Plan.

Under the guidance of Lena Tucker and Lee Vaughn, the National Fire Plan Grant Administrator, the Community Wildfire Protection Plan with Linn County is well under way. Their work with the Linn County Commissioners and other community leaders has been very fruitful. Implementation of the National Fire Plan through field assessments and education of land and home owners by district personnel is going well. Local newspapers in Sweet Home and Albany have written good articles regarding the Community Wildfire Protection Plan and the unit's activities.

We held a successful joint Summer Field Tour with Eastern Lane Forest Protective Association (ELFPA). The Middle Fork and Quartzville area fires of 2006 were the focal point of our discussion and tour. This special event was well attended. Invitations were sent to our respective Representatives and Senators and those members of the Natural Resources Sub Committee of the Ways and Means Committee. Senator Brad Avakian, District 17, was able to attend along with Satish Upadhyay from the Department of Administrative Services. Both gentlemen went away with an appreciation for our work and concerns. They both proved to be excellent listeners with great questions and thoughts. Our Board has pledged to involve our elected officials as much as possible to better inform them of our forest protection business and issues.

The Association and District continue to work collaboratively on the needs and upgrades of our grounds and buildings. We continually strive to maintain the headquarters compound ownership values at or near the 50% District – 50% Association levels. Our annual and ten year plan for the Association Motor Pool is under constant evaluation. The vehicles and equipment are an important part of the preparedness and protection for the district, providing safe and effective tools for our firefighters.

Aviation Resources in the form of Weyerhaeuser Company Aviation Services continued to be a valuable contracted service for the 2007 Fire Season. We have had good results sharing this contracted resource with the Western Lane District. Aerial fire fighting resources continue to be a necessary tool. Early detection and quick response by competent and well equipped Air Attack operators is essential to minimizing fire size, resource loss and fire suppression costs.

As current Chair of the OFIC Protection Committee, and being concerned with the current status of the Oregon Forestland Protection Fund, I would like to point out concerns regarding the rising costs to put out fires. At our October 30, 2007 Protection Committee Meeting, we were joined by the Emergency Fire Cost Committee. This was one of the highest attended Protection Committee meetings in recent history. Many concerns, thoughts and ideas were discussed. It is evident we all need to focus on the suppression of fires as quickly as possible in the safest and in the most cost efficient manner. Historically ground crews appear to be the single highest cost resource, and appear to be the area of greatest concern. Many ideas from District Foresters and Association Presidents were put on the table for future discussion. I hope you have the opportunity to look over these ideas and thoughts.

Once again, it appears the Headquarters Protection from Fire Program Budget will come under scrutiny at the legislative level. It is imperative that the General Fund continue to share 50/50 with the landowners in this important program. The "in kind" tracking of landowner and operator

resources available for preparedness and suppression appears to have been a successful accounting system for the multitude of firefighting resources and landowner preparedness. We truly have a "complete and coordinated system".

The Smoke Management Plan recently adopted is an important measure allowing landowners and managers to continue to use controlled fire as an important management tool. We look forward to the opportunity to exercise the new rules to accomplish our objectives while minimizing negative impacts to the public. Controlled fire at the correct time of the year, regarding air quality, reduces impacts from catastrophic wildfire emissions on the greater populous during the worst time of the year. Controlled fire continues to help us minimize fire fighting costs by reducing fuels loads, creating fire breaks and enhancing our ability to maintain optimum health of our forestlands. Wood residuals, in the forest, are becoming more attractive for other uses including bio-mass, ethanol production and other fiber based products. The gap between delivered revenues and expenses is narrowing. This gap continues to restrict what actually gets utilized into this special market. The department's help to find ways to encourage the use of Bio-Mass through the continuation of existing tax credits, and the pursuit of future methods to offset production and delivery costs would be good for all Oregonians.

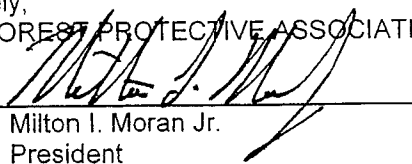
The Forestland Classification Steering Committee recently completed close to a years worth of work. Recommendations and legislative concepts are now on the drawing board. These concepts have short term and long term levels of activity and opportunities. As a member of this committee I would appreciate the moving forward to respective legislative, administrative and county jurisdictions for the implementation of these recommendations and concepts.

Linn Forest Protective Association has started the process to review the "reverse" contract with Oregon Dept. of Forestry. Our committee has met with Charlie Stone, and look forward to working with staff to possibly update.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide our perspective on the various programs administered by the Department, and hope to work collaboratively to find solutions to issues our industry faces. On behalf of the LFPA Board of Directors, I thank you for your willingness to be seen out and about throughout the various districts and functions, and welcome you to Sweet Home at any time.

Sincerely,  
LINN FOREST PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION

By

  
Milton I. Moran Jr.  
President

cc:

Senator Fred Girod – Oregon District 9  
Senator Bill Morrisette – Oregon District 6  
Representative Sherrie Sprenger – Oregon District 17  
Representative Phil Barnhart – Oregon District 11  
Commissioner John Lindsey – Linn County Board of Commissioners  
Commissioner Cliff Wooten – Linn County Board of Commissioners  
Commissioner Roger Nyquist – Linn County Board of Commissioners  
Dan Shults – ODF Southern Oregon Area Director  
Mike Dykzeul – Oregon Forest Industries Council  
Lena Tucker – ODF District Forester, South Cascade District  
Kevin Crowell – ODF Unit Forester, Sweet Home Unit



# Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

## Department of Forestry

State Forester's Office

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April 3, 2008



"STEWARDSHIP IN FORESTRY"

Mr. Mitch Parker  
Green Diamond Resource Company  
Oregon Timberlands Operations  
2308 First St. PO Box 190  
Tillamook, OR 97141-0190

Dear Mitch,

Thank you for the recent letter on behalf of the Northwest Forest Protective Association. It's always a pleasure to hear about the accomplishments made in the districts and important to hear about the concerns and issues from the landowners' perspective.

The 2008 fire season was a difficult challenge in many parts of the state. As you stated in your letter, the numbers of fires and acres burned we're very high. I do want to thank the association for their help in sending the overhead and other fire suppression resources from Northwest Oregon to help in the suppression efforts. These resources played a vital role and were key components that the receiving districts appreciated very much.

The health and stability of the Oregon Forest Land Protection Fund is extremely important to the department. The ongoing effort, as demonstrated at the OFIC Protection Committee meeting along with the work the Forestland Classification Committee is doing should provide productive opportunities for the fund.

The severity resources have added the much needed capacity that can be utilized during incidents like the 1500 Road Fire. These resources helped keep fires small and have helped to reduce the overall costs of wildfires that may help the stability of the Oregon Forest Land Protection Fund.

Additionally, we are working on a Legislative Concept called the "Wildland Fire Reduction Act" that if successful will build additional capacity into the complete and coordinated system helping to reduce the costs of large fires. You will be hearing more details about this concept and your input and support will be critical to making it successful.

Mitch Parker  
April 3, 2008  
Page Two

Preventing fires is our first goal and supporting KOG in their statewide prevention efforts is paramount with maintaining a strong program. As important, are the local prevention efforts the districts and prevention cooperatives develop such as the "Home Makeover Contest" that Malcolm produced. I wish you all the best with this endeavor.

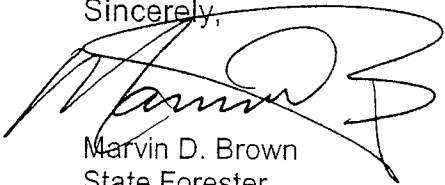
At the direction of the 2007 Legislature, ODF has engaged in an effort to collect "In-Kind" data that demonstrates the contributions made by landowners that are over and above the level of protection already being paid for through assessments to support district budgets. We are hopeful, that once again, this important effort from the private landowners will be validated as an integral part of the protection program.

Revision of the Smoke Management Plan was a multi-year process that considered the requirements and desires of individuals and agencies across a broad spectrum. The plan balances many, often competing needs for this diverse set of stakeholders. Ultimately, a successful plan must maintain the ability to manage forest fuels and ensure overall forest productivity with continued support from all.

Succession management within the department has been a challenge with the recent number of retirements. Both Dave Johnson and Ross Holloway offered much practical experience that landowners benefited from and will be missed. We are very fortunate to have employees like Bob Gustavson and Ed Wallmark ready and willing to take on these positions.

Thank you for your comments and I will pass on your kind words to my staff. Working with the Northwest Oregon Forest Protection Association is a pleasure and I'm looking forward to working with you in 2008.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marvin D. Brown", written over a horizontal line.

Marvin D. Brown  
State Forester

January 18, 2008

Marvin Brown  
State Forester  
Oregon State Department of Forestry  
2600 State Street  
Salem, OR, 97310

Dear Marvin,

Once again, on behalf of the Northwest Oregon Forest Protection Association, I would like to thank you and the Department of Forestry for your continued support and leadership as our forest protection partner. Although July appeared to be the start of a tough fire season, intermittent rains kept the ERC low and we were blessed with a relatively easy fire year. There were only 11 days spent in IFPL 2 in NW3, zero days in level 3. It was a different matter state wide. Fire starts and acreage burned were well above the 10 year average. NW Oregon managed deployment of overhead and fire suppression resources around the state while maintaining protection resources at the district level. Although this provides a coordinated effort and excellent training for our association, there are always concerns draw down levels are balanced to maintain adequate protection on the home front. The Districts once again managed this challenge well and also did a good job of keeping members abreast of changes as they occurred.

Last fall, the OFIC Protection Committee meeting generated lively and constructive discussion regarding various funding and operational ideas to help keep the Oregon Forest Land Protection Fund more stable and less susceptible to the impacts of trending more expensive fire seasons . Although the recent rate increase (HB 3044A) will help bring the annual revenue \$2 million closer to the annual expenditure limit, the EFCC has a formidable task to creatively implement solutions to provide equitable and long term financial stability to the OFLPPF. They deserve any support the landowners and ODF can provide.

Statewide severity resources managed in Salem were done very well. The importance of these resources was demonstrated close to home on the 1500 Road Fire in the West Oregon district. As dry east winds developed in September, a Type-2 helicopter was staged just 10 hours before the fire start. Quick initial attack response and excellent coordination of all resources were instrumental in preventing an expensive fire becoming a catastrophe. The continuation of available severity resources is paramount to keeping potentially large destructive fires small.

Although human caused fires at the state level were slightly down from the previous year, acres burned were dramatically up. It is important that we provide continued support to KOG to help educate the public about fire danger and responsibility. Malcolm Hiatt was instrumental with the success of the "Home Makeover Contest" that provides education and incentives to make homeowners more fire safe within our association area. The

program received major media coverage and will expand to include 12 counties next year.

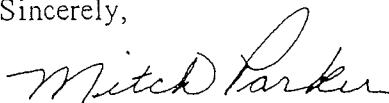
Both ODF and OFIC worked hard to develop a process to document a comprehensive list of landowner in-kind contributions. We hope and trust a similar or larger financial value of these contributions will, at a minimum, return the 100% General Fund contribution for the Fire Program's Agency Administration costs. This cooperative contribution is a large part of the complete system and must continue to be recognized. It is imperative that this is conveyed by you and the department and appreciated at the legislative level.

Hopefully, with the approval of the new Smoke Management Administrative Rules, landowners will continue to have controlled slash burning available as an important forest management tool for site preparation and hazard abatement. As the original Review Committee recommended increased public education of the benefits of this well managed program will help ensure public understanding and acceptance of this valuable tool.

At the district level, we have significant changes in personnel. Dave Johnson retired after 33 years with the department. Dave's 17 years of solid contribution to the NW Oregon Forest Protection Association is very much appreciated and will be missed. With Ross Holloway recently retired at Tillamook, Bob Gustavson took the helm for both the Tillamook and Forest Grove districts as part of the restructuring process of the Tillamook State Forest. Ed Wallmark has filled the Forest Protection Forester position in Tillamook and will be very capable and good to work with. With the number of seasoned employees retiring, competent replacements will continue to be a challenge through succession management. We are hopeful these administrative changes will keep service at the levels we have grown to count on.

In closing, on behalf of the NWOFFPA, we want to thank you and your staff for all of your efforts and support in 2007. We look forward to working together as collaborative partners for a safe and successful 2008 year.

Sincerely,



Mitch Parker  
President, NWOFFPA



# Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

## Department of Forestry

State Forester's Office

2600 State Street

Salem, OR 97310

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<http://www.odf.state.or.us>



"STEWARDSHIP IN FORESTRY"

April 19, 2008

Michael Atkinson, President  
Western Lane Forest Protective Association  
Western Lane District  
P.O. Box 157  
Veneta, OR 97487-0157

Dear Mike,

Thank you for your letter from Western Lane Forest Protective Association. I appreciate hearing from the association and learning about the issues that are of concern and the successes from last year.

Fire investigation is an important part of our fire management program and succession management of fire investigators is a concern for the fire program. In the past few years, we have had several top fire investigators retire from public service, which has left us with some large gaps to fill. The fire investigator position is considered a critical resource shortage for the program which conveys a sense of importance and helps recruitment of department employees. As part of the "Wildfire Reduction Act" concept you will be hearing about, we are building two fire investigator positions as a component.

The updated Smoke Management Plan brings the program more in line with modern forestry, adjusts to current on-the-ground practices, and clarifies the definitions to improve consistency and reduce the need for interpretation. The smoke management section is conducting training early this year for all districts and landowners. The section's implementation plan for the new smoke management plan includes the development of educational materials for the public.

The demographics in Oregon are certainly changing rapidly. The department is reaching out to new landowners not only through the protection program but also through the private forests program. We are introducing them to the concepts of forest stewardship, in which, the fire protection system plays a vital role.

The intensity and duration of the recent fire seasons have caused a strain and shortage of firefighting resources during the height of the season. I have been encouraging all the districts to investigate local options such as; co-op crews, district crews and inmate crews. The Interagency Firefighting Crew Agreement is currently being reviewed for effectiveness in meeting the states needs.

Western Lane Forest Protective Association  
April 28, 2008  
Page Two

The Weyerhaeuser helicopter contract is essential for rapid responses to keep fires small and I applaud the efforts of both districts for this forward thinking. These local efforts across the state add up to a "complete and coordinated system" that allows flexibility to react during significant fire events.

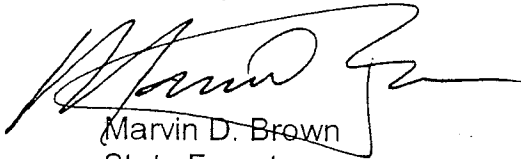
The fire prevention effort during the east wind event really shows the importance of good communication and coordination between landowners and the department. We need to continue to build on this communication and coordination to maintain our effectiveness.

The department and landowners owe Rick Rogers a debt of gratitude for his effort in guiding the Western Lane District these past several years. Rick's leadership will be missed and I too, wish him the best in his retirement.

I think the association will be very pleased with Dave Lorenz as the new District Forester. Dave has very good leadership skills and the capabilities necessary to lead the Western Lane District.

Thanks again Mike, for your letter and I'm looking forward to working with the Western Lane Forest Protective Association this coming year.

Sincerely,



Marvin D. Brown  
State Forester



## WESTERN LANE FOREST PROTECTIVE ASS'N.

---

87950 TERRITORIAL ROAD

P.O. BOX 157

VENETA, OREGON 97487-0157

December 21, 2007

Marvin Brown, State Forester  
 Oregon Department of Forestry  
 2600 State Street  
 Salem, Oregon 97310

Dear Marvin:

The Western Lane FPA Board of Directors met on November 26, 2007 to review the recent fire season and to discuss current issues of importance. As a result of these discussions, there emerged a few items that we'd like to share with you; we appreciate this opportunity to do so.

The first item to come to the floor was fire investigation. Western Lane has had occasional fires during the past several years that have required some real skill to determine the origin. We are fortunate to have on staff a very good fire investigator with another in training. However, during the height of fire season Bob Johnson is gone frequently to other districts and is not in Veneta, which points to the need for more well trained persons who can respond almost immediately to each fire start. The two investigators that were unsuccessfully requested from the last legislature are still needed. We recommend continuing the pursuit of these positions and encouraging Districts to invest in the training to provide for more type 1 investigators.

New smoke management rules become effective January 1, 2008 and coordination of these rules between districts was seen as an issue, to keep each district uniform and in compliance without individual interpretation of the rules. It is felt that prompt action to coordinate between districts will be needed before the Spring Burn Season. It would seem likely that Salem may play a role to achieve that goal.

Florence has had land-clearing burns, which are perceived to be a forestry problem by some sensitized folks in the area. This places ODF and the forest industry in a defensive posture in this situation. With the changes in the rules, now would seem like a good time for education of the public on different types of burning and the purpose of forest burning. In Florence there is much confusion on the different types of burning and who regulates those.

In Western Lane District and throughout the state there continue to be big changes in land ownership. ODF needs to reach out to the new owners to keep them involved in our great

forest protection system. The new significant owners in our district have been contacted and have expressed interest.

The Weyerhaeuser helicopter contract has gone through the second fire season and seems to be working well. The ships were invaluable on the Shaw Creek Fire and were very useful in keeping several other fires small, which is our first objective after prevention.

Fire fighting manpower seems to be a larger issue on the horizon. The landowners are thin on manpower and the legal status of contract workers may impact crew availability. Contract crews have not seemed to be readily available when ODF is in the heart of its fire season. We may wish to revisit the model we use for obtaining firefighters and devise a new way to have people available. Co-op crews might be one possibility. The inmate crews have worked in some situations although we have not been able to keep the Lane County Sheriff's crews at Alma as a viable alternative.

The Board wants to compliment the department's response and coordination during the fall east wind events. With information given prior to the wind coming, and working with people that had slash burns that were getting away from them are only a couple examples of timely response and assistance given.

We have come through many changes during Rick Roger's tenure, and want to recognize his work achievements, including building the Florence station, redirecting property funds for improvement of the Veneta compound, and other achievements. Rick has led these endeavors and done so within ODF guidelines while keeping the board engaged and on target time wise.

The Board, (Dale Classen, Dave Cramsey, John Buss, Willie Bronson, Sara Leiman, Ted Reiss, Michael Tucker, and Michael Atkinson) have enjoyed a very good working relationship with Rick; we wish him our best in any new endeavors.

Western Lane Board wants to welcome and congratulate Dave Lorenz on his new position as District Forester.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Atkinson".

Michael Atkinson, President  
Western Lane Board of Directors



# Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

## Department of Forestry

State Forester's Office

2600 State Street

Salem, OR 97310

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<http://www.odf.state.or.us>



April 2, 2008

Tim Tomkins, President  
West Oregon Forest Protective Association  
24533 Alsea Highway  
Philomath, OR 97370

Dear Tim,

Thank you for the recent annual letter to the State Forester from the West Oregon Forest Protective Association.

I appreciate the recognition for the effort that the local district contributed to the 1500 Road fire. The 2007 fire season posed many challenges that truly tested our initial attack crews. I will pass on your appreciation to Steve Laam, the District Forester.

At the direction of the 2007 Legislature, ODF has engaged in an effort to collect "In-Kind" data that demonstrates the contributions made by landowners that are over and above the level of protection already being paid for through assessments to support district budgets. We are hopeful, that once again, this important effort from the private landowners will be validated as an integral part of the protection program.

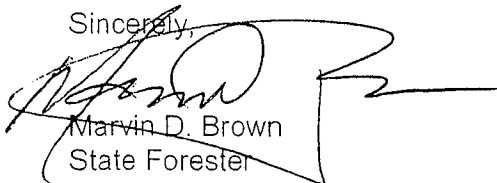
The health and stability of the Oregon Forest Land Protection Fund is extremely important to the department. The ongoing effort, as demonstrated at the OFIC Protection Committee meeting along with the work the Forestland Classification Committee is doing should provide productive opportunities for the fund.

Revision of the Smoke Management Plan was a multi-year process that considered the requirements and desires of individuals and agencies across a broad spectrum. The plan balances many, often competing needs for this diverse set of stakeholders. Ultimately, a successful plan must maintain the ability to manage forest fuels and ensure overall forest productivity with continued support from all.

It's nice to hear about activities such as the student worker program and the recreational forest officer. These kinds of local innovative ideas can make a big difference and positively influence the protection program.

Keeping in close contact with the landowners, both locally and from the statewide perspective is very important to me. I appreciate all the efforts that the West Oregon Forest Protective Association has done to make the program so successful and the obvious active engagement between landowners and the department. I look forward to continue the excellent partnership.

Sincerely,



Marvin D. Brown  
State Forester

**WEST OREGON  
FOREST PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION**

c/o Oregon Department of Forestry  
24533 Alesia Highway, Philomath, Oregon 97370

December 18, 2007

Marvin Brown  
State Forester  
2600 State Street  
Salem, OR 97310

Dear Marvin,

As 2007 draws to a close, the West Oregon Forest Protective Association would like to take this opportunity to thank you and the Oregon Department of Forestry for your continued support as our forest protection partner. Over the past year, several protection issues and events stand out at both WOFPA and the State level.

Unfortunately, we experienced a significant fire in our area this past September with the 1500 Road burn. While the fire was expensive to control, the suppression effort was very well coordinated and resource damage was minimized despite challenging weather conditions. It was definitely a reminder that even in our area, the right mix of east wind, warm weather, untreated slash and a careless individual, can produce devastating results.

A potentially alarming situation developed on the legislative front with the re-visiting of the issue of landowner "in-kind" contributions offsetting ODF administrative costs. Fortunately, but not without considerable effort, the "in-kind" contributions were validated as an offset. I was surprised to learn that during the 2005-07 timeframe, the landowner side of the equation actually picked up 67% of the total fire program costs. Any help you can provide to enlighten our state government and the general public on the virtues of our protection system with the financial and "in-kind" support that private landowners provide, would be appreciated.

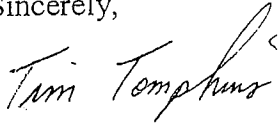
As we move forward into 2008 and beyond, the financial stability of the Oregon Forest Land Protection Fund will be of paramount concern. While rate adjustments are one way to overcome shortfalls, we need to be mindful of other alternatives to make the system more efficient. The recent ODFC Protection Committee meeting in Salem generated discussion with ideas to improve financial viability. This is a good example of what can be accomplished through a statewide cooperative effort.

Association members are also hopeful that revisions to the smoke management program will be effective in achieving the objectives of both fuel management and air quality.

Other noteworthy protection activities at the district level include Ted Erdmann's efforts to develop a student worker program at Philomath, and the Toledo office's use of a forest officer for recreation fire prevention. Steve Laam, Mike Totey, Jeff Classen, Doug Grafe and the rest of the folks at West Oregon continue do an outstanding job of communicating and working with WOFPA.

Thanks again, and on behalf of WOFPA, we look forward to working with ODF in 2008 to make our protection system even better.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tim Tompkins".

Tim Tompkins  
President WOFPA



# Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

## Department of Forestry

State Forester's Office

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April 21, 2008



"STEWARDSHIP IN FORESTRY"

Mr. Brett Johnson, President  
Klamath Forest Protective Association  
3200 Delap Road  
Klamath Falls, OR 97601

Dear Brett,

Thank you for your recent letter from the Klamath Forest Protective Association. I would first like to say congratulations to the Association for all their efforts and leadership shown these past 100 years. The Klamath Forest Protective Association has a long and rich history of serving the landowners of Klamath and Lake Counties. The Association's hard work has provided the necessary elements to provide excellent fire protection in a part of the state that deals with a difficult fire environment.

The 2007 fire season was definitely a serious one, with the high potential for catastrophic fires. I appreciate your recognition and kind words for the employees of the Klamath-Lake district. I will pass these on to Bill Hunt and the rest of the employees, as I know they will be grateful for the acknowledgment.

The Special Purpose Appropriation (SPA) funds have truly helped reduce the number of large fires and lessened the acreage burned for the last two years. The Department is working closely with the Legislature to tell that story and the importance of continued funding.

The rising cost of fire protection has been the focal point of many discussions with association members, landowners, Legislators, and the department leadership team. Scrutiny of the Headquarters Service charges and all statewide initiatives are being reviewed in great length and detail. We are committed to providing a cost effective program that recognizes funding mechanisms representative of fire causes and public benefits for healthy private forest lands.

Additionally, we are working on the Legislative Concept you mentioned, called the "Wildland Fire Reduction Act", which if successful will build additional capacity into the complete and coordinated system helping to reduce the costs of large fires. You will be hearing more details about this concept, and your input and support will be critical to making it successful.

Mr. Brett Johnson, President

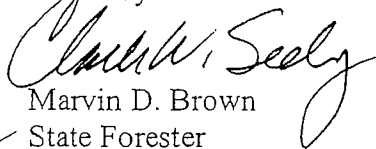
April 21, 2008

Page 2

The importance of communication during this difficult period is paramount to a successful outcome. The development of a framework for addressing the fiscal issues will require active engagement and involvement with the landowner community and the executive leadership, which in addition to myself, includes our Fire Protection Division Chief Paul Bell, and Eastern Oregon Area Director Cliff Liedtke . I am looking forward to this conversation and discussion.

Again, congratulations on the centennial anniversary of the Klamath Forest Protective Association, and I am looking forward to continuing an excellent partnership well into the future.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Marvin D. Brown".

Marvin D. Brown  
State Forester

MDB:PB:kg

# Klamath Forest Protective Association

PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS

KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON

ORGANIZED TO PROMOTE COOPERATIVE FOREST PROTECTION

March 13, 2008

Mr. Marvin Brown  
Oregon Department of Forestry  
2600 State Street  
Salem, OR 97310

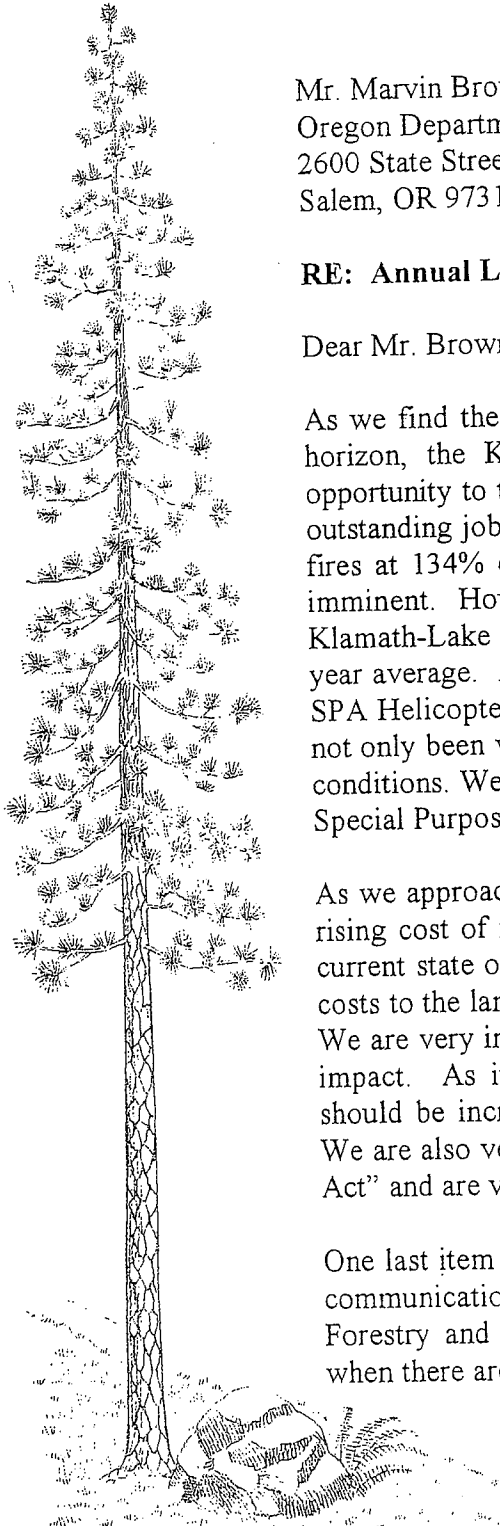
**RE: Annual Letter to State Forester**

Dear Mr. Brown:

As we find the 2007 fire season behind us and the 2008 fire season just on the horizon, the Klamath Forest Protective Association would like to take this opportunity to thank you and the employees of the Klamath-Lake District for the outstanding job they did this past fire season. With the total number of lightning fires at 134% over the 10-year average, the potential for a large-scale fire was imminent. However, with available resources and excellent initial attack by the Klamath-Lake District, the number of acres consumed was only 25% of the 10-year average. Another attributing factor in our success was the district's use of a SPA Helicopter during those periods of severe fire conditions. This program has not only been vital for this district, but also for several others during extreme fire conditions. We certainly see the importance and encourage the continuation of the Special Purpose Appropriation (SPA) program into the future.

As we approach the 2008 fire season, the association is quite concerned with the rising cost of fire protection as a result of ODF administration changes, and the current state of the Emergency Fire Fund. These changes have resulted in rising costs to the landowner community during an extremely difficult economic period. We are very interested in any solution that you could implement to minimize this impact. As it has in the past, our association continues to believe that there should be increased support from the general fund for wildland fire protection. We are also very interested in the components of the current "Wildfire Reduction Act" and are very eager to learn more about this movement.

One last item that the association would like to mention is the need for increased communication between the executive branch of the Oregon Department of Forestry and the private landowner community. This is especially important when there are anticipated increases in assessments as there may be this year.



**AGENDA ITEM F**  
**Attachment 1**  
**Page 26 of 34**

Your organization, including Bill Hunt and his staff, once again deserve recognition and thanks for a job well done during the 2007 fire season. Keep up the good work and we hope to see you down here sometime time during KFPA's centennial year.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brett Johnson", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Brett Johnson  
President, KFPA

Marvin Brown's response letter  
to  
Eastern Oregon Protective Association  
will be placed here

Eastern Oregon Protective Association's  
Annual Letter  
will be placed here



# Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

## Department of Forestry

State Forester's Office

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May 6, 2008

Tom Murphy  
President  
Rogue Forest Protective Association  
5286 Table Rock Road  
Central Point, OR 97502



Dear Tom,

Thank you for your recent letter from the Rogue Forest Protective Association. As you mention in your letter the burning conditions during the 2007 fire season were conducive for large fires as we saw on the eastside. Southwest Oregon District in conjunction with their partners did a great job containing several fires that had the potential to become large costly fires. I firmly believe maintaining an efficient initial attack organization is key to preventing large fires and reducing resource losses.

I understand your concerns regarding reductions in Forest Service severity resources and the impact that can have on district and statewide operations. We continue to work with our federal counterparts, both locally and nationally, to encourage adequate funding for these resources as well as ways to leverage both state and federal funds.

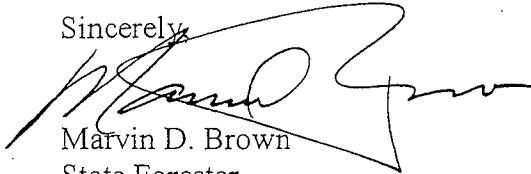
In regard to the National Fire Plan activities in your area, I'm pleased to hear of the successes you have had with fuel treatments. It is imperative for this initiative to be successful and create healthier stand conditions that landowners also recognize the importance of fuels treatments in maintaining healthy forests and preventing catastrophic fires. However, as federal funding for these types of activities continue to decline these types of successes and their importance needs to be communicated to our congressional delegation to help provide insight for them while setting priorities for federal funding. I fully understand the associations concerns regarding the increase in Headquarters Services costs. Our Fire Protection Division Chief has implemented changes to bring a higher level of understanding and transparency to the budgeting process to address these concerns and because its just good business. Paul is also available to meet with the association to explain the increases in the budget.

That said, it is important to realize that services provided through Headquarters have increased substantially in regard to the; procurement and management of statewide resources, federal issues and coordination, Legislative accountability and concept development, legal services (cost collection), fire season intelligence, clean air requirements, fire fighter safety, etc.

Tom Murphy  
May 7, 2008  
Page Two

In closing Tom, once again thank you for your letter and please thank the association for all of their support for our operations. I hope to have the opportunity to visit with you and association members sometime this year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Marvin D. Brown', written over a large, stylized, looped flourish.

Marvin D. Brown  
State Forester

# ROGUE FOREST PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION

5286 Table Rock Road Central Point OR, 97502  
(541) 664-3328 FAX (541) 776-6184

Officers:

President:

Brian Schaeffli

Vice President:

Lon Casebeer

Sec.-Treas.:

Dave Erickson

Directors:

Lon Casebeer  
Brian Schaeffli  
Dave Erickson  
Bruno Meyer  
Jim Miller  
Tom Murphy  
Dave Streeter  
Brian Sutch  
Doug Thackery  
Tom Young  
Mike Meredith  
Vic Harris

Advisory Directors:

Ace Carter  
Mike Dykzeul  
M.J. Harvie  
David Schott  
Dan Shults  
Richard Beeby  
Mary Ellen Holly

District Forester

Dan Thorpe

Members:

Forest Capital Partners  
Bureau of Land Mgt.  
Indian Hill LLC  
Kogap Enterprises Inc.  
Lone Rock Timber Co.  
Miller Ranch  
Perpetua Forests  
Roseburg Forest Prod.  
Swanson Group Inc.  
Timber Resource Services  
Plum Creek  
Fruit Growers Supply Co.  
Snowy Butte Timberlands  
Josephine County  
Forestry

Member of:

OFIC Protection  
Committee  
Keep Oregon Green

4/28/2008

Mr. Marvin Brown  
Oregon Department of Forestry  
2600 State Street  
Salem, OR 97310

Dear Mr. Brown,

On behalf of our Board members, I want to thank your employees on our district for another successful year in protecting our forestland and keeping our fires small. The burning conditions in 2007 fire season had the potential to burn large acreage and inflict devastating loss to our forestlands. The initial attack conducted this summer was highly successful. We experienced several fires in the 100 to 200 acre range that had the potential to grow much larger if not for the aggressive, efficient, and safe fire fighting practiced by your Department.

For the 2007 fire season, we saw some changes in the manner the USFS funds their severity resources. Any changes in our cooperators' level of protection ultimately have an effect on us. We are please with the Rogue River - Siskiyou's decision to keep their initial attack levels at the same level as last year, but the severity requests had limits this year that affected SWO. The Forest Service was not able to pay for their one third share of our fixed wing contract. As a result, we had to budget an increased amount to fund this important recon and air attack asset.

The National Fire Plan has been an important success in generating momentum to treat overstocked stands in Southwest Oregon. The grants have resulted in large amount of fuel reduction on private lands. It is clear that the grants have generated much more work than what the grant paid for; as people like what they see and keep working. The federal agencies have also completed many projects that will help minimize acres burned and threats to other owners' lands. This has been a successful program and we hope the federal government remains committed to it.

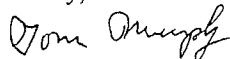
The District has been successfully keeping seasonal employees working throughout the winter on cooperative projects. This helps minimize unemployment and allows for the long term development of employees. We hope these and future projects can be found to help minimize seasonal turnover.

The rebuilding of two lookouts vandalized in the winter of 2006 has begun. We are thankful that Sexton was rebuilt and will be reliable long into the future. It's an important component of the District's detection plan. We are very interested in DFPA's successful camera program and will be looking at this option as our other aging lookouts near the end of their lifespan.

The Rogue Forest Protection Association is happy with the level of protection in its budget and the District's continued cost conscious approach in providing protection. Even with above average fire seasons the last 2 years, there was a good credit returned to the landowners. We are concerned with the continued increases in costs without an increase in the level of protection. Headquarters Services is a category that jumps out as being way above CPI. Continued monitoring and transparency in the Headquarters Services budget will be important.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss these issues with you and look forward to your comments.

Sincerely,



Tom Murphy  
President - Rogue Forest Protective Association

Marvin Brown's response letter  
to  
Oregon Forest Industries Council  
will be placed here

Oregon Forest Industries Council's  
Annual Letter  
will be placed here