



2137 19<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Forest Grove, OR 97116



Spring 2013

Coos Bay 541-267-2872

Forest Grove 503-357-5717

Dallas 503-623-9000

[www.stuntzner.com](http://www.stuntzner.com)

## Staff News at Stuntzner

**Eric Urstadt**, office manager for Stuntzner Engineering & Forestry in Forest Grove, was a presenter at the 2013 Oregon Dam Safety Conference on February 26, 2013 in Wilsonville, Oregon. His expertise on earthen dams was utilized as he spoke about the Stuntzner project he led on the repair of a large dam in Polk County in the autumn of 2012. Eric explained how the research, investigation, design and permitting were accomplished; how oversight of the repair reconstruction was monitored; how construction problems were overcome; and lessons learned in earthen dam repairs.

Stuntzner Engineering & Forestry, Coos Bay office, has a new administration/accounting assistant. **Kelli Sherman**, comes to us from the Oregon Department of Forestry with a work background in accounts payable, payroll and social services and an Associate of Arts degree and an Associate of Applied Science degree in Office Management. She was raised in Port Orford and now lives in Coquille with her husband, Jason, and their 3 year old son. In her spare time Kelli and her family enjoy exploring the great outdoors, camping and rafting. We all welcome Kelli and will appreciate her help.

**Mike Keefer**, an engineer technician is our Coos Bay office, qualified as an ODOT certified general construction inspector this April. He can add that to his existing erosion control inspector certificate and in May he will be taking the ODOT/ACI (American Concrete Institute) class for an additional certificate in concrete testing.

Our new Forest Engineer in the Dallas office, **Matt Riggs**, grew up in a logging family in Sweet Home, OR. He attended East Linn Christian Academy where he ran cross country and competed in track and field. After high school Matt attended Linn Benton Community College for a year and a half before attending Oregon State University. While at Oregon State he worked for the Student Logging Training Program for three years and was the captain of the OSU Logging Sports team. In 2009 he earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Forest Engineering from OSU. Matt has worked in the timber industry nearly his whole life. In his spare time, he enjoys being with his family, traveling, canoeing and working around his house. Matt and his wife Ashley are anxiously awaiting the birth of their first baby this August! Good to have you with us, Matt.

## Cape Arago Lighthouse Bridge

Stuntzner Engineering & Forestry (Stuntzner) was contracted by Scott Partney Construction to provide design services for access, skyline and purchase analysis for logging equipment to remove the existing bridge spans and worker support walkways attached to Cape Arago Lighthouse which was undergoing renovation. Along with Scott Partney Construction, Stuntzner also worked with Billeter Marine (Contractors) to provide the shoring, access and demolition system design elements. Stuntzner's knowledge of both forest engineering (logging systems) and civil engineering was utilized to facilitate removal of the bridge with standard logging equipment on one side and a constructed tower on the island side to provide lift.



This project took place between November and February of 2012-2013 - not ideal repainting or working weather on the Oregon Coast! The current bridge to the island where the lighthouse stands had been condemned and was scheduled for removal. This, in turn, made it difficult to access and renovate the lighthouse. The plan thus involved fixing the lighthouse first (primarily painting, replacing windows, sealing and repair) and then demolishing the access bridge to it.



Another key issue that had to be addressed was the fact that the site is of cultural significance. To avoid disturbing any of these areas, no purchases for the logging equipment locations could be placed on the soil, instead they had to be on rock outcroppings.

This U.S. Coast Guard property will be turned over to the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians.

*Ralph Dunham, PE, Stuntzner Coos Bay office  
Photos courtesy of USCG*

# Understanding Your Water Right Permit

Water right permits are often an item of confusion for the permit holders. They can contain many conditions that, if not followed, can lead to extra time, expenses, or even cancellation of their water right. It is very important for the permit holder to closely read their water right permits to make sure they are meeting all conditions within the time frame stated in the permit. The intent of this article is to highlight some of the most common permit conditions. Although there are a vast number of conditions that can be found on water right permits, the conditions addressed in this article are the most common conditions that cause the most problems for permit holders.



One point that should be highlighted is the difference between permit conditions that state the permittee **MAY** be required to do something, and the permittee **SHALL** do something. If the condition states that the permittee **SHALL** do something it must be done, while conditions that state the permittee **MAY** be required to do something usually require no action unless the permit holder is contacted by OWRD (Oregon Water Resources Department). Typically, the date conditions must be met by is the "complete application of water" date shown near the end of your permit.

## **Installation of a fish screen or bypass device**

Fish screens or fish bypass are commonly required on surface water or reservoir permits. A fish waiver can be requested from Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) if the point of diversion isn't located in potential fish habitat. If no waiver is granted, the permit holder **MUST** install an ODFW approved fish screen **PRIOR TO USING ANY WATER** from the point of diversion. If this permit condition is not met, OWRD can and will cancel the permit. It is therefore very important for the permit holder to insure that an approved fish screen or fish waiver is in place prior to using any water.

## **Installation of a meter or approved measurement device**

This condition can be found on almost all new surface and groundwater permits, as well as some reservoir permits. It is a condition that is commonly missed by permit holders. If a meter or approved measurement device was not installed prior to the date specified in the permit, then an extension of time will need to be filed causing extra expenses and delays in certifying the water right. Permit holders should ensure that they have the required meters or other approved measurement devices in place prior to the date required in their permit.

## **Annual March well measurements**

It is common for groundwater permits to require annual measurements of the static water, usually in the month of March. Measurements must be taken by an approved individual, using approved methods, and submitted to OWRD. Stuntzner's certified water right examiners are considered approved individuals and can take these annual readings and will submit them to OWRD if requested.

## **Recording of monthly water use measurements and reporting of annual data**

This condition is commonly found on new surface and groundwater permits, as well as some reservoir permits. It requires the permit holder to record the meter or approved measurement device reading each month, and then submit a report of these readings each year to OWRD. While OWRD commonly allows the annual reports to be submitted with the Claim of Beneficial Use after the *Complete Application of Water* date has passed, an extension will need to be filed if no meter readings have been recorded before the *Complete Application of Water* date. It is important to differentiate between annual reporting of monthly water use measurements and annual measurements of the static water level.

*Continued on next page*

*Continued from previous page, Understanding Your Water Right Permit*

It is common for permit holders to confuse these two different conditions and assume that this requirement is being met by the March well measurements often taken by Stuntzner's certified water rights examiners. Although Stuntzner can record monthly water use measurements or report the data for clients if requested, we generally don't since it is more cost effective for the permit holder to do this themselves.

Annual reports can either be submitted online or by paper. Forms for submitting reports by paper can be found on the OWRD website. To set up a login for online water use reporting you can contact the OWRD water use reporting section at 503-866-0822.

## **Submitting results of a pump test**

This permit condition is commonly found on groundwater permits. It requires the permit holder to have a very specific 4 hour pump test performed on their well, and the results submitted to OWRD. These tests can be performed by many irrigation, pump, and pipe contractors. The pump test usually only needs to be performed once and must be submitted before OWRD will issue a certificate. This condition, if not done, will not likely result in any harm to the permit holder, but will stop OWRD from certifying the right until it is submitted.

## **Claim of Beneficial Use**

Most permits require that a Claim of Beneficial Use (COBU) be filed. It is generally required that they be submitted within one year of the *Complete Application of Water* date; however, at this point OWRD is allowing COBU's to be filed after the required date. If all permit conditions have been met the permit holder should have a COBU filed on their water right. COBU's must be performed under the direction of a certified water rights examiner. COBU's include mapping the water right, determining that all permit conditions have been met, and determining the capacity of the system. Stuntzner's certified water rights examiners have extensive experience in completing the COBU's and can help determine if the water right is ready to have a COBU filed. If the permit conditions haven't been met, or if development of the water right hasn't been completed by the *Complete Application of Water* date an Extension of Time should be filed.

As previously stated, the permit conditions addressed in this article represent some of the most commonly found conditions that seem to cause the most headaches for permit holders. There are a wide range of other conditions that may appear on a permit. The permit holder should read these conditions closely and, if confused, feel free to contact Stuntzner to talk to one of our water rights specialists.

*Dylan Hitner, EIT, LSIT, Stuntzner Forest Grove office*

---

"Under Oregon law, all water is publicly owned. With some exceptions, cities, farmers, factory owners and other users must obtain a permit or water right from the Water Resources Department to use water from any source— whether it is underground, or from lakes or streams. Landowners with water flowing past, through, or under their property do not automatically have the right to use that water without a permit from the Department."

*From the Oregon Water Resources Department website*



## To tell our story to the public, keep it simple

From my experience as a board member for the Oregon Forest Resources Institute (OFRI), I've learned an important thing about public communication. To succeed in telling the story about forest management, you've got to keep it simple.

The state legislature created OFRI in 1991 to educate Oregonians about forests. It's funded by a self-imposed forest products harvest tax (\$.89/m) and governed by a 13-member board.

OFRI does professional public opinion surveys, and then hires advertising agencies to create educational products that hit the sweet spots found in the surveys. We are seeing a change, with more people agreeing that the economic/jobs/products side of forestry is important.

It's interesting what the surveys show. The ads have to be simplified more than you might think because the public's knowledge about forest management isn't sophisticated – despite what they might tell you. OFRI's educational messages focus on assurance that forestland is replanted after logging, and that forest practices protect wildlife and water. That's it. If you get into stuff like sustained yield, etc., the public either tunes it out or can't process it.

Surveys done in 2011 show the educational advertising is having a positive effect. 77 percent of residents are aware that Oregon law requires forest landowners to replant. 68 percent said that Oregon law protects streams and water resources during harvest. And 78 percent said Oregon law requires protection of fish and wildlife habitat in forests managed for timber production.

One result is that Oregonians are likely to feel positive about using wood products. When asked which building products they prefer from an environmental perspective – wood or products such as steel, plastic or cement – 68 percent chose wood. That's up from the previous year, when just 57 percent chose wood.

Besides keeping the messages simple, the ads must resonate with the viewer. Ads that appeal to Oregonians' basic values are the key to unlocking favorable attitudes toward forestry. Our ads this year play off Oregonian's penchant for recycling by introducing a fourth "R" – Replanting.

"Oregon is famous for being green," the announcer begins. "We reduce, reuse, recycle. So it's no surprise we have a fourth "R" – replant. Oregon has strong laws that require landowners to replant the forest after harvest, which protects streams and wildlife habitat and ensures abundant forests for generations to come. Which means Oregon will stay famous for being green."

The ads are fast-paced and accompanied by upbeat music. Rapid cuts show Oregonians engaged in green activities, including a tree-planting crew. Shots of a beautiful forest with rushing streams, wildlife and a couple hiking reinforce that the forest sector shares the public's values regarding all forest values.

OFRI's mission is to elevate the public's understanding of how forest stewardship meets the social, environmental and economic needs of both present and future generations. The Institute does not market forest products nor does it lobby the legislature.

Each year, OFRI's board of directors directs goals for OFRI's seven-member staff based on the Institute's strategic plan and public opinion research.

In the years to come, OFRI will continue to advertise and to publish, but it will shift more of its emphasis to on-line resources because that's where people who want answers are looking for them. Hopefully, OFRI's success in educating the public about forestry will encourage other forested states to consider starting a similar program. For more information and to view the ads go to [www.OregonForests.org](http://www.OregonForests.org).

Ron Stuntzner, PE, PLS, CWRE, Stuntzner Coos Bay office

## Log Market Report

With the exception of hardwoods and some cedars, log prices since last fall have improved dramatically. Poor weather combined with low log inventories and increasing lumber and panel prices resulted in log prices spiking in December. Log prices in SW Oregon spiked up higher than they did in NW Oregon by around \$75-\$100 per mbf. Since January, price log prices increases have moderated and have fallen below the peak in the first quarter of 2013. But they still remain excellent and are in the range of \$100/mbf higher than those of fall 2012. The unusually dry weather this year has increased harvesting and log inventories are building. There are now concerns about the potential for a bad fire season restricting harvesting this summer, which could again cause log shortages. Current conifer delivered pulp log prices are at or below the costs of logging and hauling. Many operators are leaving conifer pulp logs lying on the ground.

The Log Lines April issue reports a Douglas fir 2M from Southern Oregon/Willamette Valley up \$135/mbf from November to April at \$705/mbf. They show a 2M hemlock for the same period up \$94/mbf to \$561/mbf. China log exports from Coos Bay are currently \$640-\$700/mbf for 8"+ DF and \$600-\$680 for 8"+ WH, SS, GF (whitewoods). Coos Bay export buying is heavier to whitewoods because of lower domestic pricing.

For Northwestern Oregon/Columbia River area, the Log Lines April issue reports an average Douglas-fir 2M price of \$621/mbf for long logs. The China log exports were at \$640-\$740 for 8"+ DF and \$610-\$720 for whitewood species. Japan export prices in Longview are at \$750 to \$850 for 12"+ diameter logs, and \$700-\$750 for 8"-11" logs. The premium for export markets dropped considerably with the higher domestic mill prices this Spring, especially as you headed south down the I-5 Corridor.

Random Lengths reports from a year ago to May 3, their Framing Lumber Composite up \$67 at \$396, Green DF 2x4's up \$88 at \$335 and K-D Coast Hem-fir up \$65 to \$385. They report their Structural Panel Composite is up \$118 at \$470 and 1/2" western sheathing up \$49 at \$424 for the same period.

Housing permits for March were at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1,036,000, 46.7% above March, 2012 starts. *Source: US Dept. of Housing and Urban Development*

The National Association of Home Builders Association (NAHB) and Wells Fargo produces a Housing Market Index (HMI), which measures builder perceptions in current home sales, expectations for the next six months and rating of prospective buyer traffic. The April HMI is 44, up from 28 a year ago. An HMI of less than 50 means more builders feel sales conditions are poor than good.

Domestic	South	North
DF SM	\$700-\$750/MBF	
DF Camp Run	\$650-\$700/MBF	
DF 2M"	\$650-\$700/MBF	\$625-\$675
DF 3M	\$625-\$675/MBF	\$625-\$675
DF 5"-11"	\$640/MBF	\$625-\$675
Conifer pulp	\$16-\$27/ton	\$26-\$28/ton
Whitewood Camp Run	\$550-610/MBF	\$480-\$550
Red Cedar	\$650-\$700/MBF	\$1,000-\$1,300
Pine 6"-11"	\$460/MBF	
Incense Cedar	\$490-\$540	
Alder sawlog 6-7"	\$340-\$370/MBF	\$400-\$500
Alder sawlog 8"-9"	\$440-\$515/MBF	\$525-\$650
Alder sawlog 10-11"	\$520-\$540/MBF	\$625-\$675
Alder sawlog 12"+	\$570-\$590/MBF	\$675-\$700
Mixed Hwd. Pulp	\$28/ton	\$28/ton
Alder Pulp	\$26/ton	\$30/ton
Maple 12"+	\$350	\$450-\$475
Maple 10-11"	\$325	\$400-\$450
Maple 8"+		\$375-\$425

Export-DF	Coos Bay	Longview
9-11", Japan Sort	\$670	\$710
12"+ Japan Sort	\$710-\$730	\$755-\$800
China/Korea Sorts 8"+		\$650-\$725
Export-Whitewood	Coos Bay	Longview
China/Korea 8"+	\$600-\$680	\$610-\$720



Ronald E. Stuntzner, PE, PLS, CWRE at Stuntzner Engineering, Coos Bay

## Tribal Halls Trail Project – Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians

Work began last week on the Tribal Hall Trails project in west Coos Bay when the contractor, Laskey-Clifton, mobilized earth-working equipment and began the clearing and grubbing of the new Shiny Field adjacent to the garden area Belex Tlxanii, just off Wallace Avenue . The overall project consists of several major improvements including a new access road into the Cultural Camp area currently covered with a dense mixture of Shore Pine, Willow, Cedar, Alder, Manzanita, Douglas Fir, and Spruce trees along with a variety of shrubbery and bushes, including Huckleberry, Salal, Blackberry, Holly, etc.

A select number of the trees will be preserved within the Cultural Camp areas as designated by Tribal members. Additionally, certain 'Elder' trees within special areas designated as Elder Groves will be left virtually intact with little or no disturbance. The only work planned in one of the more significant Elder Groves will be a light, hand-clearing of some low shrubbery, excepting any Manzanita and Huckleberry, to open a meandering foot path or trail through the grove. Other trails will be constructed circumnavigating the Cultural Areas as well as a trail leading to an all natural cedar Plank house and a Sweat Lodge on the south end of the complex.

On Monday (the 29<sup>th</sup>) silt-fencing was erected around the cleared & grubbed areas of the Shiny Field and the access road (Canoe Road) for erosion control from site work. In addition, one existing building which serves the Tribal Members as a Family Services Building is being readied for relocation to a new site across the intersection of Wallace Avenue and Neese Street. Site preparation for the new location is being prepared now.

Other aspects of the new remodeling include, but are not limited to, asphalt paving to replace the existing gravel roadways, new sidewalks, curbs and parking improvements to serve the historic Tribal Hall building and adjacent Community Learning Center, a pond weir for better winter rainfall management for an on-site natural pond, a new Salmon Pit for the preparation of fresh-caught salmon, a new ADA access ramp leading to the Plank house and Sweat Lodge and some minor improvements to Flanagan Avenue skirting the southern end of the improvements complex.



Shiny Field

Work is scheduled to be completed sometime in late June or early July, but the contractor has expressed a desire to move quickly on all work planned for an earlier completion date. So far, work is moving quickly and efficiently with weather cooperating nicely for the project. Stuntzner Engineering and Forestry is the principal design-engineering consultant and is managing all construction staking and general inspections.

*Pete Stingley, Engineering Tech, Stuntzner Coos Bay office*



Historic Tribal Hall

## New Dean at “The” College of Forestry at OSU

Thomas Maness, the new Cheryl Ramberg and Allyn C. Ford Dean of Forestry at Oregon State University, talked for about an hour at the Bay Area Chamber of Commerce Forestry & Fisheries Committee breakfast in Coos Bay. The new Dean is talking across the state, spreading his ‘vision’ for the College of Forestry at Oregon State University. There are currently 1,100 students enrolled at the College of Forestry. For comparison, The College of Engineering has 6,000 students. The dean outlined his ‘vision’ with these seven points:

1. To become the top ranked ‘professional’ forestry program in the world. Their new Professional School concentrates most of the forestry classes in the last two years of the baccalaureate degree. Students can do the first two years at OSU, at community colleges or online. All of the pre-requisite classes must be completed before being accepted to the Professional School. The Professional School starts with a 2 week field camp in September.
2. To diversify the community within the college; recruiting more women and minority students and actively recruiting more diverse faculty to teach all aspects of the curriculum.
3. To nearly double the enrollment from the current 1100 to 2000 in three years. To accomplish this they will have to double the scholarship support they provide to students.
4. To broaden the funding base for the college due to declining state funding.
5. Establish four stand-alone Forest Institutes within the college
  - a. Center for Intensive Planted Silvicultural. This would be the go-to place for intensive forest management research from all around the Pacific Rim (Chile, PNW, New Zealand, etc.)
  - b. Forestry Competitiveness. This would be an institute to promote primarily Oregon-grown wood products and manufacturing for advanced building systems and products.
  - c. Ecosystem Sciences. This would carry-on some of the existing research funded primarily by grants from the Forest Service.
  - d. Working Forest Institute. This would be an applied research and demonstration area for innovative forest management techniques. The institute would conduct economic, social and ecological research on a large scale experimental forest (200,000-acres). The vision would be to apply best management practices on a landscape scale for communities served by the forest. The institute would conduct NEPA analysis on the entire long term project rather than each operation.
6. Internationalize the College. This means to integrate research and ideas with forestry schools and industry from all across the world.
7. Strengthen research with private partners; both individuals and Industry.

*Greg Stone, Forester, Stuntzner Coos Bay office*