

# Instructions for Taking the Thinning Survey

This survey is part of NNRG and OSU's research study: *Understanding how silvicultural decisions affect harvest outcomes*. The goal of this research is to help landowners who are considering a variety of forest management techniques to learn from the experiences of others.

You can [complete the survey online](#) using SurveyMonkey.

If you'd rather complete the survey using the PDF form, be sure to [save the PDF file to your computer](#), complete the questionnaire (saving as you go), then [save the file](#) and email the completed survey to [lindsay@nnrg.org](mailto:lindsay@nnrg.org).

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## Reminders

- Your participation is voluntary and your responses will be kept confidential.
  - No personally identifiable information will be associated with your responses in any reports of the data.
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## Instructions

- **Who should take the survey?**
  - This survey is best completed by the owner(s) most involved with the harvest management decisions.
  - Your harvest took place in the last 5 years (since 2014).
  - Your harvest was on forest land in western Oregon or western Washington.
- **How long will it take me?**
  - We estimate it will take 1 to 2 hours to complete the survey - this includes time to gather harvest records in advance. *We recognize that this survey takes time to complete. Participants who complete the survey are eligible to receive a \$50 gift card to a forestry supply business.*
- **What records will I need to refer to?**
  - You will likely need to refer to information in the following documents to complete the survey:
    - Notice of operation (harvests in Oregon)
    - Forest practices application and notice (FPA/N) (harvests in Washington)
    - Logger, forester, and other consultant contracts

- Mill receipts
  - Timber excise tax records
  - Any harvest summary reports
  - Your forest management plan and related records
- **What do the questions cover?**
    - This survey asks detailed questions about the harvest that took place on your forest and is organized into seven parts:
      - Forest ownership
      - General harvest information
      - Detailed information about harvest volumes and log sorts
      - On-the-ground decision making
      - Logging operations
      - Post-harvest activities
      - Wrap up and next steps
- **What counts as a harvest?**
    - This survey is intended to gather information about a single harvest. The researchers are seeking to understand the factors influencing different harvest outcomes. Please provide information to the best of your ability, and feel free to choose “*I’m not sure*” if appropriate.
      - If you had multiple units in your harvest that you tracked all together and the units and treatments were fairly similar - we can use your information for the study.
      - If you had multiple units that were very different in nature (e.g. 35-year old Douglas-fir thinning as well as Doug-fir coming out of a white oak stand) and the Douglas-fir logs from all the units were shipped out together - we are NOT able to use your information for the study.
      - If you had multiple units that were very different in nature and you have separate records for the logs that were shipped from each unit - we WOULD be able to use your information for the study BUT you will need fill out a separate survey for each harvest unit
    - You are welcome to provide the researchers with information for more than one harvest. To do so, you may fill out a separate survey for each harvest.

If you have questions about how to respond to a question or would prefer to complete the survey in an interview, contact NNRG's research lead Lindsay Malone at [lindsay@nrg.org](mailto:lindsay@nrg.org).

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## Thank You Gift for Participants

As a thank you to forest owners who take the time to complete the survey, the first 100 participants are eligible to receive a \$50 gift card to one of the following retailers:

- Coastal Farm and Ranch

- Forestry Suppliers
- Pacforest Supply Company
- Wilco Farm Store

Surveys will be reviewed for completion and any necessary follow up prior to sending participants their preferred gift card.

[Take the survey online.](#)

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## Contact the researchers

If you have any questions about this study, feel free to contact the researchers:

- Klaus Puettmann at [klaus.puettmann@oregonstate.edu](mailto:klaus.puettmann@oregonstate.edu) or 541-737-8974
- Lindsay Malone at [lindsay@nnrg.org](mailto:lindsay@nnrg.org) or 206-971-8966

[Klaus Puettmann is a Professor in Silviculture Alternatives](#) with the Department of Forest Ecosystems and Society at Oregon State University. [Lindsay Malone is the Director of Programs](#) at Northwest Natural Resource Group.

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This research is being conducted by Northwest Natural Resource Group and Oregon State University.

