

Oregon Department of Forestry  
Revision of State Forest Management Plan  
Stakeholder Team Input  
April 2015

The Oregon Department of Forestry State Forests Division is in the process of evaluating options to revise the Northwest State Forests Management Plan (FMP). The current plan is not financially viable and without significant revision, the Division's operating fund is expected to have a negative balance by the year 2020. As such the Board of Forestry (BOF) directed the State Forests Division to revise the FMP to achieve financial viability and increase conservation outcomes. They established a BOF subcommittee to work closely with Division staff throughout the revision process. A stakeholder group was formed by Governor Kitzhaber to provide feedback and input to the Department. The stakeholders were selected to represent county commissioners, public at large, and a range of stakeholder perspectives. The eight member group included: Annabelle Jaramillo and Tim Josi (county commissioners), Bob Van Dyk and Ian Fergusson (conservation), Ray Jones and Dave Ivanoff (forest industry), Barrett Brown (recreation) and Ed Kamholz (public at large). In the fall of 2014 and in consideration of the stakeholder group findings, the BOF directed staff to explore a Land Allocation approach as the basis for a revised FMP.

At their February 2015 meeting the subcommittee suggested they individually work directly with members of the original stakeholder group to seek additional input. The BOF affirmed the suggestion and directed staff to facilitate the process. The intent was to look for opportunities to establish a common stakeholder vision of how financial viability and increases in conservation outcomes could be achieved within a Land Allocation approach and how it would be mapped on the landscape.

Subcommittee members posed the following questions to the eight stakeholders.

- 1) What are the top three variables of a conservation and production strategy that you feel must be addressed in a revised FMP?
- 2) How do you define goals, strategies and measures of success for conservation, production, and financial viability?
- 3) What is your vision for desired outcomes from the conservation and production emphasis areas?
- 4) How would you create and define durability in both the production emphasis and conservation emphasis areas?
- 5) What is your vision of how to map a Land Allocation approach? Would you like a base map to start with?

Several topics and themes emerged from the stakeholder responses which are synthesized here. The number in parenthesis after each topic header is the number of stakeholder groups who submitted

responses addressing that topic. The number in parenthesis after each bulleted comment is the number of stakeholder groups who made that comment (or a very similar comment). The stakeholders were grouped as follows: Annabelle Jaramillo and Tim Josi, Bob Van Dyk and Ian Fergusson, Ray Jones and Dave Ivanoff, and Barrett Brown and Ed Kamholz.

This document is a *synthesis and brief summary* of the stakeholder responses and should not be interpreted otherwise. It is intended to serve as a tool for the subcommittee and the full BOF as they look for common ground from which to revise the FMP and direct staff to model areas of uncertainty. The attached documents provide the verbatim stakeholder answers to the five questions, reflect the full and complete thoughts of those authors, and ultimately should be used to resolve any confusion.

### **Greatest Permanent Value (2)**

- Not supported by the zoned approach (1)
- Tactics should be consistent with GPV as currently defined and understood (1)
- Social and recreational obligations promised in GPV are considered luxuries in this process (1)
- Seek a plan that meets the broad and balanced definition of GPV (1)

### **Financial Viability (4)**

- Sufficient revenues to support the department and revenues to the counties (1)
- FV has to include legitimate right of the counties to revenues envisioned at transfer (1)
- Need performance measures to demonstrate LA approach improvements (1)
- FV not achievable under LA approach (1)
- Need long-term perspective for FV (1)
- Stable FDF with 6-12 months reserve (1)
- Possible with 300-340 mmbf harvest (1)
- Use 40-60 year rotation and depart from even flow (1)
- Diversify revenue streams (1)
- Improve business practices (1)
- Consideration needed for litigation, inflation, increasing recreation demand (1)
- Consider recreation fee program (1)
- AFMP process has failed to address the problems underlying FV (1)
- Shift cost of South Fork Prison Camp, Recreation program, Visitor Center, and Research and monitoring program to non-timber sources (1)
- Tillamook Forest Center 100% cost shift away from state forest division (1)
- Sufficient resources to meet FMP goals (1)

### **Durability (4)**

- Areas need to be able to shift in response to changes (adaptive management) (2)
- Fully functioning ecosystems (2)
- Monitoring/scientific review needed (2)
- Certainty/stability/sustainability (2)

- Durability cannot be achieved because ecosystems are dynamic (1)
- Cannot create permanent conservation areas (1)
- Identification of all zones on maps in the FMP (1)
- Produce enough to survive market cycles (1)
- No opportunity for a lawsuit (1)
- Adaptive Management is the only approach to durability (1)
- Illusory and subjective construct (1)
- Financial and conservation durability = sustainability (1)
- Management in production areas (1)
- HCP (1)

#### **Flexibility (1)**

- Department needs operational flexibility and professional empowerment

#### **Land Allocation Approach (4)**

- Conservation zone includes current set-asides (2)
- Not compatible with adaptive management (1)
- Achieve a fully functioning landscape that is healthy and productive (1)
- Need to know: acreage of each zone, number of zones, amount of landscape in each zone (1)
- Use 2 subzones in production zone with different rotation ages (1)
- Conservation zone no larger than 30% - consists of riparian areas, NSO and MMMA areas, unstable slopes, inoperable areas, roads that provide rec. access (1)
- Need to demonstrate improvement of this approach over SBM (1)
- Emphasis areas are antithetical to adaptive management and are a dead end (1)
- Coordinate terrestrial protections with Aquatic Anchors to maximize benefits to both (1)
- List of Special Areas on which to focus conservation (1)
- Areas that are neither production or conservation: non-silviculturally capable, public safety high landslide hazard areas, recreation areas, visitor center, power-line rights of way

#### **Production Zone, Harvest level, and Rotation Age (3)**

- Maintain current harvest levels (1)
- Improve harvest efficiency (1)
- 300-340 mmbf to attain FV
- Sustained harvest at the maximum level in production zones (1)
- Harvest focused on stands that pose a threat to become habitat, even if that necessitates uneven flow (1)
- Maximum yield (1)
- Well managed sales with limited impacts on the environment (1)
- Must address production strategies in the FMP (1)
- Provide predictable and stable timber harvest (1)
- Complex early successional habitat (1)

- Provide sufficient mid-seral habitat for species of concern and connectivity (1)
- 40 – 60 year variable rotation (1)
- 40-60 in some production areas and 70/80-90 in some production areas to provide mid-seral habitat as planning flexibility (1)
- Stands harvested since 1980 and homogenous fir stands <40 years old in production zone
- Slopes < 70% in production zone (1)
- Gravel pits, landings, log sort areas (1)
- Areas otherwise not in conservation zone (1)

**Production Metrics**

- Board feet (1)
- Compare complex early structure to current plan (1)
- Connectivity and mid-seral habitat for species of concern (1)

**Conservation Zone – Desired Future Condition (3)**

- Coordination with federal agencies and public landowners (2)
- Do not grow additional habitat (2)
- Older forest structure is compatible (1)
- Restore and protect other rare habitats for species of concern (1)
- Designation of conservation areas for long-term protection/development/restoration of old growth forests (1)
- Designated areas located in appropriate places to build on existing habitat potentials (e.g., terrestrial anchors, current LYR and OFS stands, and older stands with DFC complex) and special areas (e.g. Aldrich Point, Kings Mountain, Gales Creek Trail Area, adjacent to BLM ownership, Salmonberry canyon and several other specific locations) (1)
- Buffers on streams (1)
- Focus restoration and protection on aquatic anchors (1)

**Conservation Zone Harvest (2)**

- Management restrictions (1)
- Harvest to accelerate the attainment of OFS where appropriate (1)

**Conservation Metrics (3)**

- Increasing acres of late successional habitat or on a pathway to late successional (1)
- Decrease hydrologic connectivity (1)
- Evaluate miles of legacy roads and mitigate risks (1)
- Miles of streams with high quality habitat (1)
- Acres of riparian zones protected as compared to current plan (1)
- Reduced landslide risk (1)
- Increase populations of species of concern (1)
- Water quantity & quality remain (1)
- Stream temperatures allow for healthy fish habitat (1)

- Sufficient land allocation for listed & threatened species (1)
- Measure conservation metrics in both zones (1)
- Performance measures regarding forest health (1)
- Track water quality changes (1)
- Measure carbon sequestration changes (1)

### **Conservation Fund (2)**

- Zonal approach which survives a public process will not provide enough revenue to buy conservation value (1)
- Determine how a conservation fund will offset the damage resulting from increased logging (1)
- Conservation fund used and administered by a Board of Directors (1)
- Retain to address short- and long-term areas of habitat improvement opportunities (1)

### **Riparian Management Areas (3)**

- Use WA DNR Trust lands approach, or as modified by NOAA Fisheries (1)
- No larger than current FMP (1)
- Use FPA if FV not achieved (1)
- Definition of riparian corridors must be addressed in FMP (1)
- Focus conservation and restoration on Aquatic Anchors (1)

### **Legacy Structure (2)**

- No greater than current FMP; use FPA if FV not achieved (1)
- Use current FMP for GTR and downed wood (1)

### **Endangered Species Act Compliance (3)**

- Take avoidance (1)
- Do not grow additional habitat (1)
- Conflicts over ESA protections must be addressed in the FMP (1)
- Attain multi-species HCP (1)
- Increase populations of species of concern (1)

### **Roads (1)**

- Current and legacy road assessment
- Hydrologic disconnection
- Active removal/relocation/removal of road system
- Reduced overall road footprint

### **Recreation (2)**

- Recreation program fully funded (2)
- Consider fee program (1)
- Habitat managed with accommodation to recreation and other social values (1)

- Zonal approach which survives public process will not generate enough revenue to buy recreation values (1)
- Increased demand which will require more funding than user fees will sustain (1)
- need more than bridge funding for recreation/certainty that recreation is funded into the future (1)

**Best Available Science (3)**

- Use of BAS to provide empiricism and self-correction (1)
- Use scientifically proven and accepted criteria (1)
- Fully funded but with non-timber revenues (1)
- R&M done by 3rd parties including compliance audits (1)
- Scientific reviews of activities (1)
- Science-based investments in research and monitoring (1)
- Responsiveness to research and monitoring (1)
- Scientific review of significant amendments to zones (1)

**Administrative Boundaries (1)**

- Logical and business-based; operations not constrained by illogical boundaries

**Map (4)**

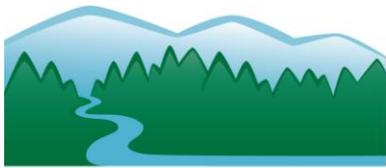
- Methodology described (2)
- Include some/all HVCA in conservation, (e.g. Terrestrial Anchors, Marbled Murrelet Management and Spotted Owl core areas, T&E plants) (2)
- Current LYR and OFS and stands >50 yrs old with DFC = OFS/LYR (1)
- Maps engender divisiveness (1)
- Collaborate with adjacent landowners to enhance effectiveness (1)
- No more than 30% set-aside (1)

**Revenue Distribution (1)**

- Fair and logical
  - Current distribution not compatible with current social and economic dynamics and GPV
  - FDF requires ~50% of revenues
  - outdated business model
  - relationship with county outdated
  - Counties must enter into an equalized revenue sharing agreement
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Annabelle Jaramillo

- 1) What are the top 3 variables of a conservation and production strategy that you feel must be addressed in a revised FMP?
  - Definition of riparian corridors
  - Conflicts over ESA protections
  - Production strategies: when, how & how often
- 2) How do you define goals, strategies and measures of success for conservation, production, and financial viability?
  - Conservation: Water quantity & quality remain; stream temperatures allow for healthy fish habitat; sufficient land allocation for listed & threatened species
  - Production: active management goals achieved through well managed sales with limited impacts on the environment
  - Financial viability: sufficient revenues to support the Department and revenues to counties
- 3) What is your vision for desired outcomes from the conservation and production emphasis areas?
  - My vision is reduced conflict through well thought out strategies in the Forest Management Plan that meets conservation objectives and revenue producing goals.
- 4) How would you create and define durability in both the production emphasis and conservation emphasis areas?
  - Robustness, resilience, endurance, stability
- 5) What is your vision of how to map a Land Allocation approach? Would you like a base map to start with?
  - Need a base map to start begin with.
  - Look at adjacent lands (federal and/or private) for potential collaboration to establish conservation areas/strategies and active management goals.



North Coast State Forest Coalition

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1. **What are the top 3 variables of a conservation and production strategy that you feel must be addressed in a revised FMP?**
  - a. The quantity of each emphasis zone in terms of acreage. Are there 2 zones or 3 or more? How much of the landscape is in each zone?
  - b. Management guidelines for each emphasis zone. What management activities are allowed in the different zones? For example, what is the rotation age of the production zone? What type of harvests are allowed in the conservation zone? What type of science review is required for different management strategies?
  - c. Durability. Can the location of emphasis areas change? Can the quantity change? What processes are associated with changing the location or management strategies for the different locations?
  
2. **How do you define goals, strategies and measures of success for conservation, production, and financial viability?**

We envision a two zone strategy: one for core conservation one for core harvest. The harvest area would have some areas of long rotation (80-90 years) and some of shorter rotation (40-60 years) to provide mid-seral habitat as well as to allow for planning flexibility over time.

### Conservation Zone

#### *Goals:*

- Restore old growth forest
- Restore and maintain properly functioning aquatic system
- Restore and protect other rare habitats for species of concern

#### *Strategies:*

- Designation of conservation areas for long-term protection/development of old growth forests building on Terrestrial Anchors, special areas (see list below), and current complex (LYR and OFS) forest, older stands with desired future condition OFS and LYR
- Management restrictions, scientific review of activities, designated areas located in appropriate places to build on exiting habitat potentials
- Buffers on streams, current and legacy road assessment, hydrologic disconnection, active removal/relocation/upgrade of road system, reduced overall road footprint. Focus conservation and restoration on Aquatic Anchors; coordinate terrestrial protections with Aquatic Anchors, to maximize benefits to both

A coalition of conservation and fishing groups working together for a balanced plan to protect the Tillamook and Clatsop State Forests' natural legacy.

Association of NW Steelheaders ~ Oregon Chapter Sierra Club ~ Oregon Council Trout Unlimited  
Northwest Guides and Anglers Association ~ Wild Salmon Center

- Coordination with federal agencies and other public landowners
- Attain multi-species HCP
- Focus areas for conservation in the following areas, *in addition to and complementing Terrestrial Anchors when possible*:
  - Aldrich Point area frontage of Columbia River and Gnat Creek
  - Lower Wilson (including lower LNF Wilson)/Lower Trask/Lower Kilchis, building on adjacent public ownership by BLM, County Park, and deed restricted lands
  - Kings/Elk Mountain Area
  - Gales Creek Trail Area
  - Beaver Creek/Moon Creek/High Peak Area building on adjacent public ownership by BLM
  - Elkhorn Creek building on adjacent public ownership by BLM
  - Salmonberry Canyon
  - Arcadia Parcel

*Measures of Success: (for comparison with current plan)*

- Increasing acres of late successional habitat or on pathway to late successional (to compare with current plan, use complex (LYR and OFS) structure as a proxy in initial modeling<sup>1</sup>)
- Decreasing hydrologic connectivity
- Miles of legacy roads evaluated and risks mitigated
- Miles of streams with high quality habitat (meeting reference standards for large wood, pool area, active channel width; cold water habitat standards for rearing and spawning and migration; compliance with TMDL)
- Reduced landslide risk
- Riparian acreages protected (to compare with current plan, use acreage protected from clearcutting within 170 feet of all Type F and Large or Medium Type N perennial streams; within 75 feet of Small Type N perennial and debris flow streams; within 50 feet of other seasonal)
- Increasing populations of species of concern

Production Zone

*Goals:*

- Provide predictable and stable timber harvest
- Provide complex early successional habitat
- Provide mid-seral habitat

*Strategies:*

- Improved harvesting efficiency (strategic locations, silvicultural practices, etc.)

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<sup>1</sup> While an imperfect measure, complex structure probably remains the best available indicator for late successional forest characteristics of the current indicators in the state forest modeling and database

- Use DNR state forest HCP stream buffers; we are also open to modifications per NOAA fisheries
- Retain downed wood and green trees per FMP standards
- Pursue distinct rotation age zones: Longer (70-90) and Shorter (40-60)

*Measures for Success:*

- Board feet
- Maintenance or increase in complex early successional habitat as compared to the current plan
- Provide sufficient mid-seral habitat for species of concern and connectivity

Financial Viability

*Goals:*

- Maintain/deploy personnel and resources sufficient to meet FMP goals

*Strategies:*

- Diversify revenue stream (esp. via general fund support), consider recreation fee system
- Improve business practices (log sale strategies, timber sale timing strategies)
- Contract work when more cost-effective than maintaining full-time staff
- Monitoring program largely completed outside ODF by periodic third party audits and through collaborative projects led by OSU
- Shift cost of visitor center away from state forest division (to State Parks, Heritage Trust, Donations, County Contributions, etc.)

*Measures for Success:*

- South Fork Prison Camp, Recreation Program, and Research and Monitoring Program are fully funded by non-timber dollars because of the broad public benefits they provide.
- Visitor center 100% cost shift away from state forest division.
- Stable FDF with 6-12 month cushion

**3. What is your vision for desired outcomes from the conservation and production emphasis areas?**

We seek a plan that meets the current broad and balanced definition of GPV while also improving conservation outcomes and state forest program financial viability.

**4. How would you create and define durability in both the production emphasis and conservation emphasis areas?**

- a. Geographic stability, consistent with habitat function in conservation areas
- b. Availability for management in production areas, created by HCP
- c. Identification on maps in Forest Management Plans

- d. Scientific review of significant amendments to zones

**5. What is your vision of how to map a Land Allocation approach? Would you like a base map to start with?**

*Areas for Conservation*

- a. Riparian buffers: DNR state forest HCP; we are also open to modifications per NOAA fisheries
- b. Marbled Murrelet Management Areas and NSO core areas
- c. Terrestrial Anchors
- d. Current LYR and OFS stands, plus all stands over 50 that are currently designated for LYR or OFS as a desired future condition
- e. Other lands with HVCA designation due to plant or animal species, or rare habitats (e.g. non-forested wetlands, high meadows)
- f. Other public lands (federal, state, county) to show connectivity that complements ODF conservation commitments
- g. Slopes over 70%

*Areas for Production*

- a. Areas clearcut since 1980
- b. Homogenous fir stands under 40 years old
- c. Gravel pits, landings, log sort areas
- d. Areas not otherwise included in conservation zone

*Other Areas*

- a. Non-silviculturally capable areas
- b. High Landslide Hazard Locations (per public safety rules)
- c. Campgrounds, ATV sites, shooting areas, and visitor centers
- d. Power lines right-of-ways
- e. Administrative locations

## **BOF Sub-Committee on State Forests Financial Viability Questions to Stakeholders and Answers**

Ed

**1. What are the top three variables of a conservation and production strategy that you feel must be addressed in a revised FMP?**

### **Applicable to Both:**

Using scientifically proven and accepted criteria;

Develop measures to demonstrate, over time, how sub-division of State Forests into separate zones for production and conservation has contributed to the improvement of the State Forest Division's financial viability and post the results on the ODF website on an annual basis.

Develop measures to compare how creation of the conservation zone and the production zone has or will improve forest health in general and relative to each other and post the results on the ODF website on an annual basis.

Systematically measure conservation value changes in both zones: (e.g. fish counts, endangered species counts, non-endangered species counts, acreage measures of improved habitat, miles of stream recovery, etc.) and publicly post the results on the ODF website on an annual basis.

Track water quality changes over time in both zones and post results on the ODF website on an annual basis.

To the extent possible, or whenever the tools are developed to do so, measure actual verifiable differences in carbon sequestration between both zones and post the results on the ODF website on an annual basis.

### **Applicable to the Production Zone exclusively:**

Measure the effect logging the production zone faster and more completely and the resulting outright destruction of habitat and the prevention of new habitat from developing is somehow offset by creation of a conservation fund. Put another way, prove how creation of a conservation fund born out of destroying habitat and preventing the creation of older forest habitat results in conservation improvements? Just exactly what does monetization through harvest of existing conservation assets buy the citizens of Oregon in the short run and long run?

Track how improved economic output from the production zone under the AFMP creates long-term financial viability for State Forests at proposed production levels. Conversely, to what extent do increased harvest levels support long-term State Forests financial viability in the face of inflation, projected litigation costs and public demands for increased recreational services, particularly in light of the Forest Trust Land Counties' insistence that ODF go to the General Fund to underwrite recreation funding for only the next biennium. How does creation of a production zone at proposed rotation cycles make up for that shortfall during the *next* biennium?

**2. How do you define goals, strategies and measures of success for conservation, production and financial viability?**

The longer my involvement in this question of creating financial viability for State Forests, the more convinced I am the real problem has its origins in the State Forests business model, the design of which was created more than 70 years ago to overcome the basic problem of how to return burned over and cut

over forest lands to productivity. At that time, the issues of County sovereignty were subordinated to the larger issue of restoring the lands. By virtue of the fact no mention is made in creating the trust land agreements as to reversion of those lands to the Counties upon realization of the forests' return to productive capacity leads me to believe there was no intention these lands would ever revert to a taxable basis but instead should be maintained into perpetuity as a public asset meant to benefit citizens of Oregon as a whole. What other motivation could there have possibly been behind the Greatest Permanent Value Rule?

The struggles to bend that vision of State Forests to specific interests as we are experiencing today were beyond the comprehension of the Trust Lands Agreement Signers. There was no forest then, there was no rehabilitation then, there was no environmental point of view then and the vision of possibility was limited to the realm of "knowing what we know" instead of "not knowing what we don't know." In other words, the vision went as far as regenerating a forest but no further.

Fast-forward to today, we have a public asset that: produces wood fiber across the landscape which, in turn provides funding to the Forest Trust Land Counties, offsets state general fund demands by those Forest Trust Land Counties to the extent harvests on State Forests occur within their geographical boundaries, provides numerous social benefits never imagined by the Signers, underwrites the stewardship of those lands by the Oregon Department of Forestry's State Forest Division and provides habitat across the entire spectrum of wildlife species. In the process, demands and expectations from State Forests have grown and will undoubtedly grow in the future.

What *hasn't* grown and kept pace with the demands on State Forests is a vision and business model that goes beyond the context of rehabilitation. Some important signs the model is outmoded appeared in the Forest Trust Land Counties' response to one Stakeholder proposal suggesting that ODF management of State Forests could be more efficiently conducted, production output increased, endangered species habitat better managed by managing those forests as a unified entity across the landscape instead of continuing the restrictive practices of managing each district according to County jurisdictions based on property boundaries.

Once restoration of Forest Trust Land County lands was achieved, a subtle but very real form of competition was created between counties. Understandably, those counties that had relatively more State Forest acres became keenly aware of their potential value and demanded as much forest production as possible as a means of supplanting their budgets. *Cut More In My County* was a natural and positive response. One form of competition arose if more cutting would be done in one of those counties than in another. But, a more insidious form of competition also arose when it became apparent the restored forest was not evenly distributed across the landscape. Clearly, this created a world of winners and losers in the scheme of the Forest Trust Land concept. Specifically the respective biggest winner and loser in this scenario are Clatsop County, having the healthiest (less diseased and a generally more evenly distributed age class in its forests) and Tillamook County having some of the least-healthy State Forest lands (significantly more diseased and a very un-evenly distributed age-class skewed heavily toward younger trees). Inasmuch as Clatsop and Tillamook Counties each account for the most State Forest acreages in their geographical jurisdictions, this represents a major obstacle when it comes to making any change to how State Forests are managed because a change to the allocation formula shifting it from a jurisdictional based-model to a pool-based model thus affecting Tillamook County favorably is almost certain to have a detrimental affect to Clatsop County. This is so when discussing any type of re-allocation scheme for distributing economic output from State Forests and also when considering any change in the percentage of output provided to the State Forests Division.

Likewise, the Forest Trust Land Counties' "one-time-only approval" allowing the State Forests Division to seek general fund monies to offset the cost of providing recreational benefits fails to consider the fact the fastest-growing expense category in the State Forests Division's budget is providing recreational services which, in and of themselves, have no hope of becoming self-sustaining from user fees collected at time of use. That said, the Forest Trust Land Counties have effectively hamstrung the State Forests Division with the expense of providing a growing demand for a public service with no means by which the Division can possibly fund a program to satisfy that demand. In light of the fact recreation dollars are spent in the very

counties that are unwilling to compensate ODF for the feature that draws recreationists to those counties in the first place, one is left to conclude the Counties themselves have become a major part of the State Forests Division's financial viability problem.

Was the competitive State Forests Management gridlock thus created around County property boundaries envisioned by the framers of the Trust Land Agreements? I don't think so and to the extent that limits the Department of Forestry from managing State Forests as a public asset and to satisfy the intent of the Greatest Permanent Value Rule it becomes increasingly apparent the Forest Trust Land Agreements have become a significant barrier to ODF's ability to manage State Forests except in response to the influences of each county's own self-interest.

This lengthy preamble to the question of how to define goals, strategies and success measures is, in my opinion, where we need to be investing our intellectual capital instead of spinning our wheels trying to develop metrics to justify what are, basically, mere tweaks to an outdated business model.

### ***3. What is my vision for desired outcomes from the conservation and production emphasis areas?***

Short of a top-down reformulation of the entire State Forests business model, I personally am unable to create a meaningful vision of outcomes for either area because I believe the AFMP process has failed to address the fundamental problems underlying State Forests' financial viability. I cannot say financial viability has been addressed by this plan because until the question of how to close the recreation budget shortfall beyond the next biennium is addressed, I feel with some certainty we will be having a replay of this process within the next two years and continually after that until such time as the political will arises to make changes to the basic structure of the Forest Trust Lands Agreements and Laws. In fact, there is already a strong indication this plan fails to address the underlying weakness of State Forests' financial viability as evidenced by the Department's own forecast foretelling a weakening of lumber prices within the next two years and with that, no indication of a net growth in the Forest Development Fund.

Further, I see no relationship between the partitioning of State Forests into zones for conservation and zones for production that will create an overall improvement in conservation outputs simply by separating those interests geographically. Wildlife, fires, climate and the natural world in general have never respected the artificiality of man-made boundaries in the past and there is absolutely no evidence to suggest they will do so as a result of a zoned approved to managing State Forests except to the extent that in the production zone there will be a deliberate destruction and limitation to any forest structure beyond a certain age classification which will effectively and selectively prevent the expansion of certain types of forest habitats. If someone can find an explanation for managing forests this way that has a measurable and positive result, I would love to be able to explain to the average Oregon citizen the logic underlying how their public lands are being managed so as to create and maintain the Greatest Permanent Value.

### ***4. How would I create and define durability in both the production emphasis and conservation emphasis areas?***

There is no way to create "durability" because events out of human control have, and always will have major impacts on the forest ecosystem. These events include but are not limited to: disease, fire, weather, climate and the simple fact that wildlife does not respect artificial boundaries set on human intentions. The land allocation approach is a gross simplification of the issues and for all its attractive "benefits," will not and cannot provide durability for anything outside of the zones themselves.

## **5. What is my vision of how to map a Land Allocation approach? Would you like a base map to start with?**

Creation of a map sub-dividing the landscape into conservation and production zones will essentially formalize another phase in the divide and conquer mentality that seems to have won sway in how we manage the public asset we call State Forests. At first blush, the land allocation approach appears to appease the timber industry, the Forest Trust Land Counties and conservation factions (all are on record favoring the land allocation approach) but only demonstrates how the intractability of those separate interests will, if not somehow limited in their influence, devalue a valuable *public* asset by making its parts separate and something less than its whole.

Barrett

### **Alt FMP interview questions – Barrett Brown 3-24-2015**

Using this common set of questions will allow for a more useful synthesis of feedback, enable comparisons between stakeholder concepts and facilitate the shuttle diplomacy phase. We pose the following set of questions:

This questionnaire presents a series a false choices, based upon a false premise – that the current course of action represents a viable path to a responsible FMP. Accordingly, my answers are not intended to support that premise. Instead, I offer them as a series of challenges, and clarification of why I think the current course, as general as it is, cannot succeed.

- 1) What are the top ~~three~~ variables of a conservation and production strategy that you feel must be addressed in a revised FMP?

#### A. Conservation

- Tactics derived with respect to GPV principles, as currently defined and understood.
- Operational flexibility for the department. Professional empowerment
- Science-based decision making - empiricism and self-correction.
- Habitat and conservation values must engage with the financial viability imperative.
- Science-based investments in, and responsiveness to, R&M
- Habitat areas are engaged with, and managed with, accommodation for social values - specifically recreation resources.
- Landscape approach allows that conservation areas may move/shift in response to adaptive management decisions. Certain public resistance to this variability is partly based on misinformation campaigns.

#### B. Production

- Tactics derived with respect to GPV principles, as currently defined and understood.
- Operational flexibility and professional empowerment within the department.
- Financial viability, in a longer term perspective.
- Fair and logical distribution of revenue between counties

- Logical, business-based operational/district boundaries.
- Financial support of, and business accommodation for, social values - specifically recreation resources.
- Landscape approach allows that conservation and production areas may move/shift in response to adaptive management decisions.

2) How do you define goals, strategies and measures of success for conservation, production, and financial viability?

- Our goals should reflect 21<sup>st</sup> century reality, as well as the GPV compact that Oregonians tell us that they so cherish. Current demands on this forest - indeed current social and economic dynamics - in no way relate to what was imagined in the middle of the last century, when the current forest revenue allocation schemes were conceived.
- Marching in this direction, financial viability is nowhere on the horizon.
- As natural resource extraction dependent economies, especially tied so closely to a construction commodity, certain Forest Trust Lands counties views are still influenced by a once-in-a-century financial catastrophe. That perspective cannot be allowed to override reason as we endeavor to diversify and modernize our economies and map a financially viable path forward. Livability, recreation resources, high-functioning habitat conditions and tourism **are economic deliverables**, with potential that remains unappreciated, or ignored in certain counties.
- Economic structural changes:
  - a) The Forest development fund requires ~ 50% of forest revenue.
  - b) The counties must enter into an equalized revenue sharing agreement.
  - c) Forest management operations must not be constrained by illogical boundaries.

3) What is your vision for desired outcomes from the conservation and production emphasis areas?

- Any zonal approach that survives the public wars to follow will not spin off enough revenue to “buy” conservation value (a nonsensical notion, regardless.) Nor will it provide an even flow of revenue to buy recreation values.
- Emphasis areas, as conceived of here, are antithetical to adaptive management and are a dead-end. Schemes like this **can** succeed, in the way autocratic dictatorships can be said to succeed (because one side conquers then sets the agenda.) The polar positions in this debate, each, in turn, have bet that they’ll win that fight for domination and have de facto **colluded** to stage that contest. In reality, better than dictatorships, the Forest Service is the instructive example – conflict driven gridlock and enfeebled natural resource management.

4) How would you create and define durability in both the production emphasis and conservation emphasis areas?

- Durability, in this context is an illusory and subjective **construct**. Adaptive management is the only real path to durability. That may seem counterintuitive, or an ironic contradiction, to the cynical and the myopic, but it will not seem that way to natural resource management professionals *anywhere*.

5) What is your vision of how to map a Land Allocation approach? Would you like a base map to start with?

- Maps like this tend to engender war. The leaders who crafted our current FMP had the vision to know this.

Finally, this questionnaire, and the current path of deliberation – by throwing them off – discounts the social/recreational obligations promised in the GPV compact as luxuries, which were nice while we could afford to talk about them; not worth discussing at the grown-up table when times are tight. I suggest that public support for a FMP (in service of which recreation resource values are so critical) is not a luxury. And times are tight only as long as free inquiry into our failed and outdated forest revenue distribution statutes remain off-limits.

Industry

To: [Dave Ivanoff](#) and [Ray Jones](#)

This is part of our (BOF subcommittee) ongoing stakeholder input process. The goal of which is to seek broad-based support for a revised FMP that achieves the twin goals for conservation and economic outputs. A common set of goals and outcomes from a Land Allocation approach, coupled with a shared vision of how it would be mapped out on the landscape will inform Board policy decisions and direction to staff as the FMP revision process continues. To achieve this I am calling you to seek your input on the following questions. Once I receive this input, the subcommittee will work to identify areas of agreement. Thanks in advance for your help! (GS)

1. What are the top 3 variables of a conservation and production strategy that you feel must be addressed in a revised FMP? 1) Develop a plan that has a harvest level of 300-340 MMBF per year to gain financial viability 2) utilize a variable rotation age of 40-60 years of age and 3) Retain the idea of a Conservation Fund to address short and long term areas of habitat improvement opportunity. 4) Map at least a portion of the High Value Conservation Areas that will be set aside and managed primarily for conservation emphasis. 5) The production zone should not be managed with riparian or green tree retention standards beyond those of the current FMP. If the harvest level range of 300-340 MMBF cannot be achieved using current FMP standards, then FPA standards should be utilized to make certain this harvest range is achieved.

2. How do you define goals, strategies and measures of success for conservation, production, and financial viability? One goal is to be financially viable-it will take incrementally at least 75-80 mmbf per year to accomplish that. A land allocation plan not exceeding 30% retainage will get you there so long as you utilize the suggested rotation age scheme and depart from even flow for a while. This goal is easily measured by ODF and at each BOF Meeting with a financial update. Today there are conservation benefits associated with the current plan; the new plan will have the same benefits through conservation allocation and the conservation benefits from the production zone. Additionally, through the conservation fund there will be incremental gains in near term and longer term habitat improvements. Measurement of these activities is very probable through report the activity and associated cost of projects. These efforts will be directed and approved by a Board of Directors; these will be strategic projects. The Conservation Fund's Board will be made up of a diverse group, including scientists, as well as people representing both conservation and private forest industry interests. Annual reports from the essential research and monitoring paid for with the Conservation Fund will be reported to the BOF. Through this ongoing research and monitoring, adaptive management based on science can occur. The definition of financial viability has to include the legitimate right of the trust counties to be the beneficiary of the abundant revenue flow envisioned at the time of the land transfer to state ownership. In this whole process, the counties' right to the full measure of the potential revenue stream has not been given the consideration due them as trust beneficiaries in the policy discussions.
3. What is your vision for desired outcomes from the conservation and production emphasis areas? In the conservation zone; a thoughtful and inclusive strategy around what is important and why. Whether considering owls, murrelets, fish and big game define a reason why a particular strategy needed or wanted. For Endangered Species, the strategy needs to be take-avoidance. Anything further is not the responsibility of State lands. They have no responsibility to grow habitat; that is a Federal Mandate. On the land managed for conservation emphasis, I believe the development of older forest conditions in these areas can be consistent with the vision of a zoned forest management approach. Harvest in the conservation zone could be that which accelerates the creation of older forest conditions. My vision for the 30% set-aside primarily for conservation outcomes would include riparian areas; existing occupied murrelet and/or owl habitat; areas inoperable for management due to steep, unstable slopes or other reasons; and the road systems needed to provide recreational access across the landscape. For the production zone, harvest levels of 300-340 MMBF per year across all six (6) districts has to be sustained in perpetuity.
4. How would you create and define durability in both the production emphasis and conservation emphasis areas? Durability to me means sustainability. **Financial Viability** needs to be sustained; which means delivering on the promise year in and out with certainty. Defining a plan that just meets the bare minimum today will not meet the test as we know markets go up and down. ODF will need to solve for more than an incremental 75-80 MMBF. **Conservation Durability**- Setting aside 30% of the Land Base is above and beyond what anyone else does in the private sector. We need to realize that 14-16% set asides through riparian/roads and other issues is about the norm for coastal properties. An additional 14-16% provides the durability so long as the Conservation Program is directed. According to Liz about 17% is presently set aside? A more robust science and

monitoring program needs to be part of the conservation strategy; financial viability will help fund this action sustainably. The durability of the financial viability goal must be just as certain as that of the conservation goal.

5. What is your vision of how to map a Land Allocation approach? Would you like a base map to start with? This is a key issue in discussing the Land Allocation Approach. First, map out the riparian areas using the current FMP Buffers. It is ridiculous to map any incremental buffer zones. Second, map out the high risk land slide areas. Third map out Endangered Species Sites and associated species where set asides are required so as to not take an ESA Listed species. Fourth map out roads and unproductive areas. **After completing this assessment, review the percentage of land base that has been set aside.** Next begin a robust discussion of any higher priority conservation issues that have not been addressed; this is the time to address these issues. Maybe it is a discussion of watersheds where salmon, steelhead and trout are of utmost concern and a wish to do something extra; which may develop into incremental set asides. This is also an area where habitat enhancement projects or other protections could be discussed. This methodology is a way to systematically and strategically look a set asides on an incremental basis and discuss trade- offs while still making the financial viability portion work. Everyone would be mindful of how and why set asides are made and how it may affect production and financial viability. While the mapping exercise is being done, it is critical to recognize that in order for the goal of financial viability to be achieved, no more than 30% of the entire land base can be set aside.

This is part of our ongoing stakeholder input process. The goal of which is to seek broad-based support for a revised FMP that achieves the twin goals. A common set of goals and outcomes from a Land Allocation approach coupled with a shared vision of how it would be mapped out on the landscape will inform board policy decisions and direction to staff as the FMP revision process continues. To achieve this I am calling you to seek your input on the following questions. Once I receive this input, the subcommittee will work to identify areas of agreement."

Using this common set of questions will allow for a more useful synthesis of feedback, enable comparisons between stakeholder concepts and facilitate the shuttle diplomacy phase. We pose the following set of questions:

**1) What are the top 3 variables of conservation and production strategy that you feel must be addressed in a revised FMP?**

- A. Sustained timber production at the maximum level in production zones.
- B. Harvest first and foremost any stands that may present a threat through potential habitat to the intended use of the production zones; even if this necessitates uneven flow.
- C. Include in the conservation zones/acreage all current set-asides.

**2) How do you define goals, strategies and measures of success for conservation, production, and financial viability?**

- A. Produce maximum yield production that enhances critical county services and fully replenishes the FDF beyond mere adequacy.
- B. Conservation zones that include current set-asides.

**3) What is your vision for desired outcomes from the conservation and production emphasis areas?**

- A. A fully functioning landscape that is healthy and productive.

**4) How would you create and define durability in both the production emphasis and conservation emphasis areas?**

- A. Production – no opportunity for a lawsuit. Conservation – fully functioning ecosystem at a standard that can be replicated when it moves over the landscape.
- B. Durability is created by allowing conservation areas to move into production emphasis areas when conditions warrant the change. The same applies for moving production areas to conservation areas.
- C. Creating permanent conservations areas breaks the trust agreement and this issue has already been adjudicated at the Oregon Supreme Court with the Crabtree case.

**5) What is your vision of how to map a Land Allocation approach? Would you like a base map to start with?**

- D. Yes to a base map.