

Policy Subcommittee Chair's Report to Forest Carbon Action Team

August 17, 2015/Revised August 23, 2015

The Policy Subcommittee met on July 14 with 12 participants. Below is a summary of the meeting agenda, discussion, and actions

1. Develop Draft FCAT Recommendations for the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund Investment Plan.

Per the direction of FCAT from the June 15 meeting, the Subcommittee continued discussion of the new Triennial Investment Plan for Greenhouse Gas Reduction Funds, which is underway by the Air Resources Board. The plan is to further discuss the Investment Plan at the August 17 meeting of FCAT, but no formal written comments will be prepared.

2. Public outreach plan for FCAT.

The Subcommittee discussed the attached draft schedule for public outreach. It combines both potential public outreach by FCAT on the Forest Carbon Plan and by the UC Berkeley team regarding the Resource Economics Study. The intent is to hold the meetings in Sacramento and make them broadly accessible via Webinar. When we have meetings that are more than just updates on the Forest Carbon Plan (for example, the workshops scheduled for the latter part of 2016), we should do additional meetings outside of Sacramento; for example, in the Redding area.

We will continue to use the FCAT website and updates via list-serve emails to keep the public informed of our work. Further, FCAT members are encouraged to provide informal updates to the stakeholders with whom they frequently interact.

3. Policy Subcommittee work assignments for Forest Carbon Plan: timeline and establishment of working group.

With the help of Chris Keithley from CAL FIRE's FRAP program, we reviewed the Policy Subcommittee's responsibilities for sections of the Forest Carbon Plan, per the Outline, Work Plan, and Analysis Guide. We identified that among the various tasks assigned to the Subcommittee, some can be completed in the short term, some in the medium term, and others not until toward the end of the analytical and writing process. We defined these as follows:

Short term: End of October 2015

Medium Term: Mid-November 2015 through March 2016

Long Term: Late August 2016

Several Subcommittee members volunteered to help with work, and the Subcommittee chairperson was given license to propose specific work assignments to Subcommittee members and to twist arms (figuratively, of course) to get the tasks done. As needed, the chairperson will coordinate with the other FCAT subcommittees or analytical staff/consultants where work assignments overlap or have temporal dependencies.

4. For FCAT's information, the interagency agreement with the University of California, Berkeley, for the development of the Resource Economics Study has now been fully executed. CALFIRE's Chris Keithley will be the lead for the state and Matthew Potts, Professor of Forest Management, will be the Principle Investigator. Key state agency staff working on the Forest Carbon Plan will meet with the UC team in the near future to discuss the initial steps and direction for the work entailed in the agreement.

Respectfully submitted,

Russ Henly, Chair
FCAT Policy Subcommittee

FCAT Milestones and Public Meeting Dates

Updated from August 17 FCAT Meeting

Timing of meetings is based on the work plan for the Forest Carbon Plan (FCP) and the agreement with UC Berkeley for the development of the Resource Economics Study (RES).

Month/Year	Topic	Lead
2015		
November	General update meeting for public re work on FCP and RES/Initial stakeholder outreach meeting re RES	FCAT/UC Team
December		
2016		
January		
February		
March	Mid-term update meeting for public re work on FCP and RES	FCAT
April		
May		
June		
July	Mid-term stakeholder outreach meeting re RES	UC Team
August		
September	Draft of FCP released to public (not a public meeting)	FCAT
October	Public workshops on Draft FCP	FCAT
November	Public workshops on Draft FCP	FCAT
December	Completion and release of FCP (not necessarily a public meeting)	FCAT
2017		
January		
February		
March		
April		
May	Final stakeholder outreach meeting re RES	UC Team
June	Release of final RES (not necessarily a public meeting)	UC Team/FCAT