

**Department of Forestry Leadership Team
Recommended Priority Set of Issues for Board of Forestry Work
for Calendar Years 2010 and 2011**

**From the Draft Procedures for Oregon Board of Forestry Strategic
Planning, Implementation and Monitoring:**

The Board has endorsed a set of Oregon Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management addressing the goals of the Forestry Program for Oregon. The Board has also endorsed desired trend statements for the indicators. The Board will use indicator status and trend information, along with Issue Scan information and other information, to evaluate the Oregon forest resource conditions and implementation of the Forestry Program for Oregon.

The Board will also conduct an annual Board Governance Performance Evaluation with results included in the Department of Forestry's Annual Performance Progress Report.

Based on these information sources and other information deemed pertinent, the Board will set priorities and provide direction for Board work planning for the following two years. The outcome is a Priority Set of Issues for Board of Forestry Work that will lead to specific Board decisions and products that may result in:

- Legislative Concepts
- Administrative Rules
- Policy or Position Statements
- Department Program Changes/New Initiatives
- Forestry Program for Oregon Revision
- Other as needed

Each issue represents a commitment of time by the Board of Forestry and Department of Forestry staff that needs to be fully understood and appropriately planned. Developing a Board of Forestry Work Plan for each major issue in as much detail as possible allows staff to more efficiently allocate time among multiple demands and allows Board agendas to be drafted in advance so that the Board is better assured of giving each issue adequate time for review and deliberation. Board of Forestry Work Plans will include clear links to Forestry Program for Oregon goals and objectives, where applicable. Board of Forestry Work Plans form the basis for the establishment of Board of Forestry Meeting Agendas.

Implementation of these procedures allows Department of Forestry staff and the Board to effectively address Board issues in priority order within available resources.

Potential Topics for the Board Strategic Planning, Implementation, and Monitoring Work Plan

Consider recommendations for a potential Oregon Roundtable on Sustainable Forests charter and an interagency Declaration of Cooperation promoting use of the *Forestry Program for Oregon* sustainable forest management framework.

2011 *Forestry Program for Oregon* public review and final adoption.

Following *Forestry Program for Oregon* adoptions, consider revisions to the Oregon Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management and the establishment of indicator targets.

Consider restructuring of the Department of Forestry's budget.

Potential Topics for the State Forests Work Plan

Review and revise OAR 629-035-0020 and as necessary other OAR 629, Division 35 rules. Following approval of a new Greatest Permanent Value and/or Planning rule new Forest Management Plans may need to be developed.

Land acquisition/exchanges policy review and action.

Program performance measure improvement.

State Forests recreation policy review.

Potential Topics for the Forest Vitality Work Plan

Update entire Work Plan with emphasis on:

- State of Oregon forest cluster economic development strategy implementation;
- Federal Forests Advisory Committee recommendations implementation;
- Additional incentives to encourage continued retention and investment in private forestlands;
- Clear vision for future Department of Forestry involvement in promoting forest biomass utilization for energy and other products; and
- Promoting ecosystem services markets for Oregon forest resources

Urban Outreach

Current Work Plan completed.

Dynamic Forest Ecosystems

Work Plan will be completed following receipt of the final report from the Institute for Natural Resources. Concepts will continue to be highlighted through other applicable Board Work Plans.

Potential Topics for the Private Forests Work Plan

Direction on current program delivery priorities and expectations with reduced resources.

Securing more solid future funding sources for the Private Forests Program.

- What is the vision for the program?
- What makes the program better, more compelling?
- What land base should we be working on? Maybe works in conjunction with priorities and funding; e.g., if funding comes from water quality, then program may have broader objectives, if from harvest tax, a narrower focus.
- Customized program delivery:
 - Urban interface
 - Family forestland
 - Industrial and investment forests
- Are statute and/or rule changes needed?

Conduct general rule enforcement policy review.

Conduct landslides and public safety policy review.

Conduct forest pesticides regulation policy review.

Conduct special resource sites policy review.

Potential Topics for the Wildfire Risk Management Work Plan

Capacity and stable funding structures for Oregon's wildfire system in relation to:

- The rising cost of fire protection;
- Increasing fire season severity; and
- The ability to maintain forestland as forestland.

Prescribed burning for hazardous fuels reduction and forest health and associated liability for landowners.

- Smoke Management and the ability to continue to use prescribed fire as a tool.

Federal policies regarding fire suppression and management.

- Fires for resource benefit and impacts to adjacent landowners
- Diverging private landowner and federal objectives and goals for fire suppression.

Under-protected and private lands outside of Forest Protection Districts.

Fire and land use planning and forest land classification policy development.

Invasive Species Work Plan

No Board actions planned in 2010 and 2011. Concept to be addressed in the 2011 *Forestry Program for Oregon*.

Other Possible Future Work Plans

Consider Oregon forests in the context of climate change adaptation and mitigation. Develop policy responses and highlight Board actions through other applicable Work Plans.