McDonald & Dunn Forest Management Planning Process

Spring 2022 – Fall 2023

OSU College of Forestry
McDonald-Dunn Research Forest Faculty Planning Committee Meeting #7
316 Peavy Forest Science Center or Zoom (Join Zoom Meeting)
23 January 2023, 11am-1pm

Agenda

Meeting Purpose:

- *Plan the Academic User Listening Session and Field Tour*
- *Finalize the 'overarching principles' document*
- *Consider components of the new forest management plan*
- *Develop management strategy definitions and scenarios*

Start Time	Activity
11:00am	**Overview of recent and upcoming events**
11:15am	**Finalize the Overarching Principles document**
11:30am	**Refine the draft Table of Contents for the new plan**
12:00pm	**Craft definitions for each of the 5 new 'management strategies'**
12:30pm	**Develop 'scenarios' to be modeled**
2:55pm	**Next steps**
3:00pm	**Adjourn**

MCDONALD-DUNN RESEARCH FOREST PLANNING PROCESS

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:

- January 23, 2023, 11:00am – 1:00pm – Faculty Planning Committee Meeting (agenda, open to the public to listen remotely through Zoom but not comment; video recording will be posted online after the meeting). Zoom link: https://oregonstate.zoom.us/j/8948549218?pwd=Uko4L2hYNnpQU0dIWlhWWGxhcFZFZz09

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, meeting summary)
- Oct. 11, 2022, Faculty Planning Committee Meeting (agenda, presentation, video recording, meeting summary)
- Oct. 25, 2022, Faculty Planning Committee Meeting (agenda, presentation, video recording, meeting summary)
- Nov. 7, 2022, Community Listening Session (agenda, presentation, video recording, meeting summary)
- Nov. 22, 2022, Faculty Planning Committee Meeting (agenda, presentation, video recording, meeting summary)
- Dec. 5, 2022, Stakeholder Advisory Committee (agenda, presentation, video recording, meeting summary)
- Dec. 6, 2022, Faculty Planning Committee Meeting (agenda, presentation, video recording, meeting summary)- Remarks made by an individual during the Dec 6 Faculty Planning Committee meeting do not reflect the values of the university or the College of Forestry, or our shared commitment to respectful discussion and engagement. The College appreciates all input being provided in planning the future of the McDonald-Dunn Research Forests and is committed to listening to and considering all perspectives with respect. An apology for these remarks was made during the Stakeholder Advisory Committee meeting on Dec 13.
- Dec. 13, 2022, Stakeholder Advisory Committee Meeting (agenda, video recording, meeting summary)
- Dec. 20, 2022, Faculty Planning Committee Meeting (agenda, presentation, video recording, meeting summary)
- Jan. 18, 2023, Stakeholder Advisory Committee (agenda, presentation, video recording)

SUBMIT YOUR COMMENTS

SUBMIT YOUR QUESTIONS

STAY CONNECTED

READ PUBLIC COMMENTS

HISTORIC DOCUMENTS - MCDONALD-DUNN RESEARCH FOREST PLANNING 2004-PRESENT

McDonald & Dunn Research Forests Management Planning Process

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

Initial Interviews	Inventory of COF Academic Use	Community Listening Session I	Stakeholder Advisory Committee Meetings	Faculty Planning Committee Meetings	Comment / Question Submission

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

Stakeholder Advisory Committee Meetings	Faculty Planning Committee Meetings	Community Listening Session II	Academic User Listening Session	Community Input Sessions I & II	Comment / Question Submission

Phase III: Finalizing (Summer-Fall 2023)

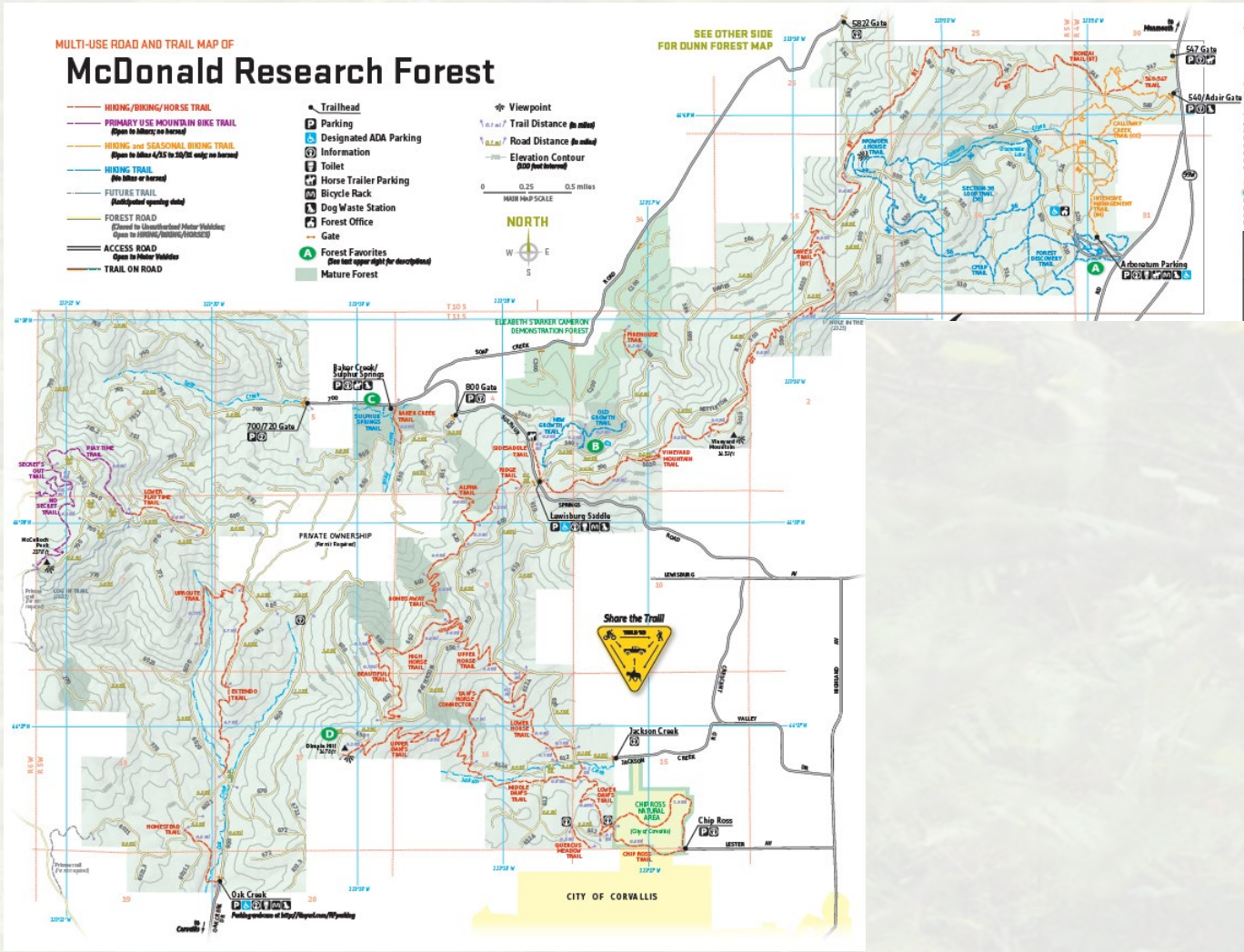
Presentation of draft plan to the Dean & Forestry Executive Committee for review	Forest management plan refinement	Forest management plan approval by Dean

Academic User Listening Session

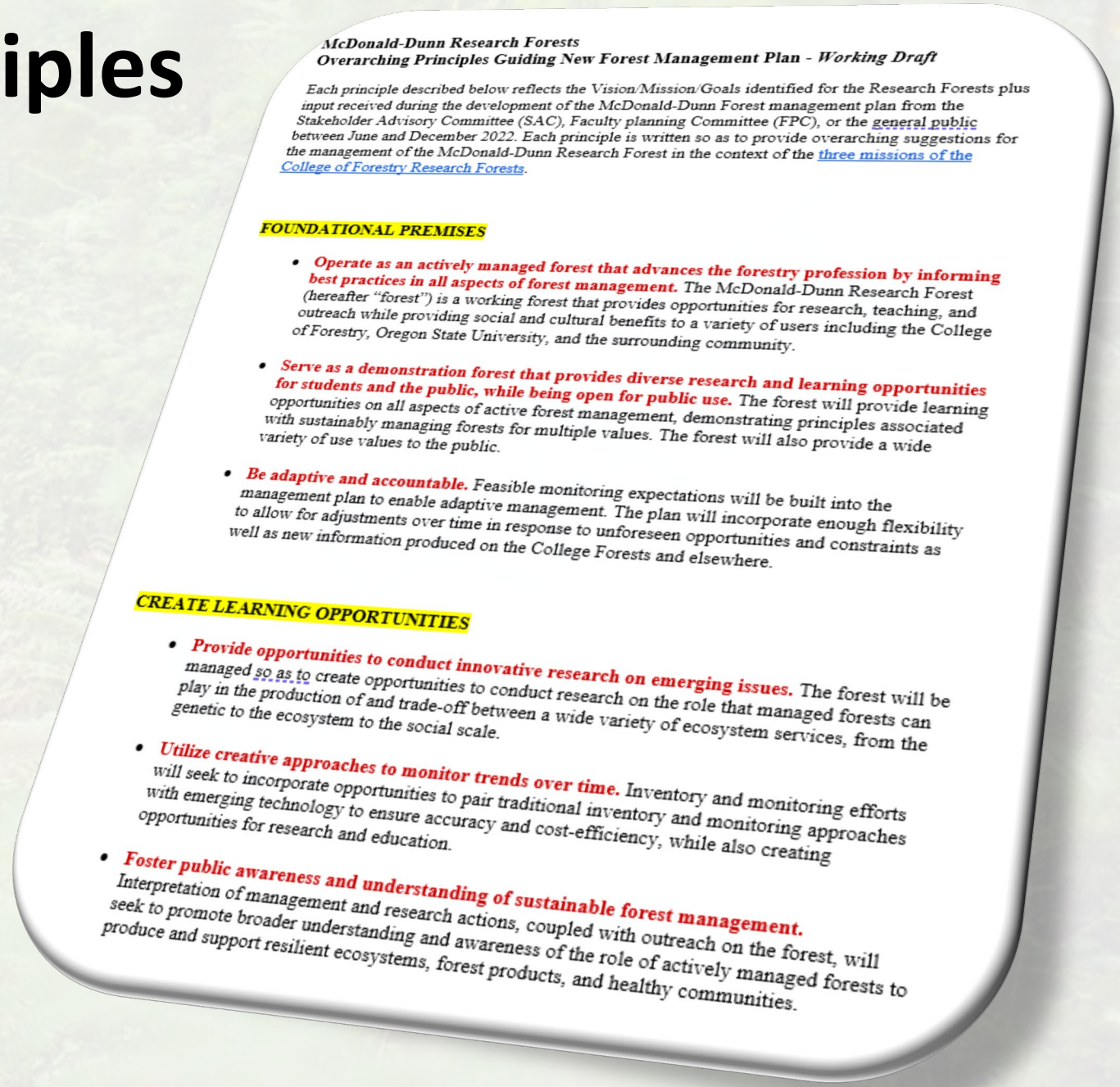
- Audience
  - Faculty, staff, students across the university
- Intent
  - Better understand constraints in using the forest for R/T/O
  - Survey in summer 2022 highlighted a few
    - 3 of 72 individuals indicated challenges for research
      - too many forestry ops; not enough space; lack of monitoring infrastructure; closings due to COVID and smoke
    - 3 of 72 individuals indicated challenges for teaching
      - flagging removed; speed of mtn bikers; hikers rude to van drivers; parking for vans at Oak Creek
    - 3 of 72 individuals indicated challenges for outreach
      - parking; public transportation to the forest
- Scheduling of session
  - During the day or evening?
- Format of session
  - In-person, virtual, or hybrid?
- How to ensure participation from COF and from other colleges

Field Tour with SAC

- Intent
  - See examples of existing ‘themes’
  - Discuss harvest operations
  - Discuss recreation pressures
  - Other topics of interest to the group
- When
  - weekday
  - weekend
- Duration
  - 4 hours in morning (8:30am-12:30pm)
  - 4 hours in afternoon (1:00pm-5:00pm)
  - Full day (9:00am-3:30pm)



Overarching Principles



McDonald-Dunn Research Forests
Overarching Principles Guiding New Forest Management Plan - Working Draft

Each principle described below reflects the Vision/Mission/Goals identified for the Research Forests plus input received during the development of the McDonald-Dunn Forest management plan from the Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC), Faculty planning Committee (FPC), or the general public between June and December 2022. Each principle is written so as to provide overarching suggestions for the management of the McDonald-Dunn Research Forest in the context of the three missions of the College of Forestry Research Forests.

FOUNDATIONAL PREMISES

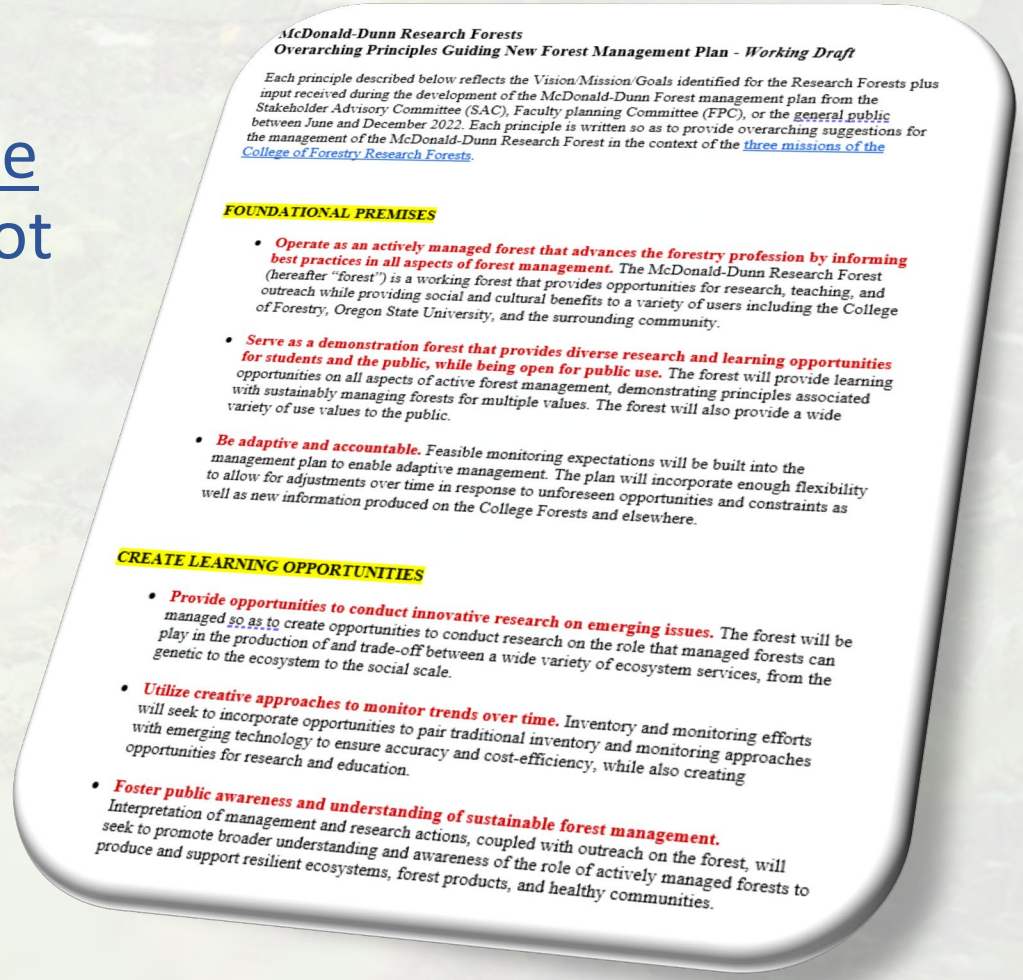
- ***Operate as an actively managed forest that advances the forestry profession by informing best practices in all aspects of forest management.*** *The McDonald-Dunn Research Forest (hereafter "forest") is a working forest that provides opportunities for research, teaching, and outreach while providing social and cultural benefits to a variety of users including the College of Forestry, Oregon State University, and the surrounding community.*
- ***Serve as a demonstration forest that provides diverse research and learning opportunities for students and the public, while being open for public use.*** *The forest will provide learning opportunities on all aspects of active forest management, demonstrating principles associated with sustainably managing forests for multiple values. The forest will also provide a wide variety of use values to the public.*
- ***Be adaptive and accountable.*** *Feasible monitoring expectations will be built into the management plan to enable adaptive management. The plan will incorporate enough flexibility to allow for adjustments over time in response to unforeseen opportunities and constraints as well as new information produced on the College Forests and elsewhere.*

CREATE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

- ***Provide opportunities to conduct innovative research on emerging issues.*** *The forest will be managed so as to create opportunities to conduct research on the role that managed forests can play in the production of and trade-off between a wide variety of ecosystem services, from the genetic to the ecosystem to the social scale.*
- ***Utilize creative approaches to monitor trends over time.*** *Inventory and monitoring efforts will seek to incorporate opportunities to pair traditional inventory and monitoring approaches with emerging technology to ensure accuracy and cost-efficiency, while also creating opportunities for research and education.*
- ***Foster public awareness and understanding of sustainable forest management.*** *Interpretation of management and research actions, coupled with outreach on the forest, will seek to promote broader understanding and awareness of the role of actively managed forests to produce and support resilient ecosystems, forest products, and healthy communities.*

Overarching Principles – SAC Input

- Surprise that biodiversity decline, climate change, silviculture, and wildfire were not specifically called out
- Suggestion that there be mention in the 'social sustainability and cultural values' section about jobs supported and products produced in the forest sector
- Concerns that the bullet point regarding 'financial self-sustainability' was vague and could be misinterpreted



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Phase III: Finalizing (Summer-Fall 2023)

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McDonald & Dunn Research Forests Management Planning Process

PHASE I	**INFORMATION GATHERING, DISCUSSIONS, ASSESSMENT OF 2005 PLAN**
[PHASE Ia]	**Information Gathering:**
[PHASE Ib]	**Discussions, Assessment of 2005 Plan:**
PHASE II	**SYNTHESIZING, MODELING, REFINING, WRITING**
[PHASE IIa]	**Synthesizing:**
[PHASE IIb]	**Modeling, Refining:**
[PHASE IIc]	**Writing:**
PHASE III	**WRITING, FINALIZING**

[*Compact overview of the plan development process*]

McDonald & Dunn Research Forests Management Planning Process

PHASE II	SYNTHESIZING, MODELING, REFINING, WRITING
	Synthesizing:
	SAC meetings III & IV *-write synthesis document and share with FPC* *-consider 'themes' ('management regimes') for new plan* *-consider scenarios (proportions of each 'management regime')* *-consider necessary components of new plan*
	FPC meetings IV, V, & VI *-write overarching principles document and share with SAC* *-consider 'themes' ('management regimes') for new plan* *-consider scenarios (proportions of each 'mangement regime')* *-consider necessary components of new plan*
	Modeling, Refining:
Round 1	Forest growth and development modeling (consultant) Ecosystem service modeling (consultant) 1st round: evaluation of alternatives (SAC, FPC, Community Input Session I)
Round 2	Forest growth and development modeling (consultant) Ecosystem service modeling (consultant) 2nd round: evaluation of alternatives (SAC, FPC, Community Input Session II)
	Writing:
	Drafting of chapters (various work groups and individuals)

Detailed view of Phase II of the plan development process

Components of the 2005 Plan

2005 Plan	
• Summary	
• Introduction and Description	The site
I. Location	
II. History	
III. Geology, Soils, & Hydrology	
IV. Current Forest Condition	
• Forest Goals	Goals
• Approach	The planning process; the pre-eminence of the ‘themes’ and ‘zones’
I. Decision Process	
II. Themes	
III. Forest Zones	
• Management of Special Areas and Issues	Everything not affected by the themes and zones
I. Habitats of Sensitive Species	
II. Mature & Old Growth Areas (Reserves)	
III. Native Grasslands, Oak Savanna & Oak Woodland	
IV. Dedicated Teaching Areas	
V. Long-term Research Projects	
VI. Research, Teaching, & Demonstration Projects	
VII. Snags & Down Wood	
VIII. Riparian Areas	
IX. Oak Creek Watershed	
X. Identification & Management of Sensitive Species	
XI. Landscape Level Diversity	
XII. Invasive Plants	
XIII. Recreational Use	
XIV. Visual Resource Management	
XV. Hardwood Levels	
XVI. Cultural Resources	
• Management Emphases, Inventory, Harvest & Growth	Timber harvest; sustainability
I. Timber Harvest Schedule	
II. Future Forest Condition: Growth & Yield	
• Plan Implementation	Implementation; accountability; adaptability
I. Communication	
II. Plan Review & Revision	
III. Adaptive Management/Continuous Improvement	
IV. Performance & Sustainability Indicators	
• Literature Cited	
• Appendices	

Components of the 2005 Plan

- Summary
- Introduction and Description
  - I. Location
  - II. History
  - III. Geology, Soils, & Hydrology
  - IV. Current Forest Condition
- Forest Goals
- Approach
  - I. Decision Process
  - II. Themes
  - III. Forest Zones
- Management of Special Areas and Issues
  - I. Habitats of Sensitive Species
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  - VI. Research, Teaching, & Demonstration Projects
  - VII. Snags & Down Wood
  - VIII. Riparian Areas
  - IX. Oak Creek Watershed
  - X. Identification & Management of Sensitive Species
  - XI. Landscape Level Diversity
  - XII. Invasive Plants
  - XIII. Recreational Use
  - XIV. Visual Resource Management
  - XV. Hardwood Levels
  - XVI. Cultural Resources
- Management Emphases, Inventory, Harvest & Growth
  - I. Timber Harvest Schedule
  - II. Future Forest Condition: Growth & Yield
- Plan Implementation
  - I. Communication
  - II. Plan Review & Revision
  - III. Adaptive Management/Continuous Improvement
  - IV. Performance & Sustainability Indicators
- Literature Cited
- Appendices

Draft Outline for the New Plan for Comment

- Executive Summary
- Introductory Context
  - I. Brief Overview of Recent History of the McDonald-Dunn Forest (1993 plan; 2005 plan; suspension; resumption)
  - II. Development of Vision, Mission, Goals for College of Forestry Reserch Forests in 2020
  - III. Development of McDonald-Dunn Research Forest Plan in 2022-2023
- Site Description
  - I. Location
  - II. Biophysical Conditions
  - III. History: Ownership, Land Use
  - IV. Cultural Resources
  - V. Zoning, Regulations
  - VI. Current Forest Conditions
- New Management Paradigms
  - **I. Prioritization of Opportunities for Research, Teaching, & Demonstration**
    - a. Long-term Research Projects
    - b. Dedicated Teaching Areas
    - c. Research, Teaching, & Demonstration Projects
  - **II. Forest Management Regimes that Create Learning Opportunities & Ensure Financial Sustainability**
    - a. Five Management Regimes
    - b. Timber Harvest Schedule
    - c. Future Forest Condition: Growth & Yield
    - d. Alternative Funding Mechanisms
  - **III. Incorporation of Native American Perspectives**
    - a. *TBD*
  - **IV. Maintaining Biodiversity**
    - a. At-risk Plants & Wildlife
    - b. Management of Wildlife Habitat
    - c. Management of Aquatic resources
    - c. Management of Vegetation Communities of Concern
    - d. Management of Legacy Trees, Snags, & Down Wood
  - **V. Managing Threats to Forest Health**
    - a. Climate Change
    - b. Invasive Species
    - c. Wildfire
    - d. Insects & Disease
    - e. Development
    - f. Vandalism
  - **VI. Nurturing Human Dimensions**
    - a. Recreation
    - b. Cultural Heritage
  - **VII. Enhancing Community Engagement**
    - a. Citizen Science
    - b. Communication Strategies
- Plan Implementation
  - I. Roles - Research Forest Staff, Forest Executive Committee, Dean
  - II. Annual Reporting
  - III. Adaptive Management/Continuous Improvement
  - IV. Performance & Sustainability Indicators
- Literature Cited
- Appendices

The context

The site

The core

Implementation; accountability; adaptability

Draft New Plan TOC – as revised during the meeting

- **Executive Summary**
- **Introductory Context**
  - I. Goals of the McDonald-Dunn Forest; desired future conditions
  - II. Development of Vision, Mission, Goals for CoF Research Forests in 2020; clarify conservation vs preservation
  - III. Development of McDonald-Dunn Research Forest Plan in 2022-2023; overarching principles
  - IV. Brief Overview of Recent History of the McDonald-Dunn Forest (1993 plan; 2005 plan; suspension; resumption)
- **Site Description**
  - I. Location; land acknowledgement
  - II. Biophysical Conditions
  - III. History: Ownership, Morrill Act, Land Use
  - IV. Cultural Resources
  - V. Zoning, Regulations
  - VI. Harvest and Recreation History
  - VII. Current Forest Conditions
- **New Management Paradigms**
  - I. Prioritization of Opportunities for Research, Teaching, & Demonstration
    - a. Long-term Research Projects
    - b. Dedicated Teaching Areas
    - c. Research, Teaching, & Demonstration Projects
  - II. Forest Management Regimes that Create Learning Opportunities & Ensure Financial Sustainability
    - a. Five Management ~~Regimes~~ Strategies
    - b. Timber Harvest Schedule
    - c. Future Forest Condition: Growth & Yield
    - d. Alternative Funding Mechanisms
  - III. Incorporation of Native American Perspectives
    - a. TBD
  - IV. Maintaining Biodiversity
    - a. At-risk Plants & Wildlife
    - b. Management of Wildlife Habitat
    - c. Management of Aquatic resources
    - c. Management of Vegetation Communities of Concern
    - d. Management of Legacy Trees, Snags, & Down Wood
  - V. Managing Threats to Forest Health
    - a. Climate Change
    - b. Invasive Species
    - c. Wildfire
    - d. Insects & Disease
    - e. Development (WUI)
    - f. Vandalism
  - VI. Nurturing Human Dimensions
    - a. Recreation
    - b. Cultural Heritage
  - VII. Enhancing Community Engagement
    - a. Community Science
    - b. Communication Strategies (including Interpretation)
- **Plan Implementation**
  - I. Roles - Research Forest Staff, Forest Executive Committee, Dean
  - II. Annual Reporting
  - III. Adaptive Management / Continuous Improvement
  - IV. Performance & Sustainability Indicators
- **Literature Cited**
- **Glossary**
- **Appendices**

Defining each new ‘Forest Management Strategy’

A. Even-aged, short rotation
B. Even-aged, long rotation
C. Multi-aged, multi-species
D. Mature
E. Restoration

Defining each new 'Forest Management Strategy'

A. Even-aged, short rotation (as defined in the 2005 Plan)

- Establishes and manages Douglas-fir plantations to become financially competitive with intensively managed plantations of pine and other species in the southeastern US and elsewhere, maximizing yields of wood products valuable for domestic mills. Rotation lengths will be regulated primarily by age that maximizes net revenue production. Even-aged plantations of Douglas-fir will be planted, managed, and harvested using high inputs of technology (genetics, vegetation management, fertilization, etc.), and capital. Planted seedlings will be from the best genetically selected material available for timber production. Vegetation management targets will be set to minimize growth loss from competing vegetation. Thinning and other intermediate stand treatments will only be done if they can be justified economically. High initial costs associated with intensive management practices will need to be recovered via rotations as short as feasible, likely 35-45 years.

Defining each new 'Forest Management Strategy'

A. **Even-aged, short rotation**
B. **Even-aged, long rotation (as defined in the 2005 Plan)**
   - Emphasizes long rotations of even-aged Douglas-fir dominated plantations, established, managed, and harvested on rotation cycles that optimize yield of high-quality wood, generally one to several decades longer than for Theme 1. Long rotations (60-90 years) of primarily even-aged Douglas-fir will be established, managed, and harvested to produce high board-foot volumes of wood targeted primarily for high quality structural building products. Rotation lengths will be regulated by the age that optimizes the yield of high-quality wood. The establishment phase of Theme 2 will be similar to Theme 1, with plantations requiring high inputs of technology (genetics, vegetation management, fertilization, etc.), and capital. Initial stocking rates are expected to be higher than for Theme 1, with enough trees established to accommodate multiple commercial thins. Vegetation management targets will be similar to Theme 1 for the initial two to three years, but then will allow (competing) vegetation to recover. The first commercial thinning is expected to occur around 20 years of age. Additional commercial thinning entries are expected until final harvest.