

Agenda Item No:	7
Title and # of Issue:	Private Forests Work Plan 6 – Intermediate Board Issue 0
Date of Presentation:	June 3, 2009
Contact Information:	Jim Paul, Division Chief Private Forests Division 503-945-7206 jpaul@odf.state.or.us

SUMMARY

The purpose of this agenda item is to review and discuss the revised Board of Forestry Private Forests Draft Issue Paper (Attachment 1). This issue paper facilitates completion of the Board products for Intermediate Board Issue 0 (a.k.a. primary board issue) in the Private Forests Work Plan: A Board review of the governing statutes and strategic direction articulated in the Forestry Program for Oregon (FPFO) for private forests, to determine what, if any, amendments are desirable.

CONTEXT

At the January 2009 Board meeting, the Board approved their updated Forest Regulation Work Plan, which is now titled the “Private Forest Work Plan”. This work plan includes a primary Board issue, which is the subject of this agenda item, and three intermediate Board issues which will be brought to the Board at future meetings over the course of the next year. At the March 2009 Board meeting, the Board reviewed and discussed the first draft of the Board of Forestry Private Forests Issue Paper. The paper has been revised and updated consistent with that discussion.

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

The Primary Board Issue of this work plan is the following:

How will the Board clarify current Private Forests program policy governance—at the statutory level, Forestry Program for Oregon strategic planning level, or otherwise—to best address the current and emerging challenges on private forestlands in order to fully realize the Forestry Program for Oregon vision of sustainable forest management across all Oregon’s forestlands? What, if any, changes to program funding sources and/or mechanisms are needed in order to best ensure desired outcomes are achieved?

The Private Forests Draft Issue Paper provides background information on the current primary challenges to keeping forests in forests and a summary of the current statutory and policy framework for addressing these challenges. The issue paper is intended to be the vehicle for the Board to: (1) have a clear understanding of the existing guiding statutory and FPFO policy objectives for private forestlands, and (2) document outcomes

of Board discussion and debate as part of this and future agenda items on what, if any, alternatives to the current policy objectives should be explored in order to best deal with current and future challenges.

The issue paper discussion of possible alternatives is organized in the context of the seven FPFO strategies (A thru G). The staff presentation on this agenda item during the June 2009 meeting will review the revisions to the 10 policy objectives, based on the Board discussion at the March 2009 meeting, and also introduce the topic of potential changes to program funding sources and/or mechanisms needed in order to best ensure the policy objectives are achieved. As part of this presentation, the department will introduce some potential alternatives to initiate a Board discussion on this topic, and solicit Board recommendations around specific funding mechanisms they would like the department to explore further.

RECOMMENDATION

The department recommends the Board review the updated Private Forests Draft Issue Paper and confirm the revised policy objectives therein; and provide direction to the department on specific funding mechanisms they would like the department to explore further in the next iteration of the issue paper and continued discussion in September 2009.

NEXT STEPS

The department will update the issue paper consisted with the Board discussion and direction. The next iteration of the issue paper will include more specific descriptions of funding mechanisms identified during June 2009 discussions. The September 2009 Board meeting is the next milestone, and will include continued discussion on the issue paper and further vetting of potential funding mechanism alternatives for the private forests program.

ATTACHMENTS

- (1) Board of Forestry Private Forests Draft Issue Paper