

Agenda Item No.:	5
Work Plan:	Forest Resources Division
Topic:	Implementing Legislative Direction
Presentation Title:	Update on the Adaptive Management Program Committee (AMPC) from the AMPC Co-chairs
Date of Presentation:	January 3, 2024
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**SUMMARY**

This Adaptive Management Program Committee (AMPC) Co-chairs will report on the progress of the AMPC’s work in their first year and outline their work for the coming year.

**CONTEXT**

The legislature directed the board to set up an adaptive management program. The program will help inform future rulemaking and support an application for a programmatic habitat conservation plan, and subsequent incidental take permit. The goal of the program is to use the best available science to assess the effectiveness of rules for protecting several fish and other aquatic species. Statute<sup>1</sup> lists the following functions of the AMPC:

- (a) “Guide the adaptive management process.
- (b) Set the research agenda of the Independent Research and Science Team established in section 38 of this 2022 Act and recommend to the board the team’s budget.
- (c) Assess the scientific findings in a report prepared by the team and prepare a report that identifies alternative actions, including no action, to address resource issues identified in the team’s report.
- (d) Submit the committee’s reports to the board.
- (e) Assist the board in the ongoing process of identifying and modifying resource objectives.
- (f) Review reports related to compliance monitoring and enforcement.
- (g) Submit recommendations to the board concerning rule adjustment, guidance or training.
- (h) Strive for full consensus in committee decision-making.”

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<sup>1</sup> section 36(7), chapter 33, Oregon Laws 2022

## **BACKGROUND**

In February 2020, conservation and forest industry groups offered to revise the Forest Practices Act and administrative rules through a memorandum of understanding to include mediated discussions, known as the Private Forest Accord (PFA). The bill set the timeline and topics for making changes to the Forest Practices Act and rules from which the Board could apply for a programmatic habitat conservation plan (HCP). The PFA concluded in late 2021. In March 2022, the legislature adopted the PFA recommendations through Senate Bills 1501 and 1502, and House Bill 4055. Senate Bill 1501 incorporated by reference the Private Forest Accord Report dated February 2, 2022. The PFA Report further detailed the recommended changes to the Act and rules and a pathway for an HCP. The HCP has a statutorily-mandated approval deadline of Dec. 31, 2027. A key part of the rules is the Adaptive Management Program, of which the AMPC is a key participant.

## **ANALYSIS**

Since the AMPC's first meeting in January 2023, they have:

- Developed their charter;
- Elected co-chairs;
- Nominated the initial members to the IRST;
- Determined their initial list of research topics:
  - (a) Literature review for eastern Oregon steep slopes;
  - (b) Requirements of baseline and trend monitoring of road rules; and
  - (c) Amphibians.
- Finalized their first research question to send to the IRST to develop a scoping proposal.

In 2024, the AMPC will focus on:

- Finalizing research questions on each of their initial research topics; and,
- Working with the IRST to finalize the research agenda for the Board's approval.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

This item is information only.

## **ATTACHMENT**

None