



ONRC UPDATE

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A Monthly Newsletter from UW Olympic Natural Resources Center

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



John Calhoun

UW ONRC supports the broader UW mission of education, research, and service. UW ONRC pursues a special niche in the research area, as described in our Strategic Plan. Put simply, we identify problems in natural resource management that could be solved by applied research—not the theoretical kind of research that is important but not obviously applicable to solving the most pressing issues of today. We find the money, ask for proposals from the research community, and make the awards. We work with the scientists to ensure their work can be immediately useful.

When the research is complete, we communicate the results in ways that can best influence policy and practices, helping to solve the problem.

Along with the administrative duties of Director, I also lead the forestry research program. Dr. Miranda Wecker leads the marine research program. Together, we must decide

which problems we will address and how best to apply the limited human and financial resources of UW ONRC.

This month is a particularly critical time for the forestry research program at UW ONRC. I am spending most of my time developing and evaluating problems and issues that may be funded by UW ONRC. We have no specific proposal to consider at

“Solving resource management problems through applied research is the core of UW ONRC activity.”

this time. But, before the end of the month, we must distribute a Request for Proposal (RFP) to the research community, seeking specific research projects that we may fund. The RFP identifies the areas of research (the problems) that we wish to address with this year's research funding.

Problems we are

considering for inclusion in the RFP include salmon conservation and restoration in commercial forest lands. Specifically, we'd like a design and installation of validation monitoring research in North Coast watersheds, developing new and better metrics for assessing spotted owl habitat and the development of conservation data storage and management technologies. Other interesting problems related to improving the process of salmon conservation are also under consideration.

We seek research ideas consistent with our strategic priorities and which seem to have a broad consensus of urgency. Solving resource management problems though applied research is the core of UW ONRC activity.

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OESF CORNER

Mark Johnsen

Crescent District Manager

Washington State Department of Natural Resources



Mark Johnsen

Landscape planning was a cornerstone of the original Olympic Experimental State Forest (OESF) vision. One of the early projects started by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) was the Clallam River Landscape Plan, covering nearly 17,000 acres of State Trust lands in the OESF near Clallam Bay. Development of this pilot was encouraged and supported in 1992 by both the Makah and Lower Elwha-S'Klallam tribes.

A key component was to develop a comprehensive planning process, incorporating watershed analysis, wildlife assessments and strategies that support the goal of the OESF – “To integrate commodity production with protection of ecological values.” We did this with a multi-disciplinary approach using expertise from the DNR, the Makah Tribe, the Lower Elwha-S'kallam Tribe, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and the Washington Environmental Council (WEC) along with a public outreach program.

This plan was the first comprehensive analysis of stream channels, slope stability, riparian conditions, fish habitat, and wildlife habitat conducted in the OESF. Along with the analysis, a potential harvest schedule and road management plan was developed and modeled using Scheduling & Network Analysis Program (SNAP) software to track changes in habitat conditions. These scenarios were evaluated against proposed target conditions identified in the original OESF Draft Management Plan. A harvest schedule was developed based on which scenario best met the desired targets.

The landscape plan was completed in 1995 and implemented immediately. The plan called for a variety of innovative harvest types, scheduled over time, which would develop old-forest conditions suitable as northern spotted owl habitat while also providing a sustainable harvest of timber commodities. This harvest was estimated at the time to average 10 to 11 million board feet per year. This plan had the full support of both participat-

ing tribes, the WDFW and the WEC. The county commissioners in office during plan production also supported the planning process.

Early harvests included harvesting 30%, 80% and 95 % of the timber on individual sites, along with substantial un-harvested riparian and unstable slope protection areas. Each treatment is applied to support specific habitat goals and targets in the draft OESF management plan. Many of the concepts developed in this landscape plan would find themselves incorporated into the department's Habitat Conservation Plan signed in 1997 and also into the Washington Forest Landscape Management Project.

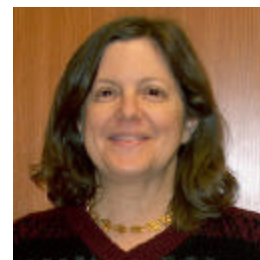
This article is the first of a series of three articles on the topic. Over the next year, future columns will detail the implementation of the plan and research/monitoring project opportunities. Next Up: Cabin Fever at Clallam River

A Special Note of Thanks to ONRC Staff

Hillary Clinton wrote a book in 1996 detailing her thoughts on how it takes a village to raise a child. Her conviction was this: how children develop and what they need to succeed are inextricably entwined with the society in which they live and how well it sustains and supports its families and individuals. The same is true of our educational and community outreach activities here at UW ONRC. Often I come up with an idea or make a connection that results in a program be-

ing offered at UW ONRC. However, it takes our staff to make it a success. Theresa Santman handles room reservations. Deric Kettel makes sure everything is setup just right and cleaned up afterwards. Jason Cross lends his laptop and his expertise to help with presentations. Kathy Heuring keeps tabs on the budget and suggests ways to fund new activities. John Calhoun sorts through my ideas and helps me develop the ones that will most benefit our schools and

community. Teresa Alcock and Eric Sfetku help with technical issues. And everyone pitches in when folks are here enjoying events. It takes a village to raise a child. And it takes the staff at UW ONRC to put on meaningful and well-organized events. My heartfelt thanks to each person!



Ellen Matheny

Sneak Preview: UW ONRC Winter GIS Conference Proceedings

Teresa Zena Alcock

GIS Specialist

UW Olympic Natural Resources Center

Our second Winter Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Conference was a success and a lot of fun! Folks from around the region and beyond attended, including Dave Wischer, GIS Manager for the Washington (WA) State Department of Natural Resources (DNR); Dale Guenther, GIS Manager from the Regional Ecosystem Office; Dana Woodruff from Battelle Marine Sciences Laboratory; Carrie Wolfe, WA State Framework Coordinator from the WA DNR; and Professor Miles Logsdon, from the University of Washington School of Oceanography.

Our keynote speaker was Dr. David Peterson from the USDA Forest Service Pacific Northwest Research Station and Professor of Forest Ecology at the University of Washington. Dr. Peterson, although not a GIS or remote sensing specialist, is intimately familiar with information management and technology issues relating to natural resources research, so his address was keenly heard, but very upbeat and fun. The entire audience of



Eric Sfetku



techies and politicians connected with his humorous yet bottom-line message of using geographic information scientifically, and not just graphically. He emphasized to managers the need for proper training in order to fully utilize the immense functionality of management-critical geographic information. He also cautioned practitioners to continue to strive for and emphasize scientific integrity in any geographic information services and products.

Vendors ESRI Northwest, Geoline, and GeoNorth from Portland, Oregon, were represented. ESRI representative Chris Wayne gave an official tutorial in Spatial Analysis as a special feature on Day 2, which complemented Professor Logsdon's remote sensing tutorial on Day 1. Local technical and political connections were reinforced during the GIS Services Panel discussion on Day 1. The GPS treasure hunt, organized by Eric Sfetku and Ken Santman, was a great way for folks to stretch their legs and learn GPS. Prizes for GPS treasure hunters given at dinner included Motorola Talkabout walkie-talkies, a GPS-gridded, topographic map atlas of Washington State, ESRI and Geonorth t-shirts, coffee mugs, and other treats.

Eric and I would like to thank several

people who made this event a success for ONRC. First of all, we'd like to thank the speakers – these folks were a top-notch group from the region! Theresa Santman and Deric Kettel were very supportive in providing logistical help during planning and throughout the event. Ellen Matheny helped with marketing and publicity. Kuuipo Walsh, Oceanography graduate student at Oregon State University, is volunteering her help in organizing the Conference Proceedings web pages, Ken Santman, our GIS intern, videotaped the event. And Amy Borde from Battelle Marine Sciences Lab helped us register attendees and hand out Conference Programs. Thank you all, and we look forward to the next ONRC GIS Conference! Visit the ONRC website for the Conference Proceedings that will be compiled in the coming weeks!



Teresa Zena Alcock

USDA Forest Service Research Funding Approved

Congress finally completed work on most of the fiscal year 2003 federal budget, including funding for the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service. Included in the Forest Service funding is the earmark of \$250,000 for UW ONRC, within the Pacific Northwest Research Station budget.

This is good news for UW ONRC re-

search programs and was not a sure thing by any means. Many UW ONRC supporters helped to lobby Congress on our behalf to ensure continued funding. US Congressman Norm Dicks and US Senator Patty Murray were instrumental in making this happen. This is the eighth consecutive year we have been successful in obtaining the earmark on the Forest Service budget to support research

programs at UW ONRC.

Final appropriations were significantly delayed this year as Congress struggled with major changes in government. This has put the RFP and award process behind schedule. Nevertheless, we expect to circulate RFP's for these funds by April 1, 2003.



USDA Forest Service Regional Forester to Visit Forks

The next UW ONRC Public Forum will feature Linda Goodman, Regional Forester, Pacific Northwest Region, USDA Forest Service. She will address the Healthy Forest Initiative, explaining to our community how the latest implementations of this plan are expected to affect the Olympic Peninsula. Linda is looking forward to our public forum because she values hearing comments and questions from local interested parties.

Linda began her career with the Forest Service on the Olympic National

Forest in Washington State in 1974. During her career, she has worked in a wide variety of administrative and managerial roles at every level of the organization. She worked on five different National Forests in the Pacific Northwest Region.

A native of the State of Washington, Goodman graduated from Linfield College in McMinnville, Oregon with a Bachelor of Science degree in Management. She continued her education in Forestry at Oregon State University in Corvallis, Oregon.



**Regional Forester
Linda Goodman**

UW ONRC Public Forum

Healthy Forest Initiative – Its Implications for Forest Service Management on the Olympic Peninsula

Linda Goodman — Regional Forester, Pacific Northwest Region, USDA Forest Service will discuss the Healthy Forest Initiative—what it means for the Olympic Peninsula and how it is being implemented in our region

Wednesday, April 9 - 7:30 pm

UW ONRC Hemlock Forest Conference Room

1455 S Forks Avenue, Forks WA