

The Oregon Tree Farm System Board has a New Chair!

Greetings, I'm Dave Bugni, the new Chair of the Oregon Tree Farm System (OTFS) Board. Our previous chair unexpectedly resigned in June, so I am stepping into this role as I previously was the Vice Chair.

My wife and I own a 101-acre certified tree farm between Sandy and Estacada, which we actively manage for a variety of uses, ranging from recreation to fish and wildlife habitat restoration to timber production. We are also a verified forest carbon reserve and have been enrolled in a carbon credit program through Forest Carbon Works since 2023. We were the 2022 Oregon Tree Farmer of the Year and the 2020 Clackamas County Woodland Farmer of the Year. My additional duties include serving as the Clackamas County Farm Forestry Association (CCFFA) Board Secretary/Treasurer, as well as the quarterly *Forest-Tree Leader* newsletter editor.

My involvement with OTFS began in 2019 when our family became a certified tree farm. My professional background is not in forestry but in civil and structural engineering (now retired). But like many of you, I have a love of the forest and can usually be found out in the woods on any given day doing some activity.

Additionally, I am an OSU Extension Service Master Woodland Manager (MWM). One of our MWM tasks is to assist small forestland owners in our area by providing forest-related recommendations on requested aspects of their property. Additionally, in 2022, I was appointed by the Board of Forestry to participate in the Adaptive Management Program Committee representing small forestland owners. The task of this committee is to guide the Adaptive Management Process as part of what evolved from the Private Forest Accord. In 2023, I was also appointed by the Board to their Committee for Family Forestlands, representing northwest Oregon, to assist them in addressing family forestland issues.

I look forward to engaging with you at upcoming OTFS, Oregon Small Woodlands Association or CCFFA events. These organizations share the common goal of helping small forestland owners. For those that aren't already certified, we hope you will consider working towards getting your family forest or tree farm certified (or re-certified) by OTFS in the future! If you have any questions or require further information about OTFS, please feel free to contact me at dbugni@cascadeaccess.com.

