

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item No:	C
Work Plan Title:	Forest Resources Division
Topic:	Annual topic, Regional Forest Practices Committee
Presentation Title:	Regional Forest Practices Committee Appointments and Reappointments
Date of Presentation:	September 7, 2022
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SUMMARY

The purpose of this agenda item is to recommend the appointment of four new members and the re-appointment of eight existing members to the Regional Forest Practice Committees (RFPC).

CONTEXT

ORS 527.650 requires the Board of Forestry (Board) to establish a forest practice committee for each forest region. Each such committee shall consist of nine members, a majority of whom must reside in the region. Members of each committee shall be qualified by education or experience in natural resource management and not less than two-thirds of the members of each committee shall be private landowners, private timber owners, or authorized representatives of such landowners or timber owners who regularly engage in operations.

ORS 527.660 states “[E]ach forest practice committee shall review proposed forest practice rules in order to assist the Board in developing rules appropriate to the forest conditions within its region.” Regional committees have provided a forum for the public; at each meeting members of the public may participate and offer information and suggestions. The Forest Resources Division Deputy Chief serves as the secretary for all three committees.

BACKGROUND

The last reappointments to the regional committees occurred in September 2021. The regional committees are set with staggered terms so only one-third of committee members come up for reappointment at a time. This approach ensures the continuity of committee work. The Department recently contacted committee members whose terms expire in 2022, regarding their interest in reappointment. Eight members wished to continue serving on the respective committees. Two existing Northwest Oregon Regional Committee members, one existing Southwest Oregon Regional Committee member, and one existing Eastern Oregon Regional Committee member elected to discontinue their membership. Aaron Zweber and Jill Bell have been put forth as the new committee member nominations for Northwest Oregon. Michael Scott has been put forth as the new committee member nomination for Southwest Oregon. Todd Kurtz has been put forth as the new committee member nomination for Eastern Oregon. See attachment 1 for biographies. There is one additional vacancy on the Eastern Oregon Regional committee and the search is underway for new member nominations. The full roster for each committee is in attachment 2.

The recommendation shows current and new members for appointment, and their term expiration dates. The terms are set to maintain the staggered term approach.

RECOMMENDATION

The department recommends the Board make the following eight reappointments and four new appointments:

<u>Northwest Oregon Region:</u>	<u>Term expires September</u>
Jill Bell (New)	2023
Aaron Zweber (New)	2024
Mike Barnes (Chair)	2025
Tally Patton (p)	2025
Candace Bonner (p)	2025
<u>Southwest Oregon Region:</u>	
Michael Scott (New)	2025
Chris Arnold	2025
Garrett Kleiner	2025
<u>Eastern Oregon Region:</u>	
Todd Kurtz (New)	2023
Vacant	2023
Brandon Wood	2025
Paul Jones	2025
Bobby Douglas	2025

(p) Public Member

ATTACHMENT

- (1) Biographies for new RFPC appointments
- (2) Committee rosters

Biography for Todd Kurtz

Todd Kurtz is the Silviculture Area Manager for Manulife Investment Management Forest Management in La Grande, Oregon. Todd leads the layout and reforestation operations. Todd has worked for Manulife (formerly Hancock) since 2010 serving as a Reforestation Forester, Silviculture Forester, Logging Contract Administrator and Senior Forester. During his career in the woods, Todd has also worked for the United States Forest Service in Heppner, OR and as a logger for C&C Logging in Kelso, WA. Todd earned a bachelor's degree in economics with a minor in environmental science resource management from the University of Washington and an M.B.A. degree from Eastern Oregon University. Todd has lived in La Grande since 2013.

Biography for Michael Scott

Michael Scott grew up in Oregon. He has been with Mason, Bruce and Girard (formerly Barnes and Associates) for almost 5 years. Previously, Michael worked as a district forester in Arkansas covering 80,000 acres for Deltic Timber Corp. He also served as a forester for Jefferson Resource Company in Weed, California; and as a forestry tech/wildland firefighter in Northern New Mexico. Michael graduated from Humboldt University in 2009 with a degree in forestry. He has been involved with Society of American Foresters since college and was Coos chapter Oregon SAF chair from 2018-2020.

Biography for Aaron Zweber

Aaron grew up outside of Astoria and graduated from Knappa High School. He pursued his forestry career at Oregon State University. Aaron works for Hampton Family Forests. Professionally Aaron has held positions with Warrenton Fiber/Nygaard Logging, Weyerhaeuser, and Hampton Family Forests out of Astoria. His experience includes working alongside foresters on stocking surveys, fertilization and post sampling. He has working knowledge of harvest unit design, road layout and construction, and as assisted on various stream enhancement projects.

Biography for Jill Bell

Jill Bell is an Area Manager for Weyerhaeuser's Snow Peak Operations, out of Lebanon, Oregon. She has worked for Weyerhaeuser since 2003 as a forest engineer, harvest manager, and area manager. She has a degree in Forest Engineering and a Master of Business Administration, both from Oregon State University. With her background in forest engineering and harvest operations, safety and environmental sustainability are core values to Jill which can be seen in the work she does with her team in silviculture, road construction, and harvesting. As a lifelong Oregonian, Jill is active in the communities where she has the privilege of living and working. She is on the Linn Forest Protective Association board, College of Agriculture Sciences Leadership Academy Advisory Board, and is a regular guest lecture at Oregon State University for forest engineering classes.

CURRENT REGIONAL FOREST PRACTICE COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP
September 2022

NORTHWEST OREGON REGION

Member Name	Current Term Began	Term Expires	Recommended Expiration
Aaron Zweber (New)	09/2022	09/2024	<u>09/2024</u>
Gregory "Wade" Stringham	09/2021	09/2024	_____
Jon Stewart	09/2006	09/2024	_____
Mike Barnes (Chair)	09/2007	09/2022	<u>09/2025</u>
Tally Patton (p)	09/2007	09/2022	<u>09/2025</u>
Candace Bonner (p)	09/2011	09/2022	<u>09/2025</u>
VACANT		09/2023	_____
Jill Bell (New)	09/2022	09/2023	<u>09/2023</u>
Randy Silbernagel (p)	09/2005	09/2023	_____

SOUTHWEST OREGON REGION

Member Name	Current Term Began	Term Expires	Recommended Expiration
Michael Scott (New)	09/2022	09/2025	<u>09/2025</u>
Erik Culley	09/2021	09/2024	_____
Mikaela Gosney	09/2019	09/2024	_____
Scott Nichols (p)	09/2021	09/2024	_____
Chris Arnold	09/2021	09/2022	<u>09/2025</u>
Garrett Kleiner	09/2016	09/2022	<u>09/2025</u>
Daniel Fugate	09/2005	09/2023	_____
Dana Kjos (Chair)	09/2005	09/2023	_____
Darin McMichael	09/2019	09/2023	_____

EASTERN OREGON REGION

Member Name	Current Term Began	Term Expires	Recommended Expiration
Irene K. Jerome (p), resigned 09/01/2022	09/2006	09/2024	_____
Bob Messinger (Chair)(p)	09/2006	09/2024	_____
Elwayne Henderson	09/2011	09/2024	_____
Brandon Wood	01/2021	09/2022	<u>09/2025</u>
Paul Jones	09/2013	09/2022	<u>09/2025</u>
Bobby Douglas	09/2020	09/2022	<u>09/2025</u>
Vacant		09/2023	_____
Todd Kurtz (New)	09/2022	09/2023	<u>09/2023</u>
Chris Johnson	09/2014	09/2023	_____

(p) Denotes public member