

# CENTER FOR SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY AT PACK FOREST

## Newsletter

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### DIRECTOR'S NOTES

The Center for Sustainable Forestry at Pack Forest has been very active over the past few months. In the fall the CSF-PF hosted the 20th Annual Western Research Forest Manager's meeting which brought forest managers of various university forests from Washington, British Columbia, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, California, and Arizona to Pack Forest and the Olympic Natural Resources Center during a three day event. Dean Bruce Bare, Duane Emmons, and myself all presented information on current research and management efforts of both Pack Forest and the College of Forest Resources. Sam Wasser,

Professor and Director of the University of Washington's Center for Conservation Biology presented research that uses conservation canines to locate rare animal scat (*see below*). The annual meeting provides an opportunity for forest managers to share experiences in both a formal and informal setting. Good food, conversation, and fun were had by all.

The CSF-PF also conducted an internal cost-benefit analysis of the Forest Stewardship Council's certification program for Pack Forest Lands to the College of Forest Resources Lands Committee. A decision on whether to pursue FSC

certification will be made this year.

The CSF-PF would like to thank Alicia Robbins for her dedicated service. Alicia left the CSF-PF to pursue a Ph.D. at the College of Forest Resources. Maryka Lier has been filling Alicia's shoes as Interim Program Coordinator admirably since January, welcome Maryka.

— Greg Ettl



## CONSERVATION CANINE KENNEL TO BE BUILT AT PACK

Building is underway for the Conservation Canine Training Facility (CCTF) at Pack Forest. The College of Forest Resources and the Biology Department have partnered in this unique research program with the mutual interest of conserving natural resources in our region and around the world.

Dr. Sam Wasser, the director of the UW Center for Conservation Biology (CCB) developed the Conservation Canine program in 1997, utilizing trained dogs to detect the scat from endangered species over large, remote areas. This noninvasive research method allows for the collection of vast amounts of genetic and  
(*continue on p. 3*)



CCB staff member, Lindsay Madden takes Mocha on a hunt through Pack Forest

## WINTER WINDSTORM CLEANUP

The Center for Sustainable Forestry at Pack Forest sustained a fair amount of storm-related damage from the November and December storms, having a significant impact both on the conference center and forest.



Campus operations were disrupted by prolonged power outages in three separate events that totaled three and a half weeks of outages from the November floods through the December snow and windstorms. Generators provided limited power to critical systems such as phones and ethernet, fire alarm systems and the administrative offices. Two buildings were slightly damaged from falling trees and a major

cleanup effort was undertaken to remove significant amounts of debris and to reopen roads within the main campus area.

The forest sustained moderate damage from downed trees. Roads and trails were blocked and the forest was inaccessible for approximately three weeks. Pack Forest staff assisted the town of Eatonville in clearing trees from along a power line right-of-way to help restore power, before beginning the task of clearing the roads and trails throughout the forest. Contractors will be used to salvage log approximately three acres of timber that was blown down in two patches within the forest.

Approximately one-half acre of timber in the old growth reserve area was felled by the high winds as well. This area will not be salvaged; it will instead be used as an area of research and demonstration as directed in the Pack Forest Landscape Management Plan.

The storms provided an opportunity for Pack staff to identify areas within it's Emergency Evacuation and Operations Plan that need improvement and the staff is working with the UW Department of Emergency Management to implement these minor changes. The Center earned praise for its ability to maintain continuity of operations and the effectiveness of its EEOC plan.



*Photographs were taken at the Hugo Peak site, where some of the worst old-growth damage occurred.*



### COLLEGE OF FOREST RESOURCES GARB DAY CELEBRATION

**Come celebrate CFR's 100th Anniversary!!**

**When:** Noon, May 19th to Noon, May 20th

**Where:** Pack Forest, Eatonville, WA

**Cost:** Students-\$15; Kids Under 13-Free;  
Friends and Neighbors-\$20

*additional donations are welcome to cover student costs*

Delicious salmon, salads, bread, chili, beer, wine, soda, and more will be provided along with tons of exciting activities. Contact CFR's Student and Academic Services at 206.543.7081 or [cfradv@u.washington.edu](mailto:cfradv@u.washington.edu) for more information

## FIRST ANNUAL SILVICULTURE SHOWDOWN

On March 9-10, a group of UW students from David Ford's silviculture class met up with six students and their TA Craig Farnden from Bruce Larson's class at the University of British Columbia (UBC) down at Pack Forest for a good-natured competition. The first annual Silviculture Challenge was organized to bring the two schools together and to design a management prescription for part of the Nisqually Land Trust's Ashford Tract.

The Nisqually Land Trust purchased these lands to maintain and enhance an important forest-habitat corridor between the Gifford Pinchot National Forest late succession reserves and Elbe Hills and Tahoma state forest spotted owl dispersal habitat. Their management objectives were to create habitat for Spotted Owl and Marbled Murrelet while keeping some of the land in working forest. The profit gained from these

"biodiversity cuts" would be used to maintain the property as well as buy future properties to enhance conservation of the area.

The group was divided up into four teams, two per school. The students spent Friday afternoon surveying the 187-acre property and worked on their prescription and presentation that evening and the next morning. Since no one team could see the entire property in the time given them, everyone worked together to share observations

from the different parts of the property, along with other resources.

All the presentations were evaluated by a panel of three judges: Joe Kane, executive director of Nisqually Land Trust; Tim McBride, a habitat specialist with Hancock Timber Management Ltd.; and Jeff Madsen from Port Blakely Tree Farms. Each team managed to find creative ways of bringing the two management objectives, habitat conservation and revenue generation, together. In the end, UBC produced the winning team: Marley Chewter, Andy Peacosh, and Matt Scott. Everyone had a great time and agreed that the event was a valuable application of what they've been learning in class. Students and instructors alike are excited for next year's event to be hosted at UBC's Malcolm Knapp Research Forest in Maple Ridge.



## CONSERVATION CANINE KENNEL (CONT.)

physiological information without disturbing the actual species being studied. He collaborated with Sgt. Barbara Davenport, Master Canine Trainer with the Washington State Department of Corrections, modifying narcotics detection dog methods to train dogs to locate the scat.

Pack Forest is an ideal location for the new training facility, which will include a state-of-the-art kennel as well as accommodations for the resident trainers. Program coordinator, Heath Smith agrees, "[Pack Forest provides] ample training areas for the dogs and simulat[es] landscapes we encounter on

our field studies. I don't think we could have found a better spot."

The dogs will be trained on site to sniff out the feces of a number of different wildlife species, from Orca Whales in the Pacific Northwest to Grizzly Bears in the Canadian Rockies to Pumas in Brazil. The vital information collected through this program will help aid in the conservation of the endangered species and the ecosystems they inhabit. For more information on this exciting partnership, you can visit the Center for Conservation Biology's website:

[http://depts.washington.edu/conserv/conservation\\_canines\\_program.html](http://depts.washington.edu/conserv/conservation_canines_program.html)



*An expert in his field, Gator (pictured above with trainer) has been working with the CCB since 2001. He is currently being trained for an important study, locating the scat samples of particular individuals within a species.*

## LESSONS IN LOGGING

The first weekend in May, Pack Forest will be hosting “The Game of Logging: A Precision Tree Felling and Chainsaw Safety Course,” sponsored by CSF-PF and Northwest Certified Forestry. Based on the concept of ‘open face felling’, The Game of Logging is the world’s leading method for safe, efficient, and precise tree felling. The course will include Levels

1 - 4 in two sessions. Levels 1 and 2 will be covered in the first two-day session, and the advanced content of Levels 3 and 4 in the second two-day session. The program is appropriate for a wide range of saw users and skill levels - landowners, public employees, foresters, conservation groups, even production loggers. The cost is \$250 per session (\$190 for NCF members).

Room and board are available at Pack Forest Conference Center for an additional fee. Pre-registration is required as space is limited to 16 people per session.

For more information and registration go to:

<http://www.nnrg.org/news/documents/>

## PACK CERTIFICATION UPDATE

The Center is up for its yearly audit for Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) certification. The CSF-PF became SFI certified in November 2004 and successfully completed the first yearly audit in April of last year. We are currently working to arrange an audit.

The Center is also continuing to evaluate the prospect of acquiring certification through the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). The FSC certification would allow for research concerning the different certifications types as well as providing a greater breadth of experience in order to advise

landowners on the certification process. A plan for FSC certification has been presented to the College of Forest Resources’ Lands Committee to gauge the feasibility of this certification for CSF-PF. Pack Forest is currently third-party certified under both SFI and the American Tree Farm System.

**SPRING 2007  
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Please let us know if you would like to be added or removed from the newsletter mailing list. We welcome your comments, ideas and feedback.

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*Located at the foot of Mt. Rainier, the Center for Sustainable Forestry at Pack Forest sits on 4,300 acres of third-party certified, working forestland.*

