

Climate Change and Carbon Plan: Vision, Purpose, Principles

Purpose:

Make forestry in Oregon a leader in climate change mitigation and adaptation. The Oregon Department of Forestry will be a leader in promoting climate-smart forest policies and actions that achieve our vision by operationalizing goals, implementing actions, and measuring progress to achieving climate goals.

Vision:

Oregon's Board of Forestry and Department of Forestry are national leaders in climate-smart and socially equitable forest policies that promote climate health, resilient forests and watersheds, community wellbeing, and a viable forest products industry.

Principles:

- Climate change is a serious threat. We have less than a decade to alter behaviors if we want to avoid catastrophic impacts. We must be innovative, creative, and proactive in working toward solutions, not simply react to the results of climate change.
- Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC), natural resource dependent communities, and those growing up in intergenerational poverty have been and continue to be some of the most climate-impacted communities. Forest policies will be shaped through the lens of social justice and equity. Actions will prioritize benefits to historically and currently underserved communities as they adapt to a changing climate.
- Oregon's forest sector offers opportunities for significant sequestration and storage both in the forest and in harvested wood products. Forests also provide opportunities to promote clean water and air, while preserving forest resilience in the form of flood control, biodiversity, thermal refugia, etc.
- As changing climates affect forests, incorporation of the best available science and practices will be key to adaptive management and planning across ownership type, size, and goals.

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