

Committee for Family Forestlands Annual Report to the Board 2018



*Annual Report presented to the Board of Forestry July 24, 2018
by Evan Barnes, Acting Chair, Committee for Family Forestlands*

The Committee for Family Forestlands (CFF) is pleased to provide a report of its activities over the past year (July 2017–June 2018). This report outlines accomplishments of the CFF and discusses progress made on a forward looking agenda that addresses key issues for Oregon’s family forestlands.

The CFF is a standing committee established by the Oregon Board of Forestry (Board) to assist the State Forester and the Board on issues relevant to some 70,000 family forestland owners in the state, including the formulation of policy and evaluation of effects that changes in forest policy have or will have on those lands. The Committee provides recommendations to the Board and the Department of Forestry (ODF) regarding strategies and actions to improve services and provides an avenue to raise public awareness of the role that family forestlands play in maintaining an economically, socially and ecologically healthy forest environment. In giving advice to the Board and State Forester, we are mindful of, and strive to be consistent with, the objectives of the Forestry Program for Oregon and the Oregon Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management. The CFF gives a voice to small forest landowners.

The 2017-2018 membership of the Committee for Family Forestlands included:

Evan Barnes, (Southern Oregon Family Forestland Owner) Acting Chair, Voting Member
Bonnie Shumaker, (Northwest Oregon Family Forestland Owner) Voting Member
John Peel, (Eastern Oregon Family Forestland Owner), Voting Member
Gilbert Shibley, (Landowner At Large) Voting Member
Evan Smith, (Environmental Community Representative) Voting Member
Mark Vroman, (Industry Representative) Voting Member
Vacant, (Citizen at Large), Voting Member
Kyle Abraham, (Deputy Chief Private Forests Division) Secretary (non-voting)
Janean Creighton, (OSU College of Forestry) Ex-Officio
Linda Lind, (Public Land Management/USFS State Liaison) Ex-Officio
Julie Woodward, (OFRI Representative) Ex-Officio
Rex Storm, (AOL, OTFS, Forestry Interest or Consulting Group Representative) Ex-Officio
Lena Tucker, (Chief Private Forest Division, State Forester Representative) Ex-Officio

CFF Membership Items

Ed Weber, resigned as Committee Chair.
Evan Barnes, Southern Oregon representative serving as Acting Chair.
Mark Vroman, appointed as Industry Representative.

Acknowledgments

We would like to acknowledge the support we’ve received from the Oregon Department of Forestry and its Private Forests Division staff, the State Forester, and members of the Board of Forestry.

We would like to specifically acknowledge the contributions of our partnering organizations. Much of the CFF's outreach work would not be successful without them:

- Oregon Small Woodlands Association (OSWA),
- Oregon Forest Resources Institute (OFRI),

- Oregon Tree Farm System (OTFS),
- American Forest Foundation (AFF),
- OSU College of Forestry and Extension.

In particular, we would like to recognize invited guests on a variety of topics:

- **Tammy Cushing**, Starker Chair, Private and Family Forestry, Extension Specialist at OSU College of Forestry.
- **Emily Jane Davis**, Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist at OSU.
- **Tim Murphy**, Farm and Forests Lands Specialist at the Department of Land Conservation and Development.
- **Chad Davis** and **John Tokarczyk** from the ODF Partnership & Planning Program.
- **Tom Imeson**, Board of Forestry Chair for sharing his thoughts on issues important to the Board and how the CFF can best serve family forestland interests in Oregon.
- **Peter Daugherty**, State Forester, for his recommendations on Committee involvement and advice on current issues in front of the Board.

Introduction

We enjoyed a recent visit from the State Forester and Board of Forestry Chair. They commended the Committee for their influence on Board of Forestry decision-making by voicing forestland owner interests and providing testimony on behalf of family forestland owners. They also reminded the Committee that the Mission of the BOF is to lead Oregon in implementing policies and programs that promote sustainable management for Oregon's public and private forests. The Committee is gratified its work is important to the Board, the Department, and the forestland owners we represent.

The CFF recognizes Oregon's forests should be actively managed to maintain forest health, conserve native plant and animal species, and to produce the products and benefits people value. We believe landowners and the public share responsibility for sustainable forests and our forests sustainability depends upon the contributions of both landowners and the public.

The CFF also recognizes the competing, complex, topics in front of the Board and State Forester and appreciates the time and support provided to the Committee.

The report begins with a summary of the Committee's major focus areas for the 2017-2018 year. Letters to the Board of Forestry are included in the appendix as well as an outline for future Committee priorities.

For additional information, please visit the CFF [website \(http://www.oregon.gov/ODF/Board/Pages/CFF.aspx\)](http://www.oregon.gov/ODF/Board/Pages/CFF.aspx). It contains greater detail regarding committee structure, agendas, meeting minutes, and all formal recommendations, etc.

2017-2018 Focus Areas

Maintaining Family Forestlands

The committee began discussions around land use laws and regulations for secondary dwelling allowances. There is allowance for additional housing on lands under Exclusive Farm Use zoning but there is no secondary dwelling allowance on forest resource lands, which members believe is an issue in maintaining family forestlands. Staff from the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) and the Department provided background on land use regulations. The committee also discussed Statewide Planning Goal #4 which is intended to maintain forestland and ultimately how this affects county planning decisions. DLCD has offered to provide technical assistance as the committee navigates this topic.

Statistics from Oregon Forest Resources Institute (OFRI) indicate that the average age of family forestland owners is 65. Generational transfers have produced more landowners with families dividing up parcels, or designating equal owners. Land values have at least tripled in recent generations. Concerns landowners have with intergenerational transfers of forestland are monetary needs; taxes, lack of skills; developing family relationships and business continuity; relinquishing control; generational difference; and lack of connection. These concerns might be addressed by allowing additional family members to reside on the property.

It has been noted that the forest industry and environmental interests historically have tended to discourage relaxing the land use laws. ODF has been a strong proponent of land use laws because of the success Oregon has had retaining 98% of our forests since 1974. To accomplish this, Oregon uses a three-pronged approach of strong land use laws, an efficient and effective Forest Practices Act and voluntary measures. The Committee believes that Oregon now needs to include the incentive to stave off development by aiding intergenerational transfer.

Fire risk is one of the biggest factors that continually comes up, especially in wildland/urban interface areas. A list of sideboards, could be developed to be eligible for an additional dwelling to be permitted. As an example, an appropriate acreage limit would allow traditional working forests to be eligible. In addition, documented efforts of verifiable activities could demonstrate there is ongoing management of the resource such as forest management plans, tree farm audits and certification programs. A positive consequence of an allowance could be to incentivize more active management and more forest management plans.

The goal is to achieve a legislative concept for the 2019 Legislative Session which will need support from the Board of Forestry and others to go further.

Eastern Oregon/Siskiyou Streamside Monitoring Project

The Department was tasked by the Board to identify potential questions which could direct a monitoring study in Eastern Oregon and/or Siskiyou georegions, including resources required to complete a study depending upon the scope of inquiry. In early 2018, the Department brought the Board a progress report with a structured decision-making framework to decide what questions should be asked and answered in a monitoring study specific to those georegions. The basic data analysis for the question parameters had been completed along with the results of stakeholder outreach which were provided to the Board. Initial outreach targeted interested parties and stakeholders that traditionally or actively have engaged with the Board.

At the March 2018 BOF meeting, CFF Eastern Oregon Landowner Representative John Peel provided testimony to the Board which supported the Department's recommendation and also laid out some questions regarding the Eastern Oregon monitoring component. The Board voted in favor of the Department's recommendation of conducting a literature review on small and medium sized fish streams for stream shade, temperature and desired future conditions of riparian forests in the Siskiyou georegion. Contextual information on fish status will be included.

The CFF takes interest due to initial data of stream locations which suggest the Siskiyou region is similar to lands in the RipStream study which will affect small family forestland owners lower in the stream network. There is about 60% small private timberland owners by acreage. The Committee for Family Forestlands will continue to be interested in the literature review for the Siskiyou and discussions around Eastern Oregon as they develop.

Wildlife Food Plots

Legislation directed the Board to develop rules for Wildlife Food Plots (WFP). Wildlife food plots are intended to increase forage opportunities for targeted species of wildlife. Many species could benefit from this rulemaking such as songbirds, pollinators, and other species. Wildlife food plots create an exception to reforestation requirements on a percentage of the ownership. However, as these plots are not a land use change, if the plot isn't managed it must be reforested.

The statute went into effect in 2016 and staff developed guidance on the establishment and maintenance of WFPs.

The statute requires ODF to consult with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to determine habitat needs for specific wildlife as well as appropriate forage mixes for different species/locations. The CFF has discussed general policy recommendations focusing in on minimum plot sizes, monitoring concerns, and the potential of blanket approvals for determined acreages, and targeting broad functional wildlife groups.

The statute threshold is less than 5000 acres to apply so it pertains mostly to non-industrial private forestland owners, thus the Committee will be the rulemaking advisory committee over the next year or so.

Additional Topics

Marbled Murrelets

The members have received several updates and provided input related to next steps in the rule analysis process for marbled murrelets. The Committee has reviewed the draft technical report and is interested in thinking through recommendations for Voluntary Measures. The Board's own statement in the Forestry Program from Oregon prefers the use of voluntary methods in lieu of regulatory methods. An example mentioned was considering voluntarily limiting disturbance activities around potential nesting platforms in riparian areas to conserve habitat on the landscape. Voluntary measures should be considered at the start rather than the end of the process and measures like Safe Harbor Agreements might mitigate concerns. Forestland owners can make a difference to the acceptance of a course of action. The Committee is very interested in this topic and encourages more discussion on the possible impacts to family forestland owners.

Smoke Management/EQC Policy Discussion

Members received a briefing of the Smoke Management Review. The work of the Smoke Management Program is to mitigate smoke intrusions from prescribed burning by monitoring the weather and regulating how much burning should take place based on weather and air quality conditions. ODF works jointly with the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) as part of the State Implementation Plan of the Clean Air Act.

With recognition of increasing fire risks, the need for fuels reduction to mitigate fire severity is increasing. Agencies are working on burning allowances to achieve desired outcomes by maximizing burn opportunities during appropriate times. A challenge specifically for family forestland community is landowner liability. Most small landowners can't afford the liability for a prescribed fire that crosses onto another ownership.

Aerial Spray Buffers around Homes and Schools

An aerial spray buffer around homes and schools is now required in the FPA resulting from HB 3549 from the 2015 legislative session. The members were presented with a look of the many laws and agencies involved in Oregon's pesticide regulation on forestlands. Restrictions on aerial herbicide application around homes and schools took effect January 1, 2016.

The House Bill did not direct ODF to develop rules and ODF has no plans at this time to develop a rule set associated with this statute. However, staff has developed guidance to ensure consistent implementation of the statute. This guidance has been shared with the CFF and the three Regional Forest Practices Committees.

Compliance Audit Reporting/Support

The Committee for Family Forestlands is very interested and supportive of the department's efforts to annually complete the Compliance Audit. The focus has been on some of the rules in the Harvesting, Roads, and Riparian Protection divisions. The Field process for contractors focused on the key points between forest operations and waters of the State. The standardized treatment of the data provides a good indication of where we may have apparent compliance concerns in meeting the Forest Practice Act rules. Audit results are not intended for enforcement or investigation, however the results are extremely valuable in targeting training and educational programs for staff, landowners, and operators. The CFF remains interested in this topic and the new direction focusing on reforestation.

Oregon Bee Project

Members requested a presentation on bees and other pollinators. Private Forests Division Staff presented data on the global decline of native pollinators and mitigation efforts to address the acute risks to bees. ODF started working with the Oregon Bee Project with the focus on forest health and preventative practices in pesticide applications; removing invasive plants; allowing forage to grow at the edges of stands and keeping some downed wood for nest building. It was interesting to note that Oregon has 500 species of bees. Forest activities are actually a positive for pollinators as

harvested lands create early seral forest conditions with native flowering plant species taking root in bare or disturbed soil. There could be opportunity in wildlife food plots to benefit native bees.

Forest Certification

Staff from the Partnership and Planning Program delivered information on the Department's efforts to expand Oregon's wood products market and to evaluate how green building systems recognize Oregon's wood. As forest certification is required in 'green' building systems like LEEDs, analysis found Oregon's uncertified producers were at a disadvantage. This was limiting market opportunities, even as forests managed under the Oregon FPA meet or exceed the protocols of ASTM (American Society for Testing Materials) Responsible Standards. Staff shared that lands managed under the FPA could be a 'certified responsible' wood product, opening up previously restricted markets. At this point, mills must ensure grading and traceability protocols are met and verified by a qualified third party guaranteeing marketing claims. There could be additional opportunities for small woodland owners to use that certification and the CFF is interested in learning more.

Ritter Collaborative

For the benefit of members, Staff from the OSU College of Forestry provided a summary of the landowner collaborative pilot, its continuing successes, and lessons learned.

The Ritter Land Management Team applied to a number of sources for grant funds which include noxious weed treatments, juniper removal, fencing and planting riparian areas. They achieved designation as a Fire Wise Community which allowed them access to resources for wildfire risk reduction and overall community preparedness. Landowners now have infrastructure in place to help remove juniper. There was a feasibility and a market study completed which indicated a small mill in Ritter could be viable and the first log was milled a few months ago.

This will likely be the final update for this topic.

Legislative Updates

Staff updated the Committee on the Short Legislative Session in February. Bills such as regulating guest ranches in Eastern Oregon and funding of Sudden Oak Death treatments were watched. Funding eastside relief for fire protection was ultimately restored. The short session also provided a possible preview of the longer session in 2019.

Agency Strategic Initiative

CFF was asked to provide feedback for a new Agency-wide Strategic Initiative planned for the 2019 legislative session. This is the first real opportunity to address both the Fire Program Review and the SOS's Performance Audit recommendations through a Legislative session. An outline of how the State organizes for large fire response and the years it takes to be nationally qualified for Incident Management Teams, both in continuing training and leadership development was provided. Use of overtime to meet fire and program needs has been happening unsustainably since 2013.

Members were made aware that ODF protects about a little over 3 million acres of Wildland/Urban Interface (WUI) and the landowners in those interface areas are an important constituent base for policy acceptance and a critically important component of a fire protection system. Many of those lands are also closely tied with family forestlands. There are some unique and unaddressed workloads that come along with forest management, invasive species, and fire prevention in the WUI areas. The Committee was welcomed to provide any support as a whole or individually.

Fire Season Updates

In September, the ODF Protection Division provided updates on the 2017 fire season efforts, costs, and statistics. The CFF recognized the contributions that Stewardship Foresters and the Department makes to support the fire militia. There was

also a recent, preliminary look at the 2018 fire season. Although cautious about making predictions, Oregon's snowpack is melting fast and above average temperatures are forecast in the Northwest as well as drier areas of the State. The Department noted fire starts from forest activities on ODF-Protected Lands following the IFPL restrictions are comparatively low and usually suppressed at initial attack. Currently, the Fire Program is working on the inter-agency agreement for fire protection on lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management.

Incentive Program Updates

o Statewide Agreement with the Natural Resources Conservation Service

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) provides financial assistance to nonindustrial forest landowners through programs authorized under the Farm Bill. Through a statewide agreement with NRCS, ODF can be reimbursed for time and expenses associated with delivering NRCS programs to forest landowners. In the past year, ODF signed a new \$1M agreement with NRCS for this work; NRCS also presented ODF with a Partnership Award. This partnership represents the primary mechanism through which ODF Stewardship Foresters are able to provide both technical and financial assistance to family forest landowners.

o Post-fire Restoration (Farm Service Agency – Emergency Forest Restoration Program)

The Farm Service Agency Emergency Forest Restoration Program (EFRP) provides financial assistance for landowners to restore forest lands impacted by natural disasters such as wildfire or ice storm damage. Much like the partnership with NRCS, ODF provides technical assistance for landowners enrolled in the program. To date, Stewardship Foresters have provided assistance to landowners impacted by wildfires in Baker, Grant, and Lake Counties, and sign-ups are currently open for landowners impacted by the Chetco Bar Fire. The Department has also used the program to assist landowners with drought and storm-related damage in the Willamette Valley.

o USFS State & Private Forestry

USFS State & Private Forestry provides base funding for the Department's Stewardship, Forest Health, Forest Legacy, and Urban and Community Forestry Programs. Funding for these programs has been declining in recent years. Especially hard hit this year is the Stewardship Program, which has been reduced to base levels. Nevertheless, this support continues to provide a solid foundation for the Department's landowner assistance and outreach programs, which are also supplemented by NRCS funding and other competitive grants.

o Federal Forest Restoration Program

ODF has a strong interest in federal land management because of the impact to private landowners and the transfer of risk onto private lands from disease, insects, or disturbance agents coming off those lands. In 2009 the Board asked the Department to look at how we can help our federal partners manage their forestlands, which spawned the Federal Forests Restoration Program (FFR). In the recent Legislative session, FFR was permanently placed into the Agency's budget. In addition to capacity support for Federal Forest Collaboratives, the FFR also takes advantage of the Good Neighbor Authority (GNA) to directly assist federal partners with restoration work on federal lands. The FFR is an ideal complement to the Department's landowner assistance programs because it allows us to complete treatments on both sides of the fence – effectively building cross boundary projects with landscape-scale impacts.

o Other Partners

Staff have worked closely with the American Forest Foundation (AFF) to develop a pilot project funded by NRCS that will provide additional capacity for field foresters to work with landowners in the development of Stewardship Plans. The idea is to develop a database of shovel-ready restoration projects on private lands and then access funding for implementation. To help with outreach to landowners, AFF will also work with ODF to pilot Woods Camp, which is a social media platform intended to reach less engaged forestland owners.

Meeting Topics Glossary

<p>September 25, 2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Division Update • Rule Changes and Implementation • Review of 2017 Work Plan 	<p>December 4, 2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Division Update • Strategic Initiatives • Smoke Management/EQC Policy discussion • Fire Season Wrap-up • After the Fire Update • EOA/Siskiyou Riparian Project • Food Plot Rulemaking • Ritter Collaborative Lessons Learned 	<p>February 27, 2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Division Update • Legislative Update • Land Use Planning discussion • Agency Strategic Initiative • State Forester Comments • Food Plot Rulemaking • Incentives Update • Good Neighbor Authority 	<p>May 29, 2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Division Update • Fire Season Outlook • Food Plot Rulemaking • Oregon Bee Project • Forest Certification • Incentives Update • Annual Report Review
<p>October 20, 2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Division Update • After the Fire Planning • National Forest Stewardship Conference • Forest Taxes • Forest Business/Succession Planning 	<p>January 16, 2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Division Update • HB 3549 Aerial Application Guidance • FPA Compliance Audit • Agency Strategic Initiative • Marbled Murrelet Rule Analysis Update • Incentives Update • Land Use Planning 	<p>April 20, 2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Division Update • Marbled Murrelet Rule Process Update • Food Plots Rulemaking • Board of Forestry Chair and State Forester Comments • Siskiyou Stream Monitoring Update • Incentives Update 	

2018-2019 Work Plan

Considering the progress made in gathering information in the past year and Board of Forestry priorities, the members propose emphasis on the following topics to guide Committee work.

Tier 1 Focus Areas

- 1.1 Water Quality/Stream Monitoring
- 1.2 Maintaining Family Forestland Continuity
 - Zoning equity
 - Wildland/urban interface opportunities
 - Barriers to Forestland Ownership
 - Urban/rural interface and link to stewardship opportunities
 - CFF Role in outreach
- 1.3 Input to BOF on Key Topics
- 1.4 Wildlife Food Plots
- 1.5 Forest Health
- 1.6 Fire
 - Landowner Readiness and Capacity
 - Prevention and Risk Reduction
 - Prescribed Fire Liability/Smoke Management
- 1.7 Forest Chemical Use
- 1.8 Seed/Seedling Availability

Tier 2 Topics

- 2.1 Forest Taxes and Forest Business/Succession
- 2.2 Educational needs for family forestland owners/engagement
- 2.3 Climate Change
- 2.4 Valuing Ecosystem Services
- 2.5 Conversion of eastside forestland
- 2.6 Protected Resources

Standing Agenda Items

- Legislative Updates
- Board of Forestry standing invitations to members
- Agency Budget
- Division Updates
- Fire Season Updates
- Compliance Audit Reporting/Support
- Incentive Opportunities/Conservation Easements
- OSU Extension Updates
- Private and Federal Interface/WUI

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To: Oregon Department of Forestry, Board of Forestry
From: John Peel, Eastside Forest Representative, Committee on Family Forestlands
Subject: **Eastern Oregon/Siskiyou Monitoring Streamside Protections**

Date: March 7, 2018

Good morning Board Members, Chair Imeson, and State Forester Daugherty. I am John Peel, Swindells Professor of Music at Willamette University. I am here today as the Eastern Oregon landowning representative for the Committee for Family Forestlands.

The Committee for Family Forestlands is a standing committee established by the Board of Forestry to assist the State Forester and the Board on issues relevant to some 70,000 family forestland owners in the state, including the formulation of policy and evaluation of effects that changes in forest policy have or will have on those lands. The Committee provides recommendations to the Board and the Oregon Department of Forestry regarding strategies and actions to improve services and provides an avenue to raise public awareness of the role that family forestlands play in maintaining an economically, socially and ecologically healthy forest environment.

Our committee has followed the streamside protection review with interest. These discussions have been informed by presentations from Department of Forestry members Marganne Allen, Manager, Forest Health and Monitoring and Terry Frueh, Monitoring Coordinator, Private Forest Division. In addition, Kyle Abraham, Deputy Chief, Private Forests Division and Lena Tucker, Division Chief, Private Forests have kindly provided on-going summaries of the survey questions, survey results, ranges and matrices of options being presented to the Board of Forestry regarding the extension of riparian consideration as we move into Eastern Oregon and the Siskiyou region.

From the document presented today to the Board of Forestry, *Information and Decisions: Analyses, Considerations, and Department Options*, the CFF strongly supports Option 2, the Modified Siskiyou Alternative (page 9). We agree that a review of peer-reviewed publications and research that is found relevant to and consonant with the climate, forest types and desired outcomes of the study is a logical and finite first step.

The sentiment that I hear from some CFF members (including myself) in our discussions of the Eastern Oregon and Siskiyou riparian forests is that as a goal, we are concerned about the ensemble of issues and questions—the interactions of attributes and conditions, especially as the sequence, research techniques and management lessons from the Siskiyou study are enacted on the east side of the Cascades. Some of these factors, along with the obvious questions of buffer size, tree and plant density within buffer zones, logging practices and the control of runoff and sediment, etc., include:

- Climate change—in already drier sites of eastern Oregon the effects that changing climate, especially warming could bring to stream temperatures and flow and ultimately even to domestic water sources
- Fish habitat—what are the boundary conditions for water clarity and temperature required for the survival of chub, resident trout (redband, cutthroat) and anadromous salmonids that inhabit Oregon's eastside streams
- Seasonal streams—managing those streams, even fish-bearing streams that go dry for two to three months per year
- Alternative uses of the land—in particular, cattle wading in and grazing along streams and the effect on stream health and streamside vegetation

We understand that the department is sympathetic with this holistic management vision. However, we also realize that the drafting, measuring and creating of baseline conditions, then the monitoring of all these variables would require years of study and millions of dollars. Because of the expense and complexity, the literature review outlined in Option 2 strikes us as an ideal place from which to begin—we should hope that existing studies and modeling in the literature can form the basis upon which further research and monitoring strategies can proceed. Progressing from the literature review to a concomitant set of questions, further data gathering, model building and constructing monitoring protocols could involve not only the department's field professionals but also partners from academe, state and federal wildlife and natural resource agencies. Given the richness, complexity and importance of the topics, not only would a robust set of management guidelines be developed for forested riparian areas but perhaps also a thesis, dissertation

or major publication would result from the Oregon Department of Forestry in collaboration with university, government or tribal researchers.

Appendix Item 2

Summary on Intergenerational Issues of Concern Regarding Oregon Land Use, Goal 4:

Goal 4: "To conserve forest lands by maintaining the forest land base and to protect the state's forest economy by making possible economically efficient forest practices that assure the continuous growing and harvesting of forest tree species as the leading use on forest land consistent with sound management of soil, air, water, and fish and wildlife resources and to provide for recreational opportunities and agriculture."

At the CFF meeting on January 16, 2018, we requested a speaker to inform us on Oregon's land use laws regarding forestry. Tim Murphy of DLCD did a great job explaining Goal 4 which applies to forestry. CFF members support Goal 4, but voice concern about one aspect of the law that is a detriment to the intergenerational sustainability of a key part of the forest land base. This is important to small woodland owners; we believe it should also be important to the Board of Forestry.

Problem Statement: There is inequity between farm and forest land use allowances regarding a second dwelling for a family member to assist in the active management of the resource. This is allowed for farm use under 2015 ORS 215.283. There is no such provision for forest land.

The CFF will be asking the Board of Forestry to consider the following:

- Small woodland parcels tend to be located on the edge of forest ecosystems in the wildland/urban interface. These edge forests provide critical wildlife habitat, protect water, sequester carbon, offer educational opportunities, and provide pleasing buffers between populated areas and more intensively managed industrial timber lands.
- To protect the conservation and economic benefits that small woodland owners provide, Oregon can develop incentives that increase the value of small woodland ownership, decrease the attractiveness of development, or both. Oregon has opted to emphasize *decreasing* the attractiveness of development through strict, land-use laws. Oregon now needs to develop incentives to stave off development by making family forest ownership more sustainable.
- The average age of small woodland owners is 60+, making transfer of land and its stewardship an immediate concern. The next generation generally needs to work and live near urban areas to provide for their families. Not many can afford to buy their own forestland. Without the option to live on the family forestland, they are less and less available to manage it and take emotional ownership. Some are lands their grandparents homesteaded.
- Aging owners often find they are not able to do the work they used to do. Without the next generation close by, who will fill in the slack, learn what needs to be done, step up to do the work and be prepared for the orderly transfer of land ownership and management?
- To provide for an orderly transfer of land, and to promote forest management skills and knowledge, small woodland owners view the ability to live with their extended families on their land as critical to maintaining a seamless transition.
- Forest land that already qualifies for a dwelling, should allow for a second dwelling for a family member. A second dwelling is allowed on farm zoned property to address the reasons mentioned above. It should be allowed on forest land, too. The dwelling would abide by the same rules that apply to farm dwellings; such as requiring the second dwelling to be on the same lot or parcel as the primary dwelling, and for the dwelling to pass fire-safe regulations. There would be no land division. The impact will not be large, but will be of utmost importance to the families that are interested and qualify.

Members of the CFF understand that changes to Goal 4 require legislative approval. Oregon Small Woodlands Association has brought this up at each legislative session for many years. The Committee's desire is for the Board of Forestry to look at this issue with the above-mentioned criteria and realize, as we do, that allowing a second dwelling on forestland for a family member increases support for Goal 4 "To conserve forest lands by maintaining the forest land base." With support from the Board of Forestry, the legislature may be more willing to address this issue.