

Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF)
2014 Report – Tribal-State Agency Government-to-Government Relations

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

AGENCY-WIDE ACTIVITIES

1. April 1, 2015 Nancy Hirsch replaces Paul Bell (retired) as the Deputy State Forester and the agency's designated Government-to-Government representative, assisted by Dave Lorenz and Keith Baldwin. In 2014, one or more ODF representatives attended various Tribal cluster meetings, and other Tribal events.
2. Nineteen agency employees attended the 2014 Archaeology Training offered by the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department in April 2014.
3. ODF acquired approximately 5,400 acres of forest land from The Conservation Fund in 2014 and is working to complete the acquisition of the remaining 23,400 acres in 2015 which will be added to the 43,000-acre Gilchrist State Forest.
4. ODF completed rulemaking to implement 2013 HB 2615. The bill includes truffles as fungi within the existing system and transfers the role of defining special forest products' items from statute to administrative rule.
5. Wildfire season 2014 again started early, with human-caused fires, and lightning events in July that ultimately burned more than 50,000 acres of ODF-protected forestlands. However, 94 percent of fires on ODF-protected lands were still extinguished at under 10 acres in size.
6. ODF is introducing four pieces of legislation in 2015, including concepts that clarify authority for log sort sales, prohibiting unauthorized commercial forest events on state forest lands, adjusting the spending limit for the fire protection fund, and a routine part of the budget process that sets the Forest Products Harvest Tax Rate.

FIELD OFFICES' SERVICE DELIVERY

1. **Fire Protection.** Several local units and districts, particularly those with Tribal lands nearest to or intermingled with ODF-protected forestlands, such as Central Oregon, Northeast Oregon, and West Oregon, as well as the Coos and Douglas Forest Protective Associations, have successful working relationships, as well as fee-based and mutual aid agreements within reservation boundaries and Indian Trust Lands, with many of Oregon's Tribes and/or the Bureau of Indian Affairs. This includes pre-fire season discussions, fire prevention coordination, dispatching, and mutual aid initial and extended attack on fires, as well as slash disposal and smoke management. These working relationships and a high level of cooperation provide an efficient and effective fire protection system on what would otherwise be very challenging geographical areas due to the often checker-boarded nature of private lands ownership near and/or within tribes' reservation boundaries.
2. **Conservation and Forest Practices Act Administration.** Tribal interests in northeast and central Oregon are well-represented in salmon recovery and water quality issues, including field cooperation in areas of salmonid restoration and enhancement activities. The Coos District regularly interfaces with both the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw, and the Coquille Indian Tribe in conjunction with local watershed councils. The Forest Practices Act is administered on tribal lands in northeast Oregon, including Nez Perce tribal lands and on private lands within the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR), as well as on the Coquille Tribal lands in the southern Oregon coastal area.
3. **State Forests.** The State Forests Advisory Committee diverse membership includes a representative from the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde. ODF districts that manage state forest lands, including the Klamath, West Oregon, and Coos districts, regularly provide local area tribes with copies of their Annual Operating Plans, as well as any discussions of individual timber sale plans. In the Coos District, permits are often issued to the tribes for collecting various forest products that are used for cultural purposes from state forest lands.
4. The history of the Tillamook State Forest is a rich and varied one, and the story of Native Americans is an important part of that history. The **Tillamook Forest Center** is committed to continuing the cooperative relationships with the two local tribes: The Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde and the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz, including public programs which share the history and culture of Oregon's native people.
5. **Cultural Resources Information:** The State Forests Division and the Private Forests Division established a new process working with the State Historic Preservation Office to identify cultural resource sites for both state forests timber sales and private forest landowner operations. The agreement will help prevent inadvertent discovery of cultural resources during state forests management activities and assist the Division to ensure cultural resources are protected or avoided. In the Private Forests Division, when cultural resource sites are identified during the review of proposed private forestland owner operations, the owners are provided with information about regulations that protect sites and recommend the landowner and operator contact the State Historic Preservation Office because there is an archaeological site within or near the operation.

Oregon Department of Forestry
2014 Report – Tribal-State Agency Government –to-Government Relations

Contact Information

Executive Team Contacts

Oregon Department of Forestry Salem Headquarters
 2600 State Street, Salem, OR 97310

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Peter Daugherty, Private Forests Division Chief; 503-945-7482; Peter.Daugherty@Oregon.gov	Travis Medema, Fire Protection Division Chief; 503-945-7204; Travis.S.Medema@Oregon.gov	Satish Upadhyay, Administrative Services Division Chief; 503-945-7203; Satish.Upadhyay@Oregon.gov

Division/Program Contacts

Brian Pew, State Forests Deputy Division Chief; 503-945-7213; Brian.Pew@Oregon.gov	Lena Tucker, Private Forests Deputy Division Chief; 503-945-7529; Lena.L.Tucker@Oregon.gov	Doug Grafe, Fire Protection Deputy Division Chief; 503-945-7271; Doug.Grafe@Oregon.gov
Paul Ries, Urban and Community Forests Program Manager; 503-945-7391; Paul.Ries@Oregon.gov	Kevin Birch, Forest Resources Planning Program Director; 503-945-7405; Kevin.R.Birch@Oregon.gov	

Field Office Contacts

Travis Medema, Eastern Oregon Area Director; 541-447-5658 x225; Travis.S.Medema@Oregon.gov

Central Oregon District George Ponte, District Forester 541-447-5658; George.P.Ponte@Oregon.gov	Klamath-Lake District Greg Pittman, District Forester 541-883-5687; Greg.D.Pittman@Oregon.gov	Northeast Oregon District John Buckman, District Forester 541-963-3168; John.Buckman@Oregon.gov
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Andy White, Northwest Oregon Area Director; 503-359-7496; Andy.White@Oregon.gov

Astoria District Dan B. Goody, District Forester; 503-325-5451; Dan.B.Goody@Oregon.gov	Forest Grove District Mike J.Cafferata, District Forester 503-359-7430; Mike.J.Cafferata@Oregon.gov	North Cascade District Steve V.Wilson, District Forester 503-859-4341; Steve.V.Wilson@Oregon.gov
Tillamook Forest Center Fran McReynolds, Director 503-815-6817; Fran.A.McReynolds@Oregon.gov	Tillamook District Kate Skinner, District Forester 503-815-7001; Kate.Skinner@Oregon.gov	West Oregon District Mike Totey, District Forester 541-929-3266; Mike.A.Totey@Oregon.gov

Dave Lorenz, Southern Oregon Area Director; 541-440-3412 x120; Dave.C.Lorenz@Oregon.gov

Coos District Norma Kline, District Forester 541-267-1741; Norma.Kline@Oregon.gov	South Cascade District Greg Wagenblast, District Forester; 541-726-3588; Greg.Wagenblast@Oregon.gov	Southwest Oregon District Dan Thorpe, District Forester 541-664-3328; Dan.A.Thorpe@Oregon.gov
Western Lane District Grant "Link" Smith, District Forester 541-93502283; Grant.S.Smith@Oregon.gov		

Forest Protection Associations

Coos Forest Protective Association Mike Robison, District Manager 541-267-3161; Mike.E.Robison@Oregon.gov	Douglas Forest Protective Association Melvin Thornton, District Manager 541-440-3412; Melvin.Thornton@Oregon.gov	Walker Forest Protection Association R.D. Buell, District Manager 541-433- 2451; RD.Buell@Oregon.gov
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"Stewardship in Forestry"

2014 Report
Oregon Department of Forestry
www.oregon.gov/odf
Tribal-State Agency Government-to-Government Relations

INTRODUCTION

During 2014, the [Oregon Department of Forestry \(ODF\)](http://www.oregon.gov/odf) continued its involvement and communication with the Tribes as it conducted its business of forestry. This involvement is reflected in agency policy and agreements, training, education, informational materials, and participation in opportunities that further employee government-to-government relations' knowledge and skills, and in direct consultation, communication, and cooperation. This report will discuss this departmental involvement, on a geographical basis, reporting on both program and district activities.

AGENCY-WIDE ACTIVITIES

ODF Salem Headquarters Executive Team Contacts:

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Nancy Hirsch, Deputy State Forester, 503-945-7205; Nancy.Hirsch@Oregon.gov

Agency's Designated Representative

Nancy Hirsch, Deputy State Forester, transitioned in as the Department's Agency Liaison for Government-to-Government Relations. Nancy is assisted by Dave Lorenz, Southern Oregon Area Director, and Keith Baldwin, Field Coordinator with the Private Forests Division.

Annual Government-to-Government Activities and Training Opportunities

Marcus Kauffman, ODF Biomass Resource Specialist, presented at the Tribal Leaders Forum Series: Biomass Renewable Energy Opportunities and Strategies, on July 9, 2014 at the Bonneville Power Administration Building, Portland. The presentation discussed biomass feedstock availability and conducting feedstock analysis as part of a biomass utilization project. There were a number of northwest Tribes represented at this event including the Coquille Tribe, Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde, and the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.

Keith Baldwin participated in the Working in Indian Country Workshop, offered in partnership with the Association on American Indian Affairs and LDK Associates on March 20, 2014.

Keith Baldwin attended the Legislative Commission on Indian Affairs Spring Gathering at the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde at Grand Ronde, May 22, 2014.

Dave Lorenz and Keith Baldwin participated in the Interagency Cultural Resource Council at the Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge, November 7, 2014.

Involvement with the Natural Resources Cluster Group

Dave Lorenz, Southern Oregon Area Director, continues as the agency's representative with the Natural Resources Cluster Group during 2014.

Involvement with the Cultural Resources Cluster Group/Other Cultural Activities

Paul Bell was the designated agency representative for this cluster during this reporting period, assisted by Keith Baldwin, who will continue during the next reporting period. Peter Daugherty, Keith Baldwin attended the January 13 and 14 meeting of the group. Keith Baldwin also attended the May 21 and September 16 meetings of this group during this reporting period.

2014 Archaeology Training: Nineteen ODF employees attended the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department's 2014 Archaeology Training that was held April 8-11 in The Dalles. These included employees from around the state in the Private Forests, Fire Protection, and State Forests Divisions, three of which were State Forest managers. An ODF Private Forests Division employee discussed agency interactions with the Tribes, and clarified ODF responsibilities and processes regarding cultural resources. Ongoing knowledge transfer from this training and internal training on ODF responsibilities and processes continues. Attendees reported that this session was a very valuable learning experience and we hope to repeat the effort and send another group of ODF employees in 2015.

Informational Brochure: Copies of the department's brochure entitled *Protecting and preserving Oregon's archaeological and cultural resources – A Guide for Forest Landowners and Operators* continues to be available at all ODF local offices and Salem Headquarters. This brochure outlines landowner responsibilities regarding archaeological sites and is a resource for the agency's field foresters to provide information to landowners of their obligations when dealing with cultural sites. An electronic version of the brochure is available to download from the department's web site at:

www.oregon.gov/odf/organizational_management/docs/guide_for_forest_landowners_and_operators.pdf.

Oregon Geographic Names Board: Oregon State Forester Doug Decker serves as an advisor to the Oregon Geographic Names Board and is involved in the ongoing discussions of squaw place name replacements, and the wider topic of consultation with Tribes on the naming of geographic features. This board continues to deliberate on squaw place name changes, however, there were no specific actions over the past year that apply to state forest lands.

State Forests Division

Liz Dent, Division Chief; 503-945-7351; Liz.F.Dent@Oregon.gov

Brian Pew, Deputy Division Chief; 503-945-7213; Brian.Pew@Oregon.gov

The Oregon Department of Forestry manages approximately 821,000 acres of state forest lands for environmental, economic, and social benefits.

Cultural Resources Interagency Agreement: The Division established an interagency agreement with the Oregon Department of Transportation to have ODOT professional archaeologists review proposed timber sales for cultural resources. Through this agreement, the Division gains access to the cultural resource database maintained by the State Historic Preservation Office, which will help to prevent inadvertent discovery of cultural resources during management activities and will assist the Division with efforts to ensure cultural resources are protected or avoided during management activities.

Gilchrist State Forest – Proposed Land Acquisition: The Division has initiated a proposed land acquisition process to the Gilchrist State Forest. Located 45 miles south of Bend adjacent to U.S. Highway 97, the Gilchrist State Forest is Oregon's newest state forest, with approximately 43,000 acres dedicated in 2010. The area has a rich place in Oregon history, with the land tract and town of Gilchrist established in 1938 to support timber production in the area. Harvested heavily through much of the 1990s, the Gilchrist now represents a sustainable forest for future generations, providing a range of economic, environmental, and social benefits for Oregonians. The proposed acquisitions would add nearly 29,000 acres, keeping intact forestlands at high risk of fragmentation or conversion out of working forest use.

In 2014, the Department completed the public comment process and obtained approvals from the Klamath County Board of Commissioners and the Board of Forestry and was able to purchase approximately 5,400 acres from The Conservation Fund using \$1.98 million in Oregon Lottery-backed bonds. In 2015, the Department plans to acquire the remaining approximately 23,400 acres using Forest Legacy Funds and general obligation bond proceeds.

For more information on the proposed acquisitions, please visit:
www.oregon.gov/ODF/Pages/state_forests/gilchristacquisition.aspx

Private Forests Division

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Lena Tucker, Deputy Division Chief; 503-945-7529; Lena.L.tucker@Oregon.gov

The Private Forests Division is responsible for enforcement of the Forest Practices Act and other federal and state rules and laws on approximately 10.7 million acres of private forest lands. The Division also provides landowner assistance to small forest landowners so that they can achieve their management objectives for their forestlands.

Special Forest Products Rulemaking: The Board of Forestry approved amending administrative rules on June 4, 2013 to implement HB 2615, The Bill was introduced at the request of the Oregon Small Woodlands Association to address the lack of ability to enforce restrictions on truffle harvests on their own property due to their exclusion from definitions in the statute regarding harvest of special forest products. The Bill revised the Oregon statute on the harvesting of special forest products, ORS 164.813, to read "edible fungi" instead of "edible mushrooms" in order to capture truffles as a special forest product. Any harvesting of special forest products that includes resale may require a permit and/or special record keeping, especially if certain amounts are exceeded. Public hearings received favorable comments on the proposed amended rules and since adoption of the amended rules responses have been positive.

Riparian Rule Analysis: The Board continued a riparian rule analysis on small and medium fish streams west of the Cascades that was initiated in 2012. The analysis regards the adequacy of the Forest Practices Act rules and best management practices in meeting water quality temperature standards. The Board has heard input from the public and has directed the Department to work with the Southwest and Northwest Regional Forest Practices Committees to provide recommendations to the Board prior to initiating rulemaking. Responses about possible changes to the stream rules have been mixed: forest landowners are concerned about the extent of the increased buffer widths and conservationist are concerned that the extent of the increased buffer widths may not be adequate to protect cold water standards.

Reviewing Forest Operations for Possible Cultural Sites: The Department, in partnership with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), began a new process of reviewing proposed forest operations using SHPO sections of recorded below ground archeological artifacts and historic ruins. The SHPO sections are intersects of sections within a 100 meter buffer of recorded sites. The nine federally recognized Oregon tribes approved sharing the information with ODF, provided the information is used confidentially. When an operation is within a SHPO section, ODF will recommend the landowner and operator contact SHPO, because there is an archaeological site within or near the operation. ODF also provides a cultural resource brochure to the landowner and operator which explains regulations that protect sites. Since initiation of the new review process, SHPO has been contacted by some industrial and non-industrial forest landowners requesting more information to protect sites and how to expand the review of recorded sites for an ownership or annual operation plan.

Online Notifications of Forest Operations: The Department successfully deployed a new online notification system built by a private vendor for landowners and operators to notify the Department prior to conducting a commercial forest activity. The Department expects to add functionality to E-Notification to better address the needs of subscribers and users of the system. The Department utilized input from landowners in developing E-Notification and responses have been favorable.

Fire Division

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Doug Grafe, Deputy Division Chief; 503-945-7271; Doug.Grafe@Oregon.gov

The Oregon Department of Forestry protects 16 million acres of private and public forestlands, including the Bureau of Land Management forestlands west of the Cascades, from wildfire. Services provided include fire prevention, suppression, and investigation.

2014: Endless season of fire. For the second year in a row, ODF's task of protecting 16 million acres of private and public forest and rangelands from fire proved particularly challenging. Continuing drought, prolonged hot weather, and an onslaught of dry lightning produced hundreds of fires with high potential to grow large. ODF was able to extinguish 94 percent of them at under 10 acres. The several that did grow large more than doubled the average acres burned. Even so, fire managers can point to remarkable "saves" in which coordinated, aggressive response prevented large-scale damage.

Lightning-caused fires typically dominate the early fire season, but that was not so in 2014 when large human-caused fires started with the Two Bulls Fire, breaking out on June 7, 10 miles west of Bend, and followed by the Bryant, Moccasin Hill, and White River fires. Subsequently, intense thunderstorms and dry-lightning during July ignited dozens of fires and the Pacific Northwest became the wildfire hotspot in the nation, remaining the Number 1 national priority for fire resources during 43 days.

Oregon's "complete and coordinated forest protection system" is more than just a slogan, strong partnerships and aggressive initial attack played out time and time again throughout the state, stopping possible high-potential fires before they could inflict large scale cost and damage.

More information on the 2014 fire season can be downloaded at:

http://www.oregon.gov/odf/AGENCY_AFFAIRS/docs/2014_Fire_Season_Fact_Sheet.pdf

Urban and Community Forestry Program

Paul Ries, Program Manager, 503-945-7391; Paul.Ries@Oregon.gov

The Urban and Community Forestry Program has a representative of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde who sits on the statewide urban forestry advisory committee, the Oregon Community Trees Board of Directors.

Forest Resources Planning Program

Kevin Birch, Program Director; 503-945-7405; Kevin.R.Birch@Oregon.gov

Oregon Annual Timber Harvest Report. All Oregon tribes were contacted by the program this year requesting information for the annual Timber Harvest Report. Timber harvest reporting data is available electronically for the years 1986 through 2013, broken out by county and general land ownership categories (including the compilation category of "Tribal Lands"), at: www.oregon.gov/odf/pages/state_forests/frp/annual_reports.aspx.

AGENCY LEGISLATION AND BUDGET

2015 Agency Legislative Concepts: *Paul Bell, Deputy State Forester/Legislative Coordinator; 503-945-7205;*

Paul.C.Bell@Oregon.gov, Dan Postrel, Public Affairs Program Director; 503-945-7420;

Dan.Postrel@Oregon.gov.

The Oregon Department of Forestry introduced four legislative concepts for the 2015 Legislative Session – three substantive, and one that is a routine part of the budgeting process and considered as housekeeping.

SB 248 – Clarifying Authority for Log Sort Sales. Currently, ODF auctions timber through contracts under which bidders purchase all timber in a harvest unit and perform all work associated with the harvest SB 248 would clarify ODF's authority to pursue a different approach in some instances: auctioning delivered logs, sorted by grade or species. This could maximize revenue received for this public resource. More information on this legislation is at: http://www.oregon.gov/odf/docs/SB_248_sortsales_fact_sheet.pdf.

HB 2453 – Prohibiting Unauthorized Commercial Events in State Forests. Large, unpermitted, commercial social events, such as overnight “rave” parties drawing hundreds of people, have raised serious health, safety, law enforcement, and resource damage concerns in state forests, particularly the Clatsop and Tillamook. This concept would make conducting large, commercial events, without proper permitting, on state forests a Class A misdemeanor. More information on this legislation is at:

http://www.oregon.gov/odf/docs/HB_2453_forest_raves_fact_sheet.pdf.

HB 2454 – Adjusting the Spending Limit for the Fire Protection Fund. The Oregon Forestland Protection Fund (OFLPF), consisting of forest landowner dollars collected through taxes and assessments, joins with the state General Fund to pay costs of fighting large wildfires on state-protected lands. This legislative concept adjusts the fund’s spending limitations to enable the fund to continue to meet its obligations as state policy moves towards 50-50 public-private sharing of large-fire suppression costs – specifically the annual insurance premium and administrative expenses. More information on this legislation is at:

http://www.oregon.gov/odf/docs/HB_2454_OFLPF_fact_sheet.pdf.

2455 – Forest Practices Harvest Tax. A routine part of the budgeting process, this concept establishes the Forest Products Harvest Tax rate each biennia to support administration of the Oregon Forest Practices Act, professional education at the Oregon State University’s College of Forestry, and the College’s Forest Research Lab. More information on this legislation is at:

http://www.oregon.gov/odf/docs/HB_2455_FPHT_fact_sheet.pdf.

Additional legislation by the 2015 Legislature that affects the agency will be monitored throughout the 2015 session for any agency impacts.

2015-17 Agency Budget

Satish Upadhyay, Administrative Services Division Chief, 503-945-7203; Satish.u.Upadhyay@Oregon.gov

A two-page summary of the 2015-17 Governor’s Budget for the agency can be downloaded at:

www.oregon.gov/odf/docs/2015_17_GRB_Overview_Final.pdf.

OREGON BOARD OF FORESTRY

The seven-member citizen Oregon Board of Forestry is appointed by the Governor and approved by the Oregon Senate to 1) supervise all matters of forest policy within Oregon; 2) appoint the State Forester; 3) adopt rules regulating forest practices; and, 4) provide general supervision of the State Forester’s duties in managing the Oregon Department of Forestry. The Board’s mission is to lead Oregon in implementing policies and programs that promote environmentally, economically, and socially sustainable management of Oregon’s 28 million acres of public and private forests. Board meeting dates are defined in statute, as well as additional meetings, tours, workshops, and community visits, as scheduled by the Board. In 2014, the Board notified Tribes of meetings and provided specific invitations to Board tours and community socials.

More information on the Oregon Board of Forestry can be found at: www.oregonforestry.gov



The following informational summary is organized by area/district, and includes contact information, as well as a summary of the major activities provided through local field offices for the agency’s Fire, Private Forests, and State Forests Divisions – particularly fire prevention and suppression; assistance to private forestland owners; environmental protection on private forestlands through administration of the Oregon Forest Practices Act and other state and federal rules and laws; and state forest management – in which the agency works with tribal governments, efforts to address key issues, communication, and collaboration and cooperation with other agencies and the tribes.

Eastern Oregon Area, Prineville (*Private and non-federal public lands east of the crest of the Cascades*)
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Central Oregon District, Prineville

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Rob S. Pentzer, John Day Unit Forester; 541-575-1139 x232; Rob.S.Pentzer@Oregon.Gov
David Jacobs, The Dalles Unit Forester; 541-296-4626; David.J.Jacobs@Oregon.gov*

The [Central Oregon District](#) protects approximately 2.2 million acres of forest and rangeland in 11 counties (Crook, Deschutes, Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Hood River, Jefferson, Morrow, Umatilla, Wasco, and Wheeler). The District Office is located in Prineville, with Unit Offices in [Prineville](#), [John Day](#), and [The Dalles](#). The Prineville Unit has a sub-unit in Sisters and the John Day Unit has a sub-unit in Fossil.

In areas of fire protection, the Central Oregon District has continued a very positive working relationship with The Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs (CTWS) and the Burns-Paiute Tribe this past year. The district participated in a pre-season cooperators meeting sponsored by the CTWS to discuss fire management, dispatch, cooperative working agreements, and information-sharing. This was effective in creating a better working relationship between CTWS and all of their cooperating agencies.

District staff in the Prineville and The Dalles units continue to coordinate with CTWS in supporting fire prevention projects through the Central Oregon and Mid-Columbia Fire Prevention Cooperatives.

There is ongoing communication and coordination with the CTWS during fire season with both the Central Oregon Interagency Dispatch Center and The Dalles Dispatch Center. In 2014, we continued a very strong mutual aid partnership by assisting each other with initial and extended attack fires.

In 2014, the Central Oregon District negotiated a multi-jurisdictional Supplemental Cost Share Agreement with the CTWS and BLM for the Pine Creek Complex fires. These fires burned on tribal lands that are protected by agreement by the BLM.

Stewardship Foresters have done consulting work on CTWS lands and continue Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program plans on the main stem and Middle Fork of the John Day River and some of its' tributaries.

Coordination opportunities are presented with both the CTWS and Burns-Paiute at the Grant and Harney counties' Soil and Water Conservation District meetings.

Klamath-Lake District, Klamath Falls

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John Pellisier, Sun Pass and Gilchrist State Forest Management Unit Forester; 541-883-5681;
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Dustin Gustaveson, Lake Protection Unit Forester; 541-947-3311; Dustin.Gustaveson@Oregon.gov

The [Klamath-Lake District](#) protects approximately 1.6 million acres of public and private forestlands in Klamath and Lake counties, as well as managing approximately 77,000 acres of state forestlands: the 21,317-acre Sun Pass State Forest, 40 miles north of Klamath Falls near the southeastern corner of Crater Lake National Park, and the 43,000-acre Gilchrist State Forest, located approximately ninety miles north of Klamath Falls. The District and a Unit Office are located in [Klamath Falls](#), with a second Unit Office located in [Lakeview](#).

Greg Pittman, District Forester, visited with the Klamath Tribes' Natural Resource Representative about the possible Mazama Tract acquisition, potentially a component of the overall Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement. Discussions were focused on the fire protection aspects of such an acquisition, costs, and options, with an invitation for the Tribe to contact the district for any additional questions or information.

The Klamath-Lake District provides the Klamath Tribes an opportunity to review and provide responses to the Annual Operations Plan for State Forests' management on the District. If the proposed acquisition of additional forestlands to the Gilchrist State Forest is approved in 2015 (see the State Forests Division section of this report), this management will then represent a total of slightly more than 100,000 acres of state forestlands.

Northeast Oregon District, LaGrande

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Dennis Perilli, Pendleton Unit Forester; 541-276-3491; Dennis.J.Perilli@Oregon.gov

Matt Howard, Wallowa Unit Forester; 541-886-2881; Matt.Howard@Oregon.gov

The [Northeast Oregon District](#) protects approximately 1.9 million acres of private forestlands in Union, Baker, Wallowa, and Umatilla counties, as well as portions of Malheur, Grant, and Morrow counties. The District Office is located in La Grande, and Unit Offices are located in [La Grande](#), [Pendleton](#), and [Wallowa](#). The [La Grande Unit](#) also has a Sub-Unit Office in [Baker City](#).

Both the Tribes and ODF continue to be involved in water quality planning processes in the Upper Grande Ronde, Walla Walla, and Umatilla rivers, as well as the Wallowa, Lower Grande Ronde, and Imnaha river basins in Wallowa County. Tribal interests in Northeast Oregon are well-represented in all facets of salmon recovery and water quality issues.

Field cooperation continues in areas of salmonid restoration and enhancement activity. ODF stewardship foresters have worked on joint restoration projects weaving together tribal interest and dollars with other funding sources such as Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), and Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program. Tribal fisheries biologists are a great information source during these activities.

Wallowa Unit: The Forest Practices Act is administered on the Nez Perce Tribe (NPT) lands in Wallowa County. At present, no operations notifications have been filed with ODF. Given the limited access, steep terrain, and the primary management purpose of promoting wildlife habitat, harvesting activity is anticipated to be low.

The Wallowa Unit Forester is a member of the steering committee that provides input to the NPT staff to aid in the implementation of a management plan for tribal lands in Wallowa County. A draft of the Precious Land Wildlife Management Area Plan was completed in 2005 with review provided by ODF. The land was purchased with BPA wildlife mitigation funds (Snake River dams), and the objectives for these lands are to enhance and preserve wildlife habitat.

Regarding fire protection, the Northeast Oregon District – Wallowa Unit has a Cooperative Fire Protection Agreement with the NPT which has been in place since 1999. Under this agreement, ODF provides fire protection on 14,984 acres of tribal land within the Northeast Oregon District forest protection boundary. This accumulated acreage is known as the “Precious Lands Wildlife Management Area” and is located in northeastern Wallowa County. The NPT also provide a Tribal representative to work with the fire managers in instances where heavy equipment will be used on the property, due to the potential presence of cultural resources. Tribal employees working on the property during the summer months have also aided ODF in the early detection of fires on Tribal lands, as well as on adjacent private and public lands. ODF continues to coordinate with the Precious Lands Resource Manager to assure that any access changes, gate combinations, etc., are effectively communicated.

Due to the active fire season on NPT ownership in 2010, fire managers met with NPT representatives in the spring of 2011 to discuss tribal interests relative to fire suppression activities within the Precious Lands Wildlife Management Area. This meeting was very productive and provided managers within both agencies the critical information necessary for efficient and effective fire suppression tactics and communication. Of particular interest was a discussion involving the use of heavy equipment and retardant use on NPT ownership. During the 2014 fire season there was one significant fire within the Precious Lands Wildlife Management Area. This was a 22-acre fire located in the Broady Creek drainage that burned 18 acres of NPT ownership and 4 acres of BLM ownership.

La Grande Unit: Stewardship Foresters have used their working relationships with local private landowners to introduce them to biologists with the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) regarding potential stream restoration projects. As a result, CTUIR is currently working on an extensive project on tributaries to the Upper Grande Ronde River on private ownership. This project is restoring stream and meadow functions and habitat for the benefit of steelhead and Chinook salmon. The Unit's foresters also occasionally work with CTUIR in large wood, tree, and log acquisition for stream restoration work.

La Grande Unit Stewardship Foresters and CTUIR biologists serve together on NRCS' Upper Grande Ronde Conservation Information System program, providing technical and operational support. This work group's goal is to provide a coordinated and integrated approach to forest health and natural resources restoration in target areas within the basin.

Pendleton Unit: The Forest Practices Act is administered by the ODF Pendleton Unit on private lands within the reservation boundary of the CTUIR. Notifications of Operations and Permits to Operate Power-driven Machinery are required on all private forest land operations. The Unit provides a copy of all Notifications of Operation within the reservation boundary to appropriate staff of CTUIR. Private landowners within the Reservation are informed of their need to obtain a conditional - use permit from the CTUIR for harvesting activity. The Unit's Stewardship Forester works with private landowners to help ensure that burn permit and smoke management requirements are addressed for both ODF and CTUIR.

Both the CTUIR and the Pendleton Unit Stewardship Forester attend monthly meetings of the Umatilla National Forest Collaborative. Both parties are also represented on the local NRCS working group that had two meetings this year to discuss forest restoration and fuels treatment projects where Tribal, U.S. Forest Service, and private ownership could work in conjunction with one another on a coordinated and collaborative basis. The ODF Stewardship Forester was asked to consult on a stream crossing structure on Beaver Creek, a fish-bearing stream on private property. This crossing was being used as a log hauling route for a Tribal timber sale. A Tribal Forester and ODF Forester also discussed insect and disease concerns, and timing of pre-commercial thinning in pine stands on Tribal land. The CTUIR archaeologist has contacted ODF about being a potential technical resource for cultural resource concerns on private lands.

The Umatilla Agency of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) has a fee-based fire protection agreement with the district that has been in place since 1961. Under the agreement, Northeast Oregon District - Pendleton Unit provides fire protection for approximately 54,734 acres of Indian Trust land within the Northeast Oregon District forest protection boundaries. This agreement is in compliance with the Master Cooperative Fire Protection Agreement. The CTUIR also contracts with Northeast Oregon District to provide wildland fire protection on 18,154 acres of fee lands within the protection district that are owned and managed by the Tribe.

This is the third season that the BIA has been using Blue Mountain Interagency Dispatch Center (BMIDC) as their primary dispatch center for fire activity which has further increased the level of coordination between BIA and ODF. ODF has continued to allow BIA to use ODF radio frequencies to dispatch crews, provide fire updates, and order shared resources (retardant aircraft, crews, etc.). During this fire season, BMIDC installed a BIA frequency in their base station to provide for back-up communications for both BIA and ODF fire resources if ODF's primary frequency were to go down. BIA hosted a preseason interagency dispatch meeting occurred involving Tribal Dispatch, BMIDC, CTUIR Resource Advisors, the BIA Fire Management Officer, and Pendleton Unit Fire Managers.

The BIA and ODF have a mutual aid fire protection agreement that enables each agency to help the other within their jurisdictional area. Both the BIA-Umatilla Agency and the ODF-Pendleton Unit have Mutual Fire Aid Fire Protection Agreements with the CTUIR Tribal Fire Department. These agreements allow the ODF-Pendleton Unit, the BIA-Umatilla Agency, and the CTUIR Fire Department to assist each other with available firefighting resources as needed and available. The principal responsibility of the Tribal Fire Department is structural protection, while BIA and ODF are primarily trained as wildland firefighters. Throughout fire season, there is communication between ODF, CTUIR, and BIA firefighters and fire managers. This close cooperation between all of these

agencies continues to provide an effective fire protection system for all residents of the Umatilla Reservation, including private landowners within the Reservation boundary.

During 2014, six statistical fires occurred on ODF protection within the CTUIR boundary. The largest of these fires, the Cayuse Fire, started within the CTUIR outside of ODF protection and burned onto ODF Fire Protection District. Of the 237 acres burned in the Cayuse Fire, 23 acres were within ODF protection on BIA Trust Land. Fire resources from CTUIR, BIA and ODF all responded to this fire that burned 177 acres of BIA trust, 15 acres of CTUIR fee land and 45 acres of private land. The lightning caused Stumbough Ridge Fire burned 11.5 acres, including 6.5 acres of CTUIR Fee Land and 2.7 acres of BIA Trust Land. Both a large air tanker and single engine air tanker were used on this fire to stop its spread. On these six statistical fires, BIA provided mutual aid on five of them and CTUIR responded to four of them.

ODF, as well as other wildland and structural agencies, provided mutual aid to the 225 acre Elizabethan Fire on CTUIR protection just outside of Pendleton. This fire threatened over 50 homes and none were lost. ODF provided mutual aid to the BIA on the Thorn Hollow Fire and BIA provided mutual aid to the 21 Road Fire which was outside of the CTUIR boundary.

The Pendleton Unit of Northeast Oregon District perceives the working relationship concerning fire protection with the CTUIR and the BIA–Umatilla Agency as successful and productive, and as one that enhances all of the agencies' efficiencies and effectiveness. This successful working relationship provides the residents of the CTUIR with an effective and responsive fire protection, fire prevention, and smoke management system. Without this high level of cooperation between agencies, the checker-boarded ownership within the reservation boundaries would create a cumbersome fire protection system that would be significantly less efficient and effective.

Northwest Oregon Area, Forest Grove (*private, state, and Bureau of Land Management forestlands west of the crest of the Cascades and north of Eugene*)

Andy White, Area Director; 503-359-7496, Andrew.T.White@Oregon.gov

State Forests Advisory Committee (SFAC): The Northwest Oregon Area Office continues to work with the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde through their representative on the [State Forests Advisory Committee](#) (SFAC), Zach Haas. SFAC represents diverse interests and provides input to the department and the board on state-managed forestland in northwest and southwest Oregon. Committee membership includes environmental, recreational and timber industry groups, as well as individuals nonaffiliated to particular interests. In addition to the various interests, Oregon counties receiving revenue from timber sales are represented.

Astoria District

Dan Goody, District Forester; 503-325-5451; Dan.B.Goody@Oregon.gov

The [Astoria District](#) manages the 137,000 acre Clatsop State Forest and protects approximately 450,790 acres of forest land in Clatsop, Tillamook, and Columbia counties.

Forest Grove District

Mike Cafferata, District Forester; 503-359-7430; Mike.J.Cafferata@Oregon.gov

Malcolm Hiatt, Columbia City Unit Forester; 503-397-2636; Malcolm.E.Hiatt@Oregon.gov

The [Forest Grove District](#) has an office in Forest Grove and a Unit Office in Columbia City. This District protects approximately 815,000 acres of forest land in Washington, Columbia, Yamhill, Tillamook and Multnomah counties. The district also manages the eastern one-third (approximately 115,000 acres) of the Tillamook State Forest.

North Cascade District

Steve Wilson, District Forester; 503-859-4341; Steve.V.Wilson@Oregon.gov

Russ Lane, Assistant District Forester; 503-859-4325; Russell.K.Lane@Oregon.gov

Scott West, Acting Molalla Unit Forester; 503-829-2216 x223; Scott.A.West@Oregon.gov

The [North Cascade District](#) manages the 47,871-acre Santiam State Forest and protects 652,000 acres of public and private forestlands in Clackamas, Multnomah, Marion, and Linn counties. The District is comprised of two unit offices - the [Molalla Unit](#) and the [Santiam Unit](#) in Lyons.

During this reporting period the Santiam Unit worked with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to review the biological inventory related to a parcel that the Confederated Tribe of the Warm Springs is reviewing for acquisition. The parcel is adjacent to state forests ownership in the Niagara area.

South Fork Camp

Nathan Seable; 503-815-6126; Nathan.T.Sable@Oregon.gov

[South Fork Camp](#) is a Department of Corrections (DOC) minimum security facility jointly administered by DOC and the Oregon Department of Forestry, located in the Tillamook State Forest 28 miles east of Tillamook, Oregon. The forestry employees supervise inmate crews in conducting project work across 650,000 acres of state forestlands within the Northwest Oregon geographic area and statewide for the Fire Program. Additionally, this program strives to provide work and personal conduct skills to inmates that increase their success at integrating back into society.

Tillamook District

Kate Skinner, District Forester; 503-815-7001; Kate.J.Skinner@Oregon.gov

The [Tillamook District](#) protects approximately 480,000 acres of forest land in Tillamook, Clatsop, and Yamhill counties and manages over 250,000 acres of the Tillamook State Forest.

Tillamook Forest Center

Fran McReynolds, Director; 503-815-6817; Fran.A.McReynolds@Oregon.gov

www.tillamookforestcenter.org and www.facebook.com/tillamookforestcenteroregon

Located at the heart of the Tillamook State Forest, the [Tillamook Forest Center](#) showcases the legacy of the historic Tillamook Burn and the public spirit behind a monumental reforestation effort that left a permanent imprint on Oregon history while also shaping sustainable forest management today. The center is located 50 miles west of Portland and 22 miles east of Tillamook, near Milepost 22 on Oregon Highway 6.

The history of the Tillamook State Forest is a rich one and the story of Native Americans is an important part of that history. The Center is committed to continuing the cooperative relationships with the two local tribes: The Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde and the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz, including public programs which share the history and culture of Oregon's Native People.

A new Tillamook Forest Center director was recently hired. The recruitment for this position placed a focus on tribal relationships as a high priority.

As in past years, in 2014 the center hosted the Grande Ronde OYCC group – a youth group that comes out to the center each year – as a celebration of their hard work. They are stationed at Grand Ronde and do mostly trail work – critical work that would not be possible without their participation. The event includes a “meet-and-greet” introduction, as well as sharing ODF employment opportunities.

Center employees also continue to have discussions with Bobby Mercier, Tribal Member and Education Director for the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde about a possible event at the Tillamook Forest Center focused around the carving of a large cedar log that would become a permanent display at the Center.

West Oregon District, Philomath

Mike Totey, District Forester; 541-929-3266; Mike.Totey@Oregon.gov

Jeff Classen, Dallas Unit Forester, 541-934-8146; Jeff.L.Classen@Oregon.gov

Kyle Williams, Toledo Unit Forester; 541-336-2273 x213; Kyle.H.Williams@Oregon.gov

The [West Oregon District](#) protects approximately 1.1 million acres of forestland in Benton, Lincoln, Polk, and southwest Yamhill counties, and also manages approximately 36,633 acres of State Forest Lands. The District Office is located in Philomath, with three unit offices in [Philomath](#), [Dallas](#), and [Toledo](#).

The West Oregon District has fee-based fire protection agreements with both the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and the Confederated Tribes of Siletz. Staff from the Tribes regularly attend and participate in meetings of the West Oregon Forest Protective Association. It is common to have joint fire suppression action from tribal and ODF personnel on fires of mutual concern.

State Forests Program staff from the district contact Siletz Tribal forestry staff to discuss routine road maintenance issues on shared roads and any timber harvesting activities on state forest lands that are immediately adjacent to tribal lands. The State Forests staff regularly seeks input on planned timber sales (Annual Operations Plans) from Siletz Tribal forestry staff.

Slash disposal is also a frequent issue requiring communication and coordination. Larger planning efforts, including fire mobilization plans from each organization, are shared and reviewed between the organizations.

Southern Oregon Area, Roseburg (*private, state, and Bureau of Land Management forestlands west of the crest of the Cascades and south from Eugene*)

Dave Lorenz, Area Director; 541-440-3412 x120; Dave.C.Lorenz@Oregon.gov

Coos District, Coos Bay

Norma Kline, District Forester; 541-267-1741; Norma.Kline@Oregon.gov

The [Coos District](#) manages 95,273 acres of state forest lands in Coos, Curry, and Douglas counties, including the 93,003-acre [Elliott State Forest](#), located in the Coast Range between Coos Bay and Reedsport, as well as providing environmental protection and assisting private forestland owners on nearly 1.25 million acres in Coos, Curry, and western Douglas counties. [Note: Through agreement with the Oregon State Forester, fire protection on the public and private forestlands in this area is provided by the private, non-profit [Coos Forest Protective Association](#).]

The Coos District regularly interfaces with both the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw, and the Coquille Indian Tribe in conjunction with local watershed councils. The Forest Practices Act is administered on the Coquille Indian Tribe Fee Lands in the Coos District.

The Coos District regularly provides local area tribes with copies of their Annual Operating Plans, as well as any discussions of individual timber sale plans. In the Coos Districts, permits are often issued to the tribes for collecting various forest products from state forest lands that are used for cultural purposes.

Coos Forest Protective Association, Coos Bay

Mike Robison, District Manager; 541-267-3161; Mike.E.Robison@Oregon.gov www.coosfpa.net

Through an agreement with the Oregon Department of Forestry, the [Coos Forest Protective Association](#), a private non-profit association, provides fire protection to 1.5 million acres of private, county, state, and Bureau of Land Management lands within the Coos District.

The Coos Forest Protective Association (CFPA), through agreements with the BIA and a local operating agreement, maintains a positive and productive relationship with the Coquille Indian Tribe. Due to a downturn in the biomass market, the CFPA will be assisting the Coquille Indian Tribe in meeting their fuels management goals through planning and operational assistance. The district also participates in the Coquille Indian Tribe's youth Field Day which covers tree planting activities, wildlife habitat, and fire prevention.

The CFPA provides fire protection on 6,555 acres of Coquille Indian Tribe lands that are held in trust throughout Coos and Curry counties, 6,512 acres of land in Douglas County owned by the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians, and 19 acres of lands owned by the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians in Coos County. The Coquille Indian Tribe and the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians are active members of the Association.

Douglas Forest Protective Association, Roseburg

**Melvin Thornton, District Manager; 541-440-3412 x123; Melvin.Thornton@Oregon.gov
www.dfpa.net/ and <https://twitter.com/DouglasFPA>**

Through an agreement with the Oregon Department of Forestry, the [Douglas Forest Protective Association](#), a private non-profit association, provides fire protection to 1.6 million acres of private, county, state, and Bureau of Land Management lands within the Douglas District.

The Douglas Forest Protective Association (DFPA) continues a very close and positive working relationship with the Cow Creek Band of the Umpqua Tribe of Indians. The DFPA, through agreements with the BIA, provides fire protection on approximately 3000 acres of tribal lands that are held in trust throughout Douglas County. The DFPA continues to work with the Tribe on forest health and fuels management projects, including long-range planning on incorporating past and future fuels management projects into the county's Community Wildfire Protection Plan. Last year, DFPA crews were utilized on several fuels treatment projects in high-risk areas on trust lands that will dovetail into future landscape treatments funded by Western States Wildland Urban Interface grant monies. The crews were also utilized for pile burning and the cutting of firewood for Tribal Elders. DFPA and the Tribe have entered into discussions regarding the reintroduction of fire on a landscape level as a land management tool.

South Cascade District, Springfield

**Greg Wagenblast, District Forester; 541-726-3588; greg.wagenblast@Oregon.gov
**Chris Cline, Eastern Lane Unit Forester; 541-726-3588; Christopher.L.Cline@Oregon.gov
Craig Pettinger, Sweet Home Unit Forester, 541-367-6108; Craig.Pettinger@Oregon.gov****

The [South Cascade District](#) protects approximately 1.135 million acres in Linn and eastern Lane counties (east of I-5). The district is comprised of two units: [Eastern Lane](#) (in Springfield) and [Sweet Home](#).

The Oregon Department of Forestry continues to partner in a community forest project proposal, accepted as an Oregon Solutions project in late 2012, that explores the concept of creating a Community Corridor Forest along the South Santiam River/Highway 20 corridors that could provide economic, environmental, social, and cultural benefits to the Sweet Home area. This concept would include the 55-acre Cascadia Caves site, one of the most important cultural heritage sites in Oregon that is currently owned by a private timber company. This scientifically dated 8,000-year-old heritage site, a spiritual location where indigenous peoples – mainly the Molalla and Santiam Kalapuya – would gather their spirit power to fish for salmon, is also adjacent to other culturally significant resources including an important fishing site, Indian Trail, , as well as the historic Santiam Wagon Road – once “the road most traveled” over the Oregon Cascades.

In 2014, the Sweet Home Unit again hosted the Mid-Willamette Interagency Fire School to prepare for the upcoming fire season. This fire school is a cooperative event between the ODF, US Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde. The school hosts approximately 200 students and instructors annually and teaches entry-level to advanced courses. The Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde participate in planning the school, supply overhead to teach classes and assist with field operations, and send students to the school during years when the classes being taught meet the needs of their training program.

Southwest Oregon District, Central Point

**Dan Thorpe, District Forester; 541-664-3328; Dan.A.Thorpe@Oregon.gov
**Greg Alexander, Unit Forester; 541-664-3328; Greg.P.Alexander@Oregon.gov
Rick Dryer, Grants Pass Unit Forester, 541- 471-4243; Rick.A.Dryer@Oregon.gov****

The [Southwest Oregon District](#) protects approximately 1,800,000 acres in Jackson and Josephine counties, as well as managing approximately 18,000 acres of scattered tracts of state forest lands. The district has Unit Offices in [Medford](#) and [Grants Pass](#).

Western Lane District

Grant (Link) Smith; 541-935-2283; Grant.S.Smith@Oregon.gov

The [Western Lane District](#) protects approximately 756,200 acres in Lane and Douglas counties, as well as managing approximately 26,000 acres of scattered state forest lands. The district also includes a Unit Office in Florence.

SUMMARY/CONCLUSIONS

ODF is very pleased overall with the relationships that have been developed and continue with the Tribes over the past year, and particularly appreciative with the involvement of the Tribes in our program activities, and as members of agency stakeholder advisory committees and other groups. This involvement requires a very real commitment in time and energy from the various Tribal representatives, and also adds a tremendous amount of value and unique perspectives to these group processes and products that we would not otherwise be able to obtain. We are committed to continuing and enhancing those relationships and activities in 2015 and beyond.