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Contact us:

World Forest Institute  
4033 SW Canyon Rd.  
Portland, OR 97221  
Phone: 503-488-2130  
Fax: 503-228-4608  
<http://wfi.worldforestry.org>

Newsletter editor:  
Chandalin Bennett  
Phone: 503-488-2137  
[cbennett@worldforestry.org](mailto:cbennett@worldforestry.org)

## *WFI Journeys to Eastern Oregon*

World Forest Institute Fellows and staff converged in eastern Oregon in late June to visit MC Ranch, a 12,000 acre forested property. Four new Fellows joined the program just in time to make the annual trip and spent the week learning about sustainable forest management in a rural set-

ting on the east side of the state.

This year was special in that other WFI staff joined for part of the week. The World Forestry Center's new Executive Director Eric Vines toured the property along with WFI Director Sara Wu and Operations Director Mark Reed. Harry

Merlo was on site for the tour that started with a visit to an active thinning site on his property.

Embarking on collaborations across the region, MC Ranch is working on providing biomass resources and small timber to local businesses while at the same time maintaining and growing their



*The four new Fellows at WFI were treated to an amazing week at MC Ranch. From left: Vincent Upton from Ireland, Krystina Kny from Australia, Sadiyah Istichomah from Indonesia, and Zoe Yeh from Taiwan.*

## Alumni Updates

Australian alumnus Blair Freeman and Chinese alumnus Guangyu Wang met up recently in Indonesia at the Forests Asia Summit. Both were Fellows in 1997-1998 and it had been 10 years since they last met in Portland in 2005.



Blair Freeman (left) and Guangyu Wang (right) meet up once again, this time at a conference in Indonesia.

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Danish alumnus Jes Munk Hansen (1994) visited Portland recently. He is President and CEO of OSRAM Sylvania, based in Massachusetts.



It's been 20 years since Jes was a Fellow, but he still has fond memories of his time spent at WFI.

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WFI Director Sara Wu also had the chance to meet up with WFI alumni Claire Huxtable (Canada, 1995) and Nerijus Miskinis (Lithuania, 2007) when they visited Portland this spring.

## Eastern Oregon continued...

sustainable forest management model. Ranch manager Rex Christensen explained that they get one extra inch of growth on trees through their thinning practices, which allows them to maintain a sustainable timber harvest on the ranch. MC Ranch has recently acquired a machine with a smaller working, multiple use head which has helped them accomplish a lot of their new processing.

This machine was showcased along with projects across the ranch that

were part of cost-share programs with the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF). Rick Wagner of ODF stated at one point in the tour that, "MC Ranch is within the top 1% of sustainable operations in this part of the state." This statement exemplifies the standards the ranch is managed at and their commitment to good land stewardship.

Other highlights of the week included an extended hike across the ranch and an off-site visit to learn about some of the fire issues in the area. The week ended with an unexpected viewing of an elk herd, many with their brand new calves not even a week old!



Healthy forestlands leave plenty of room for the herds of elk that live in this area.



The new harvester out at MC Ranch is helping them access and utilize different resources much easier than they were before. From left: Mark Reed, Rex Christensen, Jenna Hall, Rick Wagner, Harry Merlo, Ryan Christensen, Eric Vines, Zoe Yeh, Krystina Kny, Vincent Upton, and Sadiyah Istichomah.



## Current Events

Senior Fellow Rick Zenn was presented with an award at the Oregon Urban and Community Forestry Conference in June. The award recognized Rick's long standing contributions to the Oregon Community Trees organization and his assistance in urban forestry communities throughout the state.



Plaque awarded to Rick from the Oregon Community Trees and the Oregon Department of Forestry.

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Fellows visited the Tillamook Forest Center to learn about the history of the state forest and, of course, got to see the iconic Smokey the Bear statue. From left: Zoe Yeh (Taiwan), Krystina Kny (Australia), Vincent Upton (Ireland), and Sadiyah Istichomah (Indonesia).

## Starker Lecture Series Field Trip

WFI attended the annual capstone field trip that concludes each year's Starker Lecture Series at Oregon State University.

Exploring a working example of collaborative forest management, WFI joined a larger group of about 75 people on a tour of the Cool Soda All Lands Project near Sweet Home, Oregon. Our hosts were

Cascade Timber Company, the USFS, and S. Santiam Watershed Council. These three entities, public, private, and non-profit have been working together to restore and create healthier streams and forests in the watershed.

"Nature doesn't abide by ownership borders," said Cindy Glick with the Willamette National Forest. The importance of these

different groups working together to accomplish objectives across the larger landscape could not have been stated better. Highlights of the day included visits to a tree-tipping stream restoration project, a big game forage enhancement area, and a discussion of traditional uses of noble fir and management styles for alternative uses.



Left: Australian Fellow Krystina Kny and Taiwanese Fellow Zoe Yeh get up close to one of the old-growth Douglas-fir that was near the Soda Fork of the South Santiam River. Right: The group looks out over the creek at a finished stream improvement project designed to create better fish habitat.

## Society of American Foresters Tour

WFI Fellows joined in a tour jointly hosted by the Clatsop Chapter of the Society of American Foresters and the Oregon Department of Forestry out near Tillamook, Oregon.

Fellows traversed the Kilchis River area with the group looking at a recent timber sale and exploring road and sediment issues. Among other things, discussion topics also

included ODF's Riparian implementation of aquatic Strategy and the resources restoration.



Fellows learned about state forestry practices and current issues in the west-side forests alongside many ODF employees and SAF members.

## Trout Mountain Forestry

### Current Events

WFI joined with a larger group of folks for a walk around private landowner Dan Kloppman's property near St. Helens, Oregon. He has several miles of the Clatskanie River running through his land and recently completed a large-scale restoration project where ten sites along the river had logs placed to create better fish habitat and a healthier stream site. The project was completed with help from the Columbia River Watershed Council and the Natural Resource Conservation Service. Oregon State University extension services hosted the tour.



Indonesian Fellow Sadiyah Istichomah (left) and Irish Fellow Vincent Upton (right) stand near one of the stream restoration sites learning how the project was accomplished.



A large group of local landowners and interested parties joined the OSU-hosted tour.

Local consulting firm Trout Mountain Forestry treated WFI to a day in the woods. Trout Mountain forester Mark Miller, along with Frank Davis of the Siuslaw National Forest and Jennifer Ward of the City of Corvallis toured WFI through one of the two watersheds that provides drinking water to the City of Corvallis and surrounding areas.

The watershed has split ownership between the City of Corvallis and the USFS. Trout Mountain Forestry is commissioned to manage the city's property and works cooperatively with both entities to ensure a healthy and productive watershed.

One of the larger goals on the property is to develop more late successional old-growth habitat. Frank Davis talked about the four components necessary for old-growth; big trees, multi-story canopy, snags, and downed wood. He shared their long-term management plans for achieving that across the watershed.

Part of the planning process for the City of Corvallis was to ensure that the watershed is managed to the highest possible standards. They meet that goal through the Forest Stewardship Council.

Trout Mountain Forestry is FSC certified and manages their property under the guidelines set by the council. The Siuslaw NF works closely with them to manage in a similar manner.

Such collaborations are important and provide an excellent example of how successful such partnerships can be.



The last stop on our tour was to a Douglas-fir variable retention harvest site with some mixed species under-plantings. From left: Jennifer (Trout Mountain Forestry intern), Sadiyah (Indonesia), Jennifer (City of Corvallis), Mark (Trout Mountain Forestry), Krystina (Australia), Hannah (WFI intern), Zoe (Taiwan), Vincent (Ireland), and Rick (WFI).



A visit to a dam diversion site on the south fork of Rock Creek in the watershed led to discussions about fish habitat and water quality. Cut-throat trout is the main species coming up the stream and improvements have been made to provide easier passage and better habitat.