



# Committee for Family Forestlands Meeting Summary for January 18, 2023



*Under public notice made by news release with statewide distribution, a meeting of the Committee for Family Forestlands [an advisory body to the Oregon Board of Forestry with authority established in Oregon Revised Statute 527.650] was convened on January 18, 2023 as a virtual online meeting. Meeting recordings constitute the official record.*

---

**CFF Committee members participating:**

Wendy Gerlach, Citizen-At-Large (Voting)  
Gary Jensen, Southern Oregon Landowner Rep. (Voting)  
Kate McMichael, Landowner-At-Large Rep. (Voting)  
Rick Zenn, OSWA Executive Administrator Ex-Officio  
Glenn Ahrens, OSU College of Forestry Ext. Ex-Officio  
Amanda Astor, Forest Policy Manager AOL Ex-Officio  
Scott Hayes, NW Landowner Rep. (Voting)  
Kaola Swanson, Conservation Rep. (Voting)  
Maurizio Valerio, EO Landowner Rep. (Voting)

---

**ODF Staff attending:**

Heather Hendersen, Administrative Specialist  
Mike Kroon, Interim Deputy Chief – All Lands  
Tim Hoffman, Public Affairs  
Jessie Ebert, Implementation Support Manager  
Aaron Mickey, SFO Training Specialist  
Angela Malcolm-Stucker, SFO OPT Tracking Specialist  
Abigail Spagle, SFO Tax & RD Tracking Coordinator  
Josh Hanson, Sfish Coordinator  
Amy Singh, Forest Legacy Program Manager  
Kasey Johnson, Natural Resource Specialist  
Ben Deumling, Board of Forestry Member

---

**Members not in attendance:**

Julie Woodward, OFRI Ex-Officio  
S. Mark Vroman, Industry rep (Voting) Hampton Family Forests

---

**Guests/Public:**

Theresa Hausser  
Rikki Heath, OFRI Representing Julie Woodward  
Russ Glasscock, Landowner in Lincoln County  
K Burdon  
T Beer  
Dave Bugni, OSWA Clackamas County Farm Forestry Association  
D Patton  
Casey Kulla, Oregon Wild

---

**Chair Comments.**

- Chair Gerlach calls the meeting to order.
- Asks for comments on the agenda/meeting minutes.
- Recognized a quorum was established.
- Introduces new member Scott Hayes and asks for a brief introduction from all in the meeting.
- Asks for public comment.
- Moved on to chair updates.

**Division update.**

- Provides update on where we are at with the different pieces as well as hiring process.
- Legislation session is in full swing, Oregon Department of Forestry is working on creating assignments in BillTracker to help follow these.
- Heather will send out Organization Charts to the committee members.

**Small Forestland Owner Office Update.**

- Doing a lot of training upcoming in February and March.
- Working with Adaptive Management Coordinator to do an overview of what training will look like.

- Coordinating with Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion officer Meghan Donecker. Want to ensure all the training provided is inclusive.
- Working with Public Affairs, Tim Hoffman, to look at doing YouTube videos to provide more information for Small Forestland Owner.
- Looking to add an internal and external calendar to show what is going on with trainings.
- Rebecca McCoun is looking at the Total Maximum Daily Load report and all the tracking that Oregon Department of Forestry is currently making in regards to external outreach.
- Gary Jensen – Is there possibility of working with Oregon State University and setting up examples of how trainings will be implemented and set up classes/trainings to see exactly what it will look like?
- Glenn Ahrens – In the past when there have been changes, we have done trainings prior to the effective date of changes. Where would we hold these trainings? Doesn't have to be Oregon State University land, could be held on private property from a willing Small Forestland Owner.
- Kate McMichael – Training sessions could be recorded for those that cannot attend in person.
- Kaola Swanson – Include case studies in trainings to show here are the rules and what that looks like as well as examples of what that mean for the bottom line and management prospects.
- Wendy Gerlach – What mapping tools are used to determine or illustrate new rules? Could be useful to have a mapping tool available for landowners to determine stream categories, riparian areas, etc.
- Kate McMichael – Mapping tools can be difficult due to not being updated. Can't be relied on. The Eco Trust one seems more reliable than others.
- Amanda Sullivan-Astor – Have we considered townhalls or “Meet your Forester” sessions?

#### **Forest Conservation Tax Credit.**

- PowerPoint Presentation provided by Angela Malcolm-Stucker and Abigail Spagle.
- Scott Hayes – Gary made a comment about being able to sell the tax credits, this could be an issue as it seems that it should be a right that a landowner can do that. For example I sell the land to Gary, and I keep the tax credit there is nothing preventing Gary from harvesting which would trigger a pay back on the my end.
- Maurizio Valerio – Requested clarification on stumpage value.

#### **Small Forestland Owner Website Update.**

- 8 new webpages – 2 are currently done, Adaptive Management Program/Adaptive Management Committee.
- Kaola Swanson - Submit a resource function.
- Amanda Sullivan-Astor – Put in labels, some people are better with those.

#### **Board of Forestry Update.**

- Disproportionate Impacts Subcommittee is working on the paragraph in the new rules working on addressing these issues. Who/What? Do you think you fit this definition? What might these properties look like? Who are we solving for?
- Follow up with Ben Deumling if you have information on these properties.
- Dave Bugni – Had a lot of feedback about the impacts on the changes with the Private Forest Accord. We could form a committee or converse as a group and build off what was started with Oregon Small Woodland Association last year.
- Standing agenda item to discuss
- Board of Forestry is working towards alignment to find common ground between the board and departments going forward.
- Feedback on high level mission/vision/values can be sent to Ben Deumling.

- Board of Forestry has changed the way they have their meetings. There are fewer meetings, most will be 2-day meetings. Trying to hold meetings in various parts of the states. Trying to do community socials in the evenings between the 2 days.
- Feedback on how this standing agenda item could be most useful please let Ben Deumling know.
- Oregon Values and Beliefs center has done a survey – very thoughtfully put together. Great survey to check out.
- Glenn Ahrens – Rolling Survey done at the national level and then also the state level. Where would we need to connect on that? Between Oregon State University and Oregon Forest Resources Institute try to keep tabs on this.
- Wendy Gerlach and Glenn Ahrens to look into data on small forestland owner management goals and practices. [Note: Julie Woodward provided information after meeting.]
- Wendy Gerlach – How does the Board of Forestry want to deploy the committees? What are we used for/how do we use peoples time wisely?

### **Discuss upcoming Meeting Schedule and Agenda Topics.**

- Wendy Gerlach asks for additional comments on the Website prior to moving onto this agenda topic.
- Wendy Gerlach – present information on the website so that those that maybe are not looking for particular information can find it.
- Russ Glasscock notes in the comments “NCRS, FSA”.
- Maurizio Valerio – Keep things as simple as you can. Think about the audience we are addressing. Hope the Small Forestland Owner Office will be the first point of contact.
- Josh Hanson – Additional links to grant opportunities that are out there to help assist landowners through these changes. Saw these being as Sfish, but do we need to put this at a higher level of the website vs more in the weeds. Taking technology into consideration hopeful it can be something accessible from mobile devices as well.
- Glenn Ahrens – Landowners still want a known person that they can get into contact with. If there is an easier way for people who are not going to google everything to get contact information for a known contact that they can reach out to for information. Find a way to refresh the face so that they know who to contact when changes happen.
- Tim Hoffman– if there is a need, (different language, fax, etc.) please let us know as we want to meet that.
- Wendy Gerlach - Disproportionate Impacts input on this should go straight to Ben, trying to finish by February so getting in ideas sooner than later is great.
- Wendy Gerlach - Next meeting is March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Any comments on meeting structure? Ideas on agenda topics?
  - Legislative topics
  - Taxes
- Kate McMichael – How do we be proactive about assisting in projects for the Board of Forestry? What is the time look like? Are there things we need to be raising?
- Amanda Sullivan-Astor - How do we stay active in their workplan? Is there something we can review prior to the March meeting to then discuss? Forestry Plan For Oregon is probably the biggest thing that could be looked at.
- Wendy Gerlach – next annual report will be done in September due to the change in the Board of Forestry and Committee for Family Forestlands meeting structure.
- Wendy Gerlach – What next steps are for FPFO, do we want to provide input and then put that forward to the board? Ask Ben if there are current documents on the Boards thoughts on this topic that can be provided to the committee prior to the March meeting to review. Push out if they do not have something.

- Amanda Sullivan-Astor - Oregon Forest Resources Institute came out with their new Forest Facts. Lots of interesting information.
- Free to order on Oregon Forest Resources Institutes site.

### Roundtable.

- Gary Jensen – Annual meeting tomorrow to discuss the business agenda but also have Natural Resources Conservation Service to do a presentation.
- Rick Zenn – Disproportionate Impacts: Private Forest Accord is vague on defining it. One of the questions is defining the landowners and what is the remedy? Will be reaching out for more case studies. Big issues is laying those filters on the map and fining where they are.
- Family Forest Convention in Estacada is June 22<sup>nd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>. Just about to send out first round. Friday is education day with tours. Saturday is Oregon Tree Farmer of the year. All are welcome and invited.
- Amanda Sullivan-Astor – Contract with Oregon State University extension to provide training. This is a new program they will be working on and growing.
- Associated Oregon Loggers big convention coming this weekend. Have Thomas Whittington and Greg Erb to discuss the some of the new rules from the Private Forest Accord.
- Seat on the Oregon Global Warming Commissions Stakeholder Advisory Committee. A request for quotation for a workforce and training needs assessment. This relates to Small Forestland Owner is where are the gaps? What do we need training for. The assessment will go over what currently exists, what needs to be advanced, are their gaps? Looking for researchers and entities that can provide proposals on how this could be done along with funding. Looking at definitions to then look at inventory for future assessments. If anyone would like to hear the topics can be arranged through the chair, Katherine McDonald to come speak.
- Will share the website so others can poke around.
- Scott Hayes will send a letter out about the changes.
- Maurizio Valerio – Do we have data on the differences in what the impacts are from various activities (lighting a match to burn a burn pile vs a mulcher, etc.)?
- Amanda Sullivan-Astor – AOL is working on assisting with the Federal regulations to use Biomass credit. Working to try and find policies to be able to use the options.
- Wendy Gerlach – Lets plan to bring Katherine McDonald to come speak in March. Heather will work with Amanda to get this taken care of.
- Glenn Ahrens – Tree school packets have been printed. Will take place at Clackamas Community College.
- Working with Rick Zenn and Dave Bugni on the convention taking place June 22<sup>nd</sup> -24<sup>th</sup>
- Seedling program still trying to be the middleman. Website went live in December and closed the window last week.
- How much can we do to connect with the contractors?
- Certified Burn manager committee due at end of the month.