



FFAC IWG
June 11, 2012
9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

DRAFT Meeting Notes

ACTION ITEMS & NEXT STEPS

- 6/13 OWEB Meeting
 - Governor Kitzhaber to introduce an emerging effort to broaden the Oregon Plan to shape statewide priorities in restoring economic and ecological health
 - An update will be presented from OWEB staff concerning The Nature Conservancy and Oregon Solutions efforts to support forest collaboratives around the state
- FAQ's Document
 - Send comments and suggested edits to Paul Barnum by 6/18
- Budget Proposal
 - Send initial comments and suggested edits to Pete Dalke or other subcommittee members by June 29
- National Forest Health Restoration Economic Assessment Key Dates:
 - 6/18 Steering Committee meeting
 - 10/25 Presentation of initial findings at FFAC IWG Meeting
 - 10/25-11/19 Peer Review period
 - 11/19 Report Issued
 - 12/11 presentation to the Joint Legislative Committee on County Payments
- Next Funding Subcommittee: Tentative date 7/11.
- Next FFAC IWG meeting will be held 7/26, PSU Smith Student Union Room 249, 9:00 – 12:00 p.m. Work session: Current infusion of federal investment to the CFLR projects (Deschutes, Malheur and Fremont-Winema NFs).
- Oregon Business Summit date set: December 3, 2012.

BRIEF MEETING SUMMARY

Governor's Office Update

Secretary Vilsack was in Oregon last week to meet with Governor Kitzhaber. Discussion included federal forestland work with a focus on CFLRP. Gratitude was expressed on behalf of the state for the federally funded projects. There was also discussion about the success of collaborative efforts in Oregon that is contributing to forest management that supports the ecological and economic health of rural communities.

At the 6/13 OWEB meeting, Governor Kitzhaber will be discussing development of a re-energized Oregon Plan to address broader ecological and economic issues tied to watershed,

sagebrush and forest health. The Governor's Office is working to develop a draft overview document to share and vet with external stakeholders in late summer.

Two new staffers have joined the Governor's Natural Resource Office:

- Gabriella Goldfarb who will be working on a variety of issues including toxics, air quality and ocean and coastal matters.
- Tom Tuchmann who will serve as the Forestry and Conservation Finance Advisor, focusing on facilitating solutions on Oregon & California Lands (O&C Lands), working with the Department of Forestry on other federal forest issues, and developing conservation finance opportunities to conserve private working forests throughout the state.

Tom will be invited to the July FFAC IWG meeting to provide an overview of the status of O&C lands with Mark Brown from BLM.

National Forest Health Restoration Economic Assessment Update

Contractor team was selected out of 3 highly qualified teams to complete assessment. On June 18th, the project Steering Committee will come together to review and vet the model and assumptions used to develop the assessment. Outreach to the collaboratives, industry representatives and other interested stakeholders will be conducted to raise awareness about the assessment and solicit wide participation. The Legislative Fiscal Office and Legislative Revenue Office are also being contacted for discussion.

The draft study will be independently peer reviewed in October. Please also send any suggested members for the peer review committee to Matt Krumenauer: matt.krumenauer@state.or.us

Draft FAQ's

The funding subcommittee developed a set of draft responses to anticipated FAQ's to provide rationale for the scope and process to frame the economic assessment and budget proposal. The FAQs and information about the Economic Assessment will be added to the Oregon Solutions FFAC IWG webpage (see draft text at the end of these notes).

Discussion/Feedback on FAQ's:

- 9.5 million acres of Fire Regime Condition Class is from coarse scale data and may not always be appropriate to use as the prioritized area for treatment. Consider "treatable acres".
- Be careful how shaping the problem in order to be clear how the budget proposal and or economic assessment will address solutions
- Could be compelling to show the cost of fighting fires and the potential savings to lower costs through preventative management
- Be careful in setting up tension between urban and rural communities interest in forest management
- Consider adding information about the dollars spent on fire fighting.
- Narrow these FAQs to just the economic assessment for initial outreach and communicating.

- Consider an addendum to the FAQs for the broader conservation community that's more detailed about the assessment.

Provide feedback and comments to Paul Barnum and Matt Krumenauer.

Budget Proposal – Review of Funding Subcommittee Draft

The subcommittee consists of: Brett Brownscombe, Kevin Birch, Maia Enzer, Paul Barnum, Russ Hoeflich, Amanda Rich, Mark Stern, Renee Davis-Born, Greg Sieglitz, Pete Dalke and Matt Krumenauer with Maia, Amanda, Pete, Paul and Mark providing primary input on the draft proposal.

Paul reviewed the draft and opened up for discussion based on questions sent out through memo.

Discussion/Feedback on Proposal:

- Crucial to develop USFS support which is inextricably linked to implementation and larger funding request needs
- Clarify in proposal that budget shown is for a *biennium*, and eliminate low-high range
- Clarify where the Deputy position will be physically based to be strategic about core relationship development
- Be mindful that building trust takes time upfront and that the concept to go slow to go fast is important to collaborative formation and success
- The most successful collaboratives have champions within the FS to support their efforts, some collaboratives have struggled with USFS staff turnover
- Consider whether focus of funding is on mature, emerging or start up of new collaboratives.
- The proposal goes a long way to shape the process, there is still a need to be more explicit about priorities and values about how funding will be allocated through grants , technical assistance and to the Deputy position
- Many organizations have been working towards the goal to scale up treatments on dry forests. Make sure to maximize outreach to take advantage of multi-level opportunities:
 - Develop opportunity to brief business community on outcomes from economic assessment (OBA, AOI, others)
 - Seek ways to build state agency support around the proposal to align existing efforts
 - Nonprofit organizations participating with collaboratives could help build support for proposal
 - Recognize growing awareness and support for collaboratives at the national level and look to align w/ opportunities for Oregon

Participants

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

Agency/Organization

Governor's Office
AFRC

Attendee

Brett Brownscombe
Ann Forest Burns

BLM
BLM
Clackamas Stewardship Group
Crag Law Center
Crag Law Center
High Desert Partnership
ODOE
OFRI
OWEB
Sustainable Northwest
Sustainable Northwest
TNC
TNC
TNC
USFS

By Phone:

COIC
Oregon Business Council
Oregon Business Plan
USFS
Western Environmental Law Center

Staff:

Oregon Solutions
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Mark Brown
Lee Folliard
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Ralph Bloemers
Jennifer Schaper
William Renwick
Matt Krumenauer
Paul Barnum
Renee Davis-Born
Maia Enzer
Chad Davis
Russ Hoeflich
Mark Stern
Amanda Rich
Tracy Beck

Phil Chang
Bruce Daucsavage
Jeremy Rogers
Curt Qual
Susan Jane Brown

Pete Dalke
Julia Babcock

Draft text for OS website on the National Forest Restoration Economic Assessment.

Forest Restoration Economic Assessment

Discussions about the need for substantial forest restoration to address risks to national forests and the nearby communities led to questions about the economic feasibility of treating large forested areas. At the request of the Governor's Office and Legislative leadership, a subgroup of the Federal Forestland Advisory Committee – Implementation Working Group drafted a Request for Proposal to hire a contractor to assess the feasibility and economic impact of treating up to 330,000 acres per year of national forest lands in frequent-fire forests in a subset of national forests in Oregon.

The IWG intends for the assessment to provide elected officials, public and private sector leaders, members of the environmental and conservation communities, and the electorate the information they need to evaluate the challenges and opportunities of forest health restoration. This analysis will be presented to the IWG to determine if accelerating restoration activity is economically feasible and will pay for itself, or whether it would justify state or other public funding to increase the scale of treatment activity in Oregon.

For additional information about the economic assessment, contact Matt Krumenauer at 503-383-8694.

Links:

<http://orsolutions.org/beta/wp-content/uploads/2012/07/National-Forest-Restoration-Economic-Assessment-2.pdf>

<http://orsolutions.org/beta/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/National-Forest-Health-Restoration-Assessment-FAQs-Revised.pdf>

<http://orsolutions.org/beta/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/Joint-Task-Force-on-County-Payments-Signed-Letter.pdf>