

## **College Research Forests: Vision, Mission and Goals**

### **January 19, 2022**

Oregon State University and the College of Forestry are stewards of 10 separate tracts of land around the state. This document articulates the collective vision, mission, and goals for the College of Forestry's Research Forests. It reflects how we value our forests, and the benefits we wish to derive from them, now and in the future. Just as college and unit strategic plans are reflections of OSU's strategic priorities, individual forest management and tactical plans will strive to meet the goals in this document to ensure the Research Forests achieves their vision and mission.

#### **Vision:**

The OSU Research Forests aspire to be globally recognized as a model for an actively and sustainably managed forest system that supports the College's desire to advance forestry through scientific inquiry, education, and the application of new knowledge to inform best practices of forest management.

#### **Mission:**

- To create opportunities for education, research, and outreach to address the economic, social, and environmental values of current and future generations of Oregonians and beyond.
- To demonstrate how an actively- and sustainably-managed forest fosters economic prosperity, biodiversity conservation, and resilience amidst disturbances and global change.
- To support social and cultural values of forests, enhancing the wellbeing of local communities, Tribal communities, and our broader citizenship.

#### **Goals:**

##### **Learning, Discovery, Engagement**

Provide students, teachers, researchers and the general public diverse opportunities for learning, discovery, and engagement related to forest ecosystems and management for multiple resource values.

##### **Stewardship**

Demonstrate sound forest stewardship principles that addresses the challenge of balancing the need for productive forests, diverse plant and wildlife communities, healthy aquatic ecosystems, carbon storage potential, recreation opportunities and other resource values.

##### **Research**

Provide long- and short-term opportunities for student and faculty research, citizen science, and the sharing of research findings.

##### **Resilient Forests**

Promote resilience to the effects of a changing climate, invasive species, insect pests, pathogens, wildfire, urban encroachment and other disturbances.

##### **Working Demonstration Forest**

Demonstrate contemporary and innovative aspects of an active and sustainably-managed forest, based on the best available science and technology.

**Recreation**

Provide safe, diverse, and inclusive recreation opportunities that build forest connections and contribute to community well-being.

**Community Connections**

Establish, maintain, and enhance relationships and communication with neighbors, Tribal communities the broader community, and all those connected with the Research Forests.

**Financial Sustainability**

Provide revenue that sustains Research Forests operations and supports the College of Forestry's education, research, and outreach mission now and in the future.

**Accountability**

Demonstrate a commitment to transparent governance of OSU's Research Forest properties focused on achieving the stated vision, mission, and goals.

**Continuous Improvement**

Demonstrate a commitment to continuous improvement in the management and stewardship of the Research Forests based on adaptive management principles.