McDonald & Dunn Forest Management Planning Process

Spring 2022 – Fall 2023

McDonald & Dunn Forest Planning Process Update

Meeting type	Meeting format	Open to the public	Recording posted online	Written summary posted online
SAC meeting*	Hybrid	Listen in via Zoom	Yes	Yes
FPC meeting*	Hybrid	Listen in via Zoom	Yes	Yes
Community Listening Session I	Hybrid	Yes!	No	Yes
Community Listening Sessions II and III	TBD	Yes!	TBD	TBD

*SAC = Stakeholder Advisory Committee
*FPC = Faculty Planning Committee

Website

Oregon State University College of Forestry
Research Forests

About | Our Forests | Recreation

MCDONALD-DUNN RESEARCH FOREST PLANNING PROCESS

The OSU College of Forestry is developing a new management plan for the McDonald and Dunn Research Forests, which is anticipated to be ready for implementation in 2024. This new plan will determine how the forests provide opportunities for teaching, research and outreach efforts of the College of Forestry. The new research forest plan will reflect the college's diverse values, and will position the McDonald-Dunn Research Forest to be a model example of multiple value forest management. Management decisions and activities on the McDonald-Dunn Research Forest will be driven by College of Forestry research agendas, education and demonstration opportunities, and considerations of an inclusive balance of forest uses and values.

The process of developing the new management plan will involve opportunities for public input, and two committees working in tandem from spring 2022 through fall 2023.

- Public input opportunities include three Community Listening Sessions, a webform through which written comments can be provided, and an email to which written questions can be sent.
- Two standing committees will assist in the development of the new plan: an external Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) and College of Forestry Faculty Planning Committee (FPC).

Upcoming Meetings & Events:

- Sept. 16, 2022, Faculty Planning Committee Meeting (agenda)
- Sept. 20, 2022, Stakeholder Advisory Committee Meeting (agenda)
  This meeting is open to the public for remote listening only, through ZOOM - **Register Now!**
  The Stakeholder Advisory Committee will meet to discuss the development of the new forest management plan for the MacDonald and Dunn Research Forests. The meeting will be facilitated by Oregon Consensus. Members of the public are invited to listen via Zoom. There will be no comment period during this meeting. To join and listen, please register in advance. Following the event, a written summary and recording of the meeting will be posted on this webpage.

Past Meetings & Events:

- June 14, 2022, SAC and FPC Joint Kickoff Meeting (agenda, video, meeting summary)
- Aug 30, 2022, SAC Meeting (agenda, presentation)
- Aug. 31, 2022, Community Listening Session (agenda, presentation, meeting summary)

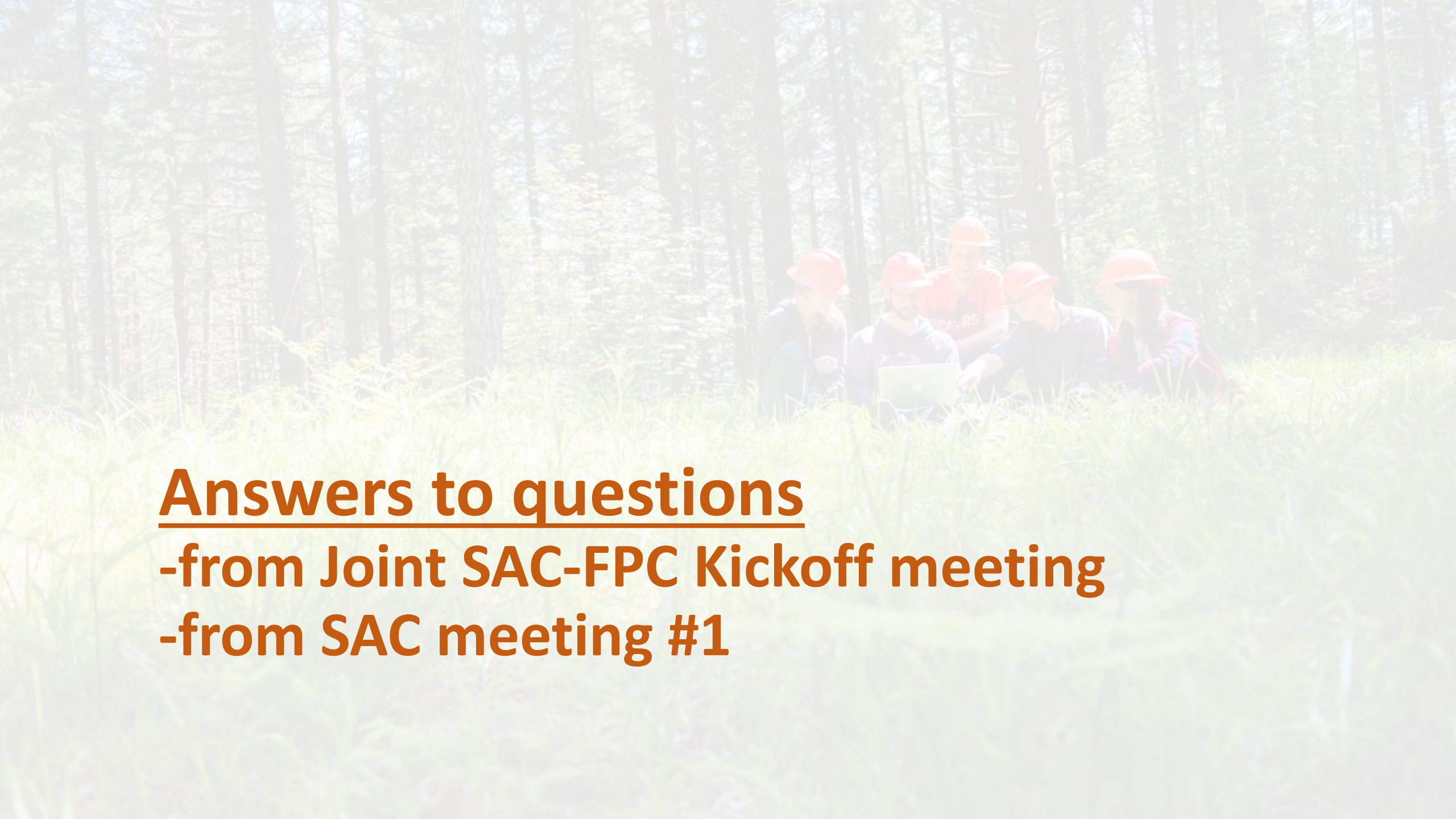
SUBMIT YOUR COMMENTS | SUBMIT YOUR QUESTIONS | STAY CONNECTED (COMING SOON)

Summary of FPC Meeting #1

- FPC meeting #1 agenda was similar to SAC meeting #1 agenda
  - Review of the planning process
  - Discussion of draft operating principles
  - Questions from the group
  - Discussion of the 2005 McDonald-Dunn Forest Plan
    - Goals
    - Themes
- Materials associated with every meeting type are on website

SAC and FPC deliberations regarding OP and Goals - Similarities

Topic	SAC discussion	FPC discussion
Operating principles	Meetings open to listening in & recorded	Meetings open to listening in & recorded
General suggestions for new plan	Make it understandable to all readers	Make it understandable to all readers
General suggestions for new plan	Climate change was absent: include it in new plan	Climate change was absent: include it in new plan
Goal – net revenue… financial sustainability	Need further clarification	Need further clarification
Goal – cultural heritage sites…	Should not be dropped; should be enhanced; consult tribes	Change '*community connections*' to '*community and cultural connections*'
Goal – natural heritage & ecosystem services…	Prioritize opportunities to enhance a variety of ES	Use opportunities to provide outreach on restoration of natural ecosystems
Goal – … working demonstration forest	Change to '*actively managed forests*'	Change to *'demonstration forests'*



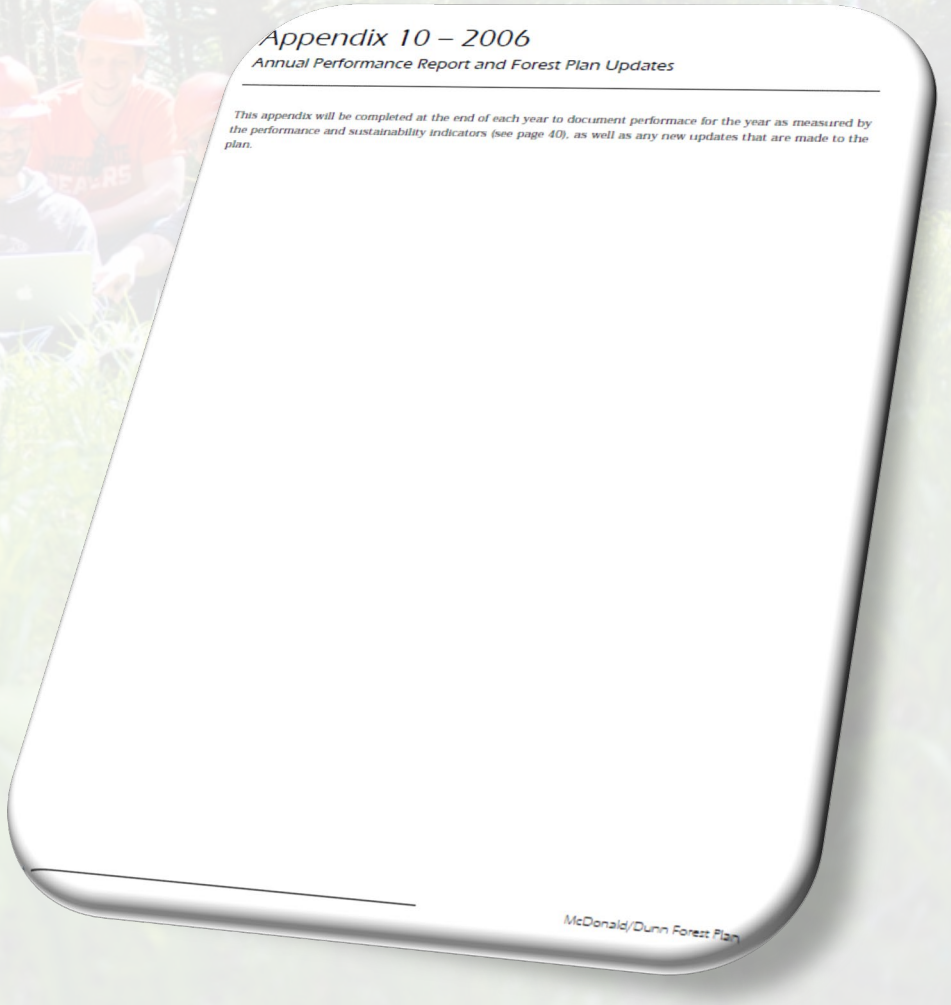
Answers to questions

-from Joint SAC-FPC Kickoff meeting

-from SAC meeting #1

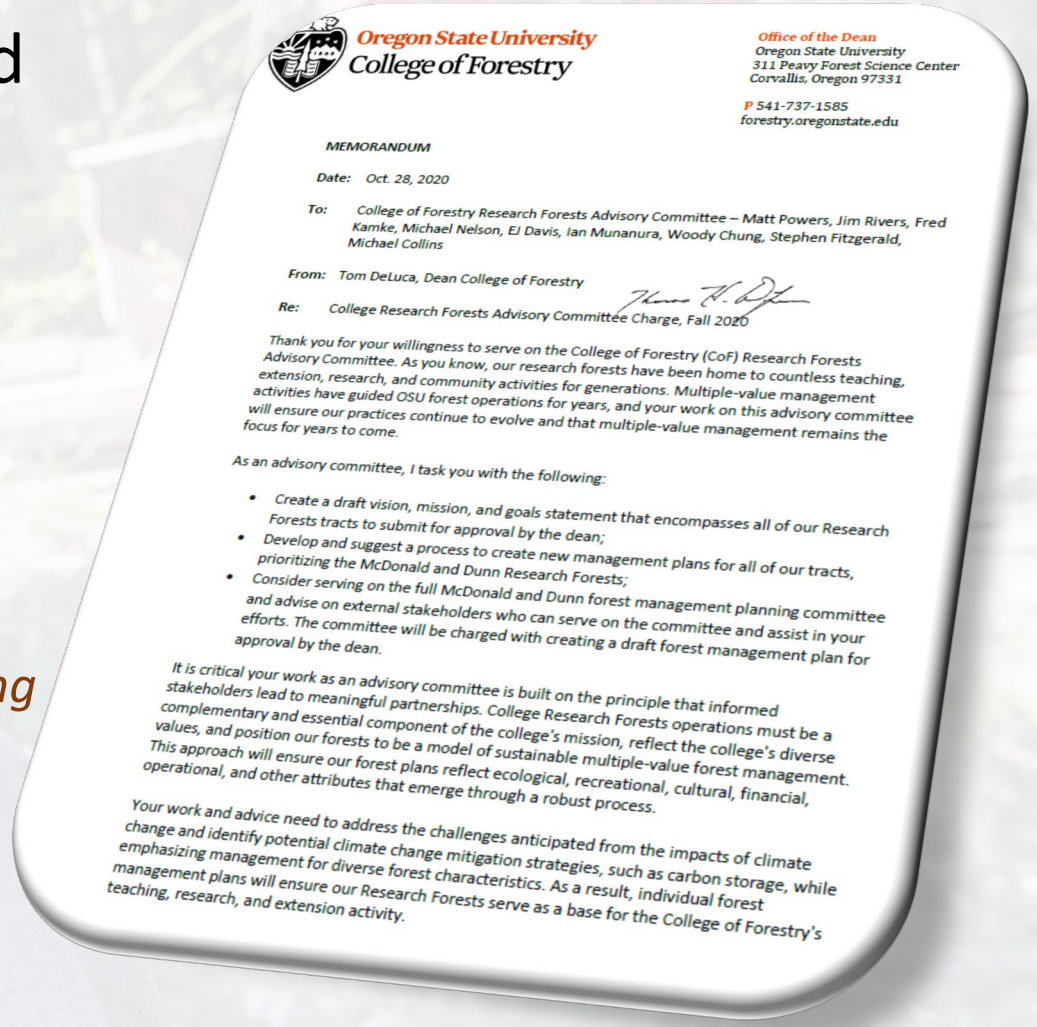
Question from Joint SAC-FPC Kickoff meeting

- Are there any historical 'Annual Performance Reports' available, as described in the 2005 McDonald-Dunn Forest Plan (Appendix 10)?
  - We are searching historical documents for information pertaining to indicators described in the 2005 Plan.



Questions from SAC meeting #1
DeLuca's Charge to Research Forests Advisory Committee

- Oct 2020 – letter from Dean DeLuca charged the committee
- 3 specific tasks were specified
  - Create a draft vision, mission, goals statement for all research forests - *completed*
  - Suggest a process to create a new management plan for McDonald & Dunn Research Forests - *completed*
  - Consider serving on a planning committee and advise on who else might serve – *most opted not to continue serving*



Oregon State University
College of Forestry

Office of the Dean
Oregon State University
311 Peavy Forest Science Center
Corvallis, Oregon 97331

P 541-737-1585
forestry.oregonstate.edu

MEMORANDUM

Date: Oct. 28, 2020

To: College of Forestry Research Forests Advisory Committee – Matt Powers, Jim Rivers, Fred Kamke, Michael Nelson, EJ Davis, Ian Munanura, Woody Chung, Stephen Fitzgerald, Michael Collins

From: Tom DeLuca, Dean College of Forestry

Re: College Research Forests Advisory Committee Charge, Fall 2020

Thank you for your willingness to serve on the College of Forestry (CoF) Research Forests Advisory Committee. As you know, our research forests have been home to countless teaching, extension, research, and community activities for generations. Multiple-value management activities have guided OSU forest operations for years, and your work on this advisory committee will ensure our practices continue to evolve and that multiple-value management remains the focus for years to come.

As an advisory committee, I task you with the following:

- Create a draft vision, mission, and goals statement that encompasses all of our Research Forests tracts to submit for approval by the dean;
- Develop and suggest a process to create new management plans for all of our tracts, prioritizing the McDonald and Dunn Research Forests;
- Consider serving on the full McDonald and Dunn forest management planning committee and advise on external stakeholders who can serve on the committee and assist in your efforts. The committee will be charged with creating a draft forest management plan for approval by the dean.

It is critical your work as an advisory committee is built on the principle that informed stakeholders lead to meaningful partnerships. College Research Forests operations must be a complementary and essential component of the college's mission, reflect the college's diverse values, and position our forests to be a model of sustainable multiple-value forest management. This approach will ensure our forest plans reflect ecological, recreational, cultural, financial, operational, and other attributes that emerge through a robust process.

Your work and advice need to address the challenges anticipated from the impacts of climate change and identify potential climate change mitigation strategies, such as carbon storage, while emphasizing management for diverse forest characteristics. As a result, individual forest management plans will ensure our Research Forests serve as a base for the College of Forestry's teaching, research, and extension activity.

Questions from SAC meeting #1
Current Forest Conditions

- What is the current % of acreage for each theme?
  - The 2005 McDonald-Dunn Plan called for all land to be allocated to one of the four themes (with a few exceptions).
  - These four themes relate to approaches being used by various Oregon forest landowners and managers.
  - The intent was that research forest staff would manage the areas allocated to each of these themes using forest practices appropriate to the vision described in each of these landscape themes.
  - See pages 19 and 37.

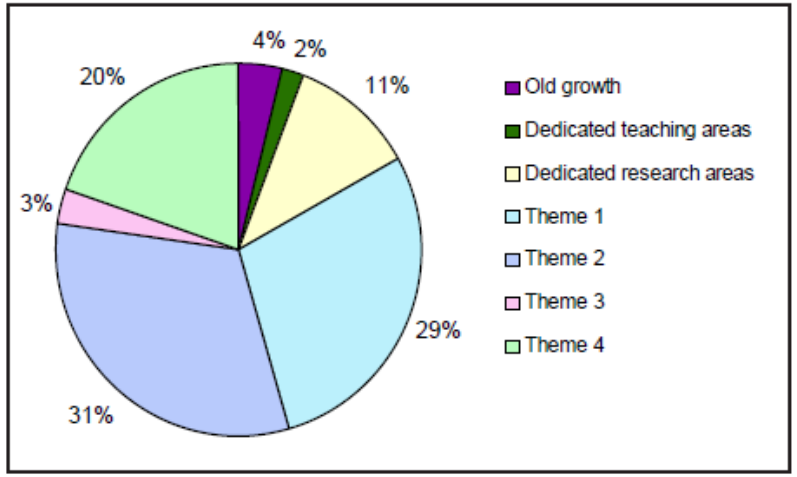


Figure 21. Forested acres by silvicultural strategy under the plan.

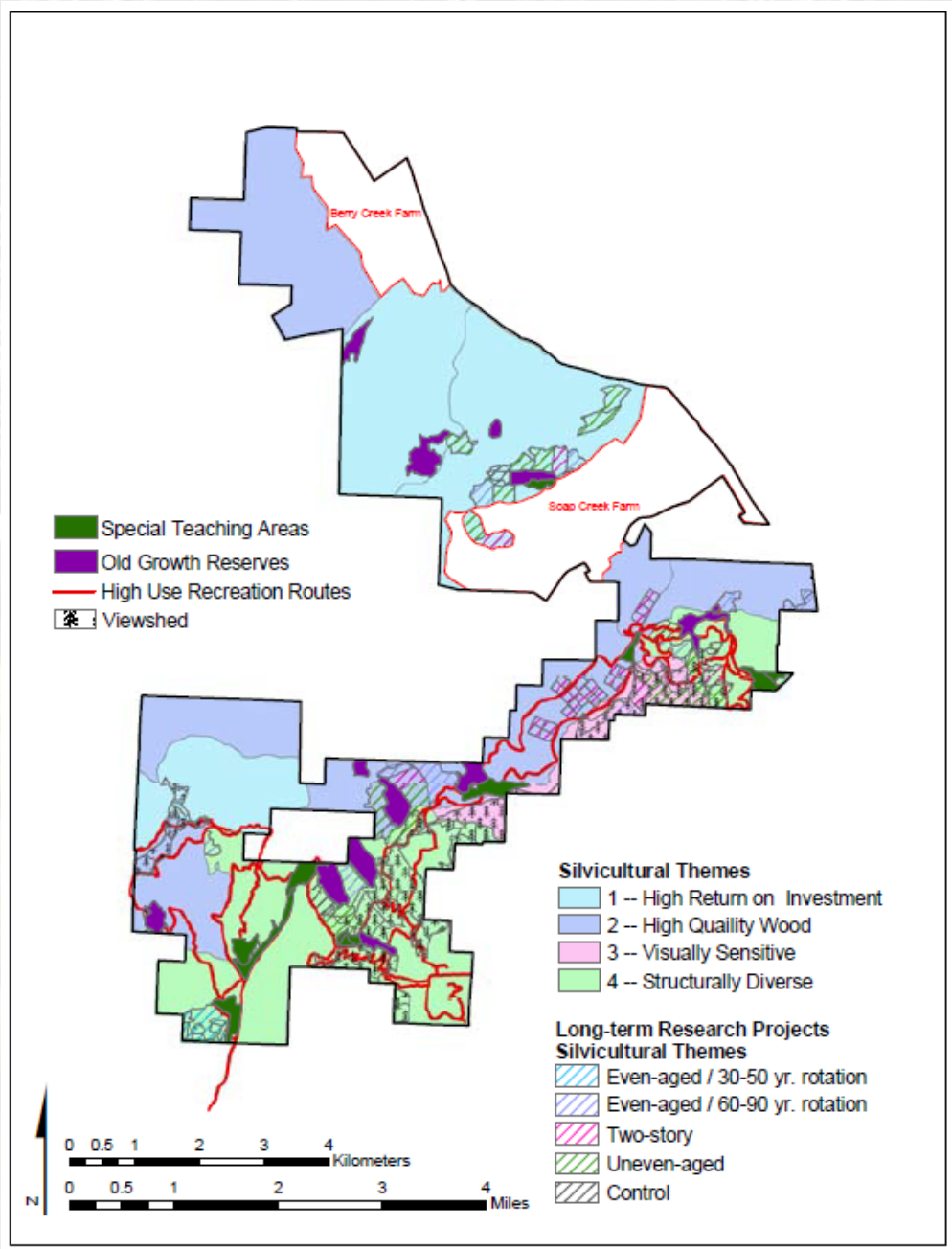
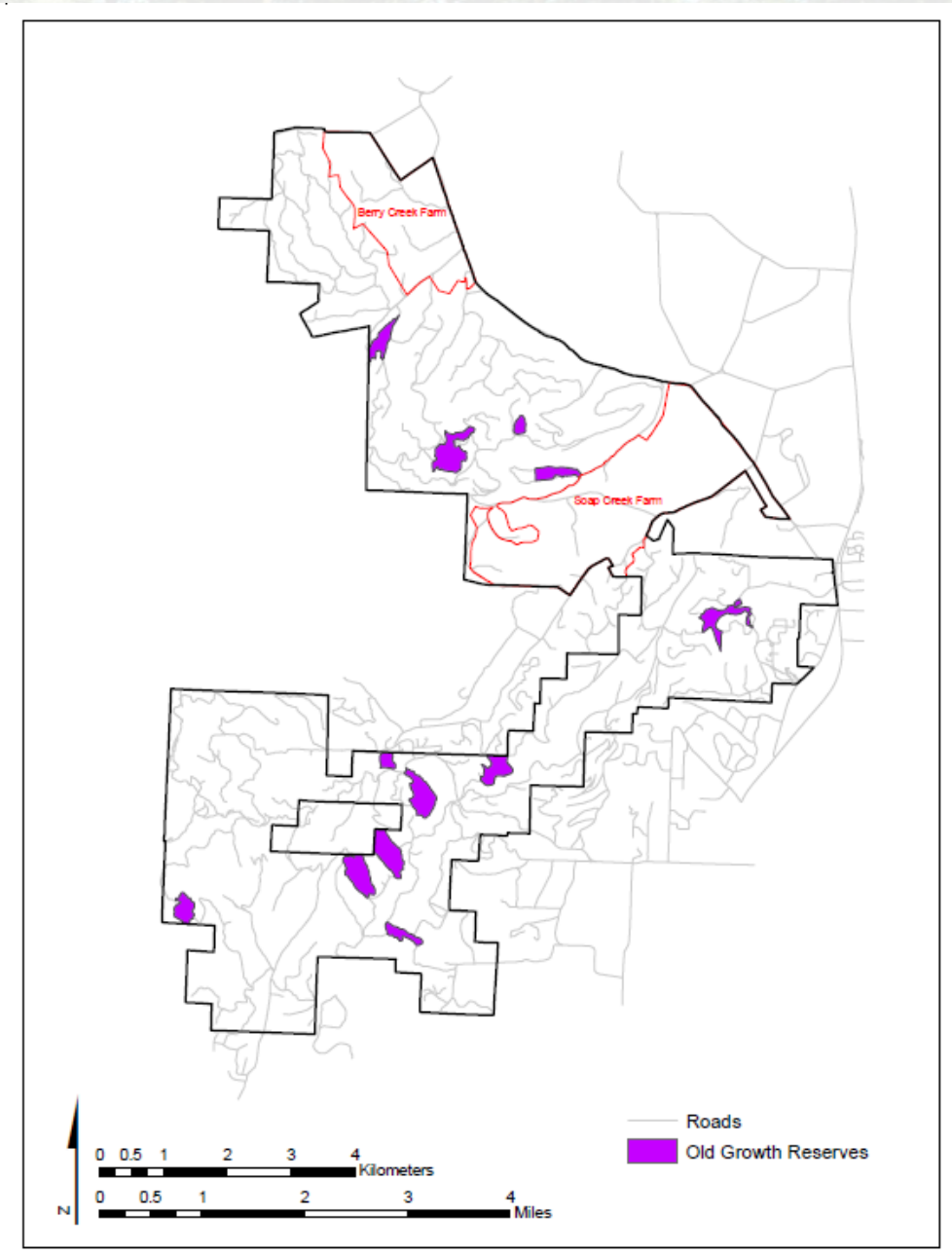


Figure 13. Land allocation

Questions from SAC meeting #1
Current Forest Conditions

- What is the current acreage managed for old growth?
  - Currently, approximately 3.6% of land (421 acres) in the McDonald-Dunn Forests are old forest reserves.
  - These patches are permanently set aside.
  - They are located primarily in moist ravines resistant to wildfire.
  - In addition, individual old trees (“legacy trees”) within younger stands are retained when younger forested areas are harvested.



Questions from SAC meeting #1
Current Forest Conditions

- Are there any active Northern Spotted Owl nests?
  - Survey are conducted annually
  - There are currently many barred owls but no Northern Spotted Owls

- Were stream surveys done and what were the findings?
  - We do not believe stream surveys were conducted as described in the 2005Plan.
  - Recently, West Inc. (an environmental consulting company) conducted an assessment to verify alignment between GIS data and stream classifications used by COF relative to ODF's FPA stream GIS layer.
  - Surveys of unknown stream classifications will be contracted out in 2023. These are needed for implementation of the Private Forestry Accord new stream rules and also so that streams are buffered properly in forest inventories.

- What is the status of hunting in the forests?
  - Hunting is allowed in the Dunn Forest, but not in the McDonald Forest

- What are examples of wildlife damage control efforts?
  - Physical barriers (e.g., vexar tubing and netting) to protect seedlings
  - Chemical repellents (e.g., "deer away") to protect seedling leaders
  - Planting of western redcedar bred for high terpene content so they are less palatable to wildlife

Questions from SAC meeting #1 Current Forest Conditions

- What long term research projects are currently in place?
  - College Forests Integrated Research Project (CFIRP)
  - Urban Fringe Study
  - Pole Wood Preservation Study
  - Stand Management Cooperative Douglas-fir Spacing Study
  - Forest Peak uneven-aged Management
  - Stand Density Regulation and Understory Regeneration Study
  - Purple Martin Study
  - New “assisted migration” (genetics study) study will be initiated in 2023

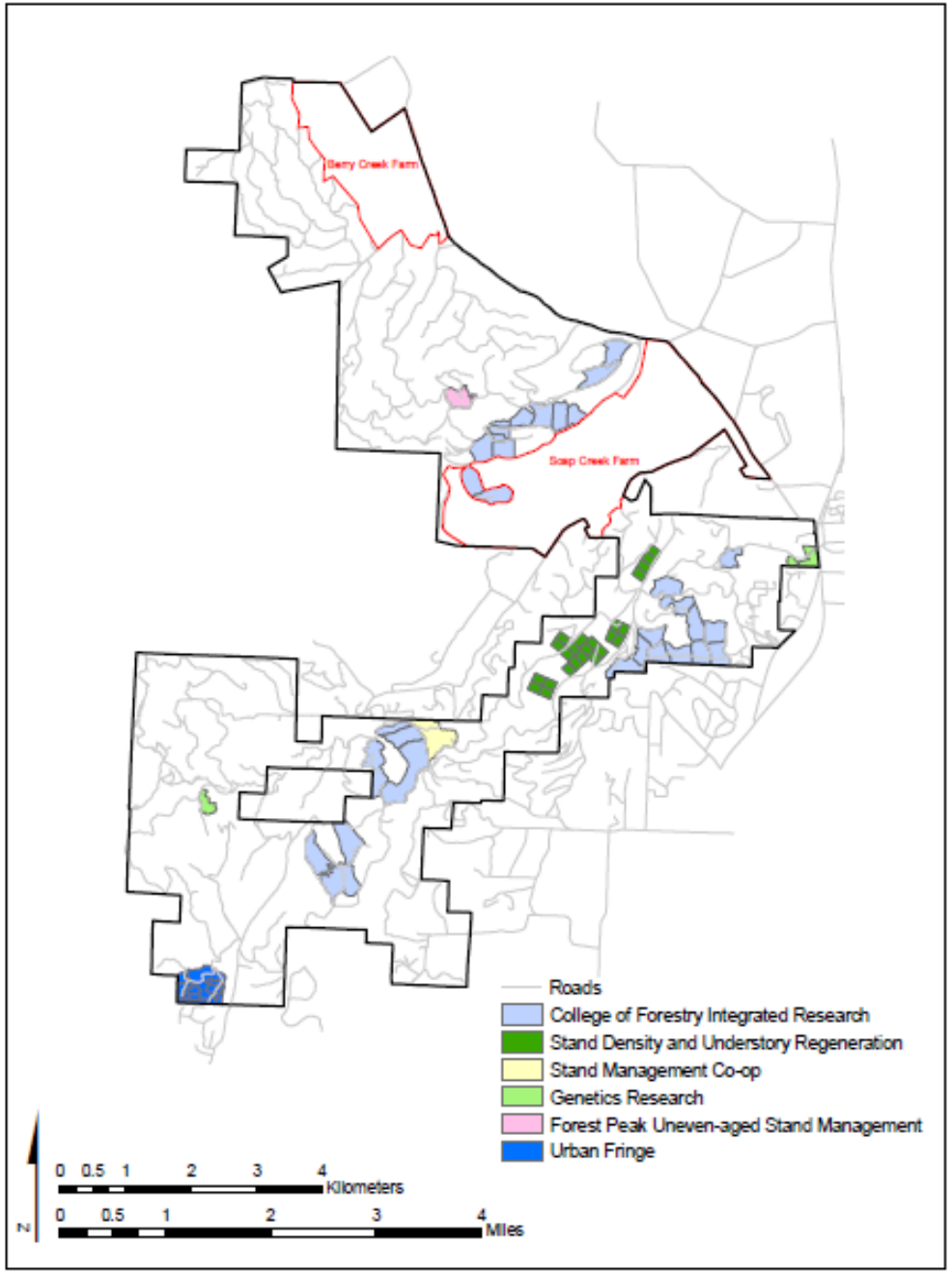


Figure 18. Long-term research project areas.

Questions from SAC meeting #1
Current Forest Conditions

- What is the status of the downed wood/snag research and what were the findings?
  - The exact project originally proposed in the 2005 Plan was not completed.
  - A long-term investigation of snag use was part of the CFIRP study, which included following and assessing created snags after 25-30 years of use and decay. Two papers were published.

- Barry, A.M., Hagar, J.C. and J.W. Rivers. 2018. Use of Created Snags by Cavity-Nesting Birds Across 25 Years. The Journal of Wildlife Management 82(7):1376–1384; 2018; DOI: 10.1002/jwmg.21489
- Barry, A.M., Hagar, J.C. and J.W. Rivers. 2017. Long-term dynamics and characteristics of snags created for wildlife habitat. Forest Ecology and Management 403: 145-151. DOI: 10.1016/j.foreco.2017.07.049
- Information is on the Research Forest website: https://cf.forestry.oregonstate.edu/research/snag-study


Research Article

Use of Created Snags by Cavity-Nesting Birds Across 25 Years


Forest Ecology and Management

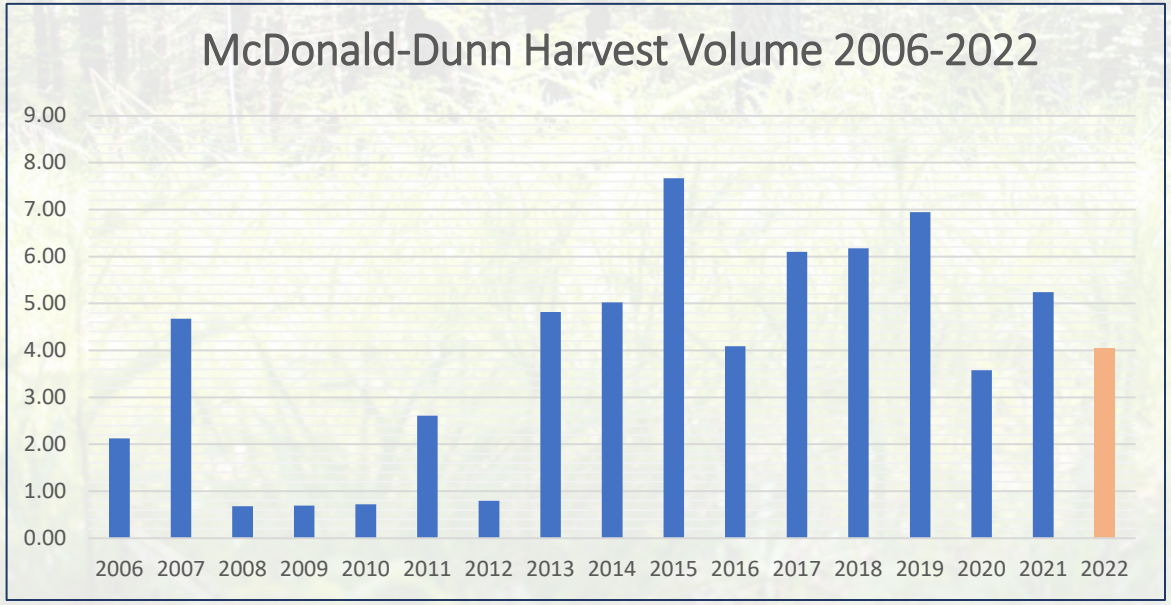
Long-term dynamics and characteristics of snags created for wildlife habitat

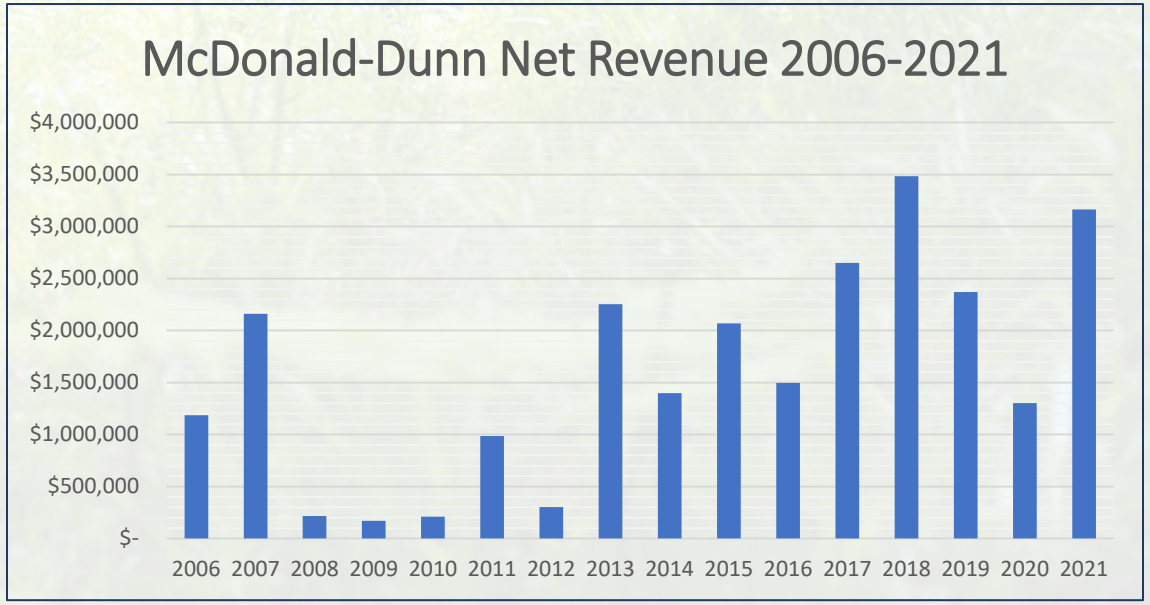
Questions from SAC meeting #1
Current Forest Conditions

- Is there a bibliography of studies that have been conducted in McDonald-Dunn since 2006?
  - We will compile one.
  - Older research efforts are already in a research data base, but additional effort will be needed to update info on recent studies. There are >440 projects in historical database, 1925-2012.
  - Survey of academic use of the forests in June 2022
    - 27 individuals from COF reported conducting research on the forests during past 5 years (33 different projects)
    - 22 individuals from COF reported conducting classes on the forests during past 5 years
    - 28 individuals from COF reported conducting outreach trainings on the forests during past 5 years (42 trainings)

Questions from SAC meeting #1
Current Forest Conditions

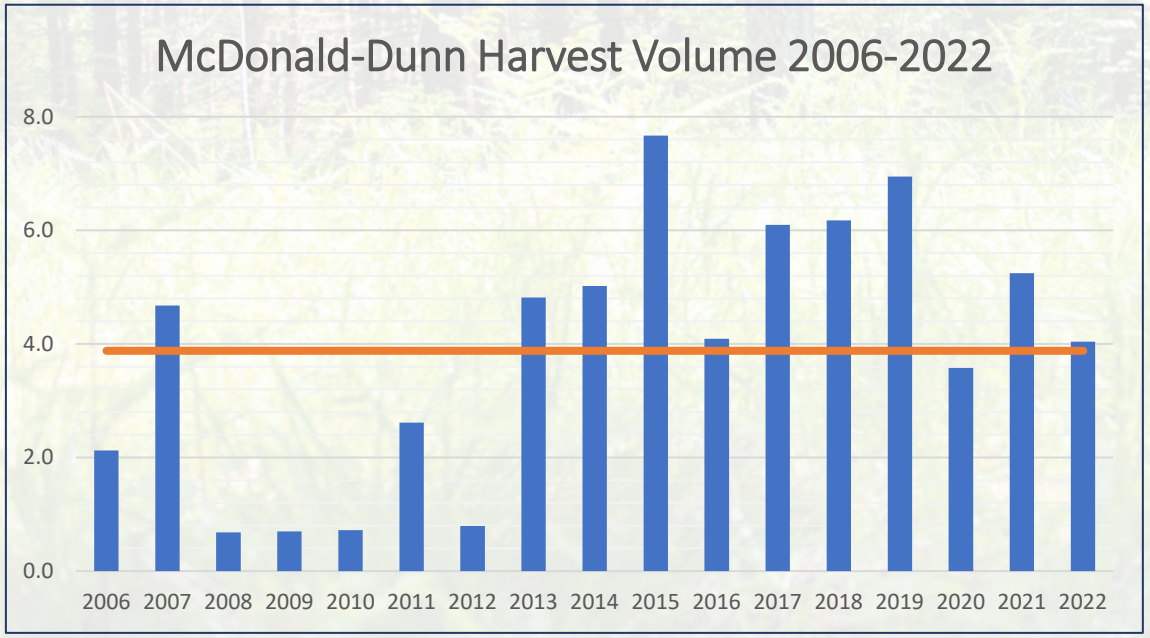
- What is the volume of timber produced annually on the McDonald and Dunn Research Forests since 2006?
- What is the net revenue generated from the McDonald and Dunn Research Forests since 2006?



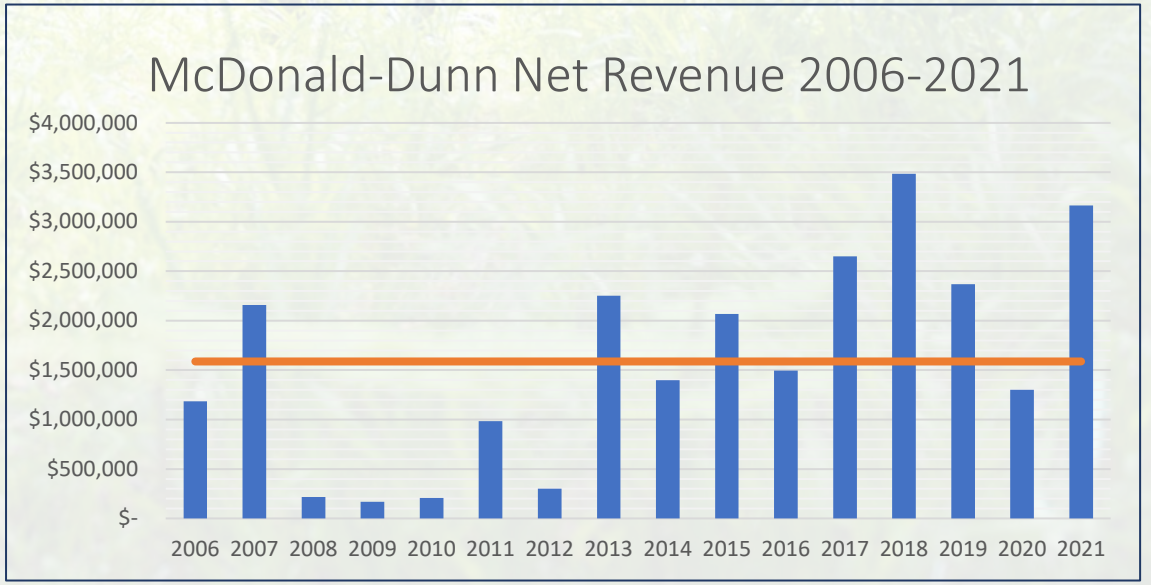


Questions from SAC meeting #1
Current Forest Conditions

- What is the volume of timber produced annually on the McDonald and Dunn Research Forests since 2006?
- What is the net revenue generated from the McDonald and Dunn Research Forests since 2006?



Average = 3.88mbf
(2005 plan anticipated 6mbf)

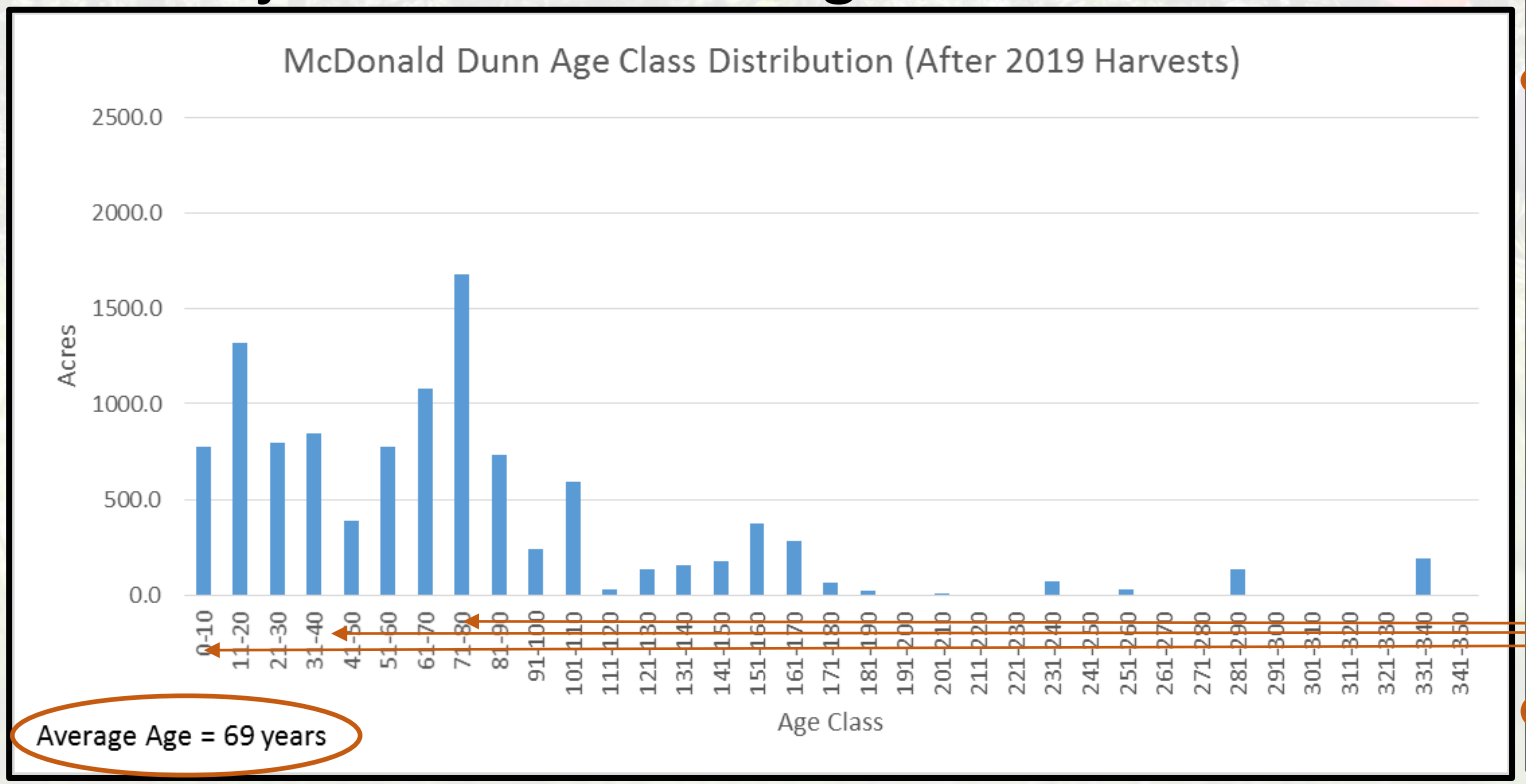


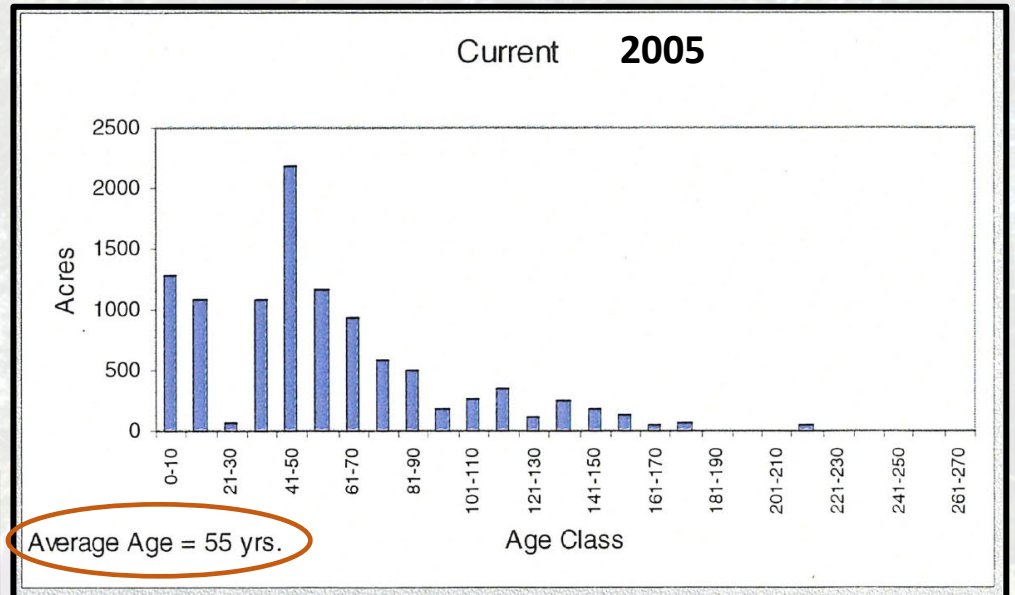
Average = $1.59 million

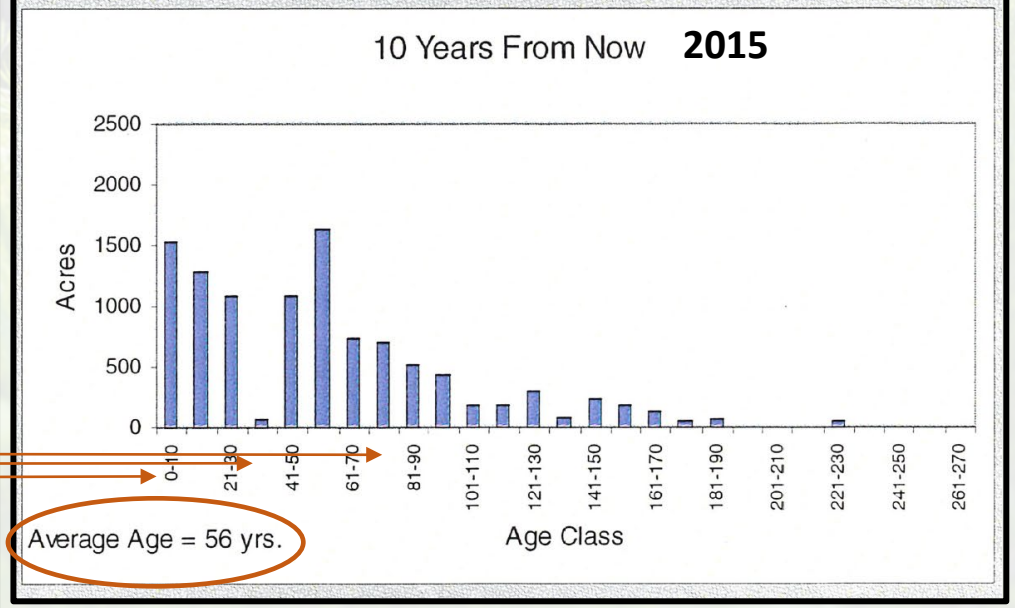
Questions from SAC meeting #1
Current Forest Conditions

- What is the age class distribution of trees on the McDonald and Dunn Forests?

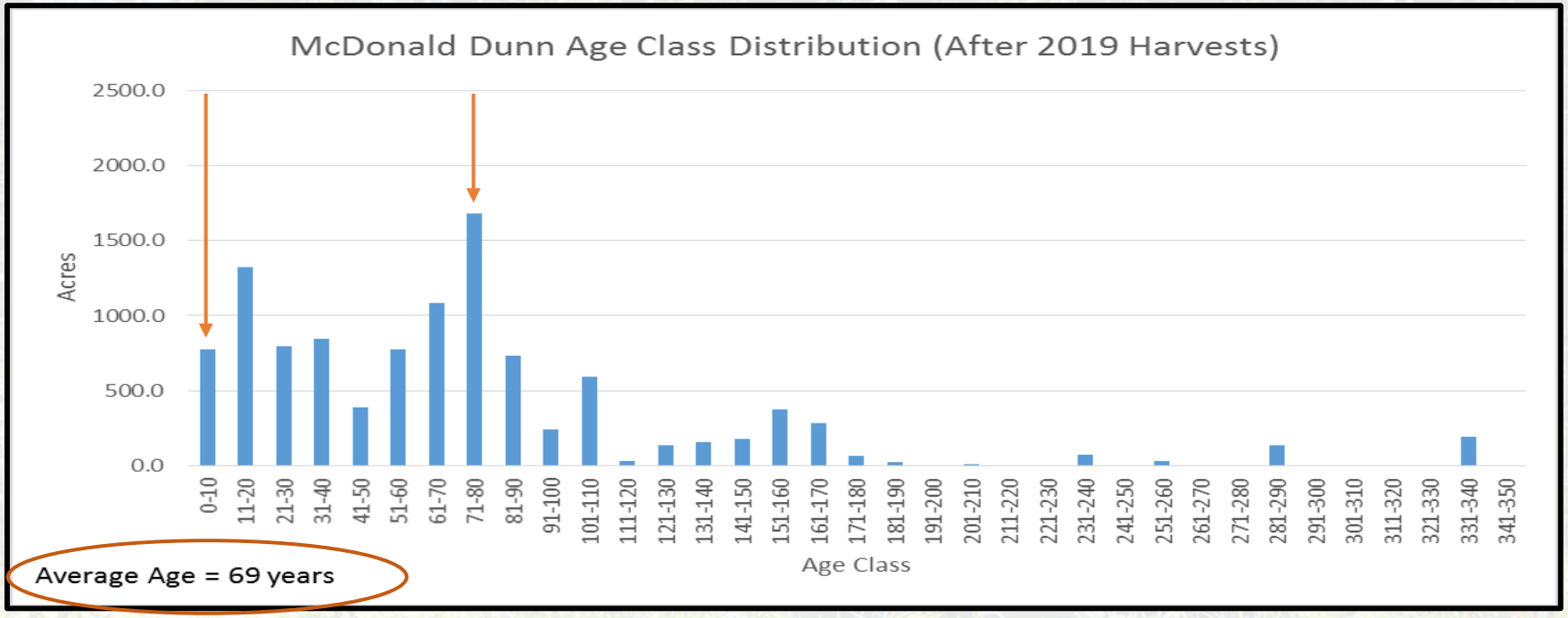
Projected & Current Age Class Distribution

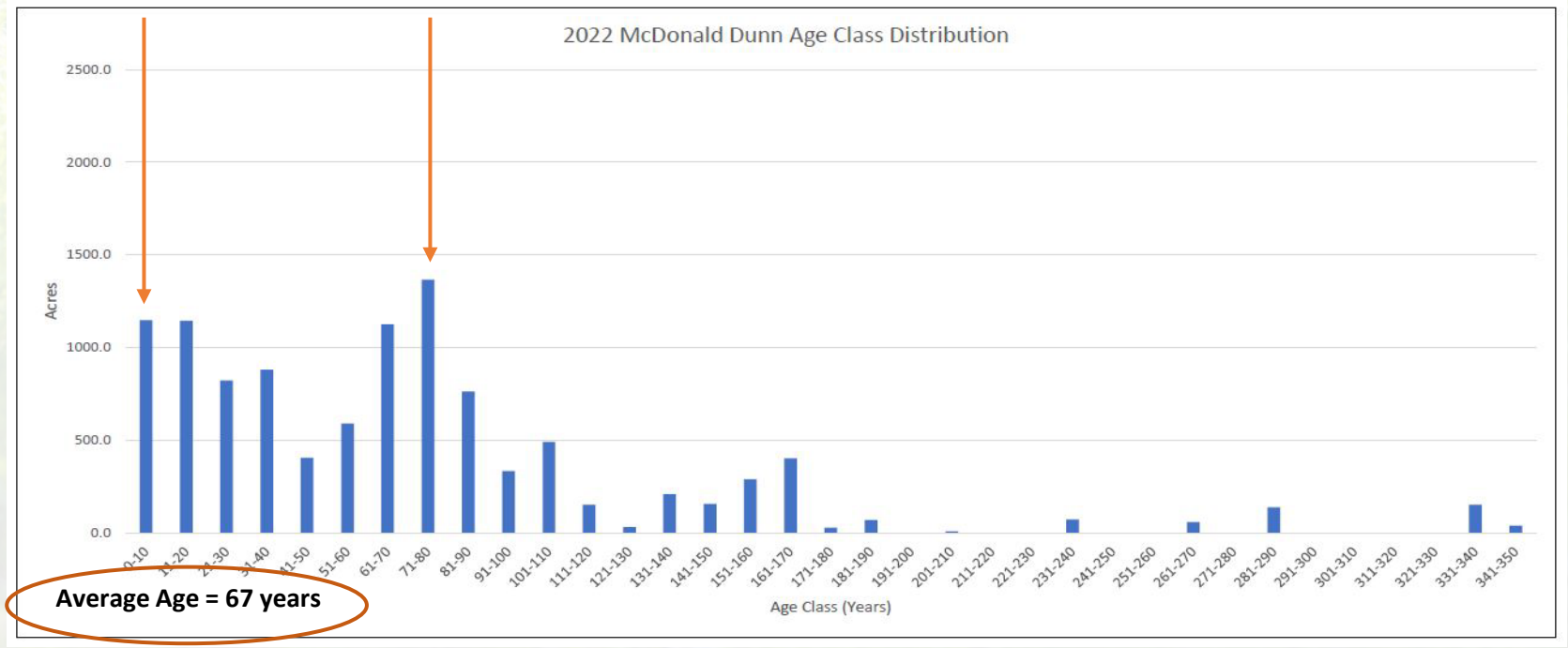






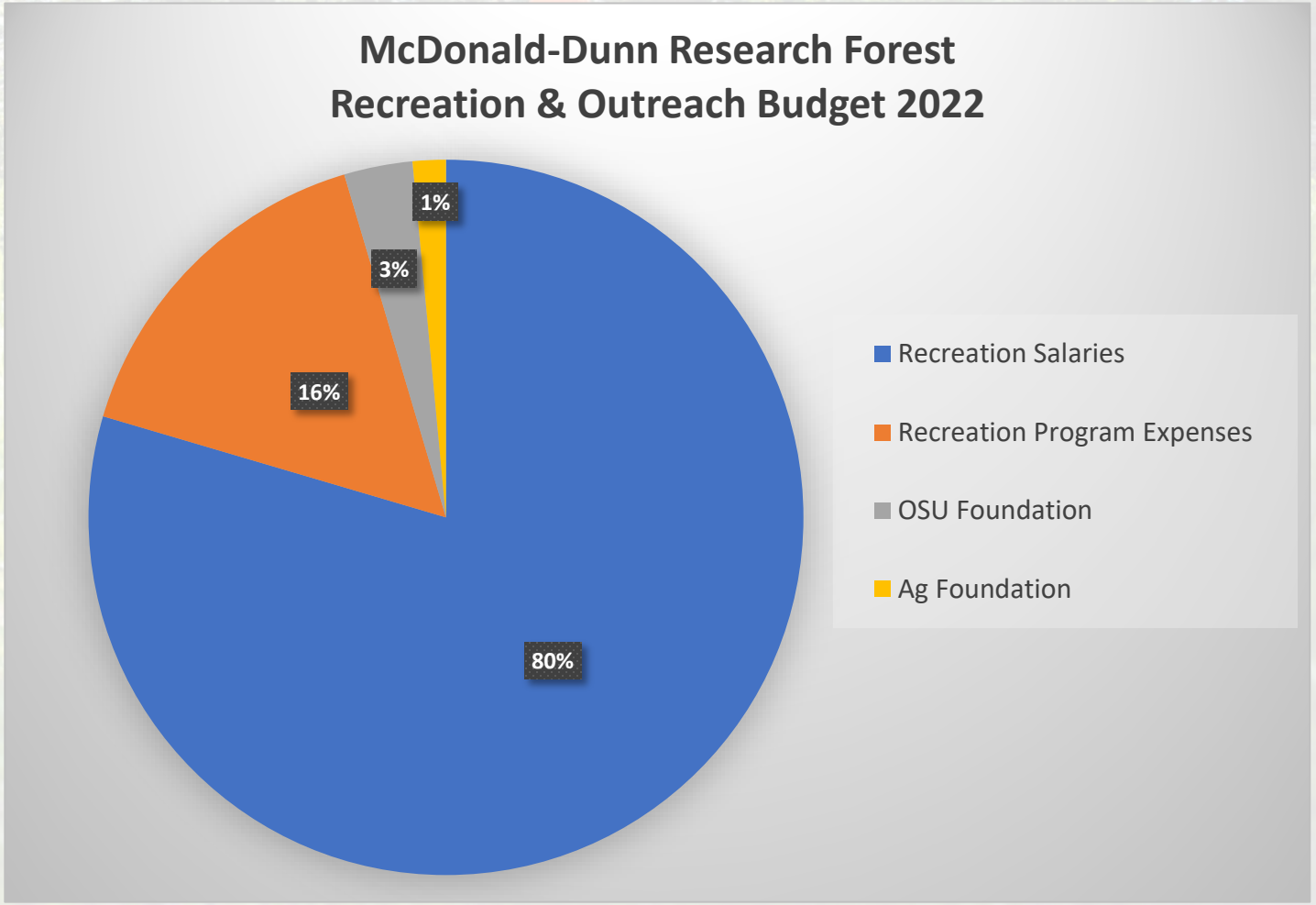
Page 39 in the Plan


McDonald Dunn Age Class Distribution (After 2019 Harvests)
Acres
2500.0
2000.0
1500.0
1000.0
500.0
0.0
0-10
11-20
21-30
31-40
41-50
51-60
61-70
71-80
81-90
91-100
101-110
111-120
121-130
131-140
141-150
151-160
161-170
171-180
181-190
191-200
201-210
211-220
221-230
231-240
241-250
251-260
261-270
271-280
281-290
291-300
301-310
311-320
321-330
331-340
341-350
Age Class
Average Age = 69 years


2022 McDonald Dunn Age Class Distribution
Acres
2500.0
2000.0
1500.0
1000.0
500.0
0.0
Age Class (Years)
Average Age = 67 years

Questions from SAC meeting #1
Current Forest Conditions

- What is the recreation and outreach budget?
  - The total need is **$335,000/year**
  - Currently, 4% of this comes from donations and 96% from timber revenue



Questions from SAC meeting #1
Current Forest Conditions

- Is there an updated forest inventory?
- If so, can it be used to calculate a carbon inventory?
  - These data are almost ready from 2019-2020. Research forest staff has compiled all the 2019 data and is halfway through the 2020 data.
  - There is funding in place for a graduate student to use these data to conduct a carbon assessment.

Return to the 2005 McDonald-Dunn Forest Plan…

2005 McDonald Dunn Forest Plan - Themes

1. **Short rotation wood production with high return on investments**
2. **High-quality, growth maximizing timber production**
3. **Visually-sensitive, even-aged forests**
4. **Structurally diverse complex forest**

Each represents a different set of management objectives used by various forestland owners and managers in Oregon.

2005 McDonald Dunn Forest Plan – Special Areas & Issues

- Habitats of sensitive species
- Old growth forest
- Native grasslands, oak savannah, oak woodland
- Dedicated teaching areas
- Long-term research projects
- Research, teaching, and demonstration projects
- Snags and downed wood
- Riparian areas
- Oak Creek watershed
- Identification and management of sensitive species
- Landscape level diversity
- Invasive plants
- Recreational use
- Visual resource management
- Hardwood levels
- Cultural resources

McDonald & Dunn Research Forests Management Planning Process

Phase I: Information gathering, Discussions, Assessment of former FMP (Spring-Summer 2022)

Initial Interviews	Inventory of Academic Use	Community Listening Session	Academic User Listening Session	Stakeholder Advisory Committee Meetings	Faculty Planning Committee Meetings

Phase II: Synthesizing, Modeling, Refining (Fall 2022-Spring 2023)

Stakeholder Advisory Committee Meetings	Faculty Planning Committee Meetings	Community Listening Sessions

Phase III: Finalizing (Summer-Fall 2023)

Presentation of draft plan to the Dean & Forestry Executive Committee for review	Forest management plan refinement	Forest management plan approval