

Agenda Item No.:	4
Work Plan Title & #:	Board of Forestry Strategic Planning, Implementation, and Monitoring – Work Plan 1
IBI # & Title:	IBI 3 – Solicit Feedback
Presentation Title:	2009 Board of Forestry Issue Scan
Date of Presentation:	September 9, 2009
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SUMMARY

The Board's 2009 Issue Scan has been completed, including review of comments received and preparation of recommendations by a Board-appointed work group. Staff also has reviewed the comments and has prepared responses to them. This report transmits the work group and staff recommendations for Board consideration.

CONTEXT

The Board's decision system, adopted in late 2004, provides for periodic issue scans to assist in identifying priorities and planning work. Previous issue scans were completed in 2005 and 2007. The Board's issue scan procedures call for Board appointment of a work group to review the comments and make recommendations. The Board appointed the 2009 issue scan work group at its April 2009 meeting.

Procedures also state that the Board will receive the full set of unfiltered issue scan comments. In addition to staff and work group recommendations, this report contains the issue scan comments themselves (Attachment 5), as well as staff analysis and a brief response to each comment (Attachment 4).

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

Attachment 1 to this report provides an overview of the comments received and the recommendations of the work group. In all, 215 individual comments or suggestions were received from approximately 104 submitters, covering a broad range of subjects (Attachments 2, 3 and 4).

As in 2007, a substantial number of comments addressed the topic of pesticide use on forestlands. A significant number of comments in the 2009 issue scan were also received regarding perceived conflicts of interest within the current Board of Forestry configuration and on the importance of maintaining a diverse mix of native trees species in Oregon's forests. These comments were highly localized to Lane County where an interest group has been active in organizing citizen action on these issues.

The issue scan work group met on June 16, 2009 (Attachment 1). The work group concurred with the staff recommendation that the issue scan input did not indicate a need for additional Board work plans at this time. Key themes in the work group's discussion were:

- The need for the Board to demonstrate greater responsiveness to the issue scan, especially with respect to forest pesticides;
- Promoting greater emphasis on multi-resource management and interagency cooperation;
- Improving two-way communication with Oregonians, particularly regarding today's forest practices;
- Focusing more attention on climate change adaptation and mitigation; and
- Revisiting urban and community forestry issues.

The work group also critiqued the current issue scan process and provided recommendations for future improvements.

RECOMMENDATION

The Department recommends that the Board of Forestry use the issue scan information, combined with Oregon Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management data, Department of Forestry key performance measure data, other relevant monitoring information, and the Department of Forestry's 2009-11 budget to develop a Priority Set of Board of Forestry Issues for calendar years 2010 and 2011 as well as 2011 *Forestry Program for Oregon* objectives.

The Department also recommends that an issue scan not be conducted in 2011. Instead, public involvement should be focused on soliciting comments on the 2011 *Forestry Program for Oregon*. Biennial issue scans would resume in the spring of 2013.

NEXT STEPS

Department staff will provide a draft Priority Set of Board of Forestry Issues and draft 2011 *Forestry Program for Oregon* objectives for Board consideration at its November 2009 meeting.

Department staff will inform the individuals and organizations who submitted issues in the 2009 Board issue scan with information on the disposition of those issues.

ATTACHMENTS

- (1) 2009 Oregon Board of Forestry Issue Scan Overview
- (2) 2009 Board of Forestry Issue Scan – Comment Subject Areas/ Issue Scan Work Group Members
- (3) 2009 Issue Scan Issues by Category
- (4) 2009 Issue Scan Preliminary Analysis Matrix
- (5) Full Text of Comments Received Through the 2009 Board of Forestry Issue Scan