

OSU College of Forestry
McDonald-Dunn Research Forest Faculty Planning Committee Meeting #13
1 May 2023, 11:00am-11:45am
316 Peavy Forest Science Center

Faculty Planning Committee Members present: Holly Ober (chair), John Bailey, Mindy Crandall, Tiffany Garcia, Mark Kerstens (online), Dave Lewis, Ian Munanura

Ex Officio Members present: Steve Fitzgerald, Brent Klumph (online)

I. Welcome & Input on Modeling

The group reviewed the meeting agenda and the [planning website](#) which contains materials associated with past and future meetings and events.

They then discussed input to be used for the modeling. The group looked at a draft table showing proposed planting densities as well as anticipated natural tree recruitment of a variety of species, broken down according to (a) site type (aspect [NE, SE, SW, NW] or riparian) and (b) each of the 5 new 'management strategies'. The rationale for differences in planting densities among stands with different aspects was explained. A question was asked about how climate change might influence planting densities or species mixes, leading the group to call attention to the need for numerous aspects of the plan to be couched according to an expectation of environmental conditions potentially changing in ways that cannot be anticipated. A concern was raised about how ash on the research forest might fare, given the anticipated appearance of emerald ash borer in the near future, and a suggestion was made that we explicitly mention the need to monitor ash over time.

II. Writing of the Plan

Various components of the new plan will be drafted while the modeling is occurring. The group discussed who would work on writing various portions of the plan.

- The FPC Chair and Research Forest staff have begun writing those sections of the plan that describe site conditions, harvest and recreation history, long term research and teaching, and the forest management planning process that is currently underway.
- One FPC member will lead each of 3 groups addressing the more technical aspects of forest management. These work groups (task forces) will cover [maintaining biodiversity](#) (led by Mark) [managing threats to forest health](#) (led by John), and [human dimensions](#) (led by Mindy). Mark, John, and Mindy will coordinate with those FPC members who have agreed to work on their section to discuss their approach to the writing, and will include others outside the FPC that have relevant expertise as writers and/or reviewers.
- We will strive for brevity in our writing, and will consider placing material that could be helpful to have as stand-alone documents in the future in Appendices rather than the body of the plan. The group discussed the importance of keeping in mind the goals of the Research Forests, as defined in the [Vision, Mission, Goals](#) created by the interdisciplinary Research Forests Advisory Committee during 2021.
- A deadline was set for rough drafts of the technical sections by May 30.

III. Next Steps

- Each subgroup will convene to discuss how they will tackle the task of writing material in their respective sections. Their goal will be to complete drafts of these sections by May 30.
- The FPC will plan to meet again in 2 weeks to discuss progress on the writing.
- Steve will get an updated version of Figure 1 in the document describing management of legacy trees, snags, and downed wood to Mark.