

**Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF)**  
**2013 Report – Tribal-State Agency Government-to-Government Relations**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**AGENCY-WIDE ACTIVITIES**

1. Paul Bell, Deputy State Forester is the agency's designated Government-to-Government representative, assisted by Dave Lorenz and Keith Baldwin. In 2013, one or more ODF representatives attended the State Capitol Tribal Day celebrations, annual Tribal Summit, and Natural Resources and Cultural Cluster meetings.
2. Twelve agency employees attended the 2013 Archaeology Training offered by the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department in April 2013.
3. ODF is initiating a proposed land acquisition process, including public hearing and comment opportunities, to add 29,000 acres to the 43,000-acre Gilchrist State Forest.
4. ODF is initiating rulemaking, including opportunities for public input/comment, 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 2013 started early and lightning events in July and August ignited fires that ultimately burned more than 100,000 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 introduced three pieces of legislation in 2013, including HB 2050, the Wildfire Protection Act. The act revises wildfire funding to better control and distribute fire protection costs to forest landowners.

**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). In 2013, Coos District staff met with the Coquille Indian Tribe to discuss protection of archaeological sites during forest operations on private lands.
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. **Douglas Complex.** After the lightning storm that moved through southern Oregon on July 26, several large fires were ignited on ODF-protected forestlands, including what became the 49,000-acre Douglas Complex. Tribal representatives were invited to and did attend at least one of the complex's fire planning meetings. In addition, the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribes of Indians provided firefighters with personal article packets that were much appreciated.
6. **Geotechnical Expertise out of ODF's Southern Oregon Area Office** was provided to members of the Coquille Indian Tribe regarding a failed section of forest management road on tribal lands.
7. A **Community Forest Proposal** was accepted as an Oregon Solutions Project that envisions creating a community corridor forest along the South Santiam River/Highway 20 corridors to provide multiple economic, environmental, social, and cultural benefits to the local Sweet Home rural community area. This concept includes the 55-acre Cascadia Caves site, an 8,000-year-old spiritual location for indigenous peoples. Three local tribes are represented on the leadership team for this project, and ODF staff out of the South Cascade District is included as project members.

**Oregon Department of Forestry**  
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**Contact Information**

**Executive Team Contacts**

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Peter Daugherty, Private Forests Division Chief; 503-945-7482; <a href="mailto:pdaugherty@odf.state.or.us">pdaugherty@odf.state.or.us</a>	Nancy Hirsch, Fire Protection Division Chief 503-945-7204; <a href="mailto:nhirsch@odf.state.or.us">nhirsch@odf.state.or.us</a>	Satish Upadhyay, Administrative Services Division Chief; 503-945-7203; <a href="mailto:supadhyay@odf.state.or.us">supadhyay@odf.state.or.us</a>

**Division/Program Contacts**

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Paul Ries, Urban and Community Forests Program Manager; 503-945-7391; <a href="mailto:pries@odf.state.or.us">pries@odf.state.or.us</a>	Kevin Birch, Forest Resources Planning Program Director; 503-945-7405; <a href="mailto:kbirch@odf.state.or.us">kbirch@odf.state.or.us</a>	

**Field Office Contacts**

Travis Medema, Eastern Oregon Area Director (effective January 1, 2014); 541-447-5658 x225; [tmedema@odf.state.or.us](mailto:tmedema@odf.state.or.us)

Central Oregon District George Ponte, District Forester 541-447-5658; <a href="mailto:gponte@odf.state.or.us">gponte@odf.state.or.us</a>	Klamath-Lake District Greg Pittman, District Forester 541-883-5687; <a href="mailto:gpittman@odf.state.or.us">gpittman@odf.state.or.us</a>	Northeast Oregon District John Buckman, District Forester 541-963-3168; <a href="mailto:jbuckman@odf.state.or.us">jbuckman@odf.state.or.us</a>
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Andy White, Northwest Oregon Area Director; 503-359-7496; [awhite@odf.state.or.us](mailto:awhite@odf.state.or.us)

Astoria District Tom Savage, District Forester; 503-325-5451; <a href="mailto:tsavage@odf.state.or.us">tsavage@odf.state.or.us</a>	Forest Grove District Mike Cafferata, District Forester 503-359-7430; <a href="mailto:mcafferata@odf.state.or.us">mcafferata@odf.state.or.us</a>	North Cascade District Steve Wilson, District Forester 503-859-4341; <a href="mailto:swilson@odf.state.or.us">swilson@odf.state.or.us</a>
Tillamook Forest Center Larry Berrin, Director 503-815-6817; <a href="mailto:lberrin@odf.state.or.us">lberrin@odf.state.or.us</a>	Tillamook District Dan Goody, District Forester 503-815-7001; <a href="mailto:dgoody@odf.state.or.us">dgoody@odf.state.or.us</a>	West Oregon District Mike Totey, District Forester 541-929-3266; <a href="mailto:mtotey@odf.state.or.us">mtotey@odf.state.or.us</a>

Dave Lorenz, Southern Oregon Area Director; 541-440-3412 x120; [dlorenz@odf.state.or.us](mailto:dlorenz@odf.state.or.us)

Coos District Norma Kline, District Forester 541-267-1741; <a href="mailto:nkline@odf.state.or.us">nkline@odf.state.or.us</a>	South Cascade District Greg Wagenblast, District Forester; 541-726-3588; <a href="mailto:gwagenblast@odf.state.or.us">gwagenblast@odf.state.or.us</a>	Southwest Oregon District Dan Thorpe, District Forester 541-664-3328; <a href="mailto:dthorpe@odf.state.or.us">dthorpe@odf.state.or.us</a>
Western Lane District Grant "Link" Smith, District Forester 541-93502283; <a href="mailto:gsmith@odf.state.or.us">gsmith@odf.state.or.us</a>		

**Forest Protection Associations**

Coos Forest Protective Association Mike Robison, District Manager 541-267-3161; <a href="mailto:mrobison@odf.state.or.us">mrobison@odf.state.or.us</a>	Roseburg Forest Protective Association Melvin Thornton, District Manager 541-440-3412; <a href="mailto:mthornton@odf.state.or.us">mthornton@odf.state.or.us</a>	Walker Forest Protection Association R.D. Buell, District Manager 541-433-2451; <a href="mailto:rdbuell@odf.state.or.us">rdbuell@odf.state.or.us</a>
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"Stewardship in Forestry"

**2013 Report**  
**Oregon Department of Forestry**  
[www.oregon.gov/odf](http://www.oregon.gov/odf)  
**Tribal-State Agency Government-to-Government Relations**

## **INTRODUCTION**

During 2013, 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:**

*Doug Decker, State Forester, 503-945-7201, [ddecker@odf.state.or.us](mailto:ddecker@odf.state.or.us)  
Paul Bell, Deputy State Forester, 503-945-7205; [pbell@odf.state.or.us](mailto:pbell@odf.state.or.us)*

### **Agency's Designated Representative**

Paul Bell, Deputy State Forester, continued as the Agency Liaison for Government-to-Government Relations. Paul 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**

Dave Lorenz, Southern Oregon Area Director, attended the Tribal Day celebrations at the State Capitol in Salem on February 20, 2013.

Doug Decker, Paul Bell, and Dave Lorenz attended and participated in the Annual Tribal Summit, at Coquille Tribal facilities in Coos Bay, on November 29, 2012.

Doug Decker, Oregon State Forester, Paul Bell, and Dave Lorenz attended the Annual Tribal Summit on November 28, 2012. ODF expects to continue participating in these and similar activities as they are available during the remainder of 2013 and throughout 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 2013. He attended meetings of the group on November 28, 2012, and April 3 and September 4, 2013. In April, Dave was accompanied by ODF forest ecologist Andrew Yost who gave a presentation on climate change. In September, Dave gave a presentation on bark beetle trends on tribal lands.

### **Involvement with the Cultural Resources Cluster Work 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 and Brian Pew attended the March 26 and 27 meeting of the group. Both Paul and Keith attended meetings of this group on June 3 and 4 and October 1 and 2, respectively, during this reporting period.

**2013 Archaeology Training:** Twelve ODF employees attended the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department's 2013 Archaeology Training that was held April 9-12 in The Dalles. These included Private Forests Program Stewardship Foresters from districts around the state, as well as one State Forests forester. An additional ODF Salem program staff employee attended on the last day of the training to participate in the conversations and discussions about agency interactions with the Tribes, and to clarify 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 2014.

**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](http://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**

**Mike Bordelon, Division Chief; 503-945-7213; [mbordelon@odf.state.or.us](mailto:mbordelon@odf.state.or.us)**

**Liz Dent, Deputy Division Chief; 503-945-7351; [ldent@odf.state.or.us](mailto:ldent@odf.state.or.us)**

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

**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 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.

The Department will have an open public comment period and a formal hearing in order to gather feedback from the public on these specific acquisitions. The comment period runs from November 5, 2013 through 5 p.m. on January 3, 2014, and a public hearing is scheduled for December 5, 2013, to be held in Klamath Falls. It is anticipated that ODF will request Board of Forestry approval of the acquisitions at its March 2014 meeting.

For more information on the proposed acquisitions, please visit:

[www.oregon.gov/ODF/Pages/state\\_forests/gilchristacquisition.aspx](http://www.oregon.gov/ODF/Pages/state_forests/gilchristacquisition.aspx)

## **Private Forests Division**

**Peter Daugherty, Division Chief; 503-945-7482; [pdaugherty@odf.state.or.us](mailto:pdaugherty@odf.state.or.us)**

**Lena Tucker, Deputy Division Chief; 503-945-7529; [ltucker@odf.state.or.us](mailto:ltucker@odf.state.or.us)**

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. Legislation impacting the Private Forest Division in 2013 included:

**Special Forest Products Rulemaking:** House Bill (HB) 2615, Special Forest Products (2013 legislative session) 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. While mushrooms were defined as special products, truffles were not because they are fungi, but technically not a mushroom. HB 2615 serves two main purposes: (1) To include all fungi, including truffles, in the existing permitting system for special forest products, and (2) places the role of identifying special forest products within the rulemaking authority of the Board of Forestry. Under the bill, new rules must be operative by July 1, 2014 and new permit forms available for use by October 1, 2014.

The Department has conducted initial outreach and has had preliminary discussions with Regional Forest Practices Committees and other stakeholders in regard to the needed rule development. The Department has communicated with field offices and the media regarding the changes to the forms per the emergency clause set forth in the bill and the change in statute to include all fungi. Response back from the public (via the news they received from the media) and communication with stakeholders, committee chairs, and the field has been positive.

## **Fire Division**

**Nancy Hirsch, Division Chief; 503-945-7204; [nhirsch@odf.state.or.us](mailto:nhirsch@odf.state.or.us)**

**Doug Grafe, Deputy Division Chief (effective January 1, 2014); 503-945-7271; [dgrafe@odf.state.or.us](mailto:dgrafe@odf.state.or.us)**

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.

**2013: An epic fire season in Oregon.** With a backdrop of drought, a small snowpack and high temperatures, wildfire managers predicted 2013 would be a tough fire season. It started early, with several fires of 200-plus acres in May and June. Then on July 26 a dry lightning storm raked southwestern Oregon, igniting more than 80 fires on lands protected by the Oregon Department of Forestry and the Douglas Forest Protective Association.

Firefighters stopped most of them small. But five became major incidents, all involving rough terrain and areas of heavy fuels, and some threatening homes. At the peak of operations in southwest Oregon, about 6,000 agency staff and contractors were dispatched to these fires.

Then in early August the thunderstorms shifted east, pounding central Oregon with lightning for a week straight. Firefighters from local, state and federal agencies caught most of the resulting fires. But two grew large, initially threatening John Day and The Dalles.

Costs set a record in the 2013 season, and more than 100,000 state-protected acres burned, the most since 1951. It could have been even worse: Aggressive firefighting put out 94 percent of fires, more than 1,000, under 10 acres in size.

More information on the 2013 fire season can be downloaded at:

[www.oregon.gov/odf/AGENCY\\_AFFAIRS/docs/Fire\\_season\\_2013.pdf](http://www.oregon.gov/odf/AGENCY_AFFAIRS/docs/Fire_season_2013.pdf).

## **Urban and Community Forestry Program**

**Paul Ries, Program Manager, 503-945-7391; [pries@odf.state.or.us](mailto:pries@odf.state.or.us)**

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

## **Forest Resources Planning Program**

**Kevin Birch, Program Director; 503-945-7405; [kbirch@odf.state.or.us](mailto:kbirch@odf.state.or.us)**

**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 2012, 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](http://www.oregon.gov/odf/pages/state_forests/frp/annual_reports.aspx).

## **2013 AGENCY LEGISLATION AND BUDGET**

**2013 Agency Legislation: Paul Bell, Deputy State Forester/Legislative Coordinator; 503-945-7205; [pbell@odf.state.or.us](mailto:pbell@odf.state.or.us)**

**Dan Postrel, Public Affairs Program Director; 503-945-7420; [dpostrel@odf.state.or.us](mailto:dpostrel@odf.state.or.us)**

The Oregon Department of Forestry introduced three legislative concepts for the 2013 Legislative Session – one substantive, one to accomplish statutory clean-up, and one that is a routine part of the budgeting process and considered as housekeeping.

**HB 2050 – Wildfire Protection Act,** revised wildfire funding in Oregon. The purpose of the Act is to control and equitably distribute fire suppression costs in Oregon’s wildfire protection system, which combines state and landowner resources to protect forests and communities – assets of value to all Oregonians. The Act increased initial attack resources by leveraging landowner emergency costs funds with General Fund. Landowners provide up to \$6 million per biennium from the Oregon Forest Land Protection Fund and the state provides up to \$4 million per biennium. Recognizing that eastside forestlands, with the lowest land productivity, were paying the highest fire protection rates, to reduce that burden, the Act provides \$2 million per biennium to reduce rates for those forest landowners who are paying fire patrol assessment-for fire protection. Over the next six years, the Act also phases in revisions in sharing large fire costs between landowners and the state’s General Fund.

Passage of the Wildfire Protection Act played a critical role in aggressive initial attack and the relative success of the agency, cooperators, and stakeholders during the severe 2013 fire season.

**SB 31 – Forestland Classification:** cleans up legislation from last session for the process of determining which lands pay fire patrol assessments. The legislation also better defines who can sit on county classification committees and allows the department to assist counties in the event of legal challenges.

**HB 2051 – Forest Practices Harvest Tax** is a routine part of the budgeting process, that establishes the Forest Products Harvest Tax rate each biennia. These revenues are used to support forest research, partially fund Forest Practices Act administration, and large forest fire costs. New for this session, the bill will provide funding for Oregon State University for investment in professional forestry education.

Additional legislation that affected the agency was passed by the 2013 Legislature. A summary of forest-related legislation, that includes legislation the agency did not introduce, can be downloaded at: [www.oregon.gov/odf/docs/Summary\\_of\\_2013\\_Legislation.pdf](http://www.oregon.gov/odf/docs/Summary_of_2013_Legislation.pdf).

## **2013-15 Agency Budget**

**Satish Upadhyay, Administrative Services Division Chief, 503-945-7203; [supadhyay@odf.state.or.us](mailto:supadhyay@odf.state.or.us)**

A two-page summary of the agency’s 2013-15 Legislatively Adopted Budget can be downloaded at: [www.oregon.gov/odf/docs/2013\\_2015\\_LAB.pdf](http://www.oregon.gov/odf/docs/2013_2015_LAB.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 2013, 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](http://www.oregonforestry.gov)

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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*)  
**Travis Medema, Area Director** (*effective January 2, 2014*); 541-447-5658 x225;  
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### **Central Oregon District, Prineville**

**George Ponte, District Forester**; 541-447-5658 x231; [gponte@odf.state.or.us](mailto:gponte@odf.state.or.us)  
**Kevin Benton, Prineville Unit Forester**; 541-447-5658 x230; [kbenton@odf.state.or.us](mailto:kbenton@odf.state.or.us)  
**Rob S. Pentzer, John Day Unit Forester**; 541-575-1139 x232; [rspentzer@odf.state.or.us](mailto:rspentzer@odf.state.or.us)  
**David Jacobs, The Dalles Unit Forester**; 541-296-4626; [djacobs@odf.state.or.us](mailto:djacobs@odf.state.or.us)

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 2013, we continued a very strong mutual aid partnership by assisting each other with initial and extended attack fires.

Stewardship Foresters have done consulting work on Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs (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**

*Greg Pittman, District Forester; 541-883-5687; [gpittman@odf.state.or.us](mailto:gpittman@odf.state.or.us)*

*Dennis Lee, Klamath Protection Unit Forester; 541-883-5680; [dlee@odf.state.or.us](mailto:dlee@odf.state.or.us)*

*John Pellissier, Sun Pass and Gilchrist State Forest Management Unit Forester; 541-883-5681; [jpellissier@odf.state.or.us](mailto:jpellissier@odf.state.or.us)*

*Dustin Gustaveson, Lake Protection Unit Forester; 541-947-3311; [dgustaveson@odf.state.or.us](mailto:dgustaveson@odf.state.or.us)*

*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](#).*

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 2014 (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**

*John Buckman, District Forester, 541-963-3168, [jbuckman@odf.state.or.us](mailto:jbuckman@odf.state.or.us)*

*Mike Shaw, Wallowa Unit Forester; 541-886-2881; [mshaw@odf.state.or.us](mailto:mshaw@odf.state.or.us)*

*Joe Hessel, LaGrande Unit Forester, 541-963-3168; [jhessel@odf.state.or.us](mailto:jhessel@odf.state.or.us)*

*Dennis Perilli, Pendleton Unit Forester; 541-276-3491; [dperilli@odf.state.or.us](mailto:dperilli@odf.state.or.us)*

*Mike Shaw, Wallowa Unit Forester; 541-886-2881; [mshaw@odf.state.or.us](mailto:mshaw@odf.state.or.us)*

*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.

***La Grande and Wallowa Units:*** 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. Although there were no fires on the Precious Lands Wildlife Management Area in 2013, NPT personnel reported two fires on adjacent private land. ODF personnel also worked closely with the NPT to communicate information on other wildfires that had the potential to impact NPT 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. In 2013, two notifications were received for operations within the CTUIR, both involving slash burning. 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.

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 57,444 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 17,781 acres of fee lands within the protection district that are owned and managed by the Tribe. As in past years, representatives of the BIA, the CTUIR, and ODF met prior to the beginning of the 2013 fire season to update the Local Operating Plan and reinforce the cooperative working relationship.

This is the second 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. Since BMIDC does not have BIA and CTUIR radio frequencies, 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.). A

preseason dispatch meeting occurred at the Tribal Governance Center involving Tribal Dispatch, BMIDC, the CTUIR Fire Chief and 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. In July 2013, BIA hosted an interagency (BIA, Tribal, and ODF) firefighter gathering that allowed the firefighters to get acquainted with one another and this gathering added to the cooperative nature of the relationship between agencies. 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 2013, four statistical fires occurred on ODF protection within the CTUIR boundary. All four of these fires originated on and were confined to BIA Trust Lands. The largest of these fires was the Burke Road Fire that burned 27.5 acres. The other three fires were all suppressed at less than one acre. The cooperative agreement between ODF, Tribal Fire, and BIA continued to work successfully in 2013.

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, [awhite@odf.state.or.us](mailto:awhite@odf.state.or.us)**

**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.

At the March 15, 2013 meeting, Zach provided a lunch-time presentation to the committee on the history of the Tribe, the Tribal Council, and the reservation. He discussed the mission statement and provided an overview of the Tribe's recently updated forest management plan. Zach's participation in SFAC is greatly appreciated by the agency.

#### **Astoria District**

**Tom Savage, District Forester; 503-325-5451; [tsavage@odf.state.or.us](mailto:tsavage@odf.state.or.us)**

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; [mcafferata@odf.state.or.us](mailto:mcafferata@odf.state.or.us)**

**Malcolm Hiatt, Columbia City Unit Forester; 503-397-2636; [mhiatt@odf.state.or.us](mailto:mhiatt@odf.state.or.us)**

The [Forest Grove District](#) has an office in Forest Grove and one 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. The Forest Grove District also has a Unit Office in [Columbia City](#).

### **North Cascade District**

*Steve Wilson, District Forester; 503-859-4341; [swilson@odf.state.or.us](mailto:swilson@odf.state.or.us)*

*Russ Lane, Assistant District Forester; 503-859-4325; [rlane@odf.state.or.us](mailto:rlane@odf.state.or.us)*

*Ken Cushman, Molalla Unit Forester; 503-829-2216 x225; [kcushman@odf.state.or.us](mailto:kcushman@odf.state.or.us)*

*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.*

### **South Fork Camp**

*Nathan Seable; 503-815-6126; [nseable@odf.state.or.us](mailto:nseable@odf.state.or.us)*

*[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**

*Dan Goody, District Forester; 503-815-7001; [dgoody@odf.state.or.us](mailto:dgoody@odf.state.or.us)*

*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**

*Larry Berrin, Director; 503-815-6817; [lberrin@odf.state.or.us](mailto:lberrin@odf.state.or.us)*

*[www.tillamookforestcenter.org](http://www.tillamookforestcenter.org) and [www.facebook.com/tillamookforestcenteroregon](http://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. This year, the Tillamook Forest Center's new director and former director (Jim Quiring) met with Eirik Thorsgard, Cultural Protection Program Manager/Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, and Robert Kentta, Cultural Resources Director, Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, to ensure a smooth transition and continue our strong partnership. Both tribes have been extremely supportive of the center's education program since the center's 2006 opening.

Both Robert Kentta and Eirik Thorsgard were invited to our Exhibit Refresh meeting to discuss possible updates and additions to the Center for the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (2016), including our Native American display. Robert was able to attend and provided good feed-back to us. We also met with and continue to have discussions with Bobby Mercier, Tribal Member and Education Director for the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde about a possible 2014 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; [mtotey@odf.state.or.us](mailto:mtotey@odf.state.or.us)*

*Jeff Classen, Dallas Unit Forester, 541-934-8146; [jclassen@odf.state.or.us](mailto:jclassen@odf.state.or.us)*

*Kyle Williams, Toledo Unit Forester; 541-336-2273 x213; [kwilliams@odf.state.or.us](mailto:kwilliams@odf.state.or.us)*

*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 organizations 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; [dlorenz@odf.state.or.us](mailto:dlorenz@odf.state.or.us)**

**Douglas Complex.** On July 26, 2013, a severe, unpredicted dry lightning storm moved through southwestern Oregon, amid hot weather and record-low vegetation moisture, igniting more than 80 fires on lands protected by ODF and the Douglas Forest Protective Association (DFPA). The Douglas Complex of fires on DFPA-protected forestlands ultimately burned approximately 49,000 acres on a mixture of private, county, and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) forestlands protected by DFPA and ODF's Southwest Oregon District. ODF Incident Management Team 2 assumed command of the complex on July 27<sup>th</sup>, joined in unified command by the Oregon State Fire Marshal's Office Team Green to provide structure protection, as well as participation from the Oregon National Guard aviation and ground resources. Team 2 was transitioned out on August 19, 2013, to ODF Incident Management Team 3, who managed the complex until command was transitioned to a local DFPA fire management team on August 26, 2013. Over an 11-day time period in July and August, 2013, the Douglas Complex was the top-priority fire in the nation (i.e., number one in receiving resources, etc.).

The Douglas Complex did burn through one or more cultural sites; ODF is not aware of any impacts to these sites at this time. Tribal representatives were invited to attend planning meetings relating to the Douglas Complex and did attend at least one briefing. In addition, much thanks to the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians who provided personal article packets to firefighters that included items such as shampoo, towels, toothpaste, and jerky. This heart-felt generosity was sincerely appreciated.

**Geotechnical Expertise.** On May 13, 2013, John Seward, ODF Southern Oregon Area Geotechnical Specialist, reviewed a failed section of forest management road on Coquille Indian Tribal land with Ed Vaughn, Coquille Tribal Forester, and Daren Cagley, Coquille Tribe. The road was impassable due to a failure of the road prism. The discussed solutions, and findings and recommendations were supplied to the Coquille Tribe in a subsequent memo.

### **Coos District, Coos Bay**

**Jim Young, District Forester; 541-267-1741; [jyoung@odf.state.or.us](mailto:jyoung@odf.state.or.us) (through November 15, 2013)**

**Norma Kline, District Forester; 541-267-1741; [nkline@odf.state.or.us](mailto:nkline@odf.state.or.us) (effective November 18, 2013)**

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](#).]

Each year the Coos District sends copies of planned sales to the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw for their review early in the Annual Operation Plan process. The purpose is so they can review individual sale locations to see if there is potential for cultural resources on the site. So far, there have not been any issues.

Occasionally, permits are issued to the tribes for collecting various forest plants to be used for cultural purposes.

During the past year, Coos District Private Forests staff met with Coquille Indian Tribe staff to discuss protection of archeological sites during forest operations on private lands.

The Coos District also interfaces with both the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw and the Coquille Indian Tribe on local watershed councils.

#### **Coos Forest Protective Association, Coos Bay**

**Mike Robison, District Manager; 541-267-3161; [mrobison@odf.state.or.us](mailto:mrobison@odf.state.or.us)**

**[www.coosfpa.net](http://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; [mthornton@odf.state.or.us](mailto:mthornton@odf.state.or.us)**

**[www.dfpa.net/](http://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; [gwagenblast@odf.state.or.us](mailto:gwagenblast@odf.state.or.us)**

**Karen Swearingen, Eastern Lane Unit Forester; 541-726-3588; [kswearingen@odf.state.or.us](mailto:kswearingen@odf.state.or.us)**

**Craig Pettinger, Sweet Home Unit Forester, 541-367-6108; [cpettinger@odf.state.or.us](mailto:cpettinger@odf.state.or.us)**

*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](#).*

A community forest project proposal was 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. A project team, with co-conveners appointed by Governor Kitzhaber on October 8, 2012, is working on the concept and the leadership team for the project includes representatives of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde, Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, and Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. ODF is a partner in the project, with the South Cascade District Forester, Sweet Home Unit Forester, and ODF’s Biomass Resource Specialist included as project team members.

In 2013, 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; [dthorpe@odf.state.or.us](mailto:dthorpe@odf.state.or.us)*

*Greg Alexander, Unit Forester; 541-664-3328; [galexander@odf.state.or.us](mailto:galexander@odf.state.or.us)*

*Rick Dryer, Grants Pass Unit Forester, 541- 471-4243; [rdryer@odf.state.or.us](mailto:rdryer@odf.state.or.us)*

*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; [gsmith@odf.state.or.us](mailto:gsmith@odf.state.or.us)*

*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.*

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**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 2014 and beyond.