

Agenda Item No.:	5
Work Plan Title & #:	State Forests Work Plan 2
IBI # and Title:	IBI 6 – Improve the Northwest Forest Management Plan to Achieve Desired Outcomes
Presentation Title:	<b>Species of Concern Strategies</b>
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Contact Information:	Liz Dent, Aquatics Specialist 503-945-7371 or <a href="mailto:ldent@odf.state.or.us">ldent@odf.state.or.us</a> Jennifer Weikel, Wildlife Biologist 503-945-7366 or <a href="mailto:jweikel@odf.state.or.us">jweikel@odf.state.or.us</a>

## **SUMMARY**

The purpose of this agenda item is to present the proposed draft species of concern strategies. Working collaboratively with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) fish and wildlife specialists, Department staff have developed a proposed draft strategy designed to maintain and enhance habitat for species of concern (SOC).

## **CONTEXT**

The Board of Forestry is evaluating potential management scenarios to meet nine performance measures. As part of this effort, Department staff was asked to work collaboratively with ODFW to develop draft SOC strategies that would maintain, enhance, and restore habitat for species of concern. This work was identified as high priority under the Board work plan.

The first step in this effort was to define the list of fish and wildlife species that would be addressed by the draft SOC strategies. The Department and ODFW technical staff propose a list of 40 birds, mammals, amphibians, and fish considered to be species of concern at a State and Federal Level and that occur on the Clatsop and Tillamook State Forests. These species along with habitat needs are described in the ODFW Conservation strategy and the ODFW Sensitive Species list.

The second step was to propose a set of strategies within the context of the Board's nine performance measures. Thirty strategies are proposed, of which

- ◆ 24 are directly carried over from the current policies
- ◆ Two are modified: Salmon Anchor Habitat and Strum Creek Owl Policies
- ◆ Three are newly proposed: 20 percent complex in 20 years, Terrestrial Anchor Sites, and Snag Creation
- ◆ One strategy is proposed to be discontinued: Draft Habitat Conservation Plan Owl Cluster.

## **ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED**

The proposed draft SOC strategies were developed within the context of several stated assumptions in Attachment 1. Two formative assumptions were to:

- ✓ Develop the draft SOC strategies within the context of performance measures.
- ✓ Use existing strategies and the science they were based on as a starting point, given the project timeline.

The proposed draft SOC strategies are a result of ODF and ODFW aquatic, fish, and wildlife staff specialist collaboration. Limited input was also gathered from field foresters and managers to make sure proposed draft SOC strategies would be implementable.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

No recommendation; information only.

## **NEXT STEPS**

The Department will, upon direction from the Board, collaborate with ODFW to evaluate the likelihood that the Performance Measure scenario together with the draft SOC strategies will maintain or enhance habitat for the identified SOC, as compared to the Base Case scenario. This evaluation will be presented at the June 2009 meeting.

In June, the Board will also consider and decide on changes to the Northwest Forest Management Plan that would allow moving in a trajectory towards achieving the performance measure targets for the North Coast districts. This would include replacing the current species of concern strategies (draft habitat conservation plan) with the proposed draft SOC strategies applicable only to Tillamook-Clatsop Forests.

## **ATTACHMENT**

- (1) Species of Concern Background Paper that contains the SOC List and proposed draft SOC strategies for the Clatsop and Tillamook State Forests.