

Board of Forestry Meeting Minutes

January 6, 2021

INDEX

<u>Item #</u>	<u>Page #</u>
A. NOVEMBER 4, 2020 BOARD OF FORESTRY MEETING MINUTES	2
B. TREES TO TAP – SPECIAL REPORT ON KEEPING DRINKING WATER SAFE.....	2
C. REGIONAL FOREST PRACTICES COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENTS .	2
D. FINANCIAL DASHBOARD UPDATE	2
E. 2021 BOARD GOVERNANCE PERFORMANCE SELF-EVALUATION CRITERIA.....	2
F. CARBON IN OREGON’S MANAGED FORESTS.....	3
1. STATE FORESTER AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS.....	3
2. 2020-2022 BOARD WORK PLANS REVISION DISCUSSION	5
3. 2020 FOREST PRACTICES OPERATOR OF THE YEAR AWARDS	10
4. FOREST TRUST LAND ADVISORY COMMITTEE TESTIMONY	12
5. ODF CLIMATE CHANGE CARBON PLAN	12
6. BOARD CLOSING COMMENTS AND MEETING WRAP UP.....	14

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) Presentation, [2020-2022 Board Work Plans Revision Discussion](#), Agenda Item 2
- (2) Handout, [Written testimony by Audubon Society for Lincoln City for 2020-2022 Board Work Plans Revision Discussion](#), Agenda Item 2
- (3) Handout, [Written testimony by Oregon Wild for 2020-2022 Board Work Plans Revision Discussion](#), Agenda Item 2
- (4) Handout, [Oral and Written testimony by Willamette Riverkeeper for 2020-2022 Board Work Plans Revision Discussion](#), Agenda Item 2
- (5) Presentation, [2020 Forest Practices Operator of the Year Awards](#), Agenda Item 3
- (6) Presentation, [ODF Climate Change Carbon Plan](#), Agenda Item 5
- (7) Handout, [Written testimony by Cascadia Wildlands for ODF Climate Change Carbon Plan](#), Agenda Item 5
- (8) Handout, [Written testimony by Kelly for ODF Climate Change Carbon Plan](#), Agenda Item 5
- (9) Handout, [Written testimony by League of Women Voters of Oregon for ODF Climate Change Carbon Plan](#), Agenda Item 5

In accordance with the provisions of ORS 526.016, a meeting of the Oregon Board of Forestry was held virtually on January 6, 2021 and hosted at the Oregon Department of Forestry Headquarters on 2600 State Street, Salem, OR 97310.

All Board members joined online by 8:30 a.m. into Zoom webinar. Chair Imeson called the public meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Board Members Virtually Present:

Brenda McComb
Joe Justice
Jim Kelly
Tom Imeson

Board Members Absent:

None

CONSENT AGENDA:

A. NOVEMBER 4, 2020 BOARD OF FORESTRY MEETING MINUTES

Approval of Board's November 4, 2020 Meeting Minutes.

ACTION: The Board approved minutes from the November 4, 2020 Board of Forestry meeting.

B. TREES TO TAP – SPECIAL REPORT ON KEEPING DRINKING WATER SAFE

Introduces a science review related to forest management and drinking water quality. The report provides the results of a literature review on the effects of active forest management (harvest, forest roads, and reforestation) on drinking water quality and quantity. Additionally, community water suppliers were surveyed to better understand their operations and priorities, and three case studies were conducted.

INFORMATION ONLY

C. REGIONAL FOREST PRACTICES COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENTS

The purpose of this agenda item is to recommend the appointment of one new member to the Eastern Oregon Regional Forest Practice Committee.

ACTION: The Board appointed Brandon Wood to the Eastern Oregon Region Regional Forest Practices Committee, term ending September 2022.

D. FINANCIAL DASHBOARD UPDATE

Department provided an executive financial report and summary that will be submitted monthly to the Board. The report to include up-to-date information about the Department's financial condition, the financial and budgetary status, as well as other ancillary topics as appropriate for Board oversight.

INFORMATION ONLY.

E. 2021 BOARD GOVERNANCE PERFORMANCE SELF-EVALUATION CRITERIA REVIEW

The Board of Forestry completes a Board Governance Performance Evaluation annually, and prior to initiating the next annual evaluation cycle, the Department is soliciting the Board's interest in proposing any changes to the best practices criteria and/or tailored descriptions.

ACTION: Board to provide a preliminary review of the best management practices performance measure self-evaluation criteria as tailored by the Board Performance Measure Implementation Subcommittee and adopted by the Board of Forestry in 2007 and submit any proposed changes individually to the Senior Strategy Manager utilizing the attached review form prior to February 1, 2021.

F. CARBON IN OREGON’S MANAGED FORESTS

The Oregon Forest Resources Institute (OFRI) completed the [Carbon in Oregon’s Managed Forests](#) report that synthesized current information on carbon sequestration and storage in Oregon’s working forests and the wood products they produce.

INFORMATION ONLY

Board Member Comments:

- Board member Kelly clarified the OFRI reports, items B and F, are included with the consent agenda for the Board is to confirm receipt of these items.
- Board member Kelly provided feedback on the two OFRI reports, item B and F. He noted both items had useful information and acknowledge the progress each report made in areas of climate change and carbon. He expressed concern about the information missing in the conclusions of the reports and the perceived industry slant. He offered two examples to explain his position. He shared his appreciation for this work but believed the public would be better served if this information was presented without an industry filter and proposed the consideration of inviting conservation voices to share their perspectives on the reports. Board member McComb concurred with Kelly’s comments and noted the carbon report did not address how to sequester carbon while minimizing greenhouse gas emissions.
- Board member McComb spoke on item C relative to committee structuring. She suggested for the Department to provide guidance on selecting committee members that encourage committees to include representation of all demographics and identities, reflecting the diversity of Oregon. Board member Justice offered his perspective as a former committee member, expressing the challenges with committee engagement, participation, and service. He supports McComb's idea in broadening the selection lens as it could diversify and benefit committees.
- Board member Justice shared an impression of the two OFRI reports. He thought the information presented on the forest industry and products was educational and believed the OFRI reports were well done. He agreed with Kelly’s comments on the reports' progress and commended OFRI for including the work from an academic institution. He noted how with any kind of research publication, there can always be more work done.

Jim Kelly motioned for consensus of the consent agenda items. Joe Justice seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion: Joe Justice, Jim Kelly, Brenda McComb, and Tom Imeson. Against: none. With Board consensus Items A through F were accepted, and the motion carried.

ACTION AND INFORMATION:

1. STATE FORESTER AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

[Listen to audio](#) MP3 – (37 minutes and 3 seconds – 16.9 MB)

Chair Imeson commented on:

- Outlined Board proceedings for Board members, presenters, and the public.
- Noted the public meeting will be live streamed, recorded, and posted online.

- Stated written public testimony can be submitted through January 20, 2021 and included with the meeting record.

State Forester Daugherty commented on:

- Overview of 2020 challenges the Department navigated through including COVID-19, teleworking, social unrest, and the 2020 wildfires. Impressed with the Department's employee's resilience and dedication to public service as they worked through these challenges and encountered opportunities.
- Opportunities of 2020 initiated from the Governor's Executive Order 20-04, Forestry Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with passage of Senate Bill 1602, Natural Resource and Recovery taskforce to various special sessions.
- Encouraged to engage in 2021 as the Governor released her recommended budget and policy agenda for 2021-2023 biennium. He noted how the Governor's budget and policies are in alignment with the Department's policy option package requests. He reviewed each package, outlining the areas supported, the number of positions created, and funding shifts anticipated for implementation in the coming biennium. Highlighted the positions listed in the Macias, Gini, and O'Connell (MGO) recommendations are also included with the Governor's Recommended Budget (GRB).
- Noted the approaching Oregon Legislature Emergency Board (E-Board) meeting, and discussed the funding and investments requested by the Department for the remaining biennium 2019-2021. He reviewed the three areas of investments: Oregon wildfire aviation program, advancement of ODF fire season readiness, and expansion of land management activities to create fire adapted communities in resilient landscapes.
- Updated the Board on Senate Bill 1602 process as it relates to the Forestry MOU. Explained the Private Forests Division remains on target, implementing the provisions outlined in the MOU. Described the Division efforts with the salmon, steelhead, bull trout stream rules now in effect within the Siskiyou Georegion and listed the additional pesticide application requirements also in effect for stream protection.

Board Member Comments:

- Board member McComb commented on the latest Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) developments, including funding toward fire recovery. She explained OWEB is working on the fire recovery taskforce and extended gratitude to ODF for their partnership. Reviewed the newly formed committees including climate change and diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) noting the OWEB members commitment in advancing DEI issues. She highlighted the 100-year water vision update, OWEB's focused investment projects, and ODF's contribution to the conservation reserve technical assistance grants. Mentioned the latest collaboration tasked by the Governor for OWEB, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), and ODF to collaborate on the Natural and Cultural Resources taskforce. Board member McComb recognized the ongoing partnership between OWEB and ODF.
- Board member McComb commented on the Santiam State Forest recovery and implementation planning efforts, explaining how her concerns and thoughts were shared with the State Forests Division and suggested an update from the State Forests to be provided at the March Board meeting. She hoped the update would include interagency perspectives on the Santiam State Forest implementation plan, ideally from DEQ, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), and Oregon Global Warming Commission

(OGWC). Board Chair Imeson thanked member McComb for her report, and State Forester Daugherty recommended for the request to be discussed with State Forests during the next topic's discussion. Board member McComb agreed.

Public Testimony: No provision made for public testimony.

INFORMATION ONLY.

2. 2020-2022 BOARD WORK PLANS REVISION DISCUSSION

[Listen to audio](#) MP3 – (One hour, 50 minutes and 35 seconds – 16.9 MB)
Presentation ([attachment 1](#))

John Tokarczyk, Policy and Analysis Unit Lead for the Partnership and Planning Program reviewed the Board's planning cycle timeline, the intention for the Board's work plans, and the work plan process. He explained the purpose for the midcourse correction, noting not all work plans were modified, but the Board's discussion with the Divisions will review any additions or changes, before the Board votes on accepting the work plans to date. He outlined the order of presentations and explained each Division will present their work plan matrix as they report on the proposed revisions.

Kyle Abraham, Private Forests Division Chief, reviewed the Division's work plan in its current state, noting the updates to the matrix milestones and timelines. He highlighted the Division's 2020 achievements, listed four areas of ongoing work, and described the two major additions to the work plan. He commented on the work that was tabled and the suite of work that will stay on track, as the Division adjusts to accommodate the 2020 additions.

Board commented on the Private Forests Division Work Plan.

- Board spoke on the resources and assistance provided by the Department for forest landowners and thanked the staff for their work during this difficult restoration period.
- Board commended the Division for their continued collaborative work with other agencies, noted how they can be a model of cross-agency collaboration for the Department.
- Board inquired about the goal for the reforestation module of the implementation study. Abraham clarified the module looks at harvest units requiring reforestation, and whether they are being fulfilled in two-years. He explained the team could do future modeling on how different species selected for planting could meet climate change goals if this is outlined with Board goal revision. He noted the Department is striving to understand non-industrial landowner challenges behind acquiring seedlings, and how the agency can assist.

John Tokarczyk reviewed the Climate Change and Forest Carbon work plan in its current state. He highlighted the plan's achievements, describing the key collaborations involved with the work, the subsequent outcomes of the work completed, and how it contributes to building the foundations for understanding the dynamics of forest carbon and the authorities around climate policymaking. He reviewed the ongoing work projects, scope of these projects, and the connection this work has with the Board's milestone timelines outlined on the work plan matrix. He described the updates made to the work plan and why, explained how these updates impact staff and reprioritize the projects, as a key update to the work plan reflects the commitment to complete the Governor's letter request.

Board commented on the Climate Change and Forest Carbon Work Plan.

- Board expressed appreciation for the accomplishments made by the small team to complete this work.
- Board asked the team to consider two items as they continue this work 1) how to maximize carbon sequestration while minimizing greenhouse gas emissions associated with all aspects of forest stand management and transportation, and 2) assessment of the incentive structure available to enable changes in how the Board can propose managing forests. Tokarczyk explained both points will be considered as they work on projects moving forward. Board asked as the unit works on financial incentives to keep in mind the rural communities, in addition to forest landowners.
- Board expressed a strong interest with moving forward on climate change issues.
- Board commented on how the delay of revising Goal G was supported by staff without a Board discussion and expressed concern about further delay as the vacant board seats may not be filled until April 2021. Tokarczyk opened to revisit the timetable of Goal G revision and adjust accordingly. State Forester Daugherty appreciated the Board's comment. He explained how this milestone became postponed, as the cancellation of the October 2020 retreat limits the space for the Board to do this work, but noted how the Department can continue the values and goal revision discussion, as the Board desires. Board members shared their perspectives around picking up this work with the current Board, expressed their level of desire to complete this work, aired concerns and identified potential risks with having vacant Board positions.

John Tokarczyk provided an overview of the Overarching Issues work plan, highlighting achievements, the progress of ongoing work, and the anticipation that all milestones will be achieved with minor adjustments to timelines. He noted no major additions or changes were made to this work plan.

Board commented on the Overarching Issues Work Plan.

- Board inquired about the ecosystem services and valuation milestone, stating there are other values that can be considered beyond economic terms, and asked for clarity around interpretation and framing of valuation. Tokarczyk explained that valuation was initially framed with an economic lens, recognizing there are non-economic values as well. Board suggested to take a more holistic view to what ecosystems services are and how people value them. State Forester Daugherty asked for examples of values that could be considered, and the Board member responded ecological function, cultural values, and social values. Discussed how there should be a more balanced construct acknowledging the full suite of values associated with the ecosystem services concept. State Forester Daugherty provided additional context for the origination of this topic, and agreed that the Department will continue to broaden this construct with the assistance of various partners.

Liz Dent, State Forests Division Chief commented on that given the challenges of 2020, the amount of work that was completed along with core business across all Divisions was impressive. She reviewed the State Forests work plan achievements from 2020, including the revised draft Forest Management Plan (FMP) and the robust stakeholder work in the second phase of the Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP). Acknowledged Division staff's personal and professional commitment to the planning processes and project management, in addition to their active roles in the complete and coordinated system for fire suppression. She outlined the 2021 check-in goals and projected

rulemaking efforts but emphasized the major decisions relative to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process and companion FMP take place with additional rulemaking in 2022. Dent highlighted the additions to the work plan as a result of the 2020 Labor Day fires, stating the Division plan to report out on the Division's recovery plan and restoration work in March 2021.

Board commented on the State Forests Division Work Plan.

- Board recognized the Division workload regarding the HCP and now, the Santiam State Forest recovery efforts.
- Board asked how the March 2022 decision will be framed for the HCP and companion FMP. Dent explained how the two timelines coincide, noting the FMP will require rulemaking, but provided alternatives and explained how these approaches may extend timelines. Board member suggested framing up these plans in two separate votes and shared their perspective on why. Board Chair Imeson explained any voting approach can be discussed by the Board, at the time of the decision, and explained how alternatives can be proposed as well.
- Board appreciated the addition of the Santiam State Forest Update and encouraged the Division to include sister agencies perspectives as they report out on the proposed actions. Board understood they do not have any decision making authority, and the report is merely informational, but would appreciate to hear views on water quality, carbon sequestration, habitats for fish and wildlife as it relates to the proposed plan. Dent stated she will do some outreach with these agencies. Board would also be interested in hearing from local counties or trust counties regarding the Santiam recovery efforts, and their views on the restoration activities taking place on trust county land. Dent described the Division's outreach to Marion, Linn, and Clackamas counties, and Forest Trust Land Advisory Council thus far. Board encouraged the Division to consider addressing the public issues on timber sales as well during the March update. Dent stated this information may not be included with the staff report but is hopeful this can be part of the overall presentation.

Doug Grafe, Fire Protection Division Chief provided status on the Fire Protection Division workplan and concurred with the State Forester's opening remarks about the current state of the union. He explained how much of the Division's work ebbs from the Governor's Wildfire Council recommendations and spoke to the Board's involvement with this work. Commented on the anticipated work with the Emergency Board in preparation for the 2021 fire season. He discussed the policy work associated with the Governor's recommendations is forthcoming, as well as the potential rulemaking and direction that may be provided to the Department as the result of 81st Legislative Session. He outlined the Board business achieved in 2020 by the Division, noting the reports scheduled for 2021, and highlighted the additional report scheduled for March 2021.

Board made no comments on the Fire Protection Division Work Plan.

Bill Herber explained how the cyclic nature of the Administrative Division work plan results in several reoccurring administrative processes that generally tie into the biennial budgetary process. He shared the administrative achievements from 2020 and how the outcomes from these efforts will be reported on as the Legislative Session progresses. He reviewed the work plan adjustments in terms of reporting intervals to the Board, as high-profile financial and administrative projects are underway for 2021-2022 with Board awareness being a top priority.

Board made no comments on the Administrative Division Work Plan.

Public Testimony:

- Joseph Youren from the Audubon Society of Lincoln City, provided written testimony ([attachment 2](#)) for the 2020-2022 Board work plans revision discussion. Listed reasons for his disappointment of the Board's and Department's decision to table the work on the Forestry Program for Oregon, Goal G revision. Urged the Board, as leaders, to direct the Department to collaboratively work with other state agencies in addressing climate issues.
- Collection of organizations, Beyond Toxics and et al, submitted written testimony ([attachment 3](#)) for the 2020-2022 Board work plans revision discussion relative to the Forestry Program for Oregon revision and Goal G. Provided topical background and outlined the reasons for revising the Board's strategic plan and goal G. Cited the Oregon Global Warming Commission draft biennial report on aspects around carbon storage and sequestration potential of Oregon's forests. Reviewed the Oregon Climate Action Plan (OCAP) coalition set of principles for climate-smart forestry policy. Made policy recommendations to guide the revision and update of goal G and listed 10 policy opportunities for the Board and Department to consider and implement as part of fulfilling Governor Brown's Executive Order 20-04.
- Amanda Astor, Forest Policy Manager for Associated Oregon Loggers (AOL), provided oral testimony for the 2020-2022 Board work plans revision discussion. Aired support for the Carbon workplan, suggesting an addition of a combined effort that utilizes the forest ecosystem carbon report, harvested wood products report, and Oregon's sawmill energy report into one all-encompassing lifecycle assessment for future modeling that includes disturbances. Urged the Department to work with American Forests to build a robust stakeholder engagement plan ensuring a full suite of management scenarios and possible effects are considered. AOL recommended additional collaboration between ODF with DEQ on the Executive Order 20-04 rule making efforts including any carbon offset credit from forestry activities. Spoke on the overarching work plan, how AOL would like to support the work on the Forestry Program for Oregon and be involved with the change's forthcoming. AOL looked forward in participating in the State Forests work plans items as stakeholder input will continue to contribute to the overall plans.
- Travis Williams, Riverkeeper and Executive Director of Willamette Riverkeeper provided oral and written testimony ([attachment 4](#)) for the 2020-2022 Board work plans revision discussion. Noted his testimony was behalf of Cascadia Wildlands, Oregon Wild, and various organizations opposed to the proposed Santiam State Forest Salvage project. He listed key issues of concerns with proposed timber sales relative to water quality, habitats, and wildlife. He encouraged the Department to adhere to the 2012 Implementation Plan principles as they work on restoration projects. Urged the Board to connect with stakeholders impacted by the Santiam project and defer any decision on timber sales until March 2021. Provided a list of research studies on water quality impacts from salvage logging. Reviewed the Board's statutory obligation to secure the greatest permanent value of the state lands and noted administrative rules to warrant increasing riparian buffers and leaving burned trees in mature forests.
- Seth Barnes, Oregon Forest Industries Council (OFIC), provided oral testimony for the 2020-2022 Board work plans revision discussion. Highlighted the collaborative work and impacts that has resulted with the passage of Senate Bill 1602. Aired support for the

legislation and provisions, thanked the Department for their work and appreciated the Board's support for the policy space for the discussions to continue. Shared the press release with the Board on the progress of the Forestry Accord and expressed hopefulness as this process moved forward. Supported the reforestation focus of the monitoring and compliance program, as a result of the 2020 Labor Day fires and State Forests emphasis in recovering the forest landscapes. Looked forward in being involved with the Natural and Cultural Resource taskforce process.

- Catherine Thomasson, Environmental Caucus on behalf of the Democratic Party provided oral testimony for the 2020-2022 Board work plans revision discussion. Expressed necessity for clean, safe drinking water and water resources. She referenced the coalition's report that outlines suggestions and summary for sequestration of carbon in our forests. Noted the climate change workplan lacks sufficient detail that outlines how the Department will achieve a sequestration plan by June. Climate Change will drastically impact resources in our watersheds located in forestlands. Thomasson suggested failures of water quality standards and described drinking watershed issues across Oregon due to timber harvests. Encouraged the Department to work further with DEQ, beyond revising a MOU, to work together to ensure Oregonians have access to safe, clean drinking water, as well as improve oversight and rulemaking.

Board members commented on the 2020-2022 Board Work Plans Revision Discussion Presentation.

- Board asked for clarification on how public testimony suggestions are incorporated and remind them of the motion in front of the Board. Tokarczyk reviewed the additional work and changes to the timelines relative to the Board's Climate Change work plan. He noted the other Board Work Plans had no substantial changes.
- Board Chair Imeson reviewed the midcourse correction process, by explaining the written material provided (e.g., 2020-2022 Board Work Plans) outlines the changes and additions made to the work plans. Noted how the Board could offer additional modifications, as necessary, through Board discussion. Board member McComb sought clarity on Board process in considering the testimony heard and incorporating additional changes to the modified work plans as presented by the Department. Board Chair encouraged the Board members and Division Chiefs to seek clarity from one another to ensure any updates to the workplans are understood. Board member Justice stated he had no further questions and would accept the modified work plans as presented.

Joe Justice motioned for approval of the modifications for the 2020-2022 Board work plans as presented. Tom Imeson seconded the motion. Board discussed motion made.

- Board member Kelly recognized this is a formal decision but noted there is a less-structured way of formalizing all work plan documentation and believes staff does a decent job of incorporating feedback with Board direction on the work plans. Stated unless there is a specific amendment, he would accept the modified work plans as presented and discussed. Board Chair reminded the Board what was being voted on within the scope of the motion but stated exceptions can be made. State Forester Daugherty offered examples to the Board members on what they could outline or call out as they consider and vote on the motion.

- Board member McComb appreciated the information provided and reassured that the nuanced details and suggestions outlined by the Board are captured in the minutes (e.g., audio and written) relative to the work plan modifications.
- Board member McComb noted two elements that were discussed under the Climate and Carbon Work Plan and would like to see fulfilled, 1) list of incentives, 2) understand how to maximize carbon sequestration while minimizing greenhouse gas emissions associated with all aspects of forest management (i.e., including fire protection, stand management, harvesting and transportation). McComb also noted the State Forests Work Plan item, State Forest recovery efforts, and would like to know how other state agencies view the actions taken regarding the Santiam State Forest.
- Board member Kelly did not want to formalize a change to the Goal G revision timeline. State Forester stated he will schedule a follow-up with Board member Kelly and the Board Chair to draft some initial ideas on defining public input and outlining further Board discussion on this item. State Forester recognized the Board's attempt to remain flexible on the work plan timelines. Board Chair Imeson and Board member Justice clarified their positions in regards to the discussion around Goal G. Noted how they do not support delaying items because the Board does not have full membership, but recognized how missing voices can impact the Board's overall productivity and would like to function optimally as a board. Board Chair provided further clarification on his personal perspective on how he votes on a Board item, even without a full Board and aired his intention to remain as Board Chair and fulfill the duties of the Board until he is replaced.

ACTION: Approved Board work plan modifications as presented and clarified by the Board discussion.

Joe Justice motioned for approval of the modifications for the 2020-2022 Board work plans as presented and clarified by the Board discussion. Tom Imeson seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion: Joe Justice, Jim Kelly, Brenda McComb, and Tom Imeson. Against: none. With Board consensus the motion carried.

3. 2020 FOREST PRACTICES OPERATOR OF THE YEAR AWARDS
[Listen to audio](#) MP3 - (34 minutes and 32 seconds – 15.8 MB)
 Presentation ([attachment 5](#))

Board Chair Imeson opened the Operator of the Year topic, noting how the recognition process will be offered in a virtual format outside of the traditional norm, but expressed the Board's appreciation for the opportunity to acknowledge operators excellence for 2020.

Scott Swearingen, Private Forests Field Support Manager, introduced the Operator of the Year award presentation and described the modified award process.

John Krause, Private Forests Stewardship Forester, outlined the Division's [presentation](#) and reviewed the recognition program's goals. He explained the relative authority and background of the program. He described the intent behind the goals and the nomination process. Krause stated

that nominations can come from anyone, but the nominees must meet five standard criteria in exceeding natural resource protection requirements. He defined and listed each criterion: consistency, difficulty, results, innovation and extra effort, as well as the financial risk to the operator.

Krause reviewed the selection and evaluation process for each nominated operator. He commented on the Department's goal in recognizing quality forest practices while educating the public on the Forest Practices Act (FPA) and how it can work within the forest industry. He explained how the Department works with various outlets to disseminate the recognition of operator's meritorious work and regional operator of the year achievements. Krause listed the operators who received a merit award by region in the following order, and thanked Jim Gersbach from the Department's public affairs team in preparing the operator award videos.

- Southwest Oregon Region:
 - Weber Logging and Construction Incorporated from Roseburg, Oregon ([video](#))
 - Rocky Wardle from Rogue River, Oregon ([video](#))
- Northwest Oregon Region:
 - Greg Johnson Logging from Blodgett, Oregon ([video](#))
 - J.M. Browning Logging Incorporated from Astoria, Oregon ([video](#))
 - Greenup Enterprises Incorporated from Estacada, Oregon ([video](#))
 - Wayne Stone Logging Incorporated from Sandy, Oregon ([video](#))

Krause celebrated each 2020 Operator of the Year winner, by providing a brief description of each winner's achievements, before playing a video of the operator in action. He showed a narrated video of the operator's harvesting approach and shared the reason for the nomination. The video provided each operator the opportunity to explain how they balance efforts in logging, field work, slash clean-up, and stream buffer conservation.

- Darrell Jacobs Trucking Incorporated for the Eastern Oregon Region ([video](#))
- D & H Logging Company for the Southwest Oregon Region ([video](#))
- C & C Logging, LLC for the Northwest Oregon Region ([video](#))

State Forester Daugherty thanked the Operators of the Year for their exemplary work and for setting a good example for working lands. Swearingen remarked that each award recipient has been provided individual time to share any words they may on their work and recognition. Each awarded operator shared a few words to express their appreciation for the recognition, for their crew's hard work on the project, and gratitude for the Board and Department staff for acknowledging their team's work. Chair Imeson commented on the importance of their work and the dedication each operator demonstrated.

Board members commented on the 2020 Forest Practices Operator of the Year Awards presentation.

- Board Chair Imeson expressed gratitude for the video production work done by Jim Gersbach from the Department's public affairs team. Board member Kelly mentioned he appreciated the videos and they felt like a field trip in this time of pandemic restrictions.

Public Testimony: None

INFORMATION ONLY.

4. FOREST TRUST LAND ADVISORY COMMITTEE TESTIMONY
[Listen to audio](#) MP3 – (40 seconds – 320 KB)

Board Chair Imeson confirmed with Board Administrator, Hilary Olivos-Rood, there are no commissioners to provide comment and item concluded.

Commissioner Testimony: None

INFORMATION ONLY.

5. ODF CLIMATE CHANGE CARBON PLAN
[Listen to audio](#) MP3 - (35 minutes and 49 seconds – 16.4 MB)
Presentation ([attachment 6](#))

Board Chair Imeson introduced John Tokarczyk, Policy and Analysis Unit Lead for the Partnership and Planning Program. Tokarczyk offered brief background on the topic and introduced the main presenter.

Danny Norlander, Forest Carbon and Forest Health Policy Analyst, outlined the intent for the climate change carbon plan and reviewed the timeline for this work. He reviewed the drafted purpose, vision, and principles that will act as the framework for the plan's implementation. He explained to meet the plan's purpose, the Department and staff developed eight forestry climate action goals. Norlander reviewed each goal in the following order, noting purpose for goal and detailing elements that helped shape the goal's lens.

- Climate-Informed Forestry
- Fire Response and Fire / Smoke Adapted Communities
- State Forests Management
- Federal Forest Restoration
- Urban and Community Forests
- Reforestation and Afforestation
- Maintain and Conserve Forests
- Research and Monitoring

Norlander highlighted how research and monitoring is crucial to informing the policy work and measuring the accomplishment of each goal. He discussed the role and function of the supporting actions currently included with the plan. Reviewed how the supporting actions will pass through a diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) lens that aligns with the forthcoming Equity Blueprint from the Climate Adaptation Framework, to ensure inclusion of underrepresented and vulnerable populations in the decision-making process. He outlined the forward progress being made on the plan's development and supporting actions. Norlander commented on the projected timeline for the plan's drafting, board review, and public input. He closed by asking the Board to consider whether any goals are missing from the plan, and what the public input process could look like for the plan.

Board commented on the ODF Climate Change Carbon Plan presentation.

- Appreciated the work done towards defining the plan's goals, encouraged the opportunity for public input on these goals, and interested in the measurements used in determining goal

achievement. Noted how these goals speak to other statewide and regional efforts the Department is involved with or contributed to.

- Remarked on the importance for each goal to be quantifiable, measurable, and monitorable to help determine whether progress occurs. Suggested for each goal to have identified metrics, that can be implemented through a monitoring or research plan and program. Referenced the League of Women Voters of Oregon's written testimony and how they raised points for the need of metrics to be identified. Echoed the importance to keep the Board engaged and public informed, to ensure the plan and goals are understood.
- Inquired about the guidance provided by the Policy and Analysis Unit to the State Forests Division on the salvage logging and other activities on the Santiam State Forest. Tokarczyk and Norlander stated no direct conversation relative to the Santiam's efforts has occurred.
- Aired concerns about the process for goals framed, leadership assessing feasibility of goals, and alignment of goals with the division's actions. State Forester Daugherty responded by listing the ways the State Forests have led by example to date in areas of forest management and carbon sequestration, but the Board encouraged for the State Forests to progress further in light of the Governor's response letter. State Forester explained the Department's reasoning to begin with the vision, principles, and forestry climate action goals to the Board. Asked about further data to be shared with the Board supporting the assertion that State Forests is sequestering more carbon than other landowners in the state, beyond the data included with the Forest Ecosystem Carbon Report.
- Board Chair Imeson shared his preference for a practical approach, by receiving input from the Board, proceeding with the public input process, and returning to the Board with an update as well as some recommendations on next steps. He explained this is a good way to engage and inform the Board, while seeking advice on this plan. Norlander paraphrased what he heard collectively from the Board, provided an overview of the collaborative work completed thus far as clarification for the written testimony submitted, and confirmed how the plan will proceed with public and board engagement. Encouraged the PAU team to outline areas or advise the Board on ways to support areas that can help progress this plan. State Forester Daugherty reviewed some areas that are ready to progress and fulfill the goals outlined in the plan, explaining any encumbrances to these areas and how the Board could assist in resolving.

Public Testimony:

- Cascadia Wildlands submitted written testimony ([attachment 7](#)) for the ODF Climate Change Carbon Plan topic, relative to the North Cascade District's Santiam State Forest Implementation Plan revision. Provided background on three organizations who contributed to the testimony submission letter. Outlined a series of issues for the Department to address, through modifying the proposed implementation plan, and offered research citations on various topics that could inform the plan's revision.
- Felice Kelly submitted written testimony ([attachment 8](#)) for the ODF Climate Change Carbon Plan topic. Shared feedback on the purpose, vision, principles, and goals outlined, as well as what was missing from this document. Urged for the Department to promptly distribute a more substantial climate change and carbon plan.
- League of Women Voters of Oregon submitted written testimony ([attachment 9](#)) for the ODF Climate Change Carbon Plan topic. Aired support for climate goals and policies developed with the best available climate science. Noted the value of carbon sequestration in forests

for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) and cited relevant research studies. Requested the Department to revise the Forest Practices Act and improve forestry statutes akin to neighboring states. Recognized the economic factors relative to implementing climate-smart practices, and encouraged the collaboration between the Board, Legislature, and citizens to support the Department in an alternative funding mechanism. Urged the Board and Department to make their priorities clear, identify legislative needs, and develop aggressive plans to address climate change and carbon in Oregon.

INFORMATION ONLY.

6. **BOARD CLOSING COMMENTS AND MEETING WRAP UP**

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Board Chair, Tom Imeson, reviewed the agenda items in sequential order with Board members and Department staff, and welcomed any closing comments or follow-up questions on topic items.

- Board Chair Imeson began with the consent agenda items and asked if there was any follow-up to these items.
 - State Forester Daugherty reviewed how information items are currently presented to the Board and offered alternative actions beyond approving the information reported, such as accepting a report. Chair Imeson provided another suggestion, where the Board acknowledges the report and recommended for the Board's feedback be returned to OFRI. Board member McComb shared her perspective of what a 'yes' vote for an informative report can mean, describing how an acknowledgment of receipt for the report could equate to no value judgment by the Board. State Forester agreed and will move forward with "acknowledgment of receipt for the report" and begin incorporating this language as a recommendation for informational reports.
 - State Forester Daugherty followed up on the comment made by Board member McComb about encouraging inclusion and expanding diversity on committees. He thanked the Board for their input and will pass along the message to the Area Directors. He mentioned a vacancy on an eastern Oregon committee and will follow-up with Board member Kelly on potential nominees. Board member McComb appreciated the follow-up and offered her perspective on how committee diversity can improve. She encouraged developing guidance and expectations for the Department and committees to consider when diversifying representation. State Forester agreed and appreciated the Board's support. He recognized a cultural shift takes time but is hopeful that the Governor and Legislature will fund the Departments' position requests that will help advance equity, diversity, and inclusion objectives across the agency and committees.
- Item #1 and #2 were reviewed. Board Chair Imeson inquired if there was follow-up on the Board action and discussion for item two.
 - State Forester Daugherty noted there are several directions, approaches, and contexts around the work plans that were raised by the Board. He stated how he will ensure the Board's comments and intentions are reflected in the meeting minutes.

- Board Chair Imeson reflected on the anticipated addition of four new board members and explained how current board members may become the minority voices during this transition. Explained how transitions can experience some tension with understanding the Board's direction as it relates to the work plans, so there will be an adjustment process. He suggested to not define the work too much allowing some flexibility for future member input.
- Board Chair Imeson commented on what was occurring at the National Capital in Washington D.C. He shared his perspective of the disturbing events, and other Board members commented. Board member Kelly noted the level of civil discourse in the Board meeting was in sharp contrast to what was happening in D.C. Board member McComb agreed, then shared her perspective and feelings about the televised unrest.
- Item #3 reviewed. Board Chair Imeson appreciated this award as a form of recognition for those who go above and beyond. Board member Justice expressed the great work done by the Department staff to pull together this award recognition. Board member Kelly appreciated the videos, as they provided a field trip experience for everyone viewing and illustrated the practices implemented by the operators.
- Item #4 was reviewed and nothing to report.
- Item #5 was reviewed. Board member McComb appreciated how hard the staff was working to advance the climate plan for the agency and to fulfill the mandate set by the Governor's office. She mentioned three areas for the Department to consider relative to this topic and state forest management. Offered thoughts on minimizing greenhouse gases through forest management, utilizing other department programs or partner agencies to review the state forest implementation plans, and balancing carbon-smart forestry in state forests while achieving economic, environmental, and recreational benefits.

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Board Chair Imeson adjourned the public meeting at 2:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Peter Daugherty



Peter Daugherty, State Forester and
Secretary to the Board

HR

Meeting minutes approved at the March 3, 2021 Board Meeting