

# IFWG Priority Actions

## *Draft Template for IFWG Use*

Proposed Priority #1: *Develop and fund activities to reduce the uncertainty in existing State GHG inventory data related to all forests and rangelands including urban forests, and increase the State's capacity to collect, manage and create projections with thin information over the long-term including an assessment of the impacts from climate change on forest lands.* ARB and CALFIRE staff would take a lead in developing a workshop on this topic by July 2009 and provide clear recommendations for considerations by IFWG to approve or alter by September 2009.

Objective: Provide input to BOF on policy implications, responsibilities and resources for improving forest GHG inventory based on inventory workshop to review methodologies and stakeholder comments.

### Issues:

- Need to develop a more comprehensive inventory of forestry carbon stocks and GHG inventory to more fully address emissions identified in current inventory (eg from domestic and imported wood products) and others that should be included (eg urban forests)
- Improve methodologies, as needed, for specific emission sources that currently lack precision, eg wildfires, land conversion
- Consider approaches and methodologies that can be used to monitor stocks and emissions on an annual basis
- Consider responsibility and approaches to tracking and evaluating effectiveness of climate activities to reduce GHG (ie forest sector progress on climate action response)
- Consider role of agencies not participating in IFWG as they affect inventory improvement opportunities and climate actions affecting Forest Sector target (eg IWMB).

### Outputs and Timeline:

- Comments on CALFIRE and ARB draft workshop agenda by June 12, 2009.
- Recommendations to BOF on how inventory could incorporate IFWG member and stakeholder consideration. September, 2009.
- Policy recommendations about responsibilities and resources for enhancements to existing GHG inventory. By September, 2009.

Proposed Priority #2. *Determine the effect of the State's existing forest and rangeland regulations (i.e., Sustained Yield Plans, Non Timber Management Plans, etc.) on meeting the state's GHG goals, whether simple adjustments are needed, or whether more significant action is needed.* This would be an independent review of existing regulations that would be presented to IFWG by November 2009 to consider potential recommendations to strengthen, clarify, or highlight existing rules. Funding will likely be necessary to implement this effort.

Objective: Provide input/recommend approach to BOF for reviewing the carbon implications of existing, proposed and potential regulations.

Issues:

- Suggest regulations that most warrant review of carbon benefits, including consideration of recent 2005 riparian protection rules ? *and for currently proposed rules*
- Consider objective, science-based approaches (methods, potential contractors, stakeholders and participants), including projections and analyses of GHG emissions and sequestration
- Recommend approach for identifying and evaluating potential rule changes.

Outputs and Timeline:

Recommendation for approach and resources for reviewing regulations by November 2009.

Proposed Priority #3 *Define sustainable woody biomass utilization for the Low Carbon Fuel Standard being developed by ARB and CEC, and assist in developing and/or identifying a project that could be funded with AB 118 funding in cooperation with CEC.* ARB and CEC would co-lead a working group that would provide recommendations to IFWG by October 2009 on definitions and projects to be considered by IFWG.

Proposed Priority #4 *Identify, develop, and promote clear incentives to assist private and public landowners to maintain and increase forest carbon stocks on their lands. This would include linking disparate efforts such as reducing wildfire risks, carbon offsets, biomass utilization, funding for conservation easements, direct state funding, or regulation changes.* This topic would need to be further defined on actions and deadlines for the IFWG group.

Proposed Priority #5 - Identify forest landowner education opportunities relating to climate change, the role of forests in mitigating the effects of climate change. Identify key institutions, ----- that exist within the state, that could help develop and implement a forest landowner climate mitigation educational program.