

## FOREST LEGACY UPDATES 2008/2009

2008 was a very busy year for Forest Legacy. We closed on both the Cedar Green and the Carbon River projects. Combined we spent approximately \$5,000,000 federal dollars and purchased conservation easements on 15,300 acres of working forest lands. The Tahuya project should close by the end of July 2009. That will bring another 2,200 acres into the program and put \$3,300,000 into the local economy.

We were able to secure funding for the two remaining Issaquah Creek in-holding parcels that were proposed in 2008. The original Issaquah Creek project was completed in 2002. At that time there were two 40 acre parcels located near the center of the property that the owners choose not to sell at that time. This project will use funds returned to the national program by unsuccessful project proponents. The Issaquah Creek projects are scheduled to close next year.

We have two projects that could be funded in 2010. They are the Mt. St. Helens project which is located near the Swift Reservoir in SW Washington. This project was sponsored by the Columbia Land Trust. The second project is the Scatter Creek project located just south of Olympia near Little Rock. Each project will help to ensure a continued working forest landscape in their respective regions. We will know for certain if the projects are funded sometime in October.

The 2011 application period will close in few days. Once again I will be calling on 3 or 4 SFSCC members to work on the ranking panel. We are expecting some pretty strong applications again this year. One of the new applications is a community forest project near Glenwood in SW Washington. It is being proposed by the Mt. Adams Resource Stewards. This project should rank high and would be the first project in the mixed eastside fir, dry pine-oak ecosystem if funded.

I apologize for missing the Stewardship Committee meeting this year and look forward to meeting with the group in person next year. If you ever have any questions you can call me at 360-902-1102.