

# Federal Forest Advisory Committee- Ad Hoc Implementation Work Group

Conference Call  
10/10/13  
Draft Meeting Summary

## ACTION ITEMS & NEXT STEPS

- Comments on the draft application, application instructions and evaluation review sheet are due to OWEB by the end of the day on Thursday, 10/17.
- Week of 10/28 – final draft materials will be emailed out.
- Monday, 11/4 OWEB Board meeting to review and approve the grant materials and process.
- Thursday, 11/7 target date to begin the grant solicitation process.
- Next FFAC-IWG meeting: Friday, November 8 from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. at PSU.
- Monday 11/25 grant applications due to OWEB.

## Welcome & Introductions, Agenda Review

The purpose of the conference call was to discuss drafts of OWEB's forest collaborative capacity small grant solicitation materials, the anticipated process and timelines. This was a focused call-in meeting and in lieu of the full 3-hour, in-person FFAC-IWG meeting originally scheduled for the 10th.

Draft information about the grant process and draft solicitation materials were e-mailed for review in advance of the conference call. The conference call provided a meaningful time to share, review and discuss the materials while balancing the need to keep things moving to achieve our grant award goal of January 2014. Comments and input in writing and orally will also be accepted through next Thursday, 10/17.

Greg Seiglitz walked through the solicitation process and draft instructions. The draft instructions closely mirror the application, and will be further refined to precisely track the application form.

Two grant cycles are being discussed as follows:

November 2013 – January 2014 (\$200,000 estimated total awards)

March – June 2014 (\$400,000 estimated total awards)

The grant completion date is expected to be June 30, 2015.

The OWEB requirement for 25% match is waived for these grants.

The eligible geography includes dry forests on federally-managed lands. A suggestion was made that the grant applications include a letter of support from both the appropriate USFS Supervisor and the County government(s).

Applicants will want to clearly define deliverables and desired outcomes to be shared with the public at large and the Legislature. Pace for project reviews, landscape scale/size of projects and achieving outcomes on the ground sooner than otherwise might occur are all importance considerations.

Additional discussion focused on these sections:

- Eligible activities. Are intended to broadly cover the core work of forest collaboratives. These are very similar and patterned after eligible expenses for the NFF Community Capacity and Land Stewardship grants. The bullets in this section aren't meant to be exhaustive. Regarding "communication activities", discussion suggested these activities be interpreted broadly.
- Eligible applicants – will consider if a tribal entity apply?
- Measures of success. Several pointed out areas to clarify ("sweet spot?") and enhance this section (add "increased pace"). These measures will be tied directly to the evaluation review worksheet which is still "very draft" until this section gets finalized.
- Budget section will be addressed in the final instructions. At this point, there are internal OWEB discussions around changes to budget categories will result in some modifications before this is finalized.
- Applicants should be encouraged to consider innovation, the interest in developing a "new business model" with the USFS and how the work of the collaborative is "going to take us to a new place" as they develop and describe their work in the grant application.

Forest Collaborative Capacity Assistance Process Timeline

- 10/17 Comments due to OWEB
- Week of 10/14 – OWEB, ODF work on cleaning up the instructions, application to include consideration of oral and written comments.
- Week of 10/21 – OWEB finalizes draft materials.
- 10/28 – OWEB materials go to Board for 11/4 conference call.
  - Final draft application and instruction materials distributed to FFAC-IWG e-list this week as well.
- 11/4 OWEB Board conference call
- 11/7 Grant solicitation open
- 11/25 Applications due by 5:00

Written comments on the draft grant application, draft instructions and the evaluation worksheet are due to Greg Sieglitz at OWEB by 5:00 p.m. next Thursday 10/17.

Greg's email address is: [greg.sieglitz@state.or.us](mailto:greg.sieglitz@state.or.us)

Comments received will be considered in preparation of the final materials that will be provided to the OWEB Board for approval during a conference call meeting set for November 4.

If there are questions or comments that can best be addressed with a separate email or phone call, please try contacting one of the following:

Chad Davis, ODF      [chad.davis@state.or.us](mailto:chad.davis@state.or.us)      [503 945-7408](tel:5039457408)

Rick Craiger, OWEB      [SL00015@bendbroadband.com](mailto:SL00015@bendbroadband.com)      [541 923-7353](tel:5419237353)

## Participants

Convener: Brett Brownscombe, Governor's Natural Resources Office

Kevin Birch, ODF

Phil Chang, Ochoco Forest Restoration Collaborative and Deschutes Collaborative Forest Project

Patrick Shannon, Sustainable Northwest

Mark Stern, TNC

Amanda Rich, TNC

Gil Ridell, Association of Oregon Counties (AOC)

Paul Barnum, OFRI

Nathan Poage, Clackamas Stewardship Partners

Eliane Eisenbraun, Umatilla Forest Collaborative Group

Vernita Ediger, Blue Mountain Forest Partners

Rick Craiger, OWEB

Greg Sieglitz, OWEB

Lindsey Warness, Boise Cascade

## Staff:

Pete Dalke – Oregon Solutions