

## State Forests Advisory Committee Meeting

### Meeting Summary<sup>1</sup>

Oregon Department of Forestry

Tillamook Conference Room

2600 State Street, Salem, OR

Thursday, April 26, 2018

#### In Attendance

Barrett Brown, Leslie Shaw, Maria Davila-Bores, Lisa Heigh, Paul Lulay, Susan Obermeyer, Greg Jacob, Valerie Elder, Tom Scoggins, Zach Haas, Ben Deumling, Rex Storm, Andy White, Ron Zilli, Don Everingham, Evelyn Hukari, Colleen Kiser, Ty Williams, Shannon Loffelmacher, Jodi Kroon, Fran McReynolds, Chelsey Peters, Ty Robbins, Mike Totey, Ted Erdmann, Mike Cafferata, Seth Barnes, Justin Butteris, Rosemary Mannix, Adam Meyer and April Davis

#### Housekeeping - Rex Storm, SFAC Chairperson

- Member Introductions - All
- New Members
  - Susan Obermeyer – Non-Affiliated Rep
  - Greg Jacob – Environmental Rep
- Approval of Meeting Summary 10/27/17
  - Motion Passed
- Introduce Jason Cox/State Forests Online Community
  - Will hold topic for next meeting. Jason was unavailable to attend today.

#### AOP Guidance Review & Summary of Plans – Ron Zilli, State Forests Field & Policy Manager

- 3 levels of planning implementation
- 1<sup>st</sup> level – only legally or contractually required activities
- 2<sup>nd</sup> level - Minimum activities necessary to achieve social, economic, and environmental benefits defined in OAR 035020 including high priority monitoring activities while emphasizing activities with higher economic returns
  - Currently guidance is to budget at second level
- 3<sup>rd</sup> level – Full Implementation
  - Implement all strategies and monitoring for our FMP
- Recently received legislative authority to contract out more of our work for project work. Cap used to be \$50k, but the cap has been removed.
  - Work order contracts - decreases the amount of project work on timber sales
- Clear guidance for species of concern, take-avoidance, road maintenance, and aquatic/riparian areas
- All sales are screened for cultural resources
- There is also a scheduled timeframe.
- Public comment period is 45 days.

#### FY19 AOP Overview & FY18 Over-Accomplishments – Ron Zilli/All Districts

- Panel Discussion with District Reps: Evelyn Hukari, West Oregon District; Shannon Loffelmacher, North Cascade District; Ty Williams, Astoria District; Colleen Kiser, Tillamook District; Jodi Kroon, Forest Grove District
- Sales based on planned acres
- West Oregon District – Evelyn Hukari
  - Lost several planned sales to murrelet detections

<sup>1</sup> Meeting summary reflects key issues, discussions and decisions, not verbatim language.

- Alternate sales have lower volume
  - Ice storms in 2015; still salvaging affected stands
  - Making up 2 million @ .5 per year over next 4 years
  - Contractor pool is decreasing significantly. Working with adjacent district to increase acreage to make the job more attractive/increase bidders. Currently only planting approx. 350 acres p/yr.
  - Recreation – very limited, no recreation staff or funding, trail maintenance is done by the user groups
- Astoria District –
  - Mature road system in Astoria District. Some sales are prepped for winter haul, but at times roads are left as dirt roads i.e. equestrian trail on an FY18 sale was not rocked to honor the primary use
  - Cut-to-length sales
  - Implementing a reservation system at the Northrup Horse Camp. Should be online by June 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Tillamook District – Colleen Kiser
  - -4.3% stems from market downturn in 2009
    - Alternate sales will be sold in Aug/Sept/Oct timeframe
  - Biggest challenge for reforestation is the cost. Planting costs is currently over \$220 p/acre which is approximately double what other districts cost. Due to slopes.
  - Recreation – very noticeable increase in activity; may be due to the fire damage in the Columbia Gorge that has moved users our direction
- North Cascade –
  - Prepping roads for winter haul has proven to benefit their sales
  - Try to tag on with WeyCo for aerial spray/site prep
  - Recreation – maintenance of current infrastructure
- Forest Grove –
  - Target is 61 mmbf/Planning 56.5 mmbf
- Across all districts – have not done a lot of PCT the last couple years.
- Tillamook Forest Center – Fran McReynolds
  - Visitor center for the Tillamook State Forest; messaging for ODF and connect people to Oregon’s heritage
  - 2017 53k visitors
  - Over half a million visitors since opening in 2006; 10% students
  - Door donations \$15,980 in 2017. Since opened 141,648
  - 2017 gift shop sales over \$100k, over \$1m since opening
  - Closed 2 days a week this season; closed Mondays and Tuesdays (March – November)
  - 3 seasonal staff positions instead of 5
  - Need major HVAC replacement
  - 2018 special exhibits and programs
    - A humorous look at pollination April 28
    - Wildfire awareness month in May
    - Visions in the Forest June 13-September 3
    - Art exhibit September through November “Celebrating Route 6”
    - Forest Center pavilion grand opening June 22<sup>nd</sup> 1:30-3:30pm; pavilion was TFHT, grants and community funded
    - Trees to Sea Scenic Byway – project should be completed by this Sunday; presentation to Oregon Tourism Board. Designation brings priority to the highway for work projects.
    - Root Ball – September 22, 2018

- Opportunities
  - Attend events and programs
  - Volunteer
  - Support projects and events
  - Buy a bench for the pavilion
- South Fork Forest Camp – Chelsey Peters
  - Historical overview of South Fork Forest Camp

**Public Comment**

None

**Legislative Updates – Justin Butteris**

- 8 changes to State Forests Recreation and Public Use OAR’s were approved by the BOF yesterday; will be final once approved by the
- Upped camping fee to \$20 p/night; now includes a second vehicle
- New rule to address Veteran’s Special Access Pass and the Active Duty Military fee waiver
- Reduction of time period allowed for unattended personal property prior to removal
- Provision for flexibility in stay limits
- New restriction on the types of animals that person may bring on to state forest lands
- New restriction regarding shooting into waterways
- Clarification on the restriction on excessive noise
- Clarification that camp sites may only be occupied by 2 tents
- Addition of restriction on the use of power equipment in campgrounds and day use areas
- Presenting one large policy option package; agency initiative, total request is for \$25.4m for General Fund in new funding
  - Added capacity will relieve pressure on current staff for response to wildfires
  - 55 FTE; 9 agency admin, 10 state forests, 14 private forests, 22 protection
  - \$2.1 for training all agency employees (would include state forest employees)
- Paul would like to see 629-025-0000 rewritten to better meet GPV.

**Division Updates – Ron Zilli/Justin Butteris**

- BOF Updates
  - Workplan Overview
    - Issue A: Revise FMP for NW State Forests
      - Work plan for FMP project presented yesterday to BOF; will revisit in July
    - Issue B: Habitat Conservation Plan
    - Issue C: Veteran’s Special Access Pass Rulemaking
    - Issue D: Tillamook County Land Exchange (completed)
      - Approved by BOF 4/25/18
    - Issue E: Updates & Reporting
      - Trask paired watershed study
      - Annual report – summarized annual accomplishments
      - Business model, business improvements, T&E – update as needed
    - Issue F: Tillamook Forest Heritage Trust
      - Information item on the trust and its programs – will occur in July
      - Salmonberry Update – Salmonberry Trail project, proposed 86 mile trail using decommissioned railway owned by Port of Tillamook Bay and trails in the TSF

- Determine what would SFAC see at their level?
- OPRD is in a scoping process for a scenic waterway designation; includes 34 other landowners

**Workforce Futuring** – Andy White, NWOA Director

- This is one of the many efforts to solve the FDF problem.
- Looking at streamlining our organization; want to be more nimble and have ability to flex with the market
- Clear authorities and decision making
- Workgroup : Andy White, Brian Pew, Don Everingham, Kate Skinner, Ron Zilli, and Link Smith
  - Developing blueprint; strategy document, next step is implementation plan
    - Key strategies
      - How we do our planning; GIS, T&E, overall planning effort
        - Do work at much broader scale/geographic area
      - REI statewide presence; develop partnerships
      - Cross-divisional work
      - Minimize impacts to employees; through retirements and attrition
    - Will share more with SFAC after blueprint has been shared with all employees.

**Close Out** – Rex Storm, SFAC Chair

- SFAC June Tour & Meeting
  - Scheduled for Thursday, June 21<sup>st</sup> & Friday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>
    - Tour on the Santiam State Forest
    - Meeting in Salem again
  - Topics for future meetings
    - Local recreation issues
    - Visit district; show how a plan is set up and then go to the field so that folks can see the process
    - Mass plywood panels, Freres
    - Survival outcome
    - October 19<sup>th</sup> – Volunteer for SFAC Member Presentation
- Topics for next meeting
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- Action Items
  - Send acronym list to SFAC members

**Adjourn**