



# Committee for Family Forestlands Meeting Summary for October 13, 2022



*Under public notice made by news release with statewide distribution, a meeting of the Committee for Family Forestlands [an advisory body to the Oregon Board of Forestry with authority established in Oregon Revised Statute 527.650] was convened on October 13, 2022, as a hybrid meeting. Meeting recordings constitute the official record.*

---

**CFF Committee members participating:**

Wendy Gerlach, Citizen-At-Large (Voting)  
Kate McMichael, Landowner-At-Large Rep. (Voting)  
Rick Zenn, OSWA Executive Administrator Ex-Officio  
Gary Jensen, Southern Oregon Landowner Rep. (Voting)

**ODF Staff attending:**

Heather Hendersen, Administrative Specialist  
Mike Kroon, Interim Deputy Chief, All Lands  
Amy Singh, Forest Legacy Program Manager  
Christine Buhl, Entomologist  
Levi Hopkins, Prevention Policy Manager  
Christina Helige, Administrative Specialist

---

**Members not in attendance:**

S. Mark Vroman, Industry rep (Voting) Hampton Family Forests  
Julie Woodward, OFRI Ex-Officio  
Maurizio Valerio, EO Landowner Rep. (Voting)  
Kaola Swanson, Conservation Rep. (Voting)  
Amanda Astor, Forest Policy Manager AOL Ex-Officio  
Glenn Ahrens, OSU College of Forestry Ext. Ex-Officio

**Guests/Public:**

Theresa Hausser  
Shane Hetzler – Consulting Forester Trout Mountain Forestry  
Dave Bugni - OSWA Clackamas County Farm Forestry Association

---

**Chair Comments.**

- Chair Gerlach calls the meeting to order.
- Recognized a quorum was established.
- Asks for comments on the agenda/meeting minutes.
- Asks for public comment
- Moved on to chair updates.

**Division update.**

- Provides quick Fire update.
- Provides update on Forest Practices Act with overview of the Organization Chart for Forest Resources.
- Gary asks about the Small Lands Unit.
  - o Mike provides information on how the unit is being guided as well as training plans.
- Wendy asks about forestland restoration.

**WUI/Fire Protection Map**

- Public concerns are mostly about insurance coverage based on how a property is categorized on the map
- Discussion about having someone from the insurance field at these meetings going forward with OSFM when they re-work the map to address or answer concerns over insurance

**Forest Legacy Program**

- Kate asks about the 25 acres in the South Eugene Hills. Private Parcel turned over to city for Parks and Rec.
- Mike asks about 700 million. This is nationwide funds, and is a competitive process, not guaranteed to Oregon.
- POP is currently with the E-Board deciding on funding per Mike.

## **FPA: Mike Kroon**

- Presents the Rulemaking Timeline
- Special Board of Forestry meeting coming up, only item is to approve any rule changes if needed after the public comments are sent out to them
- Still on track currently to meet the timeline deadline
- Roughly about 1,000 public comments received on the draft rules
- Small Forest Owner Office: Jessie and Nate are putting together a mission statement
- Stewardship Forester training is in development
  - o Encouraged Paul Clements to reach out to CFF to see what training they might want to see for ODF
- Gary said that small landowners feel that the changes are taking land away from them and some have calculated loss value due to stream buffer and riparian protection rule changes
  - o Mike said that all comments with these types of concerns have been presented to the Board of Forestry
  - o Gary suggested presenting statute or rules that help reinforce that the state has these rights to make these changes and/or regulate this way
- If the Board doesn't approve the rules/changes, it will go back to previous rules
- Wendy said that she would like to see rules presented in a way the public can look at how the rules specifically apply to them based on what they are doing
  - o Mike said staff is working on technical guidance to address this
- Kate said that it might be helpful if the public is more aware of how these FPA came about, some think ODF came up with this on our own rather than from the legislature.
  - o Mike said our FPA website addresses this but obviously the public isn't aware of the FPA website on the ODF site
  - o Concerns brought up about the safety of Stewardship Foresters and Mike said they are trained in how to interact with landowners and other members of the public to help address concerns or confrontational people out in the field
- Gary asks Mike how ODF sees enforcement of these rules if they are passed
  - o Mike said Greg Wagenblast is working on the enforcement piece.
  - o Training will be the focus before enforcement is used
  - o Gary said that it's important to have the public feel safe to ask questions without fear of being fined while trying to learn and understand the new rules

## **Round Table:**

- Kate said Sunday kicks off Wood Products Week
  - o Advertised all month long
- Mike said that ODF is recruiting at colleges around the PNW
- Kate said there is a high school competition called Through the Trees.
  - o Mission is to expand knowledge of forest/timber type careers through 90 second videos
  - o 4 states involved: Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana
  
- Next Meeting will be in November
  - o Enforcement information would be a useful presentation at a future meeting