

Agenda Item No.	3
Title and Issue #:	Invasive Species – Issue #8
Objective and Title:	Objective 1 – Review the Invasive Species Responsibilities and Programs of Other Agencies and Organizations.
Presentation Title:	Review the <i>Forestry Program for Oregon's</i> Strategies and Actions Related to Invasive Species.
Date Presented to Board:	September 3, 2008
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SUMMARY

This agenda item addresses Objective 1 of the Invasive Species Work Plan, Issue 8, and requests that the Board determine if the existing Board mission, vision, values, strategies, and actions are sufficient guidance to conduct a review of existing statutes, rules and voluntary measures (Objective 2 of work plan).

OBJECTIVE 1: Review the invasive species responsibilities and programs of other agencies and organizations. Review the *Forestry Program for Oregon's* strategies and actions related to invasive species.

CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND

At its April 2008 meeting, the Board approved the Invasive Species Work Plan, Issue #8, and directed staff to begin work on the objectives in the plan.

The goal of the work plan is to:

Support healthy forests that provide a sustainable flow of environmental, economic, and social outputs and benefits by providing leadership to prevent and control introductions of damaging invasive, nonnative species on Oregon's forests. (Based on Board of Forestry Vision Statement #1.)

The first part of Objective 1 in the work plan requires a review of the invasive species responsibilities across State agencies, which will include looking to the on-going work of the Oregon Invasive Species Council of which the Department is a member. This review would provide a foundational understanding of the landscape of agencies and others involved in invasive species management in Oregon. Attachment 1 provides this foundational information.

The second part of Objective 1 requires an examination of the Board's existing mission, vision, values, strategies, and actions as they relate to invasive species. Attachment 2 outlines current Board direction as described in the *Forestry Program for Oregon*. The next step for the Board

would be to determine if changes are needed to statutes, rules, and voluntary measures to better align them with the Board's strategies and actions (Objective 2).

OPTIONS

Option 1:

Determine that the mission, vision, and value statements in the *Forestry Program for Oregon*, combined with the more specific statements in Strategy F and Action F.3 are adequate standards by which to evaluate current statutes, rules, and voluntary measures related to invasive species affecting forestlands in Oregon. Direct staff to begin work on Objective 2, the review of statutes, rules, and voluntary measures that affect invasive species and pursue changes as necessary to meet Board policies.

This option leads to more rapid review of review of statutes, rules, and voluntary measures compared to Option 2 (see below). However, the Board misses the opportunity to thoroughly review and articulate its thoughts and directives related to invasive species. A review of current statutes, rules, and voluntary measures might be more robust with a better-developed direction on invasive species. The topic may be a significant feature in the 2011 *Forestry Program for Oregon*, and a more rapid review of statutes could provide information to the Board relevant to the *Forestry Program for Oregon*.

Option 2:

Move the review of Board strategies and actions into the upcoming development process for the 2011 *Forestry Program for Oregon*. Direct the Department to continue current involvement in invasive species efforts and do preparatory staff work for the *Forestry Program for Oregon* review. Conduct the review of Board-related statutes and rules soon after the completion of the 2011 *Forestry Program for Oregon*. **Direct the Department to revise the Board's Invasive Species work plan to accommodate these changes.**

This option would allow the Board to fully consider its strategies and actions related to invasive species in the context of its policy document, the *Forestry Program for Oregon*. The option would delay Board consideration of forest practice regulations that some landowners feel are disincentives to effective noxious weed control; however, the Department can work to address some of those concerns within the current regulatory structure. The Department would continue to develop and implement invasive species action plans based on the specific direction in *Forestry Program for Oregon* Action F.3 and on the general *Forestry Program for Oregon* focus on sustainability.

RECOMMENDATION

Direct the Department to proceed under option 2, as described above.

ATTACHMENTS

- (1) Programs and Responsibilities Related to Invasive Species in Oregon
- (2) Review of Board of Forestry Mission, Vision, Values, Strategies, and Actions as they relate to Invasive Species
- (3) Board of Forestry Work Plan, Issue #8 Invasive Species