

Agenda Item No: 3
Work Plan Title & #: Board of Forestry Strategic Planning, Implementation, and Monitoring – Work Plan 1
IBI # & Title: IBI 2 – Measure Progress
Presentation Title: Update of the Oregon Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management
Date of Presentation: September 9, 2009
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SUMMARY

The purpose of this agenda item is to provide the Board of Forestry with an update on the Oregon Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management. Staff will highlight five indicators with results available for the first time.

CONTEXT

In January 2007, the Board of Forestry endorsed 19 Oregon Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management recommended by an ad hoc citizen's advisory committee. The indicators, organized around the seven goals of the *Forestry Program for Oregon*, provide quantitative feedback and an adaptive management mechanism for the Board's strategic plan and the cumulative actions of public and private forest landowners throughout the state. In October 2007, the Department of Forestry distributed the *2007-2009 Oregon Forest Report*, which was designed to introduce the indicators to the general public in a less technical format than the 108-page report prepared by the advisory committee.

Department of Forestry staff continues to work internally and with a variety of external partners to implement data collection and reporting protocols for all 19 indicators. Reports on four indicators were provided to the Board at its March 2008 meeting and five more indicators were reported at the Board's November 2008 meeting. These nine indicators include:

- A.b. Development and maintenance of sustainable forest management knowledge
- B.a. Forest-related revenues supporting state and local government public services
- B.b. Forest-related employment and wages
- C.a. Area of non-federal forestland and development trends
- C.b. Timber harvest trends compared to planned and projected harvest levels and the potential to grow timber
- E.b. Extent of area by forest cover type in protected area categories
- E.c. Forest plant and animal species at risk
- F.a. Tree death from insects, diseases, and other damaging agents
- F.b. Invasive species trends on forestlands

At the November 2008 meeting, Department staff also introduced a web-based platform for reporting current information on the Oregon Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management: <http://www.oregon.gov/ODF/indicators/index.shtml>

At the September 2009 meeting, the Board will receive initial reports on five more indicators:

- A.a. Ability to measure and report on all other Oregon sustainable forest management indicators
- B.c. Forest ecosystem services contributions to society
- B.d. Forest products sector vitality
- D.a. Water quality of forest streams
- D.b. Biological integrity of forest streams

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Board provide feedback on the adequacy of new reports for the latest five indicators as well for the previously reported nine indicators. Staff also recommends the Board use the indicator information to evaluate Oregon's progress in achieving the goals of the *Forestry Program for Oregon*, in the development of objectives for the draft 2011 *Forestry Program for Oregon*, and in updating Board Work Plans.

NEXT STEPS

Reports for all previously reported indicators will be updated as new information becomes available. Initial reports for at least two of the remaining five indicators are anticipated in 2010. However the other three indicators may require additional time and resources before statewide reporting is possible.

During 2009, the Department has been collaborating with interested Oregonians to form an "Oregon Roundtable on Sustainable Forest Management." One of the projects being contemplated for an Oregon Roundtable is a forum for soliciting citizen input on the evaluation of indicators results and, based on those evaluations, to provide the Board of Forestry with recommendations for making further progress toward the desired conditions for these indicators. The Oregon Roundtable may also become involved in advising the Board on future revisions to the list of Oregon Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management and in reaching consensus on policy targets for the indicators.

A statewide Oregon forest assessment report and symposium organized around the indicators are being planned for autumn of 2010.

ATTACHMENTS

- (1) Summary for Indicator A.a.: Ability to Measure and Report on all other Oregon Sustainable Forest Management Indicators
- (2) Summary for Indicator B.c.: Forest Ecosystem Services Contributions To Society
- (3) Summary for Indicator B.d.: Forest Products Sector Vitality
- (4) Summary for Indicator D.a.: Water Quality of Forest Streams
- (5) Summary for Indicator D.b. Biological Integrity of Forest Streams