

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

Introduction

The Forest Grove District FY07 AOP was included in the formal 45 day public comment period held from February 15, 2006 through March 31, 2006 by the Oregon Department of Forestry. The purpose of the public comment period was to provide an opportunity for the public to review the district AOPs and to ask questions or provide feedback regarding the operational details of the AOP, the accuracy and clarity of the AOP, and the consistency of the AOP with the Northwest Forest Management Plan (FMP) and District Implementation Plan (IP).

At the end of the public comment period, the districts and ODF headquarters in Salem had received three separate comment documents (in the form of letters or e-mails) that were specific to Forest Grove District's FY07 AOP. Since the AOPs are a district level planning process, each district was responsible for using a common process to evaluate the statements specific to their AOP.

Evaluation Process

Each district used the following process to evaluate and respond to public comments related to the FY07 AOP:

1. District representatives reviewed each document to identify the individual statements or questions.
2. Each statement or question was summarized in a table.
3. Each statement was evaluated to identify the activity the comment was related to, the scope of the comment, and how it related to the AOP.
4. The District prepared a response to each statement or question in table format. Responses provided an answer to a question, a summary of how the district intended to change the AOP based on the statement, or an explanation of how the planned activity was already consistent with the FMP, IP, or other policy and regulations.
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. After the meeting, the Districts finalized their responses to public comments, and then revised the AOPs 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:

Forest Grove District FY07 AOP Changes

The following changes were made to the Forest Grove District FY07 AOP since the end of the public review period (March 31, 2006). These revisions were a result of public comments and/or further analysis and editing by district personnel. The AOP narrative summary document, summary tables, and pre-operations reports have been updated to reflect these changes.

- During the public comment period, the Tillamook County Board of Commissioners raised concerns that Forest Grove District's FY07 harvest volume in Tillamook County was significantly less than the District's FY06 harvest volume in Tillamook County. The Board of Commissioners provided a written recommendation to move three alternate sales in Tillamook County (Doty's Derby, Toucan Sam, and Upper Elliot) into planned sale status and to move two Washington County sales of equivalent volume (Round Rice and South Gale) from planned to alternate status. In response to the County's concerns, Forest Grove District implemented this recommendation and revised the FY07 AOP to reflect this shift in planned and alternate sales. The summary document, summary tables A-1, A-2, A-3, and A-6, and the pre-operations reports for Doty's Derby, Round Rice, South Gale, Toucan Sam, and Upper Elliot were revised. *[Note: The overall harvest volume of the FY07 AOP did not change as a result of this revision, only the distribution of harvest volume by county.]*
- Just prior to the public comment period for the AOP, Forest Grove District made two minor modifications to the District Implementation Plan. The first modification was to reclassify several small areas of DFC complex to DFC general. These changes to the DFC occurred in the sale areas of Doty's Derby, Johnny Hairpin, Rogers Break, Sgt. Rock, and Upper Elliot. The second minor modification to the Implementation Plan was to change the DFC of the Gregorian Cant sale area from general to complex.

The reasons for these changes were twofold. First, the DFC landscape design GIS layer was created with a "broad brush" approach in mind and was digitized at a relatively large scale. Therefore, some of the minor modifications to the DFC landscape design reflect a refinement of DFC boundaries to coincide with operational features such as ridges, streams, roads, or stand type changes. Second, based on field reconnaissance, aerial photo interpretation, and resource specialist input, some stands were determined to be better suited to a desired future condition other than what was previously mapped. The revised DFC GIS layer and the approval memos documenting these minor modifications to the Implementation Plan are available on the ODF web site at:

http://egov.oregon.gov/ODF/STATE_FORESTS/ip.shtml

These modifications to the Implementation Plan had been incorporated into the FY07 AOP prior to the public comment period, but there were two places that these changes were not reflected in the AOP document. In the public review draft of the AOP, summary table A-2 (*Commercial Forest Management Operations - Integrated Forest Management Strategies*) had not been updated to reflect the change in DFC to Doty's Derby, Gregorian Cant, Johnny Hairpin, Rogers Break, Sgt. Rock, and Upper Elliot. In addition, Table 3 in the pre-operations report for Gregorian Cant and the Desired Future Condition map for Gregorian (Map B) had not been updated to reflect the change in DFC. These errors have been corrected in the approved AOP.

- Miscellaneous Edits:
 - On page 39 of the summary document, three errors were corrected in Table 5, *Summary of Status of T&E Surveys*. In the "Species" column, marbled murrelets ("MM") were removed from the Gregorian Cant summary and added to Park Place and Wildcat.
 - In the public review draft of the AOP, the Desired Future Condition map (Map B) for Rutherford U. was mistakenly inserted in place of Rogers Break Map B. This error was corrected in the approved AOP.
 - In the public review draft of the AOP, the symbols for OFS and LYR were reversed in the legend of the Desired Future Condition map for the following sales: Gregorian Cant, Johnny Hairpin, Park Place, Reimer Reason, Scotty Dog, Something Sane, Toucan Sam, Upper Elliot, and Wildcat. These errors have been corrected in the approved AOP.