

## **STAFF REPORT**

Agenda Item No:	2
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:	January 9, 2008
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### **SUMMARY**

The purpose of this agenda item is to provide the Board with a report on the State Forests Program's draft project charter work plan related to developing management strategies for the Clatsop and Tillamook State Forests that will achieve the Performance Measure (PM) targets.

### **CONTEXT**

Following the adoption of PM 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 PM targets and report back at the November 2008 meeting.

The Department has developed a draft charter work plan (Attachment 1) 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 will achieve all nine of the PM targets. As articulated in the PM targets, the Department will include specific strategies to maintain, enhance, and restore habitats for species of concern. This project will develop data and conduct analysis to ensure that the proposed strategies can achieve the PM targets over the next two decades and provide for the long-term sustainability of the social, environmental, and economic values provided by these two State Forests. The project will not be developing strategies specifically for State Forests on the North Cascade, West Oregon, Western Lane, and Southwest Oregon Districts; however, the information gained from this project may be applied to those districts at a later time.

### **BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS**

The Department has established a project team 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's highest priority is to provide the Board with a final report on the strategies and analysis described above by November 2008. The project team will report to the Assistant State Forester, State Forests Program Director, and the Northwest Oregon Area Director.

This project is closely related to and to some extent dependent on several other on-going projects, including:

- Imputation of the stand level inventory (SLI) and the development of new growth and yield tables
- Development of a tool for evaluating PMs
- PM reporting
- Assessing and revising the framework for state forests planning

The project team has started an initial scoping of management approaches and associated strategies that could be applied on these forests to achieve the PM targets, and will be conducting a process for engaging external stakeholders to gather input relative to potential changes to the management plans. The initial scoping of management approaches and associated strategies will be shared with stakeholders and reviewed with the Board at a future meeting, and will also be incorporated into a modeling exercise. This modeling exercise is anticipated to include new yield tables based on updated SLI 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 PM targets. The results to the analysis may lead to adjustments in the proposed strategies and 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 the PM targets may be achieved on the Clatsop and Tillamook State Forests.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

This agenda item is to provide the Board with an update on the work plan for the development of management strategies for the Clatsop and Tillamook State Forests that will achieve the initial PM targets, as well as to receive input and feedback to help the Department finalize and move forward on this work plan.

## **NEXT STEPS**

At the March 2008 meeting, the Board's work plan for State Forests will be updated to reflect Board actions related to the program's charter work plan presented here. The Board will also receive one or more progress reports on this work plan prior to the November 2008 meeting.

## **ATTACHMENT**

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