

To: Dan Thorpe, District Forester, Southwest Oregon District

From: Chris Rudd, Management Unit Forester

CC: Dan Shults, Southern Oregon Area Director,
Lisa DeBruyckere, State Forests Program Director

Date: June 30, 2006

Re: Approved Annual Operations Plan for 2007

The 2007 State Forests Annual Operations Plan for the Southwest Oregon District is attached for your information. During my review of this plan, I have found that it is consistent with the Southwest Oregon State Forests Management Plan, the current District Implementation Plan, and the 2007 Annual Operations Planning Standards and Guidance memorandum. Consistent with the Program's 2007 AOP guidance, the District has included an alternate sale, Watertank Gulch (an 80 acre thinning), that was subjected to the same process of review and public comment as the regular sales.

This alternate sale may be used to replace regular sales that cannot be completed as planned, and to retain flexibility for the program to respond to additional direction or policy changes that may be proposed by the Board of Forestry or State Forester as continuing discussions occur regarding the NW and SW Forest Management Plans. Such policy changes may directly or indirectly influence harvest levels during the FY07 fiscal year. The AOP guidance directs the districts to target a harvest volume level consistent with recent modeling efforts and associated district Model Solution Reviews (MSRs). The regular sales described in this AOP are designed to achieve the harvest volume consistent with the MSR.

This annual operations plan covers proposed forest management activities for fiscal year 2007. During its preparation, this plan was reviewed by technical specialists from within the department and biologists from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and USFWS. Their comments were received verbally and in writing (written comments are on file at the district office). The draft annual operations plan also underwent a 45-day public comment period. There were no specific comments towards the district sales.

Approval of this plan does not constitute final approval of individual project details. Individual timber sales are subject to additional review processes at the district and program staff level before approval for auction. The operations described 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 Directive.

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

APPROVED:

Dan Thorpe, District Forester, Southwest Oregon

Date