

Agenda Item No.:	8
Topic:	*Oregon Kitchen Table Outreach and Engagement Report Work Session
Date of Presentation:	January 4, 2024
Contact Information:	Cal Mukumoto, State Forester Mike Wilson, State Forest Division Chief Joy Krawczyk, Public Affairs Director

SUMMARY

The Oregon Department of Forestry has partnered with Oregon Kitchen Table (OKT) (a program of the National Policy Consensus Center at Portland State University) to conduct community engagement related to the Forestry Program for Oregon revision and the Department’s strategic plan. The Board of Forestry (Board) and department leadership will be introduced to the highlights of OKT’s report on the community outreach, engagement and input received.

CONTEXT

In November 2022, the Board of Forestry initiated a joint effort with Department leadership to establish a subcommittee to develop a new strategic plan for the agency. The subcommittee recognized after the values assessment exercise conducted at the October 2022 Board retreat, the need to hear from Oregonians on what they value, what they envision, and what benefits or identities are tied to Oregon’s forests. The Department affirmed with the Board on March 8, 2023, the aims and intent for the community engagement, with a particular focus on community members who are traditionally left out of policy decision-making spaces and processes. To assist the Board subcommittee, the department partnered with Oregon Kitchen Table to oversee this work and over the past year, the Department’s Planning Division offered updates on OKT’s progress, challenges, and opportunities.

Oregon Kitchen Table will present high-level themes that arose out of the recent engagement and will offer opportunities for the Board to directly engage in 2024. This work session for the Board and Department’s Executive Team will be moderated by OKT with assistance from agency leadership as they consider how they may utilize the input received, how it can inform their work, and what more can be learned. This discussion will contribute to the development of the Department’s plan to internally engage their agency staff and externally interface with the public at large in finalizing the joint strategic plan. As before, the Board subcommittee will be encouraged to offer guidance throughout the work session and seek clarification from others.

ATTACHMENT

- (1) Oregon Kitchen Table Community Engagement and Outreach Timeline

FORESTS IN OREGON: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

