



2023 Late Summer Tour Invitation

Explore two Tree Farms in the South Fork Nooksack Valley

You are invited to experience *a Tale of Two Woodlots* as told by two small forest landowners and two foresters. **Bring a sack lunch, drinking water, and sturdy shoes** for this learning opportunity.

Date: **Saturday, September 9, 2023**

Time: **9:00 am – 1:45 pm**

Location: **897 Valley Highway (Highway 9)** – see below for additional details.

The Whatcom County Farm Forestry Association is sponsoring this late summer tour of two tree farms in the South Fork Nooksack Valley. Our hosts are **Paul Campbell** and **Helen Arntson** of the **Skookum Creek Tree Farm, LLC**, and **Jody and Jim DeWilde** of the **DeWildeWoods Tree Farm**. Our foresters are **Tom Westergreen** and **Ryan Lindsay**.

As forest owners managing our forests it can be difficult to determine the best time to do a precommercial thinning, commercial thinning, or a final harvest. Many factors can influence our management decisions. These two tree farm visits offer great visualizations of situations we may face on our own individual properties. Chapter members and foresters will help lead the discussion of options you may want to consider for your own tree farm.

This event will be held **Saturday September 9, 2023**, starting at **9:00 am**.

- **Skookum Creek Tree Farm, LLC.** We will meet at the Skookum Creek Tree Farm, LLC, located at 897 Valley Highway (Highway 9), south of Acme near the Blue Mountain Grill. This location is about 11 miles south of Deming on Highway 9.
 - Parking is on the northwest (uphill) side of the highway at a large blacktop apron and yellow gate of a major logging road. We will gather at this parking area and then carpool further up the hill.
 - **Please arrive promptly by 9:00 am to catch the carpool!**
- **DeWildeWoods Tree Farm.** After the first stop, we will caravan north 1.5 miles to Old Stone Way and drive up a gravel driveway to the DeWildeWoods Tree Farm. We will hike a trail looking at the forest conditions while discussing plans Jim and Jody have for a future harvest of their hardwood dominated forest.
 - The DeWilde's have a beautiful spot to break for lunch. Comfortable outhouse accommodations are provided (be sure to check out the outhouse humor).
 - The tour will continue after lunch and conclude at about 1:45 pm.
 - On the way out of the driveway you are encouraged to visit the Jane Westra Memorial prepared by recently deceased WCFFA member Ray Bakke. The memorial sign is located near the bottom of Old Stone Way close to the Highway 9 intersection.

If you have questions about this event, please contact Jim DeWilde by email at jim.dewilde@outlook.com or by phone at 678-590-2546. We hope you will join us on this **FREE** informational tour and member fellowship.