



WORLD
FORESTRY
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World Forest Institute

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WFI Visits Northern California and Sierra Pacific Industries

WFI took a whirlwind tour of Northern California in early May. WFC Director Harry Merlo introduced WFI to one of the largest private timberland owners in the US, Red Emmerson of Sierra Pacific Industries (SPI). A two-day tour of SPI started with one of their sawmills, the millworks, and window manufacturing operations at their headquarters in Anderson, Cali-



WFI Fellows and staff along with Harry Merlo, Red Emmerson, and other SPI staff have an afternoon picnic in Clotilde Merlo Park.



WFI gathers at Lower Kimshew Falls where SPI staff Mark Lathrop and Dennis Thibeault started their forestland tour.



Harry Merlo, Red Emmerson, and Zimbabwe Fellow Tendayi Mhlanga discuss the forest products industry.

ifornia. SPI is a family-owned business and produces a wide variety of lumber and millworks products, and are responsible for half of the US production of doors and door components. The tour of the production side was followed on the second day with a tour of their forestlands. Starting near the town of Chico, SPI's forestland manager took WFI to several sites

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Alumni Updates

In May, senior Fellow Rick Zenn and his wife Judi traveled to China for two weeks as guests of Professor Huancheng Ma (2011 alumnus) at Southwest China Forestry University in Kunming. Rick spoke to forestry students at the university and met with WFI alums Drs. Linsen Zhao and Yanping Zhang. Professor Ma led a forest study tour through the mountains of eastern Yunnan through Dali and up to Lhongdian (10,000') by way of historic Lijiang. In addition to inspecting cultural sites and forest plantations, they visited old growth forests in China's first national park, Potasto, and the famous Stone Forest in Shilin. "It was an amazing opportunity for us" Rick said "and the people, mountains, forests, and food of Yunnan are fantastic. We were so fortunate to have such a great guide."



Dr. Ma in his greenhouse at SW China Forestry University.



WFI alumni Yanping Zhang (2005) and Linsen Zhao (2008) along with their wives, Rick & Judy, and Huancheng Ma (2011) and his wife Wendy.

Northern California cont'd...

throughout the day. There is a lot of logging history in that area and we visited an old mill site, now just a pond, which was a station for the railroad to haul the timber into the mill. Some of that area is featured in the book *Matches, Flumes, and Rails* by Kent Stephans. The group toured forest around the Feather River and Big Kimshew Creek, discussing water quality and forest health issues and the importance of sustainability to the company. SPI currently owns 1.9 million acres of forestland and has an amazing staff dedicated to maintaining quality and sustainability in all their operations.

One highlight of the trip was a visit to a park that Harry Merlo dedicated to his mother, the Clotilde Merlo Park in Stirling City, Ca. The landscaped grounds were resplendent with bronze sculptures, and there was a complement of old cedar trees, providing shade and a peaceful atmosphere. The park is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year on August 25th and is definitely worth a visit if you are in the area!

The trip did not end in the central California valley. Fellows travelled east and



Harry Merlo, the founder of WFI, dedicated the Clotilde Merlo Park in Stirling City to his mother at the site where they lived when he was a boy.

west, visiting two different National Parks and several other forestry sites along the way. Humboldt Redwood Company was a featured stop, touring WFI around their mill and teaching us much about redwood trees. The Collins Pine Company Museum was another favorite along the way. As for the National Parks,

Lassen Volcanic National Park was a unique experience. Still mostly covered in snow, the group got to see all three of the different types of volcanoes that exist there. And no trip to Northern California would be complete without a visit to the Redwoods along the coast, which was of course exceptional!



The Humboldt Redwood Company in Scotia, Ca produces redwood decking amongst other redwood products. Along with their sister company, Mendocino Redwood Co., they manage 440,000 acres of SFC certified forestland.

Recent Events

The World Forest Institute was the recipient of the 2012 Portland Mayor's International Business Award recognizing businesses that foster international relations with Oregon. The video of WFI shown at the awards reception can be viewed on YouTube [here](#).



WFI Director Sara Wu at the awards ceremony with Portland Mayor Sam Adams (center) and the Consul General of the Philippines, Richard Woodling (right).

Fellows participated in a laboratory for the logging engineering class at OSU with professor Loren Kellogg.



Above: Fellows Ali (Iran) and Richard (Ireland) tie cables around logs for the skyline logging operation.



Below: Professor Loren Kellogg (right) explains the cable logging operation to the Fellows.

Annual MC Ranch Trip

Every year WFI is invited to spend a week in Eastern Oregon on Harry Merlo's ranch outside of the city of LaGrande. The ranch is a 12,000 acre unit of mixed conifer forest situated in the Blue Mountains. Fellows spend the week exploring this landscape and learning about land management in the eastern part of the state.

Rex Christensen, the ranch manager, led Fellows on a hike across the ranch. Rex pointed out the many uses of the ranch including timber, biomass, aesthetics, forest, wildlife and stream health, grazing and recreation. First and second year seedlings were inspected along the way and discussions centered on forest management and current markets for timber and biomass.

To continue the discussion of land management in E. Oregon, we toured the area of the 1996 Tower Fire, just south of LaGrande. Fellows stopped at viewsheds of the naturally regenerated areas and discussed patterns of the burn.

Near the end of the week, WFI joined in

the Wallowa County Innovative Wood Marketing Tour hosted by OSU extension and ODF. We toured small mills and private woodland owners near the towns of Joseph and Enterprise. A visit to the new Integrated Biomass Energy Campus was also included. This campus is designed to use woody biomass efficiently and strategically as markets allow and was a new type of business model for many of the Fellows to learn about.

The week was a great learning experience and provided a new landscape for our international researchers to explore and understand during their time in Oregon.



WFI visited the site of an active logging operation outside of the ranch. The logging occurred on rocky, poor site ground which provided an opportunity to discuss challenges in the logistics of logging as well as markets for small diameter timber.



Rick Wagner of the Oregon Department of Forestry gave the group a presentation about the importance of finding the right balance in the social, economic, and ecological values of land management.



The WFI Fellows, staff, and ranch managers share a final moment together on the ranch at the impressive elk sculpture by artist Lorenzo Ghiglieri.



Olympic National Park Showcases Dam Removal

Recent Events

Upcoming [Speaker Series](#) event:

Monday, July 23 @ 4pm in the Mt. Hood Room of the Discovery Museum.

Richard O'Hanlon from Ireland will talk about fungal biodiversity in Sitka spruce forests.



Blasen & Blasen Lumber Corp. hosted WFI at their plant in N. Portland. As a remanufacturing plant, they buy lumber from mills all over the US and Canada and produce a variety of products.



Zimbabwe Fellow Tendayi Mhlanga met with staff from The Beck Group to discuss business models and planning strategies for sawmills and lumber production facilities. Tendayi also gave a short presentation to them about sawmilling in Zimbabwe.

The largest dam removal project in the world is occurring right now in Olympic National Park (ONP). Two dams on the Elwha River are being removed and restoration projects are being put in

place to get the river back to a natural flow, good riparian health, and prime fish habitat.

Dr. Jerry Frielich of ONP showed Fellows the removal site of the Lower Elwha dam where the dam is now completely gone.



The Hoh Rainforest greeted Fellows with an amazing amount of rain and moss - typical of what makes a temperate rainforest.



Richard (Ireland) and Cristhian (Bolivia) enjoy the snow-capped mountains at the top of Hurricane Ridge

In addition to seeing various sites along the Elwha and Hurricane Ridge, Fellows spent some time on the west side of the park in the Hoh Rainforest. Moss-covered spruce and maple trees spanned the landscape. The diverse nature of the park with its various ecosystems was an unique learning experience for the whole group.

Korean Fellow Departs as Taiwanese Fellow Arrives

Korean Fellow Kwangho Baek went home in June after an 18-month fellowship program. Kwangho studied the biomass industry and related policies here in Oregon in an effort to determine how Korea could start utilizing some of their forest biomass resources. A copy of his final presentation can be found on our [website](#). Upon his return to Daejeon City, Kwangho resumed his position with the Korean Forest Service where he has worked for nearly 20 years now.

Within the same week as Kwangho leaving, WFI welcomed a new Fellow to the program, Hwa-guang Shang from Taipei, Taiwan.



Kwangho was at WFI for 18 months and in the US for a full 2 years with his wife and two daughters.



Hwa-guang is the second in his family to become a Fellow at WFI. His wife was a Fellow back in 2006!

Hwa-guang is an Assistant Researcher for the Taiwan Forest Research Institute. He is at WFI to study extension education platforms. He is interested in finding ways to

educate the public about forest ecosystem degradation and global climate change. He will be at WFI for 6 months.



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Forestry Conferences 2012

World Forest Institute

WHO WILL OWN THE FOREST?

SEPTEMBER 18-20, 2012 : PORTLAND, OREGON



For Foresters, Investors,
Timber Managers, Manufacturers,
Land Trusts, Attorneys and CPAs



It is estimated that institutional investors now own more than 25 million acres of U.S. forests, worth more than US\$30 billion. Timberland has the potential for protecting both income and conservation values, and its uniqueness as an asset class is the subject of our annual “**Who Will Own the Forest?**” conference series on timberland investing. Join the 400 participants of this year’s September 18-20 event as we discuss forestland valuations, investing overseas, regulatory, tax and lending drivers, and emerging values such as carbon, biomass, and environmental credits. This 2-day conference offers both networking and educational benefits, including continuing education credits for certified foresters, appraisers, attorneys, and CPAs.



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THE FOREST PRODUCTS FORUM

Want in-depth analysis of wood markets?

Join us September 18, 2012, as we discuss the outlook for timber end use markets in North America. Hear from industry-leading economic forecasters **Forest Economic Advisors** and other experts as they examine the leading trends and drivers affecting the North American markets for housing, lumber, wood panels, timber, engineered lumber, and wood biomass.

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