

Board of Forestry Testimony

W. Ray Jones, Representing Stimson Lumber Company

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Central to today's Board of Forestry (BOF) Meeting is the review and development of Guiding Principles that will inform and direct the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) in development of a new Forest Management Plan (FMP). After reviewing the current Draft Guiding Principles provided by ODF, I would offer the following comments:

- First, the Guiding Principles need more specificity than is contained in the draft.
 - Clear metrics should be developed for each Guiding Principle when able to do so. Metrics create accountability, clear expectations, transparency and focus for the BOF, ODF, the Trust Counties and all other Stakeholders. Anything short of this approach creates confusion, lack of trust and eventually unrealized expectations. Up and Down Arrows don't do it!
 - The metrics should apply to all the components; financial, social, ecological and recreational aspects.
- The language around Harvest Levels need to be clear in the Guiding Principles. This is an area where metrics would work well. Timber Harvest is a very fundamental part of the new FMP. Annual Harvest Rates need to be stated and at a level that increases Financial Viability for the Trust Counties and ODF.
 - There is tremendous harvest potential on these lands versus harvest levels in the current FMP. Past testimony indicates current harvest levels are 50% of the Annual Growth. Harvest levels need to be at a level that support enhanced revenue streams to the Trust Counties and ODF.
 - The new Harvest levels need also to produce incremental revenue to support fundamental activities on the forest. Important activities such as Annual Inventory Updates, Pre-commercial Thinning and Young Growth Management need to be supported with increased revenues generated by the new plan.
- The value of this asset is conservatively \$5.0 Billion in the open market place. A metric must be established to show the Return on Asset Value (ROAV). This metric would demonstrate what the actual return is on an annual, bi-annual or by planning period. Any prudent property manager would have a return criteria established to measure to and report on. I encourage the BOF and ODF to discuss this metric and adopt a return criteria.

Respectfully submitted,

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