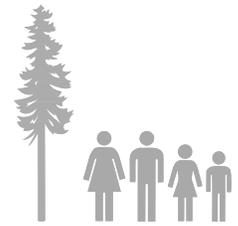




# Committee for Family Forestlands

## Meeting Minutes

### September 10, 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 September 10, 2014 in the Clatsop Room, ODF Headquarters, 2600 State St., Salem, OR

#### ***CFF Committee members present:***

Rick Barnes, Voting  
Sara Leiman, Voting  
Scott Gray, Voting  
Mike Cloughesy, Ex-Officio (by conference call)  
Brad Withrow-Robinson, Ex-Officio  
Peter Daugherty, Ex-Officio/ODF  
Joe Holmberg, Ex-Officio  
Evan Smith, Voting  
Rex Storm, Ex-Officio  
Lena Tucker, Secretary  
Susan Watkins, Acting Chair

#### ***Members not in attendance:***

Cindy Glick, Ex-Officio  
Roje Gootee, Voting

#### ***ODF Staff present:***

Susan Dominique  
Terry Freuh

#### ***Guests:***

Chris Jarmer, OFIC  
Gary Springer, BOF

#### **Agenda Items:**

##### **1. Welcome and Review of the Agenda**

Watkins called the meeting to order at 9:10 am and requested the following agenda changes:

- To put off Approval of the June minutes till a quorum of members were present.
- Moving item 11 on the agenda (“Committee Nomination”) to number 4.

##### **2. Approval of the Minutes**

Moved to later on the agenda.

##### **3. Public Comment**

No public comment was offered.

##### **4. Committee Nomination – Susan Watkins, Acting CFF Chair**

*[Handout: Watkins note on Four Alternatives for Moving Forward]*

For this CFF Committee business, the Acting Chair informed the committee that their present nominee for Citizen-At-Large and Chair had time restraints preventing her from serving. But it was to be noted that she did affirm her interest in joining the Committee sometime in the future. As a Committee Chair was still to be chosen and appointed, Watkins offered four alternatives to move the process forward:

- a) Continue vetting new candidates;
- b) Continue vetting new candidates and choose the Chair from among all Voting members;
- c) Move the Environmental rep to the Citizen-At-Large position and nominate another to the Environmental Representative and choose the Chair from among all voting members;
- d) Move the Industry representative to the Citizen-At-Large position and find a new Industry rep, choosing the Chair from among all voting members. (This option was removed from consideration as the Industry rep is a forestland owner.)

Following discussion, the Committee decided to continue vetting other candidates, for current and future needs. Candidates should have an interest/background in Natural Resources and be a good facilitator with experience in public decision-making.

Watkins also noted that she (landowner at large) and Barnes (southern Oregon landowner) will be termed out by the end of June 2015. A new Nominating Sub-Committee was selected to gather names for these three positions. Members are: Susan Watkins, Sara Leiman, Roje Gootee and Rick Barnes.

**Action Item:** Committee members will bring the names and background of potential candidates for the Citizen-At-Large or Chair position to the attention of Nominating Committee members. Under the CFF Charter this position is described as follows:

“One citizen-at-large (preferably, this member shall serve as committee chairperson).” ...“The citizen-at-large shall be a private citizen who does not own forestland.”

#### **5. Riparian Rules Analysis Update** – Peter Daugherty, Private Forests Division Chief

*[Handouts: Note to BOF Members and Staff Revised recommendation for Agenda topic 9, Riparian Rules Analysis; Board of Forestry Riparian Rule Analysis Decision Tree]*

Daugherty explained the handout that shows Decision Paths and Next Steps for:

- Continued Rule Analysis (Regulatory and/or Non-Regulatory and the development of reporting mechanisms and implementation rates to be monitored);
- Regulatory Option to include Large Wood Recruitment;
- Voluntary (Non-Regulatory) Option to include Large Wood Recruitment; and
- Off-Ramps.

The two **off-ramps** on the Decision Tree flowchart are still available to the Board. One would be to re-visit the degradation finding and objectives. The other is to ask the EQC to change the PCW criterion. Item #4 on the pathway narrative summary handout is new; the idea is to keep communications between the EQC and Board open with a goal of reaching mutual understanding of each department's approach to addressing the PCW criterion.

The BOF adopted the pathway forward for the Rule Analysis as laid out in the narrative summary handout. The Board's main objective was to involve the Regional Forest Practice Committees in the process.

CFF is one of the stakeholders the Board of Forestry looks to in order to answer questions about where the rules should apply and to what extent, specifically with regard to the type of prescriptions that will work with family forestland management. The Committee will have equal input on the prescription options with other stakeholder groups. The Department offered to provide the Committee with a more robust discussion of the science underlying the RipStream data and discussions from other stakeholders.

**Action Item:** CFF members are invited to the Joint SW/NW RFPC meeting on September 19<sup>th</sup> in Springfield. Tucker will send the Combined RFPC agenda to all CFF members.

The third recommendations the BOF adopted “...directed the department to develop preliminary economic and ecological information related to each prescription...” This will help the Board characterize impacts when they are deciding between

prescriptions. The CFF can assist the Board in deciding between prescriptions by showing the economic cost to small landowners versus the ecological benefit of the prescriptions.

Member comments:

- Family forestland owners are likely to be more affected by shade prescriptions as their lands tend to be lower in the watersheds and smaller in size.
- Flexibility is a concern. A blanket rule may be applied to places where it is not needed.
- A documenting process could be adopted to enable/require the department to monitor, document and report on voluntary measures that are already in place. This might well show that small landowners already make a significant contribution towards additional shading. Many landowners do more than the minimum than has been requested. .
- Hardwoods provide valuable temperature effects but don't get a full accounting in riparian habitat. Today only a percentage or share of hardwoods count. Changing accounting procedures to credit hardwoods with the same value in the basal area and no-cut buffers as conifers would not cost landowners significantly. Some landowners already are leaving hardwoods.

Large Woody Debris was also raised in the Board's June riparian analysis workshop where a biologist from ODF&W identified Large Woody Debris (LWD) as a primary concern for salmon habitat and recovery but noted that there is a detectable and decreasing trend of recruitment of Large Wood. The Board considered including LWD in the current riparian rule-making analysis. The Governor's Office Natural Resource Staff Advisor, Richard Whitman, suggested that the BOF could consider additional criteria like Large Wood and Sediment only insofar as the issue substantially addresses the problem of Protecting Cold Water. The Board directed the department to consider impacts to LWD from proposed prescriptions (#5 on narrative summary).

Mark Meleason, a LWD Modeling Specialist with ODF State Forests Division who built StreamWood (the model for Large Wood Recruitment) will be invited to provide more information. The department has started a LWD analysis in RipStream sites.

**Action Item:** Extend invitation to Mark Meleason, State Forests, to provide LWD information to the Committee.

BREAK

**6. EPA/NOAA Status** – Peter Daugherty, ODF Private Forest Division Chief

*[Handouts: Letter from the EPA and NOAA to Dick Pederson and Jim Rue dated June 30, 2014; Letter Re: Pending Decision on Oregon's Coastal Nonpoint Control Program to Gina McCarthy, EPA and Kathryn Sullivan, NOAA dated May 6, 2014 from the state Congressional delegation)*

The EPA/NOAA decision regarding the agencies' planned disapproval of Oregon's Coastal Zone Management Plan has been put off until at least January 2015. Part of the reason for the delay is the status of the riparian rule analysis; EPA/NOAA are focused on management activities (rather than outcomes), and any changes the Board of Forestry might adopt to address the PCW criterion may also affect this decision.

6a. On a related issue, the US District Court ruled that plaintiffs in NEDC v. Decker cannot now amend their lawsuit to add new claims challenging Oregon's rules on forest roads. The US Supreme Court has previously ruled that Oregon's existing forest protection regulations meet requirements of federal law. The District Court ruling prevents the plaintiffs from trying to obtain attorneys' fees for legal work to date despite their losing effort. Any new claims will now have to be made in a new lawsuit.

The Committee discussed ways to be proactive in ensuring that legacy roads in small forests are disconnected hydrologically from streams, including seeing if more federal incentive funds can be made available to relocate roads.

**7. Blue Mountain Plan Comment** – Susan Watkins

[Handouts: *CFF Blue Mountain Plan Response; State Response*]

CFF's Comment on the draft Blue Mountain Plan has been submitted and will be posted online.

**Action Item:** Susan Dominique will post CFF response to USFS Blue Mountain Plan on CFF website.

LUNCH

**8. ODF 15-17 Policy Option Package Overview** – Lena Tucker

(Agenda item moved to later in the meeting.)

**9. Sub-Committee Reports** – Mike Cloughesy and Brad Withrow-Robinson

a. **Eastside Private Forests Collaborative** –

- Recruitment for the Collaborative's Project Coordinator has begun; the position is being advertised through September 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Interviews are tentatively scheduled for October 6. Rob Pentzer, NRCS, and Bob Parker, Extension, will be part of the interview panel. Hiring will be done by OSU. Emily Jane Davis, new Extension Specialist in Collaboration at OSU, will supervise the part-time three-year position. ODF will provide Stewardship forestry support. The position will be housed in the John Day/Grant County Extension Office.
- Jim Johnson and Thomas Maness agreed to allow Davis to participate as co-chair of the Steering Committee with Roje Gootee and Brad Withrow-Robinson. She took the lead in getting the position description up and posted and will be a valuable asset to the project.
- Rhonda Kennedy, local Ritter area landowner representative, needed to withdraw from the Steering Committee. She suggested Robin Herald, another landowner, as a replacement. Committee members met Ms. Herald when visiting the Ritter area in 2012.
- The roles and membership of the committee will be determined when a coordinator comes on board.
- Cloughesy was funded by an American Forest Foundation Grant to develop a model region-wide landscape resource strategy (similar to a management plan) by developing a resource assessment framework. The draft framework has been reviewed, and the final version should be ready for the new coordinator when he/she comes on board.

b. **Forestland Tax Symposium** – Sara Leiman

Leiman provided an overview of the Symposium planning to date.

- The Planning Committee toured the venue (OSU Alumni Center) and prepared a draft agenda for the January 26 2015 Symposium.
- Brianna Beene, OSU Continuing Professional Education Coordinator for the OSU College of Forestry, has joined the Planning Committee. She is working on mailers, recording the session, and accreditation for attendees.
- OSWA (Jim James and Jen Rains) will serve as fiscal agent, handling registration and dispersing funds.

- Jen Rains will be the primary public contact for information, registration and scholarships.
- Sara Crowe, Director of the Tree Farm System, and Alana Kolomechek with the Aldo Leopold Foundation met with Holmberg and Leiman regarding an AFF Grant to the Aldo Leopold Foundation money to evaluate the program for the Oregon Tree Farm System. This will greatly help in the planning of other forestry-related educational events.
- Alana Kolomechek and Sara Crowe are interested in helping to design the symposium roundtable as a ‘world café’. The World Café is a focus group technique with 6 questions. Each facilitator/table would deal only with one question. The participants would move to the next ‘question’/table. Grad or Undergrad students from accounting and forestry will be recruited to be facilitators.
- There is still a plan for follow-up sessions around the state which is part of the original proposal.
- Registration charges will be \$40/person figuring on 250 maximum. Some scholarships will be available. Qualification for scholarship will be based upon need and first come/first serve. 25 landowners and 25 students. Professionals receiving professional education credits will be charged \$100.
- Supporters to the symposium would be charged a sponsorship fee of \$500 each and get advertising and recognition in the program, brochure for registration packet, a table, admission and education credits for two representatives, and mention in flyers. OSWA, CFF, OFRI, ODF and Tree Farm would not be charged.
- There is still fundraising to do. \$15,000 is secured from OFRI we are hoping for \$9500 from registration fees. There may be \$1500 coming from the Forest Foundation. Group donations will be welcomed.
- Outreach/advertising: Tree Farm and OSWA will have a joint newsletter coming out in mid-October to use for outreach. Sheri McConnell, editor for the State Bar Estate Planning newsletter, will give us some coverage as well. Also Smith agreed to send out the flyer to the Coalition of Oregon Land Trusts.

## **8. ODF 2015-17 Policy Option Package Overview – Lena Tucker**

*[Handout: BOF 2015-2017 Agency Request Biennial Budget Approval – BOF Agenda Item 5 Attachment 1]*

Tucker explained the department's budget requests. The entire Agency Request budget was sent to the Legislative Fiscal Office and Budget and Management Office with agency ranked Policy Options Enhancement packages of 21 requests.

The Private Forests Program has 7 requests:

Ranked 3<sup>rd</sup>: On-going support for the new Electronic Notification System

Ranked 8<sup>th</sup>: Leadership & Facilitation for Biomass Use

Ranked 9<sup>th</sup>: Family Forestland Technical Assistance, which would restore the 25% non-federal funding to meet federal match requirements and add a field coordinator position.

Ranked 10<sup>th</sup>: Service and Supplies for Stewardship Foresters. Funds previously restored position capacity. Now requesting funding to cover costs of support for these positions, including increased travel costs due to efficiencies allowing field foresters to spend more time with customers as well as necessities like rent/electricity/water.

Ranked 12<sup>th</sup>: Water Quality, Forest Roads FPA Effectiveness, which would fund capacity for FPA monitoring, rule effectiveness, and best management practices related to protecting water quality related to forest roads and landslide-prone terrains.

Ranked 19<sup>th</sup>: Special Resource Site Rule Analysis Funding for professional services for review and improvement of ODF's inventory of protected sites and for systematic review for larger policy level approaches to special resource site protections.

Ranked 20<sup>th</sup>: Support for the State Geneticist Position, necessary due to reduced federal funds. Even without this funding, department will continue to manage the seed bank.

### **10. National Woodland Owner Survey – Oregon Intensification Update – Mike Cloughsey**

[Handouts: National Woodland Owner Survey (previous); Potential State Specific Questions for Oregon]

An ad-hoc group of Mike Cloughsey, Joe Holmberg, Jim Johnson, Roje Gootee and Jim Cathcart will field potential Oregon-specific questions (10 maximum) for the 2016-18 cycle.

### **2. Approval of Minutes – Susan Watkins**

[Handout: *CFF Minutes from June 24, 2014*]

A quorum is present. Tucker noted that only three voting members attended the June meeting and only two of them are present. Watkins was not present at the June meeting and did not edit the June draft. Minutes for June 2014 were ‘Accepted’ with one dissenting.

The Committee continues to search for a way to provide important information in a shorter format without causing more work for department staff. The Committee agreed that current (September) meeting minutes will summarize the discussions and conclusions rather than provide a verbatim transcript of the meeting.

### **11. Committee Nomination – Susan Watkins**

Moved to earlier in meeting.

### **12. Meeting Schedule - All**

Discussion followed on meeting topics for fall meetings:

- Rip Rule Analysis Update – Peter Daugherty
- LWD Staff Presentation – Mark Meleason, ODF State Forests
- Sub-Committee Reports

Future meeting dates:

- October 31<sup>st</sup>
- November 20<sup>th</sup>
- December 16<sup>th</sup>

### **Action Items:**

- Committee members will bring the names and background of potential candidates for the Citizen-At-Large or Chair position to the attention of Nominating Committee members. Under the CFF Charter this position is described as follows:

“One citizen-at-large (preferably, this member shall serve as committee chairperson).” ...“The citizen-at-large shall be a private citizen who does not own forestland.”

- CFF members are invited to the Joint SW/NW RFPC meeting on September 19<sup>th</sup> in Springfield. Tucker will send the Combined RFPC agenda to all CFF members.
- Extend invitation to Mark Meleason, State Forests, to provide LWD information to the Committee.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:35pm.