

TOTAL ZONED FOREST LAND = 424,761

PUBLICLY OWNED FOREST = 147,778

INDUSTRIAL FOREST OWNERS = 253,586

ALL SMALL WOODLOT OWNERS = 23,397

Who Owns Clatsop County's Forests?

The Coast Range Association is studying land ownership for four coastal counties, Clatsop, Tillamook, Lincoln and Lane. We are using public records available at the tax assessors office. By reviewing tax data for zoned forest land we are able to construct a picture of forest land ownership. The numbers shown here for Clatsop County reflect only those lands zoned for forestry.

The number of owners and their exact acreages vary over time. Our data is a snapshot of Clatsop County's forest ownership for the spring of 1993.

Forest land ownership patterns are fairly consistent for all coastal counties. Ownership is concentrated in the hands of a few large multi-national corporations and state and federal agencies. Clatsop County's forest land has a larger percentage of private industrial forests than other coastal counties. Clatsop's largest private forest land owner is, to no ones surprise, Hanson Natural Resources of Portland. There are approximately 556 small woodlot owners in the county. For the most part, they are clustered along main roads and rivers.

Over the course of the next year the Association intends to study forest ownership and it's implications for forestry, wildlife habitat and community. Having a high percentage of the county's land base in the hands of outside transnational corporations is something not generally discussed. We think it is important. Are public trust values being protected by the few industrial giants?

Harvest data supplied to the Association by the Oregon Department of Forestry indicates an un-sustainable cut rate by industrial foresters. Before an honest dialogue between the community and industrial forest owners can occur certain facts need to be known.

What watersheds are industrial owners responsible for and are they being stewards of the land. How much forest are they cutting and is their forestry responsible? Do they have a long term commitment to the local economy and community? The right to private ownership, on such a large scale, comes with a sizable burden of responsibility. Are Clatsop County's industrial forest owners earning the public trust through responsible stewardship?

The Big Industrial Four

Hanson Natural Resources Co Longview Fiber Co
Agency Creek Management Co Stimson Lumber Co

Together they own
over 85% of all
zoned private forest land

NAME1	CITY	ACRES	CONVAL
LONGVIEW FIBRE CO	LONGVIEW	1145.98	357050
OREGON STATE OF		1121.36	400330
HANSON NATURAL RESOURCES CO	PORTLAND	1118.55	347380
HANSON NATURAL RESOURCES CO	PORTLAND	1100	429720
OREGON STATE OF		1075.68	384020
ASTORIA CITY OF		1061.98	251690
OREGON STATE OF		1060.38	300090
HANSON NATURAL RESOURCES CO	PORTLAND	1000	342200
HANSON NATURAL RESOURCES CO	PORTLAND	992.81	263360
LONGVIEW FIBRE CO	LONGVIEW	990	337440
OREGON STATE OF		960	394560
LONGVIEW FIBRE CO	LONGVIEW	948.93	208690
LONGVIEW FIBRE CO	LONGVIEW	898.75	185190
HANSON NATURAL RESOURCES CO	PORTLAND	897.87	221020
LONGVIEW FIBRE CO	LONGVIEW	873.98	229530
HANSON NATURAL RESOURCES CO	PORTLAND	840	264360
STIMSON LUMBER CO	PORTLAND	833.28	240800
OREGON STATE OF		820	232060
HANSON NATURAL RESOURCES CO	PORTLAND	817.23	291750
STIMSON LUMBER CO	PORTLAND	800	210080
OREGON STATE OF		760	271320
HANSON NATURAL RESOURCES CO	PORTLAND	745.49	286140
HANSON NATURAL RESOURCES CO	PORTLAND	730.12	245850
OREGON STATE BOARD OF FORESTRY		714.04	223490
OREGON STATE OF		712.68	226520
OREGON STATE BOARD OF FORESTRY		680	289240
HANSON NATURAL RESOURCES CO	PORTLAND	680	159870
HANSON NATURAL RESOURCES CO	PORTLAND	674.1	258150
HANSON NATURAL RESOURCES CO	PORTLAND	664.62	225430
AGENCY CREEK MANAGEMENT CO	PORTLAND	660	176720
HANSON NATURAL RESOURCES CO	PORTLAND	656.92	205620
HANSON NATURAL RESOURCES CO	PORTLAND	648	164620
NATURE CONSERVANCY THE	PORTLAND	641.12	228880
KOENNECKE GLENN F	NORTH PLAIN	640.2	291240
HANSON NATURAL RESOURCES CO	PORTLAND	640	190000
HANSON NATURAL RESOURCES CO	PORTLAND	640	207760
HANSON NATURAL RESOURCES CO	PORTLAND	640	257280
HANSON NATURAL RESOURCES CO	PORTLAND	640	184410
HANSON NATURAL RESOURCES CO	PORTLAND	640	189030
LONGVIEW FIBRE CO	LONGVIEW	640	187600
HANSON NATURAL RESOURCES CO	PORTLAND	640	135880
HANSON NATURAL RESOURCES CO	PORTLAND	640	127560
HANSON NATURAL RESOURCES CO	PORTLAND	640	136640
HANSON NATURAL RESOURCES CO	PORTLAND	640	97430
HANSON NATURAL RESOURCES CO	PORTLAND	640	81980
HANSON NATURAL RESOURCES CO	PORTLAND	640	122260
HANSON NATURAL RESOURCES CO	PORTLAND	640	219240
LONGVIEW FIBRE CO	LONGVIEW	640	181120
LONGVIEW FIBRE CO	LONGVIEW	640	144000
AGENCY CREEK MANAGEMENT CO	PORTLAND	640	176640
HANSON NATURAL RESOURCES CO	PORTLAND	640	214800
HANSON NATURAL RESOURCES CO	PORTLAND	640	184720

Coastal salmon crisis

In January 1994, the Coast Range Association, Oregon Trout, Water Watch of Oregon, the Tenmile Creek Association, the National Audubon Society, the Portland Audubon Society, and the Northwest Environmental Defense Center convened to develop a series of actions necessary to protect and restore native stocks of coastal coho salmon in Oregon. The following seven proposals address actions the State of Oregon could do right now to save the coho.

Coho Collapse

Coho populations are rapidly declining throughout most of their historic range in the lower 48 states. Wild coho are now extinct in 55% of their historic range, endangered in 13%, threatened in 20%, of special concern in 5%, and healthy in only 6.5% of their former range, primarily on Washington's Olympic Peninsula.

Almost all of the wild coho populations in Oregon coastal basins are approaching extinction. The ODFW now lists coho stocks in 38 out of the 40 coastal basins where they still occur as "depressed," a category used by the ODFW to describe populations in the "most severe state of decline" (Nickelson et al. 1992a). Twelve of these basin populations were described as near extinction" (Nickelson et al. 1992b). Wild coho counts in coastal Oregon rivers have declined from an estimated 1,385,000 fish per year in 1900 to approximately 192,000 mostly hatchery coho in the 1980s, an 86% decline (Lichatowich 1989). The recent estimate of the 1990-91 wild spawning escapement was only 10,700 to 22,300 coho salmon in streams and rivers north of Cape Blanco on the Oregon coast (Jacobs and Cooney 1991).

Total coho stock abundance for 1994 could be as low as 250,000 adults, with only 150,000 native adult coho. The jack (early returning males) count for all hatcheries on both the Columbia River and the Oregon coast, a commonly used indicator for future stock abundance was only 5,200 fish, a mere one-fifth of the poorest return on record. (Finley 1994).

Seven Proposals

1. Emergency petition to list coho as a threatened species under the Oregon Threatened and Endangered Species Act.
2. Petition to the Pacific Fisheries Management Council and the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission for a zero ocean harvest of coho salmon in 1994.
3. Petition to the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission to bring wild populations of Oregon coastal coho into compliance with the Wild Fish Management Policy and reduce the adverse effects of hatchery production on wild coho.
4. Petitions to the Environmental Quality Commission to (1) designate eligible coastal coho streams as Outstanding Resource Waters to protect coho habitat from degradation due to pollution and, (2) adopt a policy which precludes future new or increased discharges of pollutants into all critical coastal coho habitat.
5. Petition the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission to immediately enforce existing laws requiring fish passage and diversion screening in coastal basins.
6. Petition to the Water Resources Commission (WRC) to halt the issuance of new out-of-stream water use permits which threaten instream flows needed for native coho.
7. Petition Governor Roberts to expand watershed analysis to all coastal basins, to complement ongoing federal initiatives.

Extensive logging and road building, especially on steep, unstable slopes, have led to sedimentation of spawning areas, increased turbidity and high water temperatures, loss of large woody debris from the stream bed, much reduced stream channel complexity and caused the loss of large over-wintering pools.

