

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item No.:	E
Work Plan:	Forest Resources Division
Topic:	Board Updates
Presentation Title:	Forest Practices Interagency Meeting Report
Date of Presentation:	March 6, 2024
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SUMMARY

This agenda item summarizes the 2023 annual meetings held with other state agencies regarding the sufficiency of the Forest Practice Rules and proper coordination with other agencies with an interest in the forest environment.

BACKGROUND

Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 629-605-0110 states “The State Forester shall, at least once each year, meet with other state agencies concerned with the forest environment to review the Forest Practice Rules relative to sufficiency. The State Forester shall then report to the Board of Forestry a summary of such meeting or meetings together with recommendations for amendments to rules, new rules, or repeal of rules.”

ANALYSIS

Annual meetings are offered individually to natural resource agencies. In addition to discussing forest practice issues, meetings are used to discuss a range of Department programs and state agency coordination issues. A decision to hold a formal meeting is based upon the relative importance of the issues identified during pre-meeting discussions, the adequacy of ongoing coordination, and the preference of the invited agency.

There were no specific recommendations for Forest Practice rule changes.

RECOMMENDATION

This agenda item is information only.

ATTACHMENT

- 1) Annual Rule Review Meeting Report 2023

FOREST RESOURCES DIVISION

ANNUAL RULE REVIEW MEETING REPORT 2023

Introduction

This report describes the annual meetings the State Forester conducted during 2023, to ensure proper coordination among state agencies with an interest in the forest environment and forest practice rule sufficiency. OAR 629-605-0110 states, “The State Forester shall, at least once each year, meet with other state agencies concerned with the forest environment to review the Forest Practice Rules relative to sufficiency. The State Forester shall then report to the Board of Forestry a summary of such meeting or meetings together with recommendations for amendments to rules, new rules, or repeal of rules.”

All state natural resource agencies were invited to meetings, as were several additional agencies that often collaborate or coordinate with the Department on forest resource issues. Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) field and program staff contributed input regarding issues of interagency coordination. Oregon Department of Forestry staff asked the other agencies for items to discuss at the annual meeting. A decision to hold a formal meeting is based upon the relative importance of the issues identified during pre-meeting discussions, the adequacy of ongoing coordination, and the preference of the invited agency.

Summary of Meeting Results

There were no specific recommendations for rule changes. Topics discussed, potential action items identified, and follow-up actions occurring as a result at the meetings are described on these pages.

Meetings held in 2023:

10/24/23	Department of Land Conservation and Development
10/27/23	Oregon Water Resources Department
11/30/23	Department of Environmental Quality
12/08/23	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
12/11/23	Oregon Department of Transportation
12/18/23	Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

No Response: Department of State Lands
Oregon Health Authority
Oregon State University College of Forestry
Columbia River Gorge Commission
Department of Geology and Mineral Industries
Oregon Department of Agriculture
Oregon State University Extension
Oregon Department of Revenue
Office of Emergency Management

Declined: State Historic Preservation Office
Oregon Forest Resources Institute
Oregon Water Enhancement Board

Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development

October 24, 2023

ATTENDEES:

Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD)

Brenda Bateman, Director
Kirsten Green, Deputy Director
Gordon Howard, Community Service Division Manager
Hilary Foote, Farm Forest Specialist
Palmer Mason, Senior Policy Advisor
Alexis Hammer, Legislative and Policy Coordinator
Lisa Phipps, Ocean/Coastal Services Division Manager
Sadie Carney, Policy Analyst and Communications Manager
Matthew Crall, Planning Services Division Manager
Susan Millhauser, Natural Hazards Planner – Wildfire

Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF)

Cal Mukumoto, State Forester
Josh Barnard, Forest Resources Division Chief
Mike Kroon, All Lands Deputy of Forest Resources Division
Tim Holschbach, Deputy Chief Policy and Planning of Fire Protection
Scott Altenhoff, Urban and Community Forestry Program Manager
Rebecca McCoun, Riparian and Aquatic Specialist
Adam Coble, Forest Health and Monitoring Manager
Derrick Wheeler, Legislative Coordinator
John Tokarczyk, Planning and Analysis Unit Manager
Danny Norlander, Climate and Forest Health Specialist
Brandon Kaetzel, Forest Economist
Samantha Hoffman, Executive Support

TOPICS:

- Introductions and Updates including DLCD Work Group on Farm/ Forest Program improvements
- Wildfire Hazard Map
- Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program / Private Forest Accord/ Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments (CZARA)

- Urban and Community Forestry connection/ HB 3409 interagency agreement on the Community Green Infrastructure Grant Program

ACTION ITEMS:

- Continue to loop in ODF and meet regularly to collaborate on changes and needs with forest lands for the work group on Farm/Forest Lands Project (John Tokarczyk).
- Meeting with Rebecca and Thomas with Lisa for collaboration on the Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program / Private Forest Accord/ CZARA.
- If DLCD is needed to assist with the wildfire hazard map, they are available to meet and be included in the conversations.
- Brenda would like to connect with Scott on green infrastructures.

Water Resources Department

October 27, 2023

ATTENDEES:

Water Resources Department (WRD)

Mike McCord, Northwest Region Manager
Ivan Gall, Field Services Division Administrator

Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF)

Cal Mukumoto, State Forester
Josh Barnard, Forest Resources Division Chief
Mike Kroon, All Lands Deputy Chief of Forest Resources Division
Tim Holschbach, Deputy Chief - Policy and Planning of Fire Protection
Ron Graham, Deputy Chief – Operations of Fire Protection
Thomas Whittington, Water Quality Specialist for Forest Resources
Rebecca McCoun, Riparian and Aquatic Specialist for Forest Resources
Samantha Hoffman, Executive Support

TOPICS:

- Update on SB 1602
- Chemical Applications
- Water Use
- Integrated Water Resources Strategy
- Fire Recovery/Restoration

ACTION ITEMS:

- ODF will have dedicated training staff in the future with interagency trainings. Will look to invite WRD to future trainings or area conferences for SB 1602 or other water related topics shared by the agencies. Reach out to Ivan as primary point of contact for these types of connections.
- WRD is available to work with staff when water issues come up.

Department of Environmental Quality

November 30, 2023

ATTENDEES:

Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Leah Feldon, Director
Jennifer Wigal, Water Quality Division Administrator
Steve Mrazik, Water Quality Manager
Michael Orman, Air Quality Manager

Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF)

Josh Barnard, Forest Resources Division Chief
Mike Kroon, All Lands Deputy Chief
Rebecca McCoun, Riparian and Aquatic Specialist
Scott Swearingen, Field Support Unit Manager
Thomas Whittington, Water Quality Specialist
Samantha Hoffman, Executive Support

TOPICS:

- Cross-Agency Work – Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL), Forest Practices Act, CZARA
- Smoke Management
- Air Current Incinerator (ACI) General Permit
- Land Conversions
- Alternatives to Pile Burning
- Environmental Protection Agency's Water Quality General Permit for Aerial Wildfire Suppression
- Strategic Planning
- Compliance and Enforcement
- Topics for joint BOF/(Environmental Quality Committee) EQC meeting in 2024
- 2025 Session Planning and Coordination

ACTION ITEMS:

- DEQ and ODF to share organizational charts with each other.
- Initiate conversations on training plans for 2024 after reviewing the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the land conversions.

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

December 8, 2023

ATTENDEES:

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW)

Curt Melcher, Director
Rod Krahmer, Forest Practices Field Coordinator
Bernadette Graham-Hudson, Wildlife Division Administrator
Sarah Reif, Habitat Division Administrator
Martin Nugent, Endangered Species Coordinator
Tom Stahl, Acting Deputy inland Fish Division
Spencer Sawaske, In-Stream Flow Specialist

Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF)

Josh Barnard, Forest Resources Division Chief
Kyle Abraham, Forest Practices and Monitoring Deputy Chief
Mike Kroon, All Lands Deputy Chief
Thomas Whittington, Water Quality Specialist
Jennifer Weikel, HCP Coordinator for PFA, Wildlife Biologist
Scott Swearingen, Field Support Unit Manager
Jason Miner, Forest Resources Advisor
Josh Hanson, SFISH Coordinator
Jessie Ebert, SFO Manager
Nathan Beckman, 20 Year Landscape Resiliency Strategy Coordinator
Samantha Hoffman, Executive Support

TOPICS:

- Staffing Updates and Organization Structure in ODF
- Joint Implementation of the Private Forest Accord (PFA)
- Relationship between the state and the PFA authors
- Survey workload
- Post-Disturbance rulemaking
- ODF PFA Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP)/ODFW Mitigation Fund Program
- Terrainworks
- ODF Marbled Murrelet rulemaking
- 20-year landscape resiliency strategy
- Beaver Roles and Implementation

ACTION ITEMS:

- Conversation about meeting cadence and coordination with ODFW in regards to the PFA
- Address prioritizing and completing a resolution process as soon as possible for the stream surveys.

Oregon Department of Transportation

December 12, 2023

ATTENDEES:

Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)

Mac Lynde, Delivery and Operations Division Administrator
Patti Caswell, Maintenance Environmental Program Manager
Galen McGill, State Maintenance and Operations Engineer
Daniel Lepschat, Forester

Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF)

Josh Barnard, Forest Resources Division Chief
Mike Kroon, All Lands Deputy Chief
Samantha Hoffman, Executive Support
Joe Touchstone, FERNS Project Manager
Scott Swearingen, Field Support Unit Manager
Tim Holschbach, Fire Protection Deputy Chief for Policy and Planning
Ron Graham, Fire Protection Deputy Chief for Fire Operations
Chris Cline, Acting Fire Protection Division Chief

TOPICS:

- Private Forest Accord Update
- Electronic Notification Subscriber Portal
- Industrial Fire Precaution Levels (IFPL)
- Extreme Fire Danger Coordination
- Fire and Ice Agreement
- Incident Management Support
- Other areas of shared interest
- ODOT Budget issues
- Public works contracts

ACTION ITEMS:

- ODOT can connect with Joe if interested to use the Forest Activity Electronic Reporting and Notification System (FERNS) program and he can assist in filtering it for better efficiency for ODOT use.
- Patti would like to meet in the spring with Tim and staff to ensure that everyone is on the same page with IFPLs.
- Need to have more discussions on the Fire and Ice Agreement before renewal in 2027.
- ODOT and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) have an MOU in place, Patti will share their MOU with Tim and Ron that outlines the rules and funding. Patti would also like a Point of Contact during fire season for when issues come up. Ron can include ODOT when we send out fire incident contact email during fire season.

Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation

December 18, 2023

ATTENDEES:

Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation (OPRD)

Lisa Sumption, Director
Matt Rippee, Central Park Services Manager
JR Collier, Deputy of Statewide Operations

Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF)

Cal Mukumoto, State Forester
Josh Barnard, Forest Resources Division Chief
Kyle Abraham, Forest Practices and Monitoring Deputy Chief
Laura Fredrickson, Recreation, Education, and Interpretation Manager
Joe Offer, Recreation Program Manager
Mike Cafferata, Forest Grove District Forester
Nick Palazzotto, State Forests Biological Support Unit Manager
Jessie Ebert, Implementation Support SFO Manager
Thomas Whittington, Water Quality Specialist
Tim Moss, Forest Practices Act Coordinator
Samantha Hoffman, Executive Support

TOPICS:

- Legislative Concepts
- Private Forest Accord
- Update on State Forests Habitat Conservation Plan
- Recreation Management
- Salmonberry
- Forest Management Collaboration
- Office of Outdoor Recreation

ACTION ITEMS:

- Alignment with ODF and Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation (ORPD) for drone regulations once their process and policies are finished. Meeting with Cal, Chris, Doug, Derrick and Lisa on mitigation of camps discussion.
- Lidar was completed for the entire west side of the state by Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) and ODF should have access to the models that can be shared with OPRD.
- Connect with Matt Rippee and his team with Nick Palazzotto on the HCP in state forests with their new staff in their program.
- Over the next 6 months, OPRD and ODF will need to meet to collaborate and be on the same page for the Salmonberry project and the funding planning with Cal and Lisa.