

Memorandum

To: Ross Holloway, State Forest Program Director
Mike Bordelon, Area Director
Marvin Brown, State Forester
Roy Woo, Deputy State Forester

From: Tom Savage, Astoria District Forester

CC: Bill Lecture, Assistant District Forester
Tom Scoggins, Sunset Unit Forester
Ty Williams, Jewell Unit Forester
Dan Goody, Support Unit Forester
David Kaspar, Reforestation Unit Forester
Rick Thoreson, Engineering Unit Forester

Date: 03/01/04

Re: Minor Modification the Astoria District Implementation Plan (March 2003)

The Astoria District Implementation Plan under the *Northwest Oregon State Forests Management Plan* was approved in March 2003. The approved plan provides for minor modifications as approved by the District Forester. Minor modifications are any modifications to the approved document that do not meet the definition of major modifications included in the approved IP document.

In the 2005 Annual Operations Plan for the Astoria District, planned regeneration harvest operations are slightly above the range in the IP by 147 acres or by 13%. All the planned partial cut operations are within the ranges set for activities in the IP. The combined amount of partial cut and regeneration harvest acres is 4,295 acres (95% of the upper range for combined acres) and within the IP range for combined acres (4,500 acres). The above situation requires a "minor modification" since a revision is necessary that proposes a change to the Astoria District harvest level range of less than 25% (based on combined acreage of regeneration and partial harvests).

Therefore, the following minor modifications to the Astoria District Implementation Plan are approved, effective February 20, 2004:

- The annual harvest range for clearcuts in Chapter 1, Table 1-4, Annual Objective for Timber Harvest, page 21 of the IP has been modified from a range of 400-1100 acres per year, to a range of 400-1300 acres per year; and

OURY/WIPW

- The annual harvest range for clearcuts in Chapter 2, Table 5, Proposed Annual Silvicultural Activities for Fiscal Years 2002 to 2011, page 23 of the IP has been modified for Conifer Clearcuts from 400-600 acres to 400-800 acres; and
- The annual harvest range for clearcuts in Chapter 2, Table A-1, Annual Objectives/Estimates, page 81 of the IP has been modified for Conifer Clearcut Harvest from 400-600 acres to 400-800 acres.

AST IP

Approved:

Tom Savage

February 20, 2004

Tom Savage, Astoria District Forester

Date

very heavy partial cutting to remove infected Douglas-fir, patch cuts, or even clearcutting of seriously infected LYR stands

Older Forest Structure Stands

There are very few stands of older forest structure on the district. Conifer stands over 110 years old, or stands over 80 years old that have been previously thinned, have been classified as OFS. As with the LYR category, some of the 1,000 acres currently classified OFS do not meet all of the criteria for this category. None of these stands are currently planned for any clearcut harvest. However, some stands may be partial cut to improve or maintain their ability to function as OFS stands over time.

Proposed Management Activities

Silvicultural Activities

Table 5 lists silvicultural activities for Astoria District lands for fiscal years 2002 to 2011. Refer to **Appendix A** for a detailed discussion of how these activities were calculated.

**Table 5. Proposed Annual Silvicultural Activities
for Fiscal Years 2002 to 2011**

Activity	Estimated Annual Acres
Conifer Partial Cut	2,100 – 3,200
Conifer Clearcut	400 – 800
Hardwood Partial Cut	0 – 200
Hardwood Clearcut	0 – 500
Reforestation	600 – 1,700
Precommercial Thinning	400 – 1,300
Fertilization	0
Pruning	200 – 700

For planning purposes, about one-sixth of the annual clearcut acres are planned for interplanting with multiple conifer species. The interplanting will also compensate for increased browsing losses on planted western red cedar. Additionally, about one-tenth of the annual partial cutting is estimated to require some underplanting, in order to establish the desired conifer understory and move these stands toward more complex structures in a reasonable time frame. However, with the abundance of shade-tolerant conifer species on the district and the site preparation done after logging, most understory re-initiation is expected to occur naturally.

Appendix A

Determining Levels of Harvest and Other Silvicultural Activities for Northwest State Forests

This document shows the results and outlines the steps and processes used to arrive at the activity levels in the *Astoria District Implementation Plan*. Levels for harvest and other silvicultural activities were determined utilizing the Department of Forestry's *Implementation Plans 2001: Determining Levels of Harvest and Other Silvicultural Activities for Northwest State Forests and Procedure for Review and Refinement of the Draft IP Harvest Calculations* (ODF, 2001a).

Results

Table A-1 summarizes the estimated annual objectives for harvests and other silvicultural treatments for the 10-year period from fiscal year 2002 through fiscal year 2011.

Table A-1. Annual Objectives/Estimates

Silvicultural Activity	Annual Objective (Acres/Year)
Conifer Partial Cut Harvest	2,100 – 3,200
Conifer Clearcut Harvest	400 – 800
Hardwood Partial Cut Harvest	0 – 200
Hardwood Clearcut Harvest	0 – 500
Rehabilitation	0
Reforestation	600 – 1,700
Precommercial Thinning (PCT)	400 – 1,300
Fertilization	0
Pruning	200 – 700

In addition, 83 percent of all LYR stands have been identified for the development of complex structures. Although not specifically protected by the FMP, like OFS, these stands are not likely to be clearcut in the short term, except in special circumstances.

Tables 1-4, 1-5, and 1-6 identify the timber harvest outputs for the implementation plan period, while Figures 1-4 and 1-5 show the long term trends from 1982 through 2011. Table 1-4 summarizes the annual harvest objectives in acres for each district and it is expected that the partial cut and clearcut harvest operations in each district's Annual Operations Plan will be within these ranges. Table 1-5 is an estimate of the volume (in millions of board feet) that will typically be harvest each year by the districts. The volume estimate is based on the mid-point of the acreage goals identified in Table 1-4, but the volumes can vary significantly each year, depending on the total acres in the Annual Operations Plan, the types of stands harvested, and the prescriptions applied to the stands.

Table 1-4. Annual Objective¹ for Timber Harvest (in acres)

District	Partial Cut	Clearcut	Total
Astoria	2,100-3,400	400-1,300	2,500-4,700
Cascade	800-1,200	180-270	980-1,225
Forest Grove	2,365-3,547	338-1,100	2,703-4,647
Tillamook	1,000-1,400	3,500-6,200	4,500-7,600
West Oregon	700-1,100	70-110	770-1,210
Western Lane	0-500	0-280	0-780
Northwest FMP	6,965-11,147	4,488-8,466	11,453-19,613
Southwest FMP	180-270	0	180-270

These objectives are expressed as a range. The harvest proposed in each district's Annual Operations Plan is expected to be within this range.

Figure 1-4 shows the acres planned for harvest during the past twenty years and the harvest goals for the implementation plan period. Two significant trends can be seen in this figure. The first is the dramatic increase in partial cutting that occurred between 1990 and 2000. The increase in partial cut harvesting can be attributed to forest in the Tillamook burn reaching a merchantable size and the shift in goals to structure based management.

The treatment of Swiss needle cast (SNC) results in a second trend in Figure 1-4, which is the simultaneous drop in partial cut harvest and increase in clearcut harvest that occurred in 2000. The "Strategic Plan for Managing State Forests in Northwest Oregon Affected By Swiss Needle Cast" was adopted in January of 2000. This strategic plan is based on the best available science for treating SNC, which recommends clearcutting moderately to severely infected stands and replanting to disease-resistant species.

Memorandum

To: Lisa DeBruyckere, State Forests Program Director
Mike Bordelon, NWOA Area Director
Marvin Brown, State Forester
Jim Paul, State Forest Management Chief

From: Tom Savage, Astoria District Forester

CC: Ron Zilli, Astoria Asst. District Forester
Dan Goody, Sunset Unit Forester
Ty Williams, Jewell Unit Forester
Larry Sprouse, Support Unit Forester
David Kaspar, Reforestation Unit Forester
Frank Lertora, Engineering Unit Forester

Date: May 24, 2006

Re: Minor Modification to the Astoria District Implementation Plan

The Astoria District Implementation Plan under the *Northwest Oregon State Forests Management Plan* was approved in March 2003. The approved plan provides for minor modifications as approved by the District Forester. Minor modifications are any modification to the approved document that does not meet the definition of major modification included in the approved IP overview document.

Continued Stand Level Inventory (SLI) efforts in the Gnat Basin have created an opportunity to "fine tune" the existing landscape plan, specifically the designated location of complex Desired Future Condition (DFC) stands within the basin. Recent SLI and follow-up District field review concludes that one 44 acre stand with a DFC of general is in an Older Forest Structure (OFS) condition. To adapt to this new information, the District will alter the designation of this stand to a DFC of OFS and reclassify an existing 40 acre Understory (UDS) stand with a DFC of Layered (LYR) to "general". These changes will more accurately portray the District's intentions of developing complex stand structures in the Gnat Basin. These minor modifications result in less than one percent change in the Desired Future Condition for each of the complex stand structure classifications within the Gnat Basin and the District.

The following minor modifications to the Astoria District Implementation Plan are approved, effective May 24, 2006:

- In the Map Section beginning on page 89 of the Astoria District I.P., the Astoria District: Desired Future Condition Stand Structure map will be changed to reflect the new desired future condition of the two stands.

Approved:

Tom Savage

5/24/06

Tom Savage, Astoria District Forester

Date

Attachments: Existing Desired Future Condition map
Changes to Desired Future Condition map

PROPOSED MINOR I.P. MODIFICATION
 CHANGES TO DESIRED FUTURE CONDITION
 5/11/06



19

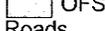
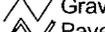
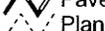
Addition of 44 ac. of OFS

Remove 40 ac. of LYR

STATE
 PRIVATE

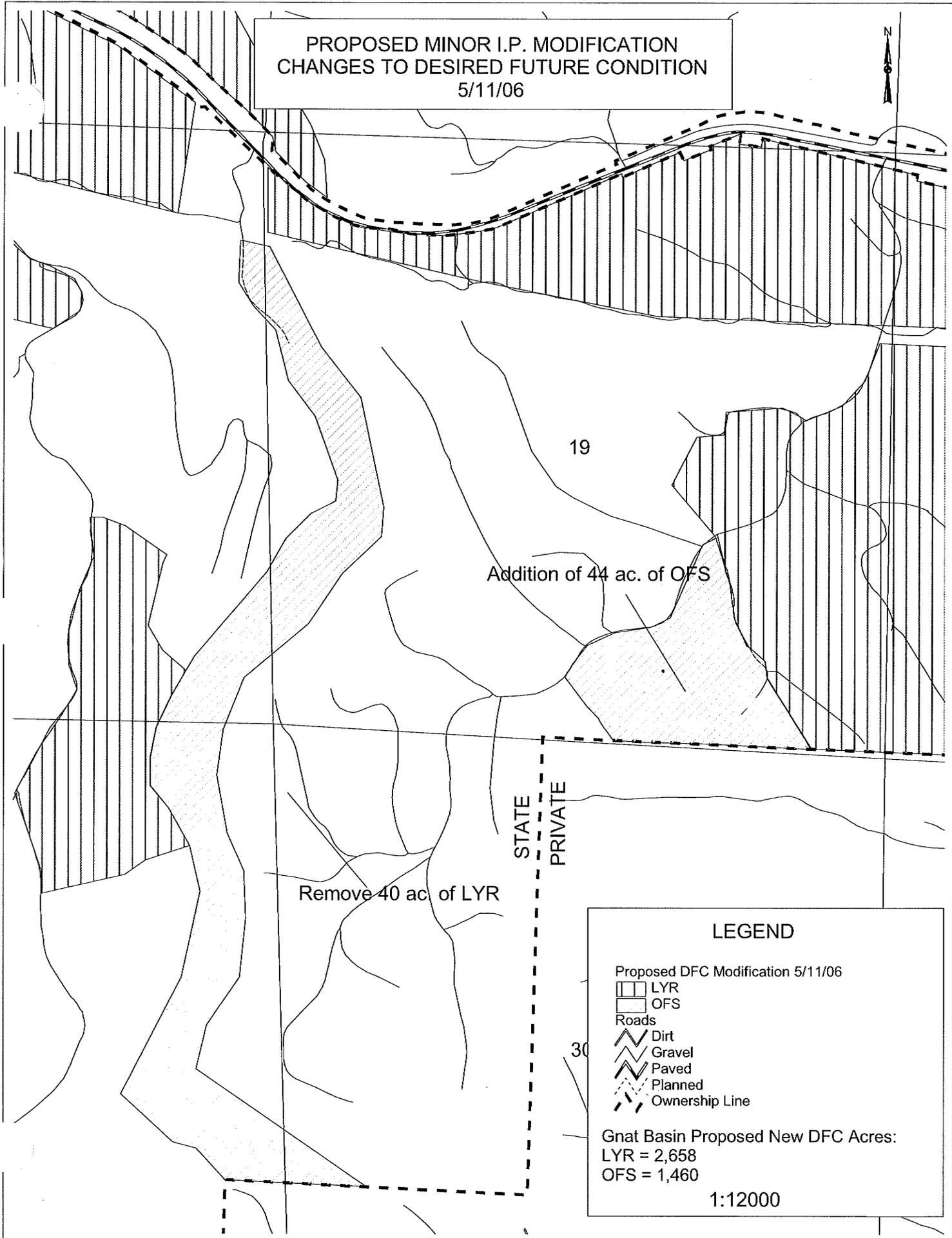
LEGEND

Proposed DFC Modification 5/11/06

-  LYR
-  OFS
- Roads
 -  Dirt
 -  Gravel
 -  Paved
 -  Planned
 -  Ownership Line

Gnat Basin Proposed New DFC Acres:
 LYR = 2,658
 OFS = 1,460

1:12000



Memorandum

To: Mike Bordelon, NWOA Area Director

From: Tom Savage, Astoria District Forester

CC: Marvin Brown, State Forester
Lisa DeBruyckere, State Forests Program Director
Jim Paul, State Forest Management Chief
Ron Zilli, Astoria Asst. District Forester
Dan Goody, Sunset Unit Forester
Ty Williams, Jewell Unit Forester
Larry Sprouse, Support Unit Forester
David Kaspar, Reforestation Unit Forester
Frank Lertora, Engineering Unit Forester

Date: May 26, 2006

Re: Minor Changes to Forest Land Management Classifications OAR 629-035-0060 (1)

This minor modification involves a change to the Forest Land Management Classification, as directed by OAR 629-035-0060 (1). As stated in OAR 629-035-0060(3)(a)(A), this change affects 160 acres or less and does not change the Land Base Designation of Silviculturally Capable.

Further review of the view shed of an isolated parcel within the Scattered Basin of the Astoria District, it was determined that portions of this parcel were visible from portions of two public beaches along Highway 101. Arcadia Beach and Hug Point Beach receive a numerous number of visitors through out the year. During low tides these beaches have a direct view of upland portions of the parcel, located approximately ½ to ¾ of mile away. These views from the beach had not been realized when the FLMC designations were originally created for the IP. To adapt to this new information, the District will designate the areas visible from the beach as Focused Visual. Currently, 52 acres have a designation as Focused Visual within this parcel. An additional 34 acres will be designated as Focused Visual as well.

The District Forester has decided not to offer a 30 day public comment period.

The following minor modifications to the Astoria District Implementation Plan are approved, effective May 19, 2006:

- Table 2. **Astoria District Acres, by Stewardship Class and Fund**, on page 5 of the Astoria District I.P., has one change in the Focused Stewardship row. The acres of Focused Stewardship has changed from 40,844 to 40,878.
- Table 3. **Draft Land Management Classifications for Astoria District – Focused and Special Subclasses (Acres)**, on page 6 of the Astoria District I.P., has one change to the Visual row. The Focused acres has changed from 10,808 to 10,842.
- The FLMC shapefile/map will be updated to reflect the addition of the 34 acres of Focused Visual to the Scattered Basin.

PROPOSED MINOR I.P. MODIFICATION
EXISTING FLMC
5/11/06



HIGHWAY 101

STATE
PRIVATE

7

8

48

17

LEGEND

- Existing FLMC
-  Focused Visual Roads
-  Dirt
-  Gravel
-  Paved
-  Planned
-  Streams
-  Ownership Line

1:12000

Memorandum

To: Mike Bordelon, NWOA Area Director
Jim Paul, Assistant State Forester
Lisa DeBruyckere, State Forests Program Director

From: Tom Savage, Astoria District Forester

CC: Barbara Lee, Policy & Planning Section Manager
Rob Nall, Operations Coordinator
Ron Zilli, Astoria Asst. District Forester
Dan Goody, Acting Astoria Asst. District Forester
Jenny Laughman, Astoria District Planning Coordinator

Date: February 8, 2007

Re: Minor Modification to the Astoria District Implementation Plan

The Astoria District Implementation Plan under the Northwest Oregon State Forests Management Plan was approved in March 2003. The approved plan provides for minor modifications as approved by the District Forester. Minor modifications are any modification to the approved document that does not meet the definition of major modification included in the approved I.P. overview document.

Background:

Based on the outputs from the Department's recently completed Harvest and Habitat Model Project, the department is continuing its Implementation Plan Revision Process following the guidance provided by the State Forester¹. Phase I of this process consisted of additional model runs that help inform the 08 harvest level. Phase II of the Implementation Plan Revision Process is examining: the implementation planning framework, and associated policies and procedures; alternative strategies for the management and protection of species of concern; and upgrades to the program's model, including significant improvements to the forest inventory and yield tables. This phase is expected to be completed by the end of 2007.

At the end of Phase II, additional model runs will occur and districts will conduct an intensive review of the outputs from these model runs. The outcomes of this Implementation Plan Revision Process will help identify changes that may need to occur to the Implementation Plans.

Astoria District Minor I.P. Modification:

The results of the Harvest and Habitat Model Project² indicated adjustment to the mixture of regeneration and partial cut harvests would be needed to most efficiently and effectively meet Forest Management Plan goals and objectives. Upon further field evaluation, the District has developed a measured transition towards these harvest types, beginning in the 2008 AOP.

This measured transition includes reducing acres of partial cut harvest in combination with some increase in clearcut harvesting. This adjustment of the partial cut and clearcut acreage requires a minor I.P. modification.

¹ Memo RE: State Forest Implementation Plans dated June 5, 2006 from the State Forester

² Harvest & Habitat Model Project Final Report completed March 8, 2006 by the Oregon Department of Forestry

The combined adjustment in partial cut and clearcut acres reduces the total number of acres harvested within individual AOP's while still meeting the output objectives.

The following minor modifications to the Astoria District Implementation Plan are approved, effective 02/08/2007:

- Page 23, Table 5. Conifer and Hardwood harvest acres have been modified from the existing ranges, and combined into the ranges illustrated below.

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Original I.P. Harvest Acres</u>	<u>Modified I.P. Harvest Acres</u>
Partial Cut Harvest	2,100-3,400	875-1,800
Clearcut Harvest	400-1,100	1,000-1,600

Note: Current I.P. combined clearcut harvest acres range from 400- 1,300 due to a minor modification on Feb. 20, 2004.

Approved:

Tom Savage
Tom Savage, Astoria District Forester

2/8/07
Date