

# Resolution of the Oregon Global Warming Commission

Resolution Number: 2008-3-001  
Origin: Natural Resources Committee

## Finding of Consistency for Proposal from Agriculture Sub-Committee

Resolved, that the Oregon Global Warming Commission finds the proposal from the Agriculture Sub-committee of the Natural Resources Committee of the Commission -- as described in the September 15, 2008 memorandum to the Commission from the Sub-committee co-chairs -- to be **consistent, with Commission qualifications as detailed below**, with Oregon's greenhouse gas mitigation and climate change preparation needs and goals.

### Qualifications:

This finding is made with the qualification that the Commission intends to later submit an integrated and prioritized research strategy that addresses the combined needs of the natural resource sub-committees of the Commission. Therefore, this finding does not indicate any sense of priority relative to the needs of other natural resource sub-committees or a broader research agenda related to climate change. The Commission also recognizes that much of the activity in the proposal is not focused on research, but rather centered on climate change preparation and adaptation activity.

The September 15<sup>th</sup> memorandum referenced in this resolution is attached.

[Note: The language in this resolution derives from the audio recording of the third meeting. The motion was made verbally, with no formal resolution prepared in advance.]

# MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Global Warming Commission Members  
**FROM:** Andrea Durbin and Katy Coba, Co-Chairs, Agriculture Subcommittee  
**DATE:** September 15, 2008  
**SUBJECT:** Agriculture and Climate Change Recommendations

At its meeting on July 17, 2008, the Agriculture Subcommittee identified several strategies to help Oregon agriculture adapt to climate change, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and sequester carbon. We have worked with subcommittee members to identify the following high priority strategies and funding needs for the 2009-11 biennium. More detailed recommendations, along with additional funding needs, are described in the document titled "Global Warming and Agriculture: 2009 Agenda Proposal."

1. **Support the following Program Option Packages for the 2009-11 biennium.** Oregon State University and Oregon Department of Agriculture have submitted several Program Option Packages that will help Oregon agriculture reduce greenhouse gas emissions, take advantage of emerging carbon markets, and adapt to climate change. We recommend fully funding the following Program Option Packages (POPs).
  - a. OSU POP for research to assess the most cost-effective methods to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase carbon sequestration, establish a baseline for carbon sequestration rates based on cropping/land use systems, work with producers to determine the incentives needed to adopt carbon management practices, and quantify greenhouse gas emissions reductions from different practices. Funding request: \$800,000
  - b. ODA POP for a climate change specialist and research dollars to help the industry understand climate change issues, create linkages with carbon trading programs, and collaborate with OSU on climate research. Funding request: \$375,000
  - c. OSU/AES POPs for 2 plant protection FTEs for research into maintaining plant health in response to changing pest regimes. Funding request: \$600,000
  - d. ODA POPs for Invasive Pest and Plant Management Program and Invasive Species Council support. Funding request: \$1.25 million
  - e. OSU POP to conduct research into new crops, crop varieties, and crop rotations that will be more resilient in the face of changing climate conditions and limited water availability. Funding request: \$600,000
  - f. ODA POP for a water quantity position to address upcoming challenges related to water availability. Funding request: \$190,846
  - g. ODA POP for an air quality specialist and research on best management practices to reduce emissions, including greenhouse gas emissions. Funding request: \$1,375,000
2. **Provide funding for additional short-term research needs at Oregon State University.**
  - a. Provide additional funding for research on best practices for carbon management and mitigation tools. Short term needs include providing flexible resources to fund technical assistance and to buy time for existing researchers until the additional FTEs outlined in the original request can be hired. Funding request: \$150,000
  - b. Provide additional funding for research into agricultural adaptation strategies, including management and monitoring programs to address invasive species, plant protection systems to address pests and disease, water conservation and supply development strategies, and cost-effective water supply management strategies. Funding request: \$300,000
  - c. Provide funding to support technical assistance to producers on energy efficiency, renewable energy alternatives, and carbon management/markets. Funding request: \$100,000.