

**OSU College of Forestry**  
**McDonald-Dunn Research Forest Faculty Planning Committee Meeting #12**  
**17 April 2023, 11:00am-12:00pm**  
**316 Peavy Forest Science Center**

Faculty Planning Committee Members present: Holly Ober (chair), John Bailey (online), Dave Lewis (online), Laurie Schimleck (online)

Ex Officio Members present: Steve Fitzgerald, Brent Klumph

## **I. Welcome, Overview of Recent Events & New Resources**

The group reviewed the meeting agenda and the [planning website](#) which contains materials associated with past and future meetings and events. Several recent events and new resources were discussed:

- Two 'Academic User Listening Sessions' (open forums) took place March 21 (evening) and 22 (morning) to provide opportunities for faculty, staff, and students to give input on changes that could be made to improve the likelihood they would use the forest for research, teaching, and/or outreach, or improve the quality of their experience when doing so. A link to an online survey was included in the meeting announcements as a means through which input could be provided by anyone unable to attend a live session. A topic of note to follow up on was the suggestion of more instrumentation on the forest potentially increasing research use, and the resulting demands required to make these data available for all to use. Another topic discussed was whether "Research Forests" is the most appropriate title for the tracts, given use of the forests for teaching, training, outreach, recreation, and other uses in addition to research. Some support was expressed for the idea of "Research and Demonstration Forests".
- The second field tour of the forest for the SAC and FPC took place Monday, March 27. Nine members of the SAC and FPC participated. They viewed examples of stands reflecting each of the 5 new management strategies.
- At the Stakeholder Advisory Committee meeting on April 13, Karl Walters provided an overview of the modeling process that will be used to evaluate the relative merit of several scenarios reflecting different land allocation options on the forest. Karl's presentation can be viewed through the SAC meeting recording posted to the website, and his slides can be seen there as well.
- The webpage that describes research currently or recently conducted on the research forests has been revamped (<https://cf.forestry.oregonstate.edu/research>), a new searchable data base is now available describing projects that took place 1926-2013 (<https://cfprojects.forestry.oregonstate.edu/>), and a [static list of publications 2017-2023](#) is available as well. All this is a work-in-progress that will be continually updated.

## **II. FPC Tasks**

- The document that provides definitions/guidelines for the 5 new management strategies is now complete and will be incorporated into the new plan.
- The metrics to be used to evaluate the merits of each of the 5 land allocation scenarios under consideration in the first round of modeling will be revisited as the modeling gets

underway. The FPC will be engaged in future meetings in decisions as questions arise during the modeling.

- FPC members were asked to add ideas to the Excel file in the shared Box folder that describes the opportunities created through each 5 new management strategies, as this will be included in the new plan to explain more fully the merits of having each of the strategies represented on the forest.
- The writing of components of the new plan will begin while the modeling is occurring during the next few weeks. The group discussed who would work on writing various portions of the plan.
  - The more technical aspects of the plan will be drafted by 3 technical work groups (task forces). This includes the section on maintaining biodiversity, on managing threats to forest health, and on human dimensions. Each individual present at the meeting identified sections of the plan they would be willing to work on. The Chair will follow up with individuals not present at the meeting to discuss their interests. Ideally, one individual will lead each of the 3 technical task forces in crafting an outline of the material needed and determining who will be lead writer of each sub-section. We will strive for brevity in our writing.
  - The FPC will work as a group on the sections pertaining to plan implementation and enhancing community engagement. Outlines for these sections will be developed during future FPC meetings.
  - The FPC Chair and Research Forest staff (Steve Fitzgerald, Brent Klumph, Carli Morgan, Jenna Baker) will take the lead on those sections of the plan that describe site conditions, harvest and recreation history, long term research and teaching, and the general forest management planning process currently underway.
  - Tom DeLuca, Cristina Eisenberg, Steve Fitzgerald, and Holly Ober have meetings scheduled with several Tribal Councils to define their interest in engaging in crafting components of the plan, developing new MOAs etc.

## **V. Next Steps**

- FPC members will edit the matrix of opportunities created by each of the 5 new management strategies, found in the shared Box folder.
- The Chair will reach out to potential leads for each of the 3 technical workgroups to inquire about their willingness to lead a group in the creation of an outline of the materials needed and dividing of writing commitments.
- Each subgroup will discuss how they will tackle the task of writing material in their respective section.