

Stakeholder Meeting on Oregon Forest Carbon Sequestration

May 11, 2018

775 Court Street Salem, OR 97301

Conference Room C

Agenda

Purpose:

- Discuss the background leading to the Oregon Department of Forestry's study of forest carbon sequestration.
- Introduce the Oregon Forest Ecosystem Carbon Report project.
- Discuss approach to additional studies on carbon in harvested wood products and life-cycle analysis of carbon from alternative management scenarios.
- Discuss next steps and process.

Topics:

- 1) Introductions (all)
- 2) Background (Kristin Sheeran)
- 3) Report on storage and flux of carbon in Oregon's Forest Ecosystems (Peter Daugherty, Andrew Yost).
- 4) Additional Studies; Approach and Stakeholder Input (Peter Daugherty)
 - a. Analysis of Carbon in harvested wood products
 - b. Life cycle analysis of the effect on carbon from alternative management scenarios
- 5) Next Steps and Process (Kristin Sheeran)

Background

The Oregon State Legislature continues to work on a cap and invest program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The use of forest carbon to offset emissions has been a component of carbon policy, and requires repeated inventory of forests and analysis for accurate accounting of stocks and changes.

An accurate forest carbon accounting is also required to meet the directive to the Oregon Global Warming Commission¹ to “track and evaluate...the carbon sequestration potential of Oregon’s forests, alternative methods of forest management that can increase carbon sequestration and reduce the loss of carbon sequestration to wildfire, changes in the mortality and distribution of tree and other plant species and the extent to which carbon is stored in tree-based building materials.”

The Oregon Board of Forestry supervises all matters of policy in Oregon and adopts rules regulating forest practices. An accurate assessment of the storage and flux of carbon in Oregon’s forests will be critically important for the Board to evaluate policies about the role of forests for carbon mitigation.

The Forest Inventory Analysis Program (FIA) within the USDA Resource Monitoring and Assessment Division of the Forest Service conducts an annual inventory of the nation’s forests with a 10-year remeasurement cycle for Oregon. The FIA Program has developed a forest sector carbon accounting methodology that complies with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change guidelines that they have applied to the inventory of California’s forests to produce the first in a series of planned Forest Ecosystem and Wood Products Carbon Inventory reports.²

The Department of Forestry and the Office of Carbon Policy³ are now cooperating to have FIA produce a similar analytical report on the storage and flux of carbon in Oregon’s forest ecosystems and harvested wood products.

References

1. <https://olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/2007R1/Downloads/MeasureDocument/HB3543/Enrolled>
2. http://bofdata.fire.ca.gov/board_business/binder_materials/2017/dec17/full/full_14.1_ab_1504_california_forest_ecosystem_and_harvested_wood_product_carbon_inventory_2006_-2015.pdf
3. <https://olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/2018R1/Downloads/MeasureDocument/HB5201>