

June 14, 2011

Dear Grays Harbor WFFA Members,

I wanted to let you know about upcoming chapter activities. Hopefully, summer weather will arrive soon.

Give a free membership. Remember, each Grays Harbor chapter member can give a WFFA membership to someone this year. The only requirements are that they (the person you want to give the membership to) own acreage in Grays Harbor county, they or their spouse haven't previously been members of WFFA, and that the sponsoring member and person receiving the membership attend a chapter meeting together. Please let me know if you want to give someone a membership (Howard Wilson at 360-249-6945 or wilsonhs@aol.com).

Tree Farm Tour Saturday July 23rd, 2011 at 1:30 PM. Chris and Linda Goodman are conducting a tour of their 40 acre property. Some of important things that they would like to show include their relationship to the Olympic National Forest, old growth, and their efforts under EQIP and WHIP cost sharing. Their projects include a PCT (owner cutting), habitat enhancements, special forest products farming, and a large nurse log planting project in an existing cedar forest wetland.

Directions north from Hoquiam: The forest is about 30+ miles north of the city. Drive 101 north through Humptulips and continue north until reaching mile post 121 (on the right shoulder). This a right hand turn off the main highway to the forest. On your left is a small saw mill and on the right is a driveway across a wood deck bridge. This is a private residence so stay left and drive straight along the road behind some outbuildings. Continue a very short distance to the green forest gate and drive through the alders and up the hill to our forest sign. Parking is on the landing to the left and along the shoulders of the road.

The chapter will provide soda, water and snacks. Please RSVP to me so we have an idea of how many people are attending (Howard Wilson at 360-249-6945 or wilsonhs@aol.com).

Forestland Tax Issues. I've been battling with the Grays Harbor Assessor's Office on forest tax issues and appraisal values for over 20 years. It all started when they appraised a gravel bar in a flood plain as a building site and it has continued on to other issues. If you are having problems with the Gray's Harbor Assessor's Office, please let me know. I've met with the current Assessor (Mr. Rick Hole) and want to keep him current on any problems our members are having. If there is interest, we can have a chapter meeting in the future on forestland and property taxes.

Annual Chapter Meeting and Elections Pot Luck, 2 PM September 17, 2011. Sheena and I will host the chapter meeting and elections at our house at 71 Schafer Meadows Lane N., Montesano WA, 98563. You'll have a chance to see 14.2 acres of timberland being restored. It was harvested in early 2007, never cleaned up and not replanted. The logging went almost down to the water's edge. Please bring a dish to share, we'll provide beverages. Tour and social 2 -3:30 PM, meeting and elections 3:30, dinner about 4:30 PM. If you would like to run for an office but can't attend, please let me know so we can put your name on the ballot. Please RSVP to me so we have an idea of how many people are attending (Howard Wilson at 360-249-6945 or wilsonhs@aol.com).

Directions: From Tacoma, Take I-5 to Olympia and get off at US 101 which says Ocean Beaches. Stay on 101 until you reach mud bay (about a mile or two). You don't want to go toward Shelton and exit to the right. Guide left which is route 12/8 going to Aberdeen/Montesano/Ocean Shores. Continue on HWY 8 thru Elma and across the Satsop River. After crossing the Satsop it is about 1 mile to the next exit, Brady. Signs will also say Schafer State Park next right. Take the Brady exit (right off of Hwy 8) toward Schafer State Park. Coming from Aberdeen, take the Brady exit (on the Aberdeen - Olympia road) going

north. Go straight at the next stop sign (on the Brady - Matlock road). Go just under 5 miles and you will see an "Elk Crossing" sign. About 1/3 mile after that sign you will see a warning for a big curve. The entrance to Schafer Meadows is on the left side opposite the curve. The community is gated (it is usually open). If the gate is closed, there is a toggle switch on a pole by the entry.

Follow the road (one direction only so don't worry) till you see about 20 mail boxes. Turn right and then proceed up the hill. When you reach a large barn bear to the right which is Schafer Meadow Lane N. Go past the barn/house (up on the left) and up a short hill. We are the next house on the left at the top of the hill. You will see the shop with 7 RV garage doors.

Sincerely,

Howard Wilson
President, Grays Harbor Chapter WFFA