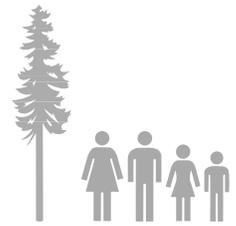




Committee for Family Forestlands

Meeting Minutes

June 24th, 2014



Pursuant to public notice made by news release with statewide distribution, a committee 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 held on June 24, 2014 in the Tillamook Room, ODF Headquarters, 2600 State St., Salem, OR

CFF Committee members present:

Craig Shinn, Chair
Sarah Deumling, Voting
Sara Leiman, Voting
Roje Gootee, Voting (by conference call)
Scott Gray, Voting
Mike Cloughesy, Ex-Officio (by conference call)
Brad Withrow-Robinson, Ex-Officio
Peter Daugherty, Ex-Officio/ODF
Joe Holmberg, Ex-Officio
Lena Tucker, Secretary

ODF Staff present:

Doug Decker, State Forester
Jim Cathcart, Cooperative Forestry Manager
Nick Yonker, Meteorology Manager
Keith Baldwin, FPA Field Coordinator
Susan Dominique, Program Support
Nick Hennemann, Public Affairs

Members not in attendance:

Cindy Glick, Ex-Officio
Rex Storm, Ex-Officio
Rick Barnes, Voting
Susan Watkins, Vice-Chair

Guests:

Evan Smith, Conservation Fund

Agenda Items:

1. Welcome and Review of the Agenda

Shinn called the meeting to order at 9:09am. Mike Cloughesy and Roje Gootee checked in by conference call in the afternoon. The State Forester and Division Chief requested time to comment and get feedback on the BOF Riparian Rules Workshop.

2. Approval of the Minutes

Formal action to approve April and May minutes was postponed. Request to submit approvals electronically after the meeting was approved as there was not a quorum to review the minutes.

3. Public Comment

No public comment was offered.

State Forester Comment – Doug Decker

Doug Decker thanked the CFF members and ODF staff who attended the BOF Workshop on June 23rd. It was a full and memorable day thanks to Peter Daugherty and staff. The workshop was set up to take stock of where we are in terms of legal issues, policies and science on the Riparian Rules analysis and decision-making. It was an excellent opportunity for our Board members to hear directly from the scientists, lawyers and representatives from the Governor's Office and most importantly to talk to one another. As a measure of adaptive management, the BOF felt they were in need of more information before they act. I think they have that now. So, I would be very interested in what your take was, what were your perspectives on how yesterday's workshop went?

Holmberg: It was interesting to observe the evolution of some of the comments from the BOF members as the day went on and they listened to different levels of testimony. Some of their positions seemed to migrate, others were pretty well entrenched.

Daugherty: Susan Watkins (CFF Vice-Chair) was at the workshop and did a real nice summary of concerns on behalf of the Committee. One of the key points CFF brought up was a concern about a disproportionate impact to family forestland owners because of their location in the watershed. I did present some preliminary results which looked at Western Oregon and it truly bares out the case for location. There are over double the amount of Large Type F streams on family forestlands. There are just slightly more Medium Type F Streams and slightly less Small F Streams on family forestlands in the lower elevation watersheds. You do see an increase in when you look at Salmon, Steelhead and Bull Trout Streams as they tend to be lower elevation streams. There you see a slight increase in Medium and Small streams relative to industrial lands. I suggested that rather than focusing on Small and Medium streams, particularly with the Protecting Cold Water, focus on location. I think there is an interest in addressing family forestland issues because of parcel size and other issues. I think there is some tension in that among the Oregon Small Woodlands Association membership. Jim James (OSWA) testified that he didn't want family forestland singled out differently in this rule analysis.

One way to think about this is in lower elevations, a lot of family forestland would also respond to high intrinsic potential Coho habitat. There may be some opportunity there. Richard Whitman, the Governor's Natural Resources Policy Director was pretty clear that the Board had a lot of discretion in terms of the Maximum Extent Practicable (MEP) and also a lot of discretion in determining where the rule applies. He challenged the Board to think creatively about solutions and suggested that the Committee could think about "*Are there specific basins that are more important than others?*" That suggestion corresponds to the ongoing work coming out of the Governor's Natural Resources Office in terms of their 10 year plan for the environment. They are most interested in focusing State investments where they can do the most good.

Peter has been meeting with Richard on this topic as well as trying to get to other topics in terms of the new opportunities with NRCS and OWEB. Cindy Deacon Williams asked for a meeting between Jim James, myself and her. Richard Whitman expressed interest in thinking about the opportunities for family forestlands, particularly with the Coho and the goal of trying to recover that species.

Decker: We had the EPA folks attend the workshop as well as NOAA Fisheries, 3 members of the EQC, 3 members of the Governor's NR Office, Board members and leaders from the Forest Sector and Conservation community. The workshop was extremely well-attended throughout the day. Regarding CFF's communication to me and to the Board, I want you to know we heard your voices and hope you see our response in our pathway and behavior. We have a liaison in Gary Springer for the Board and Ed Armstrong for the EQC. We have a Group that includes the BOF Chair, EQC Chair, BOF and EQC liaisons, the Governor's Office representatives, Peter and myself. We have to stay pretty well connected with the Liaison Group as we work our way through this process. There will be other RipStream data coming down the pike relative to Large Wood and Sediment. I think the Board was thoughtful about not wanting to be in a position where we are now having this conversation on another set of narrow parameters next time.

Withrow-Robinson: What is the timeline on this now? This has moved faster than I or many of us here in the Committee expected it to. I know it's very complicated, there are physical and social impacts and as well as biological. Is this heading towards a final conclusion or is the next Phase coming out?

Decker: There were some folks from the stakeholder panel that said this is moving way too fast; others feeling the process is way too slow. In September we will bring this back to the Board with a process for them to consider and give us some direction on. From that, we will go forward. Richard's comment to the group from the Governor's office, was "We need to make forward momentum here." He didn't say we need to make a decision by November. But he did say that we need to be moving forward. I think we will have a clearer process with specific timelines that will engage us in a new and a fresh way. Part of that will be to re-engage the Regional Forest Practices Committees (RFPC) along the way this fall and into early next year.

Shinn: Obviously, this is an issue of durable interest from this Committee. One question, are there things going on this summer that this group should be aware of? We will need to put together a group to keep engaged in this so we will be in a position to respond come September.

Decker: The only thing formally scheduled right now is a BOF Tour, on the 24th of July looking at the Trask Watershed and a meeting on the 25th of July in Forest Grove. There will be plenty of opportunities for listening and discussing this issue with the members of the Board.

Daugherty: I will be meeting with Lena this week on the schedules of the RFPC meetings this fall. We can copy the RFPC meeting schedule to this committee. Those are public meetings as well.

[Action Item: Keep CFF in the loop regarding RFPC meetings.]

Holmberg: We talk about wanting creative solutions and modifications, but my impression is that the EPA and NOAA rules are absolute and the BOF is trying to balance those absolutes with some flexibility. This makes this rule-making a tough job.

Daugherty: The other tension there is that some on the Board want a very incremental adaptive process and others want us to consider everything at once. There is tension there in terms of an adaptive management process. The Conservation community brought up their expectations, and they don't consider it very adaptive according to riparian protection rules. Forests grow slower than other systems if we make incremental changes, how fast will we make those changes?

Shinn: I don't know how much was brought up about the Overarching issues the BOF is looking at. In terms of public values on private lands, what parts of that are obligations for landowners and then what parts of public value is part of some baseline?

Decker: There was a little discussion about the financials associated with managing above the current rules and how you get credit for that. There was no certainty, or attempt to define the topic, but at least it *was* in the discussion. Tax policy is huge and for the past 100 years our tax policy has fundamentally shaped Oregon's forests. I appreciate this group's willingness to address tax policies in your agenda and subcommittee work. There will be some of that discussion in the next session.

Shinn: I'm going to suggest we come back to this topic when we have more time to talk about how to engage on this.

Decker: I had a chance to go down to the Bryant Fire (in Klamath Falls) with Representative Whitsett and County Commissioners. This was a 1,300 acre fire on small private lands, JWTR and state-owned land. You'll remember the conversation we had in regards to the Large Fire Review last year and the notion that every acre has value? Craig, your comments to us and your leadership in the Large Fire Review Group was great attention-getting! That and at the Two Bulls Fire the Team integrated well with the District, working shoulder to shoulder all the way through. Senator Whitsett was a member of our Large Fire Review group and was very satisfied with the Department's response. He has seen a change in the department and our fully embracing our work with Federal Partners and having landowners of all sizes engaged in the fire effort. The learning process worked!

Shinn: The takeaway message from that is, to remember that there are additional issues to be addressed. We have a list of things to follow up on and strategize.

Decker: Senator Whitsett, asked about the After the Fire legislative concept and your work on that and about the Reforestation Tax Credit.

Shinn: Thanks to Doug and Peter for providing this information.

4. 2014 Fire Season Outlook – Nick Yonker, Meteorology Manager

Nick shared the indicators we use to predict fire season severity. So the more of these indicators line up, the more likely fire season will be severe. Looking at the following indicators:

- Below normal snowpack? Mostly yes, but better in the NE.
- Early snowmelt? Mostly, yes.
- Long term drought – Reprieve in North, South a little reprieve but still in drought.
- Below Normal June rainfall – Yes.
- Dry July & August – Above Normal temperature with rainfall being Normal (not much).
- Dry lightning episodes (usually 2 to 3/summer). Generally, we are going into an El Nino pattern which may mean more dry lightning. El Nino patterns tend to give more monsoonal moisture going north and east from New Mexico region and unfortunately the wet lightning is in the Rocky Mountains, but the dry lightning will be in Oregon.

Bottom line? Starting earlier (Two Bulls and Bryant Fire), warmer than average temperatures, moisture deficit above normal in South and Central Oregon. NE and NW will be closer to normal. Dry lightning. It looks like Fire Season may extend into September and October. El Nino weather patterns have a correlation (75%) to our weather in the Pacific Northwest so that may correlate to a drier and milder winter here.

5. Committee Feedback to Landowner Viability Work Group – Jim Cathcart, Cooperative Forestry Manager

Landowner Viability is part of the BOF Emerging and Overarching Issues work plan. Work groups are established to do preliminary research on these emerging issues. This process is designed to help the Board to understand important trends and potential effects these emerging issues would have on our forests. One of these topics is Forest Landowner Viability. A group from Forest Resource Planning was looking to identify additional revenue streams that could help forestland owners to balance out any losses in traditional timber markets. The first phase for the work group is Exploratory, looking at potential markets and products. Then the group will recommend those markets they find have the most potential for creating revenue for Board consideration. The Board may then direct staff to continue research into what specific alternative markets need to be attractive to landowners and what policies could facilitate those markets.

The first question: Is there something else to add to the list of marketing possibilities? Secondly, out of that list (and any additions) what are your thoughts on what the BOF should pay attention to? There is not necessarily a timetable to this response, but I wanted to keep the topic in play and in front of you. I can bring your feedback to the work group as the plan progresses.

Deumling: Personally, the top of my list would be a **focus on value-added or finished wood products**. In the long term what Oregon timber business needs is to process Oregon wood in Oregon. So it had me thinking about what could be produced here that we currently import. I think that for non-timber products, Woodland Coop has made some good progress and perhaps we should look at supporting their efforts. I personally am interested in ways to make small scale Co-Gen work for individual small scale operations. I love the idea of ecosystem services and that should continue to be emphasized.

Dominique: I have recently read a report on **using whole trees rather than lumber for architectural design and infrastructure**. The whole trees have double the strength than comparable lumber. It could be lucrative for specialized markets.

Holmberg: 20% of the forest volume in the NW is hardwoods and it is not managed. If we started **managing our hardwoods and creating markets for them** that has a lot of possibility.

Shinn: I think I said this last time, but missing on this list in my mind is the **role that intermediaries play**. Some better pathway analysis is needed. But what I can tell you is that intermediaries are playing an increasingly important role. So you know we are not alone on this, Agriculture is having a similar conversation regarding food waste systems.

Withrow-Robinson: Adding to the idea of intermediaries; probably applies also to the category of Ecosystem Services which may give some purchase towards helping sustain family forests.

Deumling: For those family forestland owners that have steadfastly gone above and beyond over the years in protecting water and habitat it would be fitting to be recognized through **taxes incentives for setting aside those values**. So public funds pay for public benefits.

Shinn: There was a white paper on Intergenerational Finance ([link](#)) on the Institute for Sustainable Solutions site. Three or so years ago, I marshalled a group of people to look at what would need to be in place institutionally to move ecosystem services from auction marts (for wealthy polluters) to something that would look more like securitized housing mortgages. **Institutionalize incentivizing good debt rather than bad debt**. It's a huge deal.

Smith: Jim, are you looking at a cost side or just a revenue side?

Cathcart: Actually looking at both. The way we are breaking down these alternative markets is, what's the window for participation, what's the potential revenue and costs for participation?

Smith: I asked that because I am looking at the net benefit and viability. How do you get revenue from selling this "stuff"? I think the focus on end markets is a very important one; particularly on biofuels and small diameter wood. But we should also look at the property tax and other equations.

Holmberg: Yesterday we heard that small woodland owners were probably doing more than they were required to do. Landowners should be rewarded for providing wider buffer strips or more basal area retention beyond the minimum. States should **provide monetary incentives to recognize the services that forestland owners are providing the public**.

Decker: A lot of those riparian areas with high intrinsic potential for Coho, are on family forestlands. If we are saying that it is a priority to us, why can't we align our tax policies with what our priorities are, as a way of providing a broader ecosystem service? I think the challenge is that we have had a number of tax credits that have been forest-related all eliminated during the economic downturn. It's a matter of getting the priorities back in the right place. *Your voice and support for the BOF is valuable, saying "Let's look at tax policies as a management tool and a way to express those priorities."* That's where the action is, not at the regulatory level or at the lawsuit level, but at the tax policy level.

Shinn: My two cents on that is, just remember that Oregon's tax system was built to support commercial forestry. We really we haven't taken **a comprehensive look at tax policy in Oregon** since Barbara Roberts when she tried to do it. It is a huge conversation with big implications for the entire forest industry.

Leiman: I know this is not focused on timber log values but I would like to address the opportunities that landowners have when they go to sell some timber and the potential loss in profit that happens because of their inexperience. **Education in the market process could increase sale revenues to individuals**. It seems like a huge part of enhancing our viability. Some people don't even know there is a reforestation tax credit. Is this something to be considered in this process? How inexperience creates loss?

Cathcart: I certainly can carry this back to the work group. I see a link to what Craig said regarding intermediaries, like **Cooperative sort yards**. Whereas individually they may not have the structure to do that. To get to highest end use and maximize value for the seller.

Shinn: There is stickiness in the transactions, particularly for small transactions. That may be something the new team at OSU could be interested in, perhaps research the topic.

Gray: In addition, **the importance of investing in roads and Silvicultural activities**. Some management pieces landowners may not be aware of, that a dollar spent today may give greater gains in the future.

Cathcart: One of the things that comes up at every meeting on this is that we need to make sure the core market opportunity in timber is functioning as best it can. That **core market will be the gateway to landowner viability**. So this group recognizes that we could do all this wonderful work here, but if the core market collapses, no matter what we come up with, the alternative markets won't rescue landowners. If there are other comments on this you can contact Kevin Birch (kbirch@odf.state.or.us) directly and cc: me (jcathcart@odf.state.or.us)

6. National Woodland Owner Survey – Jim Cathcart

(Handout: NWOS past survey copy; List of other states additions)

As background, the National Woodland Owner Survey (NWOS) can be characterized as part of a USDA Forest Service re-occurring forest inventory and analysis work. That work feeds National Strategic Planning that the Forest Service does. The National Woodland Owner survey is a periodic nationwide survey of woodland owners last conducted in 2011 to 2013 in Oregon. They gathered information from 160 family forestland owner participants in Oregon. Of that number 53% or 82 respondents answered. This survey supports work done for the TELE project (Tools to Engage Landowners Effectively) at the Yale College of Forestry in characterizing landowners for communication/outreach purposes. I have seen a draft of the 2014 survey results, but haven't seen the final on that. Looking ahead the next survey will be implemented 2016-2018. Trends will be analyzed. There is an opportunity for us to collect Oregon-specific information. What other questions would we want on the survey? To ask Oregon-specific questions would cost the State about another \$7000.00. The second handout I provided lists some questions other states have been asking, you might get some ideas from things that others did. I sent this out to Mike Cloughsey, Joe Holmberg and Jim Johnson and Jim James. Jim Johnson thought that we should add some extra questions around non-timber products and theft. Other possibilities are questions around stream improvements, water protections, or questions with landowner's satisfaction with the Forest Practices Act. Joe turned around some of the questions. How long have you owned the land? Do you have a Succession Plan? Are you certified? They would love states to provide input to their liking. There is a procedural gauntlet of approvals through the Federal government so I don't know the timetable for intensification.

Shinn: I would like to get the sense from this committee in terms of the intensification and Oregon-centric survey component that would go out to 500 family forestland owners.

Holmberg: We have so much federal property here. We need to intensify so we can reach our landowners for a more representative survey.

Shinn: We would be remiss if we didn't take the opportunity to intensify this survey in Oregon. How many people think doing this in Oregon would be a great thing?

[Members responded in concurrence.]

Cathcart: What I can do is get back to Sarah Butler and let her know that we want to do the intensification and ask what the timeframe would be. We would need to get a small group together to respond. (Jim Johnson, Jim James, Roje Gootee, Joe Holmberg and Mike Cloughsey.)

Shinn: I'm confident that this group will understand the strategies. Oregon will still have the longitudinal study which can be used as well to snapshot the larger trends. I think the more urgent question is what kind of content we want to explore.

Cathcart: Watkins had a question about how Oregon responds to the survey. Oregon does have a higher response rate than elsewhere in the Pacific Northwest.

Shinn: It looks like Oregon is rated at #1 in the Nation!

Cathcart: The dynamic is we are at a disadvantage because we have a large percentage of federal lands in Oregon. The past survey will be published in 2014. This effort would be for the next survey cycle (2016 - 2018). When I see the last survey results are vetted and approved I will get that information to you.

7. Sub-Committee Updates

a. Eastside Private Forest Collaborative – Brad Withrow-Robinson

Holmberg: Before giving the floor to Brad, I would like to provide a Western Area AFF report in regards to the Eastside Private Forest Collaboration (RxRitter). The American Forest Foundation, Bettina Ring, Executive Vice President has moved on to be the State Forester for Virginia. There was some shuffling and re-organization since then as Bettina will not be replaced. Along with this process and separately, they have hired a Director of Western Forestry, Tom Fry. David Ford is under contract with AFF to look at western landscapes. He is looking at 20 different landscapes because of AFF's interest in fire resiliency. They settled on the East Face Elkhorn's Project. So there will be an AFF presence in the West, specifically in Eastern Oregon. Tom Fry will work with David Ford using the TELE system to look at ways to approach landowners and get them engaged. There is about 600,000 acres in the East Face of the Elkhorns Project. About ½ is private lands. They are intending to develop a model. I mentioned to our group yesterday that the East Face-All Lands Project, is actually being mirrored by our RxRitter Project on the West Face.

Shinn: In my mind, even though there are complementary values between the projects, the East Face-All Lands Project is not the same as our Private Forestlands Collaborative. We will have to make sure to make a distinction. We will have to think about how to create geographic resonance.

Withrow-Robinson: The main part of our last Steering Committee meeting was an update of the TELE conference. A team from CFF and Ritter Steering Committee participated. The feedback I got was that the TELE meeting was quite interesting and well-done and provided a framework for RxRitter Collaborative communication. Communication is going to be one of the real challenges for this project. Jim Cathcart gave us an update on the Grant process.

Cathcart: The money is secure! Doug Decker got a Pre-Award Letter that came in the beginning of May. That Pre-Award letter says you are in line to get funds from the federal government. The RxRitter \$300,000 is on that list. Internally, the department has to put together a 'Narrative' and submit it to the USFS so they to obligate the money to the State. That step is just about complete. Doug will get an official Award that says all of this has been processed; the money is available and can be spent. We should get that around the beginning of August. There is a lot of detail that needs to be resolved with this project. Including who is in charge and managing it. I worked out with Brad Siemens that it will be the first task of the Grant work to get a manager in place and create a work plan that says who will be doing what and how much money they will get for that responsibility. That is the first task. There is no hard deadline, probably in the fall. We had a good discussion about how to make the intergovernmental agreements work to get the money to OSU.

Withrow-Robinson: We had a lot of discussion, we are moving ahead based on Roje Gootee and the Kennedy's as the local representatives and their perception of the model going through OSU and a sub-contractor. Emily Jane Davis, (new extension specialist) is the assumed contractor. I think we will be proceeding on that. Jim and I will be going to the campus to get the process going. We are on track at this point. Roje has done more work on the Position Description and it will be circulated among the Steering Committee as it will have to be balanced to the budget.

Shinn: My two cents for the CFF, is that the Steering Committee is doing good work with local representatives. It's all really positive. We are staging this to have a fast take off in the fall. But we can't hire a project coordinator until we have the award in hand.

Cathcart: To make sure everyone is aware, Emily Jane Davis is a new Extension Specialist. Her specialty is collaboration and its social aspects. She came on board at just the right time. It's great that Jim Johnson made this project a priority for her.

Withrow-Robinson: We didn't have any idea that this position would come about and be filled by someone with her level of credibility and capability in that area. That she can come in adds a level of expertise, understanding and guidance. Logically, Emily Jane will begin gradually functioning as a member of the Steering Committee and will wind up replacing me. .

b. Forestland Tax Symposium – Sara Leiman

Shinn: Tax Symposium! What should we be paying attention to? Aside from the State Forester saying “*this is the most important thing we should be doing in forest policy.*”

Deumling: Perhaps we should re-think our agenda because there may be another dimension to the tax discussion we haven't looked at yet.

Leiman: We did say we would come up with a one-pager. Nick Hennemann came up with a flyer for taking to the OSWA meeting. We still have to come up with the agenda and hammer out what specialized topics will be in the concurrent topics slot.

Shinn: This is going to move pretty fast by fall. We need to get pre-work accomplished.

Leiman: Tamara Cushing, the new Starker Chair is on board as an independent consultant. I will try in our sub-committee to get the basic work and partnerships together before September and keep Craig and Susan in the loop. Also, with Joe in his work with AFF, the Aldo Leopold Fund may be interested in the symposium.

Shinn: The Leopold Grant proposal is to pick up the results of the tax symposium and take the information and develop educational and outreach materials. You should feel that you have license to move forward with that and solidify it. I would encourage you to have a conversation with Doug about whether he has some specific ideas for the symposium. He sees tax policy as an important topic and the Symposium will provide an opportunity to plow some ground for future goals. Please understand that the sub-committee has license to proceed this summer.

Leiman: The symposium is a kick-off for the game. Learning points that we could talk to the BOF about. It may take another 3 years to analyze the information.

8. Cultural Resources Awareness – Keith Baldwin, Field Support Coordinator

(Handouts: SHPO PowerPoint and brochure)

Tucker: As one of two ODF Field Support Coordinators, one of Keith Baldwin's technical specialty areas is Cultural Resources. He is here to share on that topic.

Baldwin: I am introducing Cultural Resources to you as an awareness topic. We are doing a new process with landowners and operators because we have new information from the State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO) on protecting cultural resources. In the past we didn't have any real information to give to landowners about having a potential site on their property. So the BOF provided direction in a 2002 Memorandum of Agreement with the SHPO and ODF that has the department assist landowners and operators in complying with archaeological site and object protection laws by sharing relevant site information. The 1987 the legislators provided some guidance and direction through the statutes, Cultural Resource ORS 527.710 (3) but it was excluded from the Forest Practices Act. Cultural Resources would be paneled by other agencies, SHPO and OSP. The rule from the Board told ODF to coordinate with other agencies. There was an incident outside Eugene where cedar trees that were used for 'planking' by tribes for cultural purposes were cut down. That incident elevated the need for additional guidance in 2002. In 2006 there was a directive developed on Government-to-Government relations and communications with the 9 federally recognized tribes in Oregon. The brochure is directed to landowners and operators to explain cultural resources and how to protect them. In 2013 another incident occurred and created a need to revisit the SHPO/ODF Agreement. In that agreement it talks about SHPO providing information to us

when cultural resources have been identified in a potential operation area. As a committee or as individuals you could provide feedback by sending any comments to Susan Dominique.

What are considered archaeological objects? Archaeological objects are defined as an identified by-product or manufactured object that is at least 75 years old, (made prior to 1949). Some things could be indicators of a manufacturing site. If you are involved in a cost-share using Federal Funds it's a 50 year threshold rather than 75 years. Archaeological Significance can only be determined by an Archaeologist who has surveyed the site, or tribal authorities who have determined its significance. Until otherwise determined the site should be considered significant. Any site will be considered significant until authority says it's not. Being determined significant makes it eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

Inadvertent discovery occurs when forest work disturbs something that could be identified as a site. It's not against the law to accidentally disturb a site. But when that happens you are responsible to protect the site. There are significant penalties associated with resource theft or disturbance that would capture anyone's interest.

SHPO Sections are 640 acres. There is a Committee of the 9 Federally Recognized Tribes, DOE, ODOT, ODFW, Parks and Recreation, archaeologists and agency representatives that deal with these sites. SHPO is providing ODF a list of sections that have recorded archaeological sites. But the information obtained only showed sections with adequate buffers of 300' from the site. Tribes reluctantly agreed to provide recorded information. But the exact locations are very highly protected as sites and objects are non-replaceable, non-renewable. There is a lot of sensitivity around known locations. In notification reviews whenever operations are designated within those restricted resource sites identified for ODF and landowner activity may disturb sites, we would engage the landowner giving them a brochure that recommends that the landowner contacts SHPO. So ODF is just a facilitator and educator. Even with the information from SHPO reported to ODF, the reported sites only represent 5-20% of the total number of sites.

Tucker: Have we learned yet, if a landowner contacts SHPO, will SHPO let them know the specific location of the site?

Baldwin: I have letters from landowners and foresters asking about SHPO requirements. SHPO replies with a form letter response saying that they reviewed the operation boundary with their database. There are no cultural resource surveys done currently for that area. Sometimes the operation area lies in an area perceived to have be a high probability area for cultural sites and extreme caution is recommended in any future ground disturbing activity. The most they will tell you is that you have an area within your property or operation area that is of concern. At that point they would recommend to hire an archaeologist to review the site and make a determination. There is a list of professional archaeologists they would provide. But no one is *obligated or required* to hire an archaeologist.

Tucker: I think that historically, SHPO is reluctant to provide specific information because of looting. At this point all ODF can do to educate and inform, SHPO would have to step up their game, but they aren't staffed for that either.

Baldwin: This brochure does talk about areas likely to contain cultural resources and protecting cultural resources. Inadvertent discovery of these resources, discoveries doesn't need to stop the operation but requires that you should protect the resource and mitigate damages. It isn't business as usual, but business doesn't have to stop.

Shinn: Somehow there has to be a pathway to get the information that is known. This needs to have more work done within this committee there is a gap here.

Baldwin: We've been told, ODF needs to hire an archaeologist. But as it isn't under our FPA umbrella we don't have those authorizations.

Shinn: This is going to take more work.

Baldwin: How would you remove those logs without further damage? Not bucking limbs there, lifting the trees up rather than dragging them through. Participating in Cultural Resource Cluster Meetings is how ODF is managing it at this point.

Getting these sections identified is part of the management. SHPO Sections are sections with an above ground artifact or historic ruin. The brochure has a URL to this document produced by SHPO; Archeological Sites on Private Lands.

Shinn: One thought is, that it might be helpful for you to collect some stories from private landowners about site discovery to demystify this process. Maybe another one pager with landowner accounts where we get to hear what it is that is going on.

Tucker: Keith is trying to find out how SHPO is responding to the questions that come up. We are curious to hear what SHPO is telling you.

Baldwin: Our mission is to assist landowners and operators in meeting their goals and protecting resources at the same time. If there are federal funds involved it highlights their rules. If there are human remains there is a process on who to contact. At this point in time we are not directing our foresters on waivers of the waiting period. **We would like your input on whether to waive the 15 day waiting period or not in these cases.** On their own the landowner could wait to hear from SHPO or not. Right now we are saying that the information is so generalized it seems to be an imposition to enforce the waiver. Providing a ground disturbance buffer of 100 feet is generally recommended. But SHPO says they never hear from landowners.

Shinn: This may be a longer more problematic conversation. If SHPO is interested in the cultural educational part of this they should have some non-punitive, non-risky ways of communicating so landowners would come forward.

Baldwin: Landowner responsibilities are:

- Request report from SHPO on the operation area.
- Landowner retains control of property access; you don't have to let someone on the property for review.
- If you inadvertently discover and disturb the site you are required to protect it.
- There is a reporting process for discovery of human remains.
- If something is sacred to tribes they will require return of the artifacts.

Key points:

- Cultural Resources are archaeologically non-renewable, irreplaceable. Once they are gone, they are gone.
- SHPO Sections are incomplete and don't represent a lot of the tribal sites.
- You retain control of access.
- Landowner has to protect known sites.

LUNCH Speaker

10. Salmonberry Rails and Trails – Mike Cafferata, Forest Grove District Forester

Cafferata provided an overview of an effort to construct an 86-mile recreation corridor from Banks to Tillamook, the [Salmonberry Corridor Project](#). A coalition of cities and agencies looked at recommendations on re-linking the communities along the rail corridor after extensive storm damage in 2007 which made the rail connection unusable. As there are privately-owned forestlands that would be affected all through this corridor, the Committee wanted to remain informed on the project. Goals for the project are:

1. Preserving investments
2. Supporting local economies
3. Providing access for multiple users
4. Maintaining and improving the environment

The planning team is taking a comprehensive look at natural, scenic and cultural resource conditions; corridor management needs; outdoor recreation trends in the region; community partnerships; and any related ideas and concerns identified through public input. Cafferata shared the complexities of the project, the timeline for Plan Adoption and the numerous and diverse partnerships supporting the effort. The **CFF requested an update in the fall.**

11. Committee Nominations – Craig Shinn

You remember from the last meeting that by consensus we agreed to continue the ex-officio memberships keeping Scott Gray in his position and voting in Evan Smith for Environmental Representative. We are awaiting verification of the Chair position nominee's interest and availability. I suspect that we have 3-4 things that we will need to act on by email. Approval of the Minutes and Annual Report and Action to be taken on this nomination electronically.

Leiman: It was helpful to meet the candidates for the other position prior to making a recommendation.

[**Action Item:** Request to re-send her biography]

Tucker: The nomination process for the Board, you can do two things. Usually, Appointments are done in July. But if you want to put off this appointment to November you can do that. I just need to know which way you want this to go.

Shinn: We should move forward with the BOF process for everything but the Chair. We could do this as an "and". If it is really important to have a face-to-face with the nominee first, you will need to plan an opportunity to do this. We'll move forward with the BOF package without her name. I will try to see about meeting with her prior to September. Another option is to put the September date on her calendar and talk to Doug and Peter about our timing. Regardless, we don't have a quorum today.

[Action Item: Shinn to communicate with the potential nominee about the September meeting.]

12. Input for OFRI Publications – Mike Cloughesy, OFRI (conference line)

Cloughesy: The backstory behind this request is that we usually produce two publications annually at OFRI. This year we did one on Fish and one on Fire. We like to provide case studies and also specific background on different subjects. For next year we have an update on Oregon Forest Facts & Figures and A Special Report: On Oregon's Forest Practices Rules and Act and our plan is to have them reinforce each other. We were going to have the next publications focus on Family Forest Owners. The economy got in the way, and the last big report we did was The Oregon Forest Report: Poised to Rebound. My hope was that for 2015 we could bring back this idea of family forest owners and have that be the focus for the Forest Facts and Figures. So my question to you after that background is; what kind of images, issues or ideas we should have? We will be starting on both of them before the September CFF Meeting and I wanted to have some grist for the mill to begin with. **So what images, issues or things should we focus on for family forests?**

[**Action Item:** Provide feedback to Cloughesy on the OFRI publications.]

Smith: What is the audience for these reports?

Cloughesy: The desired audience would be policymakers and the high end of the general public. Not landowners, although landowners tend to read them all. The real primary audience is the 90 people making up the OR Legislature, Governor, and his staff and the Congressional delegation. But we also include business leaders and we will have a video posted to YouTube. We always like to have faces and places.

Holmberg: Private Forest Landowners often go above and beyond in responding to environmental regulations.

Cloughesy: **Above and beyond: Providing Public Values.**

Shinn: **Underscoring the geography of these ownerships**. Lower in the watersheds. So that's one message. Another, the whole Large Fire Review kind of support stuff. The positive outcomes on the fires so far. This notion particularly for family forest owners in fire response is that **every acre has value**. Exactly what pieces out of that should be emphasized. It will still be a challenge. Second, the **adjacency of private forestlands**. Third note, make sure there is **Eastside inclusion** in your story report.

Cloughsey: Excellent.

I will follow up with everyone by email. If anyone has any ideas, you know where I am. The next thing that I wanted to go into is some detail about is the American Forest Foundation and Aldo Leopold opportunities that Joe and I put forward in the last few weeks. My feeling is that the Tax Sub-committee and particularly Joe and I are going to need to go forward before the next CFF meeting. I wanted to make sure that CFF were all informed.

Shinn: Why don't you give us the 30 second review on those opportunities?

Cloughsey: There were two opportunities that came up separately but could be symbiotic. The first comes from American Tree Farm System with an Innovation Grant working with the Aldo Leopold Foundation to do evaluation work. They approached Joe and me to see about Oregon Tree Farm System participating as a test group and including the Aldo Leopold Foundation to produce tools for education and outreach. We thought it was a good idea. We closed the loop with them a couple of weeks ago. We want to focus on the partnership, where the outreach and education efforts are happening. They really liked the planned Tax Symposium. We haven't recruited all the participants yet but it will hit on important national issues. We will look at the first opportunity to have a representative from Aldo Leopold Foundation work with Joe and I and the Tax Sub-Committee to build in an evaluation. I think that is a no-brainer and we would like to go forward with that. Then we got another call from AFF, Caroline Keebler, who is the MyLandPlan person and Melissa Mulder, one of their policy people, to talk about a tax project they are working on the national level which involves both outreach to Congress to keep favorable income tax treatment for family forestry and secondly, to educate both the Tree Farm people and other landowners about Forest Tax opportunities and incentive programs and how important it is to land management. People should know about opportunities and use those programs. AFF has contracted with Tami Cushing as an independent consultant, who is the new Starker Chair for family forests at OSU. She will build the educational pieces, written/video and web-based pieces about the Federal Income Tax. As part of their project, they want to follow landowners who are educated about the income tax. How it changes their behavior and whether it makes a difference to their management. They are interested in the symposium being part of their grass-roots efforts. The real question is do we want part of this? AFF is interested in being a sponsor as well.

Shinn: Thanks, Mike for doing that. What I would look for from this Committee is consent that the Sub-Committee on the Tax Symposium has license to move forward with those opportunities.

Leiman: They both want to evaluate the teaching and outreach and any behavior change based on tax information outreach.

Shinn: Mike, you weren't here when Sara gave her report about moving forward. We are giving you specific license to move forward.

Acknowledgment of Chair and Committee Member

Tucker: A quick announcement. This is the last official meeting for Sarah Deumling and Craig Shinn. We want to thank them for their service to this committee. (Addressing Craig Shinn and Sarah Deumling) I would like to commemorate your time on the committee and ask you if you have anything to say for the record.

Deumling: Well I feel like it's high time to step down. 6 years was great. I'll just miss the information. Just, "Keep in mind that the value of the forest is greater than the financial value of the lumber." It's been a pleasure.

Shinn: As these last 6 years have been busy, I work with lots of groups and chair lots of committees. I will tell you this, this is a committee that I look forward to. This committee takes on real issues, we have worked them hard. Our practice is to help ourselves learn what the issues are. And come to terms with them. Virtually all of us, find ourselves moving in our understanding, our interests and at the end of the day the recommendations we make. That is testimony to who all of you are and your shared commitment to Oregon forests. It really has been a great 6 years.

Gray – The achievements of this group are in a large part due to your leadership, Craig. Sarah, I have to say, I will miss your passion for the forest.

Withrow-Robinson – It's been a pleasure to serve with you both.

11. Blue Mountain Plan Response – Lena Tucker

Tucker: Based on Susan Watkin's report, Rex could not attend today but was volunteered to draft a comment response to the Blue Mountain Plan. What Susan Watkins would like you all to do, is authorize a sub-committee, (Rex Storm, Cindy Glick, Susan Watkins) to work up the draft and send out the draft comment by email for approval and submit by the August 15th deadline... They would like the committee to authorize work on the comment by email. I will get the ODF response comment coming from the Resources Planning program.

Shinn: Rex has been doing a lot of footwork on the operator's perspective. What they are looking for is authorization to draft and finalize the comment by deadline. To move forward in our name. What do you think?

All: Yes, that makes sense.

13. 2015-17 Policy Option Package Overview – Lena Tucker

Tucker: This will be a summary of what was presented to the BOF at their June meeting on our Policy Option Packages (POPs). I will spend some time on Private Forests POPs and would definitely appreciate your support on these. We are still in the process of tweaking the wording, double-checking our numbers and determining the ask for the 2015-17 Budget. These Packages have to be finalized by the middle of July for delivery to our legislative office. Another thing to note is there will be a very large information campaign on what the Agency does this summer. In general, there are some highlights on this list of BOF proposed policy packages. There is an ask for the Fire Program which is the other piece of the Wildfire Protection Act, is the Supplemental Fire Fighting Resources, basically the Severity Appropriation. A new one Protection has is to Maintain and Enhance Investments in the Rangeland Protection Associations. This is one position to help support and increase capacity for our partners in the Rangeland Protection Associations.

[**Action Item:** Send BOF Proposed Policy Packages to members.]

Shinn: On the eastside the Rangeland Associations capacity is really important piece. On the Westside the Fire Protection Associations cover the landscape but on the Eastside that is not the case.

Tucker: There are 5,000,000 acres in Eastern Oregon that are protected by these volunteer associations. That's a lot of ground to cover.

Private Forests Policy Option Packages are:

One proposal is to support enhancement of the new **Electronic Notification System** that will be launched next fall. We are actually still in development, but new pieces like Fire Inspection capability are obvious upgrades. What we have now

is a basic system but there are many enhancements which would increase our capability. There is always going to be a lot of "it would be very nice if..." Some are very valid but we hadn't even built in a Reporting function at this time.

Shinn: To be clear this POP would provide additional revenues to support the Electronic Notification System but the basic system is complete and going forward?

Tucker: Yes, part of the ask is maintenance, we want to establish a support agreement with the vendor to make this a living, breathing dynamic system. We were never funded to do this project.

Private Forests has a lot going on. **Leadership and Facilitation for Biomass Use** basically funds a couple of positions to develop biomass markets and this POP would restore the capacity lost in 2009 and 2010. This is a POP that we have had in there before but we are putting this in again. It generally gets good response from the Governor's Office.

Also, if you remember last year we had our **Family Forestland Owner Technical Assistance POP** 2 years ago. We were actually given the positions (5 NRS2 Positions) and we were given the Federal Funds authorization for 75% of the makeup of the positions. We did not get the General Fund or the Harvest Tax component. Because every technical assistance project can end up with a Notification and it can get to the point where someone is actually harvesting timber so a valid piece of this is the Harvest Tax/GF component. We move rapidly from technical assistance forestry to forest practices as part of our daily job. So I am also asking for staff capacity to help with this. Jim Cathcart is down to one person to help him with all the Assistance work. Cindy Kolomechuk is now a Fire employee now. Jim is overwhelmed and understaffed.

We've done a huge bit of analysis on how much **Services & Supplies Funding** we need to support all the Stewardship Forester positions we got back. This is the money to buy the gas and pay for the utilities, etc. We have more Stewardship Foresters and they are being more efficient at getting out in the field more and more. So our costs are increasing. We are doing what the legislature said to do; putting more boots on the ground, but we didn't get the additional funding to support those positions. So that's a new one you haven't seen before.

We do have a **Water Quality/Forest Roads/Landslide position request**. Part of it is monitoring and part of it is also education and enforcement. In this package we are working in conjunction the Governor's Office on the Cohesive Monitoring and Effectiveness POP in State government. Ours is a part of that, basically it funds a Roads Engineering Specialist, a Geotech Specialist so we can really focus on the TMDLs and other issues.

There is also **Special Resource Site Rule Analysis funding** at the request of Cindy Deacon Williams (BOF). Providing funding of a professional review of our inventory of protected resource sites. Looking at the Statutes and Rules on Specified Resource Sites and we need to determine where we move next as we haven't had the staff capacity to do that large analysis.

The last one; our **State Genetist** position was funded 35% State Forests Program; 25% Seed Orchard Cooperative members and 40-45% was all Federal Grant funding. And that Federal funding has been decreasing over time and for the next period it is zeroed out. It could go now as a part-time position but what that does to family forestland owners, we don't have a real specific plan on how that person would be able to help landowners. Now that the funds are gone I don't have a good mechanism. The person in that position just retired.

Shinn: Aside from the Tree Improvement side, it seems to me that if we are going to fund a State position for Forest Genetics, a part of that should include genetic stock preservation and be related climate change consequences across the landscape. Just so you know the new Director of the Forest NW Forest Range Experiment Station, is a Forestry Geneticist, Rob Manuel. So if you are looking for federal money for state spending. That might stir interest.

Tucker: We are focused on Private Forest concepts. But we can provide a full list as these ideas mature and we can give you feedback.

Shinn: Do we have a timeline, do you know when those need to be submitted to the Governor's Office?

Tucker: Our internal timeframe all of our work has to be done by mid-July for delivery by August.

Shinn: This committee has been involved in the prioritization and has been interested in what the outcome is from the Governor's Office. Our members have regularly filled up half of the Natural Resource Committee meetings. Please get information to us and feedback on how that matures. I would say that from my read, the things that stood out were: the issue for the Rangeland Associations, the Water and Forestry position, that is a driving force right now and ODF will need the additional capacity.

Tucker: These positions are geared to be more technical support. So getting field support positions working for landowners, and the monitoring piece puts in mind this integrated multi-agency approach. I appreciate your support.

Shinn: This committee has been regularly supporting the State work by sending letters having some positive effect. And we have shown up, both symbolically and formally at these processes.

14. Finalize Annual Report – Craig Shinn

So we have one thing left to do, that's the Annual Report. I merged Susan Watkins' and my own edits into the draft and that is what you have in your packets. We assumed that when we didn't hear back from you that you were okay with the versions we have worked on. We didn't have many changes to the format or substance of the original draft. I want to acknowledge the work Susan Dominique did in framing this and gathering the information throughout the year. One thing to call your attention to on page 5 there is a section called Recommendations/Motions in this section, Susan Watkins asks whether or not we need to have this component as these are numerated in other places. My sense is that we should include it as a nice summary of the actions we took. Should I take that as support for the way it is? (Affirmed by members.) So we will leave that in. Mostly there are changes to syntax and other items. We need to ensure the correct titles and dates.

Smith: It has been pretty helpful as a newcomer to review the past year. My suggestion is to move the 2014-15 Work Plan up the top of page 7, before the Detail of Accomplishments. As people will be curious to know where the Committee is going prior to reading the rest of the report.

Shinn: Evan's point is to close the summary part with the new work. It's the high level review.
[All agreed.]

Shinn: The Report is not an Executive Summary but I will pull out the key things and write an Executive Summary as a letter. Any other comments? I hope that when you are reading this you are impressed by what it is you *have* done.

Tucker: Can you all, explain this well enough to your new chair? Do we have enough information here to assure a good transition without Craig here? Would you give me license to change the FERNS project name to Electronic Notification for public communications? FERNS won't mean much to the general public.

Shinn: What I need is Approval to move this forward. By consensus all in agreement with the changes? [Agreed]

Tucker: Edits will be made and the updated Report sent back out to all members.

[**Action Item:** Send out Report for final approval. Poll members for fall Committee meeting dates. – Susan D.]

Shinn: When Doug and Peter were here this morning, we discussed what water agenda will be happening over the summer on this set of issues. It would be good if someone on the Committee, possibly, Rick Barnes could keep track of the Board's process for us and keep us in the loop.

Tucker: I can keep them in the loop as the conversation continues.

Shinn: We should make a little sub-committee on that to follow up during the summer. We need to have something, pre-thought or pre-drafted for the fall. This is such a huge issue for family forestlands. If you are willing to recommend sub-committee members... Rick Barnes, Joe Holmberg, Susan Watkins, Jim James, Scott Gray?

Tucker: I can be your point person to keep you going.

Shinn: One of the things we have been able to do is be part of the generative process of things. We want to make sure that we know what those are. It is easier to shape those concepts before they are finalized. We can ask Rick and Scott to follow up.

Holmberg: The BOF Tour is on Tuesday, the 24th and the Board meeting on Wednesday, the 25th. Is there a way to get on the tour?

Tucker: Once the logistics are together I will let you know.

Tucker: For the Good of the Order, if everyone could visit with Nick prior to leaving, as he needs some feedback on an electronic image for E-Notify.

Shinn: I would just say, in closing, let them eat cake! Thank you. We are adjourned.

Adjourned at 2:35pm.

Action Items:

Dominique/Tucker:

- Keep CFF in the loop regarding RFPC meetings.
- Send out Report for final approval.
- Poll members for fall Committee meeting dates
- Send BOF Proposed Policy Packages to members.
- Send out the BOF meeting and tour logistics to members.

All:

- If there are other comments on Landowner Viability or Alternative Markets you can contact Kevin Birch (kbirch@odf.state.or.us) directly and cc: (jcathcart@odf.state.or.us)
- Group formed to address Survey intensification for Oregon (Jim Johnson, Jim James, Roje Gootee, Joe Holmberg and Mike Cloughesy.)
- Provide feedback to Cloughesy on the OFRI publications.
- Respond to email for Approval actions on the Minutes from April and May; The Annual Report; and nominations to the Committee.