

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item No.:	2
Work Plan Title & #:	State Forests Management - Work Plan 2
IBI # & Title:	IBI 0 – Work Plan Management
Presentation Title	Draft Work Plan Review
Date of Presentation:	September 9, 2009
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SUMMARY

This agenda item provides an update to the State Forests Work Plan. The draft update contains a summary of current issues and a recommended approach for moving forward Board clarification and prioritization of State Forest policies that improve forest management through an adaptive management approach (Attachment 1). The Department recommends Board approval of this work plan, contingent upon any amendments requested as a result of Board discussion.

CONTEXT

At its June 3, 2009 meeting, the Board directed the Department to update the March 2009 work plan. Board guidance included: Incorporate Board direction related to review and revise OAR 629-035-0020, -0030, and any other components of Division 35 the Department deems necessary to ensure an efficient and effective policy decision-making framework for the Board and the Department.

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

Strategy E.4 of *Forestry Program for Oregon* identifies Board policy on state forests as, “The board will support continued active management of Oregon’s state forests through the use of structure-based management combined with ongoing science-based implementation monitoring and evaluation.” This is reflected in the draft 2009 *State Forest Work Plan* “primary issue.” In the work plan primary issue, science-based implementation monitoring and evaluation is replaced with the overarching concept of adaptive management. The focus is taken off of “structure-based management” because the Board has explored alternatives to structure based management and Board of Forestry lands are managed under four approved management plans.

The primary issue of this work plan is the following:

How will the Board use an adaptive management approach to inform current State Forests Division policy decisions at the statutory, administrative rule, and *Forestry Program for Oregon* strategic plan level?

The intermediate Board issues included in this work plan represents policy-level matters that will inform management improvements. This work plan update incorporates the following new or revised “Intermediate Board Issues” relative to State Forests’ management:

- Improve the Board’s Performance Measures for the State Forests Division.
- Improve the Northwest Oregon Forest Management Plan to achieve desired outcomes.
- Consider and approve the Elliott State Forest’s revised Management Plan and Federal Habitat Conservation Plan.
- Reaffirm the Board’s vision for recreation on its forestlands.
- Assess the review framework (adaptive management) for State Forests.
- Review and/or approve Land Acquisition and Exchange Plans or Proposals.
- Evaluate opportunities for improving economic performance on Board of Forestry forestlands.
- Review and revise OAR 629-035-0020 and as necessary other OAR 629, Division 35 rules (New).

Deletions in the work plan are reflected in strikeouts. All new documentation has been highlighted.

Each “Intermediate Board Issue” will require Board action or decision, based on tasks carried out principally at the staff level (details spelled out in the “Research and Information Needed” section of the work plan). The anticipated outcomes are expressed in the “Board Products” section of each “intermediate board issue.”

RECOMMENDATION

The Department recommends that the Board approve the State Forests Management Work Plan 2, IBI 0, contingent upon incorporation of amendments requested as a result of Board discussion at the September meeting.

NEXT STEPS

The Department will amend the work plan consistent with Board direction obtained at this meeting, and implement the work plan consistent with activities described in the *Timeframe and Milestones* sections.

ATTACHMENT

- (1) Draft Board of Forestry Work Plan 2: State Forests