

Western Legislative Forestry Task Force

Newsletter #2 February, 2019

DIRECTOR'S CORNER



We came across a very interesting article regarding Planting Trees with Drones. Maybe you have seen this well done video demonstration by an Australian firm, Bio Carbon Engineering. Here is the link (<https://youtu.be/nEU7vjXo8FA>) and, I think you will find it intriguing. Also, there are other firms developing similar plans - i.e. DroneSeed in Seattle, Washington. Have any of you seen actual examples of the technology?

We now have a full complement of member Senators and Representatives from all of our five states. We anticipate an improved exchange of information and ideas leading up to our annual meeting in Sandpoint, Idaho. Recently, we became aware of a potential conflict of dates for the Oregon delegation as it appears their legislature will still be in session. We hope that some members may be able to attend or to send their designated representative. During the annual meeting, we will discuss changing the order of "Host States" to accommodate Oregon's dates of their bi-annual legislative sessions.

I have been asked a few times if Montana is a WLFTF member, and if not, why? They are not a member, but I know we would welcome them as a great addition to our group. Do any of you have contacts with legislators that might be interested in pursuing membership? If so, you could forward them our website info and our newsletter. Also, if you would like to invite someone from Montana to our summer meeting, they would be most welcome to join us.

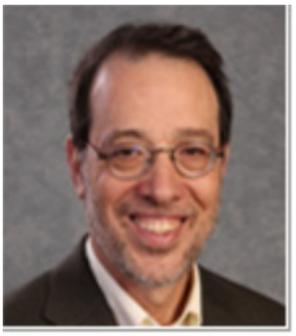
As I write this and look at the snow pile up, it is hard to realize we are preparing for another fire season. Hopefully, a bright spot in all this late winter weather the northwest is getting will reduce the impact of summer fires.



NEW OREGON WLFTF MEMBERS



Representative David Brock Smith
Party: Republican
District: 1—West of I-5 and South to CA border



Senator Michael Dembrow
Party: Democrat
District: 23—Portland

Senator Fred Girod
Party: Republican



District: 9—South and East of Portland

FOCUS ON IDAHO

IDAHO is a land of many owners and many objectives.

Federal, state and local governments own and or manage the majority of forest lands in Idaho. A smaller portion of Idaho's forest lands are owned by thousands of private businesses, Native American tribes, families and individuals. Forest lands in Idaho and throughout the West present unique challenges because of the large influence of federal ownership and management. Whomever the owner, each entity has different objectives for the land — sometimes environmental and, when possible, economic. But when it comes to how the forest is managed, the landowner must balance their objectives for the land with legal requirements.



FACT: National forests occupy nearly 40% of Idaho's land mass, more than any other state.

FOREST FACT: Of the 21.5 million acres of total forestlands in Idaho, 16.5 million acres are designated as timberland. Of that number, only 9.3 million acres are available for harvest. www.idahoforests.org

GOOD NEIGHBOR AUTHORITY

THE POWER OF PARTNERSHIPS

Good Neighbor Authority (GNA) enables the Forest Service to partner with the Idaho Department of Lands to achieve restoration and resilient landscape objectives across ownership boundaries through cooperative agreements.

The goal of GNA in Idaho is to increase the pace and scale of forest and watershed restoration activities on federal forests. These cooperative efforts can help improve foresthealth, reduce fuels and threats to communities and watersheds from catastrophic wildfires, and create more jobs and economic benefits, including providing more fiber to Idaho forest products markets.

One million forested acres are actively managed to make money for public schools and other Idaho institutions, and for their long-term health. Idaho Department of Lands regulates forest practices in the state and provide assistance to forest landowners and communities to promote healthy, productive forests for years to come. www.idl.idaho.gov

IDAHO WLFTF DELEGATES

REPRESENTATIVE JUDY BOYLE (R)

Attended Lassen Community College, Boise State University, and University of Idaho; rancher and freelance writer; natural resources director for former Congresswoman Helen Chenoweth; named one of the 100 most influential people in Idaho; two children; two grandsons.

Judy lives in Midvale and represents District 9, which includes Adams, Canyon, Payette, and Washington counties on the west side of the State.



REPRESENTATIVE PAUL E. SHEPHERD (R)

Born December 21, 1942, in Boise; 1961 graduate of Boise High; attended Boise Jr. College; owner/partner of sawmill and log home business; Protestant; former Boise County Republican Chairman, Garden Valley School Board, Crouch City Councilman, Riggins City



Councilman, director-Salmon River Cowboys, director-Riggins Chamber of Commerce, director-Riggins Gem Committee, state committeeman-Idaho County Republicans; married 57 years; spouse: Dawn; children: Paula, Paul, Aaron, Daniel, Charles, Kristin, Sari, Ronald, and Eugene; 41 grandchildren; 36 great-grandchildren.

Paul lives in Riggins. District 7 includes Bonner, Clearwater, Idaho, and Shoshone counties stretching from Central Idaho to North Idaho.

SENATOR ABBY LEE (R)

Bachelor's degree in communications, Brigham Young University; master's degree in instructional and performance technology, Boise State University; completing a PhD in public policy and administration, Boise State University; Co-chair of the Foster Care Study Legislative Interim Committee in 2016 and 2017; appointed Co-chair of the Legislature's new Child Protection Oversight Committee in 2018; named 2018 Idaho Mother of Achievement; Food Producer Ag All-Star: 2015, 2016, and 2017; senate representative to Committee for Food Safety Modernization Rule Oversight – Idaho State Department of Agriculture; member of the Western States Legislative Forestry Task Force; appointed to 2017 Governor's Task Force on Higher Education; employed as Associate Vice President of College Vice President of College and Public Relations at Treasure Valley Community College; member Saint Alphonsus Medical Center Ontario Medical Center, Ontario Community Board, Ontario Kiwanis 2010-2012, current member - spouse Brian, two daughters.



Abby lives in Fruitland near the Oregon border and represents District 9, which includes Adams, Canyon, Payette, and Washington counties on the west side of the State.

SENATOR JIM WOODWARD (R)

Raised in Bonners Ferry and Sandpoint, Idaho; B.S. in mechanical engineering from the University of Idaho; U.S. Navy submarine officer with 21 years of active and reserve service; owner/operator of a heavy construction company; board member, Northern Lights



Electric Cooperative; board member, Idaho Consumer Owned Utilities Assoc.; spouse: Brenda; two children.

Jim lives in Sagle. District 1 includes Bonner and Boundary counties in North Idaho.

SAVE THE DATE

WESTERN LEGISLATIVE FORESTRY TASK FORCE

Annual Meeting June 19–21, 2019

Beautiful Sandpoint, Idaho, on the shores of Lake Pend Oreille



Sandpoint is the largest town in, and the county seat of, Bonner County, Idaho, United States. Its population was 7,365 at the 2010 census. Sandpoint's major economic contributors include forest products, light manufacturing, tourism, recreation and government services. As the largest service center in the two northern Idaho counties, as well as northwestern Montana, it has an active retail sector. It is the headquarters of Wildwood Grilling, a manufacturer of Cedar grilling planks and other wood smoking products; it is the headquarters of Lighthouse Foods, a national salad dressing manufacturer; and Quest Aircraft, a maker of utility aircraft.

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