

IMPACTS OF BUDGET REDUCTIONS

Oregon Forest Research Laboratory

Oregon State University

Hard choices already made, from budget reductions of the past decade

- 13 *professorial* FTE positions unfilled since FY2000. (-21%, 13 of 63)
- Began hiring all new tenure-track positions at 0.75 FTE.
- Eliminated one academic/research department in College of Forestry. (-25%)
- Eliminated 12 professional/support FTE. (-20%)

\$0.4 million reductions in the current biennium (FY2007-2009) have left a projected year-end fund balance of less than 1 percent of adjusted revenues.

Looking ahead: 2009-2011 biennium

The Oregon Forest Research Laboratory provides the primary R&D for Oregon's forest sector which is the **second-largest contributor to the State's economy**. It is a major source of the innovation essential to enhance Oregon's economic competitive advantage, create or protect jobs and transform the forest sector in the 21st Century. It provides the science for policies and practices relating to sustainable management of forests, green manufacturing, protection of water resources, provision of fish and wildlife habitat, and forest resiliency in the face of a changing global environment.

Strategy: *Protect the intellectual capacity* needed to stimulate economic development, support the social needs of Oregonians, guide management and policies for a sustainable environment, and produce the next generation of natural resources focused scientists, managers, engineers, business leaders and policy makers.

10 percent reduction (\$0.7 million) in 2009-2011 will...

- Preclude filling vacancies – risking loss of expertise in key disciplines, and accreditation of degree programs.
- Reduce use of research forests to a caretaker status, minimizing research and educational values.
- Generate loss of \$2 million per year in external funds.
- Limit further implementation of the Oregon Wood Innovation Center.
- Restrict priority research in the Center for Intensive Planted-forest Silviculture.
- Jeopardize essential research on forests' role in mitigating and adapting to global climate change.
- Constrain research efforts in watersheds, forest transportation, Swiss Needle Cast, fish habitat, renewable energy, rural communities development, and carbon sequestration.

30 percent reductions (\$2.1 million) in 2009-2011 will require eliminating programs

- Eliminate 1 large or 2 small forestry degree programs, and associated faculty, OR
- Eliminate FRL and College - administration and support functions; merging remaining faculty into other university units.

And include loss of...

- 11 professorial faculty positions. (-22%, 11 of 50)
- \$5 million in grant and contract revenues. (-40%)
- 38 research assistant positions. (-50%)
- 20-30 fewer new, trained professionals per year for Oregon industries and agencies to hire. (-25%)
- 20-30 graduate students per year. (-23%)
- New knowledge and innovations for impacts to Oregon's economy, environment and communities.
- \$2 million due to potential breakdown of historic matching of appropriation and Harvest Tax rates. (-29%)