

APPENDIX D: PUBLIC COMMENT PROCESS FOR THE 2008 ANNUAL OPERATIONS PLAN

The Oregon Department of Forestry issued a Press Release on February 7, 2008, announcing a formal 45 day public comment period for the 2008 Annual Operations Plans from February 14 through March 30, 2007.

The purpose of the Public Comment Period was to provide an opportunity for the public to review the AOPs, ask questions, make recommendations, and offer comments. As a public agency, ODF operates in the best interest of Oregonians, conducting business in an open way with opportunities for scrutiny to foster and maintain public confidence that ODF operations are benefiting Oregonians.

Past experience has shown that public comments have the potential to improve plans, so the objective was not only to inform the public, but to receive feedback that would help to clarify the AOPs, improve their consistency with the long range FMPs and IPs, and to become aware of any new information that could affect a planned operation or improve its efficiency or effectiveness.

At the end of the public comment period, the Forest Grove District had received no letters or emails regarding the 2008 AOP. After the close of the public comment period, the State Forest Advisory Committee (SFAC) reviewed the Forest Grove FY08 AOP and provided comment. Much of their feedback addressed concerns regarding the State Forest Program and the annual operation planning process. There were however, some specific comments related to several of the individual Districts. Those comments and the Program's responses are available for public review on the ODF's website at:
http://egov.oregon.gov/ODF/STATE_FORESTS/2008_AOP_Approved.shtml