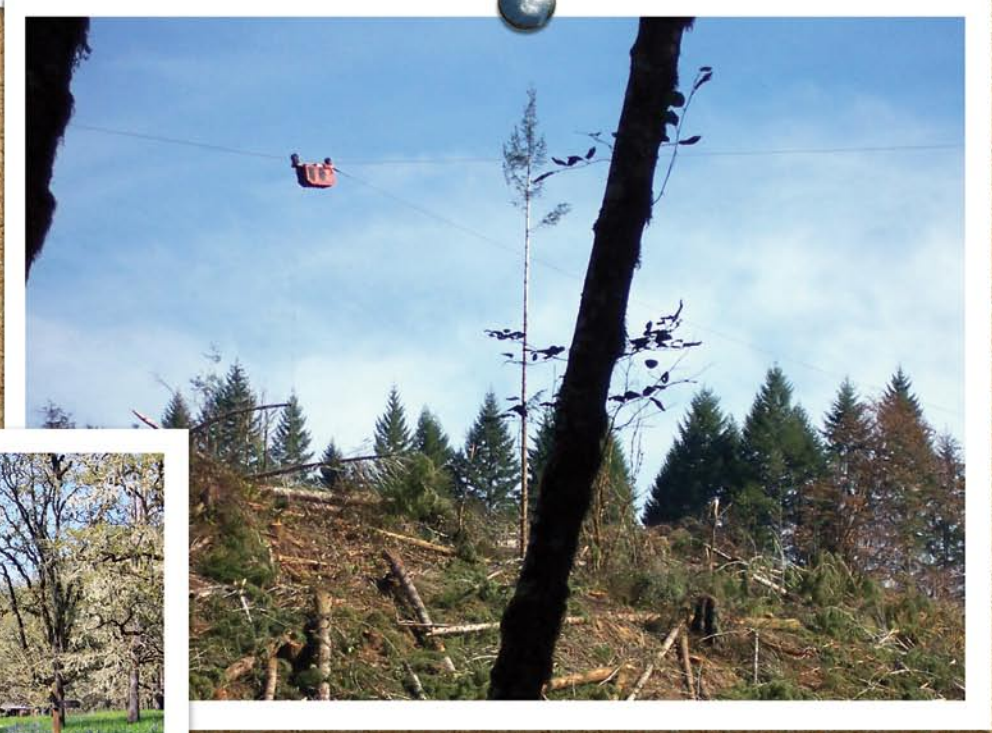


# 2007 Highlights





**FROM  
THE  
STATE  
FORESTER**



**State Forester  
Marvin Brown**

Dear Readers,  
Once again it's a pleasure to welcome you to our Annual Report. As you can see by these pages, the Oregon Department of Forestry administers a diverse set of programs and services. We support the Governor, Legislature and Board of Forestry in their development of state policy regarding forests.

We also manage state-owned forests, help landowners manage their forests on private lands, assist with the management of forests in our urban areas, and protect Oregon's forests from insects, disease and fire.

We understand that to be sustainable, forests

collectively in Oregon need to provide a complete set of environmental, economic and social values. The projects and programs we report on here are meant to generate this complete set of values. Because when all is said and done, it's the values our forests provide – clean air, clean water, wildlife habitat, wood products and income from timber, beautiful scenery and places to recreate - that make Oregon's forests important to those who live here.

Forests are important to all of us now, and they are important to the generations that will follow. We hope you will conclude we are doing our best at that responsibility.

**CONTENTS**

From the State Forester ..... 2  
 The Oregon Board of Forestry..... 3  
 Private Forests Program..... 4  
 Urban Forests Program ..... 4  
 State Forests Program ..... 5  
 Fire Season ..... 6  
 Forest Resources Planning Program ..... 7  
 Operating Areas..... Back cover

*In the springtime, blue camas lily (Camassia quamash) delight the eye under the canopy of Oregon White Oaks found in Oregon's forests. The Willamette Valley's first inhabitants, the Kalapuya, harvested bulbs from camas, baked them in earthen ovens for one to two days, then laid them out to dry or ate them immediately. West of the Cascade-Sierra Nevada crest, this plant occurs in both forest and grasslands.*



photo by Cynthia Orlando, ODF

**D**uring 2007, the Board of Forestry conducted its biennial “issue scan,” an opportunity for the public to help the Board establish priorities.

About 90 individuals or organizations provided almost 170 comments. The input expressed a broad range of views about many topics – from the future of federal lands to pesticide use to fire protection and urban forestry.

A work group appointed by the Board to review the comments identified several key themes. These included climate change, pesticides, the Board’s own work process, and a set of threats to working forests – including development pressure, and uncertainty about the future of family forestlands.

The work group concluded that the Board’s current work plans address the issues raised in the scan.

However, the group issued several recommendations, including that the Department of Forestry evaluate the most recent available data on pesticide effects, and that the Board assess its own work-planning and decision-making processes.

The review of pesticide information is expected to tie in to inter-agency work on toxics assigned by the governor’s office. The Board has begun to address the recommendations about work-planning and decision-making through several workshops and discussions. These are continuing in 2008.

## BOARD SCANS FORESTRY LANDSCAPE IN 2007



Photo courtesy Jefferson Co. Rural Fire District

*Extreme fire behavior such as the flame length in this 2007 Jefferson County photo has become more common as summers have become hotter and drier. Climate change is a key trend influencing the future of forests.*

**A** family forestland owner from the Portland area and a Bend-based forestry consultant joined the Oregon Board of Forestry in 2007.

Peter Hayes, of Portland, is president and managing partner of a family forestland business in Oregon’s northern Coast Range. He also has three decades of experience as an educator, with an emphasis on conservation education, and has served in professional and volunteer capacities with a variety of conservation groups, including Oregon Trout.

Cal Mukumoto is a consulting forester and manager of the Warm Springs Tribes’ forest biomass energy project. He has an extensive consulting background, serving American Indian tribes and other clients.

Nominated by Gov. Ted Kulongoski and confirmed by the state Senate, Hayes and Mukumoto come from differing backgrounds, but share a commitment to a sustainable future for Oregon’s 30.5 million acres of forestland. The two were selected to fill vacancies left by Chris Heffernan of

North Powder and Diane Snyder of Enterprise, whose terms had expired.

The panel’s overarching guidance - the “Forestry Program for Oregon” - sets out a long-term vision for Oregon’s 30.5 million acres of forestland. The Board generally meets seven times each year, in Salem and other locations around the state.

## BOARD GETS TWO NEW MEMBERS



Peter Hayes



Cal Mukumoto



## PRIVATE FORESTS PROGRAM

*ODF Stewardship Forester Ashley Lertora, left, confers with a landowner following the December storm.*



photo by Kevin Weeks, ODF

Private forest ownership accounts for 35 percent of Oregon's forested land. That's 10,668,000 acres that individuals must be accountable for in protecting and conserving a valued, renewable resource that provides Oregon with an array of environmental, economic and social benefits. In 2007, ODF's stewardship foresters provided 2,771 landowner assists covering some 120,000 acres.

The year marked a transition for the Private Forests Program, as the program adapted to a new integrated approach to services which brought many previously separate functions together under one vision. The program is in the midst of launching an initiative to provide

landowners across the state a broader range of services available through stewardship foresters, including a renewed emphasis on ensuring that the protection standards in the Oregon Forest Practices Act, are complied with.

This program continues to provide those services it's known for: enforcement of the Forest Practices Act; providing stewardship forester assistance to industrial, family forests and non-industrial landowners; research and monitoring the impacts of harvest and chemicals on vital drinking water supplies and wildlife habitat; forest health services (including leadership on helping diminish the threat posed to Oregon by invasive species); and participation in the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds. The future of the Private Forests program holds a more prominent role in emerging issues, including ecosystem services, biomass energy, conservation easements, certification for landowners, and carbon storage. Oregon is uniquely suited to benefit from participating in the carbon credit market as a means of offsetting climate change, while keeping Oregon's forests among the most productive in the world.

## URBAN & COMMUNITY FORESTRY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Oregon Department of Forestry's statewide urban and community forestry (U&CF) assistance program provides technical, financial and educational assistance to Oregon cities and communities. In 2007, approximately half of Oregon's 242

cities, representing more than 90 percent of Oregon's urban population, received assistance. Cities were helped to achieve one of the four national U&CF components: a tree ordinance; professional staff; a tree advisory or advocacy group; and, an inventory-based management plan.

Also in 2007, the U&CF Small Projects and Scholarship Fund granted \$6,500 to seven grant projects, leveraging a local match of \$17,834. In 2007, Oregon had a record 49 cities earning the Tree City USA designation – including first-time award-winners Sisters and Gervais.

A new publication, "The Forest Where Oregonians Live," was developed to help community leaders and decision makers understand the extent and value of urban forestry in Oregon, and to lay

*See U&CF bottom page 7*



photo by Cynthia Orlando, ODF

**Tigard school children help plant trees at a 2007 Arbor Day celebration.**



## Oregon's State Forests Measure Up

The Oregon Department of Forestry manages about 780,000 acres of forestlands, which represents about three percent of Oregon's forests. In 2007, some 2.5 million seedlings were planted on 7,147 acres of state forest lands.

The Board of Forestry in March 2007 reviewed and approved nine performance measures for the State Forests Program. These measures provide a key tool to assist the Board in regularly evaluating whether the forest management plans achieve the legally required "greatest permanent value."

A management approach is being developed to meet all of the following nine performance measures:

### Performance Measure # 1:

Net return on asset value (ROAV) on Board of Forestry lands and Common School Fund land calculated across all state forestlands and for each forest (e.g., Sun Pass, Elliott, Tillamook, and Santiam).

### Performance Measure # 2:

Direct and indirect financial contributions from the State Forests Program to support communities.

### Performance Measure # 3:

Direct and indirect State Forests Program financial contributions to local and state government services.

### Performance Measure # 4:

State forest area affected by, or at risk of, invasive species, pests, disease and fire.

### Performance Measure # 5:

Forest road risks to water quality and fish habitat.

### Performance Measure # 6:

Quantity of habitat by forest management plan stand structure type, habitat components, and the use of those areas by native fish and wildlife.

### Performance Measure # 7:

Availability, quality and public use of recreational programs.

### Performance Measure # 8:

Degree of public and stakeholder involvement in state forestland activities and processes.

### Performance Measure # 9:

Customer awareness and support of the management of state forestlands.

The Board adopted quantitative targets for measures #3 (financial contribution to government services), #6 (development of wildlife habitat), and #5 (forest road risk and fish habitat). A performance measure report will be provided to the Board in November 2008, along with an analysis on the alternative approach and whether its implementation would require changes to the existing forest management plan.

## STATE FORESTS PROGRAM

*The Board of Forestry has set performance measure targets for financial contributions, wildlife habitat and stream protection.*



photo by Jeff Foreman, ODF



*Some 46,706 people visited ODF's new Tillamook Forest Center in 2007. Located at the heart of the Tillamook State Forest, the region's newest interpretive and educational center is a special place to develop a deeper connection with Oregon's forests.*

## 2007 FIRE SEASON STATISTICS

Throughout the long season, Department fire managers played a chess game with the weather in an effort to deploy extra firefighters and equipment ahead of forecasted dry lightning storms. Seven “move-ups” from around the state during

July and August paid off, as the bolstered forces were able to stop several high-potential lightning starts from growing into protracted and costly firefighting operations.

### Fires controlled at 10 acres or smaller

In 2007, Department of Forestry firefighters contained 92.3 percent of all fires at 10 acres

or smaller in size. While falling slightly short of ODF’s policy objective of 94 percent, it nevertheless stands as an impressive achievement in view of the protracted severe weather. Fire behavior indices soared through much of the summer. And thunderstorm activity persisted uncharacteristically late into the season.

Statistics are for the 15.8 million acres of private and public forestlands protected by the Oregon Department of Forestry.

### Enhanced air attack limits resource loss

Spending \$3.2 million on helicopters and air tankers may not seem like a cost-saving measure. But the leased aircraft helped prevent large-scale damage to private and public timberlands, as well as to the many homes in and adjacent to the forest. As severe weather conditions propelled tiny starts into formidable blazes in mere minutes, the rapid air response slowed fire spread, ensuring the timely arrival of fire engines and hand crews.

### Fire team called into action following storms, floods

Department incident management teams typically see action during large summer and fall wildfires. But at the behest of Gov. Kulongoski, a specially assembled team was deployed to three northwestern Oregon counties in mid-December to assess wind and flood damage to forests hard-hit by two severe storms.

In a few short weeks, the team completed aerial and ground surveys of forestlands in Tillamook, Clatsop and Columbia counties. Focused on the needs of small woodland owners, the team, in concert with ODF field offices, partnered with forestry and tree-service groups to facilitate removal of woody debris as well as marketable logs.

Concurrently, urban foresters on the ODF team contacted residents of Astoria and other communities hit by the hurricane-force winds to advise them on how best to deal with downed and damaged yard trees.



Photo by Chris Friend, ODF

Enhanced air attack was a key component to a successful fire season. Here, a helicopter drops water at the Shelton Fire southeast of Fossil.

## 2007 FIRE STATISTICS

<b>2007</b>		
Fires caused by lightning	364	47,992 acres
Human-caused fires	876	7,006 acres
<b>Total:</b>	<b>1,240</b>	<b>54,998 acres</b>
<b>10-year average</b>		
Fires caused by lightning	300	16,136 acres
Human-caused:	761	5,348 acres
<b>Total:</b>	<b>10,061</b>	<b>21,484 acres</b>



Major projects that the program led or participated in during 2007 included:

**Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management**

Adopted by the Board of Forestry in early 2007, these 19 indicators will enable Oregonians to measure our progress towards the goals of sustainable forest management. The program is working now to gather and evaluate the data. This work also informs the statewide forest assessment currently underway that will form the basis for a new strategic plan for Oregon’s forests for 2011 and beyond.

**Federal Forestlands Advisory Committee**

In response to direction from the Governor and Oregon Legislature, the Board of Forestry formed this advisory committee to “create a unified vision of how federal forestlands should contribute” to the sustainability of forestlands in Oregon. The committee has been working on a set of key goals, and this work will be presented to the Board and Governor in late 2008/early 2009.

**Forest Cluster Economic Development Strategy**

Oregon’s forest cluster faces fierce global competition and Oregon is losing wood products manufacturing facilities.

*U&CF (continued from page 4)*

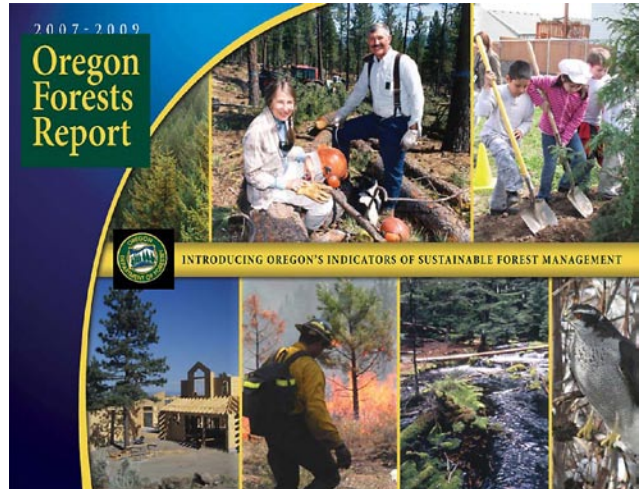
out a strategic vision for the state U&CF program. ODF’s urban forestry newsletter, Community Tree Connections, was distributed bi-monthly to more than 500 municipal urban forestry contacts, tribal governments, local officials, arborists and urban foresters.

In partnership with the U.S. Forest Service, ODF’s goal is to promote healthier urban and community forests, educate the public and support the work of partners throughout the state. The end result is a coordinated effort to make Oregon cities more livable through the planting, care, and management of our urban forests.

In November 2007, the chairs of the Oregon Economic and Community Development Commission, Oregon Board of Forestry, Oregon Forest Resources Institute Board, and the Dean of the Oregon State University College of Forestry/Director of the Oregon Forest Research Laboratory signed a joint resolution directing state agencies to work together to recommend a comprehensive new forest cluster economic development strategy and how best to build the organizational capacity within state government to help carry out the strategy. Work is now underway to carry out the direction provided in the resolution and an accompanying memorandum of agreement.

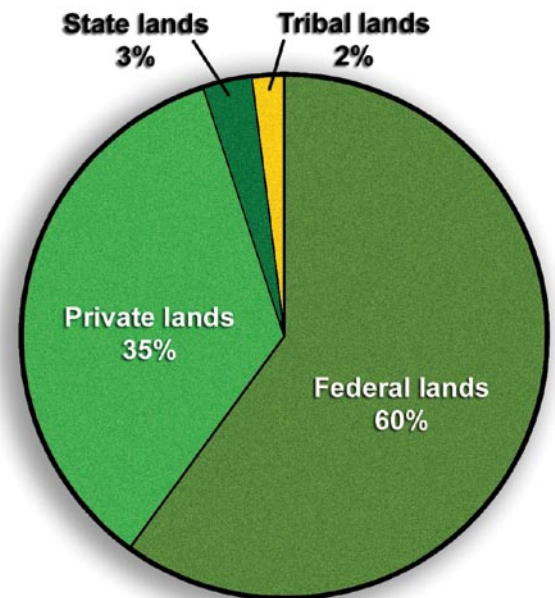
In addition to these major projects, the program continues outreach to Oregonians about the Board of Forestry’s strategic plan, called the “Forestry Program for Oregon,” and is promoting increased use of forest biomass for renewable energy and other products.

**FOREST RESOURCES PLANNING PROGRAM**



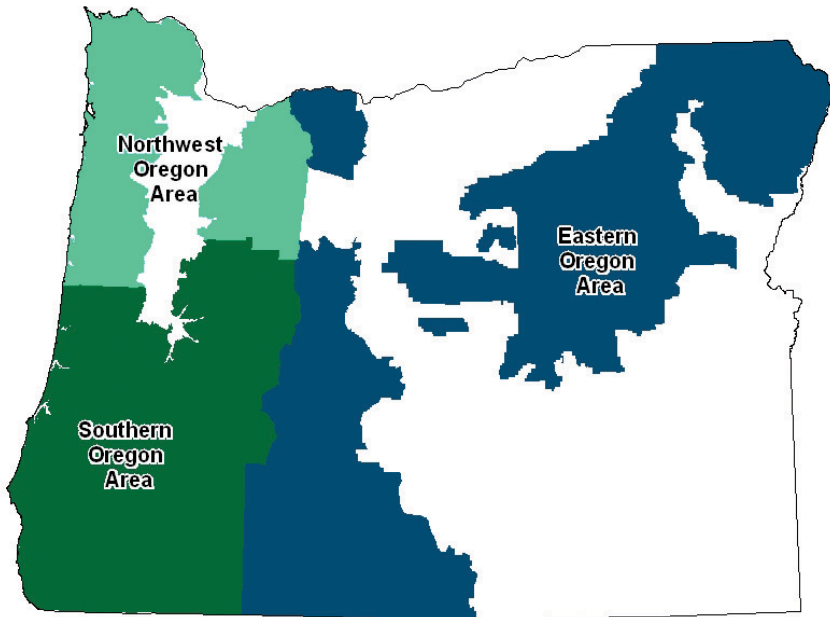
*The Oregon Forests Report, above, released in 2007. The report is available free from ODF and outlines Oregon’s seven “indicators” of sustainable forest management.*

**Forest Land Ownership\***



\* Percent of all forestland in Oregon

## OPERATING AREAS



### Northwest Oregon Area

Area Director: Mike Bordelon

Districts: Astoria, North Cascade, Forest Grove, Tillamook, Tillamook Forest Center, West Oregon, South Fork Inmate Camp, J.E. Schroeder Seed Orchard

Phone: 503-359-7426

### Eastern Oregon Area

Area Director: Cliff Liedtke

Districts: Central Oregon, Klamath Lake, Northeast Oregon, Walker Range

Phone: 541-447-5658

### Southern Oregon Area

Area Director: Dan Shults

Districts: Coos; Coos and Douglas Forest Protective Associations, Roseburg Unit, South Cascade, Southwest Oregon, Western Lane, D.L. Phipps Nursery.

Phone: 541-440-3412

*By working together to find answers to the problems that we face, we can ensure that we break the polarizing vise that once gripped our state. As Governor, I intend to work with you to make certain that we find the path to a clean, sustainable and healthy environment.*

*- Governor Ted Kulongoski*



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"STEWARDSHIP IN FORESTRY"