

## MEMORANDUM

### **SUBJECT: ANNUAL RULE REVIEW MEETING REPORT**

**TO:** Members of the Board of Forestry

**FROM:** Doug Decker, State Forester

**DATE:** March 9, 2016

This memorandum and attachment reports on the 2015 annual meetings held with other state agencies regarding the sufficiency of the Forest Practice Rules and proper coordination with other agencies with an interest in the forest environment. OAR 629-605-0110 states “The State Forester shall, at least once each year, meet with other state agencies concerned with the forest environment to review the Forest Practice Rules relative to sufficiency. The State Forester shall then report to the Board of Forestry a summary of such meeting or meetings together with recommendations for amendments to rules, new rules, or repeal of rules.”

The report (attachment 1) relates to the 2011 Forestry Program for Oregon vision of ensuring that statewide forest resource policies are coordinated among Oregon’s natural resource agencies. The report directly relates to the following goals:

Goal A.2. Support an effective, science-based, and adaptive Oregon Forest Practices Act and a strong, but flexible, Land Use Planning Program as the cornerstones of forest resource protection on private lands in Oregon. The Board will use non-regulatory methods as much as feasible to achieve public-policy goals on private forestlands, and consider the use of additional regulatory methods only when non-regulatory methods are either not feasible or are not likely to achieve the desired outcome.

Goal B.1. Continue to assess the unique challenges and opportunities facing federal, state, local government, tribal, industrial, investment, and family forest landowners and promote policies that result in economic conditions sufficient to encourage continued retention of, and investment in, forestlands in each of these ownership groups.

Goal C.4. Promote and use a variety of tools for retaining Oregon’s forestland base, including public acquisition of forests.

Goal C.5. Promote policy frameworks and land management assistance programs that recognize and encourage the diverse management objectives of Oregon’s public and private forestland owners. Diverse forest management objectives provide a suite of benefits, which collectively, in appropriate proportions and locations, will meet Oregon's environmental, economic, and social needs.

Goal D.1. Use education, engineering, incentives, and enforcement of the Forest Practices Act to protect soil productivity and water quality on non-federal forestlands.

Goal D.2. Promote understanding, acceptance, and support across all land uses for relevant evaluations of water quality conditions based on beneficial uses, and the use of these evaluations to develop stream protection policies across land uses that result in consistent application of state water quality standards.

Goal D.4. Promote the maintenance of forestland in forest uses and promote the establishment of new forests as key elements in promoting high quality water and protection of soil productivity.

Goal D.5. Promote forest management that perpetuates the ecological processes— including disturbance dynamics—that contribute to desired aquatic habitat and water quality using a landscape level approach.

Goal D.6. Support and contribute to continuing statewide efforts under the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds to enhance, restore and protect Oregon’s native salmonid populations, watersheds, water quality, and fish and wildlife habitat, while sustaining a healthy economy.

Goal D.7. Recognize that private forest landowners’ contribution to providing Oregonians with high quality drinking water is achieved through compliance with state water quality standards.

Goal D.8. Promote management practices that protect forest soil productivity from losses due to human-induced landslides, soil erosion, and soil compaction.

Annual meetings are offered individually to the invited agencies. In addition to discussing forest practice issues, the meetings have been used to discuss a range of Department programs and state agency coordination issues. A decision to hold a formal meeting is based upon the relative importance of the issues that have been identified during pre-meeting discussions, the adequacy of ongoing coordination, and the preference of the invited agency.

There were no specific recommendations for Forest Practice rule changes.

Attachment 1: Annual Rule Review Meeting Report 2015