

## Board of Forestry Testimony

W. Ray Jones, Representing Stimson Lumber Company

April 25, 2018

As the Board of Forestry (BOF) and the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) continue to develop Forest Management Plan (FMP) Alternatives, several factors need to be addressed in order to evaluate alternatives effectively.

- First, there needs to be Transparency and Visibility to all Stakeholders when weighing FMP Alternatives.
- As stated before, there should be a cost and benefit analysis of the policy choices made which are embedded in any alternative. This provides the BOF, ODF and Stakeholders the most informed representation of any alternative. Where costs and benefits can be developed, they should be used. The method of using arrows should only be used when costs and benefits are very difficult to develop. Arrows up and down to indicate benefit or costs is not specific enough to help ODF, BOF, Trust Counties and Stakeholders to evaluate alternatives.

### Comparability

- There needs to be a Baseline Model to compare alternatives to. As stated before, a Timber Emphasis Model, utilizing the Forest Practices Act Standards and Take Avoidance Strategies should be the beginning point. This plan yields a set of economic, social, and environmental costs and benefits for the benefit of Trust Counties and ODF.
- Other developed Plan Alternatives including the current FMP can be compared to this plan. The costs and benefits of Policy Choices can be weighed in a transparent, objective and credible manner utilizing this approach. The Trust Counties and all other Stakeholders would benefit from this approach as each would understand the costs and benefits of prior and current Policy Choices made by the BOF.
- I understand from the last BOF Meeting that ODF is developing a BOF Alternative. This plan would incorporate Take Avoidance Strategies for ESA Species. Parallel to this BOF Alternative is the HCP Process and the creation of the HCP Business Case by ODF. Currently there are potentially three plans: 1) the current FMP, (2) the BOF Alternative utilizing Take Avoidance and the HCP Business Case. A full and robust discussion needs to occur by the Board about comparability. Again I submit that all plans need to be compared to the above mentioned Timber Emphasis Model to truly understand the complete costs and benefits of any new plan.

### Economics and Metrics

- As stated before to the BOF, the collective market value of these forests is in excess of \$5.0 billion dollars. As a standard procedure, ODF should report to the BOF and the Trust Counties what the return on asset value is annually. What is an acceptable rate of return on this asset?
- Harvest Volume and Revenue needs to be clearly displayed in any plan alternative.
- ODF needs more revenue to resume fundamental land management activities (inventory maintenance, young growth management and silviculture). These activities should be included in any new plan as annual budget items. These functions are fundamental to assure proper asset management in the near and long term.