

Agenda Item No.:	F
Work Plan:	Private Forests
Topic:	Board Updates
Presentation Title:	Private Forests Implementation and Effectiveness Monitoring Unit Update
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SUMMARY

This agenda topic provides an update on Private Forests monitoring unit activities since the update in September 2016.

CONTEXT

The Board’s 2011 Forestry Program for Oregon supports an effective, science-based, and adaptive Oregon Forest Practices Act (FPA) as a cornerstone of forest resource protection on private lands in Oregon (Objective A.2). The discussion of Goal A recognizes that the FPA includes a set of best management practices to ensure that forest operations meet state water quality standards. The Board’s objectives also promote management practices that protect forest soil productivity from losses due to human-induced landslides, soil erosion, and soil compaction (Objective D.8). The Board’s guiding principles and philosophies includes a commitment to continuous learning, evaluating and appropriately adjusting forest management policies and programs based upon ongoing monitoring, assessment, and research (Value Statement 11). The Board has also adopted administrative rules that emphasize effectiveness monitoring for riparian management areas, landslides and public safety, and pesticides.

BACKGROUND

At the September 2015 Board meeting, the department presented a general update on Private Forests monitoring activities. Topics included: two compliance audit annual reports, wildlife tree and downed wood compliance report, voluntary measures project, Riparian Function and Stream Temperature (RipStream) project, the riparian rule analysis, Trask Watershed Road Sediment study, and the pesticides Water Quality Management Plan Team, and the monitoring strategy.

ANALYSIS

High-priority Forests Practices monitoring projects over the last year include (see Attachment 1 for details):

- Completion of a compliance audit annual report plus ongoing work.

- Continuation of a study of implementation of Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds voluntary measures.
- Ongoing analyses of key RipStream questions such as downstream stream temperature effects (Attachment 2) and preparatory work for large wood recruitment and riparian stand characteristic and function questions.
- Evaluation of riparian rulemaking alternatives, in terms of their scientific underpinnings relative to the rule objective.
- Continued participation and support of pesticides monitoring conducted via the interagency Water Quality Pesticides Management Team.
- Completion of the near final draft update to the Private Forests Monitoring Strategy (final draft due to the Board in November 2016).

Unit personnel have also been involved in various other duties as assigned.

RECOMMENDATION

This agenda item is informational only. Board comments, questions and suggestions are welcome.

ATTACHMENT

- (1) Forest Practices Implementation and Effectiveness Monitoring Update
- (2) L. J. Davis, M. Reiter and J. D. Groom. 2016. Modelling temperature change downstream of forest harvest using Newton's law of cooling. Hydrological Processes. Volume 30, Issue 6, pages 959–971, 15 March 2016. DOI: 10.1002/hyp.10641