

Newsletter
January 2009

**Intermountain
Society of American
Foresters**



Editors Comments and Disclaimers

Thanks to those who are submitting newsletter articles, they are appreciated. Our next IMSAF newsletter deadline for submitted articles and notices will be **February 20th**. With the new Administration and Congress we'll continue to follow important appointments, economic stimulus actions and especially the developments surrounding renewable energy and fuels which will have a major impact and is a significant opportunity for forestry and agriculture. I will edit for brevity and clarity and do take responsibility for such edits. Please contact me if you have concerns, corrections and (better yet) news you feel we should cover. My contact information is Darrel L. Kenops, dkenops@msn.com, (208) 884-1076.

Thank You, Darrel L. Kenops

UTAH FOREST WEBCAST

Join USU Forestry Extension's first webcast, Wednesday January 14th, 2009 at 3:00 pm. Extension Forestry Associate Darren McAvoy will present an Introduction to "Utah Trees and Forests".

This is a live Internet discussion using your computer and you can interact using the

provided chat box which will appear on your screen. Computers have or will need pre-installed Flash plug-ins. To participate in this presentation you need to register and log in prior to the Webcast time. For more information, visit <http://extension.usu.edu/forestry/> and click on presentation.

RESOLVING FIRE SPENDING TOP CONGRESSIONAL PRIORITY IN 2009.

House Natural Resources Committee Chair Nick Rahall (D-WV) to try again to resolve the issue of large wildfire suppression costs budget process. "I've been frustrated at its not being able to pass," Rahall said in an interview before the congressional recess. "It certainly detracted in my home state of West Virginia

from the normal Forest Service budget and what they are able to provide in my home state. We need this separate account, this sequestration if you will of emergency funds for these major forest fires that have become more prevalent across many parts of the West."
contributed by Forest Service Today website

INTERMOUNTAIN SAF LEADERS SAY THANKS AND REFLECT ON COMING YEAR.

ROD BREVIG, outgoing SAF District IV National Councilman, "I wanted to send a personal note to as many of you as I'm able. It has been a great privilege to serve as your Council Representative in 2008. Our 2008 SAF National Convention in Reno, NV was a great success on many fronts." Rod played a primary 2008 Convention

LYNN SPRAGUE, incoming SAF District IV National Council Representative said; "I am honored to have been elected to represent you on our SAF National Council, the governing body of our professional society. "Thank you for that." In my campaign statement I committed to an open and strong working relationship with our



leadership role serving as Program Co-Chair. "The convention was the culmination of my personal efforts started in the year 2000 when I served as House of Society Delegates Chair to see a national convention in the Intermountain area to build and strengthen our membership."

"Moving our SAF National Leadership Academy to a regional venue was another of my priorities on Council and I was pleased to see the location here in Idaho in 2009." Mark your calendars and participate in SAF's 2009 National Leadership Academy, April 4-7, 2009, at the Coeur d' Alene Resort and Conference Center, in Coeur d' Alene, Idaho. "Spread the word in your chapter meetings and newsletters." The SAF website contains up-to-date Academy information.

"I wish you well in your personal and professional lives! Please let me know if you have questions about SAF or if I can assist you in any way." Thanks Rod from all of your IMSAF colleagues for your leadership commitment and accomplishments.

SAF units and transparency in the affairs of Council. I'll keep this commitment!"

"Serious issues face our profession, forest management endeavors and the health and sustainability of forests themselves." "There are internal issues, such as membership retention and growth, budgets, finance, strategic planning and policy choices. I want to make sure as we discuss these issues that I am armed with your best thinking, suggestions and ideas. I will close this communication loop with you and together we can make a difference."

"I'm still developing my personal agenda for my three year Council term. Once completed I'll share with you so we can dialogue on SAF effectiveness and needed actions." In the meantime feel free to let me hear from you on your issues and concerns." "Finally, the 2008 SAF National Convention in Reno, NV was a huge success by any measure. Our Convention Team was solid and exemplary in its efforts and all of our volunteer work was just outstanding! "Thanks to all of you who volunteered or otherwise supported the effort. Intermountain SAF came thru in spades!" My best to you and yours in this New Year." Lynn served as General Convention Co-Chair for our SAF 2008 National Convention. Thanks for your efforts too Lynn!

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR JIM CASWELL RESPONDS TO SALT LAKE CITY TRIBUNE OIL AND GAS LEASING DECEMBER 1, 2008 EDITORIAL

Bureau of Land Management Director Jim Caswell responded December 14, 2008 to a Salt Lake Tribune editorial which said do nothing in terms of oil and gas leases. Director Caswell replied--"The Tribune's recommendation that the Bureau of Land Management in Utah "do...nothing" with its December 19 th sale of oil and gas leases ignores the fact that the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended in 1987 requires each BLM state to hold quarterly lease sales where there is an interest in such sales." "Moreover, contrary to what the Tribune editorial argues, the parcels to be sold have been carefully vetted for environmental impacts, and the new land-use plans authorizing leasing substantially increased resource protections by tightening oil

and gas leasing stipulations and by limiting off-highway vehicle use."

"The BLM carries out a complex and challenging multiple-use mission, one that inevitably leads to controversy because some members of the public value certain land uses over others or, in some cases, strongly take issue with certain uses even though they are authorized by law." "The BLM in Utah will focus on the mandates that Congress has given it through law and in so doing will ensure that authorized uses of public lands are carried out in an environmentally sound manner." -- contributor Jim Trenholm, *The Stewardship Group*--



WEST WIDE WILDFIRE RISK ASSESSMENT AND REPORT UNDERWAY

The Oregon Department of Forestry, on behalf of the Council of Western State Foresters and the Western Forestry Leadership Coalition is preparing a wildfire risk assessment and report for the 17 western states and Pacific Islands. The objective is to produce "a periodic wildfire risk assessment to quantify the magnitude of the current wildfire problem in the west and provide a baseline for quantifying mitigation activities and monitoring over time." "Since a

significant part of the fire problem in the west is associated with federal land, and many of these fires affect state jurisdiction, the assessment will include all lands." "This assessment will be similar to the Southern Wildfire Risk Assessment conducted for 13 Southern states. --contributed by Jim Wolf, WWA Coordinator and Bob Zyback Oregon Western Watersheds organization--

ASSOCIATE U.S. FOREST SERVICE CHIEF SALLY COLLINS MOVES TO USDA OFFICE OF ECOSYSTEM SERVICES AND MARKETS.

A long time U.S. Forest Service colleague, Associate Chief Sally Collins, is moving to the USDA position of Director of Ecosystem Services and Markets. This newly created Farm Bill position focus is to help lead efforts to build

foundations for successful environmental markets for private farm's and forests across our Nation. ---contributed by Forest Service Today---

UPCOMING FORESTRY RELATED CELEBRATIONS! SEE YOU THERE!

Several forestry, natural resources 2009 celebration plans are underway.

The University of Idaho is celebrating 100 years of Forestry Education, September 10 thru September 13, 2009 in Moscow, Idaho. This center of forestry excellence continues to provide graduates sought out by many employers.

"Help us celebrate our University of Idaho forestry programs. Like the seedlings that grow into the forests, our forestry education program that began 100 years ago when C.H. Shattuck

arrived in Moscow, have grown into today's College of Natural Resources." Join us and the University of Idaho Alum Forest Service Chief Emeritus Dale Bosworth as we look ahead to forestry in the 21st Century." Room blocks being held at: University Inn-Best Western. 208-882-0550. More details to come. ---contributed by Jo Ellen Force, Department head and Professor, Department of Forest resources, University of Idaho---

The U.S. Forest Service National Reunion, September 7-11, 2009 is being held in Missoula, Montana.

And the University of Minnesota College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resources celebration. will be held at the Cloquet Forestry Center, Cloquet, Minnesota July 20 to

July 25, 2009. Mark your calendars and join your colleagues to celebrate your friendships and accomplishments.

NEW NATIONAL ADMINISTRATION AND CONGRESS TRANSITIONS UNDERWAY.

Change is in the wind and on the march. This month we swear in a new President and

Congress. Primary focus is on who is selected as political appointees especially in national



level natural resources and forestry positions. AND What priority forestry and natural resources have in economic stimulus packages now under development.

Recently the Council of Western State Foresters outlined in their "CWSF Green Jobs Package" for \$2.3 billion that is projected to result in 36,000 jobs across the landscape and cross boundary work needed in our rural and urban forests. The National Association of State Foresters Presidential Transition White paper outlines four priority areas needing attention.

Congressional leaders suggested to President-Elect Barack Obama to specifically include *\$2 billion to National Park Service, *3.5 billion to the Forest Service and \$1.25 billion to the Fish and Wildlife Service for a host of priority work needs.

Meanwhile, the National Association of Forest Service Retirees has sent Presidential transition teams their "What we believe, What we advocate" and the Public Lands Foundation, Bureau of Land Management retirees national association, is preparing a similar advice piece to our nation's new, incoming leaders.

Environmental groups are recommending the creation of a "Forest Watershed Restoration Corps" to tackle the at least \$10 billion public lands backlog of road restoration work. The 25 x 25 coalition is writing a letter to Congressional leaders to support strong funding for agriculture-based clean energy in the economic recovery package. They go on to suggest specifics based on renewing current energy incentives as well as using the recently passed Farm Bill energy titles (some of which include forestry) as areas for effective investment.

At a recently hosted Sustainable Northwest meeting, national and regional groups worked to develop a "Rural Compact" package which has been sent to the President-elects transition teams. You can see all the suggestions to Presidential elect transition teams and comment at www.change.gov

These proposals will also be in competition for attention and funding in the forestry sector from recently adopted regionally based Northern Forest Sustainable Economy Initiative for the four state area of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and New York.

---gleaned from many sources---

U.S FOREST SERVICE RELEASES A DRAFT "NATIONAL REPORT ON SUSTAINABLE FORESTS--2010 FOR 120 DAY COMMENT PERIOD

This report built upon wide scale and scoped participation an collaboration was released December 8, 2008 for a 120 comment period. In February and March, 2009 there will be three workshops organized by the "Roundtable on Sustainable Forests" for an in-person dialogue and clarification on content and context. This second national report using the Montreal Process Criteria and Indicators as *an organizing framework*. 2011 has been designated as "The International Year of Forests" and this report will be a key part of the

discussions on forests, their conditions, contributions and linkages to our society, economy and community well-being. In-person public meetings to discuss and share comments on the reports content, format and approach are scheduled as follows: Denver, Colorado-February 4 & 5, 2009; Athens, Georgia-February 24 & 25, 2009; March 23, 2009. Further detailed information can be found at info@sustainableforest.net where the Meridian Institute can help you. *---contributed by the U.S. Forest Service--*

LEARNING THROUGH COMPARISONS: A LOOK AT FORESTRY IN MINNESOTA, ONTARIO, FINLAND AND SWEDEN

"In 2007, the Blandin Foundation initiated a new project as part of the "Vital Forests/Vital

Communities Initiative". This project "Seeing the Forests and the trees: How to Make the



Most of Minnesota Woods" was launched with over 45 forest sector stakeholders and governmental leaders.

"Bottomline study participants identified priority ideas and recommendations for action in Minnesota" * Develop a forest bioenergy strategy for Minnesota; *Increase use of intermediate harvest activity across all land ownerships to advance forest productivity.

whether for timber, wildlife, recreation, biodiversity, and/or biomass; * Build a statewide and regional constituency for investments in productive forests; *Increase the engagement of family forestland owners in sustainable and productive forest management.

The complete report can be found a www.dovetailinc.org.

---contributed by Dovetail Partners, Inc---

Intermountain Society Officers for 2009

Chair (2009-10)	John Shaw
Past Chair	Tim Beaty
Chair Elect (Chair in 2011-12)	vacant
Policy Chair	Lynn Sprague
Secretary Treasurer	John Roberts
CFE Contact	Fred Baker
Meetings/Program Chair	vacant
Awards Chair	Jim Rosetti
Membership Chair	Rod Brevig
Science Chair	James N. Long
Communications Chair / Web Manager	Doug Page
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Immediate Past Chair	Walt Rogers
Secretary / Treasurer	Myron Hotinger
Education Chair	Rick Tholen
Program Chair	vacant
Nevada Chapter Officers	
Chair	Roland Shaw
Secretary/Treasurer	Norm (Skip) Ritter
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Faculty Representative	Fred Baker
University of Nevada - Reno Student Officers	
Faculty Representative	Roger Walker
District IV Council Representative	Lynn Sprague