

# Forest Trust Land Advisory Committee

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## Oregon Department of Forestry Salem, Oregon

### Draft Minutes October 17, 2008

Pursuant to notice made by press release to newspapers of general and local circulation throughout the state and distributed to persons on the mailing list of the committee and the members of the committee, a regular meeting of the Forest Trust Land Advisory Committee (FTLAC) was held at the Department of Forestry in Salem, Oregon.

#### **Present Committee Members**

Tim Josi, Tillamook County Commissioner, Chair  
Sam Patrick, Clatsop County Commissioner, Vice-Chair  
Patricia Roberts, Clatsop County Commissioner  
Mike Propes, Polk County Commissioner  
John Griffith, Coos County Commissioner  
Anthony Hyde, Columbia County Commissioner  
John Griffith, Coos County Commissioner

#### **Absent Committee Members**

Chuck Hurliman, Tillamook County Commissioner

#### **Present Department Staff**

Clark Seely, Deputy State Forester  
Nancy Hirsch, Division Chief, State Forests Program  
Mike Cafferata, Deputy Chief, State Forests Program  
Tom Savage, Astoria District Forester  
Mike Bordelon, NWOA Director  
Andy White, Tillamook District Forester  
Steve Laam, West Oregon District Forester  
Doug Decker, Tillamook Interpretive Center Program Director  
Rosemary Mannix, ODF  
Todd Reinwald, ODF  
Mary Schmelz, ODF  
Ed Deblander, ODF  
Ron Zilli, ODF  
Greg Cline, ODF  
Tod Haren, ODF  
Janine Rice, ODF  
Henk Stander, ODF

### **Opening Remarks**

Tim Josi opened the meeting. The last month's minutes were approved.

### **Department of Forestry updates**

Clark Seely updated the FTLAC on the state of the current Department of Forestry budget. Timber sale prices are down 30%, and harvest tax revenue is 13% less than was forecasted. The State economist's September forecast showed a decline in General Fund money; about \$300 mil less than was forecast in June. The Governor has directed State agencies to prepare for a 10% General Fund reduction, which could translate into a 30% reduction in the Department's Private Forests Program. By December 1<sup>st</sup> we'll get more information about the Governor's budget proposal.

John Griffith asked if the Department knew at this point what positions would be cut. Clark Seely answered not at this point.

The Protection Program currently operates with 50% General Fund fund and 50% private funding. The Department is considering whether it's possible to re-allocate funds, i.e., 60% from the General Fund, 40% from Private funds (harvest tax).

The current budget reductions will not jeopardize the State Forests Program.

Sam Patrick asked what is the purpose of comingling funds? If they weren't comingled, the Department would have more control over what is cut. Clark responded there would be a lot of administration involved if the funding was kept separate and then applied to separate projects (e.g., if all private funding only went to certain projects and all state/general funding to others).

### **November 6, 2008 Board Agenda/Staff Reports**

Nancy Hirsch handed out the Board of Forestry agenda, staff reports and attachments to be presented at the November 6, 2008 meeting. The primary State Forests topic will be the second performance measure report. A facilitator, Elaine Hallmark, will attend the meeting to try to bring the Board to consensus on the topic.

Tim Josi requested the addition of a comment period for the FTLAC.

### **Clatsop/Tillamook Strategies/Performance Measures**

Ron Zilli did a presentation on the continuing process of developing performance measures with the goal of meeting the Greatest Permanent Value. This process began in 2004; specific targets in the Clatsop and Tillamook Forests are now being set. Ron presented base case (50 % landscape designated for complex structure) scenarios and Performance measure scenarios (17 – 20% complex in 20 years) for comparison. The Performance Measure scenario projects out 20 years; the Board hasn't discussed what to do after the 20 year period for the Performance Measure scenario.

Nancy mentioned that this is a continuous improvement process.

### **L N G and Palomar Pipelines**

Todd Reinwald discussed the natural gas pipeline development projects that could run through state land. The L N G pipeline, which could be in service by 2011, will have a right of way about 150 feet wide. The Palomar line, also which could be in service by 2011, will effect fewer acres in on state forestland. The Department is in a formal filing process at this point; a special permit to conduct

surveys has been issued, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is involved. John Griffith asked if the Department is seeking reimbursement for costs, such as surveying.

**Motion:** John Griffith motioned that the State Forester bill the utility/pipelines. Sam Patrick seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion approved.

### **Wind Energy**

Ed Deblander informed the FTLAC that two companies have conducted energy tests on the Clatsop/Nikolai Ridge on State Forestland. Per the Department of Justice, the Oregon Department of Forestry doesn't currently have the authority to put wind energy on state lands. Some future changes that may give the Department authority:

- 1) A statute change in the 2010 special session
- 2) Development of a process evaluating sites; are these sites compatible with our goals and the FMP?
- 3) Developing a process for awarding permits and leases

Anthony Hyde said he thought wind energy is worth looking into; it could provide alternative energy, alternative use for the forest, and increase sales in the pole market for building windmill poles/spokes. John Griffith mentioned that the Department could bill the wind power companies for Department staff time and expenses.

Nancy said there is a similar bill that this proposal may be able to associate with.

**Motion:** Anthony Hyde advised the Board of Forestry to create language to support wind power on state lands. Patricia Roberts seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion approved.

### **Central Oregon Land Acquisition Status**

Doug Decker discussed the Gilcrest project which could result in acquisition of state lands in central Oregon. Fidelity National Timber Resource, Inc. has controlling interest in the debt on this land. We have the framework of an agreement that would allow a small area of land to be a planned community, the Department would acquire some land inexpensively, and Fidelity would donate the remaining land as the "Deschutes Basin Land Trust". If the plan is approved, it may go through as a conventional real estate transaction. One vision for the state land is that it be similar to the Sun Pass Forest and a revenue producer.

**Closing Comments:** None

### **Materials presented:**

- Attachment 1 – November 6, 2008 Board of Forestry Agenda
- Attachment 2 – State Forests Management – Issue 2, Staff Report November 6, 2008 Board meeting
- Agenda Item 1 Staff report with attachments
- Attachment 3 – North Coast Districts (Astoria, Forest Grove, and Tillamook) No Cut Acres
- Attachment 4 – North Coast Districts No Harvest Comparisons
- Attachment 5 – Summary of Volume Removed (sample)

*Meeting adjourned*

**Next Meeting: December 12, 2008**