

GROUSE HOLLOW NOTES

Summer 2022

OUT IN THE FOREST



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After brief speculation, in late winter, about a dry spring and early start to the fire season, things quickly changed and NW Oregon's record-breaking wet spring provided some drought relief to a portion of our state. Here at Hopkins the wet spring has provided both benefit and some future vegetation challenges. By comparison, and after last year's driest April and June Heat Dome, we lost nearly all the red cedar and 80% of the Douglas-fir seedlings in the recent 7-acre clearcut along Grouse Hollow Road. New seedlings were replanted this February followed by Vexar tubing of the cedar and flagging of the Douglas-fir so we can manage the competing vegetation that now has an extra year to get established. While the extra moisture helps the seedlings' survival rate, it has also allowed all the other vegetation to thrive and both will soon be competing for moisture through the summer. This extra growth can be seen along many of our hiking trails where conditions have been too wet to brush/mow and vegetation growth is really taking off. At this time last year things were slowing down and most of the trails were already cleared. So please come out on our community forest days and help us get them opened up.



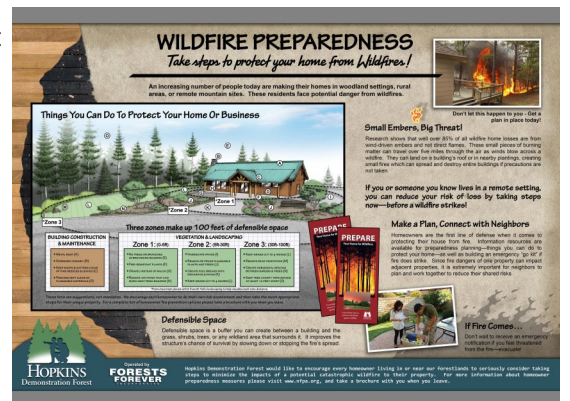
Outside of all the lush green growth this spring, many of you have seen the Outreach Center (with Caretaker Residence) begin to grow too. Now with all the framing complete and roof on, you can really see how this new addition fits in. Many of you have seen this project develop and our recent fundraising request as we work to complete this amazing addition to Hopkins. As part of the effort to reduce costs and showcase the use of local wood products, we are milling our own western

red cedar siding from trees harvested on site. A milling crew of volunteers has spent every Thursday morning for the last 3 months processing the logs into full dimension, 11-foot long boards (1"x12'), battens (1"x3"), and trim (1"x4"). In total, volunteers' Pete Wille, Mike Daly, and Mike Haasken along with the Community Forest Day crews and Sabin Schellenberg high school students cut over 4,000 board feet with a wholesale value over \$20,000 on our own sawmill. Look for additional information to come on ways you can help support the development of the Hopkins' Outreach Center.



In addition to the Outreach Center, there has been an effort to grow the forest interpretation. You will notice that new interpretive panels have been installed next to the almost complete Molalla Log House. We are also currently awaiting delivery of two new panels for the Fire Lookout Tower and we are in the process of developing two reforestation panels to go along Grouse Hollow Road adjacent to the recently planted clearcut. So much growth both in the forest and for our outreach efforts at Hopkins!

Peter Matzka
Peter Matzka
OSU Extension Forestry Educator/Hopkins Demonstration Forest





EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

After two quiet years due to Covid, in-person educational programming returned with a bang this spring. Some of the usual school groups returned, but there were many new additions. Here are some of the highlights from area schools, public groups, and the woodland community.



With so many schools missing field trips, outdoor learning, and specifically Outdoor School, there were a number of new area school programs that came to do Outdoor School 'catch-up'. With activity stations set-up around the forest non-residential outdoors school programs came for the day with school sizes ranging from 12 to over 165 youth a day. The huge size of many of these groups did not distract from the day of learning as students were not only catching up

on Outdoor School, but also being social and connecting with peers in the outdoors.

Here are a few other new events that made their way to Hopkins: a joint effort between OSU Extension Family Nutrition and Forestry focusing on healthy food and forest habitat, two Jun-tos forest career exploration days, Oregon City Service Learning Academy, a K-9 forest training for the Clackamas County Sheriff's Department, and Associated Oregon Loggers Forest Practices Training (to name a few).



A big event that returned this year was the State Convention for the Future Natural Resources Leaders (FNRL). At the end of April, 250 individual high school students demonstrated their career related skills in natural resources to industry professionals. In addition, the Sabin Schellenberg Center's advanced and intro to natural resources classes visited Hopkins every Tuesday, the Women Owning Woodlands Network was finally able to host their postponed chainsaw training as well as another Live Wildland Fire Training event with OSU's College of Forestry for Red Card Certification.



Upcoming Events (Summer '22):

July-September

Public Tour of Lookout Tower
Every Saturday 9:00am-1:00pm
Pending Host Availability

July 9th

Community Forest Day
8:30am-2:30pm
Trail Maintenance and Western Red Cedar Lumber Finishing

July (TBD)

Pole Timber Thinning and Harvest Demonstration

July 11th-22nd

Hopkins Teacher in the Woods

August 13th

Community Forest Day
8:30am-2:30pm
Hopkins Trail Rehabilitation and Pole Thinning Clean-up

September 13th

Community Forest Day
8:30am-2:30pm
Hopkins' Lookout Tower Interpretive Panel Installation and Clean-up

October 8th

CCFFA//Community Forest Demo/Field Day
8:30am-2:30pm
Live Demonstrations and Hands-on Learning Activities

For More information:

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LOOKOUT TOWER OPEN ON SATURDAYS THIS SUMMER

The Hopkins' Fire Lookout is scheduled to be open every Saturday till the end of September. Come hike up the 65-foot, restored, Mt. Clatskanie Lookout Tower and check out the views and Osborne fire finder. However, we are in need of several people still to help host the Clatskanie Mountain Fire Lookout Tower on Saturdays from 9:00am until 1:00pm this summer. As a forest host, your job would be to greet our visitors and tell them a little about the history of lookout towers and how they were used as part of Oregon's fire protection program. We'll provide you with all the information needed. You would also monitor the number of people climbing the lookout tower at any one time. It's a great way to volunteer to help, to interact with visitors, and spend time enjoying the scenery and view. It's a win-win!

If you would like to help host the lookout tower on a Saturday or two this summer, please contact Peter.Matzka@oregonstate.edu.

LEARN BY DOING—IT'S THE HOPKINS WAY WE MANAGE OUR FOREST!

www.demonstrationforest.org



Hopkins' Fire Lookout Tower Tours

Saturdays*
9:00am to 1:00pm
May - September

*subject to volunteer host availability

