



Summer 2017

Coos Bay 541-267-2872

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Dallas 503-623-9000

Junction City 541-520-2447

## Hollis Reservoir

Hollis reservoir is located approximately 5 miles northwest of Newberg, Oregon and is 1.3 miles upstream of Walker Reservoir. The reservoir is located on an intermittent drainage ditch near the headwaters of Bryan Creek. The reservoir stores 75.9 acre-feet of water for the purpose of irrigation, aesthetics, fire prevention, recreation and wildlife. The dam consists of an earthen embankment that is approximately 600' long, 250' wide, and 33' high. The depth of the reservoir varies, but is approximately 25' deep at normal capacity.

Stuntzner staff members and their roll with this project are as follows:

Bill Flatz & Nick Blundon: Land Use Planning, Permitting, Engineering, and Construction Administration

Corey Woodruff & John Hoshall: Surveying and Construction Staking

Carol Taylor: Administrative Assistance



Construction of the reservoir commenced at the end of August and the dam embankment was completed at the end of September, 2016 by Pihl Excavating, Inc. Approximately 33,000 cubic yards of earthwork was required to construct the earthen embankment, core trench, and emergency overflow spillway. A time lapse video of the construction of Hollis Reservoir is currently available online at <http://www.pihl-inc.com/>. There is wetland mitigation work that is currently being completed by the owner. Wetland Solutions Northwest, LLC conducted the wetland delineation, wetland permitting, and mitigation plan design.

This reservoir was one of the first reservoirs constructed to the 2015 Oregon Administrative Rules. The reservoir was permitted through several governing agencies including Yamhill County, the Oregon Water Resources Department, Army Corps of Engineers, the Department of Environmental Quality, the Department of State Lands, and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

*Nick Blundon, PE, Stuntzner Engineering, Forest Grove*



## Oregon Groundwater Association Conference

The Oregon Groundwater Association Conference was held in Wilsonville Oregon March 17 & 18.

The 2 biggest news items, in my opinion, were a new federal law and the increasing use of foam for drilling.

### **Water Supply Cost Savings Act:**

In 2016, President Obama signed a new law that impacts federally funded drinking water system improvements for systems that serve less than 500 people. This law requires the system evaluators to visit an informational website that has cases and examples of drilling groundwater wells cost benefit comparison to expanding traditional infrastructures of pipes. One example given was a proposed infrastructure expansion that would cost 2 million

dollars, was found that the same benefits could be provided for \$250,000.00 by drilling to access groundwater.

The presenter argued that piping is much more susceptible to contamination and that across the US the leak rates for many domestic delivery systems approach 50%. Now developers accessing federal funds for improvements are at least required to sign a statement stating they visited the clearing house that shows significant cost benefits of drilling to access groundwater for human consumption.

Well drillers are beginning to use a foam material to float cuttings out of the wells they are drilling. It appears to be just as effective, if not more effective, than utilizing mud. The big challenges appear to be the amount of foam material that is produced and covers the work area and the fact that the foam can change pH significantly and kill aquatic animals if it gets into waterways.

*Jeffrey Kee, PLS, CWRE, CECL Stuntzner Engineering & Forestry LLC, Forest Grove*

## Oregon Water Resources Department Fees Increasing by 16%

# New Notary Law Goes into Effect

One of the many services that Stuntzner Engineering & Forestry provides for its clients is the services of a Notary Public. Some types of documents that may need notarizing include (but are not limited to) subdivision or partition plats, road easements, property line adjustment deeds, lien waivers, etc.

*Oregon notaries public are appointed by the Governor and commissioned by the Secretary of State to serve a four-year term. Oregon notaries are empowered to administer oaths, jurats and affirmations (including oaths of office), to take affidavits and depositions, to receive and certify acknowledgments or proof of deeds, mortgages and powers of attorney and other instruments in writing; to demand acceptance or payment of foreign and inland bills of exchange, promissory notes and obligations in writing, and to protest these (that is, certify them) for non-acceptance or non-payment. They are also empowered to certify "true copies" of most documents.*

## **Wikipedia.org**

By providing on-staff notaries in the Forest Grove and Coos Bay offices, Stuntzner's clients are not inconvenienced by having to seek out a notary elsewhere when finalizing important transactions involving our engineering, surveying or forestry departments.

*Beginning January 1, 2017, House Bill 4128 (2016 Oregon Laws, Ch. 47) strengthens the penalties for committing fraud as a notario publico and gives the Secretary of State tools to prevent the fraud in the first place.*

*"Notario Publico" is the title given to a notary public in Spanish-speaking countries; however, the notario plays a very different role in those countries than an Oregon notary does here, including giving legal advice and drafting legal documents. Consequently, Oregon law has forbidden anyone, especially notaries public, from calling themselves "notario publico." HB 4128 increases the penalties on those who call themselves notarios publico; prevents retaliation against those who turn notarios in; and prohibits those who have impersonated a notary, engaged in the unlawful practice of law, engaged in an unlawful trade practice, or illegally held themselves out as an immigration consultant from ever becoming a notary public.*

<http://sos.oregon.gov>

Submitted by Carol Taylor, Office Assistant, Stuntzner Engineering, Forest Grove

# Private Forest Management News - 2017

Private family forestland managers are challenged by demographic trends that include the advanced age of owners and development pressures. The average age of a family forestland owner is approaching 60 and over a million acres of natural land has been lost in Oregon Washington and California in the last 10 years.

Over 60 percent of the forests in the US are in private ownership.

Many forestland owners want their forests to stay productive past their management. One option is to place easements and deed restrictions permanently on the land. Placing use restrictions on property can result in significant benefits in taxes and estate planning.

Specific measurable performance goals are the foundation of long term protection for working forest lands. Restrictions that are measurable and appraisable are required for valuations and assessments.

Pacific Forest Trust shared their experience creating permanent conservation easements on forest land in Northern California. The project is designed to keep the forest economically productive while conserving significant ecological values on the land. The trust has helped landowners secure long term protection on over 98,000 acres in the northwest. Working forest conservation easements often include public access, endangered species protections and continued commercial timber production. [www.pacificforest.org](http://www.pacificforest.org)

Removing potential development opportunities from a parcel can provide significant private and public benefits. Maximum long term benefits for forests are dependent on regularly securing sound data. A detailed inventory allows for more effective, productive management and the potential to secure financial benefits in the future, such as Carbon sequestering markets.

California Greenhouse Gas rules are driving the carbon sequestering market in the West. California has policy in place to offset the states impacts from carbon dioxide releases. A project to sink carbon in forest management can be located out of state. California was the first organization to develop compliance grade forest carbon offsets that are recognized internationally.

Securing long term conservation easements for large tracts often require multiple partners. The Western Rivers Conservancy, based in Portland, has been working with the US Forest Service, the State, Hood River County and Weyerhaeuser Corporation to begin putting an 18,000 acre parcel into permanent long term protection. The benefits of this working forest lands conservation easement will protect commercial timber protection, remove residential development threats and protect the most diverse assemblage of salmonids in the Columbia Basin.

Weyerhaeuser is a Real Estate Investment Trust, which requires it to evaluate a variety of profit streams including returns from residential development. The company owns 6.6 million acres in the US. Weyerhaeuser inherited a significant land conservation program through its recent acquisition of Plum Creek Timber, which has a strong history of engaging local communities for public benefit.

If a landowner is considering transferring ownership to a public entity such as the US Forest Service, the State or even to some non-profit entities such as land trusts, they should consult with their local county tax assessor. A new Oregon Law House Bill 2127 passed in 2015 and may require the payment of additional back taxes when land is transferred between some entities. This law requires the local assessor to certify that all the taxes have been paid, and if a tax deferral rate is changing it could result in a significant penalty of paying back taxes.

*Information from the "Protecting Forests Through Conservation Easements" law forum offered by the Coalition of Oregon Land Trusts in Portland April 19, 2017, Pacific Forest Trust Annual Report 2016 and the National Ag Statistics Census 2012.*

## **Forest Ownership Changing:**

A study published in the Journal of Forestry in Nov 2016 noted that there are 816 million acres of forestland in the US. There are 10.7 million acres under family ownership. Eighteen percent of these family owners indicate they are planning on selling or passing along their forestlands in the next 5 years.

## **Forest Management Tools:**

American Forest Foundation "My Land Plan" program offers introductory on-line management tools. [www.mylandplan.org](http://www.mylandplan.org)

Oregon State University offers a family forest planning guide [www.tiestotheland.org](http://www.tiestotheland.org)

Another interesting fact identified by OSU and WSU during a farmland succession planning project in 2016...sixty percent of farm land owners will die without a will.

Jeffrey Kee, CWRE, PLS, CECSL, Stuntzner Engineering, Forest Grove

## Staff News at Stuntzner

**Amanda King** is our newest employee at the Forest Grove office as one of our Office Assistants. She was born and raised in a tiny town called Cougar located at the base of Mount Saint Helens. She graduated from Washington State University with a BA degree in Social Science with an emphasis on Criminal Justice. After graduating she moved straight into the banking industry for two years before deciding to move from the financial industry into a career that she has more passion for. Amanda has been happy with her decision to work at Stuntzner Engineering. She continues to volunteer in her free time at a no kill animal shelter in Longview, WA and also spends time working her family's dairy goat farm.

**Mark Hampton** is our new Civil Engineer in our Coos Bay office. Mark has a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the Oregon Institute of Technology and has been a licensed Engineer since 2005. Mark has 17 years of experience in planning, design, project management and construction administration covering a wide range of civil engineering projects. Prior to becoming a civil engineer Mark worked in the construction industry. Mark is a Coos County native who enjoys the outdoors hunting, fishing and spending time with his family and has been known to occasionally try and play a little golf.

**We're moving!!!** The *Forest Grove* branch of Stuntzner Engineering & Forestry, LLC will be moving to a new location this summer. When you plan to visit us, please go to **2318 Pacific Avenue** in Forest Grove. Our contact numbers and email addresses will remain the same. We hope to see you there!

*Have a safe and enjoyable summer!*