

**Committee for Family Forestlands (CFF)
Minutes
September 15, 2010**

A meeting of the Committee for Family Forestlands (CFF) was held in the Santiam Room at the Oregon Department of Forestry's Salem compound.

Committee members present:

Craig Shinn	Rex Storm
Susan Watkins	Roje Gootee
Rick Barnes	Rick Barnes
Sarah Deumling	Sara Leiman

ODF Staff present:

Peter Daugherty
Kevin Weeks

- A. The Committee reviewed and approved the Agenda with two additional topics added to Item C
Ongoing topics brief updates:
- Update and discussion of July Board of Forestry meeting
 - Summary of current status of the Budget Coalition Workgroup
- B. The draft minutes of the June 20, 2010 meeting held in Bonanza, Oregon. There were three recommended changes:
- Add how valuable it was to spend the time touring Ned Livingston's forest. Attribute final quote to Ned Livingston, and add response quote from CFF.
 - Clarify the second Budget & Finance bullet under Review of CFF Annual Report.
 - Approved as modified
- C. Ongoing Topics Brief Updates
- Reforestation Tax Credit
 - Peter Daugherty gave a brief update on the change in reforestation tax credit statute. The Legislature changed the sunset date of the credit to December 31, 2012. The Department will need to request an extension for the credit in the upcoming legislative session for the program to continue.
 - The Committee noted that they remained concerned about the impact of taxes on forest fragmentation.
 - The CFF asked for the number of acres enrolled in the last five years under the Reforestation Tax Credit.
 - The CFF also asked for an estimate of the current backlog of reforestation and the ownership/location of the current backlog.
 - The CFF asked to have Steve Vaught attend a future meeting to provide information and general support on tax issues.
 - Small Tract Forestland Option
 - Peter Daugherty briefly summarized the status of the Small Tract Forestland Option for property tax. The option has a high administrative cost and is being studied by workgroup to prepare recommendations for the 2013 legislative session.
 - OFRI Values and Belief Survey/Forest on the Edge Report
 - Peter Daugherty handed out the executive summary of the survey results, and noted that it was presented at the September Board of Forestry meeting.

- Peter also handed out the Forest on the Edge; Threats to Private Forest report. This report is one of a series of reports by the USDA Forest Service aimed at increasing public understanding of the contributions of and pressures on America's forests.
- Ecosystem Services Markets Update - SB 513
 - Peter briefly summarized the 2-page handout on SB 513.
 - Could be related to tax incentives.
 - Brief discussion of purpose of forestland deferral.
 - Tension in role of government in promoting ecosystem services.
 - CFF is very interested and wants to have an agenda item in November, so they will have a chance for response and recommendation to the Legislature.
- NSO Safe Harbor Agreement (SHA) - New Recovery Plan
 - Peter Daugherty recognized the good CFF work on initiating the Safe Harbor Agreement.
 - Implementation is challenging due to lack of staff.
- Private Forests Work Plan
 - Peter summarized the Private Forests Work Plan and offered to present the BOF PowerPoint slides to the Committee outlining the work being done for the Private Forests Work Plan. The work plan addresses:
 - Mission, vision, and actions to keep working forests working
 - Customized program delivery
 - Assessment of adequacy of statutes and rules
- Budget Coalition
 - Big summarizing meeting next week.
 - Have a long way to go before the group feels good about what has been done.
 - Really just have a list of ideas about how to fund the Department.
 - Work was very accelerated; developed:
 - Vision of fully-funded Department
 - What ways to fund the program
 - What funding has good chance
 - Now need to do summary and key recommendations.
 - There was a general consensus on the problem and budget situation facing the Department.
 - Less consensus on potential solution.
 - Some consensus on the need to generate revenue; e.g., water user fee, lottery funds.
 - Concern about expecting landowners to pay more.
 - Some discussion of agency restructuring.
 - The CFF wants to discuss what is the emerging relationship of Oregonian's and their forests?
 - Schedule an agenda topic in October on Budget Committee to develop CFF position.
- BOF Annual Report
 - BOF very receptive to the Committee and its recommendations.
 - Maybe think about semi-annual update to the BOF.
 - BOF interested in feedback from the Committee.
 - Jennifer wanted data on impact to family forestland owners
 - Outcome from CFF BOF report:

- Status report to BOF more often
- Scheduling BOF agenda items to weigh-in on particular topics
- Attendance at BOF meetings and BOF members at CFF meetings
- Maybe Peter Hayes or new Board member to Committee meeting during the working lunch

D. Scheduling Meetings / Meeting Topics - Topic List

Craig Shinn led a discussion to identify topics to discuss over the coming year. The sources of these topics are the forward-looking agenda developed as part of the CFF Annual Report to the Board, ongoing topics, and current issues. The committee developed the following list of topics:

- Budget and Finance issues facing landowners and the Department of Forestry
 - Reduction / change in service to family forestland owners
 - Increased carrying costs for forestland owners
- Board of Forestry processes
- Water quality and non-point sources policy, including roads
- Declining forest infrastructure
- Financial incentives
- Social contract to practice forestry (Forest Practices Act)
- Intergenerational transfer
- Conversion - keeping family forests in forests, keep working forest working
- Bridging jurisdiction - may become more important with changes in other agency
- Reconnecting Oregonians to forestry
- Tax topics and structure
- SB 513 / ecosystem services
- Update on OFRI values and belief survey
- Implementation of Safe Harbor Agreement
- Private Forest Work Plan (BOF)
- Budget coalition output
- OSWA - maintain cooperation (invite Jim James to come to CFF meeting)
- Climate change and carbon / biomass
- Fire Protection Program
- In Eastern Oregon - Department trying to address disposal of juniper slash. George Ponte and Roje drafted a letter to clarify.
- Slash management fee / management of slash
- Smoke management fees - paying more to treat slash
- Data relative to family forestland - How is it being collected?
- Spotted owl recovery plan - abandoned sites
- Bald eagles
- Economic and community development
- Certification - conservation easement / Transferrable Development Rights (TDR)
- Federal forest relationship
- ODF services in electronic age
- CFF website

D Scheduling Meetings / Meeting Topics - Topic List (cont.)

The committee organized the topics in a forward looking agenda to set tentative agendas for the next six meetings:

- Oct 21 ODF Budget Coalition
 - Yale tax form report
 - Wood products infrastructure - need for integration
 - OSWA - Jim James
 - o Legislative agenda
 - o Forestry Day at Capitol
- Nov 16 SB 513 Ecosystem Services (Ken Faulk)
 - Infrastructure panel
 - Updates conservation easement/TDR/certification
 - Discuss juniper/slash (biomass) (starting discussion)
- Dec 15 ODF/BOF Legislative Update
 - Private Forests Work Plan / FPA implementation
 - BOF - Board relations - Invite BOF member (e.g., Peter Hayes, Jennifer Phillippi, Steve Wilson) to discuss Who are you? What is your background? What are the top issues?
 - Urgent issues?
- Jan OFRI Value & Belief Study
 - Tools to engage landowners (TELE)
 - Communication, connecting outreach
 - ODF services in electronic age
 - CFF website
 - Ties to the Land
- Feb Slash / juniper/ biomass
 - Fire protection / smoke
 - Legislative update
- Mar Data on Family Forestland
 - Financial incentives
 - Carrying cost for FF / change in services

E. DEQ - BOF Coastal Zone

Peter Daugherty gave a brief update on the DEQ toxic rule making process, water quality policy, and the coastal zone management plan lawsuit. The committee discussed and indicated that the committee wanted to:

- Thank Marvin for his engagement
- urge the Department to not cede jurisdiction of water quality to other agency.

F. CFF Web updates

Linda Ellis reviewed CFF website updates with the committee and took recommendations on how to improve the website.