Goals Section

To engage the full Board and Executive Team on the topic of 'Resilient Communities' as a goal area, small groups were formed with the question posed: *How would you describe the role of forests in contributing to resilient communities in Oregon?*

Small Group Raw Notes:

(Group 1)
- Educated public on forest issues
- Connected narrative that tells place based stories
- Policy/regulatory certainty
- Public health benefits from urban forestry
- Strategies and actions reflective of place-based needs and innovations
- Opportunities for next generation (youth)
- Integrated landscape (forests, grasslands)
- Communities who are involved and engaged with forests and forestry - trust and ownership
- Retain local talent
- Economically viable - shown through lowered poverty rates
- Balance and stability - schools full of kids
- Stable infrastructure of forest sector economy
- Active role in federal forest restoration

(Group 2)
- Policy
  - Counterpoint: uncertainty about the future of our forests - on all sides - combined with contentious public battles that divide people = lowered mental health and wellness, lowered community cohesion statewide, reduced community resiliency
  - USFS natural resources = $20 billion mitigation, improve forest health, improve public safety, ODF - income opportunity by managing these projects. Oregon logging - 4 billion. 5.3 million acres at risk.
  - Local place based, bottom up solutions key to fixing forest policy.
  - Are all voices equal? Oregonians are being impacted very differently based on their location, livelihood and proximity to federal and/or state forests. Not playground. Need predictable/stable policy. Place-based solutions understanding regional differences. Active management to mitigate wildfire threat.
  - Rural/urban divide. It is very real. Voices yesterday, county commissioner this morning. Our role in better forest policy going forward influences this

divide. Need to amplify those voices most impacted by forest economics and policies.
- ○ Forest policy is directly tied to economic health and safety timber communities. Bottom-up, placed based solutions always better than top down. ODF has different voices and messages (need to explore). Angry constituents right now impacting ODF - county, their incomes, their budgets, their livelihoods
- Economics
  - ○ Jobs from active forest management; mitigation and adaptation
  - ○ Family stability from economic and health benefits of forests
  - ○ High harvest = local taxes, employment; concerns logging employment - hard to find people to work in the woods. Can a lost/minimal industry come back?
  - ○ Diverse forest - based economy; not reliant on one sector or niche
  - ○ Local employment log to market, milling, into local products/housing. + Carbon benefit
  - ○ Cheap Indonesian plywood at local lumberyard
  - ○ Resilient strategies is dependent on health infrastructure; healthy economically and environmentally communities
  - ○ Forest-related revenues contribute to state and local economies and help pay for critical gov services = local social resiliency (forest products, rec, etc.)
  - ○ Stable and evolving economic infrastructure which supports forest management work
  - ○ Industry - capital moving out of state; investment southern US, 70% of forests not available for production/harvest, active vs. no management is real unresolved issue
  - ○ ODF economic health = budget, state lands revenue, fire costs, counties unhappy, debts
- Engagement and Collaboration
  - ○ Sense of 'ownership', commitment to adapting, changes overtime
  - ○ Long term features, growth, decadence
  - ○ Diversity of management strategies means diversity of community involvement. Fed: camping hiking, state: old growth, education, reserve. County: non-motorized bike trails. Private: hunting
  - ○ Forests are managed collaboratively across ownerships to provide a sustainable balance of ecosystem services
  - ○ Community feels a relationship to forests - mutual support between the people and forests, people recognize full suite of benefits - ecosystem services

- ○ Community members are engaged in forest planning and operations for all uses
- ○ Invested, community engagement, diversity, multiple use, balance, education
- ○ Proactive engagement of agencies, community leaders, tribes, user groups etc. on forest management issues
- Forest benefits
  - ○ Receiving numerous benefits from healthy forests
  - ○ Healthy forests = recognition of forest benefits, forest systems
  - ○ Surrounded by healthy, sustainable forests capable of providing multiple benefits - FP, clean water, jobs, rec, clean air, carbon sequestration, wildlife, habitat, cultural plants; urban forest - mitigate climate change, connection to nature - personal health, access, safe access, recreation, cultural opp
  - ○ Resilient forests and watersheds will provide healthy outcomes - economically, environmentally, socially
  - ○ Resiliency surge - we are behind the curve, overwhelming number of acres and watersheds need treatment
  - ○ In an era of increasing rate and intensity of disturbance events (climate change), surge our best management tools to address resiliency
  - ○ More wildfire resilient communities (key disturbance events)
  - ○ Limited fire risk due to healthy managed forests
  - ○ Clean water, cleaner air and carbon sequestration from forests = more resilient communities statewide that can both better adapt to climate change challenges and to the changes associated with growing population and associate resource demands
  - ○ Human interaction with forests, forest management, forest evolution, protection, restoration
  - ○ Recreational value: hunting, fishing, bike trails, camping, old growth stands
  - ○ Healthy, accessible forests provide people with connection to nature - improved individual resiliency which contributes to more resilient communities
  - ○ Support healthy forest in and around the community
  - ○ Urban canopies mitigate climate change impacts that disproportionately hit underserved communities improving the overall community resilience and the health of its residents
  - ○ Access = to forests for recreation, culture, education and appreciation; hiking through safe 'mosaic' of forest ecotypes and representative age classes especially post-fire; kayaking on challenging diverse water and

stream systems fed by healthy watersheds; safe access to forests = people feel safe, risk to forest from people are minimized and mitigated

- Innovation and Change
  - Investing in high school and community college programs that focus on forestry
  - Embracing new technology and supporting pilot projects or non-traditional forest industries
  - Creating forum for developing new ideas and technology in forest sector
  - Communities that promote and support science-based education and discourse about forests
  - Alert- communities that monitor changes in forest and make actions to adapt
  - Forests are not simply seen as a place of extraction - in terms of economic or other benefits
  - New mindset needed: 60 mills lost; 60% county shell xxx (maybe more), role in helping to revitalize this sector, waste products, specialty products; no further damage; stability spiral and help rebuild these economies; 40 years of downward spiral
- Landscape Resilience
  - In landscape with increasing wildfire returns, appropriately, using / building diverse reforestation approaches to meet challenges
  - Keep/intentionally connecting with the science and knowledge of fire science with the challenges of overall forest management. (The rate of disturbance informs urgency of management)

(Group 3)
- What outcomes do we want to see?
  - Recognizing diversity of state
  - Community health and robust economy
  - Appropriate scale/forest role (forests not the only contributing factor to resilient communities)
  - Dynamic/changing environment
  - "Forests contribute to communities adapting in the face of change"

Resilient Communities (people-centric goal)

Definition/Identification: **Forests contribute to human health and safety, and socioeconomic opportunities that support community resilience. A combination of statewide and place based strategies are identified for this goal.**

Educated and engaged community on forest issues
- Support science-based education and discourse about forests in communities
- Help communities monitor changes in the forest and be prepared to adapt
- Engage communities in forest planning and operations for all uses

Economic viability/vitality
- Embrace new technology and pilot projects for non-traditional forest industries
- Create jobs from active forest management; mitigation and adaptation
- Stable infrastructure of forest sector economy
- Retain local talent (log to market, milling, local products/housing)
- ODF economic health

Public health:
- Access to healthy forests for recreation, culture, education and appreciation
- Clean water and air

Policy/regulatory certainty

Management across ownerships
- Forests are managed collaboratively across ownerships, promoting diverse management strategies
- Active role in federal forest restoration

Wildfire resiliency

Urban forestry/ canopies

Biodiversity/Ecological focus:
- Integrated landscape (forests, grasslands)
- Clean water, cleaner air and carbon sequestration from forests = more resilient communities statewide that can both better adapt to climate change challenges and to the changes associated with growing population and associate resource demands
- Recognizing diversity of state
- Dynamic/changing environment

Metrics: *to be developed by the Agency after Strategies and Goals are determined*

Challenges:

Actions:

Partners, Partner Agencies and Constituents: