

Agenda Item No:	4
Presentation Title:	Federal Forest Health Program Update
Date of Presentation:	March 9, 2016
Contact Information:	Chad Davis, Senior Policy Analyst 503-602-2130 chad.davis@state.or.us

SUMMARY

This agenda item is an informational item to present the results of the 2013-2015 Federal Forest Health Program (FFH) and provide an update on the 2015-2017 Program.

CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND

In the 2013-2015 biennium, the state legislature initially funded the FFH in the ODF budget. Throughout implementation, ODF staff provided several updates to the Board. The FFH Program includes two primary components: 1) Collaborative Support – which includes both a grant program (administered by OWEB) and contracts for provision of technical assistance and science support to local forest collaborative groups, and 2) Implementation Partnership – a combination of ODF staff and contracting to increase the pace and quality of data collection and pre-sale activities (unit layout, etc). These activities served as a precursor to potential work ODF could take on under the Good Neighbor Authority (<http://www.fs.fed.us/farmbill/gna.shtml>).

Relative to the 2013-2015 program, ODF contracted with the Ecosystem Workforce Program (EWP - <http://ewp.uoregon.edu/>) at the University of Oregon to provide lead work on the overall monitoring effort of the Federal Forest Health Program. EWP also holds several contracts with the US Forest Service’s Regional Office to provide both project-level and regional monitoring on components of the USFS’ Accelerated Restoration Strategy. The ODF contract was intended to dovetail with this broader regional work to be able to pull together both the individual and joint impacts of State and increased Federal investments.

The state legislature reauthorized the FFH Program for the 2015-2017 biennium, allocating a total of \$5.0 million, including \$1.3 million to Collaborative Support and \$3.4 million to the Implementation Partnership. To date, ODF has committed roughly 2/3 of total funds.

A presentation by ODF staff will include highlights from the monitoring report and an account of expenditures and commitments to date of the 2015-2017 biennium.

RECOMMENDATION

1. No recommendation at this time. Information only.

ATTACHMENTS & LINKS

1. Monitoring of Outcomes From Oregon's Federal Forest Health Program
https://scholarsbank.uoregon.edu/xmlui/bitstream/handle/1794/19386/WP_57.pdf?sequence=1