



NW Regional Forest Practice Committee Meeting Minutes for October 24, 2024

I. Roll Call

Committee Members Present		Committee Members Not Present
Chair Mike Barnes Randy Silbernagel Jill Bell Aaron Zweber	Candace Bonner Eric Kranzush Dave Wells Craig Richards	Tally Patton
ODF Staff		Guests/Public
Kyle Abraham Miriam Miller Emily Gregorio Joe Touchstone Scott Swearingen Thomas Whittington John Krause Don Everingham Kirk Ausland Andy Dwyer Nicole Howard Tim Moss Rebecca McCoun	Mike Cafferata Sarah Siefken Jennifer Ward Greg Wagenblast Jim Gersbach Jessica Wescott Mike Thompson Sam Schoch Tanner Scott Rieghly Sitton Nick Maslen Eric Jacobs	Seth Barnes Megan Tuttle McKenzie Bredemeyer

II. Chair Comments – Chair Barnes

- i. Chair Barnes adjusted the agenda to call the meeting to order at 10:30am.
- ii. Roll call was completed, and a quorum was established.
- iii. Chair Barnes postponed public comment to 11:30 to accommodate the early meeting start.
- iv. Chair Barnes welcomed two new members, Dave Wells and Craig Richards.
 - A. Dave Wells provided a brief background

III. Division updates – Kyle Abraham

- i. Mike Cafferata provided a brief overview of work done at Forest Grove. The following was noted:
 - A. Highway 26 is a main source of forest information for the public.
 - B. There is an overlap between ODF and OSU foresters.
 - C. Fires are challenging staffing, and climate change is affecting forest health.
- ii. Kyle Abraham provided a division update with the following information noted:

Pursuant to public notice made by news release with statewide distribution, a committee meeting of the Northwest Oregon Regional Forest Practice Committees [an advisory body to the Oregon Board of Forestry with authority established in Oregon Revised Statute 527.650] was held on October 24, 2024, hosted by the ODF Forest Resources Division

- A. Reviewed organizational charts, highlighting that most division vacancies have been filled since last year.
 - a. Many positions related to forest practices are general funds with the left side being more federal funds.
 - b. Foresters are on the district organizational charts.
- B. Provided a brief fire season overview, noting that there were many people out on fires from the division and that the season has resulted in cash constraints and workload delays.
- C. Provided a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) update. The following was noted:
 - a. The administrative draft was submitted to the federal services in July. Once ODF receives their comments for refinement another draft will be submitted to start the federal process for public engagement. Feedback from them is expected shortly.
- D. The division has grown a lot over the last few years, which has included the addition of training personnel.
- E. Chair Barnes discussed the process of finding and adding new committee members. Kyle Abraham noted that the Board of Forestry (BOF) committee appointment is in statute.

IV. Chair Comments, continued – Chair Barnes

- i. Craig Richards provided a brief background.
- ii. Chair Barnes presented John Krause with a recognition award for his decades of service.
- iii. Chair Barnes opened the meeting for public comment, there was no public comment.

V. Chair Barnes adjusted the agenda for lunch at 11:30am.

VI. Operator of the Year Discussion and Voting – Greg Wagenblast

- i. Chair Barnes discussed the process for reviewing the nominations and Greg Wagenblast discussed the program details defined in the directive. Randy Silbernagel noted that the area directors can provide an exception for multiple merit awards in one district if needed.
- ii. The committee reviewed the corresponding videos for Chilton Logging, Inc., Mt St Helens Reforestation, Inc., Weyerhaeuser Company, Card Logging Company, Haley Construction Company, Smallwood Logging, Inc., and R.D. Reeves Construction, Inc. and discussed each operation.
- iii. Committee members discussed their preferred winners.
 - A. Candace Bonner: 1st Mt St Helens Reforestation, Inc., 2nd R.D. Reeves Construction, Inc.
 - B. Dave Well: R.D. Reeves Construction, Inc.
 - C. Eric Kranzush: R.D. Reeves Construction, Inc.
 - D. Jill Bell: 1st R.D. Reeves Construction, Inc., 2nd Haley Construction Company.
 - E. Aaron Zweber: 1st R.D. Reeves Construction, Inc., 2nd Chilton Logging, Inc.
 - F. Craig Richards: 1st Haley Construction Company, 2nd R.D. Reeves Construction, Inc., 3rd Mt St Helens Reforestation, Inc.
 - G. Randy Silbernagel: 1st Haley Construction Company, 2nd R.D. Reeves Construction, Inc.
 - H. Chair Barnes: Card Logging Company.

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- iv. Based on preferred winners, committee members informally voted on Haley Construction Company or R.D. Reeves Construction, Inc. for Operator of the Year. There were three for Haley Construction Company and four for R.D. Reeves Construction, Inc.
- v. Randy Silbernagel presented a motion to award R.D. Reeves Construction, Inc. Operator of the Year. Eric Kranzush seconded the motion. The motion unanimously passed.
- vi. Jill Bell presented a motion to award Chilton Logging, Inc., Mt St Helens Reforestation, Inc., Weyerhaeuser Company, Card Logging Company, and Haley Construction Company merit awards. Randy Silbernagel seconded the motion. The motion unanimously passed.
- vii. Greg Wagenblast discussed the opportunity for changes to the directive updates, including the possibility of including more recognition options. He asked the committee to consider changes they may like to see for discussion at the next meetings and added that adjusting area boundaries is a rulemaking process. He also noted that operations can be renominated.
 - A. ACTION: Greg Wagenblast to send email with follow-up information.
- viii. Chair Barnes emphasized the value of nominating other types of operators beyond logging.

VII. Technical Guidance (FPTG) Development and Stream Flow Permanence Update – Scott Swearingen and Thomas Whittington

- i. Scott Swearingen discussed FPTG status. The following was noted:
 - A. Reviewed which FPTG and Tech Notes are completed, and which are upcoming.
 - B. Discussed the process for reviewing the All-Stream Crossing FPTG, Dave Wells volunteered.
 - C. FRIA pre-inventory is due in January.
- ii. Thomas Whittington provided an update on flow permanence. The following was noted:
 - A. USDS PROSPER model for the east side of the state is available statewide and is peer reviewed; this is in initial reviews.
 - B. Western Oregon Wet or Dry (WOWTDR) model for the west side of the state is nearing completion. ODFW staff will then do an internal model review and a full collaborative process may start if the review has a positive outcome.
 - C. Other models are available but these two are most appropriate for forest practices.
 - D. The timeline is dependent on final approved water models from the authors, so no definite timeline yet. July 1st, 2025 is not anticipated to be met based on work needed and model information still needed.
 - E. The rules account for streams that change classification in different years.
 - F. The committee and Seth Barnes commented that completing stream modeling is of high importance. The committee asked for clarity on the date of completion. The timeline is dependent on the external stakeholders and ODF is looking at other options to ensure immediate completion.
 - G. ODF is working to clean the data to correct some discrepancies.

VIII. Electronic Notification System (FERNS) Changes – Joe Touchstone

- i. Joe Touchstone presented information. The following was noted:

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- A. Lineal feet available is a three-year average so if a request exceeds availability, it will be unavailable for the following two years and the RCA will show details of what is available. Calculations for the following year are done once per year in December, and if it is a “yes” that will apply all year. If it is a “no” it will be no until it averages out. There is a tax credit option available as well.
- B. Lineal feet assessments will be based on the best data available and there is a maintenance contract for changes to improve and adjust as needed.
- C. Data coming in is from the full range of landowners.
- D. Activity completion is by unit and the use of fire is exempt from completion reporting.

IX. Forest Resources Training Strategy – Jennifer Ward

- i. Jennifer Ward presented information. The following was noted:
 - A. There is a training plan, but the division would like to hear if there are opportunities for subjects to review or things experienced in the field.
 - B. The training courses have some fire information, but are primarily forest practice topics.

X. Compliance Monitoring Update – Sarah Siefken

- i. Sarah Siefken presented information. The following was noted:
 - A. Compliance monitoring jobs are different than the stewardship foresters and their goal was to work with landowners and measure.
 - B. The committee discussed the constraints of the reforestation study. The following discussion was noted:
 - a. This study was done with the old rules, and participation was voluntary so there were less participants for private non-industrial. The rules have addressed the non-response bias and complications in accessing some properties.
 - b. This data is only looking at these units rather than statewide.
 - c. There was a lot of filtering needed to select units.
 - d. The committee noted that the data also shows people going above and beyond, expressing interest in emphasizing it to the public.
 - C. There are constraints as a state agency to use drones on private property, so they are not being used.

XI. Chair Barnes adjourned the meeting.