

**Oregon Board of Forestry
Forestry Program for Oregon Subcommittee
September 20, 2023 7:30-9:30 am**

Subcommittee Purpose: Collaborative work forum for Board and Agency leadership to advance efforts to jointly develop a modern Forestry Program for Oregon. The subcommittee will serve until completion of the FPFO, targeted for December 2023.

FACILITATOR'S SUMMARY

Vision for Oregon's Forests (FPFO) Content Development

Fire Goal - the Subcommittee worked through content while also seeking clarity for themselves on how best to address fire in the doc. They agreed generally on the need to address/acknowledge the range of uses of fire - 'good' and 'bad' fire - and to be very clear in acknowledging both. They also agreed to describe strategies around ODF as lead actor, ODF as partner/coordinator/supporter, and ODF as influencer. Finally, they agreed that this piece is most important to convey to an external audience, including the Legislature and broader public.

On content:

Board member Liz Agpaoa offered the group a description of how she has been thinking about the complexity of fire - Robin shared this as a starting point for discussion:

FIRE presents as:

A Tool and Nemesis,

A Human Catastrophe and The Mother Cleansing Herself,

Unpredictable Chaos and a Pattern of Disturbance,

A Course Correction and a Hard Reset,

A Regenerative Landscape and a Desiccated Moonscape,

(A Sink and a Source....)

Subcommittee Notes:

- Goal statement = Include suppress, manage, and mitigate wildfire to protect communities, allow natural ecosystem processes, and promote the adaptive capacity of Oregon's forests.
- Strategy statement = Suppress fire when it is a "threat to human life, property, or health" - this is in statute. When do we suppress fire and when do we promote

fire... when do we (proactively) mitigate forest conditions as mitigation measures or fuel reduction measures? Include all

- This Vision should be bold in our stance, direct, and advocate for 'aggressive mitigation' measures.
- Recognize ODF's statutory obligations to reduce the negative impacts of fire to humans... recognizing ODF's statutory priorities and response measures - clearly state this while also clearly stating in vision the other aspects of fire (i.e. suppression is a piece of a bigger picture).
- Outside the area of protecting human life and property, what is our strategy? East side/ west side differences? Place based approaches.
- Should we address only that which we can control? Or consider areas outside of ODF protection? What about prescribed burns outside our management?
- Context statement = Acknowledge all roles the Dept. plays in prevention, suppression, mitigation, and recovery- and delineate ODF's role as 'lead actor', 'supporting partner', 'influencer', or 'coordinator'.
- Regarding coordination - needs to be a complete system of coordination across the board. Another element to capture in context.
- Different reasons for promoting mitigation measures - for ecological function in different areas, in addition to protection.
- Don't constrain vision with availability of resources. Instead relate to good science, good things happening in the forest, etc. What are our hopes and visions for all forests in Oregon?
- Shared stewardship, FFR, etc. are ways we have influence. While being cognizant of statutes, look beyond to the state as a whole, as all lands. How is fire used across the state? Mitigation measures include - and go beyond - a tool for suppression. "Forests resilient and adaptable to fire".
- Manage expectations around resources, develop a strategy to help our federal partners, and change the tactics the Dept. uses.

Vision Development Process

Action items were determined to get the pieces into a solid, comprehensive frame for full Board/ET review and discussion (convergence) at the October 19 Board meeting.

Action items include:

- Ryan Gordon, Dave Larson, and Mike Wilson will initiate a draft statement around the Fire - related vision; then fire call-out box volunteers Mike Shaw, Liz, Karla will be engaged; the Subcommittee will revisit at the next Oct 11 subcommittee meeting. Jim Kelly will be invited to the subcommittee meeting to discuss this as well.
- Joe, Brenda, and Mike Wilson will revisit and clean up the Resilient Forests goal section. **Send updated doc to Robin by COB September 28.**
- Ben and Robin will work on streamlining the Introductory statement to a single list. **Send updated doc by COB September 28.**

- Call-Out boxes are due to **Robin by COB September 28.**
- Organizational excellence goal will be worked on by Ryan Gordon with ET, also due to **Robin by COB October 4.**
- Danny Norlander will work on a reference list which will be incorporated into the comprehensive vision document.
- Robin will work on incorporating all sections into a clean comprehensive document for preview by the Board and ET 7-10 days in advance of the Retreat.
- Robin will share an annotated draft agenda for the October retreat for review and finalizing with the Subcommittee at their October 11 final prep meeting.

Subcommittee meeting procedures

- The public and participants accessed the meeting through phone and online video conference options.
- The meeting commenced at 7:33 a.m. and adjourned at 8:53 a.m.
- The September 20, 2023, audio (1:20:14, 36.7 MB) posted online at, <https://www.oregon.gov/odf/board/Documents/fpfo-sub/20230920-bof-fpfo-sub-audio.mp3>