



Providing Opportunity to Family Forestland Owners

Board of Forestry Testimony July 23rd 2015

Dale A. Cuyler

Chair Imeson, State Forester Decker and members of the Board. My name is Dale Cuyler. I am the president of the Douglas County Chapter of the Oregon Small Woodland Association and I have been a member of the Southwest Oregon Forest Practices Committee for 12 years. My message to you today is simple and brief. **The stream buffer prescriptions crafted by the Regional Forest Practices Committees are supported and endorsed by OSWA.** We also support the RFPC recommendation that these be voluntary measures, because fish survival under current FPA stream buffers is good.

We feel that these prescriptions provide an excellent avenue to meeting the PCW to the maximum extent practicable, minimizing the financial impact to family forestland owners and protecting fish. I feel that the word practicable means finding a real world solution that is reasonable and workable. These prescriptions were developed by, "Boots-on-the-ground foresters, land managers and small woodland owners", who have spent a large portion of their career managing west side forests and streams. I personally have 37 years of experience, managing my four parcels of family forestland.

The RFPC evaluated all 18 private RipStream sites, examined the reasons why those that exceeded PCW did so, and why those that did not exceed the PCW remained within the desired temperature parameters. This was a practical common-sense approach to this problem, and yielded valuable information for prescription development.

I will not recap what RFPC chairs Schlaefli or Barnes have already told you, except to say that many focused hours were spent in developing these prescriptions, at your request. I am proud of the efforts of the RFPC in carrying out this request. I ask you to join OSWA in supporting the RFPC prescriptions as a viable and reasonable solution to the PCW standard and stream buffer management under the Oregon Forest Practices Act.

Dale A. Cuyler,

Forester, Small Woodland Owner, RFPC member

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