

1. Thinking in terms of where you live, what is the most important forestry-related issue that needs to be addressed? :

- In our small town need is for more trees
- Implementing and understanding the role and benefits of urban forest ecosystems
- Our forests are no longer being managed for sustainable use, more for just the profits that the timber brings at the time of a sale. Forest industries and landowners, including the U.S. forest service, need to manage our forest for multiple uses including water quality, wildlife, and recreation. Those issues are addressed now but not as fully as they could be, more or less programs just set up for an organization to receive monies from the state and federal budgets each year. Action need to take place and these issues enforced. We need quality individuals working for the state forestry department that care about what they do and not just the pay check they receive each month. We have a lot of these individuals in McCurtain County. In these tough times now that we are having in our economy, I hope some of these issues are addressed, because it been too long and now's the time to take action and put the state of Oklahoma's forest and forest agency back in order.
- MAINTAINING FOREST AREA THROUGH EDUCATION
- Not cutting down mature trees
- Natural disasters, such as the 2007 ice storm and regular tornadoes, have destroyed a number of large older trees in neighborhoods.
- Public education on how to properly care for damaged trees (pruning dates, how to prune trees, etc.) and general education about environmental systems and how our actions affect them.
- The rate of consumption of timber with the current manufacturing facilities at full production.
- Improving Water Quality and Implementing BMPs in NE and SE OK
- Red Cedar removal
- Maintenance of healthy Cross-Timbers by the return of fire.
- Dealing with old growth, pests, marketing the trees.
- Keeping Forested areas from being developed and halting the migration and removal of invasive non-native species.
Planting of more trees.
- Development of new trees, aesthetics.
- Eastern Red Cedar infestation management.
- We need more public land
- Plant more trees to promote clean air and water quality; and protect the trees we already have.
- Forest overcrowding or the need for forest thinning.
- Invasive species...cedars, lespedeza, etc.
- Urban trees and the budgets to maintain them.
- Trees need to be trimmed around power lines to prevent falling trees inclement weather.

- Markets for finished mill products. If mills can sell their products and make a profit, landowners will strive to manage their forests to provide the needed raw materials that in turn provide jobs for the local community! I believe we need to advertise wood products and promote their value in stimulating not only the state economy, but the national economy as well.
- Cedar infestation.
- Soil conservation and cedar trees. Also we need more help in water conservation in my part of Logan just north of the Lazy-E Arena from intersection of Seward and Post or homes and Ranch are in dire need of this conservation help. Have been unable to get the ext. office to help out there at all unless it suits them.
- Preservation of our forests. I enjoy hiking/running trails. It seems as if we are paving over to many nature areas. Bluff Creek in OKC is a prime example. A beautiful nature area about to be paved over with concrete trails. I have counted as many as 15 deer at Bluff Creek. I can't imagine the harm all the construction equipment will bring to all the wild life at Bluff Creek.
- Encourage good management and especially the reforestation of privately owned cut over forest lands.
- Expanding the use of forest land beyond traditional uses (timber production, hunting leases, etc.) to provide income potential from new and non-traditional sources such as energy production, environmental credits and new products developed from forest resources.
- Preservation of urban trees! We need tree ordinances like Boston and Dallas have! Education on proper species is important. OG&E and PSO should be forced to STOP KILLING TREES. They top them and butcher them in certain ways so they die slowly and can't be blamed easily.
- Urban and suburban forest management for wildlife
- Spread of ERC into lands where it is not commonly found causing loss in habitat for many species of animals, decreases in stocking rates for cattle, and increase in fire hazards.
- Protecting the woodlands and wildlife.
- Control of invasive species (especially the eastern red cedar) for protection of native trees.
- Plant area specific trees Tree care and disease Control of Cedar, mesquite, and tamarack.
- reforestation of riparian areas
- invasive species
- Preservation of Cross-Timbers
- Loss of small units of forest due to urban and rural development. There is a great deal of cross timbers and riparian forest that is being lost or degraded. Much of it is second growth on land that was farmed. The land was abandoned from farming beginning in the 1930s. Management agencies and governments frequently overlook the significance of these forest units because they are not "old growth." But they hold significant tree and timber resources, and are important for wildlife.
- Urban forest program.

- Ridding the NW area of Oklahoma of red cedars and establishing desirable trees instead.
- Impact of continuing recent ice storms
- nursery trees, water issues
- Maintain the business competitiveness and health of the industry
- Oil junk cleanup
- Wildlife
- Deforestation/Development
- #1 To many cedars
- #2 To many small growth trees
- Maintaining our existing trees and caring for them properly while planting new trees to supplement the exiting trees
- Proper maintenance of urban trees. Help for low income people to prune, trim, remove and plant trees on their property.
- I'm near the edge of the prairie in Payne County. There is no public forest land in my county that I know of. I do value forest and hope that public forested lands in OK are treasured and managed carefully for long-term sustainability.
- FIRE
- Preservation of urban forests and trees and management of them in relation to overhead utility lines or infrastructure development; reduction of air pollution that damages trees
- Not only in Payne County, but across the entire state, there are Eastern red cedar trees EVERYWHERE! Every time I drive down the turnpikes or highways you see them and it makes me sad that they are so prominent (more than they should be). I love our native trees and would like to see more involvement with private landowners and other landowners (state, federal, etc) to be more active in decreasing their numbers.
- Preservation
- Western Logan County is mostly farm land, so forestry would not be an issue. In eastern Logan County I can see forestry issues would be a concern.
- I live in west Texas. As for my land in OK, I think about timber theft, trash dumping, and general human development.
- Pine Beetles - Forest Fires
- The recent collapse of the housing industry has depressed timber prices dramatically and we sure hope the stimulus package that was just enacted will be successful in restarting the housing market.
- b. Another problem that is beyond the ability of individual landowners to "fix" are the political aspects such as the amount of foreign timber products that can be imported and under what conditions they can be imported.
- water
- Clear cutting hardwood timber and not replanting hardwood timber. Logging companies changing oil and letting it run out on the ground and leaving buckets piled everywhere
- Lack of forest products markets, while there is plenty of wood in the basin there are not enough delivery points for raw material.

- Lack of taxes paid by large landowners, they pay waste land tax which is pennies.
- Control of bugs which kill pine trees, control of disease which is killing even large oaks, better control of wildfires
- Trees in my neighborhood are being removed by the city to eliminate the need to trim around power lines. This makes the streets and yards look barren.
- Riparian corridors
- Urban forestry and eastern red cedar encroachment
- Increased fire use to minimize red cedar.
- Access into the forest and to the rivers and streams.
- The ability to manage a large tract of land from a distance.
- Urban planning.
- Living in Stillwater, I feel the most important forestry-related issue that needs to be addressed is the public education about prescribed fire and how it can help our state in regards to the encroachment of eastern redcedar
- I live in the Texas Panhandle and we don't have any forests.
- Forest Maintenance
- Clear cutting should not be allowed; strategic cutting to enhance the growth of the remaining trees is much preferred for air quality, soil conservation, preservation of forests, etc.
- Reforestation of non-industrial private forest land
- Biomass research

2. Markets

- I would like to see forestry as a potential cash crop to be promoted to land owners. I really think more people in SE Oklahoma would utilize the land they have as a tree plantation if they were aware of the benefits of doing so. Any cost share programs need to be advertised. I also believe that Forestry careers need to be promoted in the high schools more, maybe by forestry personnel speaking in the class rooms.
- Sustainable harvest of forest products
- cutting old oak trees for invalid reasons
- Deforestation due to pipeline and pad site construction.
- I currently live in town, so I feel the most important forestry issue is keeping the high value trees in town healthy to prevent disease and pests. Also, the education of proper placement of trees in the urban setting, such as when they are near power lines or when they are prone to break easily.
- Urban forestry, canopy growth, power line to tree decrease
- Consulting on issues regarding forest preservation
- There are two: Our city is allowing developers to clear cut our woods, of what is left in our community. The other is the damming of log jams creating floods.
- I do not live in the State of Oklahoma, but living in a large metropolitan area, I believe the raising of sustainable energy and basic materials are going to be needed to a greater degree than ever.
- keep the four wheelers out of the woods from oct1 to jan31
- Cedar control
- Conservation

- Fire prevention, reforestation
- Fire protection and good pine seedling availability
- We are very concerned about the spread of redcedar and are planning to kill them on our land. An assistance program would be greatly appreciated. This is only a suggestion.
- The control of the invasive species such as The Eastern Red Cedar.
- Establishing markets for timber products
- Tulsa has a large quantity of old age trees that are starting to slow in growth. There is a need for the planting of trees that will replace these large trees as they die or become damaged.
- A significant portion of the private forested land has been clear-cut by individuals looking to make a quick dollar. Trees, in many instances, are never replanted which seems to permanently scar the beautiful country side and leave the land susceptible to erosion.
- Planting native trees.
- I think that the forestry services in my area need to do more to help land owners with control burns. With the ice storms we've had in the past ten years and (the fact that I can't light a match with out the forestry showing up to put it out!) have really built up the foil on the forest floor. I feel that if we don't band together and help one another to do control burns and do it promptly. We are going to be like California there's going to be a fire started one way or another that know amount of man power can contain!
- Managing forests to sustain biological integrity and ecosystem functions
- Trespassers. They use pipeline ROW's to access your property, and then go all over it in ATV's. They pull down gates, bring in chainsaws and cut down barriers. They steal & destroy gas well equipment, diesel fuel, trees and throw trash all over the property. If you get too rough with them, they will burn down your cabin and your forest land. They ride mules through the land chasing wild hogs and cutting fences. They ignore "no trespassing" signs and hunt and fish illegally. They make it nearly impossible to improve your timber stand or make other improvements on your property. Nothing is safe as these good ole boys ravage the land.
- One of the most important forestry related issues that everybody hears so much about is the encroachment of eastern redcedar.
- Eastern Red Cedar fuel load/encroachment, proper management of the species.
- The most important forestry-related issue in Stillwater, is enhancing public benefits from trees, and educating the public about the services trees provide in urban areas.
- The continuing improvement and restoration of sites for wild game animals.
- Lack of prescribed fire and forest thinning. Forests in OK are mostly closed canopy. This does not mimic historic conditions and the forests are unhealthy due to lack of early succession and savanna habitat. We need a lot more fire and forest thinning.
- Lack of prescribed fire

- I am a biologist with the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation. Restoration of some historical ecosystems for targeted wildlife species is my number one objective. I manage the Pushmataha WMA in Pushmataha county, the Yourman WMA in Latimer county and the Gary Sherrer WMA in Pittsburg county totaling approx. 23,387 acres. These areas are comprised of closed canopy forests of mixed hardwoods and native shortleaf pine. I need assistance with adequate timber management plans for my areas to address this canopy closure and the restoration of some more diverse ecosystems for targeted wildlife species. This action will have to be accomplished through timber sales because we do not have the manpower, equipment or other resources to accomplish it ourselves. Many of our Wildlife Management Areas have closed canopy forested areas but no market close enough to accomplish these tasks at a cost neutral or the possibility of generating revenue for the agency while restoring more diverse ecosystems for targeted wildlife species.
- The need for better professional management of wooded areas, property owner education in better utilization of property, perhaps by planting more unproductive areas in pine trees.
- Food plots for the animals.
- Effective management of the Cross Timbers vegetation type
- Fire protections in a growing wildland/urban intermix.
- Control of invasive Eastern redcedar (both in and outside of forested lands)and the use of prescribed fire in forest landscapes.
- Enforcing environmental laws and making legislators aware of the need to enact tougher laws and penalties.
- The management of Eastern Red Cedar and Western Juniper, to include utilization of it for economic development, and the eradication of salt cedar (tamarisk). This region does not have other trees that can be used in the forest industry at this time.
- To protect the quality of natural drinking water sources through preservation of forest resources; promotion of urban forestry practices.
- I believe a plan should be to sustain a healthy forest ecosystem for all forest types (oak-hickory, bottomland hardwoods, etc)across Oklahoma.
- Arson Investigation and fire suppression
- Fuel loading around urban interface
- Fuel loading around urban interface
- protection services
- forest protection, replanting, working on water quality
- Forest protection, replanting
- Rehab of logged areas and arson fire
- Fire suppression
- Fire Suppression and water quality, preservation of water and soils, and air. plus more law enforcement for rules already in place. More public education for land management.
- Fire suppression
- Forest Protection and management

- timber management, keeping land in forests, wildlife
- Hardwood control, unprofessional loggers (not trained in BMPs) or they do not sell wood direct to mill - middle men
- Being an out of state resident, our most important forestry related issue is wildfires, if not contained, could wipe us out. Timber theft is also a concern for absentee landowners.
- In Colorado, it is the bark beetle. In Ouachita, insect control seems to be working.
- Erosion and disease
- Ice damage removal
- Education on the benefits of trees
- One of the major issues effecting forestland both locally and state wide is a lack of proper forest management, and no I don't mean that fence it off and never touch it again crap. I mean real management. this area is the cross timbers and it developed under a fire stick ecology, without proper burn plans the forest are growing up with invasive species and wildlife food and cover resources are dwindling. An even greater problem is the dangerous buildup of fuel for fires that has resulted from years of ice storms and no fire program. This uncontrolled problem could easily turn a small normal ground level fire into a raging forest fire that could lead to catastrophic loss of life and property. It is for this reason that people need to ignore the opinions of those who live disconnected from the land and have no real knowledge of the proper workings of these ecosystems and take measures to properly manage and utilize the abundant resource that is Oklahoma forestland.
- Expansion of city/town boundaries and new housing additions that do not realize the impact of tree and soil disruption when clearing land.
- Land owners wisely using their resources.
- Developing more uses for wood products in southeastern Oklahoma. Examples sawmills, pole treatment plants, and chip markets.
- Too many cedar trees. The timber market is bad too.
- Accelerated runoff resulting from upslope landowners clearing land.
- Forest fire control, forest management assistance continued
- Reforestation
- Urban-Interface fire protection. Education of the general population.
- Public Awareness of Forestry related activities such as the state nursery (tree sales and plantings), Forest Stewardship Program, etc.
- Developing public support and recognition of forestry as a positive and invaluable contributor to the state's environmental and economic development needs.
- Utilization of the Crosstimber forest. Other opportunities for landowners to sell their timber for biofuels or firewood. Many landowners have hardwood species that need to be thinned but there is no incentive to manage their forest because of the lack of a market in central OK.
- Minimal landowner involvement with sustainable forest stewardship practices.
- Forestland enhancement or improvement (reforestation, thinning, prescribed burning, brush mgmt.)

- To encourage landowners to actively manage their timberland in as productive a condition as possible. They should be encouraged to replant after harvesting and to consider other management tools that will enhance the value of their property and help grow more trees for Oklahoma.
- Riparian restoration
- The health of the Crosstimber Forest. Everyone knows the redcedar is invading native pasture land and other idle land. But sometime overlooked is the harm it is to the post oak and blackjack oak forest of central Oklahoma.

Landowners are uninformed of this issue/problem.

- Enhance Public Benefits from Trees and Forests: erosion from wind and water plays a definitive role in forestry. Without a windbreak or some type of tree/shrub related cover soil erodes very quickly. Protect Forests From Harm: by protecting forests from wildfire, forests will be able to sustain for wildlife, timber, recreation, hydrology, and range. Eastern Red Cedar (ERC) is taking over unmanaged forests, range lands, and prairies. I believe that (ERC) needs improved management on these sites.
- Helping landowners to manage the timber they have and establish more timber stands through cost-share assistance and awareness.
- Control of ERC
- Have no service area
- We need to promote our entire Services better, which in turn would promote "Conservation," State wide, which would encourage people to plant trees and be stewards of the land instead of owners.
- Increased Seedling Sales
Increased Visibility of Natural Resource Professionals and their services to the public
Referrals to FRC for Seedlings- especially from surrounding states like Kansas, and border counties in Texas, Arkansas, and Missouri etc.
- Sell more seedlings
- The most important forestry-related issue in Leflore County is the continuing lack of forest management or poor management of forestlands. The overall lack of proper management of the county's forestlands has a big impact on all the associated benefits of forestlands, water, wildlife, recreation.
- Lack of proper management of forest lands. This has increased the susceptibility to insects and diseases, increased wildfire danger and intensity, and reduced the quality and quantity of timber to be harvested.
- The most important issue in my opinion is to make the public more aware of the services we offer landowners. I have heard several times in my short tenure here that, "Oh I didn't know you did that for the public." I bring this about because forestry is a cycle or machine if you will. You have the forest products industry, loggers, consultants, forestry vendors (contractors), and landowners. All of these entities are trying to generate revenue and they all fight amongst themselves to get their share. Landowners are usually the bottom tier of these groups and are not often aware of what their resources are truly worth. Because they are not aware what their resources are worth and what they are capable of, they get a smaller

share of all the money exchanged for the end product and therefore are not as likely to continue forest management on their property. This could create a scary scenario for the future if it continues and begins to occur across a wider spectrum. That is where we as public servants educated in the art of forestry come in to ensure that the landowner tier of the cycle remains stable. Because without landowners with forest resources available to industrial markets, the supply of raw materials on hand for consumption would be drastically reduced. While this may not sound like a likely scenario, it could happen if the information, education, and assistance are not available to the public.

- Increase/add forest product markets. Everything from selling/increasing pulpwood markets to what to do with odd species products, such as our home grown sycamore, beside pallet material.
- Throughout the state there needs to be more of an emphasis put on the use of native seed sources and tree improvement. It seems there is little promotion done in this area. We should create partnerships with other agencies, cooperatives and landowners to promote the use of native seed sources. There also needs to be more education on tree improvement. Very few people know what tree improvement is and how it can benefit them.
- Forest Fragmentation
- Thickening of the forest, Invasive plants (cedar), planting of trees in non-forested areas, Market, Lack of management
- Regeneration of harvested lands by PNIFLO instead of converting to pasture and doing nothing
- Control of Eastern redcedar, riparian forest filter strips
- Education on species and care to prevent over population of undesirable trees.
- Sustainable markets for forest products.
- Implementation of prescribed fire to reduce cedar infestation and maintain Cross Timbers forests
- Conversion of mixed forests to single species or clearance for pasture and/or construction.
- Forest Fire
- Timber company's should be taxed as same rate as other agricultural users in county. It's issue of fairness and money.

2. Thinking in terms of communities or cities, what is the most important forestry-related issue that needs to be addressed? :

- More trees, ease of planting for individuals, also maintenance of existing trees
- We need quality people working in the forestry and agricultural sectors of the state that care about what they do and that really want to make a difference in what they do. Individuals who love to express the need for forestry in the state, and what forestry means to Oklahomans. Education is a must for residents in cities that don't know that much about Oklahoma's forests.

- EDUCATION OF POPULATION OF FOREST PLUSES AND PROBLEMS AND HOW THEY AFFECT EACH PERSON
- Same...not cutting down mature trees
- Tree care, leaving open space in public areas (parks...) and education.
- Educating the urban dweller about what good forestry practices are and how they are monitored.
- Urban runoff in watersheds and urban-wildland interface fire protection issues
- Wildfire planning to reduce potential losses from wildfire through the application of Firewise principals.
- responsible conservation
- Keeping forested areas from being developed and planting new timber for future generations of urban children to enjoy and learn from.
- Development of new trees, aesthetics. More trees in our urban settings.
- Maintaining green spaces, greenbelts and education about trees and forestry.
- More nearby public land
- Eliminate red cedar infestation in our area to protect homes and communities from fire and protect are water resources.
- Riparian areas and seasonally flooded bottomland hardwoods.
- Destruction of or clearing of land and trees for housing.
- Budgets again to hire professionals and gain public support.
- Protection of Natural resources and Pollution
- I feel the need for wildlife management needs to be addressed. Considering the state of the nation's economy at present, recreation, including hunting, especially on public lands may be on the rise.
- Old tree preservation.
- Soil and water conservation is need in all the rural and cities to. Especially the rural areas.
- Preservation. As a former Scout Leader, I know how important it is for people to have a connection with the outdoors and wildlife. The City of OKC has gone forward with plans to change our urban forest area, Bluff Creek, over the objections of all the groups that enjoy Bluff Creek. The Oklahoma Earth bike Fellowship, The Oklahoma Trail Runners Association, The Land runners of OKC, The Friends of Lake Hefner have all raised objections to deaf ears. Lake Hefner is just across the street from Bluff Creek. Lake Hefner offers 10 plus miles of paved trails for people to use. It is unfathomable why the city believes it is necessary to build a large parking lot and pave trails at Bluff Creek.
- Help to balance out some of the misinformation that is being taught to children in our public schools. Well funded groups now seem to take it for granted that the threat to our environment from such things as man-made global warming/climate change is no longer debatable. It's just a matter of time before these young people will be voting to make it illegal to harvest a tree.
- Preservation of and development of urban parkland containing plenty of trees, water, trails in sufficient quantity to match population growth.
- Better tree selection choices in city areas. Many people plants trees in areas that will only cause more harm than good because of the species of the tree.

- Urban and suburban forest management for wildlife
- Protecting the woodlands and wildlife.
- Planting trees to make up for losses due to urban sprawl and natural (weather related) causes.
- Plant area specific trees and educate on tree care and health
- incorporating low impact development into their land development and building code to help restore green space and other natural areas
- Native Trees
- Urban sprawl into east Edmond.
- Not clearing trees just for the sake of putting in more buildings and asphalt.
- Urban forest revitalization.
- A systematic approach to replanting of trees in the urban setting. Many cities across Oklahoma have lost a large percentage of their canopy due to recent storms.
- Maintaining our forestry resources
- Same as answer on one, if the industry is not viable it can not provide jobs, taxes and other uses for the surrounding communities
- Preservation
- Air and water quality
- Deforestation/Development
- Cedar tree removal
- Planting more city trees to reduce the heat island effect and stop the removal of old growth trees when new development is put in.
- See above...Low income individuals need help to properly maintain their trees. It is VERY expensive.
- There is an active tree board in Stillwater which works to maintain the trees in Stillwater and to inform the public of trees that thrive in our climate, native and other. This focus on healthy trees helps our town maintain and value urban forest.
- Indiscriminate destruction of mature trees in infrastructure development and overhead utilities and urban sprawl into forested areas as well as reduction of pollution that affects growth and survivability
- EDUCATION-many in SW Oklahoma do not realize there is an OK forest industry that the agency helps as much as they do with Fire (equipment, money, & education) and the eastern red cedar issue
- I think that education to the people who don't care as much about the environment as the people probably filling out these surveys. Most of the people I come into contact with that are not environmentally conscious don't care about littering in the forests or vandalizing them. Some how we have to make the people who don't care, to care. Cutting down forests for more housing is another big issue, in my opinion.
- Fostering a symbiotic relationship with the trees around us
- Give the timber industries in our local area more understanding and support
- The use of public agencies (local sheriffs, state troopers, forestry, personnel and game and fish personnel) to control widespread desecration and destruction of forests and timber access roads by rogue elements on ATVs. The attempts to

control these rogue elements by landowners often finds the landowner being physically and verbally threatened for trying to maintain their property by these young, alcohol-aided thugs.

- Tree health
- Pollution of water and soil by logging companies
- Cities and communities need to be educated on what corporate level sustainable forestry is and does. They need to understand the purpose of clear cuts, ripping, chemical application, etc. as well as the benefits of these activities.
- wildfire control, enhanced recreation opportunities will require control of ticks and fire ants
- Cities that want to put trees in downtown areas need to understand that trees will become large. I'm all for placing trees in downtown areas to make the landscape better, but cities let trees grow then when they get too big the trees are torn down.
- Education on the types of trees that are productive in OK and proper planting location
- Fire use education
- The same as above because recreation is the number one industry for McCurtain County and all business are affected by, or lack of its use.
- The preservation of natural resources.
- Urban planning.
- Informing the public about proper tree care (not topping, right tree - right place) and how the lack of their cooperation negatively affects the community
- I think the forests need to be preserved and/or managed so that they are there for the next generation.
- Trees need to be replanted where they have been clear cut; govt incentive plans to do this should be continued.
- Steady forestry related employment
- Energy issues
 2. Environmental issues
 3. Economic issues (provision of jobs, markets, etc.
- Educate the high school age students of career opportunities
 - 2) Educate adults of the importance of forestry and tress to our environment
 - 3) offer programs to cities and towns to plant more Trees along the hi ways and streets. Main Street programs, line the entry ways into your town with pines and other decorative trees.
- Educating city-dwellers in the importance of trees and green spaces.
- Easter Red cedar being planted and tolerated, they are taking over what little forest patches there are through out the city.
- I think the issue of expanding residential areas should be addressed. Residential areas come with roads and other accommodations.
- Same as answer to question one.
- Making sure trees are planted in a way that future growth will not be hindered by utilities

- Awareness of those factors that present risk to the forest and subsequently to communities and suggestions (r.e., disease, fire)
- Both of these directly effect my residence and my community.
- I believe that the balance in nature is being seriously challenged by the rapid and sometimes indiscriminate use of resources. I am not a big believer in the "green house panic" that some people feel is upon us, but removal of rain forests and forests in general is causing a shift in oxygen producing and oxygen consuming parts of our planet and anywhere possible we should be implementing more production and less consumption of oxygen versus CO2.
- unknown right at this point
- Urban, Tree Planting
- Conservation
- Establishing markets for timber products.
- The proper management of forest resources to maintain good water quality.
- Utility rights of way maintenance and "Forestry is Good" education
- Preservation, wildlife habitat
- Diversity in tree species that would normally be planted in large numbers that result in a monoculture.
- Cedar trees out of control causing fire hazard.
- Green spaces within cities
- The foresters in my area need to be more friendly and considerate when talking to the public. Also they need to be more involved in helping teach the youth about the forest and good forest behaviors.
- Education of the public about the importance of fire and thinning for forest health and human safety.
- Reserving areas for natural forest land and animal habitat.
- One of the things I believe need to be addressed is the decline of Austrian pine trees.
- Planting of exotic species.
- Education of all ages of public about environmental services of forests and trees. Outreach to schools with information on forestry related jobs.
- Reduction of volatile fuels such as eastern red cedar.
- What kind of trees that should be planted, specifically trees that shouldn't be planted under or near power lines.
- wild land urban interface
- Educating people about fire protection. Plant indigenous species of trees and not exotic or invasive species. Protect their structures by not having ladder fuels close to any structure that will cause a fire to destroy their structures. Your website has good information but it is evident that many people are unaware or disregard these guidelines. I would think that homeowner insurance companies would and should support financially for media publications and educational publicity to prevent destruction of structures by wildfire.
- Jobs
- Education in the impact of surrounding forest and their products on the economy, air quality, water quality, the environment, etc..

- wildfire safety
- Fire protections in a growing wildland/urban intermix.
- The introduction of non-native invasive plants and the relentless removal of trees for development.
- The response to the first question also applies. However, the reduction of Eastern Red Cedar as a hazardous fuel in the proximity of communities needs to be addressed.
- Many more trees need to be planted within cities
- Protect and enhance intact forested riparian areas or small bottomlands in and around cities.
- Arson fires
- fuel loading around urban interface
- educate public of importance to them about forestry related products
- our park areas and forest are great place's to go on vacations to relavea's streats
- improving our city parks
- fire prevention
- fire suppression
- forest protection
- replanting after logging
- Educating the US on the importance of continued growth programs of forest products to accommodate our continued population demands. Meanwhile we should continue to stress conservation and wise use of all natural resources.
- Overall forest health and prescribed burns
- Wildfire
- Having more trees planted within the community
- A complete and utter lack of education as to the proper management and utilization of forestland. We need education that will not only result in the preservation of the woodland, ensuring that it is not destroyed by poor or no management, but also allow the people to utilize it in a way that will take advantage of this abundant renewable resource and provide much needed income for the state.
- Teaching about the impact they have during visits into nature settings in town or out. ie..the trash that is dropped, the compaction of soil by tires and feet, the disruption noise and smoke on the lives of animals that may live there.
- Preserving the health of the trees they have and getting rid of the unhealthy ones.
- A strong timber industry is essential to the rural communities of southeastern Oklahoma.
- People used to burn a lot, now they don't because there are too many houses out here.
- use of native species
- understanding controlled burning and other silvicultural practices
- Loss of hunting opportunities
- Better coordination between the emergency services that have to respond to fires. As our population grows we tend to build closer and closer to our forest.

- More time and money should be spent on public education and information. The more the public knows about forestry the more they realize what the problems or issues are like erosion, water quality, carbon storage, proper timber management, reforestation, etc.
- Lack of recognition of the value of trees and green infrastructure to the health and well-being of Oklahoma's cities and towns.
- Public education on the importance of trees and forests. Homeowners and communities need to have a better understanding of the importance of the trees in the urban and rural areas.
- Lack of incurring firewise programs.
- Wildland Urban Interface. Not real problems but there are some areas that have the potential for very destructive wildfires.
- To educate people about the value of trees as a renewable resource. To teach them that trees are a natural resource and that harvesting timber is not only necessary but beneficial to the forest, the community and the state.
- Tree care
- Communities still need to know what, where and how to plant trees.
- Enhance Public Benefits from Trees and Forests: Forest regeneration is a major issue for Oklahoma. Genetics aid in an increased production of healthier trees which in turn facilitate superior forests.
- Helping landowners to manage the timber they have and establish more timber stands through cost-share assistance and awareness.
- Over use of pesticides in urban forest
- Planting trees for Conservation, where this means planting for Erosion Control, Windbreaks, Timber Production, Wildlife Enhancement, and many other uses.
- Increased Visibility of Services and Opportunities
- Educate people on importance and value of planting seedlings, and letting them know that the state can provide quality seedlings and professional advice.
- Communities in Leflore County would benefit greatly from a closer association with forest recreation. Lots of folks from Texas see SE Oklahoma as a recreation Mecca. McCurtain County already benefits from this association, Leflore could, also.
- WUI - the trend of spreading cities into the wildland environment, thereby creating new hazards with wildland fire as well as decreasing the amount of land available for forests.
- I would say educating our children and I don't mean just through Smokey Bear programs. We should make every effort to help educate them as teenagers as well. We should do this not only to create a positive outlook on forestry and forestry issues but to help them with future career choices. Some of these kids could be our future loggers, foresters and arborists.
- Water Quality and Best Management Programs are a very important to our area. There needs to be more emphasis in this area and more public workshops available. More promotion of the services we offer in this area is needed as well. Another major area important to many of the communities in this area is fire protection and management. Making many of these small communities firewise

- and helping them to get funds to improve their community should be a top priority.
- Public access and usage of previously accessible lands
 - Thickening of the forest (i.e., savannah/woodlands moving to closed canopy forest)
 - Invasion of eastern red cedar into savannah and woodlands
 - Expansion of forest (trees) into the prairie from lack of fire or through plantings.
 - Lack of managing for multiple use
 - Maintaining the large native trees in our local communities. Due to fear of ice storms, many local residents are removing them from their yards.
 - employ a city forester and encourage tree planting and maintenance on city property
 - Urban Forestry - for beautification, soil, and wind management
 - It is critical that we maintain acceptable returns from forestry investments.
 - Implementation of prescribed fire to reduce cedar infestation and maintain Cross Timbers forests
 - Loss of forested areas
 - Better equipped Fire Department
 - Sherwood Volunteer Fire Department

3. Thinking of the state as a whole, what are the top three issues that the forestry community needs to address in the next five years? :

- more planting of trees, public education on tree benefits and planting, production of renewable forests
- 1 - Quantify and communicating the benefits of forest ecosystems statewide
 - 2 - Understanding the conditions necessary to sustain all of the forest ecosystems native to the State
 - 3 - Development of quantitative estimates of the potential of forest ecosystems to contribute to the well being of the citizens of Oklahoma
- 1. More educational programs for youth, college students, and local landowners.
 - 2. Better management of Oklahoma's forest.
 - 3. Better management of funds provided from the state budget to the forestry department.
 - 4. More qualified individuals that care about what they do in the States forestry department.
 - 5. A timber tax that would help the states area schools and keep their doors open to educate the states youth.
- MAINTAIN PRESENT FOREST AREA
 EDUCATE PUBLIC OF ENVIRONMENT ISSUES
 HOW RECYCLING HELPS PRESERVE FOREST LAND
- Proper care of trees (we have had a lot of ice damage), pruning dangerous trees, overall education for farmers and landowners on how to protect riparian areas with the use of trees and general good practices when it comes to pollution.

- At the current time I don't think any issue's can be identified until this economic condition ends and we can access what markets are left for forest products.
- Replanting trees destroyed by natural disasters
 2. Educating the public about forestry issues
 3. Designating and maintaining public forests
- Getting private non-industrial landowners to use BMPs; wildfire protection and forest arson prosecution; considering wood as an agri crop and a renewable resource
- Red Cedar removal, water conservation, urban spread
- 1) Reverse trend of forest fragmentation
 - 2) Improved management of forest lands (better and stable markets)
 - 3) Maintain and increase forested corridors along waterways.
- education of forest locations and conservation
- Finding ways to help maintain the environment
- At least keeping what we have now.
 - Stopping invasive non-native species.
 - New urban planting for future generations.
- Education for the public regarding different species of trees, State Parks and recreational facilities, jobs for Oklahomans that can be forest driven.
- More Public land
- Plant more trees in riparian areas; plant more windbreaks and eliminate red cedars.
- Cedar encroachment.
 - Managing forested areas with appropriate fire regimes.
 - Public education.
- Improved prescribed fire laws.
 2. Protection/restoration of bottomland forests
 3. Improved markets for pulpwood/chipwood to encourage more thinning and provide local jobs.
- Increased budgets at the state and local levels
 - Urban growth
 - Education
- Conservation, Pollution, and Fires
 1. The movement of urbanites into the rural setting. Especially from out of state.
 2. Markets for timber resources (raw materials).
 3. Costs of transportation, insurance requirements, and other factors affecting the cost of managing forests.
- Cedar infestation, disease & pests.
- Water and soil conservation along with tree conservation in all the state because we have much draught and fires to go along with it.
- Preserve our natural forest areas for the current citizens, and generations to follow.
 2. Wild fire protection.
 3. Wild life preservation.

- 1; Increased pressure from the Feds to use environmental concerns to regulate Forestry.
- 2; Oklahoma needs to take action to address the impact that our current financial crisis is having on forest industry.
- 3; Educate more of our children (and forest landowners) as to the valuable things our forests have to contribute to our economy.
- Continue support for responsible logging - by encouraging profit in our state forests we allow private industry to do the hard management work. Education of the public on the importance our forests play. Pushing for Tree Ordinances in Tulsa, OKC, Lawton, Enid, Ardmore - the larger cities.
- Management of invasive tree species, wildfire management, urban and suburban forest
 - 1. We need to diversify in order to maximize our forestland potential.
 - 2. Maintain the favorable tax treatment of forestland.
 - 3. Educate young people about the values of owning and maintaining/improving forestland. We see practically no young people at forestry related events; there needs to be more education at the secondary school/college level concerning the advantages of being an active forest landowner.
- ERC spread, red-cockaded woodpecker habitat, and return of native grasslands to areas that have been overtaken by oak species.
- 1. Stop developing paved parks and trails.
- 2. Creating more "natural" trails.
- 3. Promote/Advertise state trail system
- 1. The eastern red cedar intrusion
- 2. More section line and section road windbreaks in western Oklahoma
- 3. Encourage city and county governments to assess their local tree inventory and make use of urban forestry
- Cedar control Tree damage and care after storms Tree disease
- riparian reforestation, low impact development, and Silva culture conservation practices and education
- Invasive species, Native species
- Conservation replenishing
 - 1. Ridding acres and acres of red cedars.
 - 2. Establishing desirable trees.
 - 3. Educating the public about the need to protect valuable trees.
- 1. Fragmentation.
- 2. Urban and rural development.
- 3. Watershed protection.
- Cedar control, urban forest program expansion, sustainable forest management.
- 1. Awareness of the importance of tree health to the environment.
- 2. Adequate funding to support continuing efforts at educating our youth of the importance of our forest.
- 3. Good logging practices so our resources are not depleted.
- Tree planting for carbon credits

- Stable forest product markets, not adding regulations which adds cost and hampers competitiveness
- Preservation, cleanup, teaching
- Conservation- air and water quality-wildlife
- #1 Cedar tree removal
 - #2 Fire breaks in metro areas
 - #3 In metro areas control undergrowth
- 1. Drought and its effect on our tree populations
- 2. Disease and insect populations harming our trees when their defense systems have been compromised due to drought
- 3. Plant more trees in urban areas to reduce the heat island effect
- Reforest urban areas after the ice storms
 - 2. Maintain the cedar growth so they don't burn thousands of acres
- 1) Forest Health, including reforestation efforts after cutting or fire, etc.
- 2). Education for the public about methods to maintain forest health, including prescribed burning to keep low the levels of fuel on the ground
- EDUCATION (Fire, trees in general, changes in both)
 - EASTERN RED CEDAR(control)and other CHANGES in the state forest
 - FIRE RELATED (continue what you do)
- Restricting urban sprawl into forested areas; Proper fire management and prevention; Protection of virgin areas
- In no particular order:
 - 1. Control of invasive species
 - 2. Cutting down/clearing out of forests/trees for development or other purposes
 - 3. I'm not sure about a third reason, but I guess I would say education to make people care about our forests (especially since our state is only comprised with 20% forest)
- The non-native invasive cedars are taking resources better used for other trees.
- I would imagine it would be the control of red cedars.
- Better markets (housing, paper, etc) Logging profitability. Employment of workers in the industry. Imports hurt the American companies.
- a. The economic benefits available to the forest landowner through the application of best management practices (site prep, chemical applications, fertilization and enlightened harvesting) to encourage landowners to adopt these practices rather than merely cutting whatever Mother Nature provides from time to time.
 - b. The likely adoption of "cap and trade" policies by the US could mean windfall to those forests that are fully documented and the requirements to enable participation by the local forest owners. The spin-off from getting their property appropriately documented to participate in the cap and trade business would be a higher percentage of forests practicing BMP.
 - c. While we personally have not had a problem with pin beetles in the last few years, the state should intensify their studies into the causes and cures for such forest pests.

- water
timber harvesting
Carbon credits
- Clear cutting and leaving good timber, such as hardwoods to rot, cutting hardwoods and not replanting, cutting all the timber from around creeks and rivers causing erosion.
- Markets, decrease in contractor availability, public perception (don't watch axmen - good grief)
- Brush control including redcedar, state pine tree production nursery should be located in SE OK (Pushmataha, Choctaw, or McCurtain Co) so that seedlings are subjective to our rails, weather, insects and diseases from the time the seeds are put in the ground.
- -Reforestation urban areas
-Population control of eastern red cedar
-Educating the masses about forestry
- Salt-cedar invasion of riparian corridors, preserving riparian corridors, Eastern red-cedar invasion of plains habitat
- Fire return interval
Eastern red cedar
Cross-Timbers recovery
- Increased fire use, a way for private citizens to benefit commercially from unwanted red cedar encroachment, and youth education of forestry related topics to get a early interest in being future forest managers
- 1. Access as mentioned above; loss of revenue from licenses, access fees, and sales tax loss caused by the less use of the area; and the public relations problems this has caused.
- 1. Diversity of land owner revenue streams
2. Reasonable compensation for the growth and preservation of natural resources.
3. Multiple sources of revenue depending on the management and type of forestry products.
- Forest as an ecosystem
Urban planning and forest conservation
Forest conservation reserve management
- Eastern redcedar, fragmentation, and the forest urban interface.
- Conservation
Management
beautification
- Forest education to absentee landowners
Keeping the forests healthy by spraying
Logging as prescribed by a certified consulting forester
- Reduce or stop clear cutting; continue govt programs to stimulate the replanting of trees; institute carbon credit program to make it worthwhile for owners not to cut as many trees.

- 1. Reforestation
- 2. Protection from insects and disease
- 3. keep what little bit of soil we have, out of streams
- 1. Education linked to stronger organizational structures that can provide seminars, information, communication between landowners and commercial and professional forestry entities.
- 2. Development of marketing opportunities to provide incentives for timber production.
- 3. Realignment of State political focus on fossil fuels and plains agriculture. The future lies in what we can do with renewable resources.
- 2. Development of markets for forestry products.
- 3. Education of public decision makers, youth, and landowners,
- 1) Sufficient manpower at each Oklahoma Division of Forestry office
- 2) Adequate funding for protection of forest from harm.
- 3) Funding programs that encourage landowners to establish pine tree plantations.
- Local/Regional forestry businesses - small sawmills!

Ensuring forest health by encouraging interplanting of species and not clear-cutting areas.

Education, beginning with grade-school, in the importance of forests, their roots/soil-holding/surface water retention.

- Eastern Red Cedar taking over our forest
People are allowed to cut trees to much without valid reason. Increase in gov laws on cutting or at least have to have good reason.
Education the public on the length of time it takes an oak to grow and increasing tax for those who cut, construction, timber sales, etc etc
- 1. Sustainability
- 2. Pollution and waste management
- 3. Planting in new areas
- 1)May be this concerns the forestry community
The Eastern Red Cedar encroachment. I guess this could parallel the succession of oak in what was pine forest.
- 2)promotion of planting appropriate trees for urban settings in communities
- 3)clarification of taxation of REITs and TIMOs, and what they will do to forest management
- Education
Budget increase
Continuation of the right to practice forestry
- 1. Adequate funding for the forestry service.
- 2. Awareness and Education

3. Other types of aid to land owners/custodians (i.e., co-op programs, trends, lumber industry changes, etc.)
- I think we are destroying our forest to development. We need to use the resources we have already destroyed. Use the buildings we have already built! Also wind, and water erosion is a major concern with all the construction.
 - 1. Ignorance of the general population as to why forest preservation and management is important to everyone.
 - 2. A proper balance between all interests involved in land usage. Wheat growers and tree growers must adequately manage the lands available to them.
 - 3. Control the continuing increase in people trying to manage the forestry usage, such as politicians who will generally have no knowledge of what they may legislate, and do not try to get facts to help them make the proper decisions in what legislation that they propose. Pay attention to things that I mentioned in Answers 1 and 2.
 - maybe some volunteers
 - wildlife habitat; cedars; urban trees
 - Conservation
 - Removal of invasive species (i.e. western red cedar)
 - Discontinuation of the use of GMO trees
 - b. The use of cloned trees appears to be an easy way to substantially increase the output of even well managed forests. We planted our first 50 acres earlier this month. We also planted a small test section with Weyerhaeuser's Atlantic Coast Loblolly so we can compare the clones to the best conventional seedlings available.
 - Control of competing hardwoods and cedar in pine areas.
 - Reforestation of cut over areas.
 - Establishing Oklahoma markets for timber products.
 - 1) Managing invasive species
 - 2) Managing watersheds responsibly to ensure water quality
 - 3) Education/outreach(many people know little about forestry)
 - Right to practice forestry, highway infrastructure, and workers compensation reform.
 - reforestation (reseeding), hardwood removal, wildlife habitat
 - Keep kids in the woods.
 - Urban forestry.
 - private land certifications.
 - Planting native trees.
 - More water projects.
 - Get rid of cedars.
 - 1). Red Cedar tree encroachment. 2). Air & Water quality 3). Reduction of Carbon Footprint
 - 1. Helping land owners with control burns.
 - 2. Reforestation.
 - 3. Stopping the sinless destruction of what forest we have left.

- 1) Biological integrity of forests
- 2) Sustainable harvest
- 3) Public education
- 1. Come up with ways to encourage small & independent forestry landowners to keep and manage their timberland.
- 2. Keep pine beetles and disease out of our forests.
- 3. Increasing market share and improving logistics from forest to mill and mill to user.
- One would be the encroachment of eastern redcedar, however, I believe that this issue has already been addressed to some extent. Another would be the importance of fire and what the benefits are. Another is water. Water is an important resource and is already being fought over.
- -Sustainable forestry
- -Timber taxation
- -Corporate forestry vs. private forestry
- also more forestry education in urban areas
- Conserve working forest lands, protect forests from harm, and enhance public benefit from forests and trees.
- Reduction of volatile fuels
- Creation of savanna and woodland habitat.
- Addressing the loss of cottonwoods along riparian zones.
- Eastern redcedar, 2. Assess the health of the timber industry, 3. fire hazards
- prescribed fire
- eastern redcedar utilization
- wildland urban interface
- Help develop markets for eastern red cedar. This invasive species is a real problem but there is no market for it and it is very costly for a landowner to remove them (even with cost share incentive programs).
- Help landowners protect their property by using prescribed fire at a proper frequency to reduce the danger of catastrophic wildfire events.
- Education of forest landowners regarding the proper management of their forested property for proper sustainability and forest health.
- Harvest of timber.
- More public land to hunt.
- Wildlife habitat
- Those three National themes mentioned are very important to this state.
- urban/rural interface for fires
- redcedar encroachment
- loss of mills and hence markets
- Outside of the three Protection Areas the wildland fire suppression effort is poorly trained, poorly led, uncoordinated, and has serious safety issues for firefighters.
- 2. Rural populations are declining and urban populations are growing in the state. The result is a population with little knowledge of the connections between public policy concerning land use and impacts on the viability of natural resource based industries.
- 3. Nonindustrial Private Forest Landowners are not knowledgeable about the true

value of their forest resources and do not have a good source for that type of information.

- - redcedar control
- - invasive species (including forest pests and pathogens) management
- - sustainability of forestry
- 1. A complete inventory, identification, and assessment of all of Oklahoma's forest resources.
- 2. Development of a strategic plan for the proper development, reforestation, & utilization of Oklahoma forestry resources to maximize economic development.
- 3. Seek funding for and develop a current economic impact study for the state's forest industry that can be updated periodically.
- - reforestation of cutover areas
- - reforestation of former agricultural land no longer in use
- - more controlled burns
- 1. Protection of drinking water sources through conservation of forest resources;
- 2. Conservation of forest resources for future generations;
- 3. Protection of habitat for threatened and endangered species.
- 1. The threat of invasive species (sericia & ERC) in all forest types.
- 2. Disease and parasite threat in forested communities.
- 3. Protection of bottomland hardwoods, riparian areas, and other forest types of urban development, oil exploration, and/or other conversion threats across the state.
- Arson fires, fire suppression, and educating public on how to burn
- reduction of fuel loading, access for fire suppression to reduce damage from wildland fires, reduction and uses of redcedar
- management-protection and services available
- forest protection, regrowth, water quality, parks, and training our kids
- replanting, forest protection, park improvement
- fires suppression, timber cutting, firewise
- fire prevention, public awareness, equip. needs
- reduction of fuel
- More protection personnel at high fire danger times, more law enforcement personnel in eastern area, more training fire suppression, timber cutting, firewise
- forest protection education, continue fire suppression practices, soil conservation
- wildlife, timber, avoiding conversion of forests to other uses
- educating forest landowners, hardwood control, fire prevention-fire breaks
- -Uncontrolled trespass to forests destroying roads and fire lines and out right theft of entry gates is a major concern for us.
- -drought conditions could spread disease; similarly Ice storms as '99 could cause timber damage.
- -continued efforts for sustainable healthy forest development on all used or under utilized sites.
- As a non resident, these questions would be best answered by those living within the state.
- fire, erosion, disease

- 1. Make laws to close non productive gas/oil well sights and restore and plant on sights 2. Insect and disease research and control assistant. 3. Install or help cleanup fire breaks and prescribe control burns on state, federal and private lands.
- Continue working to help prevent forest fires. Plant more trees in the state parks located in western Oklahoma
- The first two issues that need to be addressed are education and extension. I use these two together because one is not much good without the other. The people of this state need to know how the environment works and our part in being good stewards of the land. This needs to be addressed at not only the producer level but we must do a better job of educating our youth to eliminate the sever disassociation that is occurring between people in urban environments and where their food and supplies come from. The third big issue is the control and removal of the dangerous level of fuel that has built up as a result of storms in recent years. If the fuel load in our forest and medians is not reduced and we have another hot dry summer like a few years ago catastrophic wildfires, loss of life, and destruction of property will be the result.
- (1)Study the devastation the ice has wrecked in our natural forests. Can or should anything be done? What is the environmental impact? (2)Are our trees adapting to the minor environmental changes due to global warming? (3)Continue to develop new and fresh community education programs that reach our fast pace, high tech communities where they live.
- 1) Education of the public about the opportunities to use forest resources wisely.
2) Education of the public about forestry techniques and how they can be good for the health of the forest.
3) Educating the public about the scientific realities of global warming instead of allowing uniformed environmentalists to steer the discussion to fit their agenda.
- 1. No new environmental regulations that would hinder timber management on private property.
2. Strengthen timber markets 3.Encourage voluntary conservation practices.
- Fires, harvesting, timber markets
- Loss of crosstimber forest complex
- 1. Increased wood production
2. Carbon bank ideas
3. Relate production methods to general public
- Taxation(severance taxation) rather than yearly taxation
- Resources
Expenses
Manpower
- Crosstimbers - utilization and preservation, even though there isn't quality timber in this area there are still many benefits that come from this area such as hunting, fishing, water quality, erosion control, other recreational activities. In state Firewood use. E and SE timber management and reforestation.
- Prescribed burns - landowners need better training opportunities on how to write a plan and implement it. Burn associations and landowners need more support and information.

Carbon Market - more training for foresters and better information for landowners.

- 1. Public involvement in rural areas with our services.
- 2. Lack of cost share aid to all counties in OK for Forest Stewardship Practices.
- 3. Arson.
- 1. The fragmentation of large holdings of timberland will be a problem. Large landowners are aware of good forest management practices because that is their primary business. People that buy smaller tracts will have other goals in mind such as hunting and recreation (as well as speculation in real estate prices) and may not be aware of proper forest management techniques.
- 2. More education is needed in the area of water quality. The BMP's are currently voluntary, if we are not successful at implementing these on a voluntary basis, legislation will be passed that will make BMP's mandatory. In my view voluntary is better than mandated.
- 3. As the wildland/urban interface becomes more important it is increasingly more important to educate people about the "firewise" program.
- 1. Riparian restoration.
- 2. Invasive species control in the riparian area and in the cross-timbers.
- 3. Establishing timber markets in western Ok for redcedar utilizations and other hardwoods (black walnut, oak).
- Redcedar invading the forest. Pine forest and crosstiber forest.
- Wildland Urban Wildfire issues.
- Oak decline.
- 1) Education to the "Oklahoma Community" about Forestry and what Forestry does for Oklahoma. 2) Where is the timber market heading because of the economy? 3) Forest Management Cost-Share Program and Forest Timber Production: Oklahoma managing its forests and timber production.
- (1)Timber markets
- (2)Forest Protection
- (3)Re-establishment of cutover lands to production
- Reliable tree planting funds, a reliable accountability program to track progress and program dollars, value added program to develop value to ok products
- Abolishing carbon credits
- An environmental awareness that trees are beneficial on so many levels, and they have value that is not limited only to money.
- More Networking between Natural Resource Professionals and increased visibility of their particular specialties to the public-Seedling Sales
- Growing Native Species
- Networking
- Visibility
- 1. More \$ for forestry professionals. 2. more \$ for tree planting incentives. 3. More \$ for forestry education.
- 1. Tying sound forest management to high quality water. As water becomes an increasingly more important resource, people must see it as the direct product of high quality forestlands.
- 2. Adding value to the natural resources harvested from the state.

3. Promote Oklahoma's forest landowners (nlpf, timo, corporate) as the state's leaders in the environmental greening of Oklahoma.
- Forest Fragmentation - Vast amounts of forest land are being bought up and sold as small parcels for cabins and vacation homes or being turned into housing tracts. Market Development- Low quality hardwoods and cedars are examples of forest products waiting for markets. Promotions of proper forest management- a large portion of the forests in SE OK are owned by landowners that do not attempt any management of their property. Some have been led to believe that nature will take care of their forest with no intervention from man, others do not know that anything needs to be done, and others just cannot afford to do anything. Public education and financial incentives would likely make a difference.
 - 1) Fire education and awareness for the public. Its advantages, disadvantages and legality.
 - 2) The gradual disappearance of merchantable hardwood and hardwood markets in the SE part of the state. In many scenarios hardwood timber is harvested and pine (if anything) is planted back. It could have statewide impact, because if our prime seed sources for our hardwood species grown in our nursery disappear, how will we supply quality hardwood seedlings to the public.
 - 3) The cultural differences between the rural and urban citizens of our state has created a communication barrier between them and this seems to have a negative impact on the perception of some forestry issues. Many urban residents of Oklahoma have a negative opinion of some forestry practices in rural areas and vice versa. If we could bridge this communication gap somehow, through technology or other methods, it would be very beneficial to all residents.
 - Fragmentation, Sustainability of markets
Private landowner reforestation
 - 1 Thickening of the forest (i.e., savannah/woodlands moving to closed canopy forest)
 - 2 Invasion of eastern red cedar into savannah and woodlands
 - 3 Expansion of forest (trees) into the prairie
 - 1. Eastern red cedar invasion often goes un-noticed in hardwood forests until the area is completely engulfed. I feel that much of our timbered areas throughout central and eastern Oklahoma are in the beginning stages of a full scale cedar invasion.
 2. The potential eradication of ash from the forest community caused by the Emerald Ash Borer.
 3. Lack of prescribed fire; needed to promote healthy forests by mimicking historic occurrences.
 - 1. We must clarify Forestry's and forestry's invaluable role in Oklahoma's environmental "movement." 2. We must establish state policy that motivates and encourages landowners to practice forestry. 3. We must address the threats associated with invasive species.
 - Native seed sources and tree improvement
Best Management Practices and Water Quality
Developing stronger partnerships and educational opportunities with landowners and Cooperatives throughout the state

- Control of ERC
- Public outreach (wildfire prevention, forest mgmt./health, the OFS, who we are and what we do)
- Windbreaks, wind control, wind elimination
- Forestry is recognized in OK as a viable agriculture crop.
Forest Management is an important tool in ecological importance.
Tax structure of forest lands encourages forest investment
- -Maintaining a viable forest industry in southeast OK. -Developing a market for woody biomass (including cedar)
-Pre-emptive actions to reduce the risk of wildfire
- 1. Making state leadership recognize the value of forest resources to the state economy.
2. Utilizing lands that have historically forested for continued forest production
3. Protecting forest industry from unfair taxation (property taxes)
- hazard tree removal, tree planting, professional forester on city staff
- More money for fire departments.
Train Volunteers to use dozers.
Outfit rural fire departments with the older dozers
- Climate change and invasive species
- Balance between:
Environmental
Hunting
Recreation
Timber industry's needs

4. What do you see are the biggest opportunities that the forestry community needs to take advantage of in the next five years? :

- The move toward "Green" environmental drive, public education about trees
- Increasing the contribution of the existing forest resource to the well being of the citizens of the State
- The advantage of more younger and older individuals wanting to know and learn more about Oklahoma's forest and what they mean to our state.
- RECYCLE
- Educating children while they are in school, providing outlets such as school friendly nature trails so that we can introduce children to the natural world around them.
- Helping kids fall back in love with nature instead of tv and video games
- The current political environment is more open to tackling environmental protection issues or issues perceived to be related to environmental protection...so now is the time to obtain federal and private funding for projects in the forestry community.

- Use of biomass for power plant fuel supplementation and deriving eco-fuels from wood waste and slash left after harvesting timber
- No Child Left Inside movement, Youth training in conservation
- Carbon sequestration
 - EQIP in the Farm Bill
 - Alternative Fuels
 - Marketing of ecosystem services
- Education in non forest areas.
- The use of PLT learning materials in conjunction with the No Child left Indoors legislation to get future generations aware of their environment.
- Finding economic incentive for cedar eradication. In a depressed economy, this is a cash crop waiting for opportunity. Schools are hungry for effective resources, PLT is a great program but it is not being effectively promoted.
- New marketable opportunities such as fuels that could be produced from trees, and coinciding jobs that would come for this opportunity.
- The availability of abandoned farms and ranches for purchase by the state
- Public relations with schools, communities and businesses to get them involved.
- Increase in "green" mentality for many Americans can provide better market opportunities for sustainable forest products.

Many people are interested in Rx burning and know the benefits it can provide, but due to current regulations feel too exposed to undertake this management themselves. With this public support, further attempts to ease fire regulations and increase fire education are becoming available.
- The Being Green trend...move into the spotlight and let people know more about what the state and cities are doing and have been doing for years. This will increase exposure and hopefully improve money allocation.
- Natural Cash crops
- Purchasing of privately owned land to plant back to trees for environmental benefits, including wildlife. Look at Missouri's program!!!!
- Unfortunately, taking advantage of the migrant work force which is far less costly than local labor and most likely more reliable.

Small landowners need to take advantage of all government programs that are available in order to manage, thereby increase, the available raw material for the future.

Use the forest resources as a means to draw in recreational dollars. There are numerous opportunities for promoting horseback riding, ATV trails, and other similar activities. Laws need to be updated and enforced that will allow landowners to CONTROL their property! Laws are currently for the cattlemen, trespassers, and poachers and not for law abiding citizens. Local law enforcement officials and judges are elected by the people. Forestland owners that actively manage their land generally have large land ownerships and a disproportionate amount of the vote. Until something is done to change this scenario, true management of your own property will be dictated by those who do not feel threatened by the law.
- Advertise uses for eastern red cedar to develop a market for trees after they're removed.

- Educate and help the people to do the conservation needed and not the EPA either. They hinder more than help here.
- Take back control of our wild lands.
- As always, we need to find an effective way to get our Forestry messages out to the legislators.
- Increased tourism. Increased commodity prices for timber (at least until the bank meltdown).
- Environmental awareness by public official may allow development of new initiatives in forest management for improve environment.
- 1. We have land that can be used for many purposes. We need to learn about as many of these purposes as possible to maximize the use of our land, which will in turn, increase its value.
- 2. In particular, we need to learn about and take advantage of the energy and environmental needs that forests may be able to satisfy.
- Increases in people who like want to travel close to home (2-3 hours away) but still obtain an outdoors type experience.
- I think there is increased opportunity for public works projects to repair infrastructure and forestry should be an integral part of that work
- Host trail running or biking events. Both the trail running and biking communities are growing nationwide, and by hosting such events, tourism dollars come to our state.
- Cedar control turnkey opportunities
Cedar by-product promotion
- leveraging conservation funding to implement the practices listed above
- Working with communities to go "green" with native species
- Bring the truck with seedling trees to individual communities in NW Oklahoma to allow people better access to trees that they can plant. Educating people of the importance of planting trees through every media possible.
- Harness the energy of environmentalists for forest protection. Use education and promotion of forest related recreation to encourage wise use of Oklahoma's forests.
- Because of the damage and losses of urban and rural forests due to the recent wild fires and ice storms, citizens are more aware of the importance of trees. Now is a good time to put this issue before the public while it has broad support. OFS can also use the economic data from forest resources and recreation users to push for support. Could also push benefits of trees improving air and water quality, etc.
- The strength of this part of the country in regards to the current economic recession.
- Carbon credits
- Produce products that generate value, jobs and stability for the communities and state
- The move towards preservation
- Conservation and air/water quality

- Red cedar for chipping, bio-fuel or something useful?
Urban forestry for developers, teach them how they can make a better site by cutting less trees or planting more trees.
- Educating residence, public, & communities on the need to burn
- The "green" movement has enable lawmakers to be more open-minded to environmental issues. Take advantage of this and get more money for forestry services
- New administration in Washington DC that might be more sympathetic to the cause
- I don't really know for Oklahoma. My personal forest lands are in Georgia.
- People will be looking for cheaper ways to spend their time - education (speakers, articles and such for groups about forest changes, where tax dollars go, fire)-
- Positioning forests as a GHG management strategy in order to gain entry to policy agenda;
- There is a big scare with global warming and treating our environment better, and that includes forests. More trees mean more oxygen production, and hopefully a decrease in all the crap we put into the air with our cars, factories, etc. Also, going along with the "environmental" push within the last few years, maintaining our native species compositions is important in conserving species before they are gone. With Oklahoma only being 20% forested, we have a lot to lose that make our state great.
- Preserving forested areas
- I think human population growth is an uncheck able problem. Protecting the forests for fresh water, clean air, timber, and recreational use will become even more of a priority than it is now. Figuring how to continue and enhance the current work will provide opportunities.
- Low interest rates, democrat's pork barrels, plant more trees
- For those forest owners who so not follow best management practices, the adoption of such practices would amount to a windfall in later years.
- carbon credits
- Regulate the percentage of hardwood timber being cut. work with EPA or other agency to apply a little pressure to keep pollution to a minimum.
- I just don't know, at the moment, I don't see any broad sweeping changes on the 5 yr. horizon. It is hard to speculate on 5 year opportunities when we are all wondering how much of the business will be left in that time.
- planting more trees
- We need to develop practical use for tree limbs, tops, etc which are left behind by the logger.
- Forestry needs to be taught at the high school level to encourage students to learn more about their natural resources, potentially introducing them to a career, and to teach them to use good practices when dealing with trees.
- OK-FIRE training/awareness among landowners, drought/land management awareness
- Study the possibilities of cellulose fiber for ethanol production.
- cellulose ethanol

- Freeing up the access into the forest: Comparatively few have access now compared to the past and I know no one that was killed by over-crowding in the past years.
- Image. This provides an eco friendly service that produces a natural product.
- The economic stimulus package and appropriate funds into long term planning and benefits
- I think the forestry community should analyze how to take the greatest advantage of the economic downturn and consider how it can make investments to benefit forestry for the long term.
- Federal Money to Maintain our forests
- More non-industrial private landowners obtaining professional advice for reforestation and landowners, timber purchasers and loggers obtaining professional advice on best management practices
- Energy Crisis
 - 2. Economic downturn [creation of jobs, reorientation of public decision makers, education for youth]
- I personally believe we in SE Oklahoma need to plant more trees! People need jobs and families need income. Education of the public of the opportunities available to land owners and all people as career choices.
- Providing woodworking artisans with locally produced lumber.
- The public eyes are starting to open up to conservation and global warming and energy. It seems its the best time to express the advantage of trees ability to lock up carbon, erosion, and their uses for the diversity of animals, and the effects of the red cedar. (conservation and preservation)
- The forestry needs to take advantage of any public interest that is offered.
- Promote conservation and health forest through the cost share programs for landowners in the Farm Bill.
 - Opportunities to promote carbon credits.
- Making money in a poor economy, foresight
- In the economic environment we are in, I believe there are always unique opportunities, some might include:
- With the abundance of Eastern Red Cedars, anyway we could use those resources to benefit our community.
- Hopefully an awakening in the general population regarding how important proper management of forest lands really is. That the voices of the small individual forest land owners will be directed by such groups as OWOA will be focused to show the real value of increased and effectively managed forest lands in the state.
- small landowners willing to plan on their properties
- Conservation
 - The use of Oklahoma forest products in Oklahoma.
 - 1) Forest Certification and sustainable forest management.
 - 2) Further involvement in community events/educational events
- Carbon credits, biomass for fuel, cedar marketing, and tourism
- That forestry services can and is ready to help landowners with these endeavors

- How the public is all about going green. Use these times to educate the public about forestry.
- Save runoff water with more dams, ponds and lakes.
Help plant native trees.
- 1). Government funding for planting trees and tree stand improvement, which will help to stimulate the economy by creating jobs, beautify the area, help the environment, etc. 2). Help landowners bank credits for carbon stored in their timber stands. This could be a real motivator for planting trees. 3). Education programs to inform landowners of benefits of improving forest stands.
- Stop cutting and start planting!
- The ecology positive federal administration.
- Get our fair share of those stupid carbon credits for at least the next 4 years and get them for independent forest owners, not just the big "certified" ones.
Get our fair share of other government money for timber stand improvement.
- There are many opportunities that the forestry community can take advantage of. In fact, the opportunities are almost endless. However, they also need to take into account the opinions of the people and multiple use.
- I really don't know. I suppose it would be nice for some of the exotic species encroaching to be used for timber. I would really like to see the Forest Service do more fire management.
- Cellulosic biofuels and red cedar oil and chip.
- Making cedar removal a state priority.
Using fire and thinning on public lands.
- The eastern redcedar.
- eastern redcedar utilization
Increasing prescribed fire for forest health
- Conduct more organized tours of demonstration areas and research areas that show proper timber management for landowner objectives. Give them the ability to visualize what good forest management is supposed to look like and what it should not look like. Some demonstration areas are the Pushmataha Forest Habitat Research Area, Cross Timbers Research Area (OSU Extension), etc.
More forest landowners need to develop forest management plans.
We need a statewide forest inventory to address canopy closure, diversity, and forest health related issues.
- Acquire more land in southeastern ok.
Run Texans back south.
- There are thousands of acres of property virtually non- productive in this area that could be wonderfully used to grow forest products. What a loss for everyone!
- biofuel feedstocks
profitable use of redcedar
- See answers for question 3.
 - Working in partnership with others interested in forests and forestry to jointly tackle the above issues.
 - obtaining conservation easements or other protective mechanisms for sensitive forested lands.

- The current economic downturn may be negatively affecting Oklahoma forest industry. It may be that this poses a real opportunity to position Oklahoma's forestry industry for growth as the recovery comes about. We should make every effort to provide assistance to existing forestry companies in helping them find niche and other markets to sustain them during the interim. It appears to be that agencies should be involved in the process of matching users of forest products with our various types of forest industry companies. We should also look for other uses that may add value to forestry, such as oils, charcoal, activated charcoal, wood pellets, and waste forest biomass that can be converted to energy.
- Federal cost share dollars, making landowners aware of programs that could improve their woodlands and helping them through the process.
- Through changes in the recent farm bill, new tax incentives exist for landowners to conserve forested lands; and more resources exist for public agencies to protect natural resources.
- Partnering with other federal and state agencies to develop, promote, and leverage funding to successfully implement the forest plan.
- arson investigation (full time)
- tourism, recreation, timber production
- push awareness of how important conservation-protection-and uses of forestry products are
- enjoy are state and federal parks and hunting seasons
- road improvement, replanting so there will be forest for our grandchildren, water improvement
- Funding of rural fire programs to place equip. and training of personnel.
- fire wise opportunities
- Need to upgrade and replace equipment to do the job or just keep up.
- state forestry
- continue existing practices
- work with agencies to develop sound management and stewardship plans
- carbon credits
- Utilization of aid programs for development of under-developed lands as pastures which can be converted to growing forests.
Frequent reviews of each tract dedicated to forestry to see if further improvements or changes should be made.
- get some bailout money and employ local people, open up some forest land to local hunters(Oklahoma residents only)
- Using trees to help clean the air, plant more trees
- The push for more green technology and living has sparked public interest and given us the opportunity to educate people in the best use of the land to benefit not only the environment but humans as well. However we have to be willing to step up and do the job of teaching people otherwise a small, biased, highly vocal and equally misinformed minority will do the job for us.
- (1)Meet the needs of financially strapped families and schools looking for low cost fun and outings close to home. (2)Hands on volunteers wanting to help the environment in their own communities a day at a time.

- Landowners should take every opportunity that comes their way to help them get their forest land into a healthy and productive state.
- Promote conservation on private land. That being the wise use of our forestry resources, not preservation.
- Education of the public regarding the old growth forest represented by the crosstimbers zone. Trees as old as 400 years and commonly aged at 200-300 are often cleared by landowners who do not realize old the post and blackjack oaks they are clearing are.
- OBAMA's \$ - get the share forestry needs to stay in production
- Planting and replanting after harvest
- Our elected officials need to understand that the state of Oklahoma is not equipped nor is the fire service ready for a Cali. Type fire season.
- Establishing ecosystem services markets that encourage landowners to retain forestlands and actively manage them, taking advantage of biomass energy opportunities, adopting state policy that encourages the use of wood.
- Carbon Market - plant some trees
Production of renewable energy- red cedar or invasive species could be used to make biofuels. Increased use of forest products which leads to increased forest management.
- The partnership of ODAFF-FS and NRCS to create cost share money to landowners who need it.
- Cost-share money through EQIP and cooperation w/NRCS. Out-of-state wildfire compact assignments
- As time passes, the average size of timberland holdings gets smaller and smaller. This means there are more owners of timberland. This can be considered an opportunity to get more people involved in active forest management, voluntary compliance with BMP's, and understanding the problems involved in the wildland/urban interface.
- Invasive species control
- What the heck to do about the red cedar problem.
- Timber production, GIS/GPS, Timber Marketing
- Oklahoma Forestry Services ability and training to help them manage their timber through sound forestry practices.
- Planting for Conservation.
- Native Species
Wildlife Habitat Enhancement
Carbon Sequestration
Renewable Energy
Rural/Urban Interface Homesteads
Urban Forestry
Public Education
- We are in the midst of a green movement and forestry in general should take advantage of this by promoting our programs. Especially tree planting. Funding should be easier to obtain to promote our programs and provide incentives.

- Alternative markets, Multiple use management
- Financial incentive programs are a great tool for getting landowners to actively manage their property.
There is a huge source of woody material - i.e. small hardwoods and cedar- which could provide a source of raw materials if a market was developed.
Slipping land prices- making the acquisition of forest land and the corresponding management for forest products, wildlife, etc. more feasible financially.
- Assisting all who are involved in establishing the carbon credit market so that landowners will further benefit from managing forests on their property. We also need to utilize new innovative technology to further communicate with residents about the services we offer.
- With the ever increasing changes in epa regulations on chemicals, perhaps we could take advantage of this to do more experimental plantings with alternative pest control management.
On another note I think that more promotion of funds available to private land owners such as cost-share funds would be of great help.
- Utilization of assistance programs, i.e EQIP, Trees for Oklahoma, etc
- Cost-share assistance for such practices as prescribed burning, cedar control and riparian forest buffer establishment.
- Environmental concerns will continue to rise to the top of lists of issues. Forestry community needs to be seen as a leader both in ideas and the actual application of those ideas in dealing with environmental issues. Nobody else does more to beneficially change the land and environmental conditions and at the same time greatly benefit forest landowners and their families.
A tie-in would be to use technological advances to spread the message of forest landowners as Oklahoma's best conservationists. The sound management of their lands produces clean water, clean air, wildlife, recreation and the wood products we all use everyday.
- -biofuels demands
-carbon credits for landowners
-tourism/recreational opportunities
- foundation grants that support tree plantings
- Utilize existing personnel and programs to develop a long term plan for improved forestry management
- Communication of the contribution of the forest community to the State of OK
- Finding a market for woody biomass in Oklahoma - cedar and Cross Timbers in central OK and excess woody biomass in southeastern OK. A market would let us manage these forests for a full range of owner objectives.
- Opportunities to work with related stakeholders to improve and increase forest lands.
- State Grants

5. What resources will be needed to address your issues and take advantage of these opportunities? :

- More public education about tree benefit, public education about "green" issues
- 1 - An inventory of the condition of the State's forest resource
- 2 - Estimates of the potential contribution of the existing forest area with estimates of the changes necessary to achieve the resource's potential
- 3 - Estimates of the potential benefits to be achieved through changes in land use (conversion of forests to other uses & conversion of other uses to forest uses)
- 4 - Implementation of policies and allocation of resources to encourage the achievement of potentials identified in #3
- Better individuals to manage the states money and resources in the forestry department.
- KNOWLEDGE
- ENCOURAGE RECYCLING BUSINESS
- RESEARCH
- Public awareness
- Education and funding are the primary resources necessary to address forestry issues.
- Outdoor school programs, assessment of suitable nature areas and coordination between schools and the forestry community.
- Research into all of the above; more \$ for landowner outreach and BMP training
- Trained educators and up to date innovative training ideas
- Strong Forestry Agency addressing the above issues through outreach and investment in the forest community.
- A Firewise Coordinator.
- Our schools have little opportunity to have forest education.
- More PLT facilitators and more classroom teachers trained to use the course materials
- Funds always play a big roll. Community involvement.
- Research funding and incentives for cedar eradication, a firm commitment to public education with added staff and resources.
- Money to buy more public land
- Provide cost-share assistance and promote Truck Load tree sales.
- Primarily educational resources and programs. Depending on the level of involvement desired, funding for approved projects or for manpower and equipment to undertake projects.
- Capitol, equipment, labor, and management.
- Money
 - Good people to promote forestry (not just foresters)
 - facilities and equipment
- Gov't funding
- Education of rural landowners and the politicians that represent them.
- OSU???
- Help in water conservation and soil on more of our farms and ranches. Preserve the Aquifers for our water wells in the rural areas.
- Oklahoma Dept of Tourism. Local parks departments.
- State park rangers. We need to encourage our associations, state agencies, school

administrators, like-minded people, etc. to understand the real threats and to see what's happening to private property rights.

- Development of proposals by the state officials involved in forest and wildlife management using industry and university resources
- 1. Research by Oklahoma State, the State Forest Service, landowner organizations and industry.
- 2. Communication of what opportunities are available to landowners by the above organizations.
- 3. Need to educate the public about what a valuable resource the SE Oklahoma timberland is for the state.
- Loss of public land to private leases and sells.
- Advertising
Utilize volunteers and other outdoor organizations (biking, running, boating, and Audubon society)
- 1. Education of the public and the government officials about the benefits of trees and forests
- 2. The (impossible) task of getting the people in #1 to think years into the future rather than mere weeks or months
- 3. More aggressive use of foresters especially in urban areas. Perhaps the extension centers can have a program where communities can borrow forestry students and foresters for evaluating local situations and formulating strategies for long term tree maintenance and planting.
- Cedar removal equipment and marketing by-products
- education and funding
- EDUCATION
- Find unique sources of partnerships, funding and matching grants; inclusion of all interested private and public stakeholders; big outreach and education effort to garner support of public and forest users.
- Leadership and education.
- Use all forms of press in ample time ahead of the delivery date to let people know that they will have an opportunity to purchase trees.
- Continued job growth and good leadership at the state and local level to take advantage of opportunities as they arise.
- Maintain a reportable certification for these units
- Someone to check properties for abandoned well sites, homes etc.
- Perhaps jobs could be created with monies from the economy stimulus package currently under legislative discussion
- OFS needs to work on its ability to be more visible in the public and lobby more in the legislature to acquire apportionment. Be aggressive at grant writing to EPA.
- \$\$\$\$\$\$
- State and Federal money
- Good lobbying and a concentrated effort to make sure Oklahoma gets their fair share
- Educating the public will require skills of PR people. Legislators will need to be educated too.

- It always gets down to money, time & employees! There is never enough to do it all. Priorities need to be made, and followed. Surveys like this are a good start to see what people think priorities should be.
- Policy development that required all new development to consider long-term impacts to forest areas over cost impacts. For example, burying utility lines at an extra expense to preserve existing and future urban trees.
- There are already agencies/organizations participating in controlled burning and trying to educate the public about the many benefits of controlled burns, but it just doesn't seem to be enough. I know there's only so much a few people can do and I'm not sure that I have the answer on how to increase that number...
- Water
- Almost anything people do requires recognizing a need, planning, funding and execution. Money can usually be raised as well as labor to do the work. Developing leaders who understand and care about the forests is essential.
- Additional foresters to work with private landowners to develop the timber resources and markets.
- More research and feasibility studies
- 2) Time and awareness of events
- A strong Dept. of Agriculture Forestry Services division
- Money, manpower, equipment
- Professional foresters who have the ability to share their wisdom.
- Federal grants or state tax exemptions.
- Government funding and trained local staff to assist in forest improvement plans and to aid the landowner in executing the required work cost effectively.
- More land owner and forestry communication.
- Money for research and education.
- Money and smart, dedicated forest managers.
- Tough laws and law enforcers willing and able to do some enforcing.
- I think the most important resources are educated personnel's that have good people skills that can help inform the people in communities.
- The Forestry Service and the State would have to work together to remove the exotic species and use them for timber (or any other wood product)
- Mills and manufacturing plants throughout the state.
- Make prescribed fire easier to implement (address liability concerns with indemnity act).

Reduce bureaucracy in federal system to allow for fire and harvest at large scales.

- Ones I am not currently at liberty to discuss as it may compromise my future economic well-being.
- money and personnel
- The development of markets for timber products. Without markets within close proximities, it is not feasible for landowners to properly manage their properties, control invasive species, maintain sustainability, and improve forest health.
- Tractors, fertilizers and personnel.

- Programs to assist the property owners, i.e. funding support and management assistance. I now have 60 acres of property that has been mostly non-productive in pine trees. I didn't know anything about how to start until I met the state forester in Talihina and received guidance and support.
- 1. Thorough inventory of existing timber resources
2. Estimates of growth potentials
3. Technology to use wood feedstock in biofuels
4. economic analysis
- Expand Forestry Services' training responsibility/capability to include fire departments across the state. Expand Forestry Services' ability to provide assistance and leadership to rural fire departments across the state.
2&3. Expand Forestry Services' ability to provide information and education programs across the state.
- - Individuals or organizations willing to form and manage the partnership coalitions.
- funding sources for conservation easements and promotion of sustainable forestry practices.
- 1. continuing to strengthen and expand the existing partnerships that are working together to support Forestry. 2. Increasing the funding for the State Forestry Department.
3. More activities (conferences/seminars/etc) that increase the awareness of the importance and opportunities of Forestry in Oklahoma.
- - federal cost share dollars
- knowledgeable forestry commission employees who are positive and helpful
- Additional public funding for land conservation, commitment from conservation agencies and nonprofit groups to prioritize forest lands for protection.
- continue tree planting programs, educate the landowners
- The state's institutions of higher learning will have to take a lead in developing new and better forestry practices while the Oklahoma Forestry Service will have to be the lead agency to convey any new and improved forestry practices to the landowners.
- a program that helps land owners with carbon credit certification
- Portable chipper
additional wood processing facilities that we ship "value added" products instead of logs.
- free trees for public, seedlings
- Better Education, especially in collegiate "forestry programs, mechanisms to attract corporate landowners and users to Oklahoma.
- Time and Manpower
- -Work with the cities across Oklahoma to encourage more tree planting.
-More trained personnel to do prescribed burns on red cedar.
-Employees that have their main job as school teachers with a forestry background.
- Research money, cooperative education, cooperative management, educational opportunities with school children

- Educational programs about prescribed fire
Cooperatives to assist in implementing fire programs
- Probably a lot
- None; Just better management.
- Nothing that has not been provided to date. Information on costs, timetables, and tax treatment of our investment.
- Community outreach, increases in budget and manpower
- Money and expertise
- A well informed State Forester
- The availability of water/rain.
- Govt intervention, govt monies and tax payer monies
- Government agencies and consultants finding a way to reach more non-industrial private landowners and others
- Diversion of funds to education and research.
- 2. Dedication of economic interests to creating new markets.
- Personally as a middle class worker I appreciate any program or partnership that promotes or encourages plantation planting. The partnership that has made the "EQIP" program available for forestry is a blessing and has enabled me to continue our plantation growth.
- Publicizing opportunities;
Small business incentives;
Networking opportunities (Kerr Center? Other small-farmer venues?)
- Public representatives should be utilized. If the public shows interest, new opportunities can be utilized.
- Television air time, radio,(the news loves drama tell them about the red cedar invasions and effects), Curriculum in schools or guest speakers. Government actions to increase tax's on the users of trees and policy and law on cutting on personal property.
- foresight
- educational resources, good contact information on owners, more legislation on REITs and TIMOs?, more information on prescribed burning throughout the state
- 1. Online consultation and awareness.
2. Periodic assessment and suggestions of my forest land.
3. Assistance with co-op programs.
- Planting more trees. More laws passed to protect the present and mature trees on construction sites. Crews to cleanout major waterways, aiding in the chance of flooding.
- Funding
- Smaller minimum seedling orders, seedlings at county fairs etc.
- Effective leadership in the large pulp and timber mills. Also more state input in what will be done and a proper control of the large corporations that reside out of state. Willingness of individuals in the forestry business to stand up for good conservation practices and to utilize and request expansion of support from the state forestry management and schools such as OSU where the general knowledge base will be expanded.

- 1. Funding programs will always be needed for private landowners to implement good forestry practices.
- 2. Educational information about important forestry issues across the state.
- 3. Outreach materials to landowners across the state about the forestry plan and what they can do as landowners to help and what the forestry community can provide to landowners. This could be done with partnering agencies using their outreach options, like Outdoor Oklahoma TV show, OSU Ag TV show, OCC newsletter, Outdoor Living Magazine, etc.
- fires prevention officers (full time)
- personnel and equipment, public awareness of programs
- money for funding and manpower
- longer vacations
- trees to plant
- more employees, higher pay, more mandated fire areas
- New equipment and manpower
- more resources, replacement plan for older equipment
- Increase pay for employees, maybe more employees, better personnel protection for all fire suppression people.
- More employees, higher pay, bigger mandated fire areas
- Money and time
- Having professionals (industry, OSU, agencies) assist with evaluation of forest resources on private land
- Workshops for forest landowners
- Funds from the property owners and assistance through the state and federal government. Time and study to completely review current practices for modification and changes. Determination to implement change :)
- Equipment and forest plan for state lands and federal lands, removal of old trees and the use of prescribed burns, removal of ice damage(assistance in fed, state, and private)
- Financial assistance and volunteer help
- People who are educated, personable and willing to get out and tell people about what is really happening and the negative results that could result from the implementation of some of the fence it and forget it approaches. Use of the internet to reach a broader audience and interviews with people who are connected to the land would greatly benefit the outreach goals.
- People...Organizers, communicators to work with city leaders, school leaders and teachers; Tools...trees and whatever is needed to plant them in communities; Public Relations agency to find the best method of getting the issues and opportunities out there.
- Reaching people through the most popular and newest forms of media is necessary. Since a younger audience uses those media, the info would be reaching and teaching a group that could make long-term changes in the thinking about the use of forest resources.
- Increase landowner awareness of how to manage their forest resources using voluntary best management practices.

- cost share for cedar removal in Adair county. incentives for thinning the woods.
- Public education.
- \$ - personnel already employed - continued communication with forest research
- Put our truck program back in the budget and help us train. We don't need a pro basketball team in Ok.
- A full-time communications specialist, a full-time utilization and marketing forester.
- Economic incentives, seedling, sawmill in central Oklahoma
- To address the public involvement in Sustainable forestry practices, it will take an incentive program providing cost share money. This is the EQUIP program in our partnership with NRCS, but it is not statewide yet, and I needs to be.
- Educational material(flyers, pamphlets, etc.), more frequent news releases (possibly monthly news letters to active landowners), more face-to-face contact with people in the community, and more landowner workshops hosted in the surrounding areas, and more active participation/involvement in the controlled burning program that is available through the OFS.
- We will need to keep all our positions filled with qualified people, and perhaps create new positions as further opportunities are presented to us. This means we must offer a salary commensurate with the industry
- Cost-share money
- Outreach....Markets....\$\$\$
- People, organizations, and money.
- I think the resources are there we just need to take better advantage of them to maximize the outcome.
- Money
- Education on ecology and how to plant disease resistant varieties.
- Marketing our seedling. Marketing the idea that people need to plant to enhance good conservation practices.
- Increased Visibility through Networking, Advertising and Seedling Sales
Create a Department of Natural Resources separate from Agriculture which includes Forestry, Wildlife, Parks and Recreation, Water Quality etc.
Legislative, Departmental and Gubernatorial(The Big Goober) Support
- \$
- Maybe the most important resource to address the issues and opportunities would be a strong forest landowner association.
- Increased financial incentives programs.
Additional foresters to provide landowner assistance and management input.
Education materials and personnel to develop and distribute educational materials and programs.
Authorization and personnel to assist landowners with management activities such as prescribed burning - Very few contractors are available as the insurance is too expensive. This has reduced the number of landowners willing to perform prescribed burns as part of their land management scheme.
- Cutting edge technology and outside-the-box thinking.

- Utilization/Marketing forester that has a positive attitude and the Will to get something done in wood products.
- Multiple use professionals
Development of alternative markets or helping landowners make the connection to existing markets
- Public education and training
- Education and informational campaigns through cooperation between state and federal agencies.
- Perhaps we could have more training within our department on tree improvement. I know that the Central and Western office have probably all been trained in this area, but perhaps an agency wide workshop would be good.
- Unified forestry communities with strong leadership that can help legislators see the facts.
- Encourage partnerships
- Increased nursery programs to provide low cost/no cost trees to public
- Forestry Association, Legislative and Community Education and support
- Funding for cooperative research between university, state, and private landholders.
Information regarding the forest resource in OK to attract potential users.
- What ever you do, THINK BEFORE YOU ACT! Look at the issue from all angles. Try to be a moderate and do what's best for everyone.
- Restore State Grants to the level they were 2-3 years ago.
- Well funded and well directed communications as to goals and expertise to achieve those goals

6. If we address the issues, what good things will happen in Oklahoma within the next five years as a result? :

- 250,000 more trees planted in private yards, "Green" aspects of air quality will be enhanced by more trees being planted.
- Increase in the standard of living in Eastern Oklahoma, reduction in soil erosion, increased productivity of the agricultural sector, and an increase in the quality of life for all Oklahomans
- More individuals will become more interested in our state natural resources, and will realize that they too can get involved. More landowners in Oklahoma would want to learn more about reforesting cut over land, or converting overgrazed pastures into new forestland. All because the information is provided to them by reliable and understanding individuals working in the natural resource fields. More of Oklahomans youth would become more interested in the states natural resources, and realize that its not all about politics, and that they can now have a chance to make a difference for the state and its people.
- DECREASE NEED TO DESTROY FOREST
- Hopefully more trails around the city

- Oklahoma will be able to make a positive contribution to the environment.
- There will be jobs created with the implementation of school programs, there will be more access to nature areas within the community and in the longer term children will be more aware of their ecological communities.
- Better water quality; better family forests; forest landowners as partners in OK growth and sustainability
- "Priceless"
- Less property loss to wildfire.
Improved water quality.
Improved forest ecosystems supplying ecosystem services.
Less threat to several endangered or threatened spp.
Improved economics for forest landowners and associated services.
Sustainable small forest communities.
- Increased conservation
- Future generations will have a greater appreciation of their environment and will help the reduction of pollution and we will have a cleaner greener state, with less was going to the landfills and more recycling.
- More jobs and higher Exports
- There will be a boost in tourism dollars to the state and an increase in the use of lumber and paper products (if they can be obtained more cheaply than alternatives and/or if wood products can be "honestly" represented as being superior to the alternatives and therefore worth the additional cost.
- Communities would be outside working together. individuals would be outside and active. jobs could open up.
- Smarter, more forest savvy kids with fewer runny noses due to cedar pollen allergies!
- Increased quality of life, increased educational opportunities, increased economic opportunities through wild crafting etc.
- Environment will be better and natural resources will be protected.
- Improved ecosystem health.
Stimulus of local economy.
- carbon sequestration, wildlife benefits, water quality improves, less soil erosion, and possible benefits such as fishing and hunting...
- People will gain more awareness of forestry and will hopefully persuade politicians to allocate the funds needed to make things happen...easier said than done
- Tourism dollars, Look at the Texas State Park Association. I know that many Oklahomans go to Texas to their state parks to participate in trail running/biking events. In the last year, I personally have gone to events at Huntsville, Palo Duro Canyon, and LBJ Grasslands.
- Wild fires and a place to dispose of cedar waste. I have removed as many as I can for 2009 because I don't have anywhere to put the trees and limbs after I cut them down. With the current drought conditions, burning is out of the question.

- Much less erosion and plenty of water and grass with the trees in proper places and not destroyed by development and natural disasters.
- Better water resources. Better tourism visits and usage. More beautiful and more clean cities.
- Improved environment will help Oklahoma to attract new business and retain a well-trained workforce.
- Value of forestland will increase.
 2. As more uses for forestland are developed, the overall economy will benefit from more jobs and income produced by local sources.
 3. Local tax income will increase.
- The conservation and creation of habitats that were once native to the state or region and are now being lost due to poor land management and also the fragmentation of habitat from people moving into rural areas.
- More natural places for people to achieve better health and fitness.
- Increased soil stabilization
 2. Enhanced environment for wildlife
 3. Increased groundwater purity
 4. More tourism opportunities
 5. Enhanced quality of life for residents
 6. Opportunities to educate people about the environment
- Control of cedar to improve productive grazing and improve water quality and quantity.
 - Lessen fire threat with the removal of tree damage.
- riparian reforestation will improve stream bank erosion, improve water quality and qualify for Oklahoma's Carbon Program
- Air and water quality improvement, wildlife habitat improvement, soil erosion controlled, aesthetic quality of life improvement, long-term health benefits for environment and people.
- Water quality and quantity, as well as allergy alleviation, will be improved by cedar eradication. The environment will become more "green friendly" when desirable trees are planted instead.
- Oklahoma forests and related resources will be protected for future benefits to wildlife and watersheds. Wise use of forests will become an expectation on the part of the public.
- A healthier and more diverse state, leading to greater "natural" Biodiversity
- A stronger economy and a healthy environment
- These can be used to offset CO2 emitting industries
- Well managed resource provides opportunity to have sustainable core businesses, job, recreation, etc. Government must support not regulate and tax it out of existence.
- Property values would increase; people would become more involved in preservation
- Wildlife and their habitat are the only positives concerning our state. Tourism might possibly improve. With the decline of oil and gas revenue this could be the only bright spot for the state. As it is we are slowly and surely dying as a state.

- The beginning of a new type of developed landscape with many times more trees; a reduction in red cedars and eventually more land available for use and less water transpired available for Ag etc. less Wildfires due to controlled burns.
- Much less threat of fire loss during an uncontrolled fire.
- People will have a better appreciation for Oklahoma Forests and our utilities will benefit because of it.
- More public ownership of their urban forests. Property owners in neighborhoods must realize how important it is to take proper care of their trees.
- Perhaps the general public will learn the value of forests for absorbing CO2, for keeping streams clean, for growing forest products and it will change their perceptions and values.
- This is a beautiful state. I moved to Oklahoma over 20 years ago and never moved any further west because of the trees in NE Oklahoma. Trees are attractive to residents--current and potential--and residents bring economic development. Trees also mitigate the heat island effect in urban areas which will become more of an issue in coming years as the climate changes.
- Educated people are better stewards of the earth, they are better consumers, they are better land owners, & they are better supporters of your agency.
- Hopefully the invasive species populations will decrease and we will see an increase in native trees, vegetation and animals; a decrease in destroying forests for development, more trees equal more oxygen and possibly a decrease in global warming, plus it will conserve and maintain forest communities;
- A healthier environment
- The next five years can be a period of public recognition and appreciation (for) vibrant and sustainable forest lands. Oklahomans will benefit as the word is spread beyond the forest community.
- Better economy
- More sustainable forestry management-better outward image
- 2) People in communities will understand how important forest management is
- We will retain more young people.
- Pine production, recreation, tourism, and being known as a conservation state.
- Private land owners could develop healthy management practices on the land. This can lead to a more natural forest ecosystem.
- More jobs and better prepared for hard times coming.
- Creation of local jobs that make a real difference to the community and environment.
- Less chance of a fire we can't control.
Educated youth.
More beautiful forest to pass on to our next generation.
- Oklahoma will have ecologically more healthy forests which will benefit wildlife, hunting, tour, and leisure. It will have economically viable harvests for generations. Oklahoma will have a public more supportive and understanding of forest management, and feel more invested in it future.
- Forest owners will be happy.
They will be able to manage their land.

They will be able to make a profit from their land.

The little animals will be happy and the birds will sing.

- I think Oklahoma as a whole could be on track of increasing the quality of our natural resources and a better informed public community.
 - Exotic species will be less of a problem and native species will benefit.
 - Boost economy, create jobs, and reduce numbers of red cedar throughout state.
 - Less wildfire and risk to private property.
Increased forage.
Improved habitat for wildlife.
 - Money. lots and lots of money.
 - reduced wildfire risk
increased water yield
improved wildlife habitat
 - Increased jobs, increased carrying capacity for wildlife, increased hunting opportunities, sustainability of forests and forest products, better forest health.
 - Better fishing and hunting.
Camping for families.
More tourists.
 - Thousands of acres of wasted lands could be producing forest products.
 - Small biofuel plants could be located to take advantage of existing woodstock and transportation infrastructure, supporting local economies.
 - Wildland fire suppression efforts across the state will be more effective with more safety for firefighters.
2. The public will be less likely to demand or even support efforts by so called "green" groups to impose public policies that make natural resource based industries less viable.
3. Non-industrial private forest landowners will realize more of the true value of their forest resource.
- - improved wildlife habitat
 - increased recreational opportunities for hunting, hiking, nature photography, etc.
 - increased ecotourism
 - increased productivity of both forested and non-forested (but redcedar infested) lands
 - coordinated steps toward increased control of harmful invasive species begun
 - resources for landowners in developing and maintaining healthy forests
 - steps toward long-term sustainability of forests taken, as opposed to short-term revenue-only steps.
- An economic impact study, updated periodically, is an important part of assuring continuing and increasing funding for the Forestry Department. By strengthening the partnerships and working to create more jobs and opportunities, the whole of Oklahoma will benefit economically. Oklahoma will take its rightful place of importance in the United States forestry industry.
 - Oklahoma will be a prettier, healthier, and will have a stronger timber industry and more tourism in SE Oklahoma.

- Cleaner water, protection of habitat for threatened species, preservation of natural resources for future generations, increased outdoor recreation (and ecotourism) opportunities.
- economic growth, more taxes paid, recession ends
- Oklahoma will have a valuable forest resource
- If you regulate hardwood timber there will be more abundant habitat for wildlife and we won't run out of hardwood for building materials, paper, and just plain good ol shade trees.
- Better relationships and possibilities for large formal relationships between outdoor enthusiasts, contractors, landowners, and end users of our products. Better business opportunities for the forest products industry.
- Trees to replace dying ones.
- improved economy and more jobs
- -Urban areas will look great.
-The Oklahoma prairie landscape will not be littered with red cedar.
-Oklahomans will understand about forestry and forest practices.
- Lower fire risk, more water availability (removal of salt-cedar, Eastern red cedar), higher water quality (less erosion of stream banks, more pollutant capture)
- Habitat recovery for local species
Increased forest and grassland health
- Increased habitat for all wildlife and bringing Oklahoma back to its historical biota
- It can help with the depressed economy in the county.
- More competition from landowners for this kind of service. Hopefully less building and more forests.
- Oklahoma will become more sustainable and economically more stable
- Less expenditures by utility companies having to clear right-of-ways. Healthier urban forests.
- Hopefully the forests will flourish and thereby giving the citizens of Okla. a place to enjoy and beauty to see.
- Healthier forests
- Better quality of air, water, etc., less erosion, more natural beauty, more wildlife, etc
- We will be well on our way to being a good steward of our natural resources.
- Oklahoma could assume a leadership role in the development of renewable resources in meeting the energy challenges the nation faces. The focus of the State's decision makers has been too long directed to catering to the demands of the fossil fuel industry and, in regard to agriculture, the interests of plains agriculture. As a consequence, other states have outstripped Oklahoma.
- More timber being planted, grown and harvested. This in turn would mean more jobs and more families experiencing a better life style. More timber the price of lumber goes down and the demand goes up.
- Improved forest health;
Increased local economies;
Growing local/regional autonomy.

- Increase in education of conservation, carbon, biodiversity value, and Aesthetic value
- More forestry operations can be utilized. Public interest equals government interest. More funds might be available for forestry operations.
- Better informed citizens especially forest land owners who will desire to manage in conservation minded way.
- We will make more money in the long run by investing now
- 1. A stronger relationship and partnership between landowners and State Forest service.
- 2. Enhanced value or preservation/conservation of forest products and land use.
- 3. Economic opportunities and knowledge to help in addressing problems resulting from droughts, fires, ice, disease.
- Maybe our neighborhood will not flood anymore! We could use the cedars to generate more revenue.
- A better balance in supporting land owners in the grass land industry and those in the forest industry. This cannot be anything but helpful in having growing industries using the lands in Oklahoma to be more productive and profitable.
- more trees, better erosion control and recovery from storm damage
- Improved soil, air, and water quality.
- Forests will expand, the state's economy will expand and the state's tax base will be enhanced. This seems to be a win for all concerned.
- Hopefully, we should see water quality improvements, reduction in soil erosion, improved wildlife habitat, aesthetic values should be improved in and around cities, and this plan may help to maintain current rural jobs and could create additional rural jobs, just to name a few.
- better results for protection, relief for area fire depts, less possible loss of timber, grass, and structure, maybe less arson and better overall results.
- Better quality forest and better fire suppression
- Smaller fires, better public knowledge of our scope of employment.
- Will help ease the vol. fire depts responsibilities with more man power from forestry dept.
- We will have new trees growing to replace the ones that have been removed and lost
- Beautiful land to enjoy
- Economic growth, jobs, public awareness, enjoyment of beautiful country
- With people not going on far vacations and staying home, more revenue for state could be generated with local recreation activities
- Less arson fires
- People passing through Oklahoma won't have such a negative opinion of the landscape.
- Healthy forest, less soil erosion, more recreation use of these lands.
- -more productive utilization of land currently idle or only partially productive
- -more forest land planted and completed developed for future demands/utilization
- -increased forestry labor employment
- -better forest for increased wildlife.

- more planting of unused land and after logging
- The forests would be healthier and better managed. There would also be good co-operation between citizens and agencies.
- a good safe forest to be enjoyed by many people
- Vol. fire depts. will be eased of the problems of so much responsibility over the fire areas that are not under the fire protection areas on the state forestry.
- Preservation of natural resources, both the trees and the diversity of wildlife, increased revenues from forestland, an increase in public interest in Oklahoma's natural resources and parks, which would counteract some of the decrease in visitors to our state and national parks in recent years, safer conditions for everyone in the state due to the decreased risk of catastrophic wildfires, protection from the environmental problems that can follow those fires such as increased runoff and pollution of our surface waters, and a better informed public.
- More trees in communities within cities/towns will be planted. Communities become more knowledgeable about the reasons for decreasing amount of forests in Oklahoma even if they are not able to own a piece of a forest. Communities become more knowledgeable about how they can help retain and keep healthy the forests currently standing.
- We would have a better informed population that would understand that preservation is not always the desirable goal and that there are safe and productive ways to use the forests.
- Better wildlife habitat. better timber market
- More economic growth by utilizing our forest resources.
- Enhance tourist enjoyment of the area and resulting preservation of old growth trees.
- more understanding - less carbon in atmosphere
- I hope it will attract more business as well as people who would like to move our state.
- Reduced losses of forests and trees to land conversion pressures, forest pests and wildfires; large economic development in rural areas; increase in number of cities with their own urban foresters; clean air and clean water; happy people.
- Increased revenue for landowners. Landowners might become more aware of benefits from taking care of their trees and managing their forests.
- More and more landowners becoming good forest stewards and an increase in the overall health management and sustainability of Oklahoma's forests and other natural resources.
- Landowners will see increased benefits from their land which include better productivity, more aesthetic appeal, and wildlife habitat and as a result could mean less costs for OFS in fire suppression due to reduced fuel loads.
- Oklahoma will benefit economically if we manage our timberland for maximum timber production. This is necessary to insure we keep the industry that is already present in Oklahoma. However, we should also be attempting to attract new industry if possible. This can only be done if we are producing the required amount and type of timber that industry requires.

In addition, we can improve the quality of our land and waters through

compliance with BMP's. This will mean an increase in the value of our land in Oklahoma. Through further education about "firewise" we can reduce the amount of loss to property due to wildland fire.

- Forest health will be improved in the riparian area, cross timbers and in the upland forest.
- Less redcedar and healthier crosstember forest. Less allergy problems. More water for the water table, trees, and ponds.
- More people will own timber producing land, healthier forests; Oklahomans will have the necessary education about Forestry.
- Public will have a better idea of the goals and abilities of the Forestry Services. And industry & private landowners will have better markets and timber to sell.
- The benefits that come from above
- Maybe the cancer rate will drop and the water might be a little more potable.
- More people will be planting trees for conservation use which helps the State as a whole.
- Increased Seedling Sales and Revenue
Increased Reforestation with Native Species
More Jobs with Better Pay
More Diverse/Recession Proof Economy
Better Stewardship of the Natural Environment
- People will plant more trees and have a better view of forestry in our state.
- All Oklahoma forestlands, location notwithstanding, will be highly regarded for the value of the benefits they provide to Oklahoma citizens. As the value of forestland is proven, more Oklahoma forestlands will be properly managed.
- Increased forest acres throughout the state being properly managed - or at least landowners attempting to manage.
Reduced susceptibility to insect and disease infestations and reduced fire hazard/
fire intensity/ losses due to wildfire.
Better educated public which could lead to an increased push for laws that would benefit forests through land management as well as an increased push for more incentive programs.
- The overall wealth and education of Oklahoma landowners and residents will be greatly enhanced.
- By increasing timber markets/utilization will increase timber value. Look at the windfall from that one item!
More tax revenue for Okla.
Possibly more employment, Obama would like this one.
When timber is worth more, people are more likely to manage/grow timber.
- Healthy ecosystems including trees, understory and wildlife resulting in cleaner water and increased recreational opportunities while providing alternative sources of income/management for landowners.
- Maintenance and expansion of Oklahoma Forest. Continued economic feasibility of operating private commercial timberlands
- A public awareness of the issues.

- I think that if we promote native seed sources and tree improvement we will have a healthier, more drought tolerant and disease resistant forest. Also any other education we can provide to the public will help Oklahoma' forest and keep our forestry community strong.
- Stronger and productive forestry community
- Improved quality of life
- community support of all forestry issues
- - More forestry related employment as forest products industries respond to opportunities
 - Increased tourism revenues
 - Better stewardship
 - Improved infrastructure to service the demands.
- -Increased safety (prescribed fire).
 - Healthier ecosystems (prescribed fire).
 - The ability to manage forests using value producing harvests to achieve owner objectives related to income generation, wildlife habitat, aesthetics, and ecosystem restoration (woody biomass market).
- Better tax base = better public services. Better managed / regulated forest= better environment, hunting, and recreational opportunities.
- We will be better able to combat forest fires
- Better environment inclusive of land wood, water, and atmosphere. Both practical as well as improved appearance.

7. Please use the area below to tell us about other pertinent information you feel should be included in the Oklahoma Forest Resource Assessment. :

- Better management of resources and money.
Better qualified individuals working for the states natural resource sectors.
- The number of individuals pursuing environmental positions within the state.
- With the current conditions I expect many logging and other small and even some larger operations to fail.
- BMP implementation rates in OFS monitoring; info on successful city trees program in urban forestry in Tulsa; Governor's support for sustainable resource development in OK
- Feed trip for student's opportunities.
- Oklahoma has the greatest biodiversity of any state, in my opinion. We should do all that we can to preserve this great state, for our and future generations to enjoy and love. We should work hard to educate, as early as possible "how to think, not what" in regards to the environment. Stop the migration of invasive non-native species of plants and animals.
- Collect Street and Park tree information in communities throughout the state and compare it to rural forest samples. The information collected can be used with US

Forest Service i-tree tools to show values of trees in our communities and the dollar benefits they provide.

- We need to think outside of the box. There are all kinds of seminars that address the benefits of "niche market" products and services. How can we take these "niche market" items and turn them into a "must have" commodity?
What makes Oklahoma's forestland base different than other states? How can we capitalize on those differences?
- Take out more of these cedar trees and plant and let the good oak and pines prosper with plenty of water and less erosion in the county and state to.
- Include those of us who love the forest areas. Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, www.okearhbike.com, www.oktrailrunning.com, www.okcrunning.org, www.lakehefner.org
- The next five years is going to be a critical period because the people in government, the ones that have the power and the desire to seriously cripple our ability to manage our forests, are now in office. I believe it will be a great victory to just hold our own in these maximizing the opportunities forest landowners have to realize an economic gain from their investment(s) is critical in encouraging them to embrace good forest stewardship and to fight for their right to do so. Lets look at what's out there that demonstrates environmentally responsible economic gain - I'm specifically talking about reviewing the availability of forest management plans, cost share incentives, logger education programs and forest community outreach/education.
- Our state government is the ONLY and LAST resource we have to push for urban forest preservation. The apathy in our City governments - not to mention citizens - is going to be a huge problem in the future. It's costing us millions if not billions already!
- What regions in Oklahoma were historically like, native tree species in these regions, and resources to help people properly manage different land types. Inform the public about the importance to keep wild lands protected from "non-natural" development. Promote health and fitness and protecting our wildlife
- How the forests/wild lands can integrate both nature and humans.
- While I was in college at OU (30 years ago) I worked for the Forestry Service Nursery at Goldsby and I have always thought that it was a wonderful facility and I was especially impressed with the enthusiasm and effort of the full time staff of foresters. These people obviously were experiencing job satisfaction and that seems to be a rare thing today. I think this may be a good time to try and interest young people in forestry careers.
- Perhaps address the concern of water usage by problem trees in unmanaged forests, field, and rivers.
- Coordination with the Office of the Sec. of Environment to ensure that projects are coordinated within applicable agencies to ensure that all funding is leveraged as effectively as possible and to reduce duplication of effort.
- Too much fuel load lying on the forest floor

- Range maps and growing conditions for native species
- Invasive species and insect/disease threats to the Oklahoma forests.

- I would be interested in seeing this put into action as I am in a position to see this issue used to the benefit of the state's resources.
- Understand the strengths and weaknesses of our resource, it's different than growing a corn or wheat crop, lots of risk trying to grow a crop which requires 30 years to have financial returns. Have to look at longer term goals not what happens this year.
- I travel the state and noticed many, many areas with lots of ice damaged trees. Some of Mother Nature Works
- Oklahoma Forestry Services does a great job, keep up the good work!
- The Neighbor woods program is an important part of our urban tree education program and should be fully funded in OKC and Tulsa at a minimum. This program helps engage urban dwellers and makes them stakeholders in the forestry division's goals. Otherwise, urban dwellers don't see the connection with the forestry division.
- Project Learning Tree has been a HUGE eye opener to me about the forestry industry in OK. It gave me information & materials to be a community educator for the rural VFD I belong to, it made me aware of what your agency can do other than education to help us. Continue the loan of equipment to VFD's-it has been a lifesaver to newer VFD's as they progress to getting newer equipment! THANK YOU for the equipment, the education & the survey!!
- On a personal note, I love to spend time in my woods. I also like the idea of selling my old trees and bringing on the new. Providing markets and reasonable prices could use some work.
- Continue to provide support for small acreage owners such as myself that live away from Leflore County, such as the State Forestry Service.
 1. Opportunities to change ownership of some forest to more responsive landowners.
 2. More receptive attitude to services available from the state forest service.
- You and your staff are doing a great job with me. I have found what you have offered to be a pleasant surprise and very pertinent and helpful in meeting my objectives regarding our forest land stewardship.
- The quantity and quality of the forest habitat in Oklahoma.
 - Water quality coming off the forest land.
 - Assessment of possible disease and pest issues.
 - Any issues with exotics.
- I would like to see lists, and links, to forestry nurseries which can provide seedlings for various fruit/nut/other trees, suitable for the state.
- The Oklahoma Division of Forestry and especially the men of the Tahlequah office have been a great resource for me and my family. Because of the information on forestry opportunities for land owners, help in locating contractors to work with and the encouragement needed in working in a new and unfamiliar field we have turned land that was sitting idle into a Pine Tree Plantation. It has been a pleasure

and a true "Blessing" working with you all. Thank you for the service you offer the people of Oklahoma.

- The Oklahoma Forestry Service provides excellent assistance, largely due to the dedication of its professional employees. There is, however, little or no state organizational support for landowners--no provision for seminars, state meetings, or encouragement for participation at the national or regional level.
- It usually takes a long time for overall improvement in forest resources but by the end of five years we should be able to see a marked improvement and identify areas where more work is needed.
- I am worried that the poor economy might lead to more clear cutting; elimination of conservation programs, etc.
- I really don't feel qualified to even comment on these questions because I don't know about the problems Okla faces. Our only problem is that we don't get enough rain.
- This will be my first year in the program.
- I am a disabled veteran and recreation access is hard for me anyway so I would like an ATV/UTV permit system to be addressed.
- Timber values, and non timber values
- Incentives for small timber producing companies
- This was a good general assessment.
- The focus on land conservation in northeastern Oklahoma, particularly the Spavinaw Creek and Illinois River watershed, creates opportunities for partnerships and leveraging of limited funds.
- I believe that the general public does not fully realize the importance of forestry to Oklahoma. All of us who are partners need to continue to expand what we do, learn more, and provide additional support for the state Forestry Department and the professionals and businesses that are part of the industry.
 - it would be helpful if economic benefit information (\$) could be developed for healthy forests, invasive-free forests, recreational use of forests and the like; this will be needed to promote the results of the assessment, regardless of what it says.
- Develop good information as to the true status of Oklahoma's forest resource.
- 1. Recreational use of timberlands
- 2. Water quantity and quality production estimates from timberlands.
- Make one area fore riding 4 wheelers preferable out west.
- First: What do we have? Forest Inventory
Next: What management practices are needed?
Timber management plans
next: How do we accomplish these goals and objectives?
New and better markets
Next: How do we maintain sustainability and forest health?
Use of indigenous species and proper burning regime.

Last: It must be profitable or at least cost neutral to provide jobs and make it feasible for landowners in today's economy.

- I feel that prescribed burning to control invasive species and maintain ecosystems should be assessed.
- -Fire management & use for sustainable forestry & land use.
-The removal of Eastern Red Cedar & other invasive or exotic species to use for wood products.
- I think that the Oklahoma Forest Resource Assessment is doing a great job and I can't think of anything else that needs to be included at this time.
- The access of forest land to the available mills. The costs involved in getting the timber in various areas to the mills, including the impact of diesel costs. Methods for tracking loads of timber from the land to the mill and making the mills accountable for each load of timber received, including accountability directly to the landowner.

Methods to encourage and increase the use of portable mills.

- I think it would be important to try to document historic changes in forest extent, structure, community composition from 1900 to the present.
- I feel that if the forestry department would consider what I have to say they will have a better reputation with the public.

Thank You

Wilburton, OK.

- Many pastures are starting to be overtaken by undesirable trees and bushes. Soil erosion needs attention.
- Urban forestry has to remain strong in Oklahoma. The urban areas are growing very fast across the state. If this is not properly managed then there will be a void in the urban areas of Oklahoma
- A good plan should always be evaluated during and after implementation. This plan should include a monitoring plan to make sure the plan successfully reached the goals of the plan. This is very important when it comes to asking for additional funding needs from partners. Partnering with Universities could help with the monitoring effort and even new research opportunities should be an option as the plan is implemented.
- The more public education about the old growth in the crosstimbers the better. People commonly cut down trees hundreds of years old without realizing it. The Corps of Engineers at Skiatook has created a nature trail with interpretive signage showing the extreme age of some of the trees in the area, but that is the only agency I know of that has publicized that Oklahoma, and Osage Co. in particular has an old growth forest. It's sad to count the rings out of an old post oak that was in the way of a septic system and discover that it sprouted before we were a country.
- Encourage active timber management on private property and no new environmental laws that erode landowner's rights.
- As long as people are going to set fires, there will obviously have to be fire suppression to protect assets (homes, farm land, managed forests, etc.). While it is important to teach the public about the benefits of prescribed burning, it is also vital to have a well-trained wildland fire-fighting organization.

- Comparatives of what forests were and what they are now as far as tree types and size of forests. Also, include known facts about the domino affect on animals, runoff, etc, caused by the loss of forestry in Oklahoma.
- I would include what level of education and interaction you have had with the forestlands of Oklahoma, because the uninformed despite being well meaning can do more harm than good by enacting regulations that are detrimental to the forest as a whole.
- Southeast Ok. Has been neglected for as long as I can remember and this is where all the tourist like to come, to hunt fish, boating, camping, etc. I would hope that this part of the stat is included in the overall picture.
- You should have included 15 issues that might be important. I do not know all the issues, but I could recognize ones that are important to me.
- I feel we need to make a strong push for landowners to become more active in managing their land. The controlled burning program that is available through OFS can and will help reduce the State's wildfire threat for its' citizens and state employees
- We should all encourage the federal government to manage their property with a multiple use concept. This includes economic timber harvests. Even though they own the land, the land is in Oklahoma and more production will mean more forest industry for our state.
- 1. Forest health (insect and disease).
2. Wildfire information statewide.
- Biomass allocation, ethanol from trees instead of corn or grass.
- I do not feel that several things are being done as best they could. The following needs to be addressed; marketing our seedlings and all State programs, increasing Env. Ed., Managing Genetic Superior Loblolly to give the best to Oklahomans, Promoting a more aggressive style to show Oklahomans we are here to serve them instead of taking so long to get back to them, and Allow Staff to get out to "meet and greet" the public instead of New Native/ other species
recommendations for FRC
Survey level of Public and Professional Knowledge about our and other Natural Resource Programs
Market Development is also very high on the list as the unmanaged lands have vast quantities of low quality hardwoods and cedar which, if a market existed, could provide income to landowners that may encourage management.
Proper Tree Care - Improper tree care, species selection, pruning, etc are all major problems in urban areas. Tree care companies and utility companies often mangle trees on private property- often leading to insect disease problems, unsightly form, or death- and the landowners have little or no recourse for pursuing compensation for damages.
- The importance of Agro-Tourism to the forestry community (The importance of Multi-use)
- Forest fragmentation, smaller forested parcels (ownership) and suburban or ranchette encroachment.
- A clear definition of "Forest" and forest type.

- The potential of forests in Oklahoma for use in future biofuels should be emphasized. The current focus on switchgrass is fraud or at least a red herring.
- I suspect nobody cares more about the land than the people who own it. Think before enacting more regulations. Some times less is better.