



**OSU McDONALD-DUNN RESEARCH FOREST FMP
Stakeholder Advisory Committee Meeting #4**
Tuesday, December 13, 2022

Stakeholder Advisory Committee Members present: Mike Kennedy (via Zoom), Elise Kelley (via Zoom), Jennifer Beathe, Faye Yoshihara, Dave Ehlers, Jessica McDonald, Jesse Ott, Leo Williamson, John Taylor, Jim Fairchild, Trey Jackson

OSU College of Forestry Staff present: Dean Tom DeLuca (via Zoom), Holly Ober, Stephen Fitzgerald, and Professor John Bailey.

Oregon Consensus Facilitation Team: Turner Odell and Jennah Stillman (via Zoom)

Welcome, Introductions, and Agenda Overview

Turner Odell, Oregon Consensus, welcomed the Stakeholder Advisory Committee members and invited everyone to introduce themselves. Holly Ober, College of Forestry, thanked the SAC for agreeing to an additional meeting in order to continue working on outstanding items from the last meeting on December 5th. She expressed her appreciation for the SAC's adherence to their Operating Principles to date, particularly in exercising respect for different perspectives throughout their conversations. She then acknowledged that Dean Tom DeLuca was present to address an issue related to the most recent Faculty Planning Committee meeting. Dean DeLuca shared his appreciation for the SAC's participation in an important role in providing much-needed input, which the College requested and values. He explained that one FPC member had recently expressed remarks and personal feelings without consideration for the SAC, which he clarified, do not represent the values of the College nor OSU. Professor John Bailey then spoke about his personal reaction to the SAC's draft input document, in which some of the language caught him off guard due to the lack of context and what was perceived at the moment as criticism. He apologized for his remarks and pledged to be more supportive in the work going forward, recognizing that the research forests are a wonderful resource for the college and community.

A handful of SAC members responded and expressed appreciation for John coming to the committee and speaking with them directly. Additional SAC member comments were related to concerns about the general separation between the SAC and FPC's work, and the desire for more integrated efforts and constructive feedback moving forward. Someone pointed out that the SAC had tried to shorten the input document with the intention of readability, but recognized that important context may have been lost along the way and the resulting miscommunication. Many were in favor of working in subgroups with SAC and FPC members in order to see and hear each other's points of view and develop a more integrated and robust forest management plan, as well as having intentional liaisons during separate committee meetings in the short-term. One person pointed to the potential impact of recording meetings and, although recognizing the desire for transparency, how it could negatively impact people's ability to participate freely. Another person

asked if the College was going to do anything to address this with the public and suggested proactively doing so.

Dean DeLuca thanked the SAC members for their thoughtful responses and shared his hope for this incident to catalyze a more direct connection between the two committees for cross-pollination and understanding of each other's work for greater synergy and a stronger management plan down the road.

Regarding next steps, Holly shared that the College would post the FPC meeting recording on the website along with a note addressing it. She reiterated the importance of hearing from community perspectives and values, which is why the SAC is a part of this process and reflected on the need for more cross-communication and collaboration with the FPC. Holly offered some initial thoughts on ideas for how to improve this by liaising between the two committees and a potential field trip to the McDonald-Dunn allowing members of both committees to spend time together in the forest. There was general support for the liaising but also a general desire for taking this a step further with integrated subgroups for more intentional work on plan development. Regarding the field tour, there was a request for more clarification about the objective before determining whether or not to schedule this with consideration of time commitments. Turner reiterated the importance of providing space for the SAC to review the recording and if additional discussion or changes are desired, to please let the Oregon Consensus team know.

SAC Input for FPC Consideration

The group then reviewed the draft document, focusing on the remaining sections: Financial Sustainability and Modernization, Outreach and Engagement Related to the FMP, Adaptive Management, and Implementation Accountability. The SAC members made edits directly to the document based on their discussion. The redlined version can be found [here](#).

Some of the topics and questions that they covered included but were not limited to:

- An agreement to include a high-level preamble at the beginning of the document in order to provide context on what it is intended to do.
- Discussion about redefining financial self-sustainability and outstanding questions about what changes will be made going forward and where these decisions will be made. There were suggestions about exploring how to factor in the alternative revenue streams and overall net worth of different forest values that may not be specifically monetary. Turner shared that the operational budget information is available and may be better suited for the conversations related to scenarios, as the SAC evaluates how emphasis gets put on different values within the modeling.
- A highlighted need to develop a metrics list for how success and values will be tracked. There was discussion about how the College tries to balance management values every day, but the challenge is in monitoring and communicating this effectively and transparently. An SAC member expressed caution around developing achievable monitoring goals and recognizing the staff capacity required. It was acknowledged that monitoring is key to actual adaptive management.
- Related to an explanation of research forest staffing shifts over the years and the College's



prudent approach to ensure sustained full-time positions, one SAC member suggested developing a prioritized list around the “management musts” for the forest that can align with the budget realities to help get messages across to the broader public.

Next Steps

In closing, Holly shared that the FPC is meeting next week on Tuesday at 1pm and that any SAC members who would like to participate remotely or in person are welcome to do so. Holly shared that in January the SAC would be weighing in on the potential management regimes (themes) developed by the FPC, discussing how many and what portions of each to help build scenarios, and considering what metrics or principles to use to evaluate tradeoffs among scenarios. Turner thanked everyone for their time and candor during today’s discussion and encouraged anyone to reach out with thoughts or requests related to the process after watching the recording. The meeting then adjourned.