

# April 21, 2021, Board of Forestry Virtual Orientation and Tour

In attendance:

Board members:

*Karla S. Chambers  
Ben Deumling  
Chandra Ferrari*

*Joe Justice  
Jim Kelly  
Brenda McComb*

Salem Staff:

*Kyle Abraham  
Nate Agalzoff  
Jeff Burns  
Jacqueline Carter  
Jason Cox  
Peter Daugherty  
Liz Dent  
Leana Dickerson  
Doug Grafe  
Bill Herber*

*Joe Hessel  
Tricia Kershaw  
Joy Krawczyk  
Dave Lorenz  
Dave Larsen  
Hilary Olivos-Rood  
Brian Pew  
John Tokarczyk  
Lena Tucker  
Jennifer Weikel*

*Andy White*

Facilitator:

*Robin Harkless*

Guest Presenters:

*Lance Christensen  
Lindsay Reaves  
Bonny Glendenning  
Claudine Reynolds  
Mike Warjone*

[View video on YouTube](#) (Oregon Board of Forestry Virtual Meeting April 21, 2021, 00:00.01 – 07:28:21)

## **Public Meeting called to order at 9:01 am**

Chair Kelly welcomed the new Board members, outlined the online protocols for the virtual public meeting, conducted a roll call and proceeded with the morning Board orientation.

## **Welcome and Orientation Overview**

[Audio](#) (1 hour, 11 minutes and 11 seconds | 32.5 MB)

State Forester Daugherty outlined the orientation and tour designed for the Board, explaining the objectives for each portion. He offered opening comments about looking forward to working with a full board and recognizing the Governor's declaration of Arbor month for April 2021. He introduced the facilitator for the orientation, Robin Harkless, project manager for Oregon Consensus under the National Policy Consensus Center at Portland State University and described the various projects she has worked on relative to governance, policy, and strategic planning. He closed by listing the recent work Robin has been involved with the Department and Board.

Robin Harkless shared the intention of the agenda item, outlined the time allotted, and invited members to engage with each other during the introductions. She asked the Board members to share their personal insights and offer background on what brought them to serve on the Board of Forestry. Chair Kelly started off the Board interactive discussion, followed by fellow Board members Chambers, Deumling, Ferrari, Justice, and McComb.

Facilitator Harkless asked the Board members to consider what their aspirational goals will be while serving on the Board and what they can contribute to the Board work. She called on the Board members for their responses in the following order, Board member Ferrari, Justice, Chambers, McComb, Deumling, and Chair Kelly. Board responses varied on aspirations including the revision of Forestry Program for Oregon, development of clear goals around climate change, broader forest management plan development, working towards solutions as a unified Board, how Board decisions affect Oregonians, wildfire financial reconciliation and system improvements, promote healthier forests, represent the views and values of all Oregonians, generate policy for resilient forests into the future, and become a high-functioning Board. Members commented on their collective contributions ranging from experience in water quality and endangered species act protection, Forest Practices Act (FPA) implementation and regulatory understanding, financial expertise, forest ecology and management research proficiency, and forest industry knowledge. Chair Kelly concluded this discussion by listing and describing the areas of commitment and goals he envisions to achieve with the Board in the coming years.

Facilitator Harkless reviewed a handout ([attachment 1](#)) that laid out the elements of an effective work groups widely used in organizational development and provides a framework for how these groups balance and tend to the three elements, relationships, processes, and results for optimal group performance. She described each element, explained how they interconnect, and lay the foundation for group work development and accomplishments. She asked the Board to explore what is important to them on how the Board can be effective in making sound, substantive policy decisions, building good working relationships, and improving processes. The Board offered their perspectives, thoughts, and sentiments on the three areas the facilitator presented. Board members highlighted the following: not surprising each other or staff, respect others, challenge personal biases, build interpersonal relationships, improve Board processes, cultivate trust, commitment to Board work, connection between the Board's mission to their work, encourage immersive forest experiences, space to consider creative alternatives and solutions, proactive in seeking diverse perspectives on issues and engage in constructive debate.

Facilitator Harkless encouraged the Board to check in with one another as they continue working together and recommended to signal the Board Chair if any elements or areas under the effective work group model needs attention to help their group become a more effective Board.

### **Department Executive Team, Division Overview, and Major Themes for 2021**

[Audio](#) (1 hour, 23 minutes and 14 seconds | 38.1 MB)

State Forester Daugherty introduced the 12-member Department Executive Team (ET), outlined the items each team member will cover, and encouraged an open dialogue between the board and staff if questions arise. Each ET member shared their origin story, how they came to the Department, and review key topics with the Board forthcoming for the Division or Program.

Executive Team Staff provided introductions in the following order:

- Peter Daugherty, State Forester and Secretary of the Board
- Lena Tucker, Deputy State Forester
- Bill Herber, Deputy of Administration
- Tricia Kershaw, Human Resources Director
- Doug Grafe, Fire Protection Division Chief
- Liz Dent, State Forests Division Chief
- Kyle Abraham, Private Forests Division Chief

- Jeff Burns, Partnership and Planning Director
- Joy Krawczyk, Public Affairs Director
- Jacqueline Carter, Internal Auditor
- Andy White, Northwest Area Director
- Dave Lorenz (predecessor) and Dave Larson (successor)
- Joe Hessel (predecessor) and Brian Pew (successor)

With no questions by the Board, Chair Kelly closed the item and moved to the next item on the agenda.

### **Forestry Program for Oregon and Planning Cycles**

[Audio](#) (19 minutes and 25 seconds | 8.88 MB)

John Tokarczyk, Program Director for the Policy and Analysis Unit provided an overview of the presentation ([attachment 2](#)) objectives. He explained the Board's Forestry Program for Oregon as a construct, intention, and goals associated with this plan. He tied how the plan functions with the agency's initiatives, policy development, and prioritization of work. He described the components of the plan, the associated processes and planning cycles, and how the plan evolved overtime to become the current 2011 edition. He reviewed aspects of the current Forestry Program for Oregon for the Board to consider as they look to revise this plan in the near future, explained how other agency work could inform the next iteration, and described the scope of the associated public engagement process. He outlined the development, implementation, and operational aspects with strategic planning by the Board, and how this planning drives the Board priorities which informs the agency's two-year work plans and policy drivers. Tokarczyk closed by explaining the interdependent relationship the Board's work has with the agency's additional planning cycles.

State Forester Daugherty commented on how the agency divisions and programs utilize the Forestry Program for Oregon and how this links with the staff reports presented to the Board each meeting. He emphasized how relevant this strategic plan document can be for the staff work, as they help achieve the goals and fulfill the mission of the Board. He noted how the agency has strived to improve their own mission, vision, and values over the years by engaging in their own strategic planning effort. He explained how through this process he identified some opportunities for the Board to consider with the next iteration of the Forestry Program for Oregon, including values statements on diversity, equity, inclusion, and safe work environment or how climate change in Oregon forests may change the Board's vision of what the State will want to achieve in the next 20 years. Chair Kelly recognized the importance and crucial need for this work and asked the Board to prepare for the revision of this document in the coming year, as this plan will align the policies from the Board with the agency, the public and the State.

### **Session Close-Out**

[Audio](#) (15 minutes and 13 seconds | 6.97 MB)

Facilitator Harkless outlined some areas the orientation session did not allow time for the Board to explore relative to agency leadership and connections of their work with the Board. She expressed her hope for the Board members to cultivate not only working relationships with one another but to expand their connections and reach out to the ET members as well when considering the policy items that span across the Department's programs. She suggested for the Board to revisit and discuss their vision for the revision of the Forestry Program for Oregon, as time allows at future meetings or retreats. Summarized the orientation outcomes for the Board and agency leadership, by reviewing her observations of the session's take-a-ways.

Shared tips with the Board as they continue working together as a group to optimize their performance, effectiveness, and function. Emphasized areas of consensus and alignment among the Board. Facilitator Harkless closed by offering other situational awareness observations that could prove useful to the Board.

Chair Kelly offered additional thoughts with the Board, and asked for them to share any observations, reflections, or closing comments.

- Chair Kelly commented on how the Board should be representing the people of Oregon, first and foremost, but recognized other dynamics exist as the Board contends with big policy issues. He expressed his view on stakeholder involvement with the Board's public decision-making process and recommended for the new Board members to not allow themselves to be labeled by stakeholder communities, to challenge themselves and reach out to other stakeholders to hear from other voices. State Forester Daugherty noted other occurrences that can happen when engaging with stakeholders, how the public may view the Board's policy decisions as political positions, and how ET will work to support the Board's desire for a broader conversation. He mentioned how public comment will return to Board meetings beginning in June with up to 30 minutes for the public to discuss any topic in front of the Board, generally on decision or information items included on the agenda. He emphasized how the Climate Change and Carbon Plan team is working on diversifying their stakeholder pool with underrepresented communities and seeking their feedback, as they develop the draft and final versions of the plan, as well as bringing these voices to the Board.
- Board member Justice conveyed his hope to continue including a Board closing comment and meeting wrap up at the end of every public meeting, explaining how important this element is with Board and Department staff communication. Chair Kelly agreed and planned to keep this item on the Board's agenda.
- Board member Ferrari expressed appreciation for the Executive Team sharing their background, expertise, and perspectives with the Board. She expressed her gratitude for the work done by the Board Administrator and Agency leadership to help prepare and orient the new members. She appreciated the work done to help transition and prepare the board members to engage with the Department and fellow members as they continue the work into the future.
- Board member Chambers concurred, adding how important it is to share appreciation for staff work and expressed how respected the staff are by Oregonians as they continue to address the many pressing forestry issues in the State. She acknowledged the value in knowing the many planning cycles in play, the prioritization process undertaken by the Board as they set the strategic direction for the agency. State Forester Daugherty explained how the Boards' current planning cycles has not been approved as a best governance practice by the Board, and outlined the opportunities for the Board to discuss, modify, and determine whether the planning cycles are working for the Board and Department. He looked forward in engaging this discussion with the Board and ET at the October Board retreat.
- Board member Deumling agreed with the other comments made and stated how honored he is to be part of this group.

Chair Kelly closed the morning orientation session for lunch.

Chair Kelly and Board members returned to the virtual meeting room and commenced the afternoon Board tour by introducing the lead tour guide for the afternoon.

### **Setting the Stage for the Board's Virtual Tour**

[Audio](#) (7 minutes and 31 seconds | 3.44 MB)

Kyle Abraham, Private Forests Division Chief, shared his appreciation for the collaboration in preparing the collection of virtual tour stops for the Board and public. He reviewed the purpose, objectives, and outline of the tour. He tied the tour's objectives with the Forestry Program for Oregon and reviewed goals A, C, and D. He described other incentive-based, voluntary, and non-regulatory programs in Oregon that the Department coordinates with and the benefits provided to Oregonians. He introduced the lead presenters for each tour stop and reviewed their biographies, offering the Board some background for each presenter. Abraham closed by encouraging the Board's engagement and participation in virtual polls or by asking questions throughout the tour.

### **Forest Practices Incentives – Stewardship Agreements**

[Audio](#) (29 minutes and 1 second | 13.2 MB)

Nate Agalzoff, Private Forests Incentive Coordinator, introduced fellow presenters Jennifer Weikel, Private Forests wildlife biologist, and Lindsay Reaves from Bauman Tree Farm, and summarized the objectives for tour stop one. He noted the presentation ([attachment 3](#)) will cover various dimensions of a stewardship agreement, including an overview of the Department's program, historical highlights, regulatory framework, other incentive opportunities, and how collectively, these components can be leveraged to benefit the landowner, partner agencies, and resource. He described a stewardship agreement, outlined key historical events as it related to Oregon's Forest Protection Act division 21, and listed the number of active agreements. He highlighted the Natural Resources Conservation Service's (NRCS) Health Forest Reserve Program (HFRP) and other partnership efforts such as the Programmatic Safe Harbor Agreement for the Northern Spotted Owl. Agalzoff closed by showcasing the Bauman Tree Farm, as the landowners (Tom Bauman and Lindsay Reaves) furthered timber and conservation objectives by utilizing a stewardship agreement to access complimentary incentive programs and to collaborate with other organizations.

Agalzoff invited comments from Ms. Reaves, noting the video ([link](#) 04:23:06) expressed the landowner's and wildlife biologist's perspective on the benefits that come from a stewardship agreement. Reaves provided history of the tree farm, shared her perspective on working forests, and described her transition to the forestry sphere. She outlined the challenges she has encountered as a small woodland landowner and listed the various responses or solutions implemented at the Bauman Tree Farm. Reaves closed by inviting the Board members to visit the tree farm for an in-person tour, as this is commonplace for her organization. Agalzoff expressed that Ms. Reaves and Ms. Weikel are available for any questions by the Board.

Board member questions or comments on tour stop one:

- Chair Kelly asked Reaves if agency assistance were not available what would be the status of the land. Reaves described her personal experience, noted how the 250-acre lot evolved through different ownerships, and forest management objectives can change dependent on what each owner values in the forest.
- State Forester Daugherty commented on how the Bauman Tree Farm stewardship agreement offers a great example on how each incentive program Agalzoff mentioned can work together and meet

the needs of the forest landowner. He appreciated Reaves's efforts in organizing informational tours and offering them to the Board.

- Board member Deumling inquired about the funding for projects like Bauman Tree Farm and whether the funds are available to other landowners. Abraham and Reaves explained the HFRP funding included under the 2008 Farm Bill has since been exhausted, but there are other cost-share or incentive programs available. Board member Ferrari asked about the cost-share percentage available with the HFRP. Agalzoff explained the percentage under the cost-share is determined by the term of landowner commitment, for the 10-year restoration agreement the percentage was 50/50 versus permanent easement percentage was 100 percent. State Forester Daugherty commented on the similarities of this option relative to a traditional easement plan, which Reaves agreed and described her landowner experience as she implemented the restoration phases of the management agreement. She added that landowners still own the timber and receive monies from harvesting, while at the same time they are creating small patch cuts and structure by bringing in early seral forests.

### **Port Blakely: A Stewardship Story**

[Audio](#) (1 hour, 1 minute and 27 seconds | 28.1 MB)

Mike Warjone, President of Port Blakely's U.S. Forestry Division, introduced fellow presenters from the company's U.S. Forestry team for tour stop two and what will be highlighted in the presentation ([attachment 4](#)). He offered background about the company and summarized what stewardship forestry means to them. He spoke on the family company's vision of balancing forest stewardship, resource sustainability, conservation goals, and future market demand. He noted the company's work in Oregon and Washington relative to Habitat Conservation Plans and Stewardship agreements. He explained how these plans help the family company achieve land management, environmental protection, water quality, and conservation goals, along with regulatory certainty. Warjone discussed the scope, components, and communities considered as they developed the largest forest stewardship agreement in Oregon. He mentioned the many drivers that can influence a 50-year plan and explained the importance in understanding the value their forests bring to the community before finalizing the plan. He closed by introducing Bonny Glendenning, Environmental Educator and Community Coordinator, who led the community outreach efforts for the stewardship plan.

Glendenning provided the overview of the community collaboration and outreach efforts associated with developing the stewardship agreement. She explained plan development took 12-months with drafts iterations reviewed by the Department and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. She noted various experts were involved, research science was considered, and an assortment of perspectives were shared during the development process. She described the company's approach to proactively build relationships with the communities interested in the stewardship agreement and listed the many groups who were invited to learn more about the land and the agreement objectives. She mentioned the many opportunities Port Blakely provided to foster collaboration and cultivate social acceptance of the plan through group meetings, educational tours, and demonstrative site tours, which was rounded out with a public hearing and comment period. Glendenning closed by emphasizing how the company's many outreach efforts blossomed into partnerships and projects in advancing forestry stewardship, resulting in a balanced stewardship agreement signed on February 21, 2020.

Claudine Reynolds, Director of wildlife, fisheries and environmental policy for Port Blakely reviewed conservation measures and elements of the stewardship agreement implemented on the ground. She

explained how the agreement was designed to create landscape scale habitat mosaic and maintain or increase diversity of aquatic or terrestrial habitats that exist within the forests. She noted how prescriptive elements of the plan associated with restorative harvest can be managed locally or at a harvest-scale, so habitats can remain diverse, high functioning, and resilient. She outlined the processes undertaken to ensure the protective and restorative protections are met. She shared several examples to illustrate how harvest areas are assessed, features considered, and management schemes are used to ensure the prescriptions are met in aquatic and terrestrial habitats. Reynolds closed by reviewing the road infrastructure prescription and noted how this information is a sample of the overall makeup of Port Blakely conservation strategy.

Lance Christensen, Area Manager for Port Blakely tree farm, reviewed the operation and implementation of the stewardship agreement on the ground. He explained as the prescriptions provide consistency, allowing landowners a level of predictability to achieve longer-term planning and investments in forestry. He noted how every stream within the 30,000 acres tied to the stewardship agreement has been identified and classified to ensure appropriate prescriptions are met under a diverse set of management activities. He outlined additional benefits of the stewardship agreement, such as streamlining notifications for annual regeneration harvests, efficiencies gained when ODF stewardship foresters conduct field visits to assess harvest-related riparian prescriptions and enhance identification of protected aquatic or terrestrial areas for operators conducting activities nearby. He closed by commenting on Port Blakely's commitment to maintain a reliable road system for the protection of water and transport of timber.

Warjone closed out the Port Blakely stewardship story, highlighted some key take-a-ways, and deferred to Abraham to facilitate any Board questions regarding the virtual field tour.

Board member questions or comments on tour stop two:

- Board member Chambers inquired on the total number of acres in Oregon in stewardship agreements and the New Zealand forestry industry relative to the Pacific Northwest. Warjone explained New Zealand government made a strategic and focused decision to invest in the forest industry in the late 80's, in turn studies were conducted on soil and health of the agricultural lands before converted to forestlands. He stated he could provide additional background to the Board but explained the key issues that come up in managing forests are comparable. Abraham noted Port Blakely's agreement includes the most acres, outlined the range of the acreage for the other agreements, and deferred to Agalzoff to provide further detail. Agalzoff described how 12 of the 13 agreements are under the family forestland category, with hundreds of acres on average. Abraham added that landowners are part of other certification programs, listed the programs, and noted a 4.7-million-acre aggregate. Agalzoff noted just shy of 3,500 acres in stewardship agreements (not including Port Blakely's agreement) including non-industrial owners.
- Board member Justice asked Port Blakely to share how they came up with the riparian area protections, describe the drivers for those decisions, and any other elements worth noting from that process. Warjone explained how the maturity of the forest will speak to the approach and strategies developed relative to watershed management and classification of streams. Reynolds explained how majority of the streams were headwaters, creating an effective strategy for the part of the watershed they had the most stewardship value over. She outlined the data analysis conducted, consultation with other experts, and described other elements that came together to help develop a meaningful plan for that landscape.
- Chair Kelly asked if assumptions were made as the Port Blakely team discussed and developed the stewardship agreement. Warjone provided an overview of Port Blakely's thinking that factored into the plan, such as risk calculation, non-declining sustained yield, and biological sufficiency. He

commented how other plans interplay with this agreement, and outlined the key forest management objectives considered, noting how rotation age was not a component of the plan but included.

- Board member Ferrari asked if the prescriptions were static or had some adaptive management incorporated into the plan. Reynolds explained there is some adaptive approaches and monitoring efforts that are incorporated into the plan. She offered examples where monitoring effectiveness and efficiencies inform the application of a prescription in a more meaningful way. Warjone noted how a long-management history, lessons learned on applications, and the data available informed this plan, and how Port Blakely is also pursuing a Federal Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP).
- Board member Ferrari asked whether Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) was part of the planning team, and whether a goal of the plan was to determine sufficiency to meet water quality standards. Warjone stated DEQ was not part of the planning team but noted how Port Blakely works with DEQ on monitoring site specific areas relative to watersheds and temperature, and how this informs the plan and prescription implementation. Agalzoff spoke on how stewardship agreements by rule allows for periodic monitoring and how agreements can be written to look at a property-wide lens and conservation benefits associated, allowing for some adjustments to be made.
- Board member McComb asked whether any of the streams on the property drain into 303d listed streams that have a TMDL. Reynolds explained some reaches of streams meet that classification. Board member asked whether the stewardship agreement addresses the contribution of the TMDL. Reynolds explained TMDL was not incorporated into the plan but noted how the riparian prescriptions attempt to prevent or mitigate any additional impacts from forest lands to the streams identified as TMDL areas. Warjone explained the prescriptions and strategy to approach harvesting near streams is fully considered even if TMDL is not mentioned in the plan.
- Board member Deumling inquired if other companies showed interest into the stewardship agreement program. Abraham mentioned there was some interest but no commitments. Warjone concurred that this is unlikely, as the Private Forests Accord may result in other considerations for industrial timber companies. State Forester Daugherty commented on the high-quality work and collaboration between Port Blakely and the Department to draw up this stewardship agreement and encouraged the Board to visit Port Blakely when COVID-19 restrictions are lifted.
- Board member Ferrari inquired about the challenges, drawbacks, or lessons learned from this large-scale stewardship agreement process, and if the outcomes are matching the intent of the plan. Glendenning commented that many landowners learned about this option, but noted how capacity, time, and expertise may not be there to dedicate towards developing an agreement. Warjone commented on the value of public comment period and outreach with communities or regulators, as this work was crucial in contributing to the agreement's development. Agalzoff emphasized the transparency of the process and investment of time from Port Blakely in their outreach efforts. He mentioned reviewing the scope of the agreement relative to the Forest Practices Act as strategies, objectives, and terms of the agreement were developed was challenging, but vital part of the process. Warjone noted that 1/3 of the forest was burned as the result of the Labor Day fires which was unforeseen, but the work produced by Agalzoff, and his team was appreciated by Port Blakely. Abraham expressed the value of transparency and the timing of the release for documents was important to learn during the development process, and how it is up to the landowner to share those documents, which Port Blakely accomplished by finding the right balance.
- Board member Chambers asked about the assurances built into the stewardship agreement program to allow for smaller businesses to successfully utilize the plans developed. Warjone stated he believed the plans provide certainty that can be beneficial for other landowners.
- Board Chair Kelly asked what the company would have done differently if the stewardship agreement program did not exist. Warjone stated in hypothetical terms, if the agreement was not

available and forestlands were open to regulatory uncertainty, then they may have considered business outside of Oregon. He stated how Port Blakely believes they are doing the right thing and felt good with being here in Oregon. Board asked if Oregon could learn from Washington. Warjone explained with the state and federal-level agreements such as the HCP and stewardship agreements can provide reassurances for companies given the market and risk are constantly changing.

### **Advancing Shared Stewardship**

[Audio](#) (35 minutes and 45 seconds | 16.3 MB)

Jeff Burns, Partnership and Planning Program Director, explained at tour stop three how he will outline the program's mission, key partnerships, and scope of the program's work. He described the concept of shared stewardship, and emphasized the value of interagency relationships to organize, fund, and collaborate on this work to attain mutual goals. He presented ([attachment 5](#)) on various program efforts, associated grant funding, and highlighted different projects that exemplified the scope and impact of these stewardship efforts in mitigating risk on the Oregon landscape.

Burns shared the origin of the Federal Forest Restoration program housed under the Partnership and Planning program, outlined how it has evolved over time, and connected to the Good Neighbor Authority (GNA) program. He described the function, benefits, and limitations associated with the GNA program for public landscape-scale priorities. He noted how the U.S. Forest Service Shared Stewardship agreement signed by Governor Brown in 2019 reinforced the Oregon way of doing business with partner agencies, other jurisdictions, and communities. He commented on the state and federal agreement's objectives, benefits, and role, integrating core principles together with a cross-boundary focus. He highlighted two shared stewardship landscape-scale projects that exemplified multiple partnership collaboration, the beneficial work that can be accomplished across-boundaries, and how the joint funding to continue these efforts can accelerate the shared stewardship approach. Burns noted how the impacts from the Labor Day fires emboldened the relevance of the Shared Stewardship approach in Oregon, explaining how the Department was approved funding to improve community resilience to wildfire and restore and maintain forests from the Oregon Legislature in spring 2021. He described the need for funding, the type of projects awarded the available funds, and the beneficial impact these projects can have on the landscape and communities. Burns closed by emphasizing the important role the interdependent partnerships have in collaborating and increasing the pace, scale, and quality of restoration on all lands.

Board member questions or comments on tour stop three:

- Board member Chambers reflected on the Governor's Wildfire Response Council's (GWRC) report recommendations on mitigation and asked about how the state can get to a scalable level of fuel treatments in Oregon. State Forester Daugherty described the various elements associated with the proposed recommendation beyond the treatable number of acres, the funding available, and agency capacity that must be considered as part of the type and scale of treatment considered. He highlighted how the Shared Stewardship approach is growing in efficacy across the state and nation, how this links with the GWRC work, and how crucial the Federal partnerships have been in advancing this work. He noted the potential trajectory this work may go in the coming years with legislative support, increase to agency infrastructure, and proper funding. Burns described additional considerations relative to fuel treatments, the lessons learned from this work, and how investments should be meaningful action that leverages partnerships, coordination, and funding for optimal results.

- Board member Ferrari asked about the overarching vision or goals that drives how these projects are prioritized, how science plays into the prioritization, and how stakeholders become engaged. State Forester Daugherty explained how the Shared Stewardship agreement allows Federal and State agencies to jointly set priorities. As part of the GWRC recommendation development, a quantitative risk assessment was used to prioritize treatments in higher risk categories and noted how community readiness is another aspect being assessed.
- Board member McComb asked whether the strategic allocation for fuel reductions funds interfaced with the pods approach proposed by Chris Dunn from Oregon State University. State Forester Daugherty noted this approach is being considered but more on a local level. He commented on statewide level prioritization is in the process of being assessed at local level for implementation and impact. Burns explained the pods approach is new with more relevance at the local level and separate from the scope of statewide planning. He described the program's forest action plan components and goals, which is informed by the Forestry Program for Oregon and how this plan works with Oregon communities' readiness to implement wildfire mitigation plans. Board commented how the state may benefit from the work being done at the community level using the pod approach.
- Chair Kelly shared his observations of the Grant County project in action and on a local level the work completed through coordination between the landowner, county, and the Department. Burns mentioned this project was a good example of how previous collaborative projects and partnerships laid the foundation for future fundable landscape-scale projects to be developed and help ease implementation.

Burns closed out the virtual tour by outlining the key take-a-ways from each of the tour stops and the principles that drives everyone's work. He deferred to the Board Administrator to poll the Board on whether the tour information presented echoes the value statements set forth by the Forestry Program of Oregon, as these values inform the goals that the Department sets out to achieve.

### **Board Discussion with Panel of Presenters and Closing Comments**

[Audio](#) (47 minutes and 56 seconds | 21.9 MB)

Kyle Abraham explained the various tour guides and presenters were available to participate in a panelist discussion with the Board or respond to any questions the Board may have relative to the topics spotlighted in the virtual tour.

Board and presenter discussion followed:

- Board posed question on coordination needed to acquire for funding from Federal and State Legislature for these Department programs. State Forester Daugherty described the existing relationships among the government sector in natural resources, how proposals for federal budget increases are submitted to U.S. Congress, and explained how the Department's Forest action plans contribute to monitoring and reporting outcomes of program effectiveness. He briefed the Board on the recent years of work completed by the Department to advance the Forest Practices Act administration and collaborate in ways to better prepare for fire, noting how national funding has not been focusing on family forestland initiatives, but how the Department strives to build relationships with landowners around the state and connect them to emerging federal grant opportunities. Burns emphasized the great working relationship the Department has with the U.S. Forest Service, Region 6 office, functioning independently but collaboratively on aligned mission work. Abraham commented on other work relationships built over the years with NRCS, and how

they support the Department with incentive programs, family forest projects, and stewardship forester capacity. Chair Kelly offered his perspective on the roles of federal and state partnerships and coordination in Oregon.

- Board expressed gratitude to the participant for their contributions, thanked staff for organizing the virtual tour, and especially appreciated the key presenter's information provided at each tour stop. The Board mentioned Washington as a State having more regulatory practices that offer timber operations and biodiversity conservation more certainty. Board inquired what the Department and forestry communities are doing to collectively address some of the issues presented as challenges to advancing these programs' scale and pace, as well as how their efforts fit into addressing some of the bigger picture issues (e.g., climate change).
  - Burns commented on the various interagency planning documents and tools the Department utilizes, but with different funding sources and landownerships, not any one of those documents really captures the bigger or complete picture for the long-term and noted the potential for an overarching document in tying these all together. State Forester Daugherty believed the appropriate overarching document is the Board's Forestry Program for Oregon, as it sets the 20-year vision of what Oregon's forests should look like and outlined areas the document could further emphasize to integrate a large-landscape scale perspective.
  - Reaves offered her perspective on what engagement Oregonians have with their forests. She shared how she strives to educate the future generations, policymakers, academics, and other interested persons to learn the value of the forest resources. Noted how small woodland owners can have an impact and contribute to the greater conversations on addressing these large-scale issues.
  - Warjone stated he could envision a collaborative pulled together to address a county, region, or resource issue if there was a program and agreement available for multiple landowners to contribute towards. He expressed how the role of natural working lands in the climate change discussion plays out is crucial to understand, how flux needs to be addressed in national forests and their potential in sequestering carbon, and how these lands can become healthier environments. He noted how Port Blakely embraces assisted migration when they replant trees after a harvest to prepare for climate change but explained if in Oregon the most impact is desired in the least amount of time, to focus energies in the GNA program. State Forester Daugherty spoke on the Chiloquin project, how it involved multiple landowners to work towards a overarching goal. Burns described the project and stated if landowners receive support, training and tools, the local community will engage and operate successfully on large-scale landscape projects. State Forester commented on the land use system, how it has positioned Oregon to maintain wild forestland and continue to promote conservation.
- Chair Kelly inquired with the forest landowners' panelists on whether strengthening the FPA regulations to meet the conservation demands would be realistic if more opportunities for regulatory certainty are provided. Warjone could not comment on the Private Forests Accord as Port Blakely is a signee, but from his interactions with Oregon foresters he observed they want to do the right thing and found those working in the forest care about the environment. He offered his perspective on the richness of Oregon's history, generational succession, forest economy communities, existing forest practices, and land-use laws relative to land conversion. He mentioned how Oregon will be a growing area influenced by emigrating populations over the next 50 years, and the conversations today will contribute to the how to protect, preserve, and responsibly use the valued forest resources. Board member commented on the fleeting infrastructure and minimal

funding available in eastern Oregon for forest harvest, fire treatments, or conservation efforts and concerned with the current state of federal lands. Another Board member noted the meaningful engagement and continued efforts in this policy arena are coming together but concerned about the lack of funding and labor force available in rural Oregon to address forest and community's needs. Board discussed how in the future they may need to take a more intentional role in the public sphere, but also how they could consider incentivizing private capital and resources.

- Reaves offered thoughts on how small woodland owners are part of the mosaic landscape, how the land they manage is connected to the greater forest ecosystem, and how there is an opportunity to introduce the FPA and Department resources to new forestland owners in Oregon.
- Board appreciated the diverse perspectives being shared. Highlighted some discussion take-a-ways, described the nuanced pieces of each key issues, and noted how the Board can utilize the best available science to help answer the questions discussed and address these issues at a large scale.
- Abraham thanked the planning team and presenters who participated in the virtual tour. State Forestry Daugherty thanked the tour host, Port Blakely, and expressed gratitude for the staff organization and the continued efforts made by the tour planning team over a span of a year to bring this tour into fruition. Board stated appreciation of the work that everyone dedicated to plan and execute this tour.

#### Closing Comments from the Board, Department, and Presenters:

- State Forester Daugherty appreciated the level of engagement and for everyone taking the time to openly participate with the orientation and tour.
- Chair Kelly checked in with the Board on what they thought about the overall day and shared with humor his perspective on the day's activities. New Board members commented on the volume of material, complexity of issues, and scope of information to learn is a lot, but they are committed and willing to take on the challenge. Board member shared observation of rural communities growing concern on issues relative to smoke, fire, and human health, and how much more complex these issues have become over time. Board member encouraged other members to hear from all voices on these issues.
- Reaves expressed appreciation to have a small woodland owner representative on the Board and welcomed all Board members to visit and engage at any level with other small woodland owners. Chair Kelly commented on the small woodland owner representation on the Board.
- Board reflected on how each member represents all Oregonians, how important it is to hear the range of views of people in and outside of the natural working land sphere. Expressed from the standpoint of diversity, equity, and inclusion it is important for the Board to recognize communities in our state who have views and values not often heard from or are contrary to the majority.
- Chair Kelly shared a lesson learned about the Board's scope of authority as a policymaking and governing entity. He described to the Board how encounters with the public can form a series of assumption of the Board role and sometimes do not understand the limitations, constraints, or barriers that may exist for the Board to act, whether legally, financially, or statutorily. He welcomed Board members to come together and be resources for each other as these situations come up. Another Board member agreed, and expressed their optimism moving forward as a Board.
- Board commented on the various aspects and program tools presented during the orientation and tour. Noted how they threaded with the Forestry Program for Oregon and as the Board considers revising this overarching guidance document to clearly communicate their intent with stakeholders on how the programs, policies, and tools achieve the Board's goals or objectives. Chair Kelly shared his belief that organizations being outcome-focused, but some of the Forestry Program of Oregon's measured outcomes have the risk of being outdated or disconnected from other outcomes.

- Board member expressed how hearing from other member's individual backgrounds, views, and perspectives around the magnitude of issues the Board is grappling with led them to feeling optimistic as the Board discusses key issues in forestry, and how the Forestry Program for Oregon can act as their compass.

**Board Chair Kelly adjourned the workshop at 4:25 p.m.**

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Respectfully submitted,  
/s/ Peter Daugherty



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Peter Daugherty, State Forester and  
Secretary to the Board

HR

*Meeting minutes approved at the June 9, 2021 Board Meeting*