

A summary of the eighth meeting of the ODF Forest Carbon Stakeholders Working Group - Monday April 21, 2008 in Portland, OR.

Present: Jay Morey – ODF, Jim Cathcart – ODF, Cameron Smith – Oregon Governor's Office, Mike Schnee – Michael Schnee Consulting (Facilitator / Mediator), Craig Partridge – WA DNR, Linc Cannon – OFIC, Adrian Miller – WFPA, Steve Brink – CFA, Chuck Burley – AFRC, Mike Gaudern – OSWA, Scott Zimmerman – Oregon Woodland Cooperative, Ralph Saperstein – Conkling, Fiskum & McCormick, Matt Donegan – Forest Capital Partners, Keith Balter – Forest Capital Partners, Brian Kernohan – Forest Capital Partners, Jake Gibbs – Lone Rock Timber Company, Greg Miller – Weyerhaeuser, Eric Schooler – The Collins Company, John Audley – The Nature Conservancy, Bettina Von Hagen – Ecotrust, George Schunk – Ecotrust, Evan Smith – The Conservation Fund, Bob Deal – USFS PNW Research, Bill Eddie – Bonneville Environmental Foundation, and Hal Salwasser – OSU

Via Conference Call: Debora Munguia – WFPA and Gabe Petlin – 3 Degrees Energy

WCI Offsets Sub-committee Update:

- Stakeholders in the working group expressed to they would like to continue providing input into the WCI process past May 2008. Cameron Smith from the Oregon Governor's office said he felt the group could continue meeting to influence the crafting of the WCI due to roll out sometime in August 2008. The group agreed to continue meeting through June and July to have the time for more detailed and helpful input to the WCI process.
- Several members commented there should be a time and a place where the federal stakeholders (USFS, BLM etc.) be involved and incorporated into the discussion as they manage vast areas of forestland.
- The WCI core partners meeting on 4/23/08 will focus on mainly allocations and electricity while the May 21st meeting in Salt Lake City will have a heavy emphasis on offsets.
- The comments received on the WCI Offsets Sub-committee's broad recommendations developed at the March meeting in Vancouver, BC should be available on the WCI website soon.
- Several group members expressed the group should view this process as long term, into 2009 and beyond since state, federal, and global policy will be an ongoing process over the next several years.
- In terms of the WCI, there is generally a good feel and appreciation for the group's work. The offsets sub-committee recognizes the time and energy the group is expending on the hard thinking to form agreement on these tough issues and hopefully the next document generated by the WCI will acknowledge this group's work.

Discussion on Baseline:

Dialogue continued from last meeting on the issue of baseline. The group used the outline developed by Jim Cathcart to focus the discussion and comments. Some key points and comments from the lengthy discussion are captured here:

- Baseline has to be compatible with a national or global model to create a level playing field for everyone, from state to state and nation to nation. Federal and international policy will play major roles.
- A ton is a ton of carbon, an acre is not an acre and that point should be mixed into the outline.
- Research and development can work concurrently with the group's recommendations; we don't have to wait for all the R&D until we can implement a system of carbon offsets trading.
- We need to make sure we don't just talk about carbon on the stump but on capturing carbon storage and looking at the entire system of carbon sequestration and pools.
- The real value in forest management in reduction of carbon emissions will have to key in on storage in forest products, bio energy, and the substitution effect of steel and concrete since forests are carbon neutral over time.

- Trees can contribute to part of the solution, but are not the entire answer to reducing carbon emissions.
- We should possibly look into adopting a glossary of terms since we should be consistent with the scientific community.

The group will continue the discussion on the baseline outline next meeting in order to hammer out a comprehensive and detailed recommendation on how baseline should be approached.

Discussion of the document “Forest Carbon – A Big Picture Context”:

Mike Gaudern and Steve Brink provided an overview of this document.

Some possible uses of it include:

- Could be used as educational material for audiences (i.e. legislative etc.) or as public relations material.
- An executive summary?

Educational Presentation by Gabe Petlin from 3 Degrees Energy and Bill Eddie from the Bonneville Environmental Foundation:

Gabe gave an informative presentation on the perspective of a carbon buyer via conference call. Bill Eddie sat in on the meeting in person and offered additional perspectives on carbon markets. See Gabe’s PowerPoint presentation attached.

Some key messages include:

- Carbon buyers like forests especially if packaged with benefits to habitat, structure, protection of fish etc. However, at the end of the day they look for what reduces carbon emissions the most.
- Carbon stored in wood products and the substitution effect (steel & concrete) are challenging since they are difficult to tract with accuracy once released into commerce.

Next Steps/ Next Meeting:

- Jim Cathcart will revise the baseline outline to reflect suggestions from the April 21st meeting and discussion will continue on the baseline issue on May 5th.
- The drafting sub-committee will be working on a letter or an executive summary to send to the WCI Offsets Sub-committee in May.
- Discussion on co-benefits and the paper being prepared on the ecosystem marketplace will take place on May 5th.
- On May 29th the Oregon House Energy and Environment Committee will hold a meeting and members of the group are encouraged to attend to spread the message of the group’s work.

When: Monday May 5, 2008 from **9:00 am to 4:00 pm** with a brown bag educational presentation (*John Hagar* from *RGGI*) from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm

Where: Portland – DEQ Building (Commission Room) at 811 SW Sixth Ave Portland, OR 97204. See the Google link below for maps and directions.

<http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&hl=en&geocode=&q=811+SW+Sixth+Ave,+portland,+or&ll=37.0625,-95.677068&sspn=31.646818,59.238281&ie=UTF8&il=45.519835,-122.679005&spn=0.006826,0.014462&z=16&iwloc=addr>

Future Meetings Scheduled:

When: Mondays May 19, June 2, June 23, July 7, and July 21 from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm with a brown bag educational presentation (topics and speakers TBD) from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm

Where: Portland – DEQ Building (Commission Room) at 811 SW Sixth Ave Portland, OR 97204.
(May 19, June 2, and July 21st meetings)

Where: Portland - Board Room (Third Floor) at the US Bank Building located at 625 SW Stark Street, Portland, OR 97205. *(June 23 and July 7th meetings)*

Jay C. Morey

Forester - Astoria District - Sunset Unit

Chair - Astoria District Safety and Wellness

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