
COMMITTEE FOR FAMILY FORESTLANDS (CFF) ANNUAL REPORT 2016



Annual Report presented to the Board of Forestry June 8, 2016.

By Edward P. Weber, Chair, on behalf of the Committee for Family Forestlands.

The Committee for Family Forestlands (CFF) is pleased to provide a report of its activities over the past year (July 2015 – June 2016). This report outlines accomplishments of CFF and discusses progress made on a forward looking agenda that addresses key issues for Oregon’s family forestlands.

The CFF is a standing committee established by the Oregon Board of Forestry to assist the State Forester and the Board of Forestry on issues relevant to some 70,000 family forestland owners in the state, including the formulation of policy and the evaluation of the effects that changes in forest policy have or will have on those lands. The Committee provides recommendations to the Board and the Department of Forestry (ODF) regarding strategies and actions to improve services and provides an avenue to raise public awareness of the role that family forestlands play in maintaining an economically, socially and ecologically healthy forest environment. The CFF also gives a voice to small forest landowners. In giving advice to the Board and State Forester, we are mindful of, and strive to be consistent with, the objectives of the Forestry Program for Oregon and the Oregon Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management.

The 2015-2016 membership of the Committee for Family Forestlands included:

Edward P. Weber, (Citizen at Large) Chair, Voting Member
Lena Tucker, (Deputy Chief ODF Private Forests Division) Secretary (non-voting)
Bonnie Shumaker, (Northwest Family Forestland Owner) Voting Member
Evan Barnes, (Southern OR Forestland Owner) Vice Chair, Voting Member
Scott Gray, (Forest Industry Representative) Voting Member
Evan Smith, (Environmental Community Representative) Voting Member
Roje Gootee, (Eastern OR Family Forestland Owner) Voting Member
John Peel, (Landowner At Large), Voting Member
Janean Creighton, (OSU College of Forestry) Ex-Officio
Scott Hayes, (OTFS, Small Forestland Owner Group Representative) Ex-Officio
Meg Mitchell, (Public Land Management/USFS) Ex-Officio
Mike Cloughesy, (OFRI Representative) Ex-Officio
Rex Storm, (AOL, Forestry Interest or Consulting Group Representative) Ex-Officio
Peter Daugherty, (Chief Private Forest Division, State Forester Representative) Ex-Officio

Acknowledgments

We would like to acknowledge the support we have received from the Oregon Department of Forestry and its Private Forests staff. We appreciate the access to and support we have had from Doug Decker, State Forester, and members of the Board of Forestry.

We would like to specifically acknowledge the contributions of our partnering organizations. Much of the CFF's outreach work would not be successful without them: the Oregon Small Woodlands Association (OSWA), the Oregon Forest Resources Institute (OFRI), the Oregon Tree Farm System, the American Forest Foundation (AFF), and the OSU College of Forestry and Extension. We are also grateful to those ODF Private Forests and Protection from Fire program employees who keep us informed on issues and/or upcoming rules affecting Oregon's Family Forestlands. In particular, we would like to recognize:

- The J.E.Schroeder Seed Orchard, Blue Mountain Seedling Cooperative, Private Lands Forest Network, OSWA Cooperative Seedling Programs, Columbia County Small Woodlands Association, Washington County Small Woodlands Association, and the Forest Seedling Network for helping us understand and analyze the critical issues of seeds and seedlings.
- Dr. Emily Jane Davis, OSU Assistant Professor in Forest Ecosystems and Society and Extension Specialist, and Curt Qual, Ritter Project Coordinator, for their effort and enthusiasm for the Ritter Land Management Team (A Community Collaborative), which began as a grant proposal by the CFF committee.
- Jennifer Weikel, ODF Wildlife Specialist, for her numerous visits with CFF members on the Bald Eagle rule and Fisher CCCA developments.
- Scott Hayes of OTFS, for his reporting on the new AFF study titled [Western Water Threatened By Wildfire Report](#).
- For each of the guests from a variety of private, industrial, and government agency backgrounds who took interest and time out of their schedules to share their perspectives on policies impacting small woodland owners.

A *special* thank you, once again, to Gary Springer, Board of Forestry Member, for attending many of our meetings and sharing the Board's perspective. That perspective is important to us as a BOF Advisory Committee and assists us in formatting our responses and recommendations in the best way possible for those we represent and serve. The Committee is gratified that its work is important to the Board, the Department and the forestland owners we represent.

Introduction

This Annual Report reports the activities of the Family Forestlands Committee during the 2015-16 year. The report starts with the 2015-2016 Work Plan Outline and a list of letters to the Board of Forestry or other agencies. Summary text is then provided that describes CFF accomplishments. Finally, prioritized topics are identified for the 2016-2017 year.

For additional information, please visit the CFF [website](#) hosted on the ODF site under the Board of Forestry. It contains greater detail regarding committee structure, agendas, meeting minutes, and all formal recommendations, letters, reports and memos authored by the Committee for Family Forestlands.

2015-2016 Work Plan Outline

The Committee's Work Plan for 2015-2016 prioritized and directed CFF efforts for the past year. Some issues were added by direction of the Board of Forestry or in response to the agency's need. These issues are prioritized into three tiers of importance with regard to their potential impact on family forestlands and family forestland owners.

Tier 1 Issues

- 1.1 Forest Taxes and Forest Business
- 1.2 Water Quality
- 1.3 Ritter Land Management Team Collaborative Project
- 1.4 Forest Health
- 1.5 Fire
 - Drought
 - Readiness
 - Industrial Fire Rules
 - Funding
 - Smoke Management
 - Prevention
- 1.6 Climate Change
- 1.7 Forest Chemical Use
- 1.8 Seedling Availability
- 1.9 BOF Directed Issues
 - Riparian Rule Analysis
 - Bald Eagle Rules
 - Wildlife Food Plots
 - Monitoring Strategy
 - Landowner Viability

Tier 2 Issues

- 2.1 Educational needs for family forestland owners/engagement
- 2.2 E-Notification
- 2.3 OWEB Focused Investment Program/NRCS RCCP
- 2.4 Inter-generational issues
- 2.5 Wildland – Urban Interface (WUI)/All Lands Approach

Tier 3 Issues

- 3.1 Ecosystem Services
- 3.2 Entry/Barriers to Forest Ownership
- 3.3 Conservation Easements

Standing Topics (Ongoing current issue reporting)

- 4.1 Legislative Updates
- 4.2 Board of Forestry standing invitations to members
- 4.3 Agency Budgets
- 4.4 Fire Season Updates
- 4.5 Compliance Audit Reporting/Support

Committee Business

Letters

Letters to the Board of Forestry:

RE: [Riparian Rules](#) (November 3, 2015)

RE: [Oregon Forest Tax Policy Ideas](#) (April 2016)

Letter to Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB):

RE: [Partnership for Coho Habitat Restoration on Family Forests and Farms](#) (January 11, 2016)

Letters of Appointment and Recognition

- Susan Watkins
- Sarah Leiman
- Rick Barnes
- Bonnie Shumaker
- Gary Springer

Accomplishments during the Past Year

Tier 1 Issues

1.0 Forest Taxes and Forest Business

During 2013, 2014 and early 2015, the Committee for Family Forestlands focused on forestry taxes in Oregon. Tax specialists and other experts presented at CFF meetings in 2013. Much of 2014 was spent planning and preparing for a Forest Tax Symposium, which CFF hosted in January 2015 at Oregon State University in Corvallis. The Forest Tax Symposium featured Round Table Discussions with family forestland owners in which participants shared their views on several topics including potential policy actions. The symposium was followed by a survey in May 2015 of family forestland owners' educational needs. The results of the symposium and survey were turned into a report written by CFF's Mike Cloughesy of OSU, along with Professor Tamara Cushing of OSU, OFRI's Alana Koshollek, and the Aldo Leopold Foundation. CFF summarized the key lessons from the report and sent these to the Board of Forestry in the form of an informational letter in April 2016. The letter emphasized five main areas to help the Board better understand the perspectives and policy recommendations of family forestland owners on the issues of tax education, property taxes, forest product harvest taxes, income taxes, and the estate tax.

1.1 Water Quality

CFF examined water quality and the importance of water resources to healthy family forestlands in two main ways during this past year. Given that the role of timber is vital to watershed quality and Coho rearing habitat, we invited Robert Walton, Senior Policy Advisor, NOAA Fisheries, and primary author of the proposed [Recovery Plan for Oregon Coast Coho](#), to address the Committee in December 2015. We engaged him in a discussion on the federal ESA listing/delisting process for Coho, the potential ramifications for family forestland owners, and possible non-regulatory policy tools that would adequately address NOAA Fisheries Coho recovery goals. Habitat degradation—the direct nexus between the ESA and forestlands—is one of five principle factors considered when making the listing/delisting decision for a species. And the November 2015 Riparian Rule decision by BOF, according to Walton, signaled progress in the direction of healthier forest habitat given the increase in stream buffer zones. It is clear that more information is needed as concerns appropriate rearing habitat in coastal Oregon rivers and, once such habitat is identified and before NOAA Fisheries can take action to delist Coho, any actions taken on behalf of Coho recovery need to demonstrate increases in rearing habitat, along with a reasonable assurance that such increases will remain in place for the long term.

Suggestions were made for NOAA Fisheries to consider incentive-based management as a way to achieve ESA recovery goals quicker and easier. CFF members reminded NOAA Fisheries that family forestland owners have historically done a lot of voluntary work on behalf of fish recovery, but without credit or compensation. A specific suggestion from Peter Daugherty of ODF was to employ a CREP type program for forestry. It was also suggested that we need a more comprehensive approach to coordinating incentives and funding on behalf of fishery habitat by the full range of agencies working in this general area--Pacific Coast Salmon Restoration Fund, OWEB's Lottery money, NOAA Restoration Center, Farm Services Administration, NRCS.

The second area of focus occurred at CFF's March 2016 meeting, when Scott Hayes provided a summary of the American Forest Foundation's (AFF) [Western Water Threatened By Wildfire Report](#). The report highlights the inextricable connections between forest fire risks, at risk wildlife species, and threats to drinking water quality across 11 western states. It found that there are 145 million acres of high risk fire areas on *private family owned lands* with the potential to affect the drinking water of 45 million Americans. In addition, the report explored family forestland owners activities related to reducing fire risk and the barriers to effective fires risk management. While 62% of 20,000 landowners cited fire as their highest concern, only 25% planned to do anything about such risks, while fully 77% pointed to the cost of fire reduction treatments as the major barrier to action. AFF plans to use this information to categorize and prioritize high risk family forestlands/water sources, while also conducting outreach to identify and engage willing partners will to help reduce such fire risks. Mike Cloughesy added that the [Partnership for Forestry Education](#) is starting a new project partnering with Tree Farm and ODF that will facilitate outreach to small family forestland owners in Oregon in the hope of providing more education and funding related to fire risks.

1.2 Ritter Land Management Team Collaborative Project

CFF's Ritter Land Management Team (RLMT) Collaborative Project made significant progress during 2015 and into 2016 in pursuit of the overall mission: "*A community of landowners working together to find innovative solutions for enhancing the health and productivity of private lands in the Middle Fork John Day River watershed in the vicinity known as Ritter, Oregon.*" The collaborative involves a broad mix of active conservationists, livestock owners/ranchers, and timberland owners interested in commercial harvesting and forest health. Instead of the initial expected enrollment of 10,000 acres involving 10 – 12 private landowners, the project now has 80 landowners and 56,000 acres participating in the collaborative, with a future goal of enrolling 105,000 acres in the project.

Data collection for management purposes continued during the year using the "Discovery Tool," developed by Mike Cloughesy of OSU. The Discovery Tool recorded natural resource data across the landscape, along with landowner goals, objectives and project priorities. This data facilitated the RLMT's creation and adoption of a Strategic Action Plan in November 2016, with the plan incorporating parameters central to OWEB's Focused Investment Plan (FIP) process. The idea is to position the Ritter collaborative to be competitive for future FIP opportunities. The RLMT also developed an Operations manual to guide collaborative governance decision-making and is actively pursuing additional grant opportunities, including Title II funds from Grant County, and the possibility of engaging the USFS as partner under the new Good Neighbor program. In addition, Ritter landowners have been working with NRCS and enrolling in Cost-Share programs for fuel reduction, juniper abatement and aspen restoration work. In December 2015, Emily Jane Davis of OSU Extension shared with CFF their report titled [Ritter Land Management Team Report: Project History, Organizational Model and Next Steps](#).

Along with seeking additional funding and developing partnerships with neighboring organizations such as USFS, next steps include the on-the-ground implementation of plans, ensuring that wildfire risk reduction activities are deliberately prioritized, and a social science research report that documents lessons learned, with particular emphasis on the factors important to the collaborative's success to date. For CFF, in particular, we will continue to transition management of the Ritter project over to OSU Extension (EJ Davis) and the RLMT's landowner-based project leadership team. CFF is also exploring the possibility of partnering with other organizations in the future on collaborative forest projects of value to family forestland owners.

1.3 Forest Health

After an initial information meeting on the Federal Forest Health Initiative with Chad Davis, ODF Forest Resources and Planning Senior Policy Analyst, our group noted the importance of making and monitoring the business case for the 'experiment' of using State funds to help accelerate the pace and scale of restoration on Federal Forests. We co-funded a [Restoration Economic Analysis](#), as requested by the legislature. The analysis shows a business case with a 5.7 to 1 return to State and local economies resulting from restoration. Every dollar invested saves \$1.45 in fire restoration prevention and suppression. The focus of the implementation partnership is to innovate business practices and reduce the unit cost per acre. With both private and public sector investment the volume sold has increased and the portion of commercial acres treated has gone up in the past two years. ODF will continue monitoring in order to continue understanding the benefits and effectiveness of the Forest Health program including an evaluation of potential jobs from restoration treatments and synergistic implementation with Good Neighbor Authority (Congressional authority to the Forest Service and BLM to enter into agreements that pass funding to the States to do work on Federal lands). Working in partnership with Oregon's collaborative groups and with the field offices across agencies to encourage, enable and support their innovations and ideas is critical to success. In Oregon, our strength and credibility lies in a 'trifecta' of transparent implementation and monitoring of the Federal Forest Health Initiative (state funded) combined with Federal Agency funds and authorities (such as Good Neighbor) along with Oregon's strong network of collaboratives in our communities.

1.4 Fire

- Drought
- Readiness
- Industrial Fire Rules
- Funding

CFF received information on forest restoration efforts after a wildfire. The **After the Fire** effort is implemented by Stewardship Foresters, Private Forests Division staff and various state and federal agencies including Farm Service Agency (FSA), Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB).

CFF explored the use of prescribed fire on private forest land. This is an effective tool, however liability issues, lack of resources and qualified contractors to conduct burning were identified as barriers to landowners' use of this tool. In the discussion, members offered a few topics to continue discussion on: Reimbursement from any damage from escaped Federal fires; Hold Harmless Agreements for those landowner that use prescribed fire; create a specialized insurance around the EFC fund to pay for liability in the event of an escaped prescribed burn.

Rex Storm agreed to bring this issue to the Fire Program Review Policy Workgroup.

1.5 Climate Change

Andrew Yost, ODF Forest Ecologist was invited to brief the Committee on climate change policy development, wildfire and the work of the [Climate Change Research Institute](#) at OSU. The BOF approved our involvement in the Forest Climate Change Working Group. We developed the forestry section on the Roadmap to 2020 which addressed how Oregon is going to meet its greenhouse gas reduction emission goals. ODF also contributed to the forestry section of the [Climate Assessment Report](#). Two years later consensus recommendations were presented and approved by the BOF. Of the various risks identified in the Adaptation Framework we are focusing on the geography of tree and plant species and increases in forest wildfires.

Yost reported that researchers with the Climate Change Research Institute and PNW Research Station published a report showing that the mean elevation of seedlings for 32 out of 46 species of trees elevation was 26.5 meters higher and the mean latitude was 11.2 kilometers north for 34 species of trees. Seedlings are also following a temperature gradient to colder areas than mature trees. Effectively, seedlings are the early propagators moving into new territories; still establishing within an expected range but also extending the range.

Yost and other researchers at OSU and USFS have also developed and published a model entitled, The Normal Fire Environment: Modeling Large Wildfire Suitability using Past, Present and Future Climate Normals to highlight areas vulnerable to large wildfire given potential changes in climate. As temperatures go up, it affects sea levels, water vapor and temperature, ocean acidity, snow cover, melting permafrost, melting sea ice and glaciers. The changing composition of earth's atmosphere and human activity indicates a transfer of large amounts of carbon from geologic sources to the atmosphere and increases fire across the landscape. The extent over which Oregon and Washington forest mass will shrink is dependent on the temperature that forests will grow in. Tree species will change their distributions and areas that reach a certain threshold of temperature won't grow forests anymore. One policy question is whether or not we practice any form of assisted migration of tree species.

1.6 Seedling Availability for Family Forestland Owners (FFL)

The CFF has identified four key areas for discussion under this topic:

- Identify gaps in forest tree seed inventory and diversity in seed zones where FFL live
- Forecasting seedling needs
- Sowing of seeds by nurseries – notify the growers what the forecasted need is
- Education to FFL about timing of harvest and planning for reforestation

A lack of seedling supply and potentially seed supplies has become a recurring issues for FFL and is exacerbated by three devastating fire seasons in a row, where seedling supply is not able to keep up with the demand. Coupled with the loss of key nursery capacity, both public and private, in Oregon, means there are fewer seedlings to meet increased demand. Many nurseries will only grow a minimum lot size (IFA has a minimum lot size of 20,000). This precludes many FFL who only need a couple thousand trees, from finding a nursery to grow a small lot size. Those nurseries that will grow speculative stock for FFL find it hard to estimate and plan ahead for the variety of seed zone types that are needed, as FFL harvests are often driven by the market or personal financial needs. There is no formal forecasting tool for the growers to use. CFF has heard presentations from different groups showcasing efforts to coordinate seedling supply and demand for FFL.

- **Private Lands Forest Network (PLFN):** Focused in NE Oregon.
- **OSWA Cooperative Seedling Programs:** Designed to support local chapters in efforts to grow and provide seedlings to local small woodland owners in Washington and Columbia counties.
- **Forest Seedling Network (FSN):** The goal of FSN is to connect the forest seedling growers with the landowners and help the landowners find the appropriate seed zones for their planting site. We provide a seedling search function, service directory, and platform to post seedling lots for sale or sale events, and resource section.

1.7 BOF Directed Issues

- **Riparian Rule Analysis**

The Riparian Rulemaking effort is in direct response to federal Clean Water Act water temperature rules administered by the US EPA and is considered by many to be one of the most significant changes to Oregon's FPA in a long time. CFF invited Peter Daugherty of ODF's Private Forests Division to address this issue in September 2015, with further discussion and consideration given to this issue in the October and November meetings. After examining the recommended prescription packages developed by the BOF Sub-Committee on Riparian Rule Analysis, CFF wrote a letter of comment to the Board outlining CFF recommendations on the matter. CFF Chair Weber also provided public testimony at BOF's November 2015 public meeting on the Riparian Rule. The Committee stands ready to provide any necessary additional advice to BOF as the rulemaking proceeds.

- **Bald Eagle Rules**

Jennifer Weikel, ODF Wildlife Specialist, introduced a November 2015 draft of the Bald Eagle Technical Report for review and feedback. The Bald Eagle was de-listed federally in 2007, which means that it is no longer appropriate to have Bald Eagle rules under the T&E Section of the Oregon FPA. Weikel visited CFF again in April 2016 as part of the Committee's deliberation on how CFF wishes to approach this issue with respect to policy advice for the BOF. No consensus was reached on this item in April 2016, therefore CFF will revisit it again during the May 2016 meeting.

- **Wildlife Food Plots**

Lena Tucker of ODF informed CFF in September 2015 about HB 3013, the 'Wildlife Food Plots' law. The law, which became effective on January 1, 2016, states that "[i]t is the policy of the State of Oregon that establishment of a food plot is a forest practice for providing for the overall maintenance of forestland resources and supersedes any contrary reforestation requirement for the wildlife food plot." The new law will require ODF's Private Forest division to define what an Oregon Wildlife Food Plot looks like, including the kinds of wildlife affected and the vegetation capable of *substantially contributing* to wildlife conditions in a food plot. ODF staff plan to provide more information to CFF during the 2016-17 year and ask for their assistance as the rulemaking proceeds.

- **Landowner Viability**

Kevin Birch, Director of Forest Resource Planning, presented the concept of Landowner Viability along with CFF member Jim James and Jim Cathcart (all members of the Landowner Viability Workgroup). Forest Planning is preparing three deliverables at the request of BOF: 1. *a process* to identify what products and revenue sources could work over time; 2. determining how we can *influence* the markets and then 3. provide a *recommendation* for policy changes. Kevin reported on four products and market areas that benefit from collaboration or regional branding.

One area of exploration are the barriers preventing the formation of cooperatives. It was noted that most of the cooperatives they looked at had start up help from government or foundations. The second area tiers from the Small Diameter Wood Study to identify market opportunities for small diameter logs, chips, shavings, posts and poles. As the Federal Small Diameter timber markets develop, it may become increasing problematic again for non-industrial forestland owners to attract contractors. Although market opportunities are increasing, there may be competition for operators.

The third area of exploration is Cross-Laminated Timber (CLT). The vast majority of our timber goes into residential construction. There is an opportunity for the timber industry to supply a non-residential construction grade product as a sustainable alternative to concrete and steel. In Europe it has gained popularity due to its aesthetic qualities and carbon storage attributes. Buildings also go up faster and lower costs. ODF has partnered with OSU and OSU under a USDA Grant to further look

at utility, operational capability and market viability of using Small diameter wood for Cross-laminated timber.

The fourth area of study are Finished Product Export Markets. Adding additional markets internationally helps the timber sector endure market swings. We are currently pursuing Green Certification since this is key to accessing international markets. A third party, PSF Corporation is auditing FPA and have verified that we are meeting the international standard. We have been issued that certificate and now working on the issues of 'chain of custody' in order to be Certified Responsible, and craft a regional brand.

Tier 2 Issues

2.1 Educational needs for family forestland owners/engagement

In December 2015, Professor Tamara Cushing, OSU Starker Chair, shared successful lessons in educational outreach efforts to private landowners. She referenced CFF's work on forestland taxes and noted that even the most educated landowners were missing critical pieces of information as regards taxation and were struggling to interpret complex information related to effective forestland management. Extensive outreach efforts such as those by OSWA, Tree Farm, and the Aldo Leopold Foundation, as well as the use of Continuing Education Credits can be critical to overcoming these challenges.

Professor Cushing also reported on her new initiative called Ties to the Land, a program designed to teach family forestland and other private landowners about the benefits and need for succession planning on working landscapes. Ties to the Land currently has some funding through OSU, but will need more to keep it going.

2.2 OWEB Focused Investment Program (FIP)/NRCS Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCCP)

The Private Forests Division continues to make progress on the Family Forestlands Strategic Initiative. CFF, OSWA and Oregon Tree Farm partnered with ODF in applying for a capacity building FIP grant for coastal Coho habitat on family farms and forests. Unfortunately this grant proposal was not successful. CFF will continue to support opportunities to partner with other organizations in support of funding opportunities for FFL.

2.3 Inter-generational issues

Sherri Noxel with the OSU Austin Family Business Program was invited to address the members on forestland ownership barriers and succession planning. The program curriculum is designed to provide tools for landowner planning and it focuses on the transition of the management for day-to-day operations to successive generations and a prerequisite that the participants will have a retirement date in their minds. By zeroing in on the urgency of nearing retirement, landowners are more motivated to look at who will continue their stewardship and how to transition those responsibilities.

Tier 3 Issues

3.1 Ecosystem Services

At least two experts, including a member of Oregon's Environmental Quality Council, will make presentations on ecosystem services at CFF's May 23, 2016 meeting. CFF plans to continue exploring this topic next year in order to provide information and policy advice to the Board.

CFF Membership Items

- Ed Weber, OSU School of Public Policy, took over as Chair of CFF in July 2015.
- Evan Barnes, Southern Oregon Area representative, was elected as Vice Chair of CFF in January 2016.
- Bonnie Shumaker joined CFF as the Northwest Oregon Area representative in December 2015. She replaced Sara Leiman.

- Meg Mitchell, USFS Regional Forester liaison with ODF, joined CFF in March 2016 as the Public Land Manager ex-officio member. She replaced Cindy Glick, USFS.
- The term for Roje Gootee, Eastern Oregon Area representative, expires at the end of June 2016. An active search for her replacement started in March 2016. On another note, Roje was elected to the Board of the American Forest Foundation in December 2015.

2016-2017 Work Plan Outline

The Committee's Work Plan for 2016-2017 prioritizes and directs CFF efforts for the coming year.

Tier 1 Issues

- 1.1 Water Quality
- 1.2 Ecosystem Services
- 1.3 Ritter Land Management Team Collaborative Project
- 1.4 Forest Health
- 1.5 Fire
 - Landowner Readiness and Capacity
 - Prevention and Risk Reduction
 - Prescribed Fire Liability
- 1.6 Forest Chemical Use
- 1.7 Seed/Seedling Availability
- 1.8 BOF Directed Issues
 - Riparian Rules
 - Bald Eagle Rules
 - Wildlife Food Plots
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 - Landowner Viability

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- 2.6 Wildland – Urban Interface (WUI)/All Lands Approach
 - Good Neighbor Authority
 - ODF Federal Forest Restoration Program
- 2.7 Climate Change

Tier 3 Issues

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- 3.2 Conservation Easements
- 3.3 Land Use

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