



Developing a Recommendation for a Natural and Working Lands Goal

Presentation to the Oregon Board of Agriculture, 9.23.2020 by Catherine Macdonald, OGWC Chair



Why Natural Climate Solutions are Important

- The IPCC advises that we achieve net zero emission on or before 2050
- We can't get to net zero without reducing emissions and increasing sequestration in natural and working lands
- Natural and working lands offset about 11 percent of US emissions now
- We can increase this by as much as 18 percent of US emissions with modifications of management practices.
- Agricultural practices that show promise include cover crops, nutrient management, avoided grassland conversion, silvo-pasture and manure management among others
- Studies have shown that these practices not only sequester more carbon, some also increase soil moisture holding capacity and farm productivity and value



Relevant Statutory Charge to the Commission

The Oregon Global Warming Commission shall:

- *Track and evaluate the carbon sequestration potential of Oregon's forests, alternative methods of forest management that can increase carbon sequestration and reduce the loss of carbon sequestration to wildfire, changes in the mortality and distribution of tree and other plant species and the extent to which carbon is stored in tree-based building materials;*



Governor Brown's Executive Order 20-04

Directive to the Oregon Global Warming Commission on Natural and Working Lands:

- *“In coordination with ODA, ODF and OWEB, the OGWC is directed to submit a proposal to the Governor for consideration of adoption of state goals for carbon sequestration and storage by Oregon’s natural and working landscapes, including forests, wetlands and agricultural lands, based on best available science. The proposal shall be submitted no later than June 30, 2021.”*

Steps to Developing a Recommendation

Stakeholder Engagement

1. Identify existing inventory data.
2. Identify priority improvements to the land sector inventory.
3. Design a methodology land sector emissions and sequestration.
4. Develop a baseline and a Business-as-Usual projection.
5. Identify potential policies, programs and practices Natural and Working Lands.
6. Develop a recommended goal and a process for including Natural and Working Lands in Oregon's climate mitigation plan.



Outreach and Engagement - Who

- Tribes
- Commissions
- Technical Experts on Carbon Accounting
- Technical Assistant Practice Providers
- Stakeholders including Landowners, Environmental Justice, Land Use, Environmental, Conservation and Climate Advocates



Outreach and Engagement - When

- Meetings with Tribes, Boards & Commissions – September - October
- Webinar to explain the EO's Charge to stakeholders - September
- Surveys November - December
- Synthesis – report out to Boards and Commissions – Jan – February
- Commission – review of draft proposal - February
- Draft – Out for public review and input - March
- Commission – Decision May/June
- Send to Governor - June



Questions and Recommendations

