



Western Oregon State Forests HCP Update

Meeting Open to the Public

October 15, 2019

Portland State University, Portland, OR



KEARNS WEST



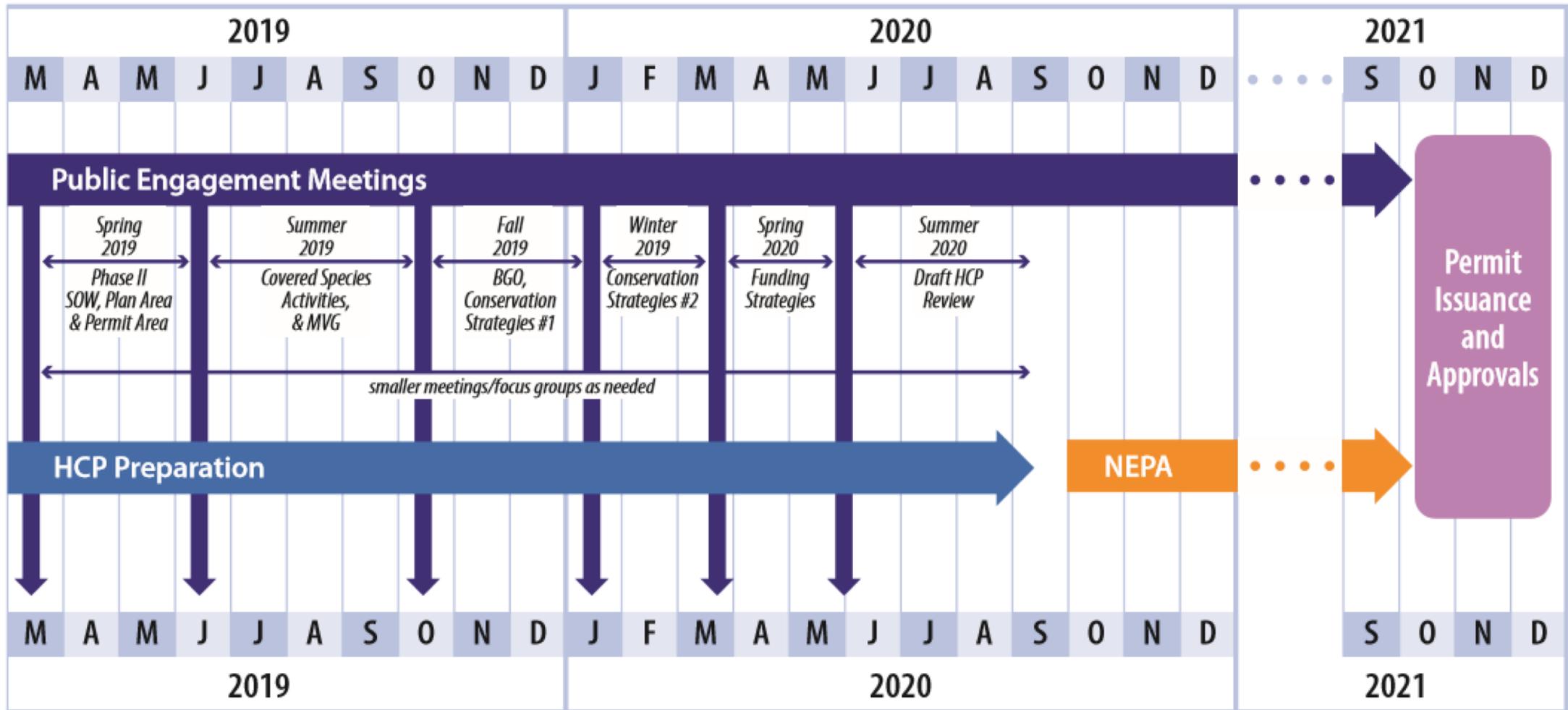
Agenda

1. Welcome and Agenda Overview
2. Updates on the Western Oregon HCP
3. Review and Seek Input on the Conceptual Biological Goals and Objectives
4. Upcoming Topics for the Western Oregon HCP
5. Summary and Next Steps
6. Meet-n-Greet



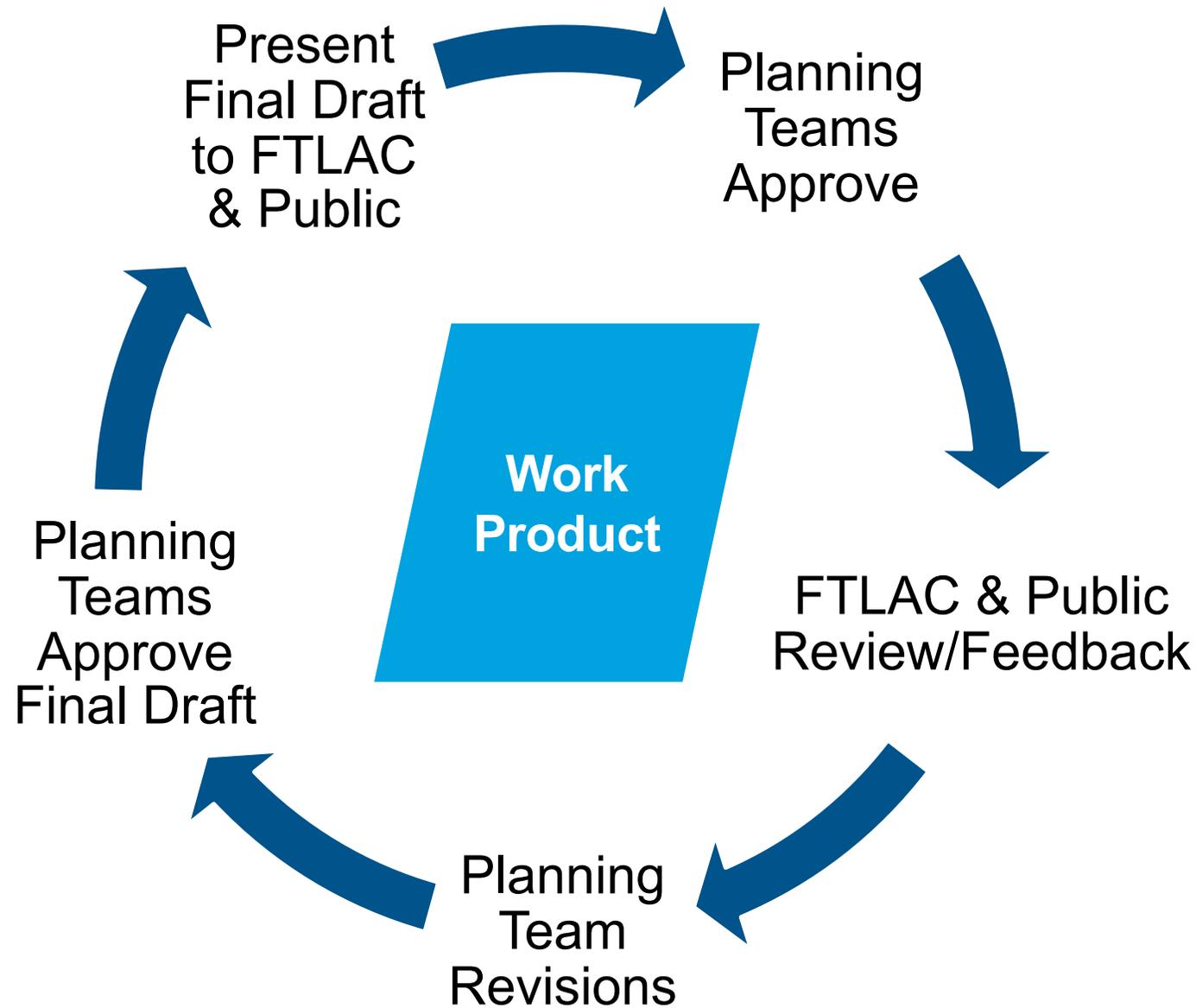
Introductions

Western Oregon State Forests HCP Public Engagement





Stakeholder Engagement: An Iterative Process

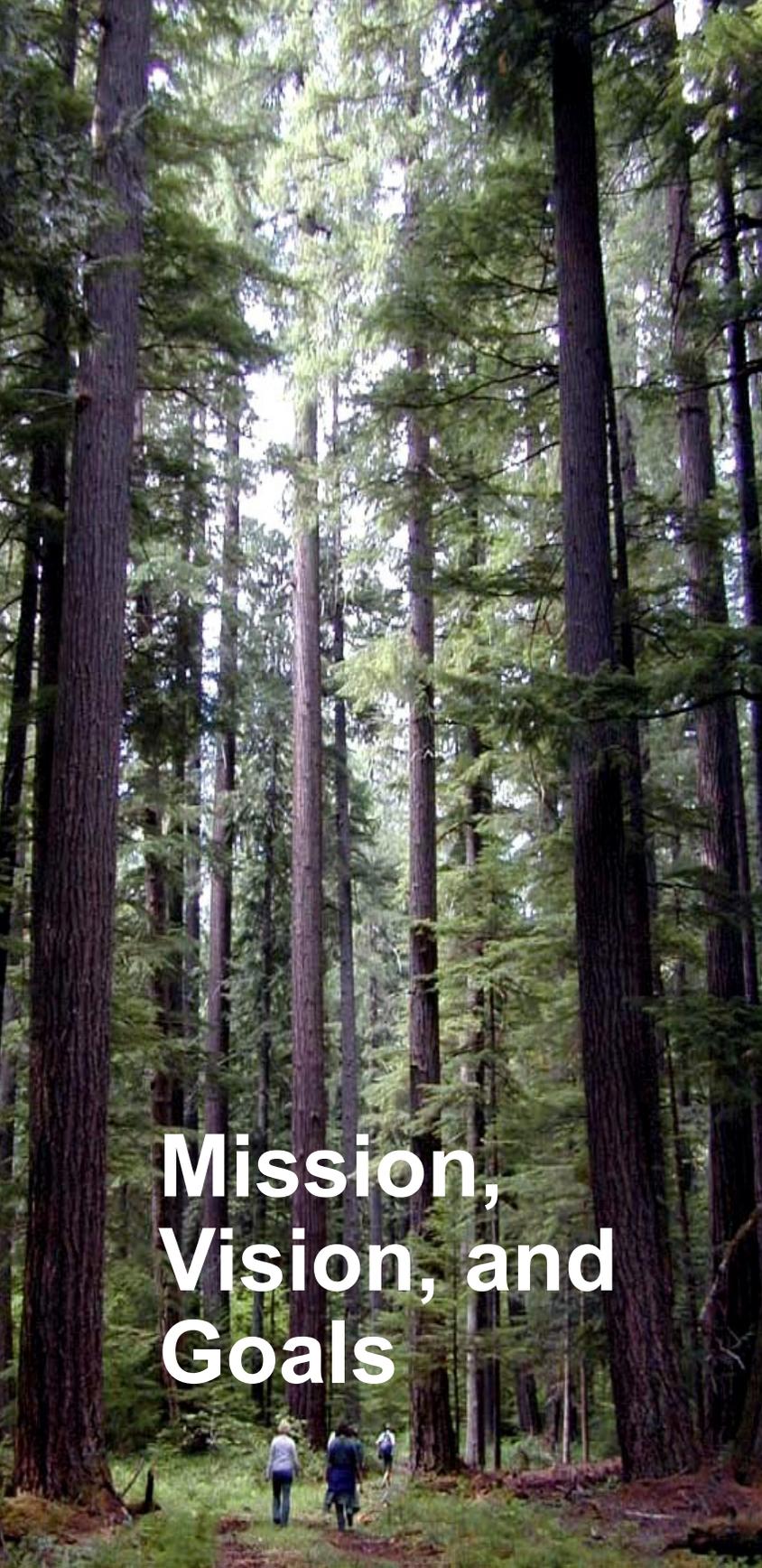




Western Oregon State Forests HCP

Mission, Vision and Goals

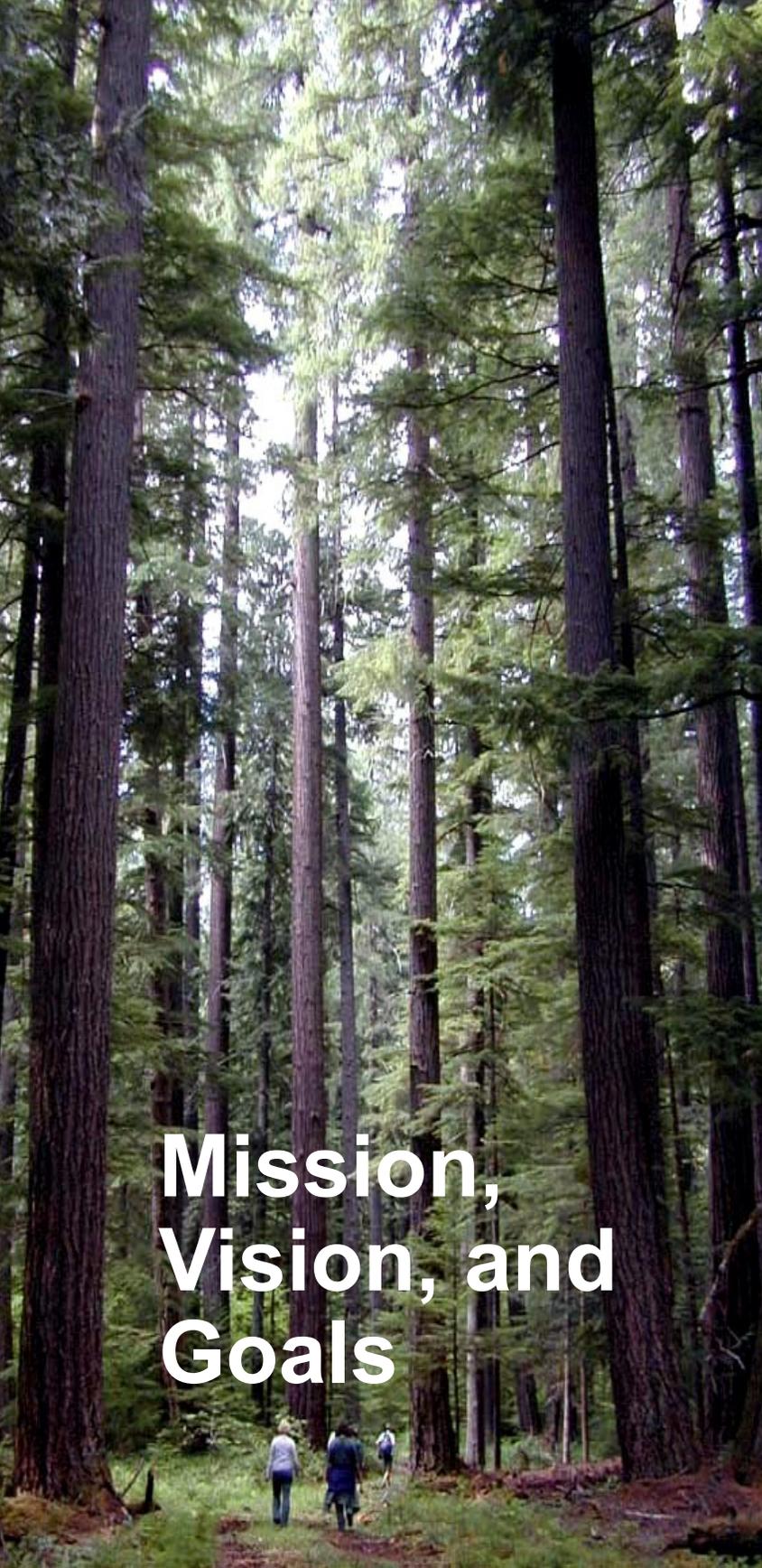
**Updates on
the Western
Oregon HCP**



Mission, Vision, and Goals

HCP Mission, Vision, and Goals Overview

The Western Oregon State Forests Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) Mission, Vision, and Goals are voluntary statements created by ODF with input from the Western Oregon State Forests Steering Committee, as well as feedback from the HCP Scoping Team, FTLAC, stakeholders, and broader public. The Mission, Vision, and Goals do not place additional requirements on the agency; instead, they describe what the agency intends the HCP to accomplish in the context of ODF's broader regulatory requirements.



Mission, Vision, and Goals

HCP Mission

To provide protection and conservation for selected listed species and species likely to become listed under the federal or state Endangered Species Acts during the permit term, while providing for long-term, multi-benefit management of the State's public forestlands subject to the Western Oregon State Forest Management Plan. The HCP will support the range of economic, social, and environmental benefits that ODF is statutorily required to provide under the Greatest Permanent Value rule and will help to meet fiduciary responsibilities for Common School Forest lands. It will also meet specific criteria that must be satisfied before National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) can issue incidental take permits.



Mission, Vision, and Goals

HCP Vision

The HCP ensures species protection and conservation as well as increased certainty that working state forestlands will continue to **provide timber production, recreation, and overall benefit to Oregonians**. Multi-objective forest stewardship activities provide revenue to counties, rural communities, the Common School Fund and ODF, create jobs, support resilient forest ecosystems, clean air and high water quality, provide high quality habitats for native fish and wildlife, provide, and promote educational, recreational, and other partnership opportunities to enhance enjoyment of public forest benefits.



Mission, Vision, and Goals

HCP Program Goals

- 1) Meet the regulatory requirements of the federal and state Endangered Species Acts using a multi-species approach to managing forest ecosystems across the landscape.
- 2) Ensure that active and sustainable management practices on state forest lands covered under the HCP and an associated Forest Management Plan are designed to meet the social, economic, and environmental goals articulated in the Greatest Permanent Value Rule.
- 3) Increase operational certainty, cost savings, and predictability of revenue generation (**including related timber harvest, timber-related and non-timber related jobs, and other economic values**) using the HCP as a programmatic approach to comply with the federal and state Endangered Species Acts over the permit term.
- 4) Increase certainty for long-term persistence of covered **fish** and wildlife species by protecting and maintaining high-quality habitats, conducting habitat enhancement activities in areas of lower quality habitat, and mitigating the impacts of covered activities on covered species, **while providing benefits to other native species in the permit area.**
- 5) Advance partnerships and engagement related to management approaches and outcomes associated with, but not limited to, revenue generation and economic outcomes, conservation, forest conditions and health, tribal interests and traditional cultural uses, research, monitoring, education, recreation, **hunting, fishing**, and the range of social, economic, and environmental benefits that state public forests provide.
- 6) Use science-based management to help promote conditions that create a sustainable, productive forest that is **resilient to disturbance regimes such as fire, floods, disease, and drought, as well as the effects of climate change on forest and watershed conditions.** Implement an adaptive management program designed to improve the effectiveness of the HCP over the course of its term.



Western Oregon State Forests HCP Updates and HCP Mission, Vision and Goals

Q&A

Online Meeting Participants:

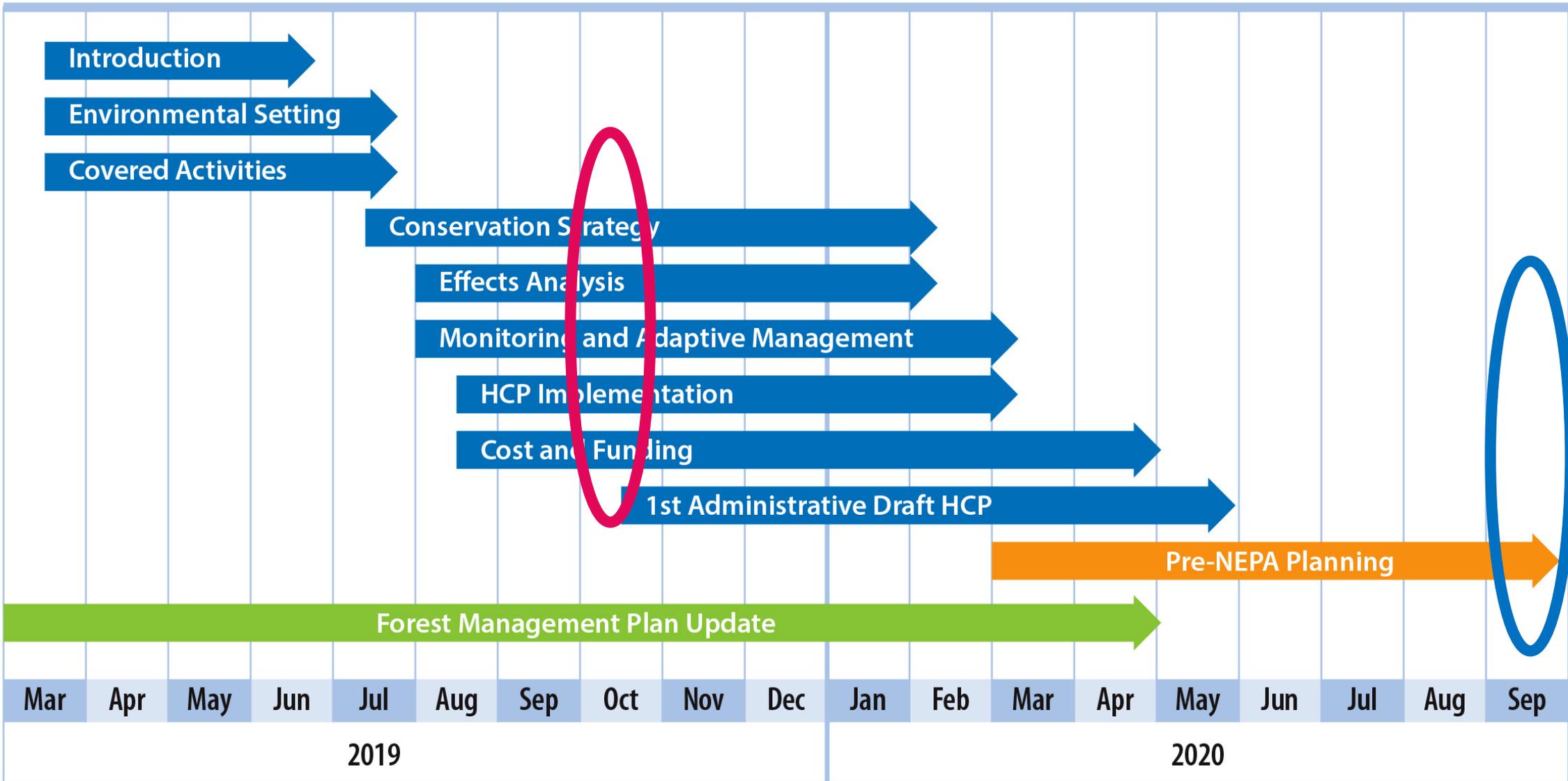
Email Jason.R.Cox@Oregon.gov
with questions or comments

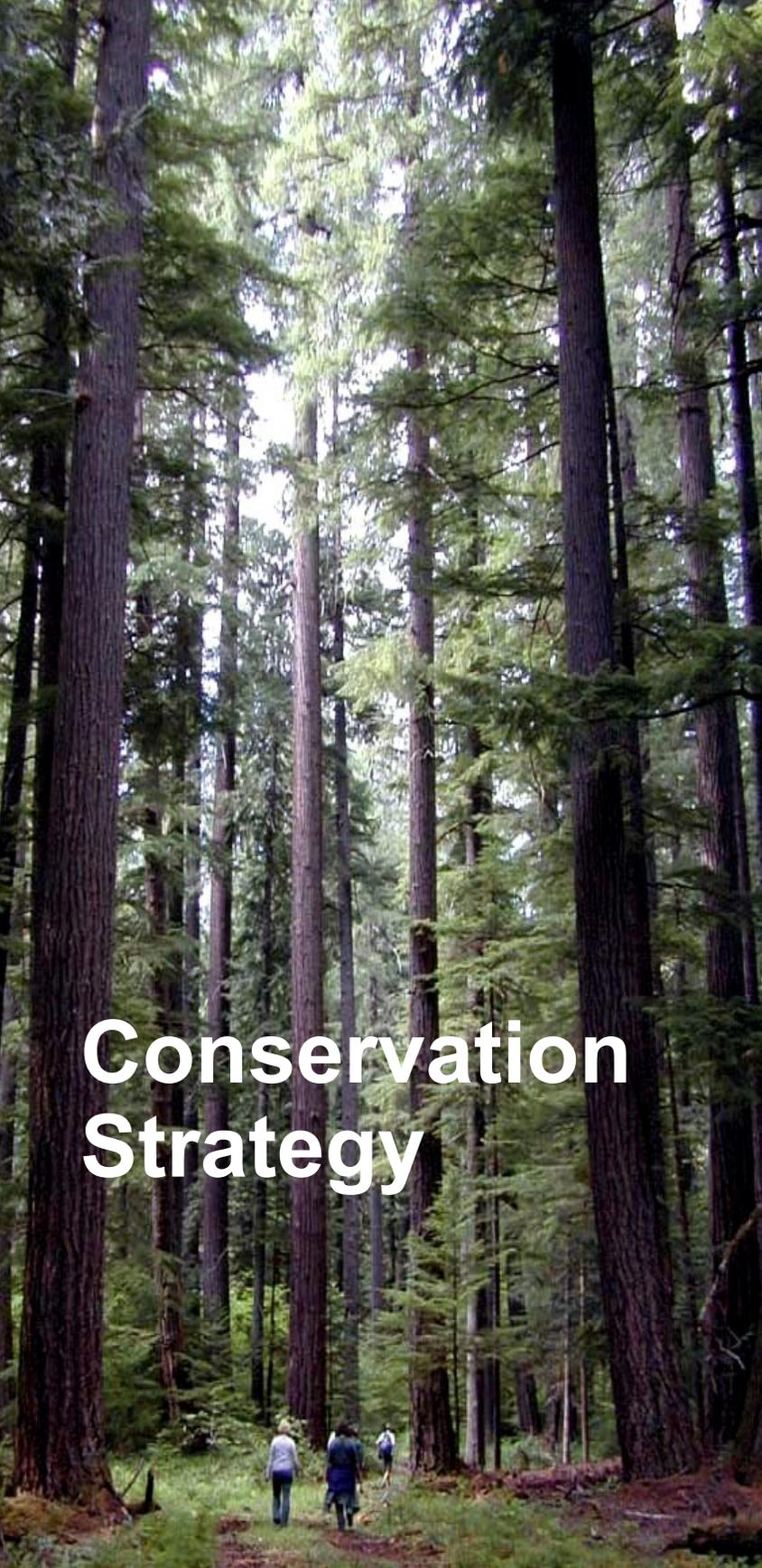


Western Oregon State Forests HCP

Conservation Strategy Part I: Biological Goals and Objectives

Draft HCP Development Timeline





Conservation Strategy

Conservation Strategy

- Defines what the HCP is trying to accomplish through biological goals and objectives
- Includes conservation actions that will be implemented to achieve the objectives
- Describes how the applicant will track progress through a monitoring program
- Determines how the applicant will adjust implementation of the HCP through adaptive management

Biological Goals

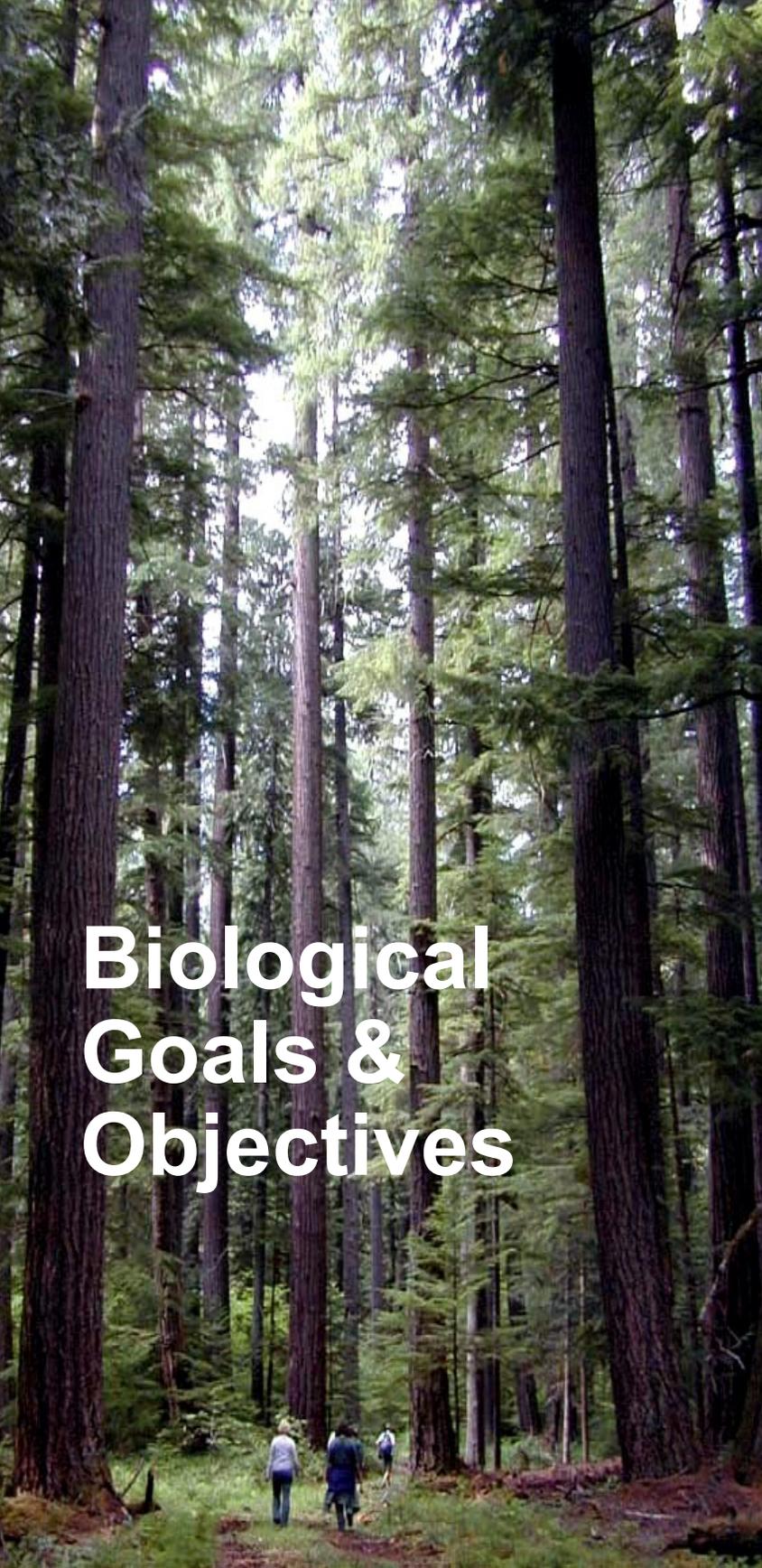
- Broadly describe the desired future conditions of an HCP in succinct statements
- Must be sufficiently specific to guide the conservation strategy during implementation of the HCP
- Goals are needed for each species, but in some cases species can be grouped together

Biological Goals & Objectives

Biological Objectives

- The incremental steps taken to achieve a biological goal; often multiple objective support each goal
- Strive to make objectives specific and measureable
- The measuring stick for how the HCP performs and thus directly influence the monitoring program

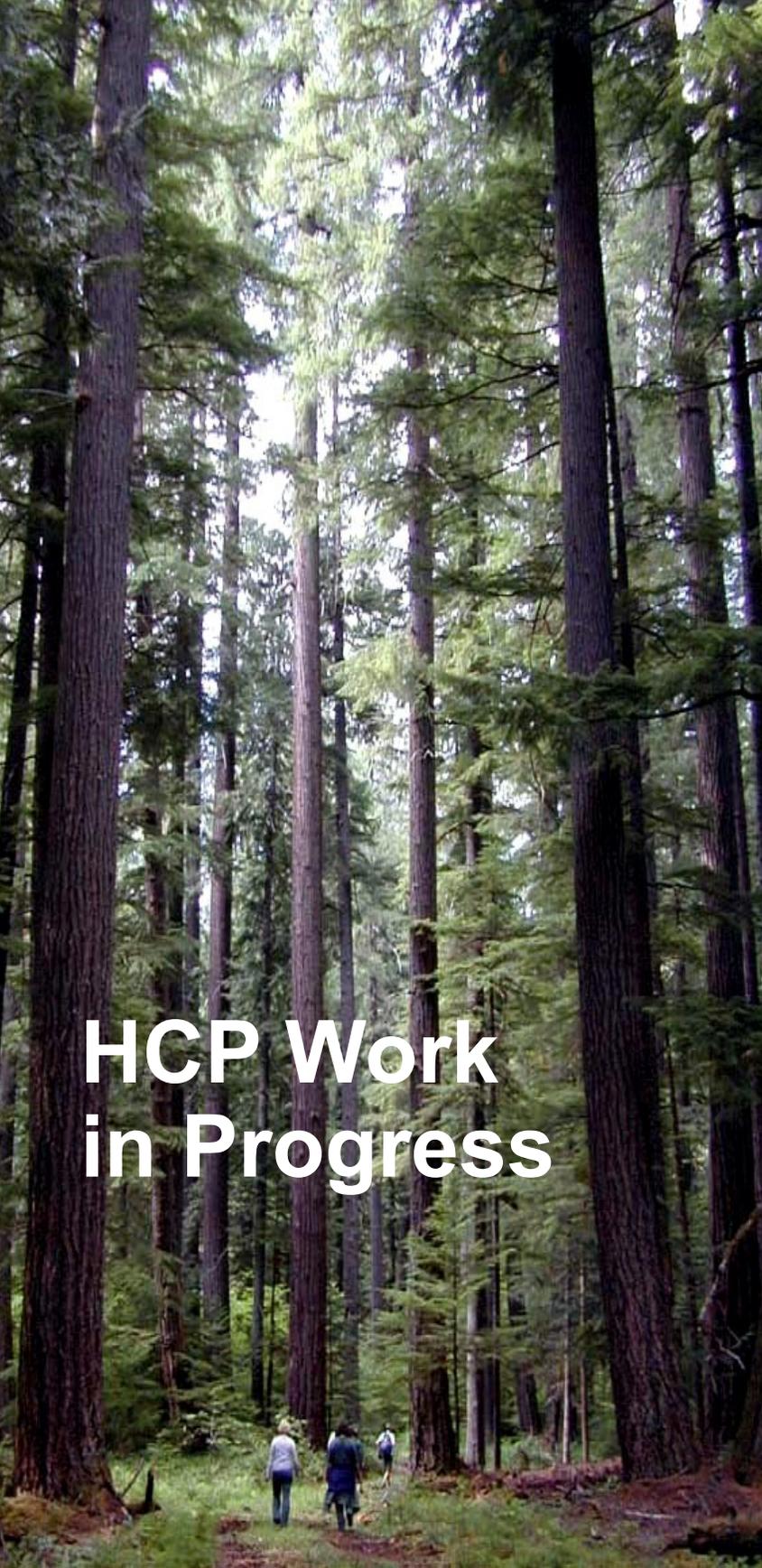
**Biological
Goals &
Objectives**



Key Terminology

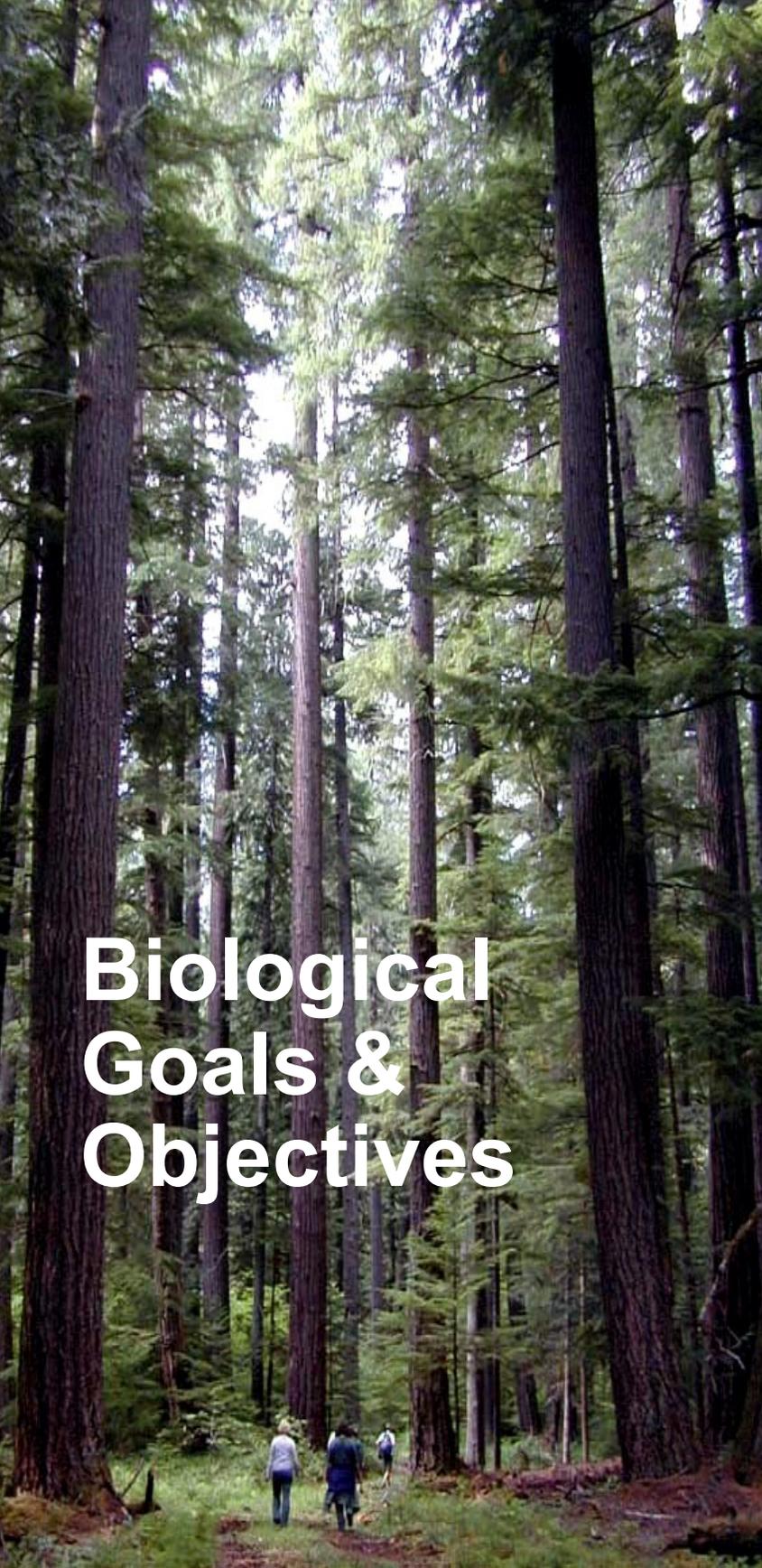
- **Conserve:** To protect from harm and destruction.
- **Maintain:** Active management that avoids the degradation of habitat value that enables a habitat condition to continue.
- **Enhance:** Actions implemented in suitable habitat for a covered species that improve quality of certain habitat condition.

**Biological
Goals &
Objectives**



**HCP Work
in Progress**

Review BGO Table



Biological Goals & Objectives

Conservation Action

- Activity implemented “on the ground” that contributes to the biological objective
- Multiple conservation actions are needed to achieve an objective
- Conservation actions can contribute to more than one objective
- Includes operational practices and conservation practices that minimize and mitigate impacts on covered species



Western Oregon State Forests HCP Conservation Strategy Part I: Biological Goals and Objectives

Discussion

- Reflections and thoughts on the biological goals and objectives
- Is anything missing?
- Do the statements reflect what you are seeking to accomplish through an HCP?
- *Submit feedback by October 25*

**Q&A and
Discussion**

Online Meeting Participants:

Email Jason.R.Cox@Oregon.gov
with questions or comments

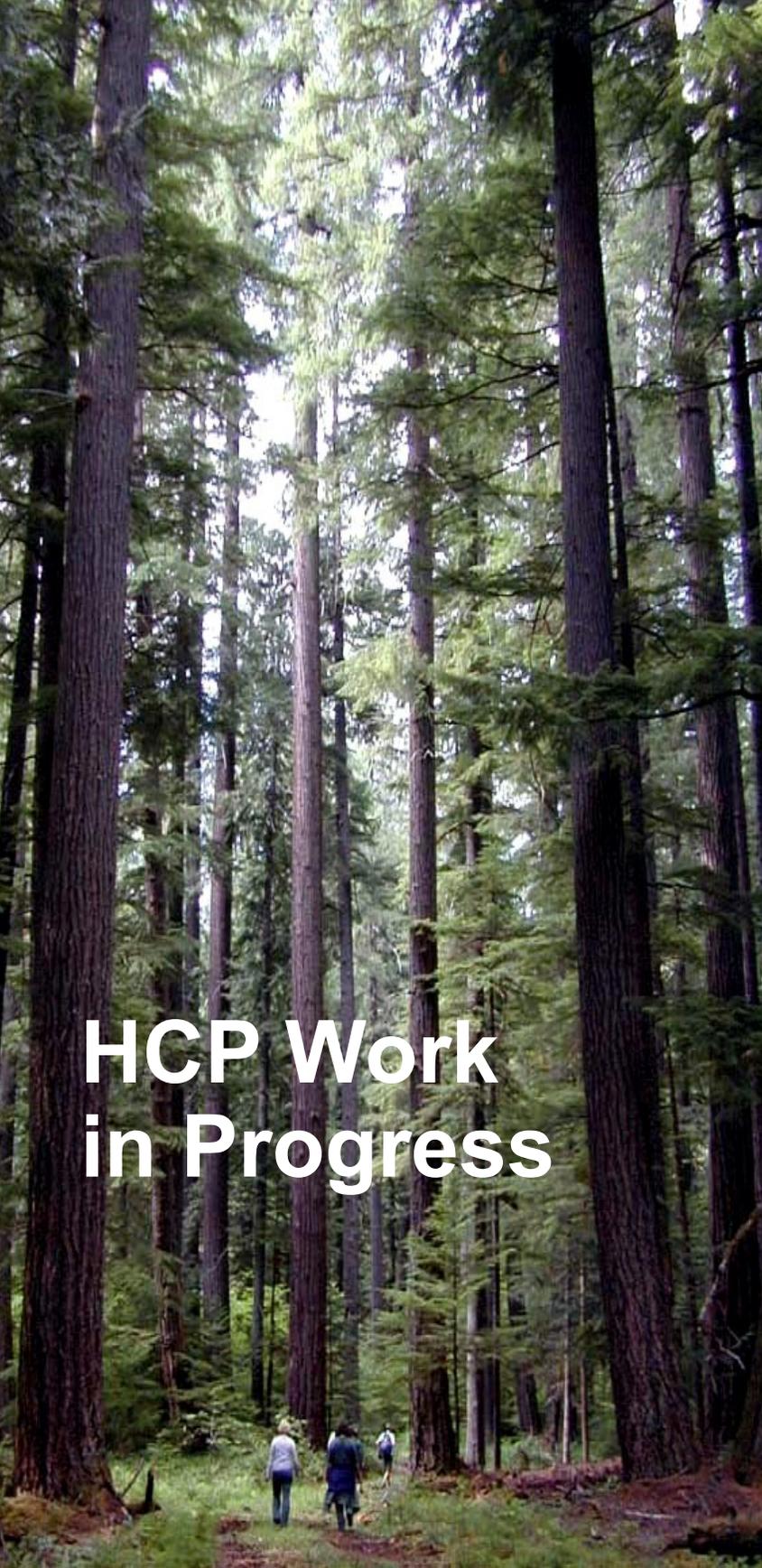


Western Oregon State Forests HCP

Upcoming Topics for the Western Oregon State Forests HCP

Conservation Actions

- **What Action:** Specifically what will be completed “on the ground” to complete the biological objective(s).
- **How Much:** Quantify commitments to “conserve, maintain, and enhance”
- **Where:** Make the conservation action geographically explicit whenever possible. Need for geographic specificity will be driven by species distribution.
- **Examples:**
 - Silvicultural practices used to enhance species habitat
 - Riparian buffers
 - Stream restoration actions



HCP Work
in Progress

Goal:

**Population Persistence
and Resilience**

Objectives:

Wood
Recruitment

Stream
Complexity

Water Quality
and Quantity

Fish
Passage

**Conservation
Actions:**

Implement
Riparian
Strategy

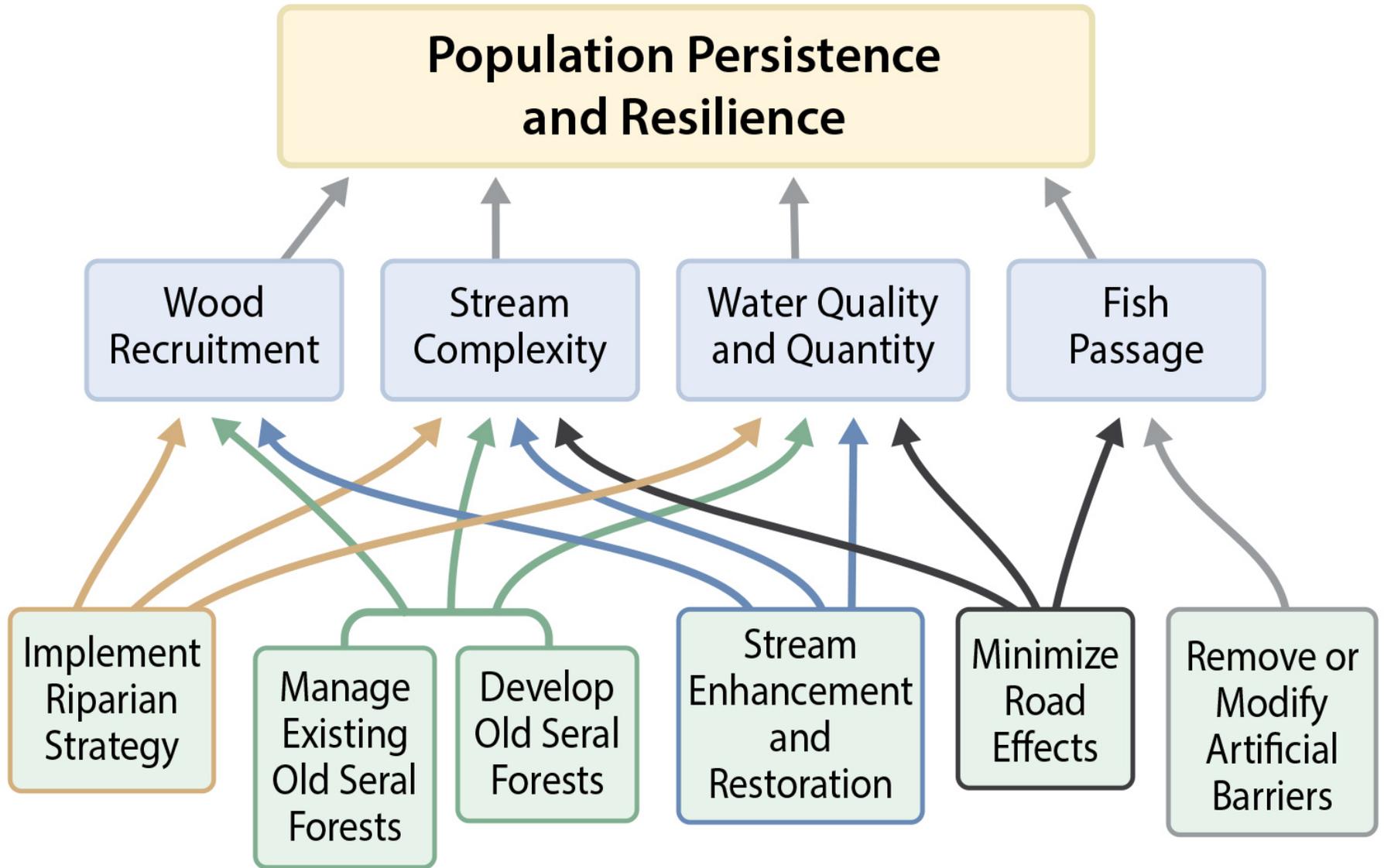
Manage
Existing
Old Seral
Forests

Develop
Old Seral
Forests

Stream
Enhancement
and
Restoration

Minimize
Road
Effects

Remove or
Modify
Artificial
Barriers



Timber Harvest Modeling

- Policy-level modeling to inform HCP development.
- Developing forest goals and objectives that will be achieved by implementing silvicultural actions.
- Timber harvest model will have silvicultural actions and HCP conservation strategies

**HCP Work
in Progress**

Effects Analysis

- Required to analyze the effects that implementation of covered activities will have on covered species.
- Informed by species occurrence data and species habitat suitability models.
- Includes an overlay of spatial information for covered activities (timber harvest modeling).
- Effects on covered species must be avoided, minimized, or mitigated

**HCP Work
in Progress**

Summary and Next Steps

- Talk to project team if interested in engaging further on topics presented today.



**Summary and
Next Steps**



Western Oregon State Forests HCP

More Information

<https://www.oregon.gov/ODF/AboutODF/Pages/HCP-initiative.aspx>

Contact

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503-945-7731

Thank You!