Oregon Department of Forestry

Forest Practices Operator of the Year and Merit Award(s) Program

During 2012, the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) is seeking to recognize those forest practices operators that ‘go the extra mile’ for protecting Oregon’s natural resources while working in the forest. Any size of forest practices operation is eligible, and companies, contractors or individuals may be recognized. Awards are not limited to harvesting operations. Landowners may be recognized if the landowner is the entity performing the work, or the landowner provided significant direction of a larger project.

Winners are selected by Oregon’s Regional Forest Practices Committees from northwest, southwest and eastern Oregon. Nominees are evaluated on an operator’s consistency of positive performance, innovation in project design, relative difficulty of the harvest operation and commitment to protecting Oregon’s natural resources.

Appreciation for a job well done

The award winner(s) for 2012 will be recognized in January 2013 by Associated Oregon Loggers and ODF news media presentations, a brief appearance at the Oregon Logging Conference in February 2013 and will be honored by the Oregon Board of Forestry at their March 2013 meeting.

How to apply:

In a short-answer or essay format, please provide the Committee and ODF the following information:

- **The Operator’s name and mailing address.**
- **The type of forest practices operation performed and the location.**
- **Brief description of the operation.**
- **Nominator’s name / phone number / e-mail contact.**
- **Talk about the consistency of the operator.** Tell us how the operator can be counted upon to consistently do an outstanding job. "Consistently" here is defined as no violations of the Forest Practices Act within the last two years, and a recommendation from an ODF stewardship forester that the operator “exceeds” the intent of the Forest Practices Act. "Exceeds" is defined to mean that the operator prevents resource damage, and results go beyond the rules and the minimum required results.
• **Talk about the difficulty of this operation.** Show how the operator faced a difficult operation, evaluated the situation and succeeded despite the obstacles.

• **Tell us about the innovation or extra effort required to be successful.** Show us how the operator planned ahead, did additional work or other creative solutions in conducting operations while protecting or enhancing resources.

• **What results did the operation achieve** – Describe how the operation resulted in, or if still active, expected results relative to resource protection or enhancement.

• **Financial risk assumed by the Operator.** The operator assumed some financial risk in conducting the operation. (Money, time, or equipment, as opposed to the landowner paying the operator for cost plus profit.)

• **Other information we should know.** This is a great opportunity to talk about the operator’s community service principles and activities, or unique characteristics of the Operator or this operation that didn’t fit neatly into another category.

**Deadline for Operator nominations is October 1, 2012**

Send your award nominations to:

**Oregon Department of Forestry**

**2600 State Street, Salem OR 97310**

**Attn: Brad Knotts, Forest Practices Field Coordinator**

You may also e-mail your nomination to [bknotts@odf.state.or.us](mailto:bknotts@odf.state.or.us)

Award submissions will be reviewed by ODF program staff and winners selected by the Regional Forest Practices Committees in December. Award winners are notified and announced by ODF in January.

For questions about the Forest Practices Operator of the Year program, contact Brad Knotts with the ODF Private Forests Division – 503-945-7484 / [bknotts@odf.state.or.us](mailto:bknotts@odf.state.or.us) -- or Kevin Weeks with the ODF Public Affairs Office – 503-945-7427 / [kweeks@odf.state.or.us](mailto:kweeks@odf.state.or.us)

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