



Andrej Romanovsky, Partner
Nancy Romanovsky, Partner

We operate a Douglas fir tree farm and develop forestland properties in Washington State. We grow trees on extended rotation. We help young people discover tree farming through a summer fellowship program and internships.

2015 Tree Fever Volunteer Research Opportunity Survey Damage to a Western Redcedar Plantation

Offered to Washington Farm Forestry Association members

Where: Tree Fever Farm (between Elma and Montesano, 9 miles north of Highway 12)

When: Any day from June 22 (Monday) through June 28 (Sunday)

08:00 - 08:30 Introduction and work assignment

08:30 - 12:30 Work (requires walking through plantation for 4 hours)

12:30 - Lunch (optional). Lunch will be provided



How to sign up: Please e-mail Nancy by June 15 at TreeFeverFarm@gmail.com, to receive your access instructions and release of liability form. Only those who will actually work on the plantation are invited to come this time. Children can participate if they are 15 years of age or older.



Plantation: The work will be performed on a 7-ac western redcedar (WRC) plantation established in March of 2015 (see the photo below). In this plantation, WRC seedlings were protected from animal damage in three modes: 1) by a Vexar tube attached to a bamboo stake (traditional mode; marked with yellow flags); 2) by co-planting (in the same hole) a WRC seedling with a Sitka spruce seedling (experimental mode; blue flags); or 3) by having no protection at all (control; red flags). All three modes were intermixed through the plantation.

Work: The major goals of this project is to determine whether co-planting WRC with Sitka protects WRC seedlings from browsing by wildlife and to compare the efficacy of this experimental protection mode with the traditional one. To address these goals, the volunteers will collect data needed to determine the WRC seedling survival rate, damage rate, and damage extent for each protection mode studied. The volunteers will walk through the plantation and record whether each WRC seedling is alive or dead. For each live WRC seedling, they will record whether it is damaged or not. For each damaged WRC seedling, they will determine and record the extent of damage. They will also attempt to determine the species of the browser that caused the damage. For that, they will look for signs of mammal pests that forage on WRC seedlings (mountain beaver, rabbits, deer, elk, etc.) and take photos or mark locations of such signs.



Token of appreciation: Nancy is an award-winning, gallery-represented landscape artist. Volunteers for this project can have a 10% discount on any of her oil paintings at www.NancyRomanovsky.com or on any new commission. Nancy will be happy to paint your tree farm, estate, or your favorite pet or tree.

Disclosures: Tree Fever is a for-profit partnership. The WRC research plantation was established with partial support by grant FW14-007 from Western Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (WSARE). The grant pays only for work above regular planting expenses. Tree Fever conducts this project out of interest and will receive no tangible benefits from any research work performed by the volunteers. Tree Fever will pay for lunch for the volunteers.

Increasing forestland value through active forest management and conservation