

1. Overview of AB1504 (Skinner, 2010)
 - An act to amend Sections 4512, 4513, and 4551, and to add Section 4512.5 to, the Public Resources Code, relating to forest resources.
 - This bill would require the BOF to ensure that its rules and regulations that govern the harvesting of commercial forest tree species consider the capacity of forest resources to sequester carbon dioxide emissions sufficient to meet or exceed the state's greenhouse gas reduction requirements for the forestry sector (5mmt/yr).
 - Cost of technical studies to be paid for by Air Pollution Control Fund.
 - FRAP was asked to work with the BOF to evaluate the adequacy of the rules in relation to recent passage of AB 1504.

2. Update on Project Scoping, Public Workshop and Science Committee
 - In 2012 BOF had a successful BCP to scope options to develop tools to evaluate the sequestration capacity of CA forests as they relate to the AB32 targets for the forestry sector.
 - i. In June 2014 FRAP Initiated two 'agreements' to scope analysis options (data, methods, and system boundaries), one with UCB and the other with Spatial Informatics Group. The project team engaged a transparent public process and established a science advisory committee.
 - A project website was established (http://ucanr.edu/sites/WoodyBiomass/Policy/California_Forest_Practices_and_Climate_Change/).
 - Public Outreach meeting was held Sept 5th where a set of technical questions were posed to try and clarify the data, methods and system boundaries for a forest carbon analysis.
 - A draft technical report was delivered to FRAP on December 10th and the Science Advisory Committee met on Dec. 12th 2014 to provide feedback on the draft report.

3. Summarize comments from public stakeholders and the Science Advisory Panel.
 - Public comments suggest this analysis should be conducted at the landscape scale; include all owners and forest types; include forest products; use empirical data and; are coordinated with other state climate related efforts.

 - Science Panel Comments suggest that FIA is a key data source, analysis should include in-forest carbon, harvested wood products as well as non-commercial and federal forest lands and ; temporal frameworks for modeling need to be long enough to account for long-lived wood products and tree re-growth after re-forestation

4. Draft Methods report was provided to FRAP
 - Identified 263 rules that may affect forest carbon sequestration trends
 - Compiled an extensive inventory of existing data and models

- Outlined 4-5 potential approaches
 - All methods in the report suggest an inventory of forest carbon is a critical first step, but differed in terms of modelling rigor and/or temporal, spatial and operational system boundaries.
5. Recommendation from Staff.
- FRAP recommends the following:
 - i. BOF provide for annual reporting of forest Carbon pools and trends through 2020 (and possibly beyond) for all owners (Fed, State, Private, Tribal).
 - ii. Reports should include estimates of in-forest carbon stocks and harvested wood products in CA using Forest Inventory Analysis (FIA) data, State Board Of Equalization data, as well as other data sources.
 - iii. Report on forest management activities and conversions (partial data gap).
 - iv. Use annual reports of forest carbon trends to evaluate sustainability in the context of AB 1504 and other climate related efforts.
6. Rationale:
- Current estimates of growth, mortality and removals of forest carbon set the context for the BOF to evaluate the adequacy of the rules to meet the AB32 targets.
 - Summarizing carbon implications of forest management activities provides a synoptic view of these activities in the context of the sequestration capacity of CA forests.
 - Highly confident estimates (95% CI) of forest carbon pools help the board evaluate the bevy of flux estimates produced from a wide variety of approaches.
 - Current estimates of CO2 flux carry a lot of uncertainty compared to those gained from a traditional forest inventory.
7. Outline next steps
- Work with a BOF sub-committee to establish carbon pools and other reporting needs.
 - Coordinate with ARB to discuss how AB 1504 legislation supports AB32
 - Evaluate data gaps and how to address them
 - Identify any BOF actions needed to comply with AB 1504 (2010) legislation.