

**APPENDIX D
PUBLIC COMMENT PROCESS FOR
THE ASTORIA DISTRICT
2007 ANNUAL OPERATIONS PLAN**

The Astoria District 2007 Annual Operations Plan was included in the formal 45 day public comment period held from February 15 through March 31, 2006 by the Oregon Department of Forestry.

This Annual Operations Plan represents a district level planning process which has been developed in accordance with the Northwest Forest Management Plan (FMP) and the District Implementation Plan (IP) that provides the direction and objectives for management of the Clatsop State Forest. This district-level Annual Operations Plan (AOP) describes the proposed on-the-ground operations, such as timber sales, road building, reforestation, stream enhancement projects and trail building, scheduled for the coming fiscal year that begins in July. The District Forester will approve the final plan after any adjustments have been made as a result of comments received during the public comment period and/or further analysis and reconnaissance by district personnel.

The purpose of the Public Comment Period is to provide an opportunity for the public to review the AOP, ask questions 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 is not only to inform the public, but to receive feedback that will help to clarify the AOPs, improve 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 district and ODF headquarters in Salem had received three individual documents (letters, faxes and e-mails) with specific comments regarding the Astoria District's 2007 AOP.

The evaluation of the documents consisted of the following six steps:

1. Review each document to identify the individual statements.
2. Summarize each statement in a table.
3. Evaluate each statement (What activity is it related to? What is its scope? How does it relate to the AOP?)
4. Respond to the statement in a table. The response is a very brief synopsis of how the district intends to change the AOP based on the statement, or it provides an explanation of how the planned activity is consistent with the FMPs, IPs and other policy or regulation.
5. After the initial evaluation and response to the public comments, representatives from all state forest districts met to compare their evaluations and responses. The purpose of the comparison was to ensure consistency in the evaluation and response to statements between districts, and to seek out statements that should be applied to all district AOPs.
6. Revise district evaluations and responses to statements, then revise the district AOP based on the district responses.

Note: A complete listing of all public comments related to the district FY07 AOP can be referenced at our web site:

Astoria District FY07 AOP Changes

The following changes have been made to the FY07 AOP since the end of the public review period (March 31, 2006). These revisions were a result of public comment and/or further analysis/reconnaissance by district personnel. The AOP narrative summary, the summary tables, and the Pre-Operations Reports have been updated to reflect these changes.

1. In the Jackpipe pre-operations report under Section IV, stand densities of 51 and 53 were clarified to mean that these densities were in percent of maximum.
2. In the Jackpipe pre-operations report, Area 2 acres were changed from 105 acres to 117 acres. This was a typo in the original document.
4. In the Larkin pre-operations report under Section I, a sentence was changed to say that the sale was located about 4.5 miles east of Knappa, not 9 miles as originally stated.
5. In the Norriston Combination pre-operations report under Section VII a typo was changed stating that "Fall Creek flows southwest through the southeast corner of Area 1." Originally it stated that the creek flowed northwesterly through the southwest corner.
6. In the Larkin pre-operations report, Section II, III and IV were updated to reflect new stand inventory and prescription information. Partial cut and clearcut acres changed to PC = 40 acres, and CC = 79 acres. Original estimated acres were PC = 52 and CC = 76. The maps for this report were updated as well.
7. In the Norriston Combination pre-operations report there was a grammatical fix in Section III, "Desired Future Condition". Current Condition was mentioned in a confusing context. The paragraph was re-written.
8. In the Norriston Combination pre-operations report, Section XII and XIV were edited with updated visual impact information. Thirty-eight acres of "focused" visual acres were added.
9. In the Porter Horse pre-operations report there was a slight reconfiguration of areas 3, 5, 7 & 9. Acres changed to PC = 317 and CC = 155. Original estimated acres were PC = 319 and CC = 166.
10. Summary Document edits:
 - I. Page 4. Table 1. Conifer partial cut changed to 2,100 acres and conifer clearcut changed to 616 acres. (Original acres were 2,102 partial cut and 624 clearcut.)
 - II. Page 7. In the second paragraph, 937 acres of regeneration harvest was changed to 929 acres.
 - III. Page 8. Table 2 "Stand Structure Development" was updated to reflect the acre changes within the Larkin, Jackpipe and Porter Horse sales.
 - IV. Page 9. The Gnat, Astoria & Fishhawk Basin harvest acres in Table 3 were updated due to new acreages in the Larkin, Jackpipe and Porter Horse sales.

- V. Page 9. The “Astoria Basin” section was edited to reflect the updated Jackpipe acres.
- VI. Page 11. The Gnat and Fishhawk Basin section was edited to reflect the updated Porter Horse sale acres and the Larkin acres and stand structure.
- VII. Page 11. Under the “Fishhawk Basin” heading, “Operations will reduce UDS stands by less than 1%...” was changed to say “Operations will reduce CSC stands by less than 1%...” This was a typo in the original document.
- VIII. Page 22. Verbiage was changed/added under “Lost Lake Campground”. Public surveys will now be conducted to determine what improvements should be a priority at Lost Lake.
- IX. Page 22. Verbiage was changed/added under “Gnat Creek Trail” .Trail reconnaissance and layout will now be continued, however completion of the project is dependant upon volunteer efforts.
- X. Page 23. Under “Quartz Basin Trail”, one mile of trail construction was added into this AOP. Completion will be dependant upon contractor services.

11. Summary Table edits:

- I. In the “Financial Summary” Table, edits were made in the Larkin, Jackpipe and Porter Horse rows, updating the partial cut and clearcut acres.
- II. In the “Forest Structure Summary” Table, edits were made to Gnat Basin, under the Larkin sale, changing Area 1 to a partial cut and Area 3 to a 43 acre clearcut. The current condition of Area 1 was changed to LYR; post harvest and DFC was changed to OFS. The post harvest of Area 3 was changed to REG and DFC to GEN. The acre changes to Jackpipe and Porter Horse were also updated in this table.
- III. In the “Recreation Project Management Summary”, the funding of non-motorized trails was changed from \$70,000 to \$115,000 due to an additional 1 mile of trail that will be built in the Quartz Basin. Also in this section, the Law Enforcement contract for \$85,000 was removed as it does not accurately reflect recreation projects.
- IV. Along with III above, several updates were made to the “Recreation Project Management Summary” resulting in a total cost of \$212,500. The previous cost was \$319,500.