



Oregon State University
College of Forestry

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Department of State Lands Advisory Committee Members

Dear Advisory Committee Members:

On July 23, 2020, the Department of State Lands (DSL) Advisory Committee (AC) met with the Oregon State University (OSU) College of Forestry and Elliott State Research Forest (ESRF) project team to review new elements of the research platform detailing harvest treatments, adaptive management protocol, and the riparian research strategy. During and following the meeting, the Advisory Committee raised a number of questions which College staff have worked to address.

Attached is a draft ESRF proposal that includes a summary of updates to the research platform and newly developed sections on OSU commitments to public values and proposed governance structure. We are presenting these materials for review embedded within the table of contents for the full proposal to provide greater clarity regarding how we envision these documents will be integrated for the final proposal delivered to the Land Board.

There have been a number of changes to the research platform as a direct result of AC member input and continued conversation with stakeholders. Those changes as well as responses to questions and feedback are summarized in the "Research Platform" section as we believe this is the most efficient way for the full DSL AC to review the changes since July. Once an agreement is reached and there are no more revisions, we will update the [various documents](#) that comprise the research platform (provided to the DSL AC in July) and integrate them into the larger proposal that will be presented at the December Land Board meeting.

The full text of sections outlining OSU's commitments to public values and the proposed governance structure are included for your review. These sections were developed collaboratively with feedback from the AC governance subcommittee, members of Oregon Consensus, and DSL, and have recently been reviewed by the external Science Advisory Panel to ensure they are consistent with OSU's research objectives.

Work on other elements of the ESRF proposal continues, including updating harvest revenue modeling and gathering additional information on research program costs needed to transform the Elliott into a world class research forest. Investigation of potential participation in the carbon market is also underway. Lastly, OSU and DSL are moving forward with conversations regarding decoupling the ESF from the Common School Fund.

I would like to thank each of you for your thoughtful input as we work towards finalizing a conceptual plan for an Elliott State Research Forest. I look forward to hearing your thoughts on these updates at the upcoming Advisory Committee meeting.

Sincerely,



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