Elliott State Forest Research Advisory Committee
November 21, 2019

Advisory Committee Website: https://www.oregon.gov/dsl/land/pages/elliott.aspx

Advisory Committee Members present: Steve Andringa, Bob Sallinger, Michael Langley, Mary Paulson, Paul Beck, Jen Clark, Eric Farm, Geoff Huntington, Mike Kennedy, Ken McCall, Mark Stern, Keith Tymchuk, Vicki Walker, and Bob Van Dyk.

Department of State Lands and Oregon State University Staff: Meliah Masiba, Robert Underwood, Ali Hansen, Ryan Singleton, Jennah Stillman, and Bill Ryan.

Oregon Consensus Facilitation Team: Peter Harkema, Brett Brownscombe, and Amy Delahanty

Action Items

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action Item</th>
<th>Who</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Circulate draft November 21 meeting summary to AC members for review and comment.</td>
<td>OC</td>
<td>Completed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interested participants willing to present the joint statement on behalf of the Committee and participate on a panel to contact Oregon Consensus, DSL or OSU.</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>11/29/19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Review and provide any suggested edits to the draft final guiding principles document.</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>By Close of business 11/29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Read “Connectivity and the Governance of Multilevel Social Ecological Systems: The Role of Social Capital”.</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>When possible and prior to next AC meeting</td>
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OSU Research Faculty Informal Discussion:
Several Advisory Committee members participated in an informal discussion with OSU research faculty about their areas of interest and research opportunities on the Elliott. Faculty present included:

- Jeff Hatten (Forest Soil and Watershed Processes)
- Dana Warren (Aquatic ecology and aquatic-terrestrial linkages)
- Chris Still (Carbon and biogeography)
Welcome, Agenda Review and Process Overview
Facilitator Peter Harkema welcomed the group and invited members to do a round of introductions. He then reviewed the agenda topics with the group, which included a presentation from OSU faculty Jim Rivers on Murrelet Research; a broad overview of OSU’s anticipated presentation to the Land Board; Committee member Advisory Committee suggestions for presentation to the Land Board and reflections on effort to date and thoughts on ongoing effort moving forward; and confirm next steps. Peter shared Oregon Consensus did not receive any proposed edits on the November 8th meeting summary, and as such, the document was considered final.

General Updates
Department of State Lands
Department of State Lands Director, Vicki Walker, shared that she received “Connectivity and the Governance of Multilevel Social Ecological Systems: The Role of Social Capital” co-authored by Nobel Laureate Elinor Ostrom, in which the authors address aspects related to negotiating governance among different stakeholders and the role of social capital. Director Walker requested Advisory Committee members read the article as an informal “homework” assignment.

ACTION ITEM: Advisory Committee members to read “Connectivity and the Governance of Multilevel Social Ecological Systems: The Role of Social Capital”.

OSU Research Faculty
Geoff shared the University is participating in a ten year intensive murrelet research effort. He stated Dr. Jim Rivers (OSU) is leading the research team, which is comprised of College of Forestry faculty and staff, and others across the University. Geoff then introduced Dr. Rivers to the Advisory Committee.

Dr. Jim Rivers provided a presentation about OSU’s Marbled Murrelet research efforts. Presentation topics included 1.) why are marbled so peculiar e.g. background, habitat and constraints and inferences on findings; 2.) how to find Murrelet nests; and 3.) what is OSU learning about Oregon Murrelets. The following questions were asked during the presentation:

- Do they nest in the same spot that they were nested?
- Do both parents participate in the foraging and feeding?
- When you think about the Elliott how does that relate to your study and potential other studies?
- How many nesting sites would you see?
- Has there been any study that looked into edge effect, or the benefits after disturbance?

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1 Connectivity and the Governance of Multilevel Social-Ecological Systems: The Role of Social Capital
Eduardo S. Brondizio, Elinor Ostrom, Oran R. Young
Annual Review of Environment and Resources 2009 34:1, 253-278
December Land Board Meeting

Peter reviewed the structure for the December 10th Land Board meeting Elliott agenda topic. He noted Director Walker will give a broad synopsis of the Advisory Committee purpose and process and related efforts. OSU will speak to the Research Charter and vision for an Elliott State Research Forest. Troy Rahmig (ICF) will present about the approach and status of the HCP. Advisory Committee members will then be invited to speak and interact with Land Board members, followed by closing remarks by Director Walker. Meliah Masiba then shared the draft joint Committee statement, prepared by the project team at the request of the Committee at its November 8th meeting. The intent of the statement is to provide a single unified statement to the Land Board. She noted the Land Board Assistants felt it would also be important for the Land Board to interact directly with a few Advisory Committee members about their experience in the process. Peter noted that individual members would be speaking from their own experience and perspective and would not be reflecting the views of the group or other members of the Committee.

Peter then reviewed the rough draft Advisory Committee statement with members. He highlighted there was some sensitivity among the project team to not overstep, or intuit, what others may want to be included in the draft statement. He then invited members to share any initial reactions or suggested changes to the statement. There was general agreement that the process is on the right track and that there is a desire among members to keep going, but there are highly complex issues that remain. The group is committed to working towards solutions. Advisory Committee members also suggested the following additions:

- The statement should convey the Committee is enthusiastic and willing to stick through this.
- Everyone here has committed to this process and has achieved a significant amount of work.
- Identify the Committee’s charge that was given by the Land Board and consider adding it as a preamble to the document.
- There’s been a vigorous effort along the way and brought that into our thought processes.
- The remaining issues are highly complex e.g. HCP, Marbled Murrelet, land acre allocation.

A small group of Committee members worked during the lunch period to further refine the joint Committee statement. This revised version was presented to the full Committee, who offered a few minor editorial suggestions but approved of the revised statement. Following discussion of the joint statement, the group discussed who might provide individual reflections to the Board. Peter suggested that the panel should reflect the diverse perspectives represented on the Committee. Six members volunteered to participate. Others interested Committee members were encouraged to reach out to the Meliah, Geoff or Peter if they would like to participate on a panel. Based on agenda structure and time available, the Project Team will confirm individual panel members. In addition, the Committee nominated Keith Tymchuck to read the Joint Committee Statement to the Board.

During the discussion, several committee members wondered about the remaining tasks and overall project timeline. Director Walker shared she expects the Committee will meet in some fashion (such
as every quarter, possibly with subcommittee work in between) for approximately 6-9 more months. Geoff Huntington shared from OSU’s perspective, there is more work to do, but the University will move aggressively. He noted that at some point, there will need to be a proposal put on the table, but that the remaining tasks will be to make refinements to the research design; define a governance structure; further conversations regarding decoupling; and rerunning financial modeling once any further refinements to the research design have been completed.

Peter acknowledged that the Committee members have spent significant time, energy and effort to get to where they are now. He stated the project team will look at the remaining buckets of work and develop a 2020 work plan accordingly. He noted that the Committee structure may shift, with subgroups taking on detailed work on particular topics and recommendations coming back to the full Advisory Committee during periodic meetings. Peter shared the project team will discuss the Committee’s role and next steps in the coming weeks.

**ACTION ITEM:** Interested participants willing to present the joint statement on behalf of the Committee and participate on a panel to contact Oregon Consensus, DSL or OSU.

**Lunch Break** *(Facilitator note: Several Committee members revised the joint AC statement)*

**OSU Land Board Presentation and Reflections**
Interim Dean Anthony Davis provided a broad overview of OSU’s anticipated presentation to the Land Board, reflections on effort to date and thoughts on effort going forward. Dean Davis highlighted that the Elliott provides an opportunity to nest short-term pressing questions within a long-term research design. He noted that this is an extremely unique opportunity and that he expects it will attract the best and brightest locally, nationally and globally. He noted that the Elliott provides a unique laboratory for studying the intersection of sustainability and climate. He then invited Committee member input. There were questions and comments related to whether OSU will commit to raise funding for research; whether the commitment or vision change with a new dean; and if OSU would use its bonding authority to raise funds for the research forest.

**Guiding Principles**
Geoff shared that at the last meeting there were four guiding principles, and at the Committee’s suggestion, governance was included as a fifth. He noted that there are ongoing conversations about how best to capture tribal values. Geoff stated the updated draft guiding principles will be included in the Land Board packet and made available on the website, and OSU will go back to Coos Bay and Reedsport to share the updated document with stakeholders involved in the workgroups.

**Next Steps**
Peter thanked Advisory Committee members for their participation. He then invited members to provide any reflections. The meeting was then adjourned at 2:30p.m.
Overview of the Oregon Marbled Murrelet Project

The College of Forestry Dean’s Research Initiative

Dr. Jim Rivers
OSU College of Forestry

Jaymi Heimbuch
Murrelets are central to much policy discussion in Oregon at the current time.
Three focal questions for this morning

Why are Marbled Murrelets so peculiar?

How do you go about finding their nests?

What are we learning about Oregon murrelets?
Murrelets are widespread along the Pacific NW coast

Long-lived and lay 1 egg/nest
Eat forage fish and invertebrates
Cruising speed is 60–70 mph

ESA listed as Threatened

Cornell Lab of Ornithology
The murrelet nest cycle is long and they are very secretive at nests to reduce nest predation.

Single egg incubated for ~4 weeks

Chick fledges from nest in ~4–6 weeks
Corvids are thought to be the most important predators of murrelet nests.
Nesting data are limited, yet critical for recovering Oregon murrelet populations.

~775,000 acres of nesting habitat in Oregon

Only 29 active nests located prior to this study
Science Team for the Oregon Marbled Murrelet Project

Dr. Jim Rivers  
CoF, OSU

Dr. Matt Betts  
CoF, OSU

Kim Nelson  
FW, OSU

Dr. Dan Roby  
FW, OSU

Dr. Joe Northrup  
Ontario Ministry NRF

Dr. Sophie Garcia-Heras  
CoF, OSU

Jenn Guerrero  
CoF, OSU

Lindsay Adrean  
CoF, OSU

Ethan Woodis  
CoF, OSU

Jon Dachenhaus  
CoF, OSU
How do you go about finding murrelet nests?
Coastal telemetry stations

Pacific City → Florence (140 km)
What are we learning about murrelets in Oregon?
Tagged birds in 2017 provided unprecedented findings

None of our 61 tagged birds nested

Some individuals moved >560 km from tagging locations

Significant implications for at-sea population monitoring
Warm water conditions during May and June coincided with reduction in forage fish.

2017 NOAA ocean surveys:
- All-time record low salmon catch
- Pacific herring, smelt at low levels

Campbell and Alder 2008
12 active nests located in 2018–2019, an increase of >40%
Egg incubation behavior
Mid-day provisioning of forage fish
Unexpected afternoon nest visitor
Successful fledging from the nest
Take-home points from the OR Marbled Murrelet Project

↑ in number of active nests in Oregon by >40% during 2018–2019

New information on:

Diversity of nest predators, tree species used for nesting

Importance of ocean conditions for undertaking nesting

Within-season movement between survey areas
Many thanks!

**Funding**
Institute for Working Forest Landscapes in College of Forestry OSU and the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture

**Logistical support**
Science to inform conservation and management of Oregon’s coastal forests
Elliott State Research Forest - Compiled Guiding Principles Working Draft

Each principle is a reflection of stakeholder input synthesized and reconciled to provide overarching statements of suggested direction for management of the Elliott State Research Forest in the context of the primary research mission.

RECREATION

- **Ensure Public Access Into the Future.** The Elliott State Research Forest (“forest”) will remain accessible to the public for a variety of uses from multiple established entry points, by both motorized and non-motorized transportation, but not all places at all times.

- **Promote Recreational Access and Use that is Compatible with Research and Ecological Integrity:** Public use of the forest will be supported and managed for different recreational opportunities consistent with a management plan reflecting stakeholder interests and historical activities in concert with public safety, ongoing research, harvest, and conservation of at-risk and historically present species.

- **Support and Promote Diverse Recreational Experiences:** The Elliott State Research Forest recreational program will leverage partnerships within the local community and others to accommodate multiple and diverse recreational uses to provide a range of user experiences within the context of a working forest landscape. Recreational planning will not favor any one recreational type over another but will seek to ensure high-quality experiences on the forest by managing to minimize the potential for conflict between users while safeguarding research and management objectives, and conservation values.

- **Partner with Stakeholders and Manage Locally:** Elliott State Research Forest recreation programs will be managed by local staff who live in the community and work with stakeholders to enhance and protect the identified values of Elliott recreationists.

- **Conduct Research on Sustainable Recreation Practices.** An Elliott State Research Forest recreation program will support relevant research on recreation and eco-based tourism, with the goal to advance scientific knowledge and inform the general public on the opportunities and impacts of balancing multiple interests within forested landscapes.

- **Cultivate Multi-Generational Respect for the Forest.** Utilizing a collaborative approach to partner with schools, organizations, and volunteer groups recreation planning and management will seek to create more opportunities for engagement and a more widely informed forest-user community that is vested in the future of the Elliott State Research Forest.
Each principle is a reflection of stakeholder input synthesized and reconciled to provide overarching statements of suggested direction for management of the Elliott State Research Forest in the context of the primary research mission.

EDUCATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

- **Seek and Incorporate New Educational Partnerships.** An Elliott State Research Forest will offer opportunities to leverage and integrate existing local and state educational programs and institutions that support and generate forest-based research and knowledge.

- **Expand Accessibility to Forestry Education.** An Elliott State Research Forest will provide and promote a diversity of values, and in doing so will leverage efforts by OSU’s College of Forestry to engage students with diverse social, economic, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds in forestry education programs.

- **Serve Students at All Levels of Education Through Programs on the Forest.** OSU will seek to foster and establish a programmatic link with K-12, community colleges, informal collaborative educational initiatives, and educational programs at other universities so that the forest becomes a resource for students at all educational levels.

- **Integrate and Demonstrate Elements of Traditional Knowledge in Educational Programs on the Forest.** Through active partnerships with local Tribal Governments, the Elliott State Research Forest will seek to provide demonstration areas that use traditional forest management practices and focus on Traditional Ecological Knowledge outcomes for use in educational programs.

- **Foster Public Awareness and Understanding of Sustainable Forest Management.** Management and research actions on the Elliott State Research Forest will seek to promote broader understanding and awareness of the role of healthy working forest landscapes to local economies, resilient ecosystems, innovative competitive products, and healthy communities.

- **Develop an Educational Partnerships Plan.** The Elliott State Research Forest will work with stakeholders to develop a plan to foster and implement educational partnerships consistent with the foregoing principles and will implement it pending available resources.
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LOCAL AND REGIONAL ECONOMIES

- **Operate as a Working Forest While Managing for Research.** The Elliott State Research Forest will be owned and managed as a working forest that produces wood supply as a by-product of research, consistent with the mission of the Institute for Working Forests Landscapes at Oregon State University College of Forestry.

- **Be Financially Self-Sustaining.** The financial model of the forest should incorporate traditional and innovative options for generating revenue to support forest management, and research programs without requiring continued funding support from outside sources.

- **Generate Consistent and High-Quality Timber Harvest.** A sustainable supply of wood volume will be produced over time as a by-product of the research program on the Elliott State Research Forest. Quality should be prioritized over the quantity of harvest.

- **Support Employment Opportunities for Local Communities.** The Elliott State Research Forest should not be managed from a remote location. Management and operation of the forest should be located in proximity to the forest and promote local partnerships that provide opportunities to local businesses and residents of Coos and Douglas counties.

- **Study and report on the Relationship between the Research Forest and Local Economies.** The connections between OSU, the Elliott State Research Forest, and local economies should be documented and reported with transparency over time.
Each principle is a reflection of stakeholder input synthesized and reconciled to provide overarching statements of suggested direction for management of the Elliott State Research Forest in the context of the primary research mission.

**CONSERVATION**

- **Improve Conservation Status of At-Risk Species.** The Elliott State Research Forest will undertake studies, research, and associated forest management activities that seek to improve the conservation status of at-risk species and the ecosystems upon which they depend.

- **Implement Science-Based Conservation Efforts to Enhance the Productivity and Conservation Values of the Research Forest.** In adhering to the academic mission of Oregon State University, and to ensure the sustainability of any management or activity that occurs on the landscape, all conservation decisions or proposed projects on the Elliott State Research Forest will be rooted in the best available scientific data.

- **Manage for Multiple Conservation Values to Maintain and Enhance Essential Elements of a Forest Ecosystem.** With a holistic, ecological approach, management of the Elliott State Research Forest will support the protection and enhancement of at-risk species and preservation of biodiversity, along with promoting improved natural hydrologic function and opportunities of carbon sequestration.

- **Preserve and Proactively Steward a Diversity of Forest Structures.** Management of the Elliott State Research Forest will emphasize key ecological areas ranging from early seral to late-successional forest structure in the context of the greater landscape. The future growth of the forest should encompass diverse objectives of biological quality and resilience for future adaptability.

- **Collaborate with Local Partners for Monitoring and Restoration of Habitat.** Management planning for the Elliott State Research Forest will partner with local conservation stakeholders to maintain transparency and mutual trust that protection of sensitive natural values will be prioritized.

- **Management Decisions Will Not Be Driven by Potential Financial Returns.** The integrity of the research objectives and conservation values on the Elliott State Research Forest will not be compromised by the presence of active management and economic influences on the forest.

- **Conduct Innovative Research on the Intersection of Forest Ecosystems Functions and Climate Change.** The Elliott State Research Forest will provide a unique opportunity to conduct innovative research on the role that native, mature, and managed forests can play in ameliorating the impacts of climate change for sensitive species, water quality/retention, and carbon sequestration.
Each principle is a reflection of stakeholder input synthesized and reconciled to provide overarching statements of suggested direction for management of the Elliott State Research Forest in the context of the primary research mission.

**FOREST OPERATIONS GOVERNANCE**

- **Accountability.** The history and unique public nature of the Elliott Forest requires placing a premium on establishing a governance structure that will provide clear lines of accountability for forest management decisions that support research programs and articulated public values into the future. This structure should include formal and informal mechanisms that ensure commitments and principles are honored in the context of fiscal and operational management of the forest over time.

- **Transparency.** Management of the Elliott Forest requires a commitment to transparent operations and decision making that will maintain and enhance public support for the research forest over time. This includes clear and defined processes for governance and oversight, clearly defined pathways for public inquiry and input, and accessible information related to forest operations.

- **Representation.** An Elliott State Research Forest governance structure should engage and incorporate multiple interests and partnerships that reflect key public values the forest will represent over time. Representation of these values in governance of the forest should be balanced, accountable, and transparent with regard to fiscal and operational management of the forest to support research programs over time.

- **Decision Making.** Regardless of governance structure, decision-making processes directing the fiscal and operational management of the Elliott State Research Forest must be accountable, transparent, and open to input while also empowered to operate the forest efficiently and effectively to meet identified objectives.