

BOARD ISSUES WORK PLAN

Issue #0: Board of Forestry Administrative Work Plan

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BACKGROUND

Historical Context

In early 2005, the Board of Forestry implemented a newly-adopted decision system that called for developing and organizing work around major substantive issues. Over time, eight substantive Board primary issues have resulted in eight work plans. As the system has been implemented, other duties and functions of the Board that are more administrative, governing, or ceremonial in nature, not included in these work plans have been included on Board agendas. These have been listed as either stand-alone items that do not relate to any specific work plan's intermediate Board issue (previously referred to as objectives) or referenced as being in work plans that related closest to the issue, but often not actually a true component of that work plan. Some of these issues – particularly those of governance and reporting – are significant in nature, although they may not rise to the level of being considered primary issues.

Current Issues

In 2009, the Board will begin using a newly-developed Decision Support System (DSS) – a content management system for Board documents and reference materials that will enable Board members and department staff to effectively and efficiently track, monitor, and reference Board work and decisions. The Board's DSS is organized around components of the decision system currently used by the Board for its work, i.e., work plans, primary issues, and intermediate Board issues. By adopting a new work plan to handle administrative issues not addressed in the primary eight work plans, all of the Board's work processes and procedures will now be organized and captured in a common method. This will also enable these administrative functions and associated documentation to be organized and available within the DSS in a similar manner as all other Board information.

PRIMARY BOARD ISSUE

Conducting the administrative, governance, ceremonial, and miscellaneous business of the Board of Forestry that fall outside of the framework of other Board work plans.

INTERMEDIATE BOARD ISSUES

INTERMEDIATE BOARD ISSUE 0: Work Plan Management

Board Products

As part of the new Board's DSS, an Intermediate Board Issue is being created to include the work and decisions associated with the Board approving new work plans, making major revisions to existing work plans, and closing work plans. This Intermediate Board Issue 0 - Work Plan Management will exist in the DSS for each of the nine work plans (the existing eight work plans, plus this new one). When the department presents a staff report introducing a new work plan, making revisions to an existing work plan, or recommending that an existing work plan be closed, the staff report will be listed on the Board meeting agenda as Intermediate Board Issue 0 - Work Plan Management. Any decisions made by the Board regarding the approval of a new work plan, major revision to an existing work plan, or closing a work plan will be associated with Intermediate Board Issue 0 - Work Plan Management in the Decision Support System.

Research and Information Needed

The Board will receive completed staff reports, appropriate attachments, and presentation materials that relate to each item included under the category of work plan management, with a clear description of the issue and the action, if any, requested of the Board.

Stakeholder/Public Involvement

Information from stakeholders and the general public may be collected from a variety of sources including public opinion surveys, public symposia, advisory groups, general public comments, formal and informal communications with stakeholders and the public, etc. In instances where a work plan management item includes its' own specific public involvement process, (i.e., a work plan revision where the addition of a new Intermediate Board Issue to the work plan is a direct result of public input), the results of that process will be provided to the Board as part of the staff report and accompanying material.

Timeframe with Milestones

As work plans need to be approved, revised, or closed.

Resources Required

No additional resources are required.

Monitoring Achievement of this Intermediate Board Issue

Feedback will be provided through information from stakeholders and the general public, and may be collected from a variety of sources including public opinion surveys, public symposia, advisory groups, general public comments, formal and informal communications with stakeholders, the Oregon Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management, and the Board's issue scans.

INTERMEDIATE BOARD ISSUE 1: Administrative Processes

Board Products

This issue includes items that are administrative in nature where the Board is either receiving status updates or being asked to take action, up to and including approval. Examples include:

- draft/final legislative concepts developed by the department, and updates on the legislative process;
- the financial transactions (leave and travel) of the State Forester;
- annual letters to the State Forester from protection associations;
- forest protection districts' and rangeland protection associations' budgets and estimated rates; and,
- the formation of rangeland protection associations.

Research and Information Needed

The Board will receive completed staff reports, appropriate attachments, and presentation materials that relate to each item included under the category of administrative processes, with a clear description of the issue and the action, if any, requested of the Board.

Stakeholder/Public Involvement

Information from stakeholders and the general public may be collected from a variety of sources including public opinion surveys, public symposia, advisory groups, general public comments, formal and informal communications with stakeholders and the public, etc. In instances where an administrative item includes its' own specific public involvement process (i.e., a public hearing on the formation of a new rangeland protection association), the results of that process will be provided to the Board as part of the staff report and accompanying material.

Timeframe with Milestones

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|--|---|
| Legislative Concepts – Review , approval, and status updates | Occurs throughout the year during even-numbered years |
| Agency Director Financial Transactions – Review and Approval | Annually; March |
| Forest Protection Association Letters to the State Forester – Review | Annually; June |
| Forest Protection Districts’ Budgets and Rates – Review and Approval | Annually; June |
| Rangeland Protection Associations’ Budgets and Rates – Review and Approval | Annually; June |
| Formation of Rangeland Protection Associations – Review and Approval | As needed |
| Other administrative processes | As needed |

Resources Required

No additional resources are required.

Monitoring Achievement of this Intermediate Board Issue

Feedback will be provided through information from stakeholders and the general public, and may be collected from a variety of sources including public opinion surveys, public symposia, advisory groups, general public comments, formal and informal communications with stakeholders, the Oregon Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management, and the Board’s issue scans.

INTERMEDIATE BOARD ISSUE 2: Governance

Board Products

This issue relates to items of governance where the Board is either receiving status updates or being asked to take action, up to and including approval. Examples include:

- agency biennial budget development, and updates on budget issues and status

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- all aspects of administrative rulemaking processes (approval to begin, status reports, request for adoption, etc.) for those rulemaking agenda items that are **not** covered in one of the Board’s other substantive work plans;
- adoption of the Attorney General’s Model Rules of Procedure (when amended biennially by the Oregon Legislature);
- appointments to Board of Forestry committees – both statutory and situational/transitional;
- the annual evaluation of the State Forester’s performance;
- regularly-occurring annual reports on items that are **not** covered one of the Board’s other substantive work plans;
- issues related to quality assurance, risk management, and internal and external audits; and,
- the department’s annual reporting on key performance measures.

One governance item not included in this work plan is the Board of Forestry’s own annual self-evaluation using the Board’s Governance Performance Measures. Because of connections to strategic planning efforts, that item is covered in the Board’s recently-revised and adopted work plan on Board Issue #1 - *Board of Forestry Strategic Planning, Implementation, and Monitoring* as part of Intermediate Board Issue 2: Measuring Board progress towards achieving the *Forestry Program for Oregon* goals and objectives using indicators of sustainable forest management and evaluations of Board performance.

Research and Information Needed

The Board will receive completed staff reports, appropriate attachments, and presentation materials that relate to each item included under the category of governance, with a clear description of the issue and the action, if any, requested of the Board.

Stakeholder/Public Involvement

Information from stakeholders and the general public may be collected from a variety of sources including public opinion surveys, public symposia, advisory groups, general public comments, formal and informal communications with stakeholders, etc. In instances where a governance item includes its’ own specific public involvement process (i.e., public hearings or comment opportunities on proposed administrative rules), the results of that process will be provided to the Board as part of the staff report and accompanying material.

Timeframe with Milestones

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|---|---|
| Agency budget development and updates on budget status | Even-numbered years; as needed |
| Administrative Rulemaking on issues not covered in other Board substantive work plans | As needed |
| Adoption of Attorney General Rules of Procedure | Even-numbered years; March (when revised by legislative action) |
| Committee Appointments: -Regional Forest Practices Committees -Committee For Family Forestlands - State Forests Advisory Committee | As needed |

| | |
|--|---|
| - Emergency Fire Cost Committee - ODF Internal Audit Committee - Other Board-appointed committees and work groups | |
| State Forester's Performance Evaluation | Annually; January |
| Regular, Annual/Status Reports on items not covered in substantive work plans, audit reports, and performance measure updating/reporting - Committee for Family Forestlands - Emergency Fire Cost Committee - Annual Audit Report - Annual Status Report on Board Work Plans - Annual Key Performance Measures Report - Annual Forest Health Report - Miscellaneous | Annually - July - As needed - October or November - October or November - October or November - June - As needed |
| Other governance items | As needed |

Resources Required

No additional resources are required.

Monitoring Achievement of this Intermediate Board Issue

Feedback will be provided through information from stakeholders and the general public, and may be collected from a variety of sources including public opinion surveys, public symposia, advisory groups, general public comments, formal and informal communications with stakeholders, the Oregon Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management, and the Board issue scans.

INTERMEDIATE BOARD ISSUE 3: Research Requests and Special Reports

Board Products

This issue includes items where department staff have been requested to research and report back to the Board on items of interest that are not currently included in any of the Board's other substantive work plans, such as recent forest certification presentations/discussion. It also includes reports that are considered special and often current in nature. Examples of these items are reporting on wildfire activity, winter storm damage, and requests to the Legislative Emergency Board. Reports may range from informational to requesting Board action, up to and including approval.

Research and Information Needed

The Board of Forestry will receive completed staff reports, appropriate attachments, and presentation or reporting materials relating to these types of reports. These materials will include a clear description of the issue and the action, if any, requested of the Board.

Stakeholder/Public Involvement

Information from stakeholders and the general public may be collected from a variety of sources including public opinion surveys, public symposia, advisory groups, general public comments, formal and informal communications with stakeholders, etc. In instances where an item includes its' own specific public involvement process (i.e., public meetings during recent winter storm activity, the results of that process will be provided to the Board as part of the staff report and accompanying material.

Timeframe with Milestones

These are items that are reported in response to a request or a situation that is occurring or in progress; thus, they have no special timeframe or milestones.

Resources Required

No additional resources are required.

Monitoring Achievement of this Intermediate Board Issue

Feedback will be provided through information from stakeholders and the general public, and may be collected from a variety of sources including public opinion surveys, public symposia, advisory groups, general public comments, formal and informal communications with stakeholders, the Oregon Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management, and the Board's issue scans.

INTERMEDIATE BOARD ISSUE 4: Ceremonial Events and Recognitions

Board Products

This issue includes ceremonial events and occasions in which the Board honors or awards individuals and accomplishments. Examples include:

- annual recognition of Operator of the Year Award winners;
- the annual Mary Rellergert Forestry Education Award; and,
- Board recognition of departmental employees with 40+ years of service.

Research and Information Needed

The Board will receive completed staff reports, appropriate attachments, and presentation materials, as needed, that relate to these occasions, with a clear description of the issue and the action, if any, requested of the Board.

Stakeholder/Public Involvement

Information from stakeholders and the general public may be collected from a variety of sources including public opinion surveys, public symposia, advisory groups, general public comments, formal and informal communications with stakeholders, etc.

Timeframe with Milestones

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Operator of the Year Awards | Annually; January |
| Mary Rellergert Forestry Education Award | Annually; June |
| ODF Service Awards (40+ years) | As needed |
| Other ceremonial and recognition occasions | As needed |

Resources Required

No additional resources are required.

Monitoring Achievement of this Intermediate Board Issue

Feedback will be provided through information from stakeholders and the general public, and may be collected from a variety of sources including public opinion surveys, public symposia, advisory groups, general public comments, formal and informal communications with stakeholders, the Oregon Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management, and the Board's issue scans.