

Meeting Notes

Subject: Forest Cluster Core Team

Date: October 10, 2008

Attendees:

Mike Cloughesy, OFRI

Chris Knowles, OSU

Scott Leavengood OSU

Gary Lettman, ODF

David Morman, ODF

1. The recently passed 2008 Farm Bill included an amendment to the Lacey Act which extends protection to plants and trees illegally harvested outside of the U.S. This new law may have positive implications for Oregon forest products. Look for more information in the next Oregon Wood Innovation Center newsletter.
2. Starter list of short-term recommendations – Gary Lettman
 - Additional ideas were sought from key cluster contacts. Same issues are being discussed in other states. Edits to the presented list were discussed. We need to weave these concepts into the Federal Forests Restoration and Forest Cluster Vitality expanded write-ups. Need to highlight the Woodland Carbon Co. that the Oregon Small Woodlands Association is forming.
3. Status report on inclusion of the OSU established industries grant proposal in the Oregon Innovation Council *2009 Innovation Plan* -- Chris Knowles, Scott Leavengood
 - More work is needed to highlight sustainability links in the proposal. This is a great opportunity to build upon the established *Forestry Program for Oregon* sustainable forest management framework.
 - Also need to better articulate the industry contributions in the proposal
4. Approval of Forest Cluster Executive Summary and expanded write-ups for Federal Forest Restoration and Forest Cluster Vitality – David Morman, Gary Lettman
 - No approval yet. Need to include explicit support of *2009 Oregon Innovation Plan* which includes a major effort involving the forest cluster. Remove priority references in the latest draft. Mike Cloughesy will provide additional edits to Gary Lettman on the Forest Cluster Vitality expanded write-up.
 - Need an appendix that summarizes state government organization change recommendations emerging from the three expanded write-ups.
 - Also need an appendix that summarizes metrics that will be used to measure strategy performance
 - Need to separately list overall “recommendations” and “immediate actions needed” for each of the three themes

5. Status report and group discussion on the expanded write-up for Forestry Workforce – Chris Claflin
 - Chris was not present to discuss his revisions. Core team members are asked to share comments with Chris over the next two weeks to finalize this write-up.
 - Need to maintain consistency with the work already done by the Oregon Consortium and Oregon Workforce Alliance.
6. Draft 2009 forest cluster resource guide -- Mike Cloughesy
 - Draft 2009 forest cluster resource guide needed as soon as possible. Recommendations in the final draft need to be consistent with those in the final strategy documents. Edits to the current draft were discussed.
7. Status report on planning for the December 11, 2008 Oregon Leadership Summit agenda item on the forest cluster strategy – Mike Cloughesy
 - Not official yet, but still likely that the forest cluster will be highlighted at the Summit.
 - Next cluster coordination meeting is November 18 at OECCD in Portland. Mike Cloughesy presented a concept for an OFRI-sponsored December 10 afternoon forum for the forestry community and key legislators to be held at the World Forestry Center. The draft Forest Cluster strategy elements will be highlighted through state agency and private sector presenters. The team agreed to support and participate in the forum. Mike will further refine the agenda.
 - Industry executives expected to speak on Dec. 10 and Dec. 11 need to be confirmed soon.
 - OFRI November newsletter will highlight the forest cluster strategy work and the December 10 forum.
8. Review of Memorandum of Agreement elements -- David
 - Topics in the Memorandum have generally been addressed by our work to date. Increased communication/coordination with the PNW Research Station should be pursued. Gary Lettman will lead.
9. Four-agency coordination on tracking and responding to applicable 2009 legislation – David Morman
 - Legislative coordination is already occurring with Oregon Innovation Council regarding the 2009 Oregon Innovation Plan. ODF and OECCD will especially need to coordinate on bills in the next session. Need to set up a system for the four agencies to communicate information about bills relevant to cluster strategy development/implementation. Perhaps link to ODF's ad hoc forestry legislative meetings that have taken place in past sessions.
10. Metrics for forest industry competitiveness and vitality – Gary Lettman
 - Working with the University of Montana on a statement of work and an eventual contract.

11. Schedule November and January meetings

- Next meeting: Tuesday, November 18, 8 to 11 a.m. in the Sun Pass Conference Room at ODF headquarters (one floor above the October 10 Santiam Conference Room location)
- January meeting: Tuesday, January 27, 9 a.m. to noon, probably at ODF headquarters