

FFAC IWG
December 6, 2012
9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

DRAFT Meeting Notes

Location: Conference call

ACTION ITEMS & NEXT STEPS

- Continue to communicate information about the Governor's Recommended Budget and support for collaboratives. (*Appendix A, Brett Brownscombe*)
- December 11, 2:00 p.m. Interim Joint Legislative Task Force on County Payments. Brett Brownscombe, Matt Krumenauer and Dr. Tom Potiowsky presentation and discussion of the findings from the *National Forest Health Restoration Economic Assessment*.
 - Here is the link to the agenda and live stream of the meeting:
http://www.leg.state.or.us/committees/commPages/2011i_jcpay.html
- December 11, 8:00 a.m. Senate Business, Transportation and Economic Development Committee. Mike McArthur and Russ Hoeflich on financial support for federal sales of forest products.
 - Here is the link to the agenda and live stream of the meeting:
http://www.leg.state.or.us/committees/commPages/2011_sbted.html
- December 12, House Energy, Environment and Water Committee. Oregon Forest Biomass Working Group (Matt Krumenauer, Oregon Department of Energy and Link Philippi, President of Rough and Ready Lumber Company, Working Group Co-Chairs) regarding "*Growing Oregon's Biomass Industry*".
- National Forest Foundation: Community Capacity & Land Stewardship grant program. USDA NRCS participation in FFY 2013? Needs discussion.
- Next FFAC-IWG meeting: Thursday, January 10 2013.
- Update FFAC IWG 2012-13 Calendar to continue to provide information on upcoming events and scheduled FFAC-IWG meetings. (*Appendix B*).

BRIEF MEETING SUMMARY

USFS Pacific Northwest Region Planning: Appeals on Dry side forest projects (Tracy Beck)

- Appeals peaked in 2005-2006 at approximately twenty per year.
- From 2009-2012 there were less appeals which followed the trend of less fire (as many appeals were in response to fire salvage work).
- Over the ten year period, there were 174 appeals total with some projects facing multiple appeals.
- From the current numbers, there is a sense that the reduction in appeals coincides with the growth in collaborative participation (with notable decreases in the majority of forests with collaboratives starting in 2007).

These are some initial numbers pulled for vegetation/timber/fuel projects, there is more analysis and data opportunities to come. Tracy will work with Region 6 staff to provide additional information to FFAC-IWG at the January meeting, including trends in appeals over the last ten years. Suggestions for future information included showing the difference in number of appeals by forest type, whether the appeal went forward or not and the length in time to address the appeal.

Governor's 2012-13 Recommended Budget

\$5.4 million dollars in bond related funds have been allocated to support collaboratives in order to implement changes in forest management on federal lands. Specifically O&C lands and Eastern Oregon Forests are the geographic areas targeted for funding, portions of funding allocation is still being determined. There is interest in utilizing these funds to support collaboratives to scale up restoration as well as build a model that can be applied across Eastern Oregon to sustain mill infrastructure, perhaps starting with the current efforts on the Malheur National Forest.

Further discussions to shape this funding opportunity are on the horizon with key legislative leaders, USFS Region 6 and members of the FFAC-IWG. More information will be available for discussion at the January 10 FFAC IWG meeting.

Updates for Consideration

- Umatilla Forest Collaborative Group. Members signed a Declaration of Cooperation November 26th to continue to participate at the table and provide input to develop the Kahler Basin, and pursue discussion of the Thomas Creek watershed and the cool/moist science inquiry projects.
- USFS Region 6 has agreed to continue contribution to the Community Capacity and Land Stewardship (CCLS) grant program administered by the National Forest Foundation. Unsure about USDA NRCS' continued participation.
- R6 is working with NFF and Sustainable Northwest to create a CFLRP learning network. There will likely be a workshop on this in Spring 2013. Perhaps could use this as an opportunity to more broadly to create a forest collaborative network.
- Oregon Forest Resources Institute and The Nature Conservancy teamed up to create the following four-page summary of the National Health Restoration Economic Assessment: http://oregonforests.org/sites/default/files/publications/pdf/TNC_Restoration_Report_online.pdf

Participants

Convener: Brett Brownscombe, Governor's Office, Natural Resources

Paul Barnum, Oregon Forest Resources Institute (OFRI)

Tracy Beck, USFS

Bruce Daucsavage, Ochoco Lumber

Appendix A

Dylan Kruse, Sustainable Northwest

Lee Folliard, BLM

Ann Forest Burns, AFRC

Kathy Ferge, NRCS

Russ Hoeflich, TNC

Susan Jane Brown, Western Environmental Law Center

Mike McArthur, Association of Oregon Counties (AOC)

Nathan Poage, Clackamas Stewardship Partners (CSP)

Curt Qual, USFS

Bill Renwick, Harney County Restoration Collaborative

Amanda Rich, TNC

Jeremy Rogers, Oregon Business Council

Mark Stern, TNC

Jim Walls, Lake County Resources Initiative

Staff:

Oregon Solutions

Pete Dalke, Nathan Poage and Julia Babcock

DRAFT

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Healthy Environment Outcome Area
Recommended Budget and Key Investments

The Governor's Balanced Budget for the Healthy Environments outcome area is \$0.8 billion, which includes \$91.2 million General Fund, \$141.6 million Lottery Funds from Measure 76, and \$4.4 million from discretionary Lottery Funds. The budget prioritizes water quality and sustainable resource management, including the three major investment areas described above (water quality, water resources strategy, and urban growth management reform), as well as the following additional investments and innovations:

- Marine Protected Areas and Marine Reserves: Continued funding to implement the marine reserves approved by the legislature in 2011.
- Land Use Reform: Continued funding to carry out the Governor's executive order on Southern Oregon resource land management.
- Water Right Management: Approval of a new water right management fee that, over time, can provide stable funding for multi-purpose water development and management in Oregon.
- Columbia River Gorge Management: Restoration of funding for the Gorge Commission to begin updating the management plan for the gorge.
- ***Oregon and California Lands, and Forest Collaboratives: Investment of \$0.4 million to continue work on the management of the federal Oregon & California lands in southern and western Oregon, along with work to scale-up production from federal lands in eastern Oregon. This funding also is tied to \$5.4 million in bond funds to support collaboratives, and help implement changes in forest management on the O&C lands.***
- Lower Columbia River Fisheries: The budget invests \$5.2 million to relocate the gill net fishery off of the main stem of the Columbia River, and to supplement fishing opportunities in offchannel areas. The sportfishing users in the lower Columbia are expected to shoulder a part of these costs. Funds will be used to complete the feasibility studies necessary to establish new and existing off-channel commercial fisheries areas.

The balanced budget also maintains existing program levels and restores monitoring programs, including those for salmon and watersheds, groundwater, and forestry. For many of the existing salmon and watershed programs, General Fund is used to maintain services because lottery revenue is forecasted to decline.

Other budgetary adjustments include scaling back funding for local planning grants, reflecting the slowing and reevaluation of periodic review of comprehensive plans through the urban growth reform program.