



NW Regional Forest Practice Committee Meeting Minutes for April 15, 2024

Pursuant to public notice made by news release with statewide distribution, a hybrid meeting of the Northwest Regional Forest Practice Committee [an advisory body to the Oregon Board of Forestry with authority established in Oregon Revised Statute 527.650] was held in Salem, Oregon on April 15, 2024, hosted by the Oregon Department of Forestry Forest Resources Division. Present were:

Committee Members

Chair Mike Barnes
Randy Silbernagel
Jill Bell
Aaron Zweber
Candace Bonner
Eric Kranzush

ODF Staff

Secretary Kyle Abraham
Emily Gregorio
Miriam Miller
Scott Swearingen
Greg Erb
Nicole Stapp
Adam Coble
Camille Collett
Arden Guinn
Jennifer Weikel
Thomas Whittington
Don Everingham
Mellony Hoskinson
Sarah Siefken
Brian Barfield

Guests/Public

James Day
Margaret Miller
Seth Barnes
Greg Thweatt
"Eastern Lane"
"Sunset Logging"
"Johannsen – PVL"

Welcome & Roll Call

- Chair Barnes called the meeting to order at 10:00am.
- Kyle Abraham and Chair Barnes noted no agenda changes or updates.
- Chair Barnes opened for public comment, no public comments noted.

ODF Updates & Member Training Requirements

- Kyle Abraham led the following discussions:
 - Review of Kyle Abraham's history with ODF.
 - Review of Forest Resources organizational chart, noting the increase in capacity.
 - Randy Silbernagel expressed interest in receiving an updated organizational chart more frequently.
 - a. **ACTION:** Emily Gregorio to send them to the committee members quarterly.
 - Update on outcome of legislative session.
 - Many limited duration positions in the agency transitioning to permanent.
 - Eric Kranzush expressed interest in visibility to funding sources associated with positions in the division.
 - Update on agency training done for Foresters.

- Chair Barnes expressed interest in improved training for ODF Foresters explaining rules to landowners.
- Emily Gregorio reviewed the training requirement completion.
 - **ACTION:** Emily Gregorio to send an email reminder with instructions to set up Workday login to committee members.

Updates & Informing Post-Disturbance Harvest Rulemaking

- Nicole Stapp presented a slideshow. The following information was noted:
 - No significant changes are expected to be made to the rules from initial proposal.

HCP Updates

- Jennifer Weikel presented a slideshow.

Stream Model Update

- Thomas Whittington presented a slideshow. The following information was noted:
 - As you go up the drainage, it has less flow so there is a smaller stream size category associated. The highest applicable protection classification is always used.
 - Fish surveys to determine classification rely on habitat characteristics to support fish.
 - Each individual stream segment and the upstream drainage area of that segment is considered, not the whole basin.
 - Current work is focused internally, and surveys are not currently in FERNS because submission of surveys are not dependent on a notification.
 - Modeling update with new PRISM data not in the near-term plans.
 - We are currently in phase one for flow permanence modeling, and phase two relates to adopting a regulatory model which will be done by ODFW.
 - GIS staff are looking to publish the public side of the survey data quarterly, and FERNS uses the most available update data.
 - Regarding incorporating surveys into flow model, ODFW is working with USGS to get an acceptable format so they can be part of the modeling.

FERNS Update

- Brian Barfield presented information. The following information was noted:
 - Minimum option reporting includes tracking if the threshold has been met.
 - Looking for ways to mitigate small forestland owners not testing to be an SFO.
 - Currently working on next set of releases and features, release set for June or July.
 - **ACTION:** Brian Barfield to follow up with information on FERNS mobile maintenance and updates.

Planning and Priority for Guidance Development

- Scott Swearingen presented a slideshow. The following information was noted:
 - Technical fact sheets are an intermediary before formal guidance is established and they are used by landowners and ODF staff.
 - Kyle Abraham outlined the process of having committee members send their comments in to the committee email (forestresources.committees@odf.oregon.gov) for Emily Gregorio to compile and send to the agency subject matter experts with a following RFPC meeting to discuss.

Forest Practices Technical Guidance Comment Review

- Greg Erb reviewed the Wet Weather guidance document and comments submitted.
- Arden Guinn reviewed the FRIA guidance document for any comments or questions, and then reviewed the pre-inventory document. Arden Guinn documented questions for evaluation and incorporation into the future iteration of the FRIA guidance.

Closing Remarks

- **ACTION:** Reminder for committee members to submit nominations for Operator of the Year.

Meeting adjourned at 2:09pm.