

Agenda Item No.:	5
Work Plan Title & #:	State Forest Management – Issue 2
Objective # & Title:	Objective 1 – Adapting the FMP Program Response to Recreation Assessment
Date of Presentation:	March 5, 2008
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SUMMARY

The purpose of this agenda item is to provide the Board with a report on the result of a Second Party Assessment of recreation management on state forests in northwest Oregon prepared by David Reed and Associates in 2007, and to provide an overview of the program response.

CONTEXT

The 2nd Party Assessment report prepared by David Reed and Associates was completed and delivered to the Department in May 2007. Attachment 1 is the Executive Summary of the final report. This assessment and the program's follow-up work contribute to ongoing adaptive management efforts related to implementation of the Northwest Oregon State Forests Management Plan.

The Board adopted performance measures and targets for the Clatsop and Tillamook State Forests in November 2007. Performance measure #7 related to recreation, referred to the results of 2nd Party Recreation Program Assessment Follow-Up Project as part of the information that would help inform the Board as they consider improvements to the performance measures.

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

In the fall 2007, a Project Team comprised of field level recreation managers and Program staff was created to review the findings and conclusions in the report, and prepare an action plan for addressing key issues. Attachment 2 is an outline of the action plan being developed which identifies the key categories and focal areas identified from the Project Team's review of the assessment report.

One key finding in the report relates to the need for the Department to create an updated strategic vision and direction for recreation management on state forests. The Project Team and steering committee have been discussing how this work can integrate with the Board's work plan related to adapting the Forest Management Plans. David Reed and Associates recommended a strategic visioning process for the Department to implement, which is included as Attachment 3.

The first three steps of the strategic visioning process recommended in the report involve strategic discussions and actions. Briefly, these three steps include: (1) Developing the context for a strategic direction discussion; (2) developing agreement on core recreation management values for state forest management; and, (3) developing a strategic vision and direction for recreation management. The work of the Project Team has already begun work on Step 1, by reviewing the assessment report and developing themes and actions. The Program is continuing with this effort, and expanding the work to address the other context elements described in Step 1 of the recommended process, and to begin developing information for Steps 2 and 3. The goal is to develop and share this information with the Board to assist in improving process anticipated with the performance measures.

Concurrent with developing the strategic visioning context material, the Program also intends to move forward with actions to address other key findings in the assessment. Specifically, the Program will be updating, and in some cases creating Department policy to address issues raised in the assessment. The Program intends to utilize existing recreation user advisory committees on the Clatsop, Tillamook and Santiam State Forests, as well as the State Forests Advisory Committee, to assist with these efforts.

NEXT STEPS

The Board will receive updates on this work within the context of the State Forests Performance Measure Report in November 2008.

ATTACHMENTS

- (1) ODF Recreation Management Assessment Report, Executive Summary
- (2) Action Plan Outline for Addressing Findings and Recommendations in the Recreation Management Assessment
- (3) ODF Recreation Management Assessment Report, Appendix A. Management Systems and Practices – Strategic Visioning Process