

FOREST TRUST LANDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

DATE: APRIL 26, 2017  
TO: BOARD OF FORESTRY  
FROM: COMMISSIONER TIM JOSI, CHAIR, FTLAC  
SUBJECT: COMMENTS OF THE FOREST TRUST LANDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE



On behalf of the Forest Trust Lands Advisory Committee (FTLAC), I have been directed as Chair to make the following comments.

**FMP Revision:**

The Department and Board need to set up a timeline for the FMP revision process and stick to it. The Board has had plenty of information presented to it. While there may need to be effort to review that information, the Board should be able to make a policy decision without a lot of additional analysis.

We do not feel that the Board can find an answer that will increase both financial viability and conservation outcomes at the same time. The Board will have to make trade off decisions between the twin goals. We understand that the Board's policy decision will be a difficult.

**TERG and Growth and Yield:**

During the Forest Management Plan Alternatives Project, stakeholders expressed concern regarding the Division's approach to modeling growth and yield and estimating standing forest inventory. We believe a reliable estimate of standing inventory is central to the FMP Alternatives project. In response, the Division formed a Technical Expert Review Group with representation from the counties, private landowners, and the conservation community. ODF retained an independent contractor, ESSA, to address TERG input. At the FTLAC meeting the Division presented findings and outcomes from the final ESSA report and shared how the ESSA recommendations have been incorporated into their current estimate of standing inventory.

We support the Division's implementation of ESSA recommendations. However, we still have concerns over the Division's ability to adequately invest in stand level inventory – specifically re-measuring stands over time to be able to quantify growth with greater certainty.

**Trask Watershed Study:**

Trask Watershed Study funding should be a high priority for add-back to the Department's budget. This is an important study of current forest management practices and the impacts on non-fish bearing streams. Completing this study will help us understand the effects of modern forest practices.