

Agenda Item No.:	6
Work Plan:	Private Forests Work Plan
Topic:	Board of Forestry Updates
Presentation Title:	Committee for Family Forestlands Legislative Concept
Date of Presentation:	March 6, 2019
Contact Information:	Evan Barnes, Chair Committee for Family Forestlands
	Kyle Abraham, Private Forests Deputy Chief (503) 945-7473 Kyle.Abraham@Oregon.gov

SUMMARY

The purpose of this agenda item is to provide an update from the Committee for Family Forestlands (CFF) on proposed legislation. The legislation is designed to aid intergenerational transfer by providing a family dwelling allowance.

CONTEXT

The CFF, a standing committee of the Oregon Board of Forestry, provides advice to the Board of Forestry and the State Forester on methods to help improve the vitality of family forestlands, including improving owners’ ability to manage and market their timber and other forest products. The Committee for Family Forestlands continues to evaluate the impact of policy and regulatory changes on family forestland owners.

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

The committee began discussions around land use laws and regulations for secondary dwelling allowances in 2017 and brought this topic to the Board in July 2018 during their annual report. There is no secondary dwelling allowance on forest resource lands, which members believe is an issue in maintaining family forestlands.

Statistics from Oregon Forest Resources Institute (OFRI) indicate 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.

ODF and the Board are 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 Oregon needs to include this allowance to prevent future development by aiding intergenerational transfer and connection to the land.

RECOMMENDATION

Informational only.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1) HB 2469 Introduced Legislation