



Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

Department of Forestry

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To: Mike Bordelon, Area Director

From: Tom Savage, Astoria District Forester

CC: State Forest Program Director

Date: June 25, 2007

Re: Information Item – Approved Annual Operations Plan for 2008 and Information on Salvage Activities

The 2008 State Forest Annual Operations Plan (AOP) for the Astoria District is attached for your information. During my review of this plan, I have found that it is consistent with the Northwest Oregon State Forest Management Plan, the current District Implementation Plan, and the 2008 Annual Operation Planning Standards and Guidance.

During its preparation, this plan was reviewed by technical specialists from within the department and biologists from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. Their comments were received verbally and in writing (written comments are on file at the district office). The draft AOP also underwent a 45-day public comment period. All comments were carefully considered and incorporated where appropriate. The changes resulting from public comments are summarized in Appendix D of the AOP.

During the preparation of this AOP, a strong windstorm occurred that resulted in significant windthrow across the district. As a result, the district will be conducting salvage activities removing numerous wind thrown trees from damaged stand types and salvaging scattered trees along many miles of road during the 2008 fiscal year. These salvage activities have been prepared consistent with the Northwest Oregon Area Forest Management Plan, the District Implementation Plan, and the State Forest Bulletins regarding salvage (*Salvage Activities in Riparian Management Areas* and *Salvage and Threatened and Endangered Species*).

Consistent with the Draft State Forest Bulletin, *Salvage Activities and Annual Harvest Objectives*, these salvage activities will be used to achieve a portion of the 2008 harvest objective. The salvage activities contribute to achieving the 2008 harvest objective; specifically, an estimated 17.1 MMBF from 367 acres of Regeneration Harvest and 1,299 acres of Salvage Harvest throughout the district. The salvage activities include the following sales: John Day/Walluski, Simmons/West Green Mountain, Gnat Hunt Salvage, Kerry Salvage, South County Salvage, Nettle Buster Salvage and Beneke Salvage. State Forests' policies and procedures do not require Pre-Operations Reports or a public comment period for salvage activities. The attached Salvage Summary Table provides acres, volume, and value estimates for the salvage sales. It also provides



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definitions of "salvage" and "regeneration" in the context of the windthrow event. Additional details on these salvage sales are available at the district office.

Originally, the 2008 AOP harvest objective proposed an output of 64.5 MMBF of timber from approximately 1,296 acres of Partial Cut harvest and 1,149 acres of Regeneration harvest. However, in response to this significant wind event and resulting salvage activities, the final harvest during fiscal year 2008 has been adjusted to an output of 67.1 MMBF which includes 50 MMBF from the original AOP and 17.1 MMBF of salvage harvest. To accommodate the additional volume from the salvage harvest, two primary sales *California Elk* and *Courtside* were changed from primary operations to alternate operations.

In summary, the total 2008 harvest, counting both the AOP operations and the salvage activities, will be 1,173 acres of Partial Cut Harvest, 1,215 acres of Regeneration Harvest and 1,299 acres of Salvage Harvest with a volume output of 67.1 MMBF. This total harvest level is within objectives set in the current implementation plan.

Approval of this plan does not constitute final approval of individual project details. Individual operations are subject to additional review processes at the district and program staff level before implementation. The operations in this plan may be modified during the final preparation and/or implementation. Modifications to these operations will conform to the process included in the draft Annual Operations Planning Policies and Procedures.

The official copy of this AOP will be on file at the district office. Additional copies are available at the State Forests Program office in Salem, and are also available on the ODF web site at: http://oregon.gov/ODF/STATE_FORESTS/Annual_Operations_Plans.shtml.

Approved:

	
Tom Savage	Date
Astoria District Forester	