

Board of Forestry Meeting Minutes

April 24, 2019

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Items listed in order heard.

Complete audio recordings from the meeting and attachments listed below are available on the web at www.oregonforestry.gov.

- (1) Handout, [Petition for Rulemaking for Coho Salmon Resource Sites by Cady](#), Agenda Item 1
- (2) Presentation, [OFRI Values & Beliefs Survey](#), Agenda Item 2
- (3) Presentation, [ODF Annotated History of Climate Change - Related Policy in Oregon](#), Agenda Item 3
- (4) Presentation, [Oregon Forest Ecosystem Carbon Report](#), Agenda Item 3
- (5) Presentation, [FPA Rule Analysis for Marbled Murrelets](#), Agenda Item 4
- (6) Handout, [Oral and Written Testimony by Cady for Specified Resource Sites Rulemaking for Marbled Murrelet](#), Agenda Item 4
- (7) Handout, [Written Testimony by Fairchild for Specified Resource Sites Rulemaking for Marbled Murrelet](#), Agenda Item 4
- (8) Handout, [Written Testimony by Novick for Specified Resource Sites Rulemaking for Marbled Murrelet](#), Agenda Item 4
- (9) Handout, [Oral and Written Testimony by Yamamoto for Forest Trust Lands Advisory Committee](#), Agenda Item 5
- (10) Presentation, [Western Oregon HCP Phase 2 and FMP Update](#), Agenda Item 6
- (11) Handout, [Oral and Written Testimony by Ivanoff for Western Oregon HCP and FMP Update](#), Agenda Item 6
- (12) Handout, [Oral and Written Testimony by Jones for Western Oregon HCP and FMP Update](#), Agenda Item 6
- (13) Handout, [Oral and Written Testimony by Fontenot for Western Oregon HCP and FMP Update](#), Agenda Item 6

In accordance with the provisions of ORS 526.016, a meeting of the Oregon Board of Forestry was held on April 24th, 2019 at the Oregon Department of Forestry Headquarters on 2600 State Street Salem, OR 97310.

Chair Imeson called the public meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

Board Members Present:

Nils Christoffersen
Cindy Deacon Williams
Joe Justice
Jim Kelly
Brenda McComb
Tom Imeson

Absent:

Mike Rose

CONSENT AGENDA: Joe Justice motioned for approval of the consent agenda. Cindy Deacon Williams seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion: Nils Christoffersen, Cindy Deacon Williams, Tom Imeson, Joe Justice, Jim Kelly, and Brenda McComb. Against: none. With Board consensus for Items A through B, these items were approved.

- A. MARCH 6, 2019 MEETING MINUTES
Approval of Board Meeting Minutes.

Action: The Board approved minutes from the March 6, 2019 Board meeting.

- B. EMERGENCY FIRE COST COMMITTEE REAPPOINTMENT
The Board appoints members to the Emergency Fire Cost Committee (EFCC) per ORS 477.440, and EFCC members are authorized to supervise and control the distribution of funds from the Oregon Forest Land Protection Fund (OFLP). By reappointing Steve Cafferata, the committee maintains full membership.

Action: The Board approved the reappointment of Steve Cafferata to the Emergency Fire Cost Committee with a four-year term expiring the end of April, 2023.

ACTION AND INFORMATION:

1. STATE FORESTER, BOARD MEMBER, AND PUBLIC COMMENTS
[Listen to audio](#) MP3 – (47 minutes – 16.5 MB)

Chair Imeson commented on:

- Public Meeting will be live streamed.
- Executive Session is scheduled.
- Public comment open for each topic, and not to exceed 30 minutes.
- Jason Miner, Governor’s Office Natural Resources Policy Director to speak on vision for Oregon’s Forests.

State Forester Daugherty commented on:

- Administrative Professional’s Day and thanked Department staff for their continuing professionalism, and skilled support work they provide to the agency.
- Departmental Executive Team update on the transition of the Deputy State Forester and new team members. Welcomed Kyle Abraham as the Private Forests Division Chief and Joy Krawczyk as the Public Affairs Director. Recognized the service of interim Public Affairs Director, Ryan Gordon.

- Board of Forestry annual self-evaluation process. Explained the purpose of the evaluation, and outlined next steps for the Board.
- Legislative update on the Department's provided testimony, bill tracking efforts, and highlighted the key natural resources issues moving this session. Reviewed the carbon pricing policy, forest practices amendment, forestland special assessment tax rates, aerial pesticides ban, and forest template dwelling modification. Provided status on the Department's budget. Informed the Board on harvest tax proposals that implicate a major revision to the Oregon Forest Land Protection Fund function with the creation of a Wildfire Suppression Fund, and explained the Division impact.
- Provided a Governor's Wildfire Response Council status update. Reviewed the Departmental staffing for the mitigation and suppression subcommittees, as well as each subcommittees focus and outlined the goals of each subcommittee. Noted the recent timeline of events and actions. Closed by inviting, Nils Christoffersen who serves on the Council as ex-officio for the Board to comment.

Board Members commented on Governor's Wildfire Response Council (GWRC):

- Federal Forest Subcommittee Chair Nils Christoffersen reviewed the subcommittee's involvement with the Council. Outlined the focus of the Federal Forest Subcommittee and agenda for 2019 will be concentrated around the Council.
 - Chair Christoffersen stated Federal Forests Subcommittee commitment to be engaged in the Council's conversation and negotiations with the Department and the USFS around the Stewardship Agreement.
 - Board member Joe Justice attended the April 23, 2019 Council meeting, and were encouraged by the efforts made by the Council and subcommittees. Looked forward in continuing to participate as a subcommittee and as an Oregonian, as solutions are presented in response to wildfire.

Public Testimony:

- Nick Cady from Cascadia Wildlands, Mary Scurlock from Oregon Stream Protection Coalition, and Conrad Gowell from Native Fish Society provided oral testimony to introduce the rulemaking petition that will identify and develop protection requirements for Coho Salmon resource sites ([attachment 1](#)). Cady explained the duty of the Board and length of time the Board has to approve the petition. Gowell outlined the stakeholders involved in assembling the petition, and offered a brief history on Coho Salmon. Stated the goal behind the petition and explained the importance of defining resource sites for Salmonidae. Scurlock proposed that the rulemaking process will provide an opportunity to view the water protection rules through a different lens, and within the context of forest management practices. She listed the Coho salmon populations included in the petition and described the three parts of the petition. Cady, Gowell and Scurlock encouraged the Board to accept the petition.
 - State Forester Daugherty reviewed the Board's next steps under ORS 527.710, provided a timeline for the Board's consideration, decision, and duty to respond to the petition request.
- Kirk Hutchinson Executive Director for Future Natural Resource Leaders of Oregon (FNRL), introduced participants of the career technical education program. Participants John, Grant, Patrick, and Ryan offered their perspectives on how the program has impacted their lives and

provided them educational, as well as career opportunities. Hutchinson offered a brief historical background of the FNRL program in Oregon, recognized the champions of the program, listed the benefits and events organized for the program participants.

- Kathleen Sullivan, Clatsop County Commissioner, commented on the delay of the Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), and asked the Board to consider the diverse opinions of the scientific community as they move forward with the process.

Information Only.

2. OFRI VALUES AND BELIEFS SURVEY

[Listen to audio](#) MP3 – (38 minutes and 16 seconds – 13.5 MB)

Presentation ([attachment 2](#))

Mike Cloughesy from Oregon Forest Resources Institute (OFRI) provided an overview of the values and beliefs survey conducted in January 2019. Reviewed OFRI’s mission and the intent behind polling public perspectives on forestry topics.

Michelle Neiss, President of DHM Consulting, commented on the benefits of public polling. She explained how Oregonian’s core values can inform decisions. Neiss introduced the purpose of the survey, what the [presentation](#) will cover, and how the results compare across time. She outlined the methodology used to conduct the online survey. Neiss explained the survey results are quite voluminous, and narrowed the presentation to report on four categories.

- Forestry and wood product industry
- Private forest companies
- Forest management
- Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF)

Neiss reviewed 21 questions, the responses, and how each set of responses were measured to produce the related graph. For each graph, she provided percentages and explained how the percentages were calculated from the survey sample. She commented on survey themes.

- High value in Oregon forests beauty, recreation, and scenery.
- Higher favorability than unfavorable views of the agriculture and forestry industries.
- Knowledge on forest industry and products, as well as Oregon law protections has decreased.
- High misperception of the percentage of Oregon’s State owned forestlands.
- Views of forestland management by government agencies have improved.
- Perceptions of private companies’ practices seen favorably over previously surveyed years.
- Views on strong enough regulations on private forestlands have grown increasingly unsure.
- Clearcutting on private forestlands had mixed results.
- Highest concerns for clearcutting was soil erosion, animal habitat and water system disturbance.
- Largest perceived risks are wildfires, lack of forest management, and climate change.
- Neighborhood trees are viewed as essential for health or well-being in non-rural settings.
- Recreational activities are valued, with hiking, camping, picnicking and fishing ranked highest.
- High number of Oregonians would seek out ODF, local tree companies or the internet for tree health and safety resources.

Neiss summarized the survey findings. She closed out by reviewing potential next steps to help minimize uncertainty, expand awareness and increase knowledge of Oregonians around forest issues.

Board discussion followed the presentation on OFRI Values and Beliefs survey.

- Discussed how online surveys can have limitations on specificity. OFRI explained focus groups and over the phone surveys provide more opportunity to dive into topic nuances.
- Commented on the accuracy of forest facts and how region or years of residency factors correlated with the results, and State Parks may influence the perspectives on State owned lands.
- Reviewed the potential factors that attribute to the positive attitudes towards forestry increase while knowledge on forestry issues decrease.
- Reviewed the frequency, market selection, funding, messaging structure, and channels of communication used for OFRI's ad campaign dissemination.
- Discussed OFRI's Forest Fact book. Future editions may include carbon and forestry reports, however climate change is part of a larger geo-science issue, beyond the organization's scope.

Information Only.

Comments from the Governor's Office:

Jason Miner, Natural Resource Director from the Governor's Office, provided [oral comment](#) on the Governor's vision for Oregon's forests and for the Board of Forestry. He reviewed three goals Governor Kate Brown has for the Board of Forestry and the Department.

Miner identified the Governor as a leader for addressing climate change, and provided legislative examples of her role in advancing efforts in climate change policy for the State. He commented on how Oregon Forest's may become a leader in addressing and mitigating climate change, through forest sequestration, the cap and invest system, and exploring the value of carbon credits. Miner explained how government and private entities may be able to derive economic benefits from carbon values and forest products, while exploring solutions for climate mitigation. He reminded the Board that climate mitigation and adaptation are part of any and all policy conversations. He pointed to the efforts made at the Natural Resource Cabinet meetings, where agencies and the Governor's office discuss issues that span all agencies and advance priorities that involve multiple aspects, as an example of an interagency cooperative effort.

Miner commented on another interagency effort, the Governor's Council on Wildfire Response, and listed the goals the Council is charged to complete around wildfire mitigation, suppression, community adaptation and recovery. He stated Oregon is a national leader in fire response, but the impact to the Department's funding and business operation continuity during an extended wildfire season is not sustainable. Miner offered gratitude to the executive team, state forester and board member efforts in working with the Governor's office and for their Council participation.

Miner affirmed the Governor's commitment to expediently pursue a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and how it is a priority for the Governor. He echoed the Governor's view on the need for consistent and predictable production of wood products from State forests, as well as the need for measureable, legally defensible conservation outcomes to keep State forests working. He stated the Governor would like to meet in the fall, potentially November, with the Board to discuss forests, climate change, wildfire, habitat conservation planning, and State Forest planning in general.

Minor thanked the Board and the Department staff for the work they have done in the service of the State. He acknowledged the State Forest leadership and staff work to bring financial stability to the program. Miner stated his belief that the Governor supports the Division's efforts in revenue

diversification to fund the myriad of services. He invited the Board to consider working with stakeholders and governor's office to propose ideas on revenue diversification that can be presented at the 2021 legislative session. Miner stated this may be the next step to build financial viability for State Forests, and broad ideas need support to make policies that can be passed through the legislature.

Information Only.

3. FOREST ECOSYSTEMS CARBON REPORT

[Listen to audio](#) MP3 - (56 minutes and 40 seconds – 19.9 MB)

Annotated History of Climate Change Oregon Policy Presentation ([attachment 3](#))

Oregon Forest Ecosystem Carbon Report Presentation ([attachment 4](#))

Peter Daugherty, State Forester of Oregon, highlighted the objectives for the Forest Ecosystems Carbon topic, and introduced fellow presenter, resident carbon expert, Andrew Yost who provided a review of climate policy history in Oregon as related to the Board and the Department of Forestry.

Andrew Yost, Ecologist for the Partnership and Planning program, provided a [presentation](#) on a decadal overview on the significant efforts in developing climate change policy in Oregon related to forestry. He listed the various efforts from legislation and agency reports, to Board meetings and workgroups. He stated the Department has been involved with Oregon's planning process on climate change since 1990. Yost listed off the specific efforts ODF has been engaged in, as of 2019.

- The 2003 Forestry Program for Oregon included strategy G, to enhance carbon storage in Oregon's forests and forest products, which included elements on carbon storage in forests, management and fire effect on carbon pools, carbon offset markets, and wood product benefits over higher-carbon products.
- Climate change policy took off in 2007, with the passage of House Bill 3543, ORS 468a.200. Oregon Legislature asserted that global warming may impact forest health, which could impact the State's economy, environment, and quality of life. The bill established the Global Warming Commission and the Oregon Climate Change Research Institute, and charged the commission with specific tasks, knowing the significant role Oregon has in carbon sequestration.
- Climate Change Adaptation Framework was initiated in 2010 as an inter-agency effort to develop a climate adaptation plan for Oregon. Department of Land Conservation Development (DLCD) led this effort to develop recommendations for research priorities and for framework implementation. DLCD will provide an update to the framework in June 2019. Under this Adaptation Framework, the Department contributed to research that modeled the effect of climate change on large forest wildfire through 2100. The research was published in the journal Forest Ecology and Management. Yost motivated research on changes in tree species distributions from climate change that was published in PLOS One in 2015. The analytical tool developed for this research will be applied to the FIA re-measured plots in 2020 in partnership with the OSU Institute for Natural Resources.
- Forestry Program for Oregon, 2011 edition, modified strategies to goals. Goal G updated with seven objectives, added Goal C and F in [document](#).
- The Board of Forestry Climate Change Work plan was added to Partnership and Planning work schedule in 2013 as an emerging issue, and the Board adopted recommendations, as a result of that work in 2015. Yost provided examples of the recommendations: annotated

history [document](#), Division direction to integrate climate change adaptations into agency operations, and Board tasked to either revise the Forestry Program for Oregon or develop a specific policy on climate change.

- Described the 2019 Oregon Forest Ecosystem Carbon Report initiation and purpose.

Daugherty reviewed the second [presentation](#) objectives. He presented an informational overview of the draft forest carbon tables and summaries from the USFS Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA). He explained how this information contributes to the Oregon Forest Ecosystems Carbon Report. He described the report's background, methodology used, stakeholder group establishment, and the coordination involved for the body of work required in the field.

Daugherty described the FIA plots in Oregon, how they were measured over a 10-year cycle and used in long-term forest monitoring. He explained how the FIA re-measurement data meets the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's (IPCC) Tier 3 standards of measurement accuracy in estimating the carbon storage and flux based on growth, removal, and mortality of plots. Daugherty highlighted elements of the upcoming Forest Ecosystem Carbon Report, including over 230 tables that report:

- the amount of forest area in Oregon by ownership and ecoregion,
- the amount of carbon stored in each pool by ownership, ecoregion, and forest type, and
- the flux of CO₂ through the major forest pools from growth removals and mortality.

Daugherty defined the forest pools categories and explained how forest carbon stocks represent the estimated current amount of carbon stored in each pool. He presented multiple graphs to show the results on forest pools, with live trees and soil as the leading component in carbon storage. He reviewed graphs that listed carbon stocks in Oregon forests by ecoregion, by ownership, by forest stand type per forest pool. He shared observations on forest carbon ecoregion occurrences, ownership of carbon stocks, and that the results reflect the different management styles and objectives by forestland owners.

Daugherty described carbon flux, how it is measured, and explained the metric used. He further explained how annual carbon flux is calculated, reviewed the process of plot re-measurement, and when the analysis is expected to be completed. He emphasized annual carbon flux is an estimate based on actual measurements of growth, timber harvest removals, and mortality, including wildfire. Daugherty referred to statewide graphs on annual net CO₂ per pool, by ecoregion, and by owner. He shared observations on stability of carbon pools, the ecoregion that sequesters the most carbon, and transference of growth to harvested wood products. Daugherty reviewed the annual net emissions of greenhouse gases (GHG) from forest fires in Oregon, and how net emissions from wildfire do not include fires from 2017-2018, but includes other significant fire seasons.

Daugherty summarized the initial results from the Draft Forest Ecosystem Report with carbon storage in Oregon forests estimated at approximately 3.2 billion metric tons, and each year our forests sequester approximately 31 million metric tons, with net omissions from wildfire estimated at 3.6 million net of CO₂ equivalence. He closed by listing the next steps with projected timeline for the Department, as well as for the Board.

Board discussion followed the Department's Forest Ecosystems Carbon Report presentation.

- Discussed the live tree pool mortality included, and dead tree mortality prior to fire or other disturbances is not captured.
- Discussed how forest management operation emissions are accounted for. Global Warming Commission (GWC) tracks emissions from forest management through the industrial and transportation sector, and is included with their inventory. Emissions from forest management is not tracked as a subcategory in the GWC report.
- Reviewed the Federal forest policy prospect to sequester carbon and discussed what that may look like. Department staff discussed how long it takes for a forest to recover to a positive carbon sequestration, and how a policy defines potential disturbance.
- Question posed on whether any agency is looking at the carbon storage potential of soil, and none were listed.
- Consideration to integrate climate change into the Department's work, and include an analysis statement in the staff reports to help with the decision-making of the Board. Discussed how climate change may influence a Board policy decision, whether this concept can operate under the Board's administrative authority, and how to conduct a retrospective assessment on the Board's existing regulations and policies, to evaluate how well they are functioning related to Goal F's climate change assessment, adaptation, and mitigation strategies. State Forester Daugherty recommended to identify which policies the Board would like to look at, and potentially a discussion in July may help with preparing for the October Board retreat. The retreat could set a stage for policy development regarding forest management that make state forests more adapted to the effects of climate change.

Public Testimony:

- Jason Gonzales from Oregon Wild provided oral testimony on the Forest Ecosystems Carbon Report to the Board. He shared his observations on the data presented, and recommended that State forests be managed in line with Federal forests. He referred to the Global Warming Commission, and stated carbon sequestration could be done better on State lands. He stated logging is a major contributor to carbon emissions, and referenced where the data is cited to support his statements.

Information Only.

Break.

4. **SPECIFIED RESOURCE SITES RULEMAKING FOR MARBLED MURRELET**
[Listen to audio](#) MP3 - (30 minutes and 22 seconds – 10.7 MB)
 Presentation ([attachment 5](#))

Josh Barnard, Private Forests Field Support Manager, reviewed the Specified Resource Sites Rulemaking for Marbled Murrelet [presentation](#) objectives, rule analysis process, and project history. He introduced Jennifer Weikel, Private Forests Wildlife Biologist, to outline the rule analysis requirements and technical report.

Weikel reviewed the Chapter 629 Division 680 Rules, which the Board is mandated to follow when considering new species rule development under the Forest Practices Act (FPA) Division 665. She outlined the four required components for the Technical Report, reviewed expert panel participation and how the panel's findings contributed to the report's accuracy, as well as lend to the scientific merit

behind each option presented to the Board. Weikel commented on the next steps for the Board to consider when making a determination and the criteria they are to establish under Division 680. After Weikel outlined the steps of the rulemaking process to the Board, she reminded the Board what has been presented to them on the Technical Report and reviewed the minor or major revisions that were made. Weikel closed by presenting the final Technical Report to the Board.

Barnard listed the options in front of the Board, the staff recommendation, and commented that by accepting the final report does not preclude the Division from bringing any new information to the Board at a later time. He continued by describing the Board and Division's next steps if the final report is accepted versus not accepted.

Board commented on the Specified Resource Sites Rulemaking for Marbled Murrelet presentation.

- Discussed the intent of the section covering the required content for rule analysis in the report, the background provided to support this section, and how the options listed in the section may be flushed out in future work with Board direction.
- Encouraged the Division to look to the Regional Forest Practices Committees on how to implement the protocols on the ground.

Public Testimony:

- Nick Cady from Cascadia Wildlands, provided oral and written testimony ([attachment 6](#)) on the Specified Resource Sites Rulemaking for Marbled Murrelet topic to the Board. Asked the Board to consider an alternative option, and follow the Pacific Seabird Group (PSG) protocol that adapts the protocol with emerging science on the species.
- Joseph Youren from the Audubon Society of Lincoln City, provided oral testimony on the Specified Resource Sites Rulemaking for Marbled Murrelet topic to the Board. Concurred with Nick Cady's comments. Urged the Board to adopt option number three, presumed occupied habitat, and to accept the PSG survey as a vehicle to implement option three.
- Seth Barnes from Oregon Forest Industry Council (OFIC) provided oral testimony on the Specified Resource Sites Rulemaking for Marbled Murrelet topic to the Board. Recommended for the Division to consider tracking OSU studies on the species and review other forms of analysis available on the species over time. Cautioned the Board on the use of protocol from third-party, non-agency entities and how it will fit within policy formation.
- Meghan Tuttle from Weyerhaeuser, provided oral testimony on the Specified Resource Sites Rulemaking for Marbled Murrelet topic to the Board. Encouraged the Board to accept the final report. Recommended that the Board continue to track OSU Dean Initiative studies and utilize the 1997 USFWS Federal Recovery Plan. Emphasized implementation of any option can be complicated, and involving stakeholders in a well-thought out process is essential.
- Sristi Kamal from Defenders of Wildlife provided oral testimony on the Specified Resource Sites Rulemaking for Marbled Murrelet topic to the Board. Urged the Board to accept the final report. Expressed concern around some of the report's conclusions and recommendations, and how they can be addressed in the rulemaking next steps. Recommended prescriptive approaches to protection in addition to programmatic approaches with voluntary measures for landowners.
- Bob Sallinger from the Audubon Society of Portland, provided oral testimony on the Specified Resource Sites Rulemaking for Marbled Murrelet topic to the Board. Concurred with Nick Cady's comments on PSG. Stated preference that all surveyed areas are occupied sites. Supported option number three, presumed occupied habitat, until surveys become available.

- Jim Fairchild from Audubon Society of Corvallis, provided written testimony ([attachment 7](#)) on the Specified Resource Sites Rulemaking for Marbled Murrelet topic to the Board. He recommended that the Technical Report be used to inform the Board’s determination of next steps, and recommended a prescriptive approach. He shared his perspective on a few key elements from the report. He urged an adoption of measures that pursue short as well as long-term habitat gains on all regulated state and private lands.
- Adam Novick provided written testimony ([attachment 8](#)) on the Specified Resource Sites Rulemaking for Marbled Murrelet topic to the Board. He supported the technical analysis report.

Action: The Board accepted the final Marbled Murrelet Technical Report.

Nils Christoffersen motioned to accept the final Marbled Murrelet Technical Report. Jim Kelly seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion: Nils Christoffersen, Cindy Deacon Williams, Tom Imeson, Joe Justice, Jim Kelly, and Brenda McComb. Against: none.

5. **FOREST TRUST LANDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE TESTIMONY**

[Listen to audio](#) MP3 - (10 minutes and 44 seconds – 3.8 MB)

David Yamamoto, Chair for the Forest Trust Land Advisory Committee (FTLAC), provided oral and written testimony ([attachment 9](#)) to the Board on multiple topics. He commented on the HB 2020 bill, referred to as the carbon cap and invest bill in Legislature. Yamamoto stated that FTLAC should be involved in the forest carbon offsets discussion, for if the bill passed, may have potential impact on trust counties. He is encouraged by the Department’s development of an assessment for carbon stored in wood products and recommended a lifecycle analysis on finished manufactured products. He discussed the importance of family wage jobs in natural resources industries and provided an example from Coos County to illustrate the impact that reducing timber harvest has on communities. Yamamoto commented on the Marbled Murrelet Technical Report, and how potential future Board actions on this species may affect management of State and county-owned lands along the Oregon Coast. He provided the county’s perspective of the Linn County lawsuit proceedings, and how participation for the Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) by the Trust Land Counties is limited due to litigation, but how they will attempt to participate as recommended by counsel. Yamamoto closed by reminding the Board of the potential financial impacts that harvest reduction can have on rural Oregon communities and funding of government services.

Information Only.

6. **STATE FORESTS HCP AND FMP UPDATE**

[Listen to audio](#) MP3 - (One hour, 59 minutes and 6 seconds – 41.9 MB)
Presentation ([attachment 10](#))

Liz Dent, State Forests Division Chief, reviewed the [presentation](#) objectives and introduced each presenter. Cindy Kolomechuk, Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) Project Manager, commented on phase two of the HCP, Strategy Development and Stakeholder Involvement. She explained what phase two entails. She outlined the amount of time each phase would take, then provided a revised timetable that matches the time needed for stakeholder engagement and staff work. Kolomechuk stated that the Division has applied for another USFWS grant to support this work, and is moving forward with the HCP, regardless of grant funding.

Troy Rahmig ICF Senior Managing Director, project lead for the HCP technical work, explained how HCP's may have similar structures, but the plan's set up and development phase requires the most time. He described the remaining three steps and how they move along a relatively predictable timeline. Rahmig stated his team is at the beginning of the HCP development phase. He commented on the tiered coordination required to meet the planning timeline goals. Rahmig reviewed the steps and benefits of a HCP. He listed the Draft HCP will include a chapter on how to fund plan implementation. He explained how the Forest Management Plan (FMP) revision correlates with the HCP and each plan informs the other.

Rahmig described the geographic coverage, activities considered and species covered under the HCP for Western Oregon. He explained boundaries and external influences can limit the analysis scope for the plan's permit area. He offered the Board two examples of other states who are in the process or have a HCP. Rahmig commented that the working geographic coverage area, takes in consideration land acquisitions and exchanges over time. He explained the permit term considers the ecological predictability of the plan's activities and time needed to fulfill the conservation needs. He stated a 50 year permit term is ideal, but this may change based upon the conservation strategies and how they predict the landscape may change overtime. Rahmig discussed how activities are determined to be covered under the HCP, and reviewed the criteria used for determination. He commented on the considerations of adding species not currently listed under FMP or ESA and reviewed selection criteria for the species covered under the HCP.

Brett Brownscombe, Oregon Consensus Project Manager of the stakeholder involvement process, provided an overview of the Oregon Consensus and Oregon Solutions program. He reviewed the scope of program services and a brief historical background. Brownscombe explained how Oregon Consensus works with each entity involved in the HCP planning process, then outlined the roles and responsibilities of each entity. He reviewed the structure of the process to date. Then commented on the outreach activities set to engage and build transparency in communication as the HCP continues to be developed. He listed the facilitator roles for the scoping team, public engagement, and advisory committee is filled by Kearns and West. Brownscombe explained how a comprehensive stakeholder engagement process is being developed, and listed upcoming events for public comment.

Dent provided an update on FMP revision and how this plan is under a take avoidance scenario, rather than an incidental take permit required for a HCP. She spoke to the parallel nature of these two plans, and how the HCP, if approved, would be coupled with a companion FMP. Dent commented that over the next year the two plans will be closely coordinated with one another, and reviewed the FMP proposed next steps with the Board. She explained a consulting firm will be hired to conduct a comparative analysis between the proposed FMP revisions versus the current FMP. She described the consultant's deliverables and how each analysis will lend to a whole picture evaluation. She also indicated that they will obtain a peer-review of the draft FMP. Dent explained the Division will bring an analysis with their recommendation for the Board to discuss and decide on FMP revision direction.

Board commented on the State Forests HCP and FMP Update presentation.

- Discussed whether the timetable would change based on funding and how optimum the projected timetable would be with the Division's capacity.

- Reviewed timeline of the parallel paths between HCP and FMP. Project team thinks about conservation strategies, effects analysis, and monitoring simultaneously as the paths move along the projected timeline.
- Considered how management of adjacent lands, beyond the areas that are planned under the permit area may impact the conservation strategies. Determined that adjacent lands may provide context to conservation priorities, and during HCP strategy development the plan cannot rely on adjacent lands to implement the strategies.
- Clarified when the FMP analysis of the twin goals for conservation and financial viability will be presented to the Board in 2020, and how the FMP analysis will be separate from the HCP discussion, but could inform the HCP decision. The Division staff explained next steps for the approved FMP, if the Board decides to pursue a HCP and engage in the NEPA process. Rahmig explained that the HCP/NEPA formalities would benefit by the groundwork done on the FMP. State Forester elaborated that the FMP is being revised in coordination with the HCP. With the recognition that it may need to be adapted at a later time to meet the needs of an incidental take permit model, and reminded the Board on the goal to complete the FMP revision in rulemaking. Members cautioned that the twin goals may need to be reviewed again if the FMP is revised to integrate the incidental take model, and to keep this in mind as a FMP revision is drafted.
- Consideration to reestablish the State Forests subcommittee to address resource diversification in order to respond to the Governor's 2021 concept request. Discussed past subcommittee endeavors and that most State Forest issues require full Board participation. Reviewed past policy option packages and how they had no traction.
- Recapped the topic's intent as an informational item, and how much the HCP is valued as a next step, but appreciates how complimentary the FMP work is to the HCP process and supports the timeline presented to the Board. The Division reviewed when they plan to present on these two plans, in September 2019 and March, April, and July of 2020. Board indicated the Division's work plan may need to be updated and provided to the Board.
- Discussed the consultants' spectrum of subject matter expertise, provided a high-level description of the State procurement process that all agreements must go through, and State Forests may share the Request for Proposal (RFP) with the Board members.

Public Testimony:

- Dave Ivanoff from Hampton Lumber provided oral and written testimony ([attachment 11](#)) to the Board for the State Forests HCP and FMP Update. He expressed concern around the HCP development, specifically the conservation strategies and listed the concerns. Stated that a poorly designed HCP may have potential economic and social impacts on small communities.
- W. Ray Jones from Stimson Lumber provided oral and written testimony ([attachment 12](#)) to the Board for the State Forests HCP and FMP Update. He provided background on past FMP efforts, offering historical context to the twin goals. He explained why a new FMP is recommended, and listed the elements a balanced FMP should consider. He encouraged the Board and Department to continue the development of a new FMP.
- Bob Van Dyk from Wild Salmon Center provided oral testimony to the Board for the State Forests HCP and FMP Update. He shared concerns about the FMP revision goals delay. He preferred more transparency around the revised timeline of FMP and HCP. He recommended any revisions to the FMP, be in line with the needs of a HCP for ease of transition and continuity.
- Chandra Ferrari from Trout Unlimited provided oral testimony to the Board for the State Forests HCP and FMP Update. She provided background on the non-profit organization. She was

encouraged by the aggressive timeline presented for the HCP and FMP, and looked forward to be part of stakeholder engagement. Urged the Board to make the HCP a priority, and to develop strategies to diversify revenue along with keeping the FMP revision moving forward. Made the Board aware of her work on a forest trust land transfer bill.

- Jason Gonzales from Oregon Wild provided oral testimony to the Board for the State Forests HCP and FMP Update. Encouraged by the pursuit of a HCP. He spoke on the need of funding diversification and asked the Board to not focus on financial viability alone. He commented on forest values not being considered, like ecosystem or recreation services.
- Donald Fontenot from Oregon Sierra Club provided oral and written testimony ([attachment 13](#)) to the Board for the State Forests HCP and FMP Update. He commented on the Department's inconsistent approach to clear cut the complex forests in the NW region. He urged the Board to review the protected areas and the areas opened to harvest.
- Bob Rees from NW Guides and Anglers provided oral testimony to the Board for the State Forests HCP and FMP Update. He was encouraged to be part of the potential stakeholder involvement for the HCP. He offered statistics on North Coast recreation activities. He recommended to diversify revenues, referred to a former white paper in taxing anglers as an option. Opted in the future to bring the value of the recreational activities and fishing industry to the Board. State Forester asked the status of the white paper and asked to follow-up offline, to track this concept and adding this to a greater conversation on alternative revenue streams.

Information Only.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Imeson proceeded with the formal Executive Session announcement.

The Board of Forestry entered into Executive Session for the purpose of consulting with legal counsel regarding the Board's legal rights and duties in regards to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed [ORS 192.6600(2)(h)].

No decisions were made during Executive Session. The Board exited the Executive Session and reconvened meeting.

Information Only.

With no further business before the Board, Chair Imeson adjourned the public meeting at 4:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Peter Daugherty



Peter Daugherty, State Forester and
Secretary to the Board

HR

Meeting Minutes Approved at the June 5, 2019 Board Meeting.