Pursuant to notice made by press release to newspapers of general and local circulation throughout the state and distributed to persons on the mailing list of the committee and the members of the committee, a regular meeting of the Forest Trust Land Advisory Committee (FTLAC) was held at the Department of Forestry in Salem, Oregon.

**Present Committee Members:** Tim Josi, Tillamook County Commissioner, Chair; Jim Bernard, Clackamas County Commissioner, Co-Chair; Annabelle Jaramillo, Benton County Commissioner; Faye Stewart, Lane County Commissioner; Scott Lee, Clatsop County Commissioner; Bill Bartlein, Tillamook County Commissioner; Anthony Hyde, Columbia County Commissioner (via conference call)

**Present Department Staff:** Paul Bell, Deputy State Forester; Mike Bordelon, State Forests Division Chief; Mike Cafferata, Forest Grove District Forester; Mary Schmelz, Office Manager, Public Affairs; Dan Goody, Tillamook District Forester; Ty Williams, Acting Assistant District Forester, Astoria District; Don Everingham, NW Oregon Area Assistant Director; Ole Buch, Western Lane Unit District Forester; Russ Lane, Assistant District Forester, North Cascade District; Tony Andersen, Public Information Officer, Public Affairs; Josh Barnard, Operation and Policy Analyst, State Forests Division; Dan Postrel, Public Affairs Director

**Present Others:** Gil Riddell, County of Forest Trust Lands; Bob Van Dyk, North Coast State Forests Coalition and Wild Salmon Center; Christopher Smith, North Coast State Forests Coalition; Chris Jarmer, Oregon Forest Industries Council; Simon Hare, Josephine County Commissioner; John Lindsey, Linn County Commissioner; Jim McCauley, Deputy Government Affairs Manager, Washington County; Mary Jo Cartasegna, Clackamas County Commission staff; Scott Somers, Clatsop County Manager

**May 31, 2013 Minutes**
Motion to approve minutes: Annabelle Jaramillo. Second: Jim Bernard. All in favor. **Minutes approved.**

**Public Comments:** There was no public comment.

**Board of Forestry Meeting, November 2013**

Mike Bordelon

Research and Monitoring Report

At the 2013 Board of Forestry meeting the State Forests Division will provide status about the productive work the division is involved in, as well as remind the board about funding challenges that have resulted from reductions in investments in Oregon’s state forests.

Mr. Bordelon provided the committee with the *State Forests Monitoring Program Board of Forestry, November 14, 2013* document which highlights past funding, budgeting, strategic planning, investments and the status of the agency’s state forests monitoring program. Policy guidance developed in 1995 directed that 5% of the program’s budget be used for research and monitoring. Since 2009, funding for research and monitoring efforts has been reduced from $1.5 mil to about $200,000 annually.

Current research and monitoring investments are primarily in:
- Cooperative research at OSU
- Projects such as the Trask watershed study (Trask was funded $300,000 in General Funds in 2013)
At the November 2013 board meeting, the division will speak about how investments in research and monitoring have been limited given available funding, and that, moving forward in the development of a new FMP, investment in research and monitoring should be given higher importance.

Performance Measures
Mike Cafferata
Mike Cafferata summarized several points relating to the upcoming board discussion on Performance Measures:

- State Forests are slowly developing stand structures to create a more diversified mixture that supports more diversified species
- Management has not been financially sustainable and is providing less revenue benefits to counties
- Many Oregonians are getting recreational benefits from state forests
- A Performance Measure is being developed to capture Community Well Being metrics which includes issues such as employment, social services, and infrastructure. Community Well Being may seem difficult to measure, but can be measured with 1) data and statistics and 2) by analyzing what communities are asking for.

Alternative Forest Management Plan
A Board of Forestry sub-committee has begun working on Alternative Forest Management Plans (FMPs). The sub-committee consists of Tom Imeson, Sybil Ackerman, Mike Rose, and Gary Springer. The subcommittee is an outgrowth of agency, county, board, and stakeholder recommendations regarding state forests financial viability, which were accepted by the board in June 2013. The two primary recommendations were:

1. Policy change: an exploration of policy in the FMP that improves financial viability.
2. Consideration of business model and business practice changes: Currently the agency is 98% funded by timber revenues. Looking forward, the agency hopes to diversify the business model for a more stable model.

The board requested that the agency move quickly to develop an alternative FMP, but the past FMP process took six to eight years. To expedite FMP development, the agency established a process so the board would be at decision point by September 2014. Contracts were put in place to help the agency accomplish its goals:

- **Meridian Group**: A highly recommended group that has demonstrated successful collaboration efforts on Natural Resource issues. **Connie Lewis**: Natural Resources facilitation
- **Analyst**: Work with stakeholder groups to analyze concepts and potential outcomes of recommended approaches.
- **Scientific Review**: ESSA from BC (Don Robinson, lead): This organization did a peer review of the Harvest and Habitat model. They will provide constructive criticism about meeting GPV, riparian issues, aquatic issues, and other metrics.
- **EcoNorthwest**: Contracted to consider alternative revenue sources, such as recreation fees and utility related items. The timeline for their draft report is December 2013.

**ACTION**: Provide FTLAC with draft report of the Alternative Revenue Assessment at next meeting.

**Timeframe**

- **Spring 2014**: Stakeholder work completed
• Summer 2014: Science review completed
• September 2014: Board policy decision
• Late 2014: Administrative rule process begins (process usually takes 6 months)

Josh Barnard distributed the Board of Forestry Agenda item 9, Attachment 2, April 26, 2013 and outlined long-term recommendations for alternative funding sources. The recommendations are divided into two primary categories: 1) those that are within the control of the agency and 2) those that are not within the control of the agency. If some of these recommendations were instituted, particularly some that are currently not within the control of the agency (e.g. gift economy, additional partnership opportunities), policy changes may be required.

Mr. Barnard distributed the Alternative Forest Management Plan Process document, which outlined a broader framework of the goals and policy sideboards of the stakeholder group and board subcommittee. The board has asked the committee and stakeholders to:

1. Develop an FMP that will be financially viable and improve conservation outcomes
2. Adhere to an expedited timeline
3. Consider ESA compliance

Stakeholder Process
The stakeholder process is on the front end of the development of the FMP. Stakeholder participants attending the FTLAC meeting today are Tim Josi, Annabelle Jaramillo, and Bob Van Dyk.

Chair Josi summarized his discussion at the first meeting, which was held in the Governor’s Office. He said he reminded the Governor of the legal rights of the counties, and that the counties need to be regularly consulted during the process. Chair Josi said that the Governor wants to improve revenues for the Department of Forestry and counties and is considering a zoned approach. Mr. Josi suggested a simpler FMP approach, one that reduces the age of harvest and more closely emulates the Forest Practices Act to increase harvest and keeps the department viable. He said it is important to test the zoned approach, but that approach creates permanency for conservation areas, and where those areas are is debatable. He said the environmental community has an interest in the Tillamook State Forest due to salmon runs and areas that could be considered as conservation areas. He stated that Tillamook County has twice as many acres as Clatsop County, yet the Clatsop Forest produces significantly more volume because the slopes are gentler, there’s no Swiss Needle Cast, which equates to more available harvest acreage. Chair Josi emphasized the importance of Clatsop County’s involvement in these discussions because revenue distributions may change; one possible change is that counties would share revenues, which could translate to lower revenues to Clatsop County.

Chair Josi said that he told the Governor that if the revenue formula is changed, Chapter 530 would have to “open up” and the Governor would need to guarantee he would veto legislation that the counties didn’t approve.

Commissioner Jaramillo asked Chair Josi to clarify whether he was advocating opening Chapter 530. Chair Josi answered that he advocated opening Chapter 530 if it makes sense to do so and the counties get a guarantee from the Governor that it won’t change in a way counties can’t live with.
Commissioner Jaramillo said that, at the first meeting, stakeholders spoke frankly about their interests. She said the stakeholder group is fairly well balanced, with representatives from counties, industry, environmental and governmental entities. She agreed with Chair Josi about the zoned approach; many counties have few state forest acres but collectively there is a significant amount of acreage. She suggested that there may be an opportunity in the FMP for neighboring plans to create complimentary relationships between landownerships.

Commissioner Jaramillo reminded Chair Josi that her interest is consideration of timber values but also other values so that there are healthy outcomes all the way around. She said for a long time we didn’t pay attention to the unintended consequences that came from overharvesting some areas.

Chair Josi responded that those values are considered, and that timber harvest on federal forests in the Pacific Northwest has dropped by about 90%.

Commissioner Stewart commented that everyone has a different view of “healthy”; it would be valuable to have agreement on the definition of “healthy”.

Commissioner Bernard concurred that agreement on semantics, such as the word “balanced”, would be valuable. He also noted that a 90% harvest in 2013 is different from a 90% harvest in 2006. The current reality is that the area available for forest production has increased. He said that his greatest fear is that federal forests are going to burn onto state forests, resulting in lost revenue. He stated that he would like to see agreement so that interested parties don’t spend more time in litigation.

Chair Josi responded that “it can’t happen because it’s a business. The Sierra Club is a business, they sell fear and they get people to pay membership because of the fear that they sell. Wild Salmon Center is a business, they are never going to, ever, you have to accept the fact that as long as they want to stay in business they are going to continue to sell fear.”

Bob Van Dyk, Wild Salmon Center, asked to comment. He stated that “We are not a business; we are a 5013c nonprofit that relies on grants and other donations. We don’t think we sell fear and I’m happy to see any publications that we’ve got that suggest we are being unreasonable”.

**FTLAC input at November 2013 Board of Forestry meeting**
Chair Josi said he appreciated that the FTLAC was on the agenda. At this time, no members were planning to testify.

**District Updates**
**Tillamook District**, Dan Goody
- There were significant commitments from the district during 2013 fire season
  - Half of the staff was working for the Protection program over the summer
  - Campgrounds were maintained and kept open
- Annual Operation Plan objectives are met
- Two 2013 sales had T&E issues; that harvest volume will be transferred to 2014 planning
- The district is planning for next year’s Annual Operations Plans
- The district is encountering wet weather hauling issues, moreso on private ground
There is concern about the workload associated with alternative FMP efforts, specifically whether strategies outlined in the plan will be doable on the ground.

**Forest Grove District, Mike Cafferata**
- Tremendous effort during 2013 fire season
- In October 2013 a sale sold for 308 per thousand; another sale sold for a similar price
- 2 bridges (recreational and ATV) were constructed using Yamaha grants
- There were several raves on the forest this summer, causing concerns about illegal activity. The district is working with the Sheriff’s Office to resolve the issue.
- Rails to Trails project: The district and agency is working with a consultant to outline opportunities. For more information on the project [http://salmonberrycorridor.wordpress.com/](http://salmonberrycorridor.wordpress.com/)

**Astoria District, Ty Williams**
- Catching up on work as 80% of the district was on fire duty during August and September 2013
- Completed the 2013 AOP on time
- 20% increase in sold value of sales
- 16 active sales
- The log market is holding steady
- There is a lot of interest in upcoming sales
- The last 4 sales that sold had a 26% bid up
- There are a 12% increase in campground use during the 1st quarter
- There was a 3% decrease in revenues due to reduced firewood sales
- Preparing for planting 500,000 seedlings in winter (January 2014)

**West Oregon District, Don Everingham**
- 6 employees in the State Forests Program spent 150 days on fire assignments
- 3 timber sales are operating in Polk, Lincoln, and Benton counties and both Board of Forestry and Commons School Lands
- Sold 2 timbers sales at 437 per thousand and 483 per thousand, which is the highest bid since 2008
- Working to meet 2014 AOP assignments (targets are behind schedule due to 2013 fire season)
- The district is preparing 2015 Annual Operations Plan

**Western Lane District, Ole Buch**
- 2013 fire season affected productivity
- 50% change in staffing resulting in an increased training commitment at the district
- 2013 objectives were met
- There is significant interest in the district’s timber sales
- The district’s first rock pit, a good financial investment, is being developed
- The district is preparing for what is expected to be a significant reforestation year

**North Cascade, Russ Lane**
- Fire season commitment impacted other activities
- 75% completed 2014 AOP field work
- 2013 AOP accomplished 100% volume
• One sale did not sell (unusual for this district). It was a small volume, high elevation sale. It will be put up for bid again January 2014.
• Preparing for 2014 reforestation
• There are currently 5 active sales
• There is significant interest in the pole market, because there are high quality poles in some Cascade stands.

ACTION: Commissioner Bernard asked for examples of rave situations. Dan Goody will forward a letter from the Sheriff’s Office regarding raves.

Deputy State Forester Paul Bell remarked that the theme from the districts was how the 2013 fire season commitment impacted planned work activities. He said that even though the fires have gone out, the season continues as the department reconciles the cost of the fires and other issues that came from the extreme season. The agency is working with Senator Roblan’s committee on salvage policy for damaged timber. Additionally, a panel may be assembled that will consider how public agencies and private landowners address salvage in southwest Oregon.

Paul Bell noted that Mike Bordelon, State Forests Division Chief, is retiring in 2014. A recruitment process for the Division Chief position has begun.

Attachments:
  o State Forests Monitoring Program, Board of Forestry, November 14, 2013
  o Alternative Forest Management Plan Process, 9/10/2013
  o Deliverable 2, Relating to Goal 3: Evaluation of Long-term Recommendations For Alternative Revenue Options, April 26, 2013, Board of Forestry Agenda Item 9, Attachment 2 November 14, 2013
  o FMP Project Framing timeline, Agenda Item 8, Attachment 1, November 14, 2013 Board of Forestry
  o FMP Project Framing flowchart