

OSU Research Forests

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Charter for the OSU Research Forests Recreation Advisory Council (FRAC)

The OSU Research Forests Recreation Advisory Council assists the College of Forestry in realizing the goal of providing safe, quality recreation opportunities that are compatible with OSU Research Forests characteristics and other goals.

Council membership is designed to facilitate coordination and cooperation among community recreation users and OSU Research Forest managers. Council members serve a three-year term by invitation of the Forest Director, and may resign at any time. Membership beyond the three-year term can be extended on a year by year basis in consultation with the Forest Director and Recreation Manager. Membership consists of representatives from a variety of recreation user-groups and other community members as specific needs for input arise. The council is to be made up of forest users from a range of socioeconomic backgrounds, perspectives, ethnicities, ages, and activity preferences. This diversity will provide rich perspectives regarding the complex recreation management and issues on the OSU Research Forests.

The OSU Forests Recreation Manager leads the group and serves as a liaison with OSU Research Forests and College of Forestry leadership. The Recreation Manager represents the recreation issues and advice from the FRAC to the Director of the OSU Research Forests, who communicates these interests with the Dean of the College of Forestry as needed. When requested, the Forest Director may be invited to attend Forest Recreation Advisory Council meetings to hear issues directly.

The Advisory Council meets at least quarterly to address the ways the Forests can best:

- Provide high quality nature-based recreation for local users in a socially, managerially, and ecologically sustainable manner
- Minimize conflicts among recreation users, between recreation users and adjacent landowners, and between recreation users and forest management, teaching, research and demonstration operations
- Reduce environmental impacts of recreation use

In addition, FRAC members act as liaisons within their respective user communities to share information regarding what is happening on the Forest.

Approved by:

Stephen Fitzgerald, Forest Director

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