

Promoting economically and ecologically viable family forestry

2004 Family Forest Foundation Update

2004 has been a busy and exciting year for the Family Forest Foundation (Foundation). On the fundraising side, the Foundation received a U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Grant for \$389,000 to continue work on the Family Forest Habitat Conservation Plan (FFHCP). The Weyerhaeuser Family Foundation awarded the Foundation \$14,000 to continue its public outreach efforts. Lewis County awarded the Foundation \$37,000 to conduct a series of case studies for the FFHCP. The Foundation has applied for an additional \$467,500 from the USFWS to complete the FFHCP. In-kind contributions (volunteer hours donated by the FFF board, Department of Natural Resources Forest Stewardship and Forest Practices Divisions and others) for the FFHCP currently total over \$500,000.

Steve Stinson and Tom Fox traveled to Washington DC in February along with Rick Dunning, Executive Director of the Washington Farm Forestry Association. The group visited with members of the Washington Delegation along with key officials in various federal natural resource agencies regarding progress on the FFHCP and other issues facing Washington's family forests.

Tom Fox and Steve Stinson attended a conference sponsored by the Weyerhaeuser Family Foundation in Denver, CO. The Foundation was invited to the conference as we were a recent recipient of grant funds from the Weyerhaeuser Family Foundation. Stinson gave a brief presentation on the FFF and family forestry issues, and Stinson and Fox made valuable connections with other philanthropic foundations. Steve Webster presented a paper on the Foundation at an international gathering of professionals who work on small forest landowner issues throughout the world. The paper is

available on the Foundation's website.

The Foundation completed the forestry cooperative feasibility study. A final report has been produced and can be found on the Foundation's website.

The Foundation is also pleased to announce that Steve Stinson has been contracted to serve as the Foundation's Executive Director.

Family Forest Habitat Conservation Plan

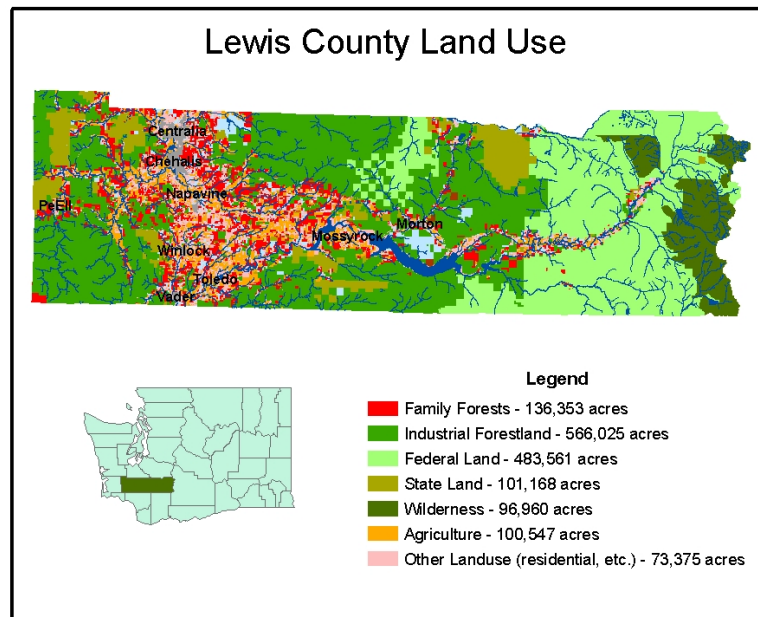
Current regulations create a disincentive for forest landowners to grow older forests that provide habitat for endangered species. Why? If an endangered species takes up residence in habitat on private forestland, under federal law, that forestland becomes off-limits to timber harvesting. Consequently, many landowners are questioning whether they should grow older, larger diameter timber that provides high quality wildlife habitat.

Planting a tree is a long-term investment. Landowners who make such a commitment deserve the certainty of knowing

their investment will mature.

In 2000, the Foundation embarked on the development a multi-landowner, multi-species Habitat Conservation Plan for family-owned forests in Lewis County. An HCP is a federally recognized natural resource management plan developed by a landowner, that details how impacts to wildlife habitat will be minimized during the course of conducting resource management activities (e.g. harvesting timber).

When complete, the FFHCP will provide long-term regulatory certainty (50 - 100 years) against changes in state and federal regulations while giving landowners the incentive to develop



long-term management plans that enhance and maintain wildlife habitat while growing the highest quality timber produced in the world.

The FFHCP is a voluntary program. Landowners who wish to take advantage of the benefits provided by an HCP can enroll in the FFHCP by developing an Implementation Plan, similar to a Stewardship Plan, that incorporates sections of the FFHCP relevant to their individual properties. The Foundation will provide the necessary training and assistance to help landowners develop their Plans.

The Foundation has made steady progress on the FFHCP; over the last year the Foundation:

- Began a series of case-studies to evaluate the environmental and economic performance of the management prescriptions in the FFHCP. The case-studies will be used to develop curriculum for planning sessions through which landowners can develop their Implementation Plans. Six landowners have volunteered 1,183 acres of forestland for these case-studies.
- Held a meeting with Congressman Baird, representa-

tives from Senator Cantwell and Murray's offices, representatives from Lewis County and top policy personnel from state and Federal agencies. The meeting was well received and all who were present expressed support for the FFHCP and family forests.

- Continued to strengthen the scientific background of the FFHCP. Prescriptions for the FFHCP are based on providing forest structure that is comparable to "natural" forests. Currently the Foundation is seeking scientific peer review of these forest prescriptions.

Family Forest Foundation
 PO Box 1364, Chehalis, WA 98532
 360-345-1023
contact@familyforestfoundation.org
www.familyforestfoundation.org

We Thank our Supporters!

Big Tree (\$5,000+)

O'Neill Pine Company
 Port Blakely Tree Farms

Saw Log (\$1001-5,000)

John Alexander
 Doug Stinson and Fae Marie Beck
 Lynden and Corrine McPherson

Sapling (\$101-1000)

Lois Beck
 Tom and Sherry Fox
 Steve Stinson and Lou Jean Clark
 Steve Webster
 West Fork Timber Company
 Robert Thompson
 RSG Forest Products, Inc
 William and Tiffany Scheer
 Intl. Forestry Consultants

Penguin Forests
 PB Lumber

Seedling (\$1-100)

Omitoa Bhagwandin
 John and Alicia Bull
 Charlie Blinn
 Brian and Roberta Augur
 Bierly Family
 Francis and Gerald Grove

IFA Nurseries
 Chapman Family
 Thomas and Janet Meade
 Derald and Audrey Oxley
 Jeremy Baldwin
 Albert and Birdetta Coburn
 Jerrie Eaton
 Eric Shroff & Julie Stinson

Please consider supporting the Family Forest Foundation

- Seedling: \$1- \$100
- Sapling: \$100 - \$1,000
- Saw-log: \$1,000 - \$5,000
- Big tree: \$5,000+

Your contribution is tax-deductible!

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ Zip: _____
 E-mail: _____
 Phone: _____

Find out more on the web at: www.familyforestfoundation.org

Family Forest Foundation

PO Box 1364
Chehalis, WA 98532

Committed to the economic and ecological prosperity
of family forests.

Meet the Families of the Family Forest Foundation:

Board members along back row:

Kernen Lien (Secretary) and wife Geke. Kernen has worked in forestry since graduating from the University of Washington with a degree in forest management in 2000. Currently Kernen serves as an Extension Coordinator for the WSU Cooperative Extension office in Chehalis.

Steve Webster (Vice President) with wife Mary and dog Jasper. Steve is a family forest landowner in Lewis County and has been involved with forestry for the past 37 years.

Bill Scheer and wife Judy. Bill is a family forest landowner in Lewis County. He and his son manage their tree farm as well as other forested properties.

Steve Stinson (Executive Director) and wife Lou Jean Clark. Steve is a second-generation family forester from Lewis County where he is a partner in the Cowlitz Ridge Tree Farm. Steve spent 12 years working in the timber industry and served three years as director of the Small Forest Landowner Office in the Department of Natural Resources prior to accepting the Executive Director ship of the Family Forest Foundation.

Kirk Hanson and wife Ellen Turner. Kirk is a second-generation family forest landowner. Kirk's special interests include agroforestry, secondary forest products and forestry co-operatives.

Tom Fox (President) and wife Sherry. Tom is a family forest landowner who owns and manages a 144-acre tree farm. For the last 25 years Tom has been president of Tree Management Plus, a forestry consulting and contracting business.

William Scheer Jr. (Treasurer) with son Jack, wife Tiffany and dog Maggie. Bill has worked in the forest industry for the past six years and currently lives on and manages his family's tree farm south of Chehalis.



FAMILY FOREST FOUNDATION

2004

INSIDE

Family Forest Habitat Conservation Plan...
Summer Open House & Barbecue...
Family Forest Field Day...
Recognition of Supporters...
Meet the Foundation...

Board's Greeting – Washington's Family Forests are Unique!

Washington's family forest landowners are a unique and very diverse community of landowners. Family forests are facing many challenges that threaten their viability. Increasingly complex government regulations, a weakening timber market and social pressures all combine to make growing trees on family forest ownerships more and more difficult.

The Family Forest Foundation has made a firm commitment to find new and innovative options for managing your forestlands. We invite you to attend future meetings and workshops and encourage you to get involved with the Foundation's on going efforts to develop solutions and provide hope for ordinary people, doing extraordinary land stewardship... through the generations.

Mission – To Conserve Family Forests

The Family Forest Foundation was founded on the premise that family-owned forests are integral to the long-term sustainability of Washington's rural environment and economy. Established by a local group of family forest landowners in 2001, the Foundation is working to develop the necessary incentives to ensure the conservation of family forests.

The goals of the Foundation are to ensure:

- Family forests are ecologically enduring
- Family forests are economically prosperous
- Family forests are recognized for the public values they contribute

Upcoming Events –

Summer Open House

Join the Family Forest Foundation for an open house and barbecue lunch at the Salkum Community Fire Hall. Members of the Board will discuss the Family Forest Habitat Conservation Plan, the Forestry Co-operative and other aspects of the Foundation. A barbecue lunch will be provided for all.

When: August 28th, 2004, 9:00–5:00

Where: Salkum Community Fire Hall
(Salkum, Highway 12 West)

Please RSVP so we can plan our food accordingly. For directions or to RSVP, call: 360-740-1295.

Family Forest Field Day

Come celebrate the legacy of family forests in Southwest Washington on the tree farm of the 2003 winner of the National Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year. This event will include tours, workshops, demonstrations and a picnic lunch. Bring your family and friends and enjoy a great day in the forest!

When: September 18th, 2004, 9:00–5:00

Where: Frances, Washington

For more information:
www.familyforestfieldday.com
360-345-1023

Washington Wood is Good

