McDonald & Dunn Forest Management Planning Process

Spring 2022 – Fall 2023
# McDonald & Dunn Research Forests Management Planning Process

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial Interviews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventory of Academic Use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Listening Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic User Listening Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stakeholder Advisory Committee Meetings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty Planning Committee Meetings</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stakeholder Advisory Committee Meetings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty Planning Committee Meetings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Listening Sessions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Phase III: Finalizing
**(Summer-Fall 2023)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Presentation of draft plan to the Dean &amp; Forestry Executive Committee for review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest management plan refinement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest management plan approval</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## McDonald & Dunn Forest Planning Process Update

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Meeting type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 14</td>
<td>Joint SAC-FPC Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 30</td>
<td>SAC meeting #1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 31</td>
<td>Community Listening Session #1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 16</td>
<td>FPC meeting #1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 20</td>
<td>SAC meeting #2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 11, Oct 25, Nov 8, Nov 22</td>
<td>FPC meetings #2, 3, 4, 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov ?</td>
<td>Community Listening Session #2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*SAC = Stakeholder Advisory Committee  
*FPC = Faculty Planning Committee
# McDonald & Dunn Forest Planning Process Update

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting type</th>
<th>Meeting format</th>
<th>Open to the public</th>
<th>Recording posted online</th>
<th>Written summary posted online</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SAC meeting*</td>
<td>Hybrid</td>
<td>Listen in via Zoom</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FPC meeting*</td>
<td>Hybrid</td>
<td>Listen in via Zoom</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Listening Session I</td>
<td>Hybrid</td>
<td>Yes!</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Listening Session II</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Yes!</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*SAC = Stakeholder Advisory Committee
*FPC = Faculty Planning Committee
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 committees will assist in the development of the new plan: an external Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) and College of Forestry Faculty Planning Committee (FPC). Comments submitted through the webform will be forwarded to these committees.

Upcoming Meetings & Events:
- Check back for upcoming events

Past Meetings & Events:
- June 14, 2022. SAC and FPC Joint Kickoff Meeting (agenda, video, meeting summary)
- Aug 30, 2022. SAC Meeting (agenda, presentation, meeting summary)
- Aug. 31, 2022. Community Listening Session (agenda, presentation, meeting summary)
- Sept. 16, 2022. Faculty Planning Committee Meeting (agenda, presentation, meeting summary)
- Sept. 20, 2022. Stakeholder Advisory Committee Meeting (agenda, presentation, video recording)
Summary of FPC Meeting #1

• FPC meeting #1 agenda was similar to SAC meeting #1 agenda
  o Review of the planning process
  o Discussion of draft operating principles
  o Questions from the group
  o 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

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

Oregon Consensus is compiling a summary of high-level ideas, recommendations, and suggestions from the SAC
Answers to questions
- from Joint SAC-FPC Kickoff meeting
- from SAC meeting #1
- from FPC meeting #1
Are there any historical ‘Annual Performance Reports’ available, as described in the 2005 McDonald-Dunn Forest Plan (Appendix 10)?

- Short answer -- no
- Annual reports from 2006-2009 mention harvests, recreation, cultural resources, # of research projects and class visits, but are not written explicitly according to ‘indicators’ from 2005 plan
- In Box
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
  o Create a draft vision, mission, goals statement for all research forests - *completed*
  o Suggest a process to create a new management plan for McDonald & Dunn Research Forests - *completed*
  o Consider serving on a planning committee and advise on who else might serve – *most opted not to continue serving*
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.
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?
  o Survey are conducted annually
  o There are currently many barred owls but no Northern Spotted Owls

● Were stream surveys done and what were the findings?
  o We do not believe stream surveys were conducted as described in the 2005 Plan.
  o 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.
  o 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?
  o Hunting is allowed in the Dunn Forest, but not in the McDonald Forest

● What are examples of wildlife damage control efforts?
  o Physical barriers (e.g., vexar tubing and netting) to protect seedlings
  o Chemical repellents (e.g., “deer away”) to protect seedling leaders
  o 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?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Project Size</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1925</td>
<td>Pole Wood Preservation Study</td>
<td>6 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>College of Forestry Integrated Research Project (CFIRP)</td>
<td>847 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>Stand Density Management Cooperative Douglas-fir Spacing Study</td>
<td>60 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>Urban Fringe Study</td>
<td>55 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>Forest Peak Uneven-aged Study</td>
<td>25 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>Stand Density Regulation &amp; Understory Regeneration Study (Mature Forest Study)</td>
<td>139 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Purple Martin Study</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>Assisted migration</td>
<td>6 acres</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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.

- Information is on the Research Forest website: https://cf.forestry.oregonstate.edu/research/snag-study
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 database, 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

**McDonald Dunn Age Class Distribution (After 2019 Harvests)**

- Average Age = 69 years

**Current 2005**

**10 Years From Now 2015**

- Average Age = 56 years
Average Age = 67 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.
Questions from FPC meeting #1
Current Forest Conditions

- How much revenue generated from the forests are used to support activities associated with the research forests versus supporting other aspects of the COF?
  - Historically, $1mil has been provided for COF operations

- Could all revenue generated from the forests be earmarked to go back to the research forests and not be used to cover expenses associated with other aspects of operating the COF?
  - Tom DeLuca pledged to increase the proportion of revenue from timber harvest to support R/T/O directly tied to the Research Forests

- What are the minimum costs associated with keeping the research forests running?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Expenses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$3,541,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$4,027,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>$4,104,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>$4,338,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>$3,384,900</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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.