

Board of Forestry Work Plans
June 2007

Below are summaries of the current work plans, which seek to implement strategies of the Board's overarching **Forestry Program for Oregon (FPFO)**. These plans continue to change in response to emerging issues, available resources and other factors. The full plans are available from the department.

Implementation of the FPFO. The intent is to build Oregonians' understanding, acceptance, and support for sustainable forest management, and to increase recognition of the Board's leadership role, using the FPFO strategies and actions as the basis for discussion. Actions include efforts to explain and promote FPFO strategies, and development and use of indicators to measure progress toward implementing them.

State Forests Management. This plan addresses a variety of issues, including working with stakeholders to determine how new scientific and other information should be used to guide possible changes to forest management plans. The work plan also involves continued efforts toward possible development of a *Habitat Conservation Plan* for state forests in Western Oregon.

Forest Vitality. This work plan encompasses many actions seeking to maintain a healthy, productive forestland base and forest sector, and encouraging landowner investments that enhance forest health. Elements include:

- Responding to Governor Kulongoski's direction to work with a broad range of groups to develop a unified vision of how Oregonians would like to see federal lands managed.
- Addressing the conversion of forestland to other use and, in concert with the Outreach to Urban Populations work plan, assisting with the environmentally sound conversion of forestlands that are designated for development.

Outreach to Urban Populations. This plan seeks to build urban Oregonians' connections with forestry and its importance to Oregon's quality of life. The plan envisions the use of various tools, such as urban forestry assistance, the Tillamook Forest Center, and public education opportunities, to raise urban Oregonians' awareness about the principles and importance of sustainable forestry.

Dynamic Ecosystems. This area involves the concept that landslides, blow-down and other disturbances often thought of as "damage" are in fact natural processes with some positive effects, such as benefits for wildlife habitat. The objectives include increasing scientific understanding of these processes, to improve policy-setting and resource-protection strategies.

Forest Regulation. This work plan reflects the approach, expressed in the FPFO, of using incentives and other non-regulatory means whenever possible to encourage landowners to achieve public benefits, such as habitat protection, on private land. At the same time, this work recognizes the role regulations will continue to serve, and incorporates several existing rulemaking efforts, along with analysis of the effects of Measure 37, and other activities.

Wildfire Risk Management. This plan seeks to continually improve the department's fire-protection efforts, through means that include enhanced cooperation with other agencies and authorities; fire prevention; fuel reduction; ongoing work to help communities protect themselves from wildfire at a time when more homes are being built in the woods; and enhancements to the agency's smoke management program.

Invasive species. A work plan to address this emerging issue, which has major implications for Oregon's environment and economy, is in draft form.