



LEWIS COUNTY FARM FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

Affiliated Chapter of Washington Farm Forestry Association

APRIL 2018 MEETING

When: April 17, 2018 7:00 p.m. business meeting
7:15 p.m. program

What: Where Should I Plant Red Alder?

Who: Connie Harrington, U.S. Forest Service

Where: Lewis County Courthouse Basement Conference Room
351 NW North St., Chehalis. Use west entrance

After a harvest, small forest land owners often consider species other than Douglas fir, either for site-specific reasons, for biological diversity, or in hopes of getting an earlier return on their investment. Red alder is often considered for its potentially shorter rotation age, but not all sites are appropriate for alder.

Connie Harrington will talk about her early work on developing a site evaluation model and also on how online maps and information from the NRCS can be used to determine if a site would be a good candidate for planting red alder.

Connie is a research forester for the USFS Pacific Northwest Research Station in Olympia. She has degrees in forest biology (BS) and silviculture (MS) from the SUNY College of Environmental Sciences and Forestry in Syracuse, NY and a PhD in physiology and soils from the University of Washington. She has worked for the US Forest Service for over 40 years on a wide range of topics including tree biology and silviculture. Much of her work has focused on neglected species and non-traditional management systems. In recent years she has focused on plant responses to temperature and how trees respond to different environments.

Summary of the March Meeting

John Henrikson demonstrated several computer tools that may be of interest to small forest landowners. ***My Land Plan***, a free online tool from American Tree Farm System, helps tree farmers develop their management plans, but it stops short of being a fully-featured plan that is required for certification and cost-share programs. The most useful features are its maps and activity logs, which are all stored on the ATFS website. The program is well designed and guides you through questions that help create your plan. The Journal portion of the program allows you to upload photos of features associated with tasks. Other sections allow you to create a list of tasks, and to record goals and activities.

The free ***GaiaGPS*** app, which can be downloaded and used on a smart phone, allows you to map a trail as you walk along it, with the ability to add waypoints and photos to the track. You can use the online tools at ***www.ArcGIS.com*** which provides more flexibility in creating customized maps, and has the ability to import data layers from GaiaGPS and any other GPS system. GaiaGPS uses cell towers to get location data, and is only accurate to within about 30 feet. To get greater accuracy, you can use a GPS unit that works off of satellites and still import the data to ArcGIS.

Upcoming WFFA Annual Meeting

May 20-22. Wildfire - Building Community and Forest Resilience at Sun Mt. Lodge near Winthrop. You should have received registration information by mail or email. It is available at the WFFA web site or by calling Kelly Zandell, 388-7074.

Upcoming Lewis County FFA Meetings

Tues. May 16: Surveying, by Ken Fraser

Tues. June 20: Twilight Tour of Agnew property near Centralia

Tues. July 18: Twilight Tour and Picnic - Richard & Debra Pine, O'Neill Pine.

They are our 2018 Lewis County Tree Farmers of the Year

