



# Committee for Family Forestlands Meeting Summary for July 7, 2022



*Under public notice made by news release with statewide distribution, a meeting of the Committee for Family Forestlands [an advisory body to the Oregon Board of Forestry with authority established in Oregon Revised Statute 527.650] was convened on June 9, 2022, as a virtual online meeting. Meeting recordings constitute the official record.*

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**CFF Committee members participating:**

Wendy Gerlach, Citizen-At-Large (Voting)  
Kate McMichael, Landowner-At-Large Rep. (Voting)  
Rick Zenn, OSWA Executive Administrator Ex-Officio  
Amanda Astor, Forest Policy Manager AOL Ex-Officio  
Barrett Brown, NW Landowner Rep. (Voting)  
Kaola Swanson, Conservation Rep. (Voting)  
Maurizio Valerio, EO Landowner Rep. (Voting)  
S. Mark Vroman, Industry rep (Voting) Hampton Family Forests  
Glenn Ahrens, OSU College of Forestry Ext. Ex-Officio

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**ODF Staff attending:**

Kristin Whitney, Administrative Specialist  
Heather Hendersen, Administrative Specialist  
Mike Kroon, Interim Deputy Chief, All Lands  
Joan McDonald, Administrative Specialist  
Jenna Trentadue, National Fire Plan Coordinator  
Alex Rahmlow, Interim Small Family Grants Program  
JB, Data Support Coordinator, Planning Branch  
Al De Vos, Grant Operations Coordinator  
Jeff Burns, All Lands Initiative Unit

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**Members not in attendance:**

Gary Jensen, Southern Oregon Landowner Rep. (Voting)  
Julie Woodward, OFRI Ex-Officio

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**Guests/Public:**

Teresa Vonn, Rouge Valley Integrated Fire Plan Coordinator  
Jennifer Beathe, Starker Forests  
Ben Deumling, Board Member, Board of Forestry

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**Chair Comments.** Chair Gerlach calls the meeting to order, recognized a quorum was established, asks for changes to the agenda, and asked for any public comment before moving on to the chair updates. Wendy continues with chair updates, and seeing none, touches on the agenda required for upcoming meetings as well as the Board of Forestry timeline in reference to the Private Forest Accord work. Mike informs on the tentative time for the Board of Forestry meeting.

**Division update.** Mike provides an update on the Private Forests Accord. Meetings are held once a week with the Author groups to provide input to rulemaking for the Private Forests Accord. Drafts for the Private Forests Accord are set to be completed by July 20<sup>th</sup> after which they will be provided to Regional Forest Practice Committee (RFPC) and the CFF. The joint meeting between the two committees is scheduled to be sometime during the second week of August with a specific date that will be chosen later along with timelines. Mike addresses questions on the future training for the rules. Mike provides the date for when draft rules go into effect: November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Mike touched briefly on the fire risk map which is a required component of SB 762's and the timeline for public comments. Mike informs the committee that hiring is still in process for various positions and gave a brief overview of the future work unit to be established. Mike provided dates for small forest owners - January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, for conservation tax rules to go into effect. A July 1, 2023 date is set to put the new stream rules into effect. Mike provides definitions for small forest owners since landowners have asked. Mike pauses for questions. Mike touches on the districts in fire season. Mike confirms the time for the Committee of Family Forestlands Board of Forestry presentation, 9:45 am – 10:30 am. Mike asks for any questions. Maurizio asks to confirm the date of the meeting is July 20<sup>th</sup>, Mike reaffirms this is correct.

**Board of Forestry Presentation Plan.** Wendy opens with the proposed agenda. Kaola requests to be replaced as a presenter due to time constraints. Wendy asks for a replacement to discuss workforce Issues. Barrett will be unable to attend due to a schedule conflict. Wendy suggests Kate and Amanda work together on the topic. Kate and Amanda agree and add comments. Maurizio adds a comment about connecting the portion to the education outreach agenda item. Committee agrees. Barrett suggests possibly turning the two sections into a panel. Amanda adds a comment on the

possible flow between agenda items and adds that Kate, Amanda, and Maurizio can discuss offline. Wendy states due to extra time agenda items can be extended. Kate inquires if the meeting will be over zoom. Wendy asks for a poll on preference between zoom, in-person, or hybrid. Wendy, Kate, and Amanda can be in person. Maurizio cannot attend in person. Wendy brings back the discussion on transitions between topics. Mike advises everyone to be prepared for questions from the Board of Forestry. Amanda adds a comment on questions to the Board of Forestry, stating to ensure they know what the committee is asking for. Wendy asks for details on how the Board of Forestry meetings work in terms of when to show up/when you can leave. Mike informs the committee of proper etiquette while at a public meeting and informs the committee of the Board of F meeting location. Wendy requests contact info for Maurizio. Amanda asks for the agenda packet and when it will be posted. Mike informs the committee that Hilary will send an email with the information to them prior to the Board of Forestry meeting. Maurizio provides an update on additional education outreach weeks/days. Wendy mentions PowerPoint and if they can be used. Mike advises how this works in the room and cautions the committee that anything presented becomes a public record. Amanda confirms the public record detail. Maurizio adds if images of kids are used permission is required prior to using the photo. Wendy requests the deadline for PowerPoints/pictures. Mike advises preferably Friday before the Board of Forestry meeting at the latest. Mike will send out the details. Wendy advises copy of the report will be presented and adds comments on the report. Wendy introduces Ben Deumling a current member of the Board of Forestry. Ben gives a brief introduction. Wendy asks for additional comments/thoughts. Mike asks Ben if there is anything that should be focused on when attending the Board of Forestry meeting. Ben suggests looking at specific asks and provides additional comments.

**Discussion of Possibilities/Finding New Member.** Wendy opens the discussion on finding a new member for the NW Landowner. Kate advises she has two people that approached her with interest and gave additional details on the people. Barrett adds comments about his candidates. Wendy asks if there is a map that shows jurisdictions. Mike advises where the map can be found on the Oregon Department of Forestry webpage. Amanda asks about the recruitment process and how it works when there are multiple candidates. Mike advises he will investigate this and gives basic comments on his understanding of the process. Barrett adds additional comments to the process from his prior experience in doing so. Wendy suggests waiting as we consider candidates with Barrett and go from there. Kate asks if there will be a vacancy for an entire year. Wendy adds comments based on nominations and timelines. Ben adds a comment about getting candidates approved and expediting the process if needed. Barrett adds a comment about previous experience with the nomination. Mike adds a comment on following up on nominations.

**Fall Meeting Schedule.** Wendy adds an agenda item about fall meetings and if they will be in person vs over Zoom. Mike advises in person should be possible and comments on conference room availability and formalities. Wendy asks for thoughts/comments on an in-person with a hybrid option. Attendees agree it's a great option. Barrett asks if rooms are still closed to the public. Mike will double-check with the Oregon Department of Forestry Human Resources to find out. Wendy suggests alternating meetings between in-person and hybrid. Mike advises advanced notice is required for meeting room sizes. Maurizio states he would prefer the hybrid option and will attempt to make it in person when he can. Wendy asks for a poll on alternating vs all hybrids. Committee votes for ongoing hybrids starting in September. Kate asks a question about determining dates for upcoming meetings. Wendy adds a comment on her experience with meeting dates. Mike informs the committee that dates have been selected with Kristin reviewing the dates. Wendy adds a comment about meetings lining up with Board of Forestry meetings. Mike adds a comment on them being 2 or 3 weeks prior. Wendy requests that dates be put in chat/sent out.

**Open Topic Discussion.** Kate goes back to the previous topic and asks procedure questions on recruiting a replacement, and where the list of candidates should be kept. Mike provides a possible procedure on how to collect and store the candidate selections. Wendy requested an email for Heather. Barrett adds comments on candidates and his potential replacement.

**Small Forestland Grant Program Update.** Jeff Burns introduces himself and what he does with the Oregon Department of Forestry and how it links with SB 762. Jeff advises that a transition is happening as Alex will be leaving and a new person will be stepping in. The Committee for Family Forestlands will be notified later on about the new employee who has been selected. Jeff gives an update on the Landscape Resilience Program, section 18 of the bill. Work must be completed by June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Gives a brief update on Small Forestlands, which must be completed by June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Jeff returns to the Landscape Resilience Program and touches on the agreements that are in place and the funding for each agreement and how they are being used. Jeff asks for any comments/questions on this. Wendy asks for additional details on it being a continuing service level vs a separate pot. Jeff advises he is unsure, and it is still being discussed, gives brief information on this as well as benefits/challenges to this program. Jeff opens a discussion on the Small Forestland Grant Program projects and how many projects are currently going, where they are in the process, and details on the programs. Jeff asks for comments/questions regarding the SFGP projects. Jeff states that due to staffing shortages they can provide a better update in the future. Maurizio asks about the technique/approach to the treatment areas. Jeff advises on both programs put together and how they are looked at/managed and provides examples of techniques and how they approach methods to use. Mike advises on the hiring shortage and adds comments on this as well as the funding for each program. Amanda asks about the Wildfire Risk Map and the WUI map and asks Mike or Jeff to comment/discuss. Jeff advises he is unqualified to discuss. Wendy requests we add to the agenda item for September. Mike adds a comment on the maps and added it to the agenda item. Amanda asks about the appeals process. Wendy asks if there is another area this is being briefed on. Jenna advises she participated with Rules Advisory Committee, clarifies Amanda's question and states that it is to be determined, and suggests tracking for updates and opportunities. Jenna adds additional information about the appeals process and how it is impacted/where to get the data needed. Kate asks about what the process is for reaching out to landowners. Jenna provides the details on how the notice is sent and where to find the additional information, advises of technical issues that arose, and asks that if there are additional issues to please reach out. Kate asks for the date the mailing went out/when people should expect to receive notice. Jenna advises when mail was sent out, the goal was the end of June. Wendy requests a collection of ideas for the agenda as she must leave the meeting, Kaola takes over. Amanda adds on about the maps as well as what Jenna spoke on with the appeals and when appeals should be received. Kaola states we will continue the discussion at the next meeting. Kaola suggests a tour of the map and a tutorial on how to use Oregon Explorer at the next meeting. Maurizio seconds this idea and adds additional comments on the benefits of a tour/tutorial. Mike asks for clarification on what is being asked. Kaola clarifies. Mike will present to Protection Division and advise.

**RoundTable Discussion.** Kaola requests of the committee members any additional topics for the September meeting. Mike advises where topics can be sent. Amanda informs the committee she will not be at the September or October meeting due to the birth of her child and asks to please ensure robust discussion on what does go through for the rulemaking of the PFA. Mike advises rules are not adopted until November 30<sup>th</sup> but will be going through the 30-day public commentary in September, can review draft rules at this time. Kaola again requests any additional topics/updates. Kaola informs the committee that she is transitioning away from working with Sustainable NW and instead working with the Conservation Fund. Mike informs the committee that Kaola will still be involved. Kaola requests an update about the Legacy Program for the next meeting. Kate adds an update on Tree Farm Certification. Kaola requests from Rick an update on the Oregon Family Forest Convention meeting. Rick provides a brief overview of how it went. Amanda informs the committee of updates to the Oregon Professional Loggers program and how it will impact landowners who utilize these loggers, including certification/training changes. Maurizio adds an update about a question on neighbors helping neighbors' qualifications and if small woodland owners can participate in the overhaul. Amanda provides details on how this would look, that it is geared more towards companies but that anyone may join the training as well as who to contact for additional details. Glenn comments on Barrett's new extension forester, and still waiting to hear about Regional Fire Specialist for Willamette Valley/West Cascades. Glenn adds a comment about going on the radio to discuss the Wildland-Urban Interface and risk maps. Glenn mentions he is excited to see how things go and added comments on the changes as well as the similarities with SB 360. Kaola adjourns the meeting.