

Executive Summary
Forest Practices
Monitoring Program Strategy
April 2002



Oregon's forest ecosystems are diverse and dynamic. Management of these systems on private forestland over the past 20 years has adapted in response to improved knowledge about interactions between forest management and resource protection. Continued monitoring and research is necessary to provide information about the adequacy of the

Oregon Forest Practice Act (FPA) and rules and how to improve them. The Oregon Department of Forestry's Forest Practices Monitoring Program (FPMP) provides scientific information for adapting regulatory policies, management practices, and volunteer efforts on non-federal forest land.

- The goals of the FPMP are to:
- Evaluate the effectiveness, implementation and assumptions of the forest practices act
 - Coordinate with other monitoring and research efforts
 - Investigate the cumulative effects of forest practices on forest resources.
 - Support efforts to establish benchmarks/criterion used to define the range of desired conditions/regional goals.
 - Monitor the implementation and effectiveness of the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds (OPSW).
 - Monitor temporal and spatial trends in forest and stream conditions.

Adaptive management is a system of making, implementing and evaluating decisions, that recognizes that there is uncertainty about the outcome of management activities and that ecosystems and social values are always changing. It can be defined as a scientifically based, systematically structured approach that tests and monitors management plans, assumptions, predictions and actions, and then uses the resulting information to improve management plans, policies, or practices. The FPMP is an important component of the adaptive management process. The FPMP is responsible for monitoring the implementation and effectiveness of the forest practice rules and reporting those findings and recommendations to the Board of Forestry on an annual basis (OAR 629-635-0110 3d). The Board of Forestry considers the findings and recommendations and takes appropriate action with regard to rule revision.

The success of the adaptive management process depends on

- Commitment to a long-term process
- Deliberate monitoring designs that test policies and practices
- Careful implementation of policies and plans
- Scientifically sound monitoring designs that track indicators at multiple scales
- Analysis of outcomes that consider objectives and predictions
- Incorporating results into future decisions, policies, and practices.

While adaptive management must be flexible to accommodate change, monitoring data and efforts are of the greatest value if there is a structured approach to managing such change. The FPMP's desired outcomes, strategies, tools and approaches are summarized in Table 1. The current work plan is summarized in Table 2.

Table 1. Forest Practices Monitoring Program

Outcome	Strategies	Tools and Approaches
<p>The monitoring program provides timely, pertinent, and sound information at multiple scales regarding the forest practice rule implementation, effectiveness, and assumptions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Monitor the effectiveness and implementation of the forest practices rules on sites that have been harvested under current forest practices at both the landscape scale and watershed scales ✓ Coordinate and communicate priorities, approaches, and findings with research institutes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Data collection before and after harvest on volunteered sites ✓ Random selection through the FACTS database ✓ Pilot studies with active watershed councils. ✓ Formalize peer review process, submit findings to referred journals, communicate priorities with the OSU forest research lab.
<p>Monitoring efforts are coordinated so as to maximize state resources and increase understanding with other state's efforts.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Participate on the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds Monitoring Team ✓ Lead and participate on the internal ODF Monitoring Team ✓ Coordinate and communicate with monitoring and research efforts in other states. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Develop agreed upon protocols ✓ Coordinate strategic plans ✓ Implement studies with sample designs that overlap with other state and federal agency's efforts.
<p>The implementation and effectiveness of the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds (OPSW) is evaluated and communicated.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Monitor the effectiveness and implementation of restoration, volunteer, and regulatory activities designed to protect/restore salmon populations and habitat. ✓ Monitor temporal and spatial trends in forest and stream conditions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Monitor volunteered sites with OPSW projects and randomly selected sites from the OWEB database. ✓ Monitor conditions on sites randomly selected throughout the state on a long-term basis.
<p>Monitoring results provide information to adapt and improve policies governing the management and protection of forest resources on non-federal forest land.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Prioritize projects to address critical issues and communicate findings to policy makers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Report to board of forestry annually. ✓ Provide information to review committees.
<p>There is understanding, acceptance and support for strategies, approaches and findings.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Develop and implement a plan to receive input and communicate strategies, approaches and findings to internal and external stakeholders, conservation communities, and the public. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Printed reports, articles, and newsletters. ✓ Updated Web Page with reports and data. ✓ Media tours, editorials, press releases. ✓ Presentations at existing forums and meetings,

Table 1. Workplan for the 2001-2003 biennium.

Task	Time Line	Responsibility
New Priority Projects (in order of priorities and dependent on available resources)		
***FPAC-related data collection (perennial, wet weather hauling, NT analyses)	Initiate Summer 2001 Complete Winter 2003	Jim Paul, Jerry Clinton, Liz Dent, Josh Robben, Keith Mills
*Headwaters/Small Type N	Initiate Spring 2002 through Headwaters Research Coop.	Liz Dent, Jerry Clinton, Josh Robben, New NRS3
Riparian and Stream Temperature	Initiate Spring 2002 in Coastal Georegion Complete 2009	Jeff Peck, Liz Dent, Jerry Clinton, Kyle Abraham, Kristin Cotugno,
Oregon Plan Pilot Study: Compliance/Effectiveness	Initiate Spring 2002 (Funding Dependent)	Josh Robben, Liz Dent, Jerry Clinton, Josh Robben
Wildlife Rules Pilot Study: Compliance/Effectiveness	Initiate Spring 2002 (Funding Dependent)	Rod Krahmer, Josh Robben, Liz Dent, Jerry Clinton
Hardwood Conversion Synthesis	Initiate Summer 2002 Complete Winter 2002	Josh Robben, Liz Dent,
***Submit monitoring reports to peer-reviewed journals	Initiate Summer 2002	Liz Dent, Josh Robben, Jim Paul, Keith Mills, Jerry Clinton
***Completion of Current Projects		
Wet Weather Hauling	Initiate Winters 2001-2002 Complete 2002	Josh Robben, Keith Mills, Kristin Cotugno, Kyle Abraham
Bald Eagle Study	January 2003	Rod Krahmer
Stream Temperature	Winter 200 2	Jeff Peck, Liz Dent, Kyle Abraham,
Fish Presence Surveys	Ongoing	Jerry Clinton
Other Commitments		
Education and Outreach	Ongoing	ALL
***Salmon Plan Mon. Team	Ongoing	Liz Dent, Jerry Clinton
***ODF Monitoring Team	Ongoing	Liz Dent
***Headwaters Research Coop. (HRC)	Ongoing	Liz Dent
Riparian Protocol Team	Winter 2002	Liz Dent
Web Page	Ongoing	Kyle Abraham
Evaluate FPMP role in monitoring: certification, stewardship plans	Initiate Winter 2001-2002	Liz Dent, Scott Hayes, David Morman

* This work will be completed under contract with a research group, through the proposed Headwaters Research Cooperative.

** Evaluate need for continued data collection at current sites beyond 2002.

*** Identified as part of the vital few in the Forest Practices Strategic Plan.