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Thursday, October 8, 7 pm
RESTORING STREAMSIDE VEGETATION: WHAT TO PLANT, HOW TO DO IT RIGHT, AND HOW TO GROW YOUR OWN SEEDLINGS
 Josephine County office building, Cave Junction
 Sponsored by the OSU Extension Service
 Registration information: Josephine County Extension, 476-6613, 215 Ringuette, Grants Pass
 Speakers: Mike Mitchell, Cave Junction, and Tal Blankenship, Glendale

Over the years, Illinois Valley landowners have planted thousands of trees to provide shade and habitat alongside the area's streams. Some plantings have had mixed success, with trees dying as a result of drought, too much heat, inadequate care, or placement of the wrong tree in the wrong place. Forest landowner and Master Woodland Manager Mike Mitchell has planted thousands of trees and assisted hundreds of owners in the Illinois Valley with streamside plantings. He'll share practical tips and techniques for successfully planting and establishing streamside trees and shrubs for the long term.

In the second part of this two-part program, former nurseryman and Master Woodland Manager Tal Blankenship will share his secrets for growing your own tree and shrub seedlings from seed you collect yourself. Tal will walk you through the steps of seedling propagation, from cone collection, to processing cones and seeds, to sowing and planting. He'll cover protocols for propagating common conifer species as well as hardwood and native shrub species. Tal is always an entertaining speaker, so this is guaranteed to be fun as well as informative!

Thursday, October 15, 7 pm
LEARNING FROM THE PAST: HISTORIC VEGETATION OF SOUTHWEST OREGON
 OSU Extension Auditorium
 569 Hanley Road, Central Point
 Sponsored by the Jackson/Josephine Small Woodlands Association and the OSU Extension Service
 Gene Hickman, Rangeland Ecology Consultant, Bend
 RSVP to OSU Extension, 541-776-7371
 569 Hanley Road, Central Point

The nature of SW Oregon landscapes at the time of European settlement is of interest to many natural resource managers and natural history enthusiasts, but has until recently been poorly documented. Over the past several years, ecologist and rangeland specialist, Gene Hickman, has transcribed 1850s-1860s General Land Office (GLO) township survey notes and constructed maps of "presettlement" vegetation in the central Rogue Valley surrounding Medford, Grants Pass and the Applegate valley. His findings are supplemented with some historic landscape photography, anecdotes from early explorers/settlers, and many years of personally sampling and mapping vegetation across this region. Together, they provided a better picture of SW Oregon's vegetative composition in the early settlement period. Come hear about the GLO study and its contribution as baseline data to the management of present day vegetation.

Gene Hickman is a rangeland ecology consultant based in Bend. He spent 30 years working in the Medford area mapping soils and vegetation for the Soil Conservation Service, now known as the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). When it comes to the relationships between local soils, landscapes, and vegetation, both past and present, Gene is THE expert!

Saturday, October 17, 9 am-1 pm — Field Tour: SOILS, LANDSCAPES AND VEGETATION PAST AND PRESENT
 Meet 8:50 am at the OSU Extension parking lot, 569 Hanley Road, Central Point.
 Led by Gene Hickman, Rangeland Ecology Consultant, Dave Maurer, Soil Scientist, BLM
 RSVP to OSU Extension, 542-776-7371, 569 Hanley Road, Central Point

The soils underneath us are the foundation of the vegetation that surrounds us. This tour will provide a unique opportunity to look closely at local soil formations and landforms, and how they relate to vegetation, both past and present. Why do some areas have oak trees, while others are clothed in dense conifer forest? In what soil types does ponderosa pine thrive? Why are some soils types especially erosive or sensitive to compaction? Which soils are the most productive, and why? We'll answer these and other questions as we transect from the valley bottom to the hills above Medford.

Dress for the weather. Bring hat, water, sunscreen and suitable footwear. Short walks on uneven ground. Plan to carpool to field sites. No charge.

Thursday, November 19, 7 pm
WHERE WE SHOULD GO FIRST: PRIORITIES FOR SMALL DIAMETER UTILIZATION IN SOUTHERN OREGON
 OSU Extension Auditorium, 569 Hanley Road, Central Point
 Speakers: George McKinley, Coordinator, Southern Oregon Small Diameter Collaborative, Ed Reilly, BLM, and Marty Main, Small Woodland Services, Inc.
 RSVP to OSU Extension, 541-776-7371
 569 Hanley Road, Central Point

The Southern Oregon Small Diameter Collaborative is a diverse group of stakeholders who share a long term goal to remove small diameter trees from uncharacteristically dense Rogue Basin forests in order to improve forest health, reduce fire hazard, and stimulate the local economy. The Collaborative is currently completing a landscape assessment of Bureau of Land Management and Forest Service forests in order to provide the agencies with a recommended set of prioritized treatment areas that meet the integrated ecological, economic, and social criteria of the Collaborative. The intent of the assessment is to help the agencies "scale up" to landscape-level treatments that enjoy broad stakeholder support.

At the core of the presentation will be a series of very interesting maps. These will provide not only a general introduction to the region's communities and forests, but will also show stands and acres most at risk from fire, insects and other forest health stressors. The assessment will provide an up-to-date estimate of the volume of material which could be removed from at-risk stands if treated in a manner that both reduces the risk of catastrophic fire and improves forest health. An economic feasibility portion of the assessment shows which areas make the most sense to treat from an economic, or cost, perspective. The presenters welcome the opportunity to share findings, as well as gain insights and feedback from Small Woodlands members.

George McKinley is a forest landowner, long time advocate of small diameter utilization, and coordinator of the Small Diameter Collaborative. Ed Reilly is forest landowner whose day job is with the Medford BLM. Ed spearheaded the small diameter landscape assessment. Marty Main is a forest landowner and consultant who worked with Ed to produce the assessment.



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