

Agenda Item No.:	5
Work Plan Title & #:	State Forest Management – Issue 2
Objective # & Title:	Objective 2 – Adapting the Forest Management Plan Decision Making and Review Framework
Date of Presentation:	July 24, 2008
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### **SUMMARY**

The purpose of this agenda item is to:

- Review and discuss an issue paper on State Forests information analysis and decision-making in the Adaptive Management process
- Solicit Board agreement to incorporate the proposed processes in the State Forest Monitoring Program Strategic Plan

### **CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND**

The 2007 Board issues scan identified the need for improvements to the decision-making framework associated with state forests management planning. These improvements would ensure timely and systematic evaluation of forest management plans and clear decision-making authorities at all levels. Additionally, the improvements would assure a clear link to the Board's recently adopted performance measures for the State Forest Program, and outline how the Program will respond to the Board's feedback on these measures. This issue was added to the 2008 Board work plan.

At the March, 2008, Board meeting, a Background Paper was presented that provided historical information and context on the State Forest decision-making framework. The Board requested that an issue paper be developed about what refinements can be made to the review framework to incorporate performance measures and make it more effective overall.

The issue paper describes:

- The biennial report of performance measures
- The assessment of results of research and monitoring to determine effectiveness of forest management strategies in adaptive management
- The process for analyzing information from these reviews for scientific and policy relevance in Board decision-making.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Department recommends the Board review the attached issue paper and provide guidance for further development of the information analysis processes.

### **NEXT STEPS**

The Department will incorporate feedback from the Board into a final description of the information management processes in Adaptive Management. The Board's direction will be incorporated into the revision of the State Forests Monitoring Program Strategic Plan, or, if needed, a modification could be made to Chapter 5 of the Northwest and Southwest Forest Management Plans. If changes are necessary at the FMP level, the Board may direct the agency to begin an administrative rule making process.

### **GUIDE TO ATTACHED DOCUMENTS**

1. ODF State Forests Planning, Decision-Making and Review Framework Issue Paper