

Agenda Item No:	4
Title and # of Issue:	<i>Forestry Program for Oregon Implementation - Issue 1</i>
Date of Presentation:	November 7, 2008
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SUMMARY

The purpose of this agenda item is to provide the Board of Forestry with a first report on five of the 19 Oregon Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management. Staff will also demonstrate a web-based reporting format for all indicators.

CONTEXT

In January of 2007, the Board of Forestry endorsed 19 Oregon Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management. The indicators, organized around the seven strategies (goals) of the *Forestry Program for Oregon*, provide a quantitative, adaptive feedback mechanism for the Board's strategic plan and the cumulative actions of public and private forest landowners throughout the state. In October 2007, the Department of Forestry distributed the *2007-2009 Oregon Forest Report*, which was designed to introduce the indicators to the general public in a less technical format than the 108-page report prepared by the Board's Indicators Advisory Committee.

Department of Forestry staff continues to work internally and with a variety of external partners to implement data collection and reporting protocols for all 19 indicators. Reports on four indicators were provided to the Board at its March 2008 meeting:

- B.a. Forest-related revenues supporting state and local government public services
- B.b. Forest-related employment and wages
- C.a. Area of non-federal forestland and development trends
- C.b. Timber harvest trends compared to planned and projected harvest levels and the potential to grow timber

At the November meeting, the Board will receive initial reports on five more indicators:

- A.b. Development and maintenance of sustainable forest management knowledge
- E.b. Extent of area by forest cover type in protected area categories
- E.c. Forest plant and animal species at risk
- F.a. Tree death from insects, diseases, and other damaging agents
- F.b. Invasive species trends on forestlands

Additional indicator subsets will be reported in 2009. Some of the remaining indicators may require additional time and resources before statewide reporting is possible.

The Department is also developing a web-based platform for reporting current information on the Oregon Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management. The website will be designed to allow users to “drill-down” to greater levels of detail as desired for each indicator. The website will be further refined over time as indicator reports are added and updated. User feedback will be helpful in guiding these refinements. The Department’s goal is for the Oregon Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management website to become widely known as the first stop for anyone wanting information about the environmental, economic, and social conditions and trends of Oregon’s forests and forest resources.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Board provide feedback on the adequacy of reporting for the five indicators as well as feedback on the proposed web-based format for summarizing indicator results.

NEXT STEPS

Initial data reports to the Board for the remaining 10 indicators and updates for all indicators will be scheduled periodically as new information becomes available. A statewide Oregon forest assessment report and symposium organized around the indicators is being planned for 2010.

ATTACHMENTS

- (1) Summary for Indicator A.b.: Development and maintenance of sustainable forest management knowledge
- (2) Summary for Indicator E.b.: Extent of area by forest cover type in protected area categories
- (3) Summary for Indicator E.c.: Forest plant and animal species at risk
- (4) Summary for Indicator F.a.: Tree death from insects, diseases, and other damaging agents
- (5) Summary for Indicator F.b.: Invasive species trends on forestlands