

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item No:	7
Title of Issue:	State Forests Management - Issue 2, Objective #1 – Adapting the Forest Management Plans, Clatsop and Tillamook State Forests Strategies for the Achievement of the Performance Measures
Date of Presentation:	April 29, 2008
Contact:	Ron Zilli
Title:	State Forests Policy & Planning Unit Manager
Contact Information:	503-945-7363, rzilli@odf.state.or.us

SUMMARY

The purpose of this agenda item is to provide the Board with a status report of the on-going work to develop management strategies for the Clatsop and Tillamook State Forests that will achieve the performance measure targets.

CONTEXT

Following the adoption of performance measure targets for the Clatsop and Tillamook State Forests at the November 2007 meeting, the Board directed staff to develop management strategies for these forests that will achieve the performance measure targets and to make a report at November 2008 meeting.

The Department implemented a charter work plan for the “Clatsop and Tillamook State Forests Strategies for the Achievement of the Performance Measures.” This project will provide the Board with strategies (a forest management plan approach) for these two forests that strive to achieve all nine of the performance measure targets. Accompanying these strategies will be an analysis of the achievability of performance measure targets utilizing different strategies and the trade-offs between performance measure target achievements based on the analysis of different strategies.

The project team is currently collecting data and beginning analytical work to evaluate the feasibility of achieving the performance measure targets over the next two decades and providing for the long-term sustainability of the social, environmental, and economic values provided by these two State Forests in the context of achieving *Greatest Permanent Value* as defined in ORS 530.010 through 530.050, and OAR 629-035-0020.

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

The project team is composed of Salem, Area, and District staff with a range of expertise (e.g. operations, silviculture, wildlife, planning, aquatic, roads, recreation, etc.). The project team has held three full team meetings and several task oriented sub-group meetings. The work conducted and/or begun to date includes:

- Significant progress on the imputation of the stand level inventory and the development of new growth and yield tables. This work will achieve one of the major recommendations of the Scientific Peer Review of the H&H Model Project.
- Drafted Species of Concern list that will be used for the development of species of concern strategies, as directed by the PM#6 target.

- Proposed refinements to the algorithm that is used to characterize stand structure in stand level inventory and forest modeling. This work will narrow the range around the estimate of “Complex Structure Currently on the Landscape.”
- Assessing and considering options for revising the framework for state forests planning.
- Additional Sponsor direction for the group to operate from the assumption that any strategies developed to achieve the performance measure targets can be done within the guiding principles, vision, and goals of the current Forest Management Plan (Chapter 3).

Based on this work, the project team has started initial scoping of management approaches and associated strategies that could be applied on these forests to achieve the performance measure targets, and has been engaging external stakeholders to share information and gather input relative to potential changes to the management plans.

The project team intends to incorporate these management approaches and associated strategies in to new models (based on the Harvest and Habitat Project models) with the assistance of Dr. Sessions, Oregon State University. This modeling exercise will include new yield tables based on updated stand level inventory data and other relevant data. The project team will use district reviews, modeling outputs, and other tools as needed to conduct the analysis of how well the strategies achieve the performance measure targets. The results of the analysis may lead to adjustments in the proposed strategies that might be implemented through the management plans.

The project team will prepare a final report for the Board, synthesizing the proposed management approach and the results of the analysis in order to demonstrate how well all nine performance measure targets may be achieved on the Clatsop and Tillamook State Forests.

RECOMMENDATION

During this meeting the Board will review and consider the status of the work to date and provide feedback that will assist the Department in further development of management strategies for the Clatsop and Tillamook State Forests that will achieve the initial performance measure targets.

NEXT STEPS

The Board will receive progress reports on the status of the work in July prior to the November 2008 meeting.

ATTACHMENTS

- (1) Revised Project Work Plan – Clatsop and Tillamook State Forests Strategies for the Achievement of the Performance Measures
- (2) Project Work Plan Timeline