



**OREGON ROUNDTABLE ON SUSTAINABLE FORESTS
CHARTER**

ENDORSED BY THE OREGON BOARD OF FORESTRY

APRIL 22, 2010

REQUESTOR	SPONSOR	STAFF SUPPORT LEAD	START DATE	END DATE
Oregon State Forester	Oregon Board of Forestry	David Morman, Forest Resources Planning Program Director, Oregon Department of Forestry	May 1, 2010	December 31, 2012 (unless extended)

ORGANIZATION AND PURPOSE

The Oregon Roundtable on Sustainable Forests is a forum of diverse stakeholders who care deeply about the future of Oregon's forests.

The Roundtable's purpose is to use collaborative efforts to advance sustainable forests across all forest ownerships in Oregon.

The Roundtable will advance understanding, assessment and reporting of forest sustainability, and encourage forest management that integrates environmental, economic and social considerations within the framework provided by the *Forestry Program for Oregon*, and in consideration of the values and policies of the Roundtable's contributors.

A multi-party Declaration of Cooperation may be developed that provides executive-level statements of the support and commitment of organizations participating in the Roundtable.

OBJECTIVES

Receive briefings on the empirical data used to evaluate Oregon Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management conditions and trends and make collective findings on the reasonableness of those evaluations available to the Board of Forestry and interested parties.

Advance greater use of the *Forestry Program for Oregon*.

Expand the public dialogue around sustainable forests.

Provide a forum where organizations and individuals addressing sustainable forests can work together.

Provide a forum where technical and scientific knowledge can be shared.

Link with and learn from the efforts of business, governmental and non-profit sustainability initiatives.

Seek a better understanding of the contributions that each of Oregon's forest estates makes to sustainability of Oregon's forests.

Promote state and federal government coordination in discussing, implementing, and measuring sustainable forest management.

SCOPE OF ROUNDTABLE TOPICS

In Scope (Will be Included)	Out of Scope (Will not be Included)
Discussing current and future management of all Oregon public and private forests	Decision-making regarding federal, state, or local government statutes, administrative rules, plans, policies, or programs
Encouraging constructive dialogue	Commitment of public funds
Providing forums for information-sharing, networking, and cooperative initiatives	
Promoting thoughtful input into decision-making regarding federal, state, or local government statutes, administrative rules, plans, policies, or programs	
Evaluating indicators of sustainability	

KEY STAKEHOLDERS
BUSINESS
Forest Sector Businesses
Private Forest Landowners
Labor
GOVERNMENT
Federal Land Management Agencies
Federal Regulatory Agencies
Federally-Recognized Oregon Tribes
Local Governments
Oregon Board of Forestry and Other State Agencies, Boards, and Commissions
Oregon Department of Forestry and Other State Agencies
SOCIETY
Conservation and Environmental Organizations
Oregon State University College of Forestry and Other Academia
Other Oregon Citizens
Sustainability Organizations

Oregon Roundtable on Sustainable Forests Charter Appendices

1. BACKGROUND

The Oregon Board of Forestry (the Board) wants to foster a new forum for Oregonians to discuss the importance of all the state's public and private forests to their economic, environmental, and social well-being. Such discussions will strive to clarify what we know about forest systems, what we value, and how public policy can implement a vision for sustainable forest management that is understood by Oregonians. Oregon has an opportunity to create a long-term evolving dialogue that can lead to politically sustainable outcomes and citizen engagement which, in turn, can transform sustainable forest management in Oregon and perhaps elsewhere. Roundtable participants must come together willing to listen, learn, and look for common ground and find mutually beneficial solutions.

Consistent with international governmental conversations and state statute (ORS 184.421) the Board has defined sustainable forest management to mean that forest resources across the landscape are used, developed, and protected at a rate and in a manner that enables people to meet their current environmental, economic, and social needs, and also provides that future generations can meet their own needs. On a statewide basis, the Board believes sustainable forest management will provide:

- Healthy and diverse forest ecosystems that produce abundant timber and other forest products;
- Habitat to support healthy populations of native plants and animals;
- Productive soil, clean water, clean air, open space, and recreational opportunities; and
- Healthy communities that contribute to a healthy state economy.

The *Forestry Program for Oregon* goals and objectives and the Oregon Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management already provide a common statewide framework by which to organize topics and discussions, to assess forest conditions, and to evaluate progress towards sustainable forest management.¹

2. COMMUNICATION PLAN

Deliverable/Description	Target Audience(s)	Delivery Method	Delivery Frequency	Who Responsible?	Purpose
Roundtable Website	All Oregonians and interested observers outside of Oregon	Internet	Ongoing	Oregon Department of Forestry	Reference information, documentation, communication, networking, outreach
Roundtable Leadership Meetings	Leadership and interested observers	In-person or electronic forums	At least quarterly	Roundtable Leadership	Roundtable leadership strategic direction and process management
General Roundtable Meetings	Any interested Oregonians	In-person or electronic forums	At least twice a year	Roundtable Leadership	Information exchange, networking, work planning, subgroup assignments, reporting
Roundtable Subgroup Meetings	Subgroup members and interested observers	In-person or electronic forums	As needed to meet assignment deadline	Subgroups appointed by Leadership	Information gathering, discussion, and consensus recommendations to the Roundtable Leadership and the general Roundtable population
Meeting Summaries	All Roundtable participants and interested observers	Website/ E-mail	Within two weeks of all Roundtable meetings	Initially -- Oregon Department of Forestry	Documentation and information exchange

¹ Also see *Concepts and Principles for Developing an Oregon Roundtable on Sustainable Forests* prepared by the Oregon Department of Forestry Forest Resources Planning Program and endorsed by the Oregon Board of Forestry on January 6, 2010. http://www.oregon.gov/ODF/indicators/docs/Roundtable_Concept_Proposal.pdf
Endorsed Oregon Roundtable on Sustainable Forests Charter.doc

3. SHORT-TERM WORK PLAN

Establish Oregon Roundtable on Sustainable Forests organization, governance, and decision-making guidelines consistent with the Charter approved by the Board of Forestry.

Establish a process to evaluate Oregon Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management data and develop Roundtable reports to the Board of Forestry based on these evaluations and consistent with the Board of Forestry's intent statement on use of the indicators.

Establish methods for ongoing communications and outreach to Roundtable participants to promote enhanced, collaborative discourse about sustainable forestry concepts, evaluations, plans, and actions, consistent with the approved Charter.

4. ROUNDTABLE LEADERSHIP

The Oregon Roundtable on Sustainable Forests will be led by a group of individuals who represent a diversity of interests and who are willing to devote additional time to guide the Roundtable's work. Initially, this leadership group will be self-selected, that is, it will consist of anyone who is interested in and who is willing to devote the time necessary for the effective functioning of the Roundtable. To ensure diversity of key stakeholders, the Department of Forestry may recruit members to the leadership group. Ideally, the leadership group will consist of not less than six nor more than 12. Changes to this model may be addressed at the first meeting of the full Roundtable.

Duties of the Roundtable Leadership:

- Serve as the steering committee for the Oregon Roundtable
- Plan Roundtable meetings and other communication
- Participate in approximately four Leadership meetings/conference calls per year,
- Draft and periodically review and update an Oregon Roundtable Work Plan, and
- Review and comment on other pertinent Oregon Roundtable documents.

Impartial facilitation -- In order to provide a safe setting in which a diversity of views, opinions and perspectives about sustainable forest management can be expressed, it is desirable that the Oregon Roundtable on Sustainable Forests be facilitated by an independent, impartial facilitator who is skillful in managing discussions where multiple, and sometimes strongly held, viewpoints are present.

Working guidelines will provide for safe and productive collaborative forums. Working guidelines will be developed and mutually agreed to by the participants at the initial meetings of any workgroup or venue. Working guidelines may include basic standards of conduct for the participants as well as agreements for how to deal with issues such as the decision-making process, communication with the press, etc.