



# Committee for Family Forestlands Meeting Summary for May 12, 2022



*Under public notice made by news release with statewide distribution, a meeting of the Committee for Family Forestlands [an advisory body to the Oregon Board of Forestry with authority established in Oregon Revised Statute 527.650] was convened on May 12, 2022, as a virtual online meeting. Meeting recordings constitute the official record.*

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**CFF Committee members participating:**

Nick Hennemann, Interim FPA & Monitoring Deputy Chief  
Wendy Gerlach, Citizen-At-Large (Voting)  
Gary Jensen, Southern Oregon Landowner Rep. (Voting)  
Kate McMichael, Landowner-At-Large Rep. (Voting)  
Rick Zenn, OSWA Executive Administrator Ex-Officio  
Glenn Ahrens, OSU College of Forestry Ext. Ex-Officio  
Julie Woodward, OFRI Ex-Officio  
Barrett Brown, NW Landowner Rep. (Voting)

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**ODF Staff attending:**

Kristin Whitney, Administrative Specialist  
Christine Buhl, Entomologist  
Kara Doescher, FF Forester - John Day  
Mike Dewey, Geotechnical Specialist  
Tim Hoffman, Public Affairs

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**Members not in attendance:**

Kaola Swanson, Conservation Rep. (Voting)  
Maurizio Valerio, EO Landowner Rep. (Voting)  
S. Mark Vroman, Industry rep (Voting) Hampton Family Forests  
Amanda Astor, Forest Policy Manager AOL Ex-Officio

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**Guests/Public:**

Ben Deumling, Board of Forestry  
Kelly Makela, Public  
Ann Walker, Public  
Susan Gladwin, Public  
Randy Silbernagel

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**Chair Comments.** Chair Gerlach called the meeting to order, quorum established and asked for changes to the agenda and, public comment before moving onto the chair updates.

**Division update.** Nick Hennemann, Interim Deputy Division Chief started the updated with a personnel switch as his rotation as chair to the committee will be ending soon, he introduced Mike Kroon stepping in as the secretary to the Committee and shared the most updated organization chart. Nick then talked more about the division hiring status update, job rotations, and other information about division staffing for the Private Forest Accord positions. A timeline had been requested on completion which Nick shared what the division has and talked through the timeline/context for each part of the Accord and rule packages process. Wendy inquired more on the rules for fish buffer timeline effective for large landowners that are before the new rules effective and the effective date(s). Nick confirmed the effective date and touched more on the additional timelines. The next update Nick shared another organizational chart with process timeline with the authors and other agencies for effective drafting, to reach out to the accord authors for more clarity as needed as laid out in the shared document with other assistance from regional forest practice committees. Kate asked a clarifying question about training and outreach, if that first part of training is to train ODF employees to be the trainers while outreach is training those with woodlands. Nick confirmed that information to ensure everyone is trained on the same content. Wendy asked about the process once the rules are finalized then the HCP application is put in based on those rules then it goes through the federal review of the proposed HCP, she asked about the likelihood of approval of the HCP compared to process. There is a contractor to conduct the work, if there is any “clean-up” that needs to be made needs to by July 2023 and once the rules are implemented with any changes needed afterward it would go through the adaptive management committee and provided some examples.

**Climate Smart Award.** Nick then introduced Christine Buhl to provide an update, she spoke on a proposed award program as part of the 2021 ODF climate change and carbon plan. The program is being termed “Climate Smart” and described more on the proposed program but asked for any inputs on the structure of the award while she provided additional goals

and objectives with her contact information. Wendy asked for a brief 1 paragraph document the committee can review, confirmed. Julie asked a question on it being a one-time award or on going, Christine expressed her hope and intention for the program, more to know as time goes on. Nick brought up other award programs that have additional tiers of recognition that could benefit this program and help encourage and recognize Climate Smart Forestry both internal and external. Wendy mentioned it being a good way to recognize partnerships through different forestry practices or use of thinning programs, also that there is time to converse more about this topic which Christine thanked her and spoke more on the idea. Barrett talked on 3 categories for incentives goal of the program he could see with that program, Wendy asked if there were more questions before the next agenda item. She asked the members of the public who joined the meeting to introduce themselves.

**Plan and Draft report to Board of Forestry.** Wendy started with speaking on the rough draft she pulled together based on notes from throughout the year, review minutes and past reports for examples and any comments. Kate thanked her for the start of the plan. Nick provided background on the process and what it is for, Wendy spoke on last year's presented written report to the Board of Forestry and her thoughts on this year. Barrett mentioned the past meetings and how there had been stories to help others understand what it means to be a small forest landowner and why on a personal level these are so important, he asked Ben for comments or anything he and the board would find helpful. Ben reviewed the rough draft Wendy came up with and spoke on last years presentation from the Committee and provided some examples some specific elements that would be good for the board to hear or tangible item asks. Barrett also asked if there are any decision points Ben sees where the committee would be helpful on what's coming up for decision points for the Board. Ben would have to review the work plan for a clear answer as a newer member to the Board, offered to review while others continue. Nick asked what natural on ramps for the committee to dovetail their work in with the Board of Forestry's work and other crosswalks for efficiency. Ben encouraged the committee to show a strong Wishlist items and speak onto what the committee does and has done, Wendy brought up the rough draft report, everyone to read the report and be forward thinking and provide input, ideas, story, etc. to Mike Kroon, Nick, and the Committee Support email address for the next meeting to pull together for efficiency. Kate brought up the timing and having another meeting before the presentation meeting, Barrett spoke on the small community associations and his interest in speaking on it to the Board and how they consume new and other channels. Nick clarified and offered adding that to comments to the report and find 2 people to join Wendy like last year and speak more to those topics within the report and back to the timeline to have comments in by May 27<sup>th</sup> that gives about two weeks and Wendy stated her hope to get it all together for the June meeting to review together. Glenn offered if they had a story where woodland owners who are affected by the fires, somewhat emphasizing and how it may lead into priority needs to draw attention to the board and mentioned Kate maybe continuing her story which Ben agreed for an update to her progress. Barrett then mentioned the new board member(s) who may not have heard last years, Wendy offered more suggestions if she would be interested in presenting which Kate offered to do what's best for the committee and a good idea to continue to highlight. Kate inquired if the Board of Forestry meeting in July will be in person, Ben responded with hoping it will be there has been more in person meetings lately. Glenn added to what Kate previously said on working with partners providing outreach to connect/reconnect with people, they have only been able to connect with a small amount who are very overwhelmed or just starting recovery efforts needing help, he stated examples on potential stories to the board and how much work there is to do to connect people to the right resources. Julie mentioned workforce that had previously been spoken about that she was sure Amanda would mention if she was present, Wendy mentioned maybe Mauricio.

**Roundtable.** Julie started with inquiring about the PFA mentioned earlier about how they are classifying small landowners and if it should be on the docket for the committee, Wendy agreed and mentioned there are multiple definitions. Nick added to that there is a rule for small forest landowner assistance office and requirements that would be considered after reviewing the bill again and see if it fits with the authors intent and that the process is different than historically done and explained further and offered Rick to speak to it if he wanted to as being apart of the author representative group, he had nothing to add. Wendy had a broad question on prioritization within the department and the number of very large projects

already in place, Nick spoke to that question and how timelines play a part of that and explained further challenges to overcome with doing the pieces able to now and not burning out in the process. Wendy offered the committee to be a voice for prioritizations if needed, Nick appreciated the support and expressed the turn around once new employees come aboard to help with those challenges. Tim, Public Affairs mentioned Thursday May 18<sup>th</sup> being the Governor's funding ceremony at the World Forestry Center for awareness. Rick reminded about the Oregon family forest convention June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> and described events that will take place and where to find the event information. Wendy before closing mentioned to the group to review summaries before meetings to ensure each person's intent is captured, Kate spoke on the Starker Capstone Project that brought together a lot of women in the forestry industry and other skills events that had happened and upcoming to help encourage and inspire the next generation into forestry. Wendy mentioned in the draft she mentioned the personal things that the committee members work on outside of that setting, Barrett expressed interest in one of Kates point before Chair Gerlach called the meeting to a close.