



# Carbon and Forest Management Work Group



December 6, 2023, 9 am – 3 pm

Meeting #2





# Welcome to Work Group Members

- This is a public meeting and is being recorded.
- Please use the chat for questions during the presentations. We will have designated times to address questions throughout the meeting.
- Please keep cameras on.
- Please keep microphones off unless speaking.
- Materials, including the meeting recording, will be shared after the meeting and available on the Work Group website.





# Welcome to Members of the Public

- The public will not be able to comment within this meeting but can share questions via email.
- Please direct all questions to Duane Emmons, [duane.emmons@dnr.wa.gov](mailto:duane.emmons@dnr.wa.gov)
- Refer to the Work Group website for meeting information and materials.

The screenshot shows the website for the Washington State Department of Natural Resources. The header includes the department's name and the Commissioner of Public Lands, Hilary S. Franz. A search bar is located in the top right corner. The main navigation menu includes 'PROGRAMS AND SERVICES', 'ABOUT', 'MANAGED LANDS', and 'EMPLOYMENT'. The page is titled 'Carbon and Forest Management Work Group' and features a photo of Hilary Franz, the Commissioner of Public Lands. The text on the page describes the department's management of forested state trust lands and the establishment of the work group to examine the relationship between forest management and atmospheric carbon sequestration. A list of topics to be addressed by the work group is provided at the bottom.

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF  
**NATURAL RESOURCES**  
HILARY S. FRANZ | COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC LANDS

Search here...

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES ABOUT MANAGED LANDS EMPLOYMENT

Home | Boards and Commissions

Board of Natural Resources

Forest Practices Board

Advisory Committee on Real Estate Strategy

Blanchard Forest Advisory Committee

**Carbon and Forest Management Work Group**

Committee on Geographic Names

Encumbered Lands Steering Committee

Forest Health Advisory Committee

Lidar Advisory Committee

## Carbon and Forest Management Work Group

The Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) manages more than 2 million acres of forested state trust lands across the state. On these lands, DNR generates revenue for counties, universities, and other trust beneficiaries, primarily through timber harvest. DNR also manages state trust lands for a suite of ecological goals, such as clean water and habitat for threatened and endangered species.

In its 2023 legislative session, the Washington State Legislature directed DNR to establish a work group to examine the relationship between forest management and atmospheric carbon sequestration (absorption) and storage in DNR-managed forests. The work group will collaborate on approaches related to the following:

- Conserving and managing older, carbon-dense, structurally complex forest stands

Commissioner of Public Lands, Hilary Franz, invites you to serve. [Click here to apply to serve on a board.](#)

[www.dnr.wa.gov/about/boards-and-commissions/carbon-and-forest-management-work-group](http://www.dnr.wa.gov/about/boards-and-commissions/carbon-and-forest-management-work-group)





# Agenda

1. Welcome & Updates
2. Draft Work Group Charter Review
3. Context Setting: Presentations on Habitat Conservation Plan and Stand Development Stages

*Break (10 minutes)*

4. Discussion of Budget Proviso Goal 1

*Lunch (1 hour)*

5. Discussion of Budget Proviso Goal 2
6. Outline Priority Considerations and Criteria
7. Next meeting discussion





# Meeting Objectives

- Review and agree upon the updated Work Group Charter
- Develop common understanding of budget proviso goals 1 and 2
- Discuss meeting topics for early 2024 meetings





# Recap of Last Meeting

- DNR Overview Presentation
- Charter Review
- Review of Considerations for the 5 Budget Proviso Goals

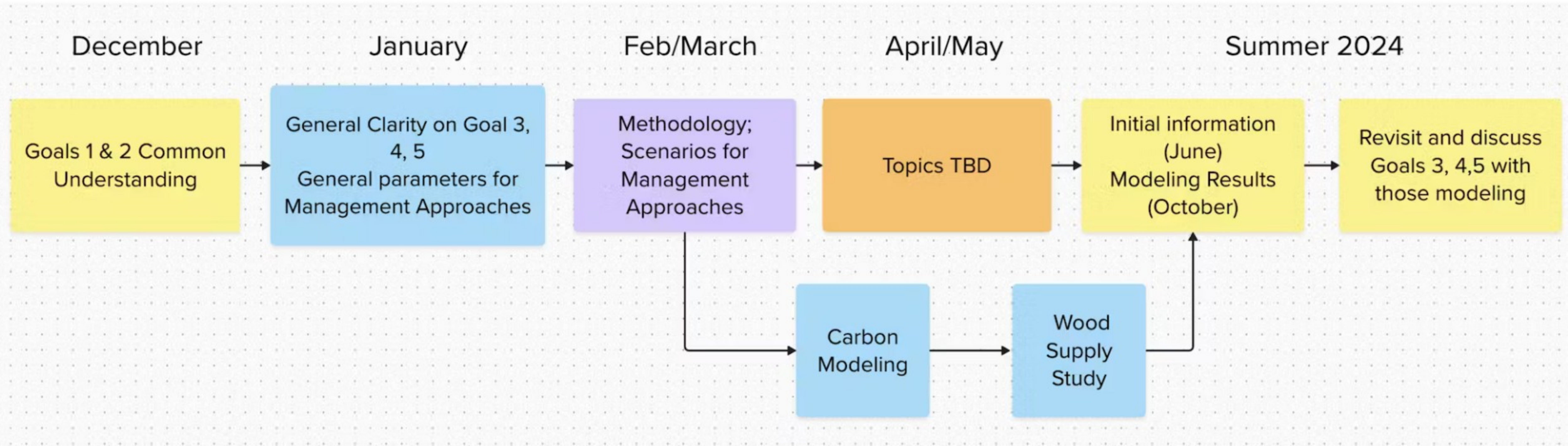
## Grounding the Budget Proviso Goals

Goal 1 Conserve and manage older, carbon-dense, structurally complex forest stands located on DNR-managed lands	Goal 2
What should we consider when discussing 'structurally complex forests'?	What should be the baseline carbon density?
<p>For future generations</p> <p>What we don't know that these forests hold.</p> <p>diversity</p> <p>Plant species diversity and robust understory</p> <p>The small number of acres of these and their contribution to biodiversity - and the unknown</p> <p>The total carbon content of stands - above and below ground.</p> <p>What is happening to these remaining forests while we are working on the topic? Can there be discussion about how to pause harvest while we figure out solutions.</p> <p>All aspects of forest diversity, including edge habitats and forest openings</p> <p>The ability for SC forests to store carbon and to quantify how much</p> <p>The rate of sequestration occurring in older forests</p> <p>Not harvesting carbon dense forests.</p> <p>Current Definitions in DNR's Policy for</p> <p>what are we managing SC forests for? wildlife? which ones?</p> <p>How little it would cost to compensate Junior Taxing District's for the</p> <p>Below ground carbon</p>	<p>The total carbon content of stands - above and below ground.</p> <p>Not harvesting carbon dense forests.</p> <p>Below ground carbon</p>



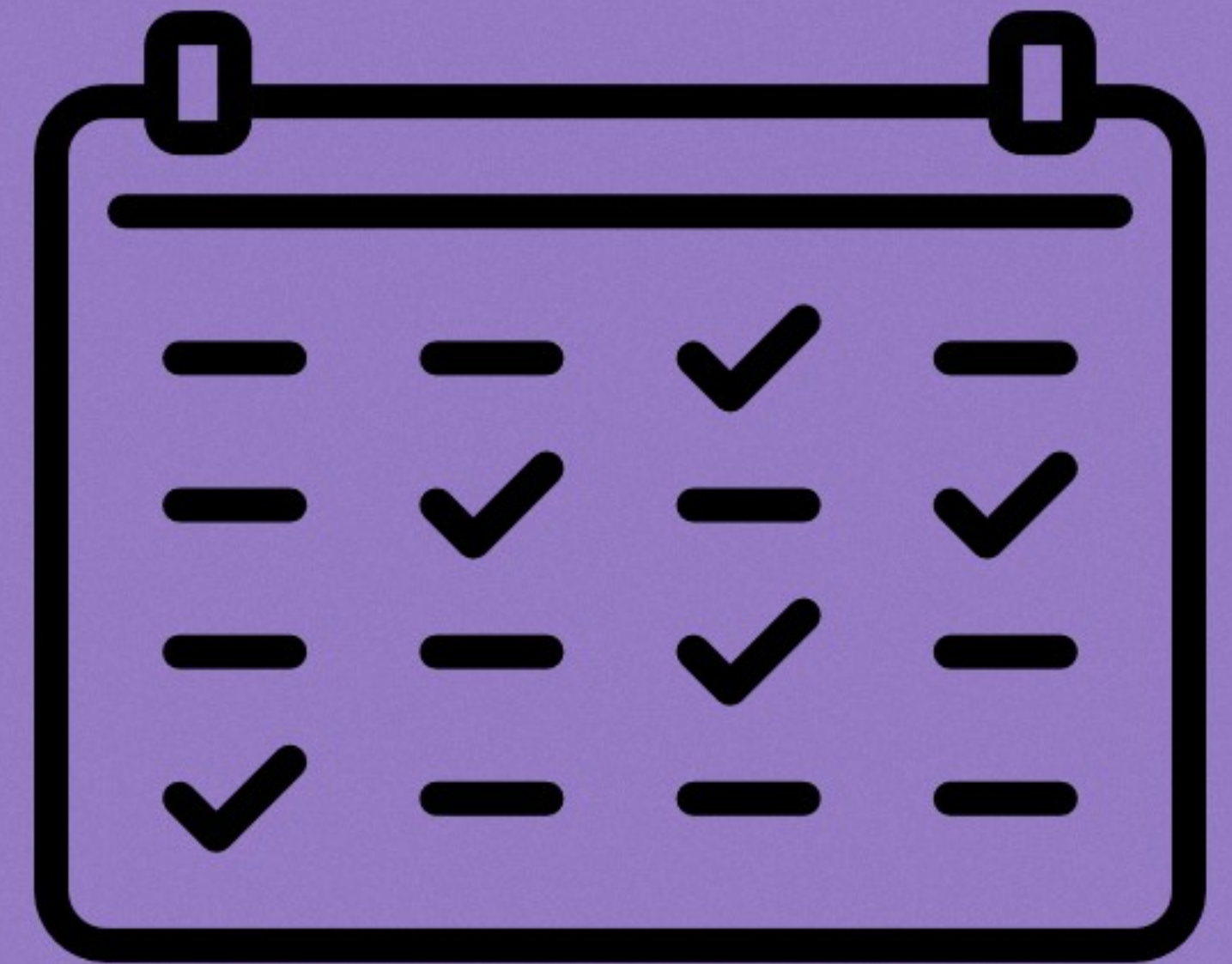
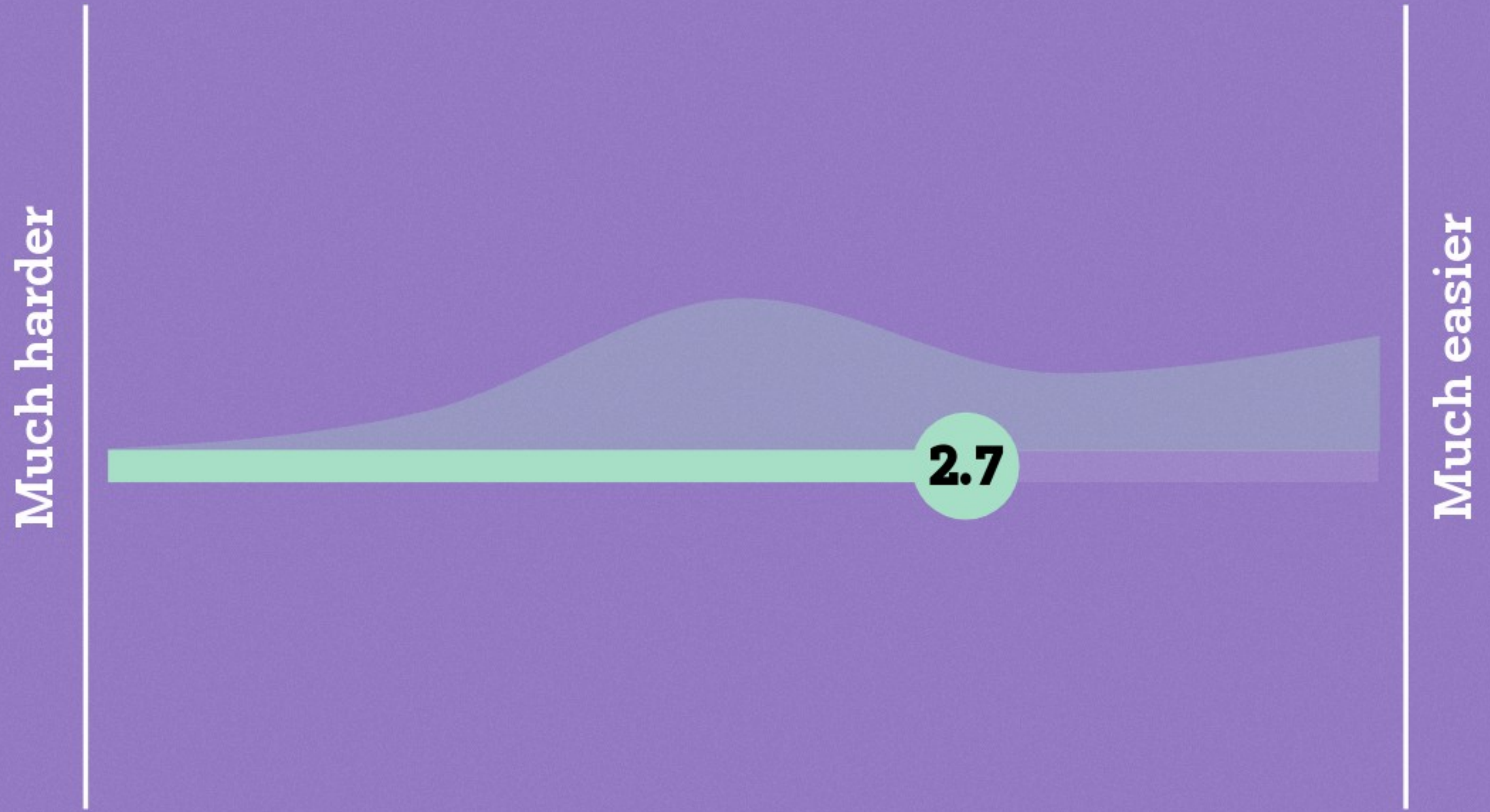


# Initial Topics and Meeting Focus Areas



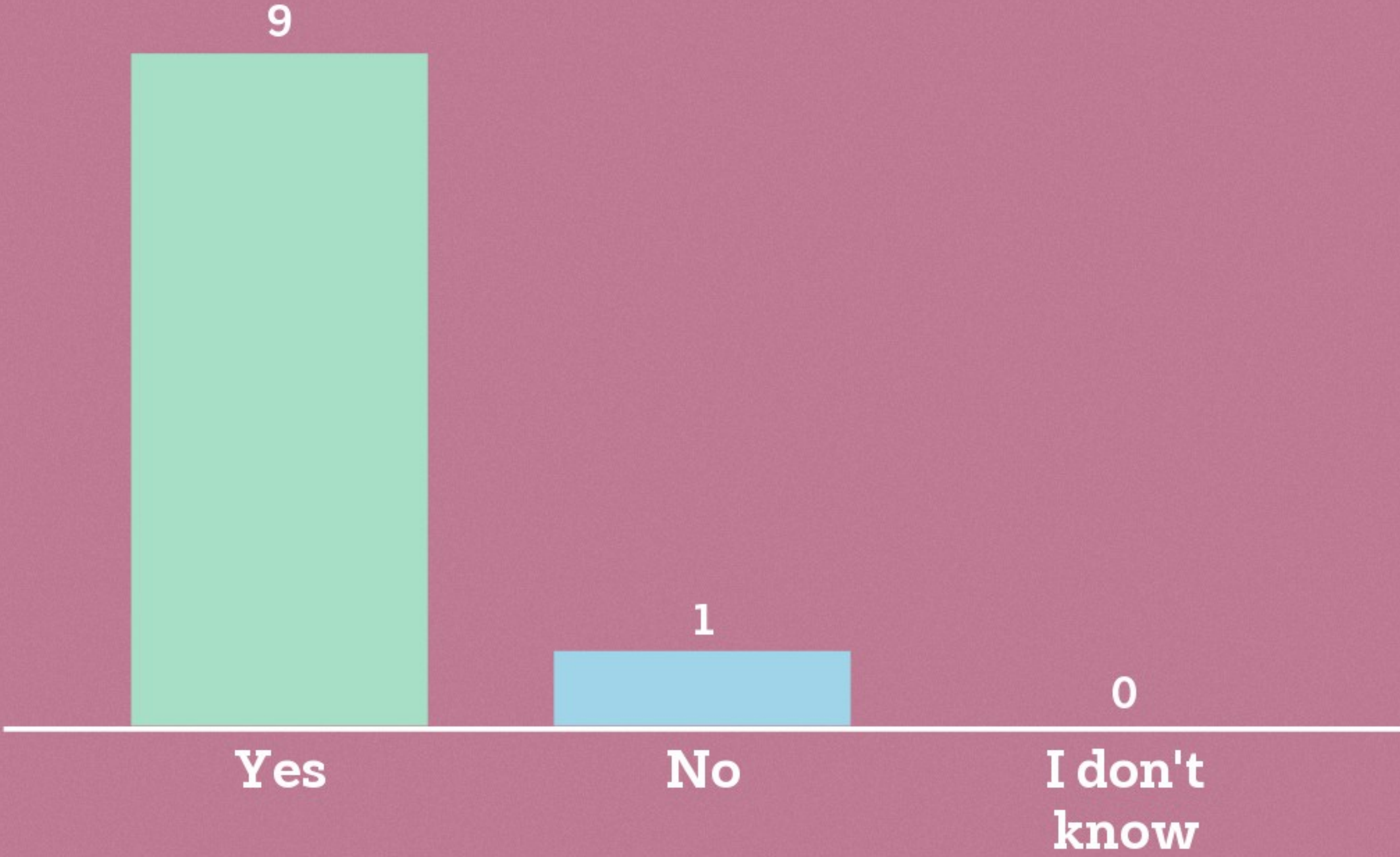


# Was this meeting invite easier to access?





# Were you able to access the meeting material links? (DNR website, Mural, Mentimeter)





## What else would make this process easier?

Provide agenda earlier to allow for more prep time.

Just send me a standard email

I've found the process pretty easy

See the chat

Meeting notes need to be sent after each meeting. Agenda needs to be sent directly to work group members at least 7 working days before the next meeting. BluePoint must reply to emails from panelists.



# DNR Updates

WA DNR





# Work Group Charter

BluePoint Planning





# Requested Edits & Clarifications

- Terminology
  - Majority vs. Supermajority
- Decision-Making Process
  - Simplified voting process
  - Minority reports





# Work Group Charter - Quorum

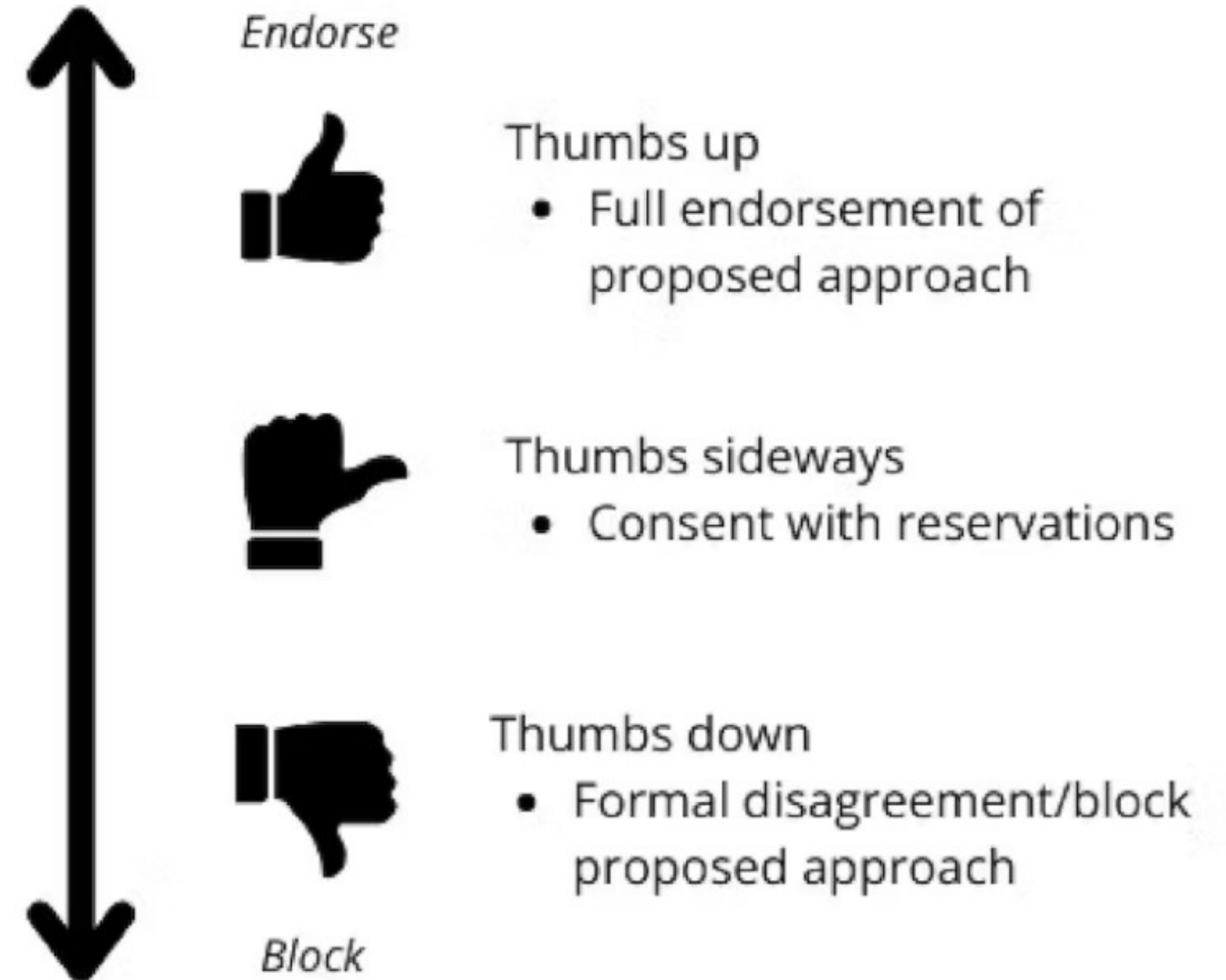
- Each work group 'seat' represents a single vote.
- Quorum:  $\frac{1}{2}$  the work group plus one, or 7 members based on the current work group roster of 12 members.
- Calendar invitation RSVPs serve to confirm if there will be a quorum.





# Decision Making

- There will be 2 formal votes in the process
- The threshold for consensus is a **supermajority of 75%**.
- Support will be defined as meaning “I can live with the approach.”
- A supermajority must vote ‘thumbs-up’ or ‘thumbs-sideways’ for a proposed approach to move forward.





# Minority Reporting Tracking

- Minority reports may be submitted by those who voted thumbs down in the final vote and documented in the final Legislative report.
- Minority opinions will be noted and summarized in the meeting summary notes.
- There will be an opportunity to share reasons for dissent in the chat and that will be quoted in those notes.





# Context Setting: DNR Presentations

Habitat Conservation Plan, Stand Development Stages

WA DNR





# 10 Minute Break

Return at 10:45





# BREAK

Please reconvene at 11:00 am





# Discussion of Budget Proviso Goals 1 & 2

BluePoint Planning





# Budget Proviso Goals

1. Conserve and manage older, carbon-dense, structurally complex forest stands located on DNR-managed lands.
2. Increase carbon sequestration and storage in forests and harvested wood products from DNR-managed forestlands
3. Generate predictable beneficiary revenue
4. Maintain timber supplies that support local industry
5. Address economic needs in rural communities





# Goal 1 – Summary of Comments

Goal 1: Conserve and manage older, carbon-dense, structurally complex forest stands located on DNR-managed lands.

- Diversity
  - Age
  - Wildlife species composition and use
  - Plant species composition
  - Tree species composition and structure
  - Other
- Carbon Sequestration Capacity
  - Based on stand age and species composition and structure of forest
  - Annual changes based on mortality, loss of carbon stock





# Goal 1 – Summary of Comments cont.

- Locational Considerations
  - Distribution of forest
  - Connectivity to urban areas/suburban/impacted areas
  - Connectivity to other forested areas
- Other considerations
  - Net Ecosystem productivity
  - Risks due to wildfires and development
  - Growth and yield of various types of trees
  - Ability to selectively harvest and manage to aid in the development of more structurally complex forests





# Goal 2 – Summary of Comments

Goal 2: Increase carbon sequestration and storage in forests and harvested wood products from DNR-managed forestlands.

- Forest Characterization
  - Age, species composition and management of stands
  - Rate of forest growth
  - Net ecosystem productivity (connected to above)
  - Class of stands





# Goal 2 – Summary of Comments cont.

- Carbon Calculations
  - Above ground
  - Below ground
  - What is a carbon-dense forest?
  - Rate of sequestration and capacity
  - Accounting for GHG emissions from harvesting
- Harvest Implications
  - Age of stands and length of rotations
  - Carbon stored in wood products
  - Potential for extended rotations and selective harvest
  - Practices that can accelerate growth and sequestration
  - New best practices?
- Complete carbon cycle vs baseline?







# Mural Recap

- Add new sticky note by clicking on note icon
- Click on existing sticky note to add text
- Click bottom of sticky note and add an icon to indicate your opinion about an existing sticky note



## Grounding the Budget Proviso Goals

<b>Goal 1</b> Conserve and manage older, carbon-dense, structurally complex forest stands located on DNR-managed lands	<b>Goal 2</b>
What should we consider when discussing 'structurally complex forests'?	What basel
	



# Lunch Break

Please reconvene at 1:00 pm



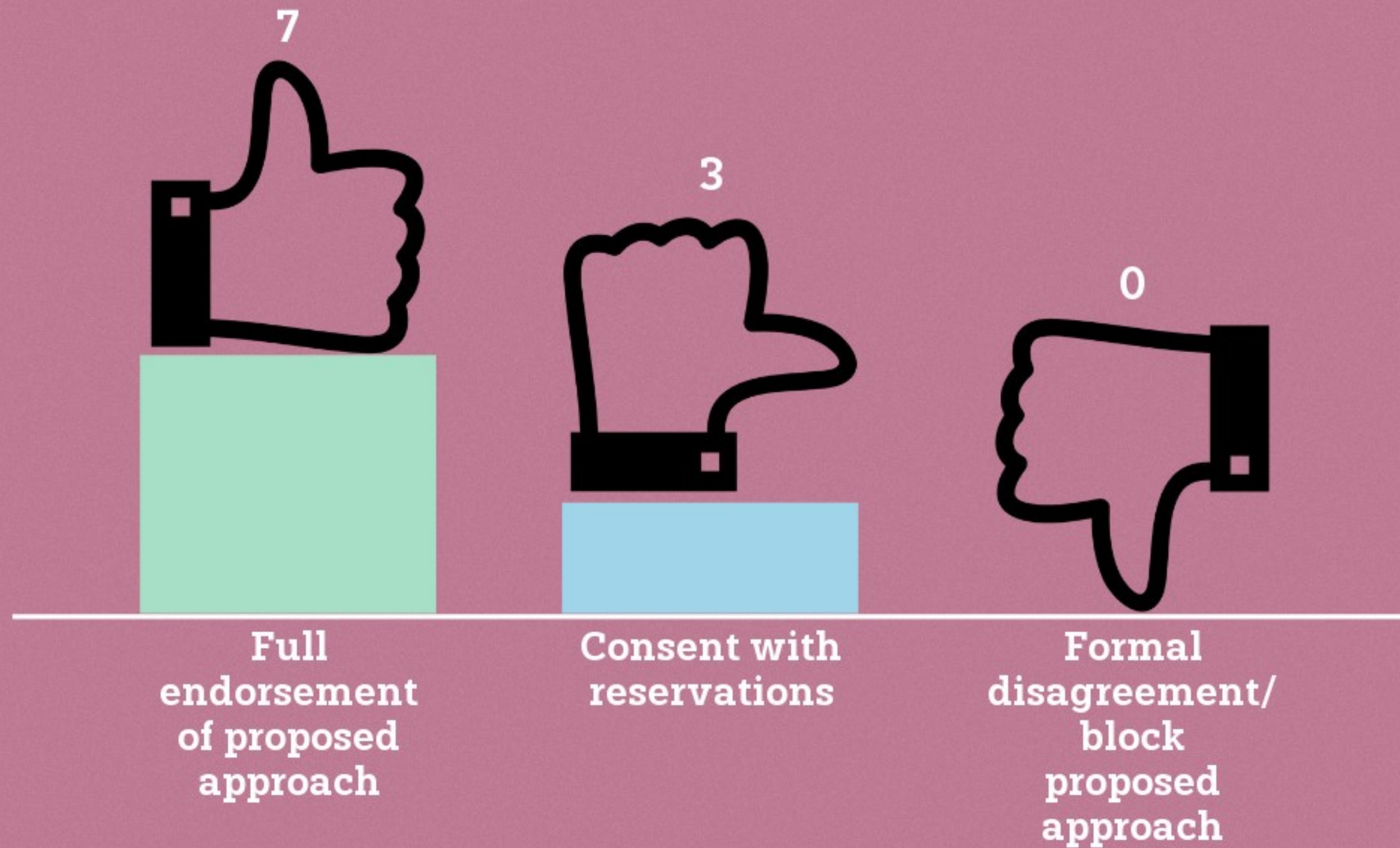


# Edits to the Charter

- **Super-Majority for a vote is a super majority of the Working Group**
- **Working group will be alerted well in advance when there will be a vote**



# Can we move forward with the Work Group Charter?



## Endorse



Thumbs up

- Full endorsement of proposed approach



Thumbs sideways

- Consent with reservations



Thumbs down

- Formal disagreement/block proposed approach

## Block





# Prioritize the following critical elements of calculating carbon.



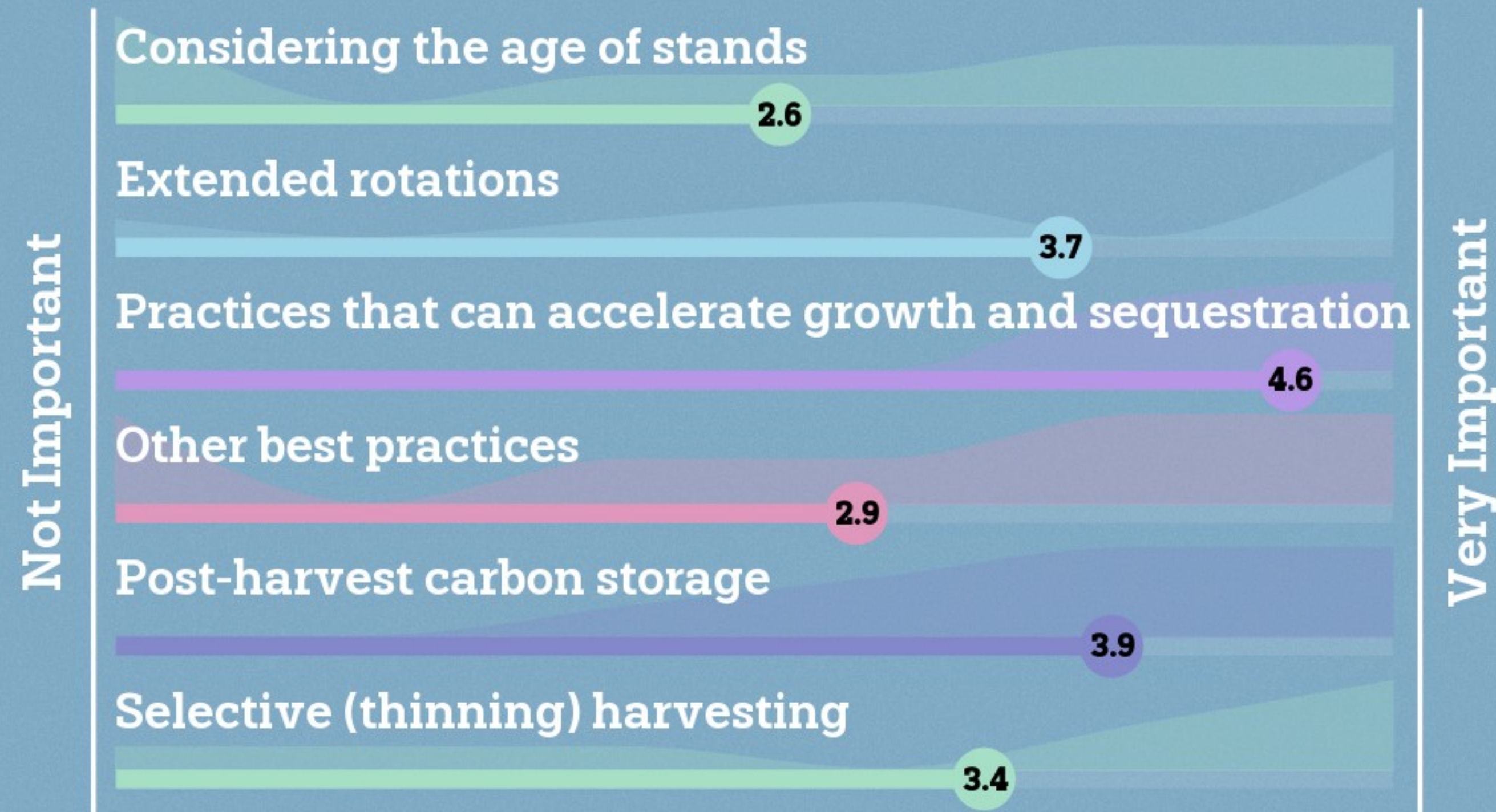


## Other thoughts to add?

Off site carbon storage is important!



# How important are these elements in potential management approaches?





**Other thoughts to add?**





# Priority Considerations and Criteria for Budget Proviso Goals 1 & 2

BluePoint Planning





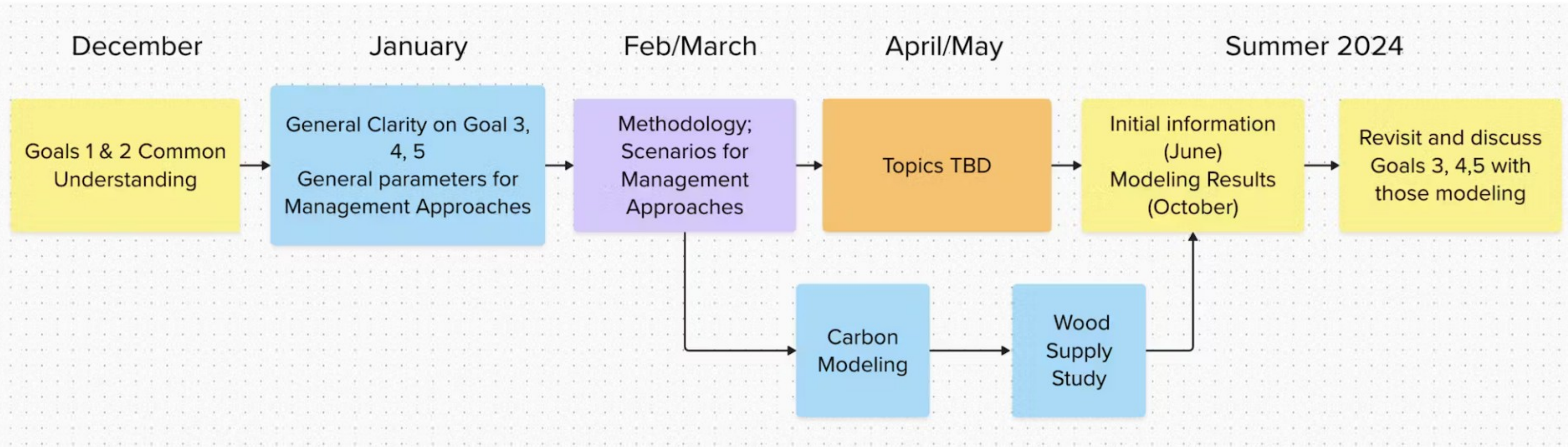
# Next Steps

BluePoint Planning





# Initial Topics and Meeting Focus Areas



What kind of background information do you want/need?





# 2024 Meeting Schedule – 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month

## Date

January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024

February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024

March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024

April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024

May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024 (potential cancel)

June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024 (potential cancel)

July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024

August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024 (potential cancel)

September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024

October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024

November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024

December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024

