

Forestry Program for Oregon Strategy A: Promote a sound legal system, effective and adequately funded government, leading-edge research, and sound economic policies.

A b. Development and maintenance of sustainable forest management knowledge

Why is this indicator important?

Management practices that determine forest sustainability depend largely upon an informed citizenry and human skill and ingenuity. It is important to improve public understanding of forest ecosystems and the complex issues regarding our forest resource management. If citizens are well informed, they in all likelihood will have expectations that are consistent with the sustainability of forest resources and will take actions individually and collectively that are compatible with principles of sustainability.

Providing multiple opportunities for experiential learning in forests, complemented by hands on classroom activities enable and encourage students to become active participants in their local communities and help interested young people pursue academic and professional careers in the sciences and natural resources.

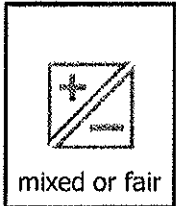
A wide range of disciplines and skills is necessary to implement sustainable forest management actions, including not only the traditional scientific disciplines of forestry, botany, wildlife biology, and ecology, but also the social sciences of economics, geography, and civics and government. Human resources in the form of high quality, adequately trained and equipped scientists, land managers, forest workers, and government program administrators provide essential links in ensuring sustainable forest management objectives are achieved.

Desired trend

Oregon student and family forest landowner participation in forest education programs is increasing and forest resource research funding, higher education forest resource instruction, natural resource professional society membership, and forestry extension staffing are maintained or increasing.

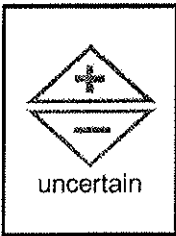
What does this indicator tell us about sustainable forest management?

State



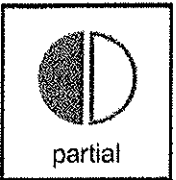
Oregon schools, forest landowners, and other organizations provide a wide diversity of "in the woods" forestry education program opportunities for K-12 students. Student participation in such programs can be significantly increased. Oregon is fortunate to have a world-class College of Forestry, forestry extension programs in many Oregon counties, and community college forestry instruction. Forestry research through the College of Forestry and the USDA Forest Service Pacific Northwest Research Station directly influences our understanding of Oregon's forest ecosystems and resources and contributes to sustainable forest management both in Oregon and beyond the state's borders. Oregon's forest resources are studied, managed, and protected by a larger number of professionally trained scientists, natural resource managers, and operators. Many family forest landowners have sought and obtained a high level of forest management knowledge; however a significant number of family forest landowners still lack basic forest management planning for their properties.

Trend



More data are needed to establish trends for K-12 student participation in forestry programs with a field component and for Oregon members of natural resource professional societies. The number Oregon public university and community college resident faculty engaged in forest resources instruction and forestry extension has remained stable in recent years. The number of family forest landowners obtaining Master Woodland Manager status or similar advanced management training continues to increase at a modest rate. Combined funding for forestry research at Oregon State University and the Pacific Northwest Research Station has remained relatively stable over the past two fiscal years. However, some budgeted funds for the Research Station have been reallocated for USDA Forest Service wildfire suppression in recent years. Therefore, the data may overstate funding actually available for forest research. Accurate trend data are not yet available for the number of Oregon members of natural resource professional societies.

Information



It is likely that the indicator under-reports the number of existing K-12 forestry programs with a field component. It is hoped that publication of this initial indicator data will result in more comprehensive future reporting. Data are complete and adequate for establishing short term trends for:

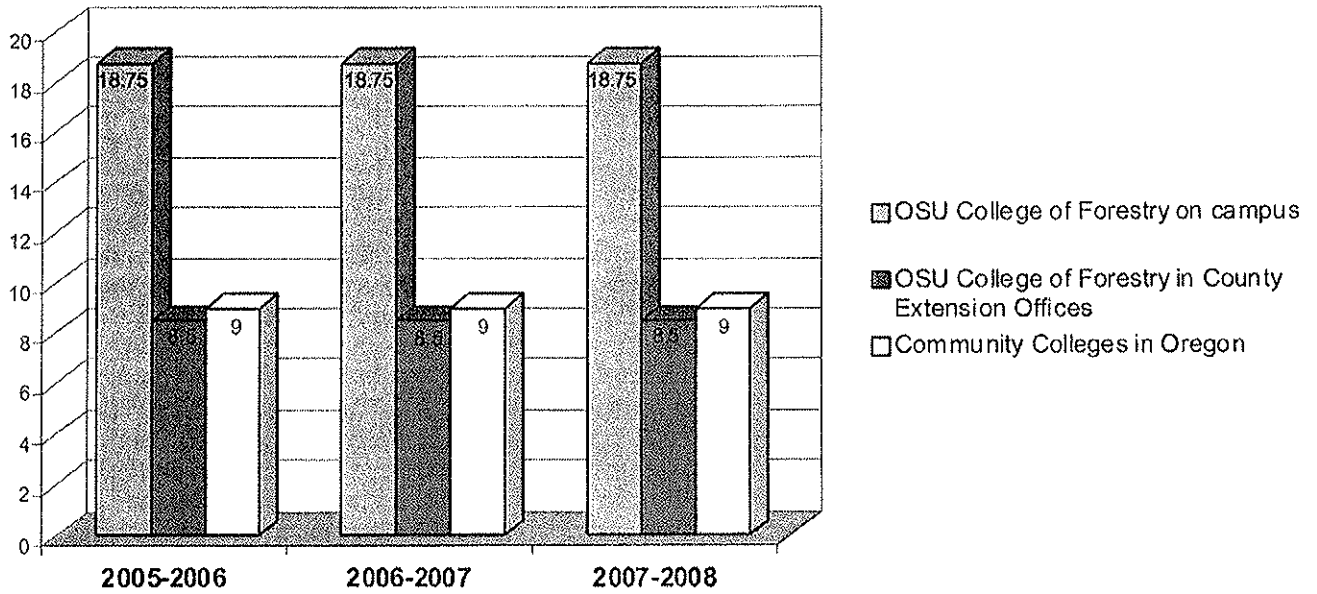
- Oregon public university and community college resident faculty engaged in forest resources instruction and forestry extension;
- The number of family forest landowners obtaining Master Woodland Manager status or similar advanced management training;
- Funding for forestry research at Oregon State University and the Pacific Northwest Research Station.

Data are approximate for the number of Oregon members of natural resource professional societies and trend data is not yet available.

Metric: K-12 Student Participation in Forest Education Programs with a Field Component	Number of Students in the 2006-2007 School Year
Tillamook Forestry Center	3614
Rediscovering Oregon's Forests-Oregon Forest Resources Institute	3640
Forest Field Day-Forests Today & Forever	1100
Trail in the Woods-Starker Forests	600
Tree Planting Day-Starker Forests	150
Outdoor School in the Woods-Starker Forests	900
Spring Field Day-1-in the Woods-Starker Forests	500
Spring Field Day-2-in the Woods-Starker Forests	200
Youth Forestry Program- Douglas County 4-H	143
Klamath Outdoor Science School	467
Walks and Talks-World Forestry Center	1966
Saturday Forestry-World Forestry Center	322
Hopkins Demonstration Forest	1000
Port Blakely Tree Farms	591
Science in the Forest-Wolftree	1379
Santiam State Forests-Oregon Department of Forestry	2200
Fired Up About Oregon's Forests-High Desert Museum	716
Riparian Forest Inquiry-Jackson Bottom Wetlands	292
Oregon K-4 grade outdoor schools 2006	1037
Oregon 5-6 grade outdoor schools 2006	9867
Oregon Grade 7 outdoor schools 2006	255
Oregon Grade 8 outdoor schools 2006	50
Oregon Grade 9 outdoor schools 2006	5
Oregon Grade 10 outdoor schools 2006	13
Oregon Grade 11 outdoor schools 2006	15
Oregon Grade 12 outdoor schools 2006	14
Total	31036

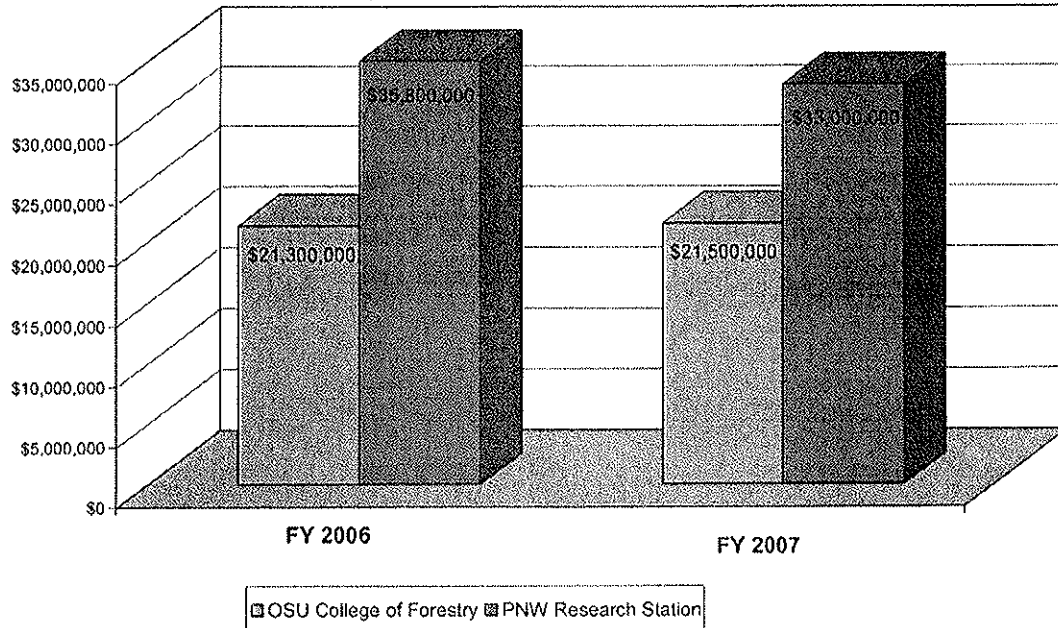
For comparison, total K-12 public school enrollment during 2006-2007 was approximately 559,000. Data sources: Oregon Forest Resources Institute and other listed organizations.

Metric: Number of Oregon Public University and Community College Resident Faculty Full-Time Equivalents Engaged in Forest Resources Instruction and Forestry Extension



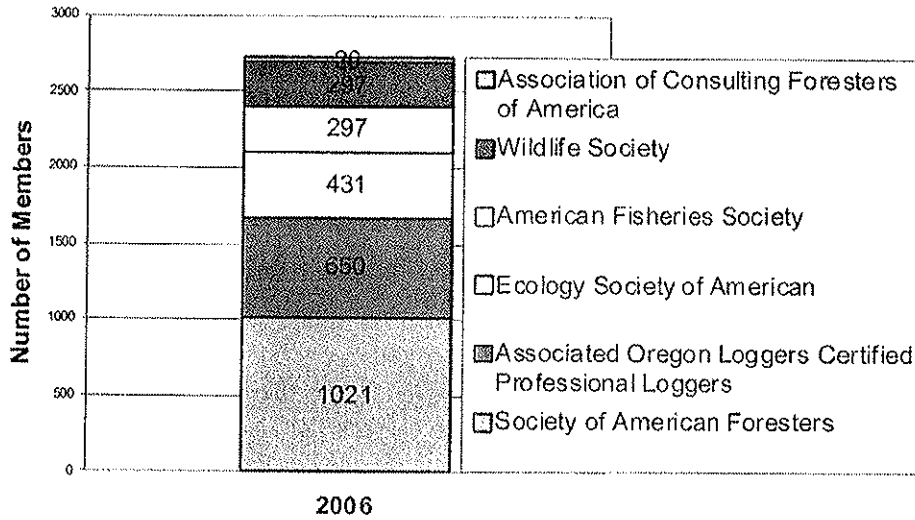
Data sources: Oregon University System and Oregon Department of Education.

Metric: Total Expenditures in Oregon on Forest Resource Research



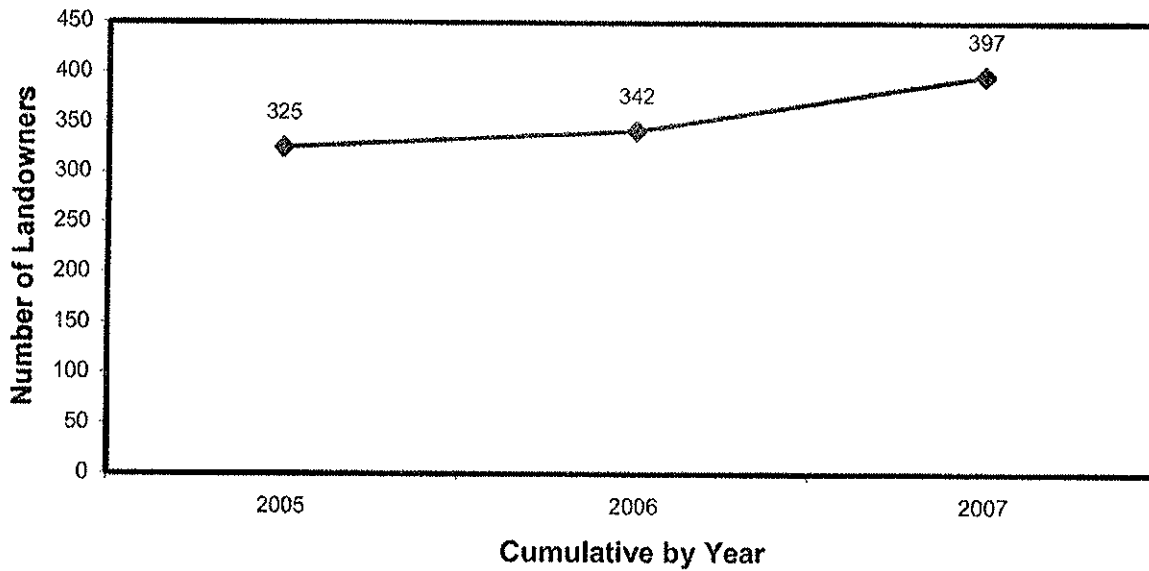
Data sources: Oregon State University and the USDA Forest Service.

Metric: Approximate Number of Oregon Members of Natural Resource Professional Societies in 2006



Data sources: Listed organizations.

Metric: Oregon Family Forest Landowners Obtaining Master Woodland Manager Status or Similar Advanced Management Training



Data source: Oregon State University Forestry Extension.