



Policy Scoreboard

Editor's Note: To keep SAF members informed of state society policy activities, Policy Scoreboard is a regular feature in the Western Forester. The intent is to provide a brief explanation of the policy activity—you are encouraged to follow up with the listed contact person for detailed information.

Three Initiative Petitions

Rejected...But..On September 24, Oregon Secretary of State Bev Clarno rejected Initiative Petitions 35, 36, and 37 for failure to comply with the Oregon Ballot Measure “single subject requirement.” All three of these measures would have placed significant restrictions on active forest management in Oregon. Measure 35, the most comprehensive of the measures would have: 1) established 100 ft harvest buffers on fish bearing streams and 50 ft buffers on most other waterways; 2) established a 500-foot buffer for forest aerial applications from any water of the state on forestland; 3) required notification to Oregon Department of Forestry of forestland pesticide applications 14-21

days prior to an application; 4) required approval of written plans before harvesting on locations classified as landslide hazards; 5) restricted voting rights of Board of Forestry members who derive a significant portion of their income directly from companies subject to the Forest Practices Act; and 6) reallocated 2/3 of OFRIs revenues to fire suppression. The petitioners are appealing the Secretary’s decision and concurrently are reworking their petitions to be compliant with the decision, so we can expect to see these issues covered in new initiative petitions in the 2020 general election.

The Healthy Forests and Wildfire Reduction Plan. A group of foresters and forest landowners have submitted a package of initiatives for the November 2020 election that are intended to protect the rights of landowners to actively manage their forestlands. Called the Healthy Forests and Wildfire Reduction Plan, these initiative petitions: requires forest management be guided by peer-reviewed science; add forestry experts to Oregon’s State Board of Forestry; and compensates property owners when government activities unfairly destroy or devalue their property.

Judge Overturns Lincoln County Oregon Aerial Application Ban.

On September 23, Lincoln County Circuit Court Judge Sheryl Bachart issued a decision invalidating the aerial herbicide spray ban passed by Lincoln County voters in May 2017. The basis of the judge’s decision is that the Oregon State Pesticide Control Act preempts county ordinances with respect to herbicide use. Presumably this decision will affect bans being considered in other Oregon counties.

Contact: Mark Buckbee, Oregon SAF Policy Committee co-chair, buckbeefamily@msn.com. ♦

Buckbee Elected to SAF Board

Elections for national and some state officers occurred in the fall of 2019, with newly elected officers starting their roles in 2020. Here are the results.

In Oregon SAF, Jeremy Felty, a forester for the Oregon Small Woodlands Association and Oregon Tree Farm System, was elected chair-elect. Katie Nichols was elected delegate-at-large; she is a forest engineering operations assistant at Lone Rock Timber Management. Both have significant SAF experience at the chapter level. Jeff Grogan, a forester for Weyerhaeuser, will serve as chair in 2020, and Meghan Tuttle, also of Weyerhaeuser, moves into the past chair position. Members also voted on and approved two position statements, titled “Active Management to Achieve and Maintain Healthy Forests” and “Landslides on Forest Lands.”

In Washington State, Wes Tracy, a Weyerhaeuser forester, moves into the chair position for 2020 and Jenny Knoth moves to past-chair. An election of a chair-elect will take place soon.

Alaska SAF offi-



Jeremy Felty



Katie Nichols



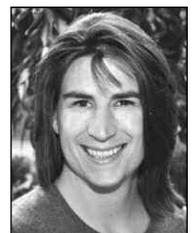
Jeff Grogan



Meghan Tuttle



Wes Tracy



Jenny Knoth

HOPKINS FORESTRY

Forest Managers performing herbicide application, young stand management, harvest management, contract compliance, inventories, and forestry/natural resources education



Dick & Paula Hopkins
360-492-5441
hopkinsforestry@yahoo.com

You won't want to miss the 2020 SAF state annual meetings!

Both the Washington State and Oregon meetings will feature informative presentations, field trips, and opportunities for networking. Mark your calendar today! Information will be posted on www.forestry.org as it becomes available.

Washington State SAF—April 6-8 • Leavenworth, WA
Hosted by the Mid-Columbia Chapter

Oregon SAF—April 15-16 • Keizer, OR
Keizer Community Center • Hosted by the Capitol Chapter

