Western Oregon State Forests HCP

March 30, 2020

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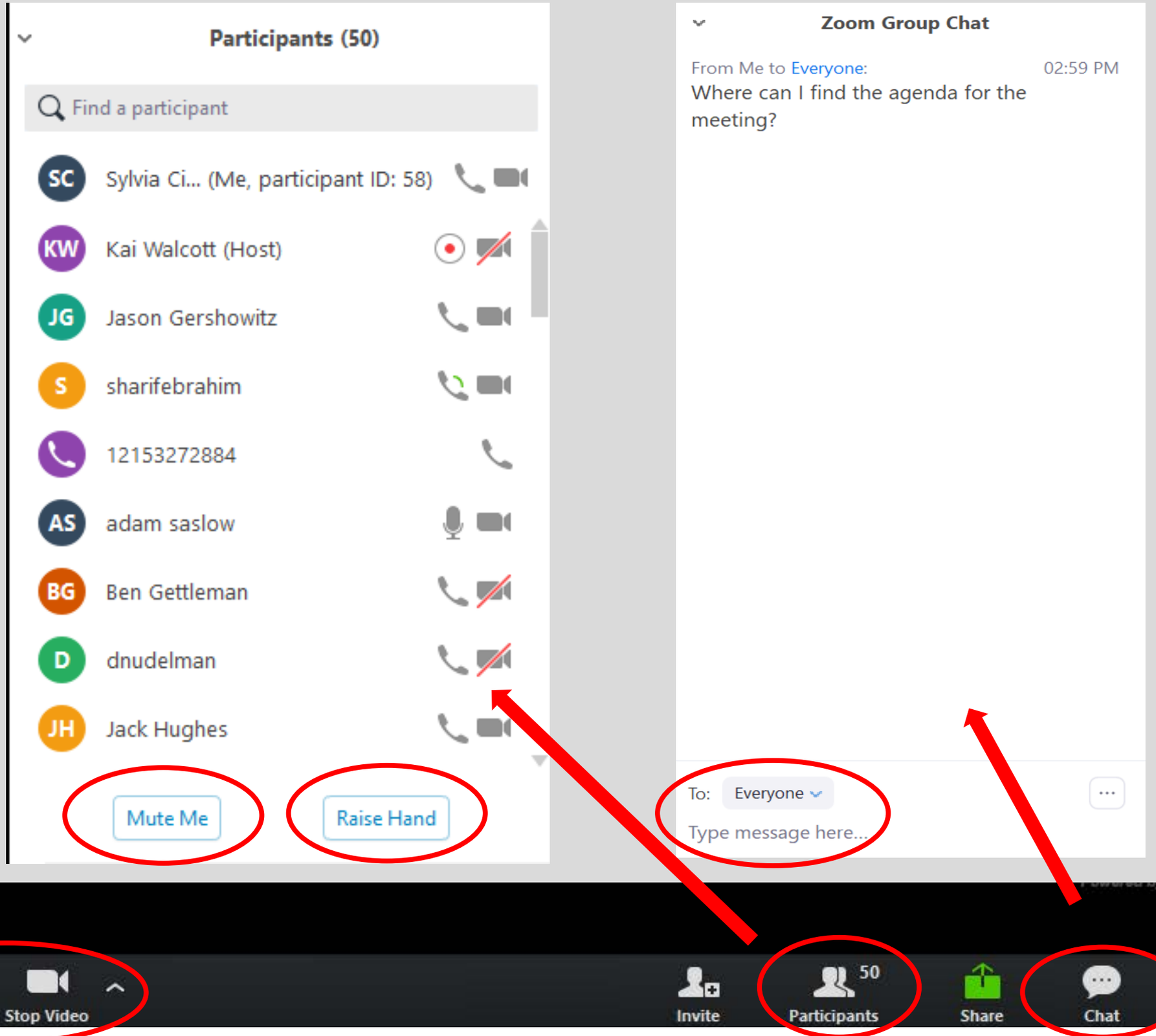
- If you have a question or comment, use the “Raise Your Hand” button to get in the queue to speak
- Say your name and affiliation before speaking
- Use the “Chat” feature for help troubleshooting any issues
- The meeting will include time for Q&A and input, you can provide comments verbally or by email to Jason.R.COX@oregon.gov


Participants (50)
Find a participant
SC Sylvia Ci... (Me, participant ID: 58)
KW Kai Walcott (Host)
JG Jason Gershowitz
S sharifebrahim
12153272884
AS adam saslow
BG Ben Gettleman
D dnudelman
JH Jack Hughes
Mute Me
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Where can I find the agenda for the meeting?
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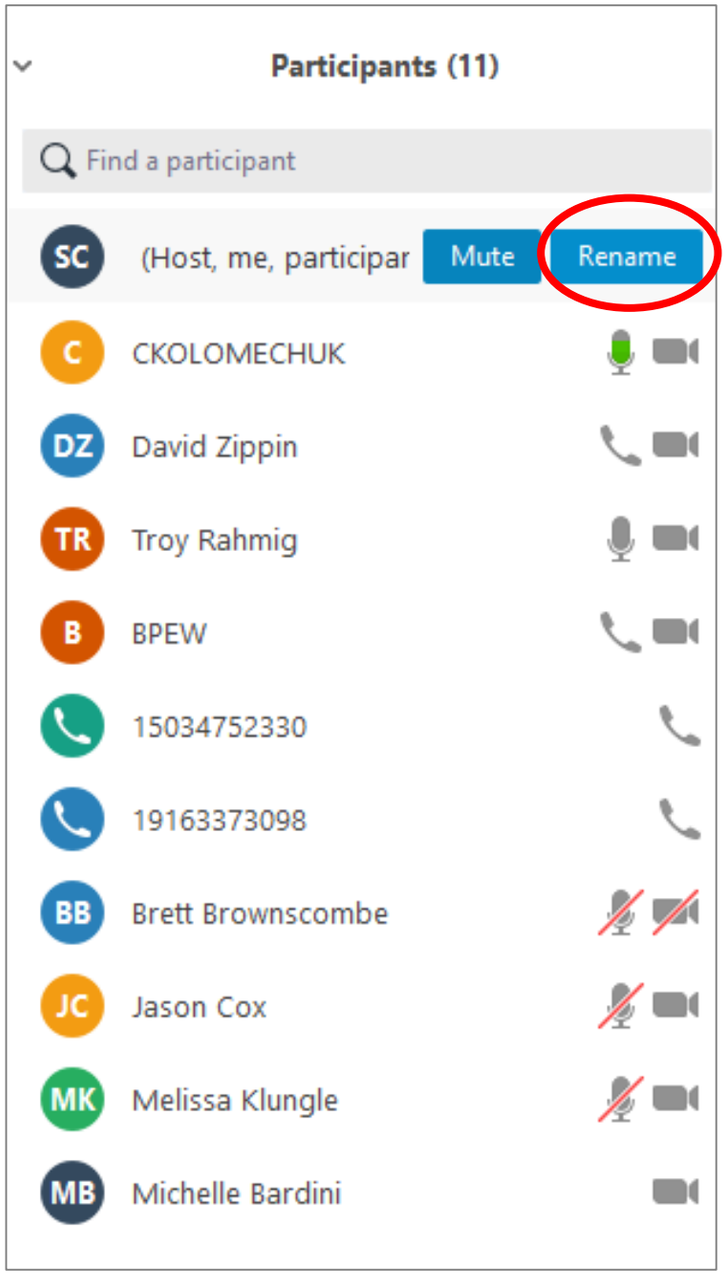
How to Rename Yourself



View Options

1) Choose
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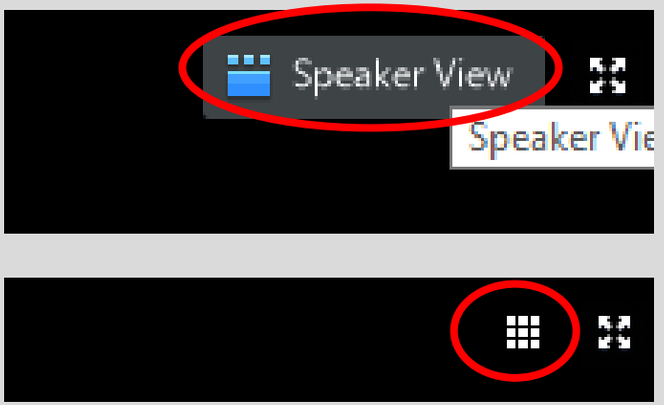
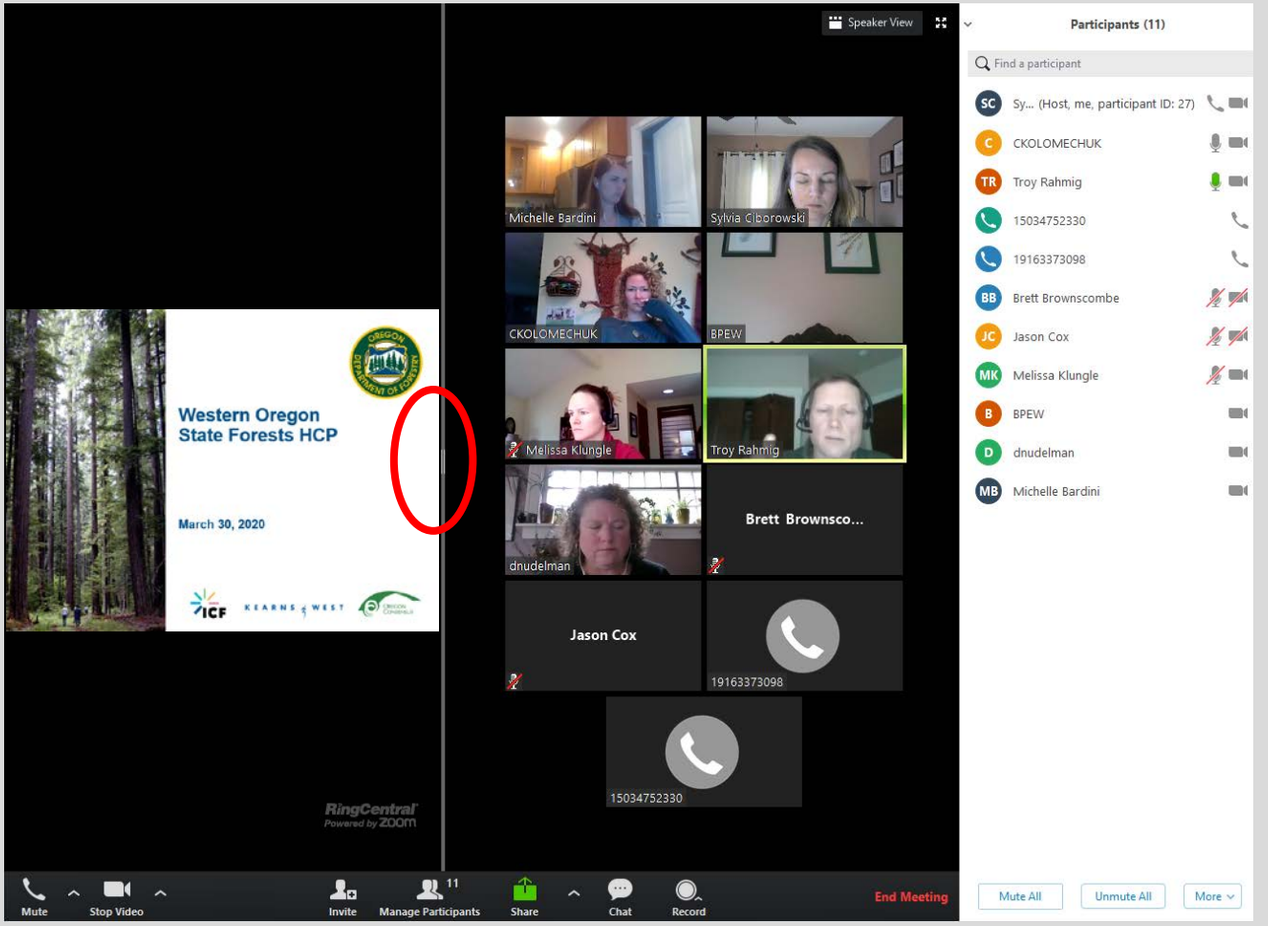
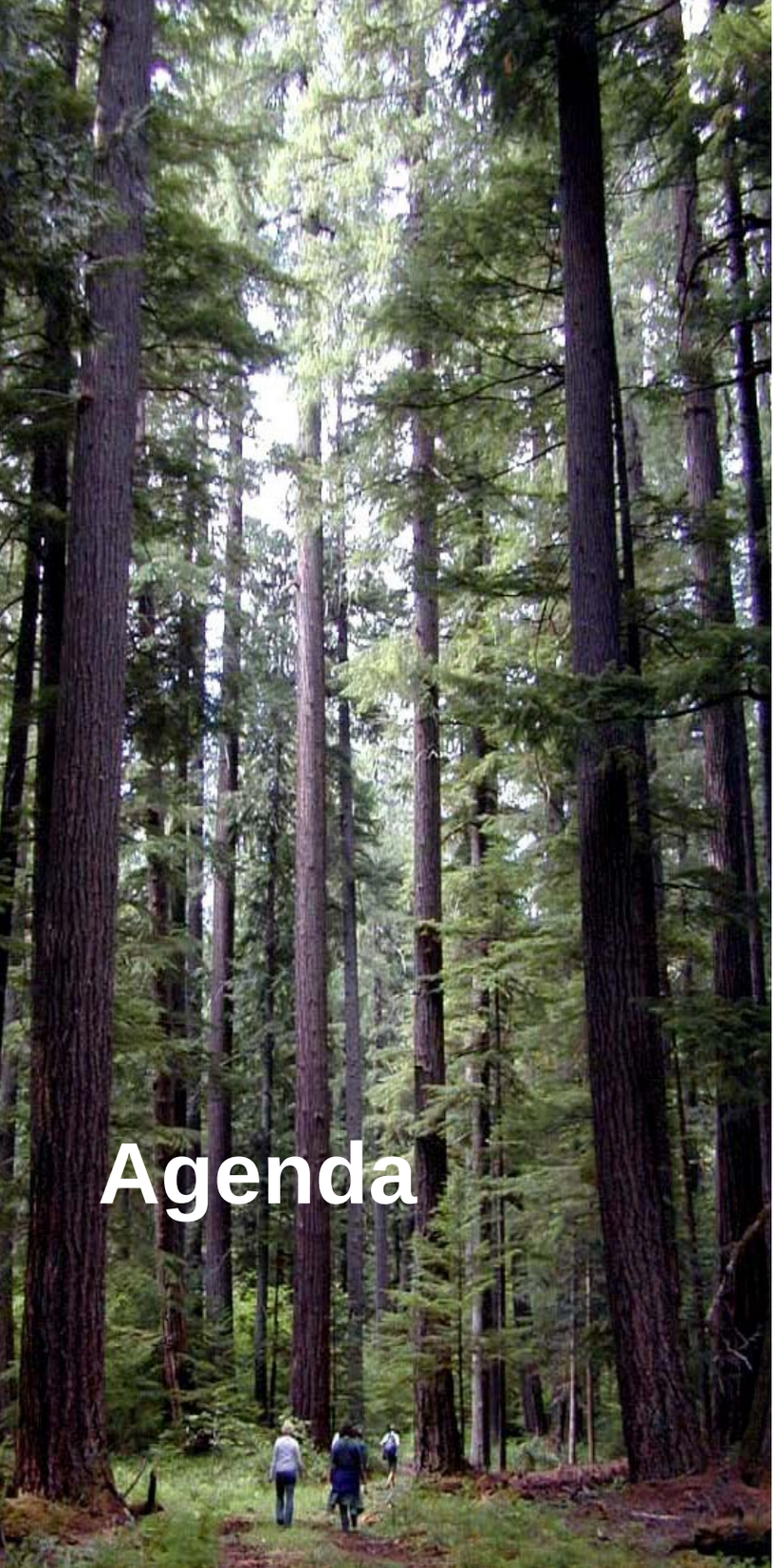


2) Adjust video and shared document size



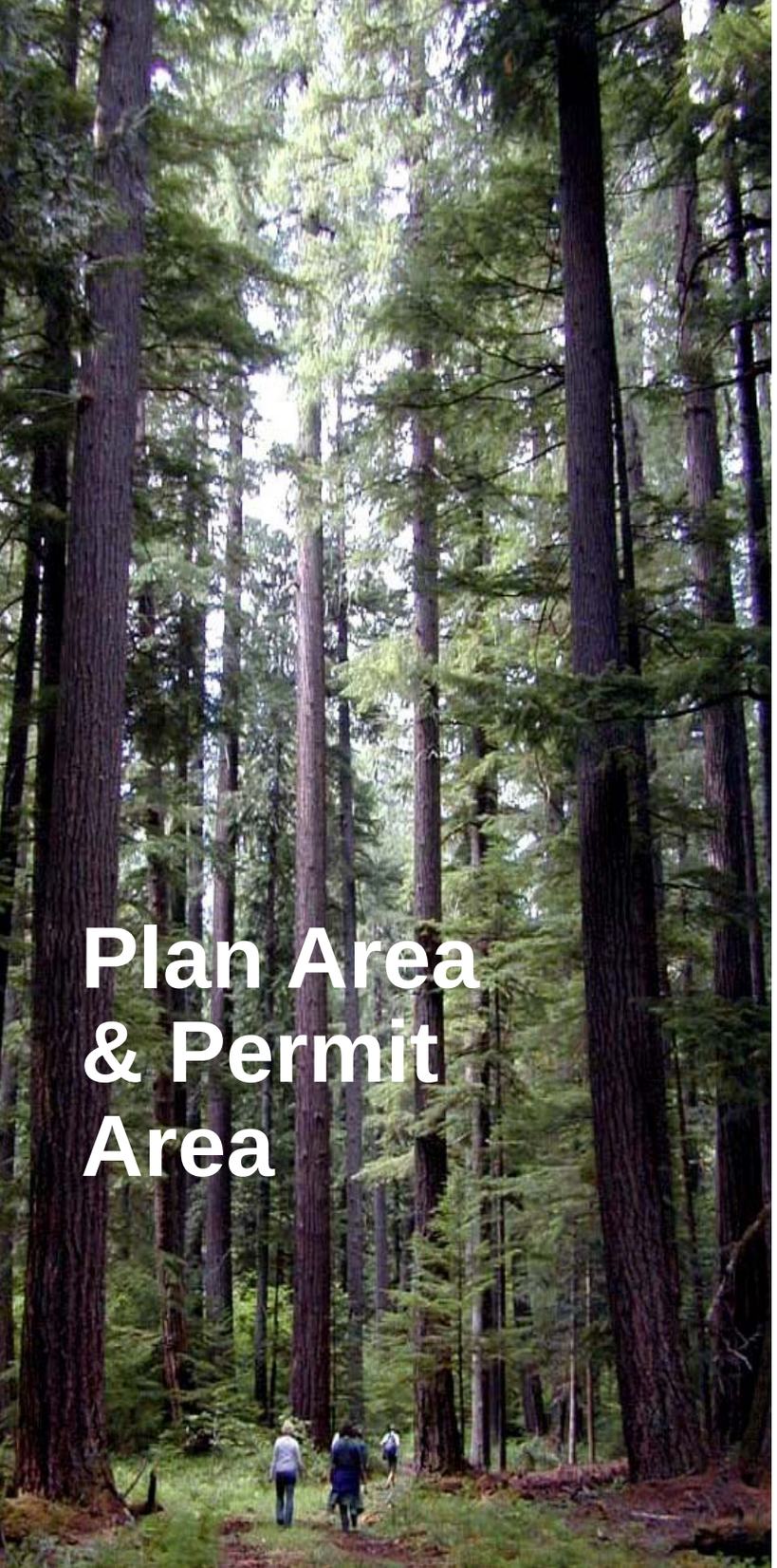
Introductions and Welcome



Agenda

1. Introductions and Welcome
2. Updates on HCP
3. Forest Goals and Objectives
4. Policy-level Timber Harvest Modeling
5. HCP Update
    a) Terrestrial Conservation Strategy
    b) Aquatic Conservation Strategy
6. Summary and Next Steps
7. Additional Discussion Time

HCP Program Update



Plan Area & Permit Area

- Covers all ODF managed lands
- Includes Board of Forestry and Common School Lands
- Plan Area includes areas where land acquisitions or land transfers might occur
- Permit Area (ODF Managed Lands) = 635,000
- Plan Area = 724,000 acres

Plan Area & Permit Area

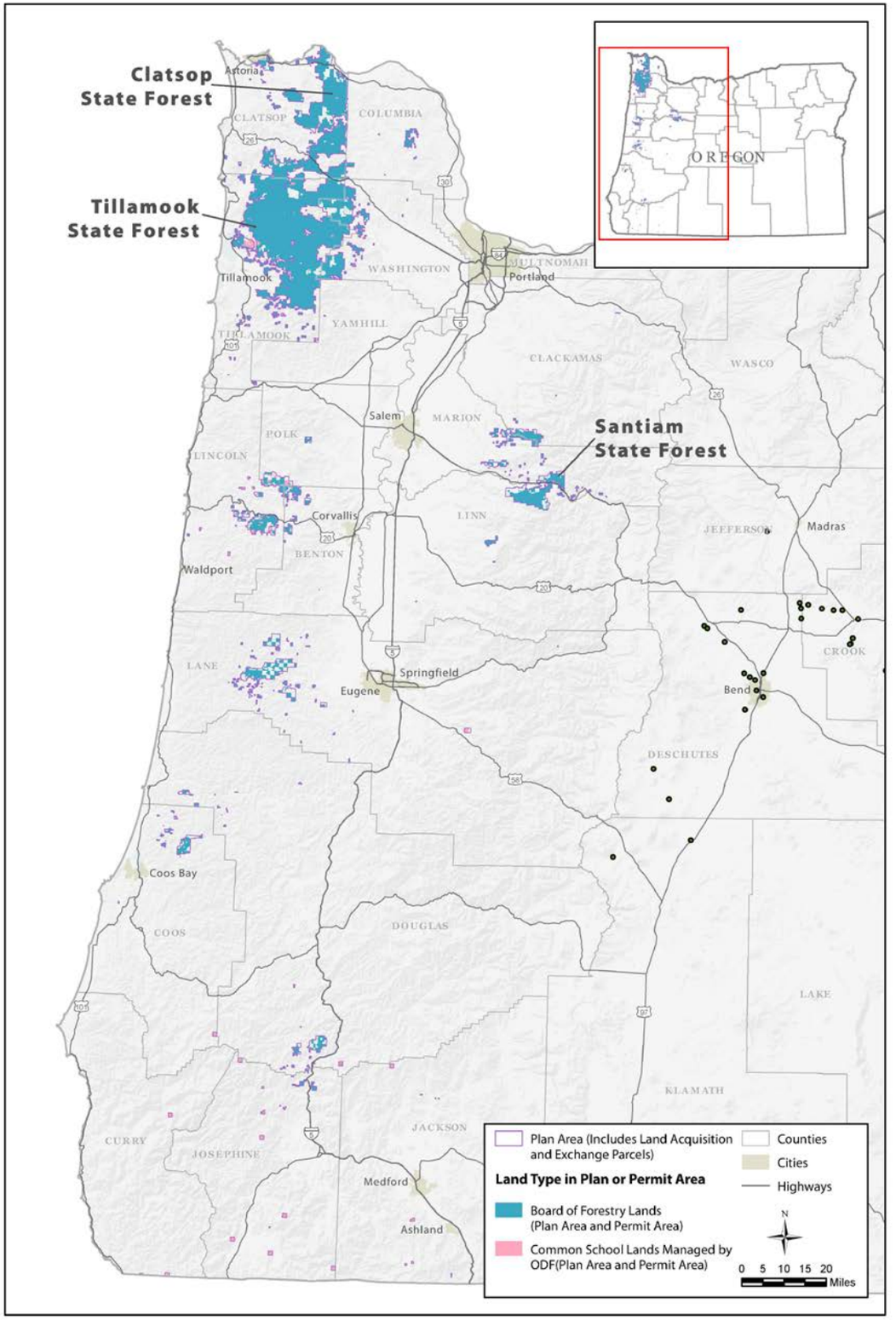
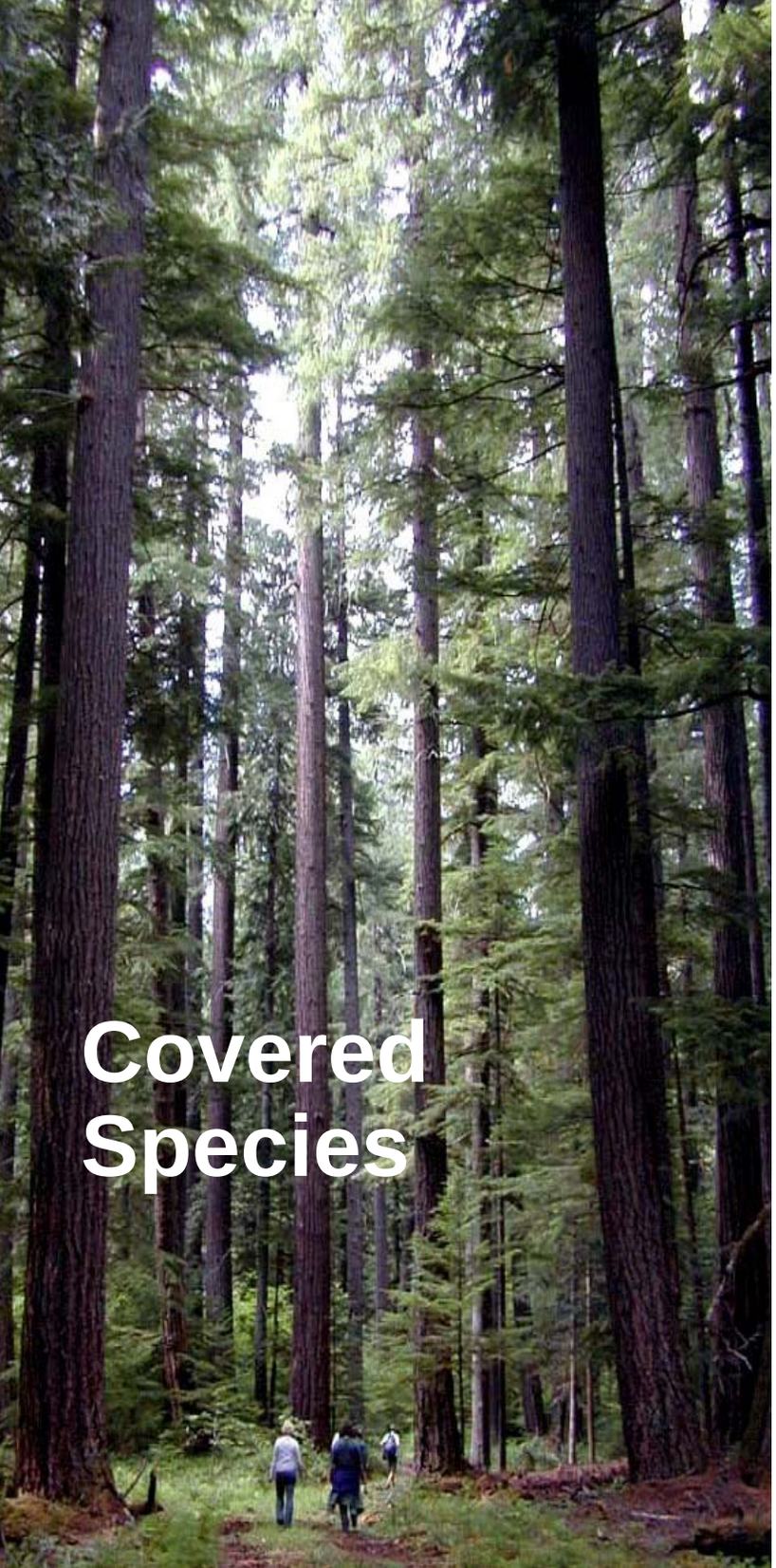


Figure 1-1: Western Oregon State Forests HCP Plan and Permit Area



Covered Species

- Oregon Coast coho
- Lower Columbia River coho
- Oregon Coast spring chinook*
- Upper Willamette River spring chinook
- Upper Willamette River winter
- Lower Columbia chum
- South Oregon/Northern California
- Lower Columbia chinook
- Eulachon

- Oregon slender salamander*
- Columbia torrent salamander*
- Cascade torrent salamander*

- Northern spotted owl
- Marbled murrelet

- Red tree vole*
- Coastal marten*

*Species that are not currently listed under the endangered species act

Work in Progress

- Working with Scoping Team on HCP Technical Elements
- Terrestrial Species Data Availability, Habitat Modeling, and Conservation Focus
- Developing an Aquatic Conservation Strategy
- Beginning to discuss habitat enhancement activities
- Scoping Team has been meeting twice-monthly
- Steering Committee is meeting roughly monthly

Timeline

March 30 – Meeting Open to the Public (today)

April – May. Continued conservation strategy development and policy level timber harvest modeling

June-July – Strategy refinement and stakeholder engagement

October 6th – Board of Forestry NEPA Decision Point

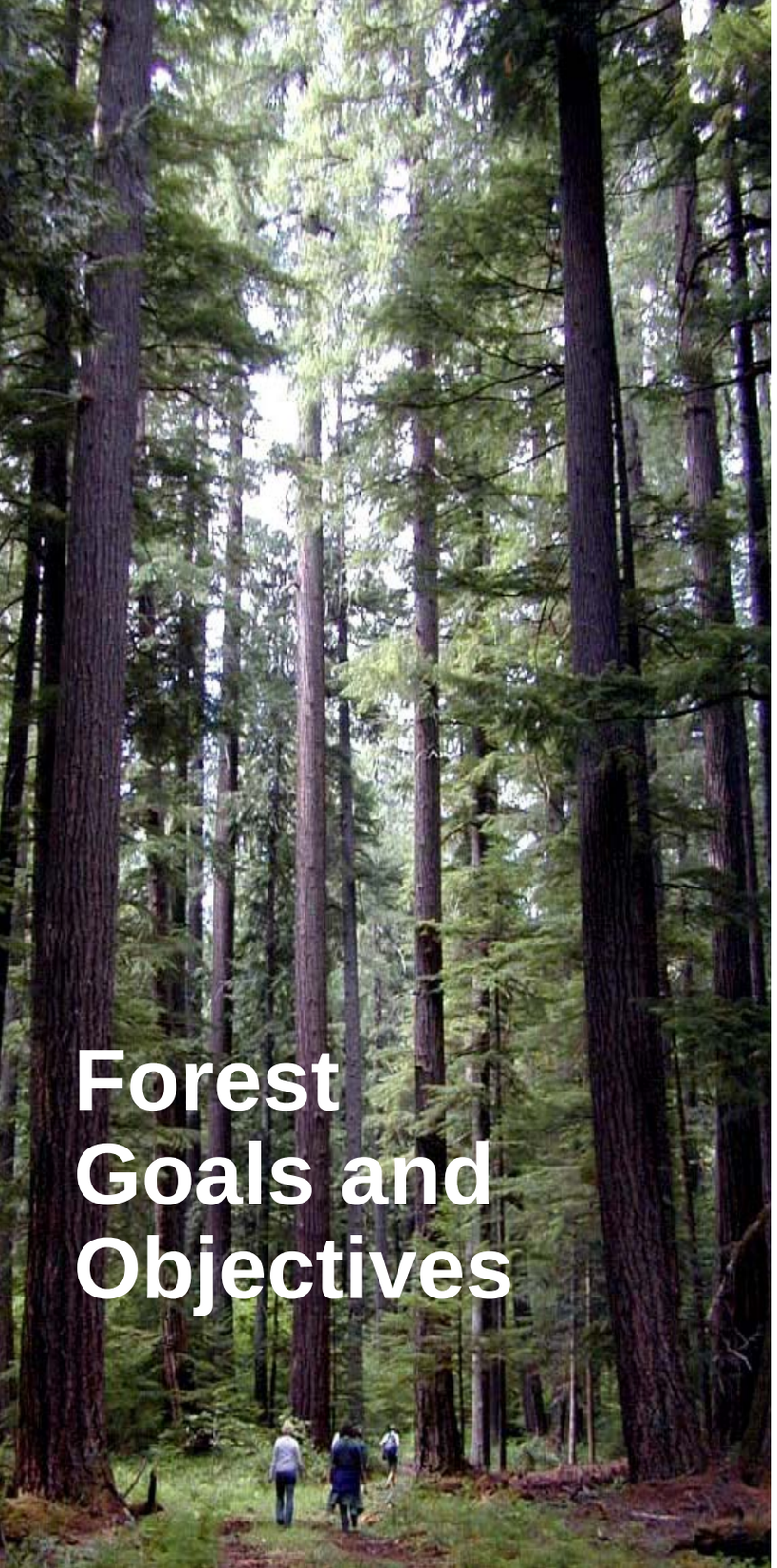
October 2020 – June 2022 – NEPA and Companion FMP development

Q&A on HCP Update

Please click “Raise Your Hand” in the webinar to ask a question or make a comment.

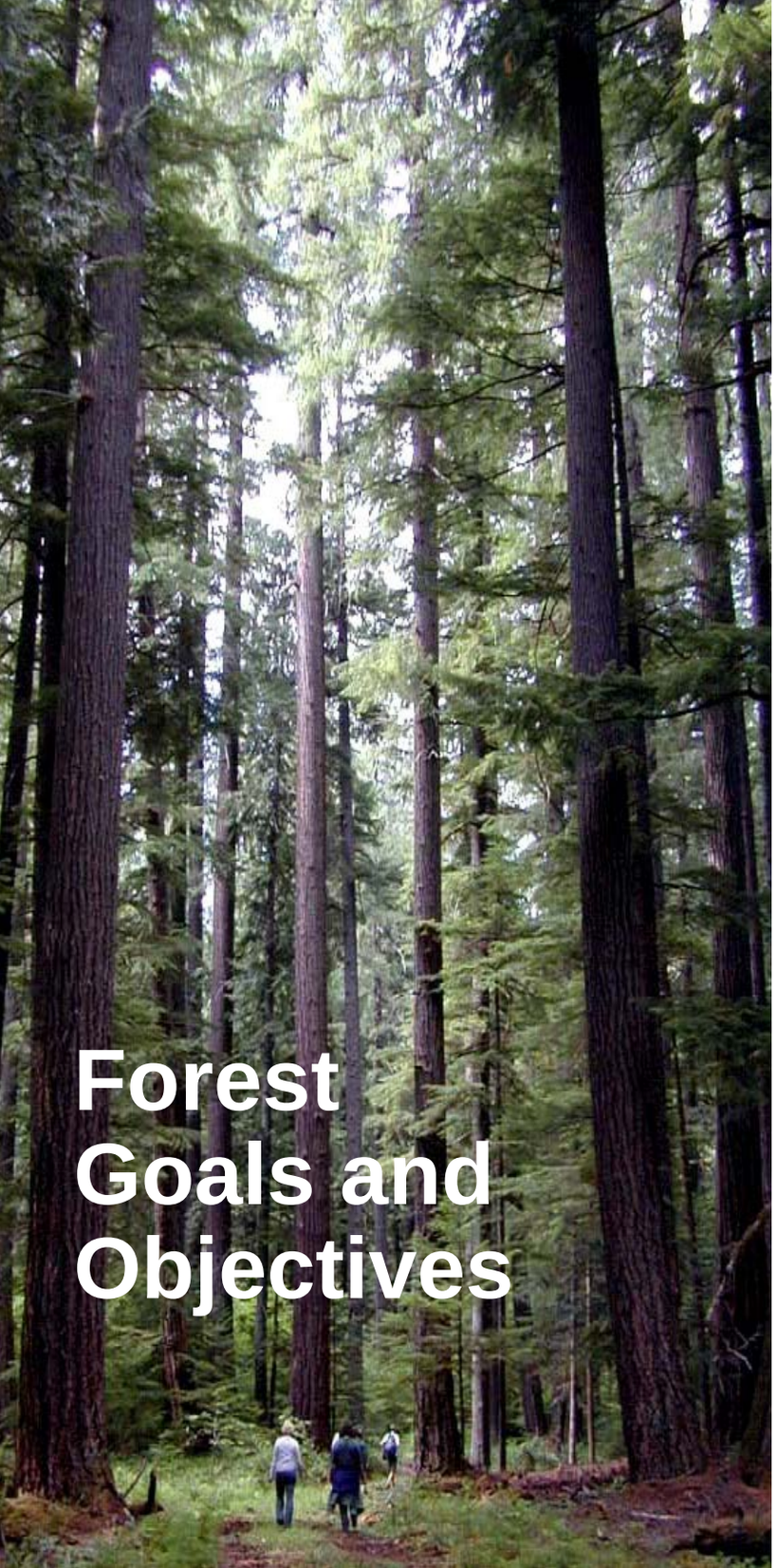
You may also email comments to Jason.R.COX@oregon.gov

Forest Goals and Objectives



Forest Goals and Objectives

- Conceptual goals and objectives
- Created by ODF staff
- Will be written into FMP that accompanies the HCP
- Divided into three categories:
  - Social
  - Environmental
  - Economics



Forest Goals and Objectives

Definitions

Maintain: Active management that enables favorable conditions to continue at the current level of functionality.

Conserve: To protect from harm and destruction.

Enhance: Actions implemented that increase or improve in value, quality, or desirability.

Restore: Assisting the recovery of a resource that has been degraded, damaged, or destroyed.

Social

Social
Goal 1: Support local and statewide Oregon economies and community well-being.
Objective 1.1: Foster a full range of employment opportunities through forest management, recreation, and other activities.
Objective 1.2: Provide for a wide range of public use options and activities that are accessible to all Oregonians.
Objective 1.3: Maintain and enhance formalized infrastructure and programs that provide diverse forest recreation, education, and interpretation opportunities.
Objective 1.4: Maintain, enhance, and restore a healthy environment by supporting ecosystem services, including clean air, clean water, and net carbon sequestration in live trees.

Environmental

Environmental
Goal 2: Maintain, enhance or restore the health of western Oregon state forests, thereby promoting sustainable, productive and resilient ecosystems.
Objective 2.1: Utilize science-based forest management techniques and strategies to manage for a healthy and sustainable forest in the uncertainty of climate change.
Objective 2.2: Maintain or enhance net carbon sequestration in live trees over the life of the plan.
Objective 2.3: Minimize negative impacts of insects and disease outbreaks, fire and extreme weather and other environmental effects while increasing resiliency across the landscape.
Objective 2.4: Maintain biological diversity of native vegetation across the landscape.
Objective 2.5: Provide for structural complexity and tree size diversity at the stand level and across the landscape.
Objective 2.6: Maintain, conserve, enhance, or restore long-term soil productivity.
Objective 2.7: Maintain, conserve, enhance or restore native wildlife habitats.
Objective 2.8: Maintain, conserve, enhance, or restore properly functioning aquatic habitats.

Economics

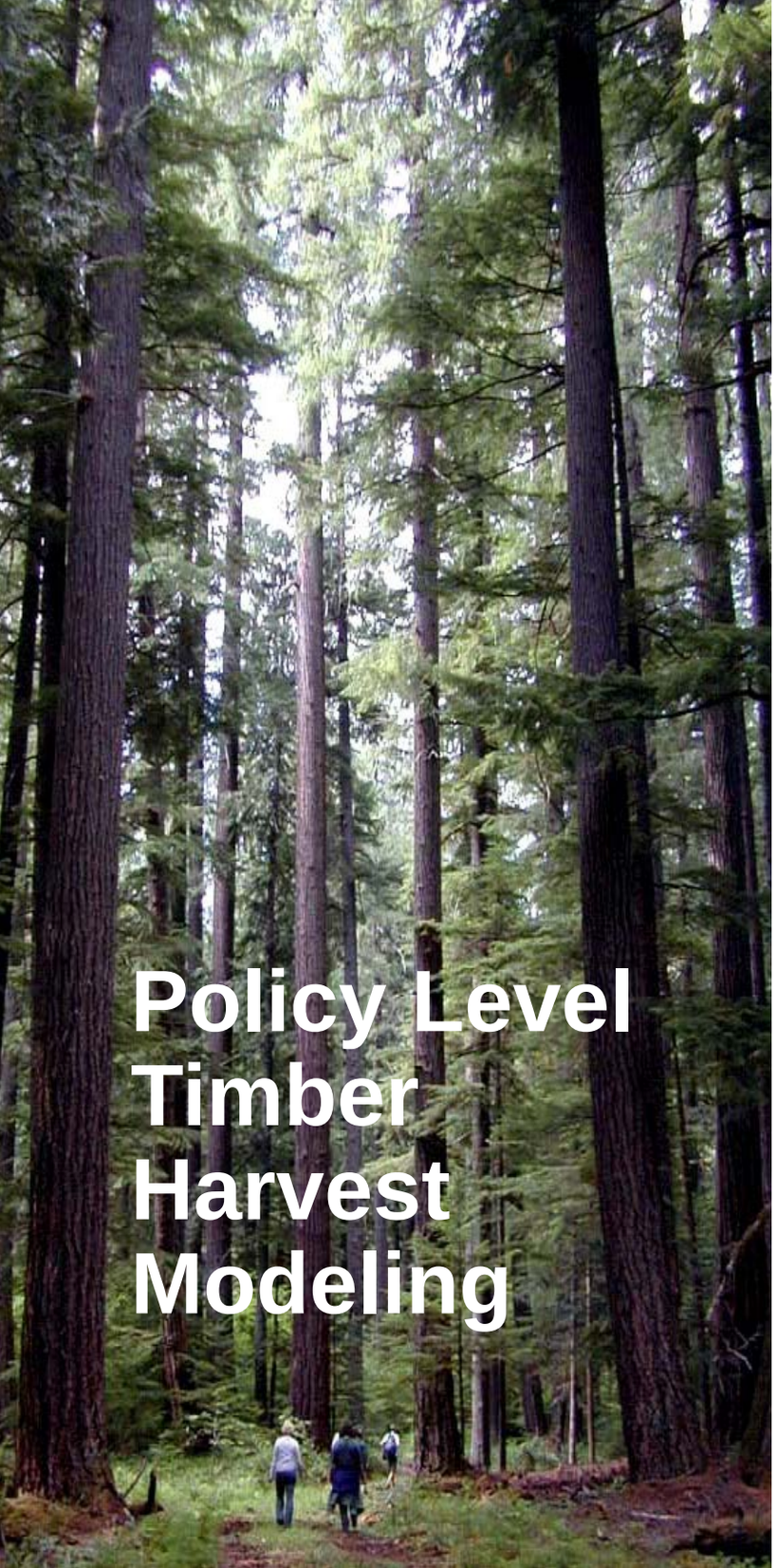
Economics
Goal 3. Ensure sustainable and predictable revenues across the Western Oregon Forest Permit Area over the term of the permit.
Objective 3.1: Maintain or enhance State Forest financial viability.
Objective 3.2: Maintain or enhance revenue to counties, local taxing districts, and the common school fund.
Objective 3.3: Maintain or enhance opportunities for a diversity of revenue generating activities (carbon sequestration, recreation, communication sites, permits for special events, etc.).
Objective 3.4: Maintain or enhance the availability of revenue producing special forest products.
Objective 3.5: Maintain or enhance the long-term production of forest products through timber harvests.

Q&A and Discussion on Forest Goals and Objectives

Please click “Raise Your Hand” in the webinar to ask a question or make a comment.

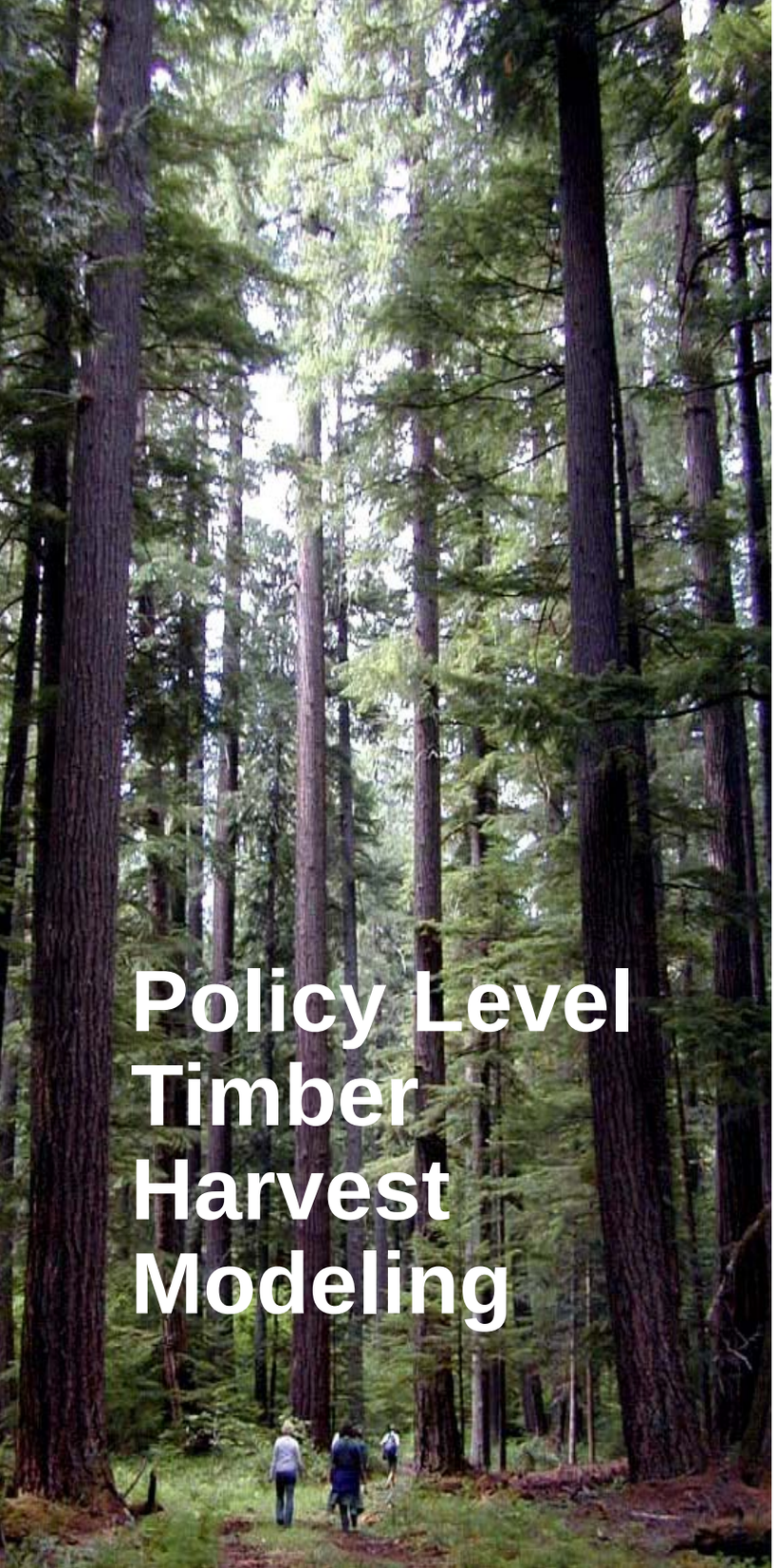
You may also email comments to Jason.R.COX@oregon.gov

Policy Level Timber Harvest Modeling



Policy Level Timber Harvest Modeling

- Used to support decision making by ODF and Board of Forestry
- Enough detail to allow for comparisons of future strategies and trade offs between economic, conservation, and social values
- Modeled across all ODF Managed lands, not by District or County

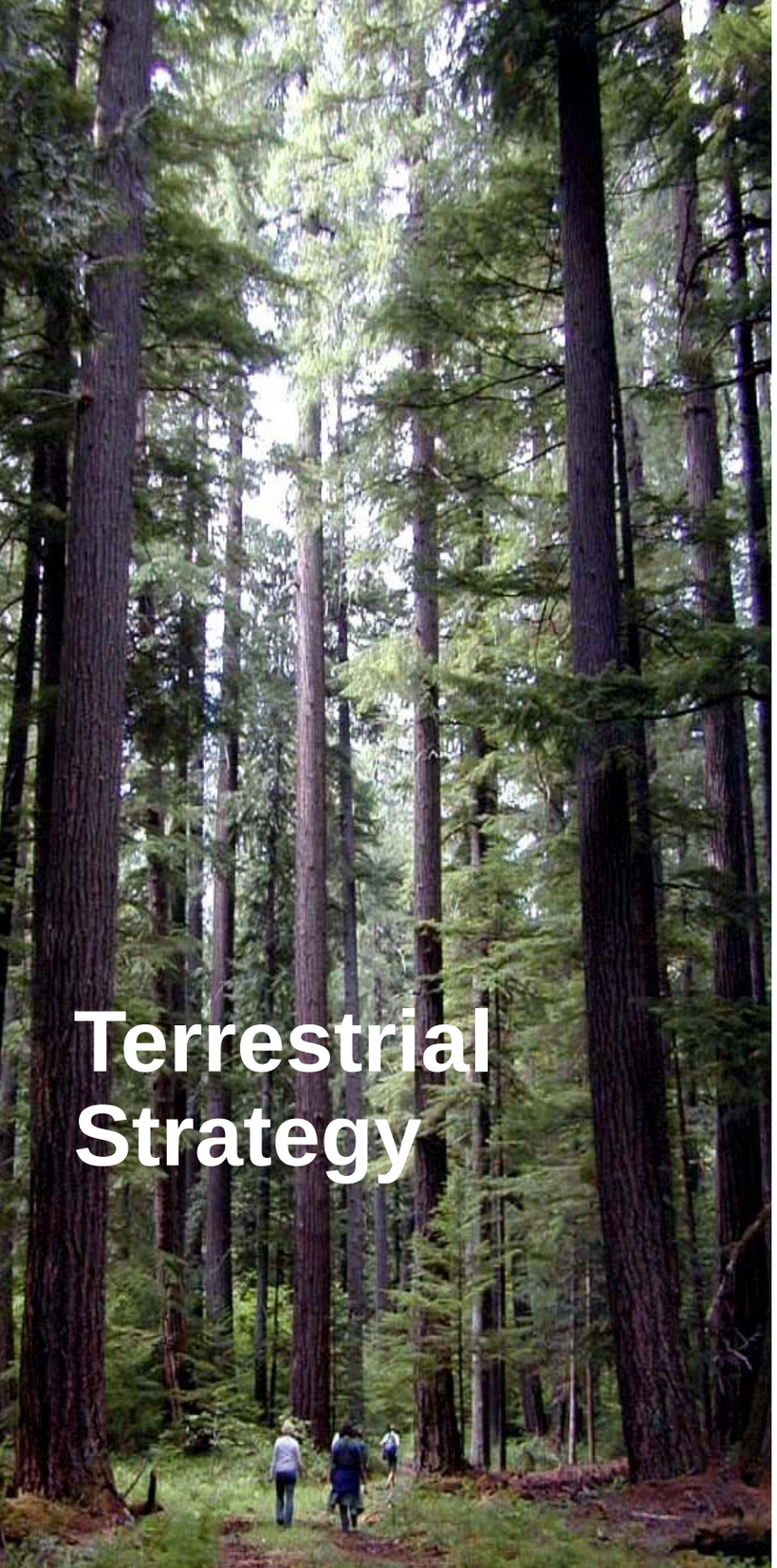


Policy Level Timber Harvest Modeling

Metrics to be Modeled

- Annual Timber Volume and Revenue
- Annual Operating Costs
- Annual Net Operating Revenue
- Forest Inventory
- Covered Species Habitat Quality

Approach to Terrestrial Strategy Development



Terrestrial Strategy

- Biological Goals and Objectives
- Sequencing of species and data
- Use of current data
- Habitat Modeling Approach
- Develop Habitat Conservation Areas

Terminology

Definitions

Persist: To continue in existence.

Maintain: Active management that enables favorable habitat conditions to continue at the current level of functionality.

Conserve: To protect from harm and destruction.

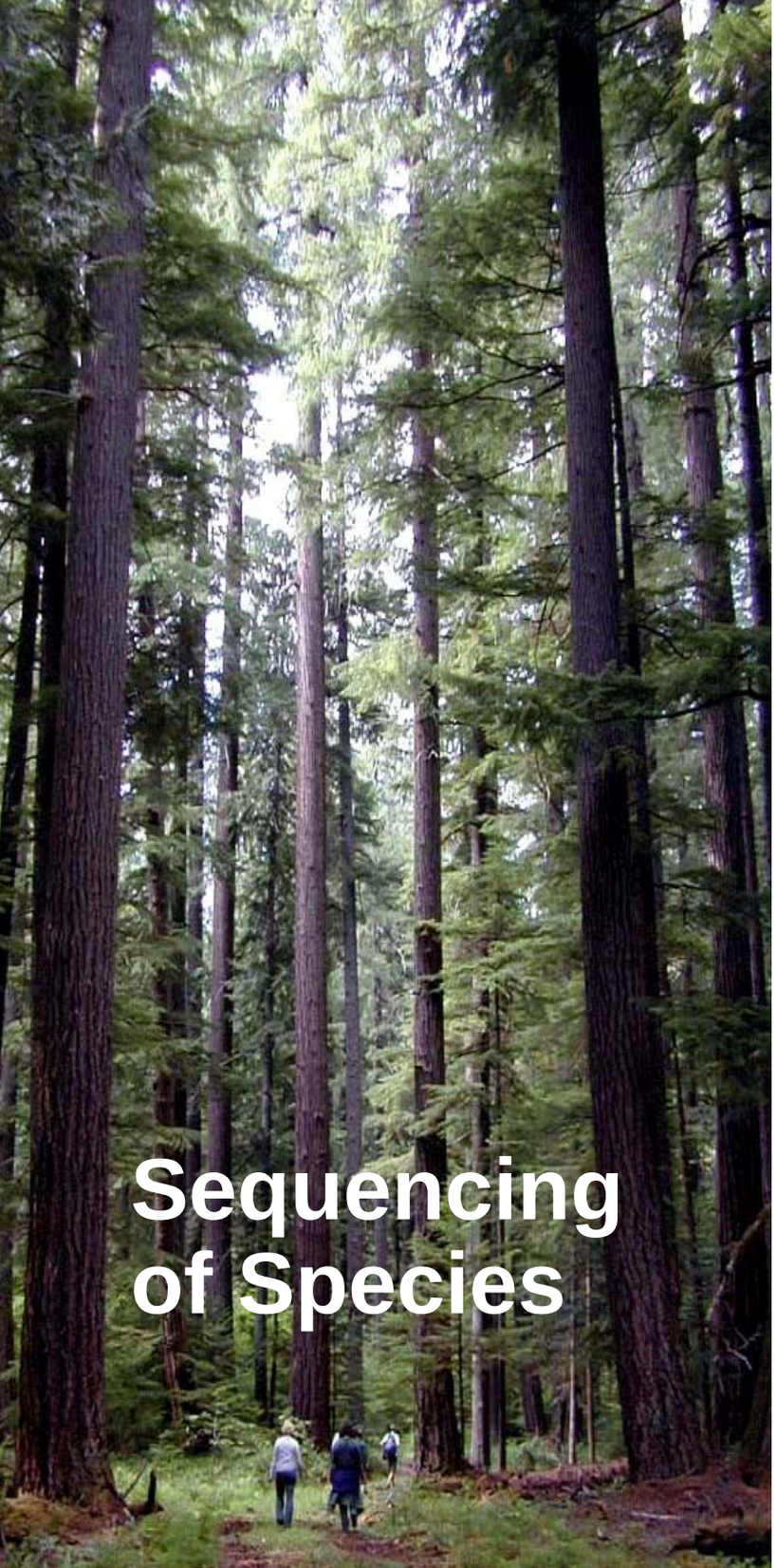
Enhance: Actions implemented in suitable habitat for a covered species that improve quality of certain habitat condition.

Covered Wildlife

Goals specific for each covered wildlife species = support the persistence of each covered wildlife species in the permit area

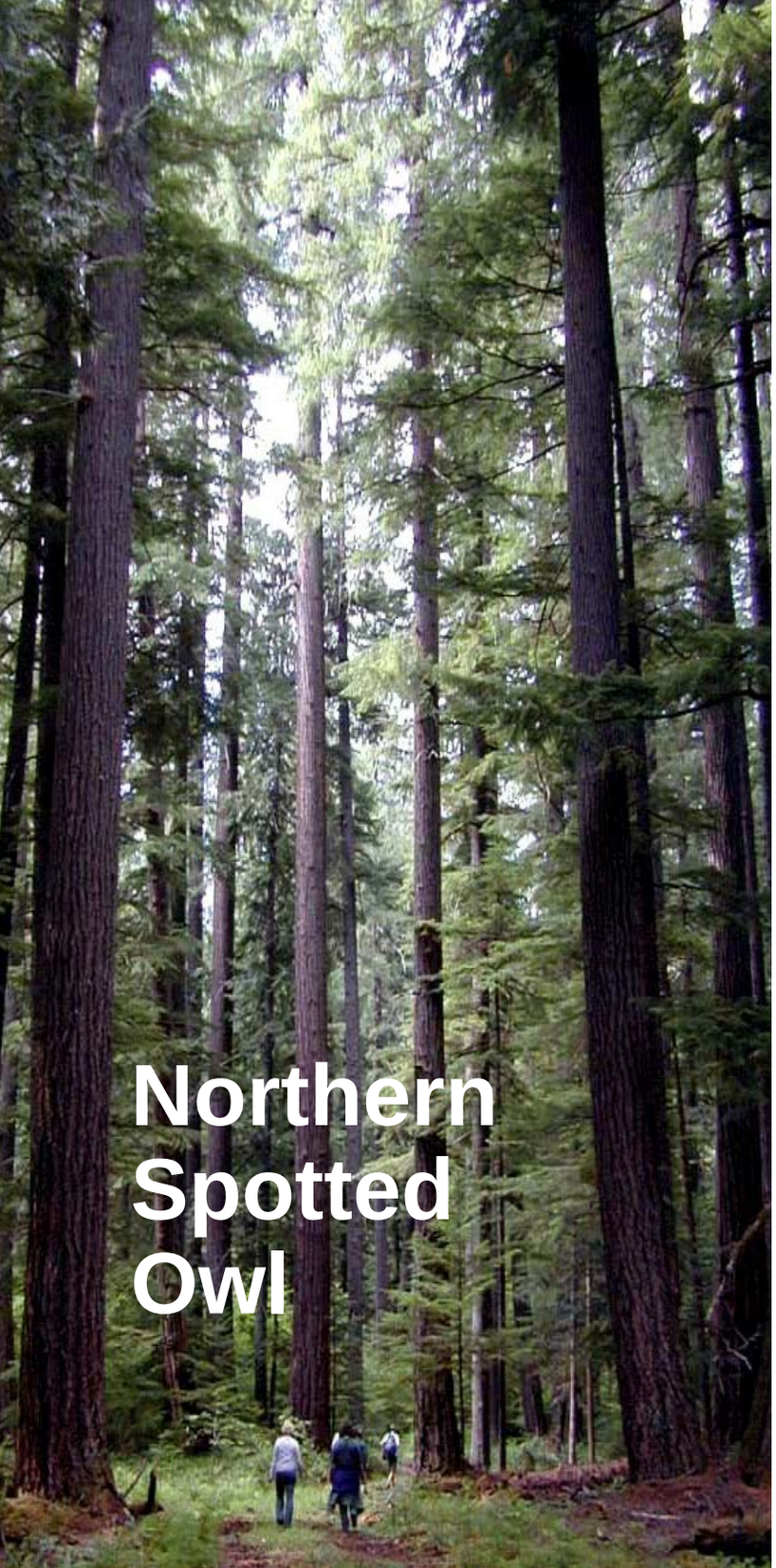
Objectives

- **Conserve, maintain, and enhance occupied habitat where occupancy is known**
- **Conserve, maintain, and enhance suitable habitat where occupancy is unknown**
- **Increase the quality and quantity of habitat during the permit term**



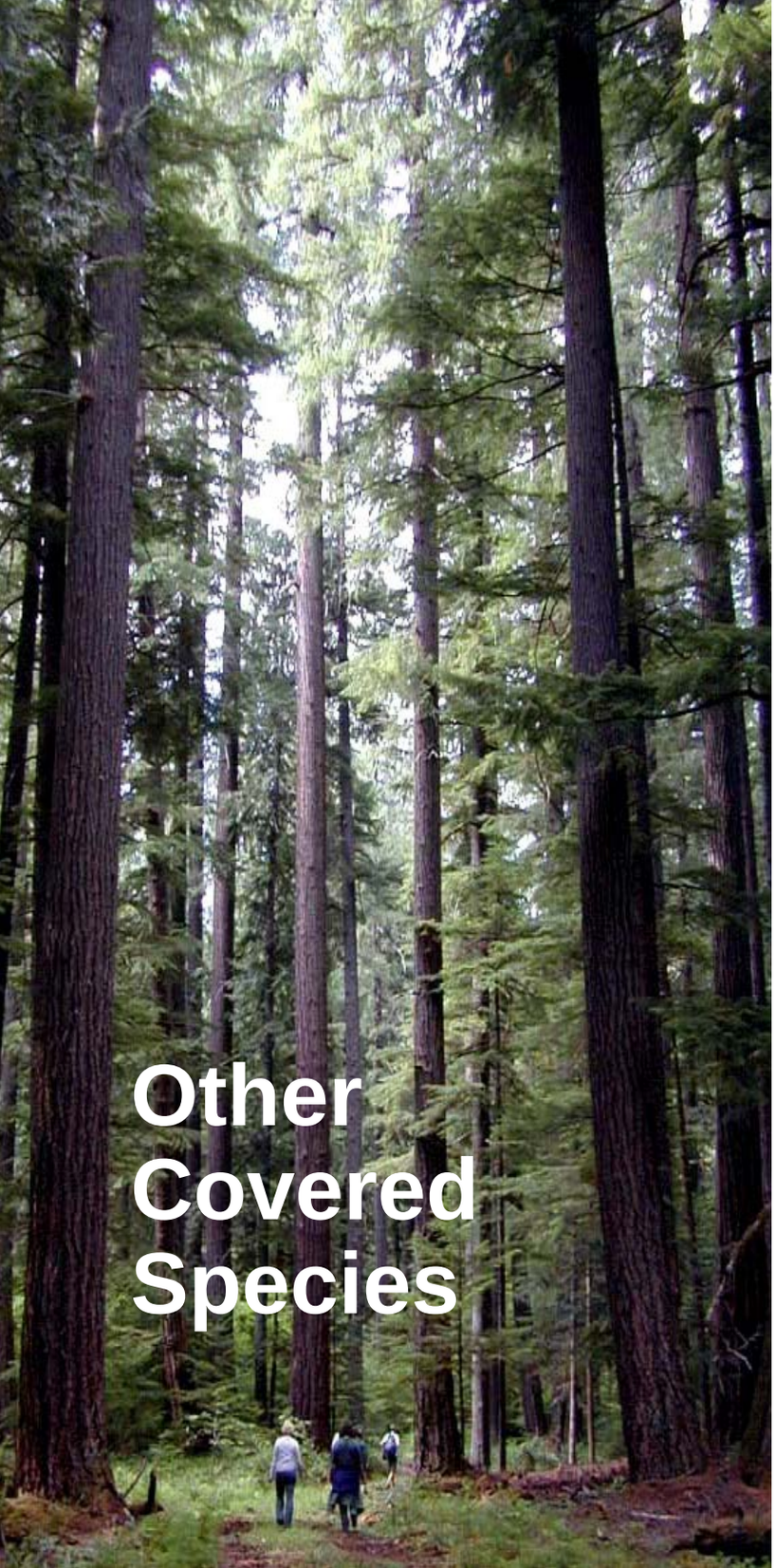
Sequencing of Species

- Northern Spotted Owl
- Marbled Murrelets
- Red Tree Vole
- Oregon Slender Salamander
- Coastal Marten



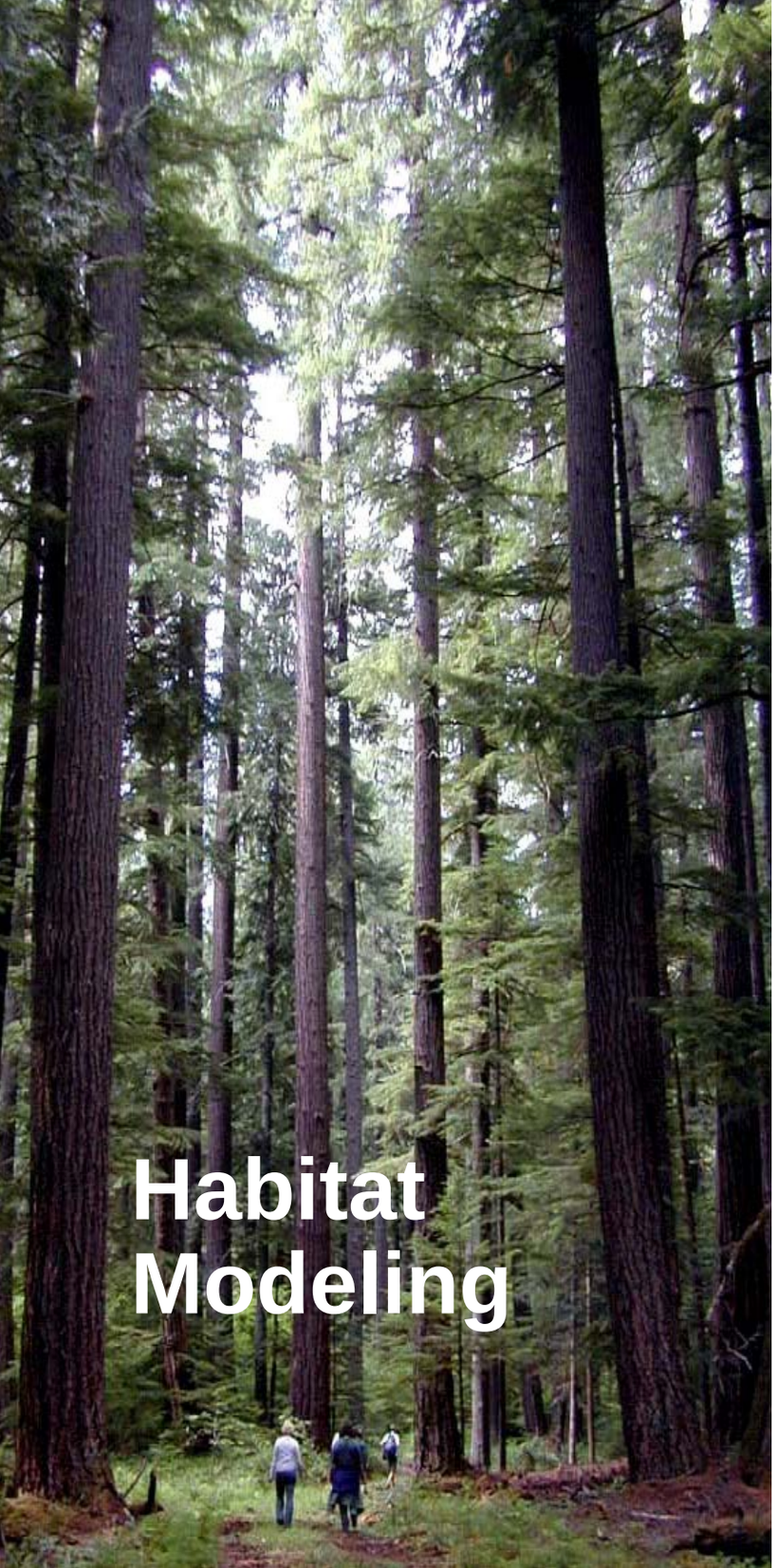
- **Good long-term survey data**
- **Focus on locations that have been active recently, but also focus on those that have not been active recently, if:**
  - They are near currently active sites
  - Are in locations identified as important for the species
  - Have higher ODF ownership of surrounding habitat
  - Are representative of species range, within the plan area
- **Strategy will also be informed by NSO sites that are adjacent to permit area**
- **Prioritizing sites with highest current and future value to NSO**

- **Good long-term survey data**
- **Focus on locations that have:**
  - Significant observations
  - Visual and auditory observations (Present)
  - Areas of highest likelihood of occurrence based on habitat suitability model
- **Use MMMAs as a guide but not as an end point**
- **Define desirable patch size**



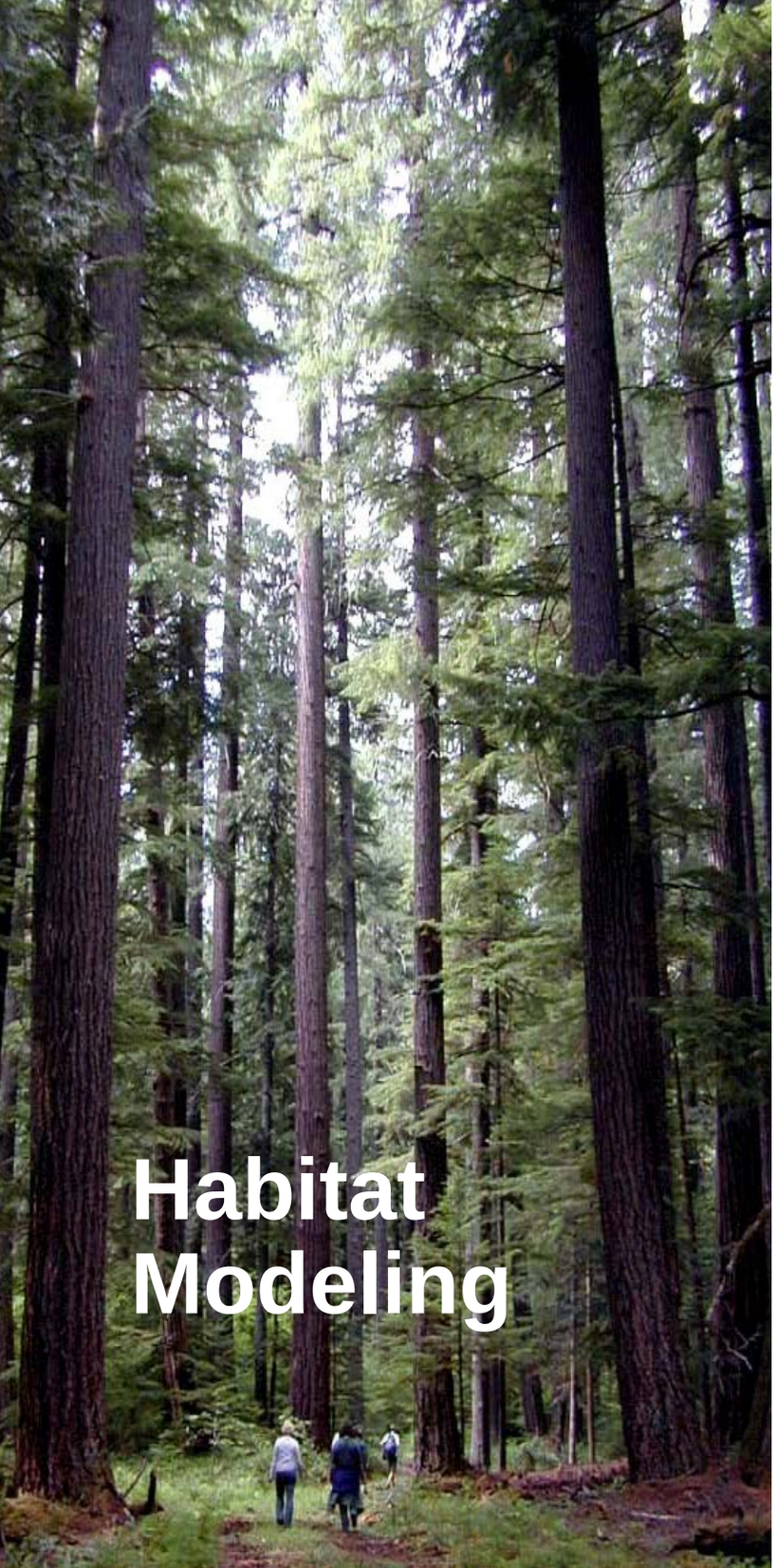
Other Covered Species

- **Oregon Slender Salamander**
  - Limited survey data
  - Adequate habitat model
  - Widespread suitable habitat
  - Will utilize strategies for other covered species to refine OSS strategy
- **Red Tree Vole**
  - Limited survey data
  - Adequate habitat model
  - Will utilize strategies for NSO and MAMU strategies
- **Coastal Marten**
  - Limited survey data
  - Limited ability to model habitat
  - Rely on strategies for other covered species to fully address
  - Monitoring and adaptive management will be important
- **Torrent Salamanders**
  - Fully addressed by aquatic strategy



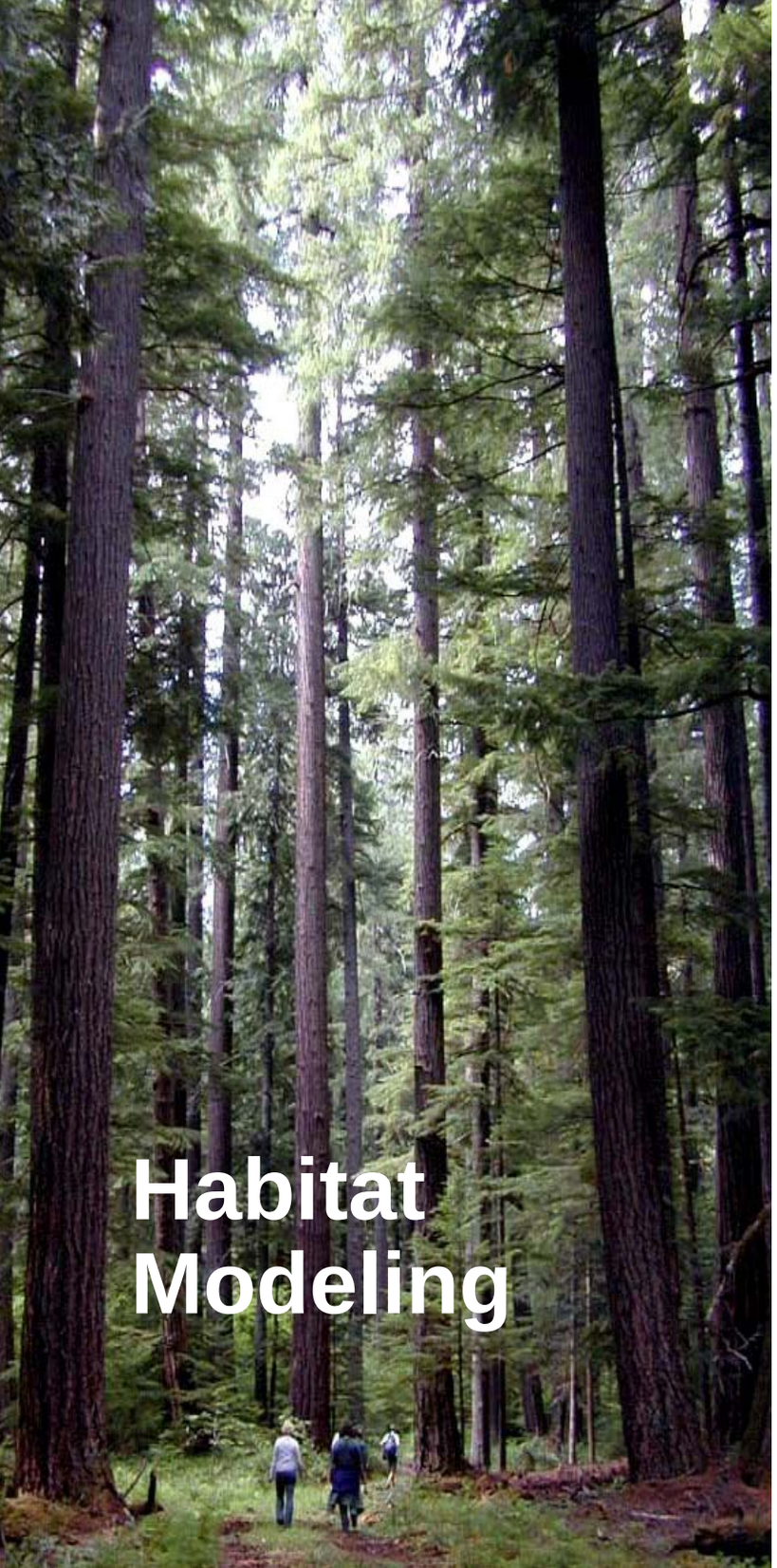
Habitat Modeling

- Completing habitat models for four terrestrial species
  - Northern spotted owl
  - Marbled murrelet
  - Red tree vole
  - Oregon slender salamander
- Using published information to determine key habitat characteristics
- Using a combination of parameters from Stand Level Inventory data to represent those habitat characteristics



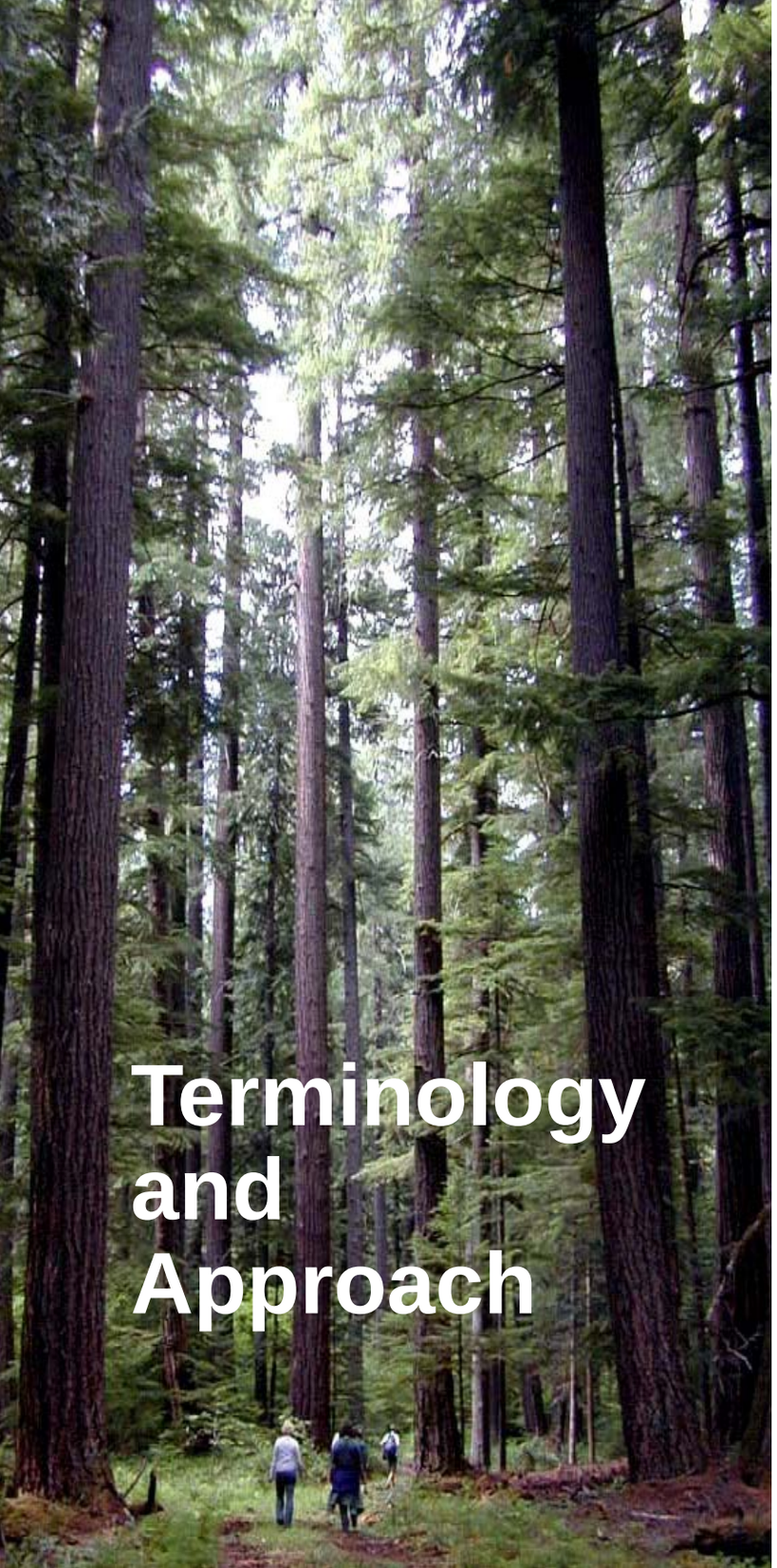
Habitat Modeling

- Create gradations of habitat quality (e.g., low moderate, high quality) at the stand level
- Allows for the creation of a habitat model that can be linked into forest inventory for long-term planning
- Currently getting peer review and comparing model outputs with other published models



Benefits of modeling approach

- Allows for an analysis of how habitat quality and quantity will change over time
- Allows for a better understanding of how management actions (i.e., silvicultural prescriptions) will enhance habitat quality over time
- Have a better understanding of what habitat conditions could actually be at the end of the permit term
- Can determine the relative investment needed to actually improve habitat quality during the permit term



Terminology

- Habitat Conservation Areas

Structure of HCAs:

- Informed by survey data
- Supplemented with habitat models
- Optimize the terrestrial strategy to retain flexibility for covered activities outside of HCAs
- Assume some silvicultural activities will be allowed in HCAs if needed to enhance habitat quality

Q&A and Discussion on Terrestrial Conservation Strategy

Please click “Raise Your Hand” in the webinar to ask a question or make a comment.

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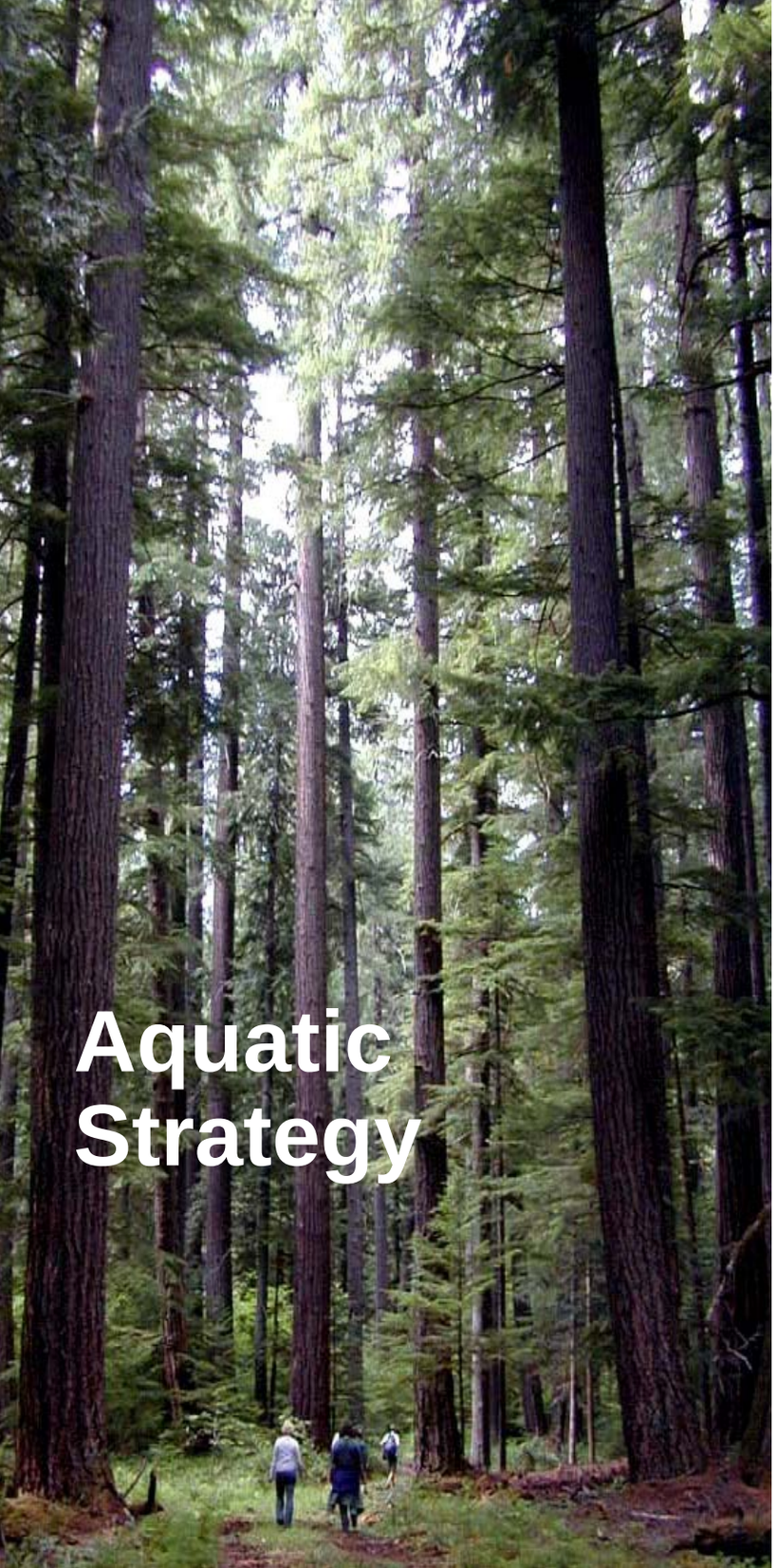
Draft Aquatic Conservation Strategy



Aquatic Strategy

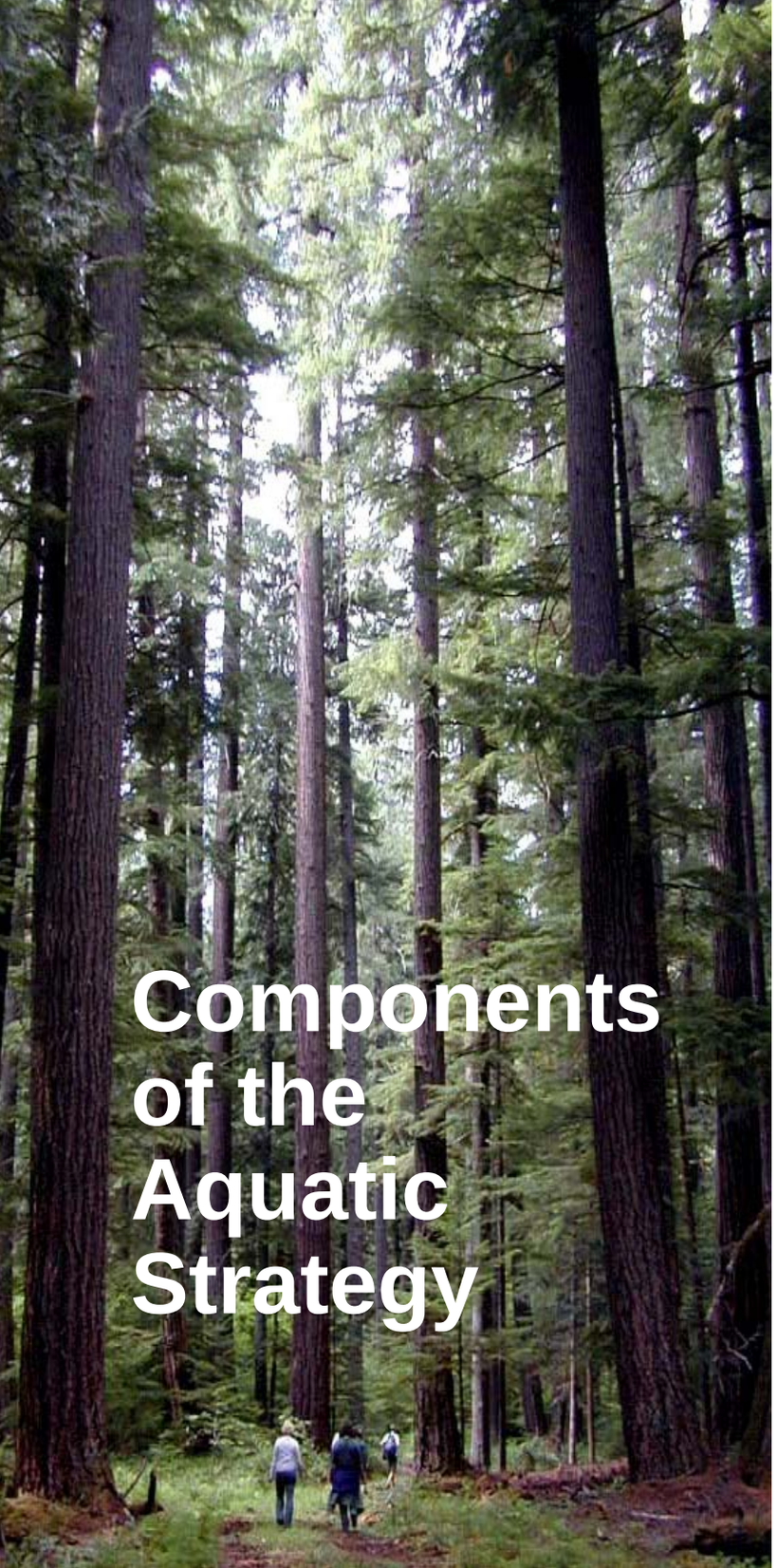
- Biological Goals and Objectives
- Components of the Aquatic Strategy
- Modeling Approach
- Riparian Conservation Area Strategy

Covered Fish

One Goal for all covered fish species: support the persistence of covered fish in the permit area by maintaining and enhancing habitat in streams

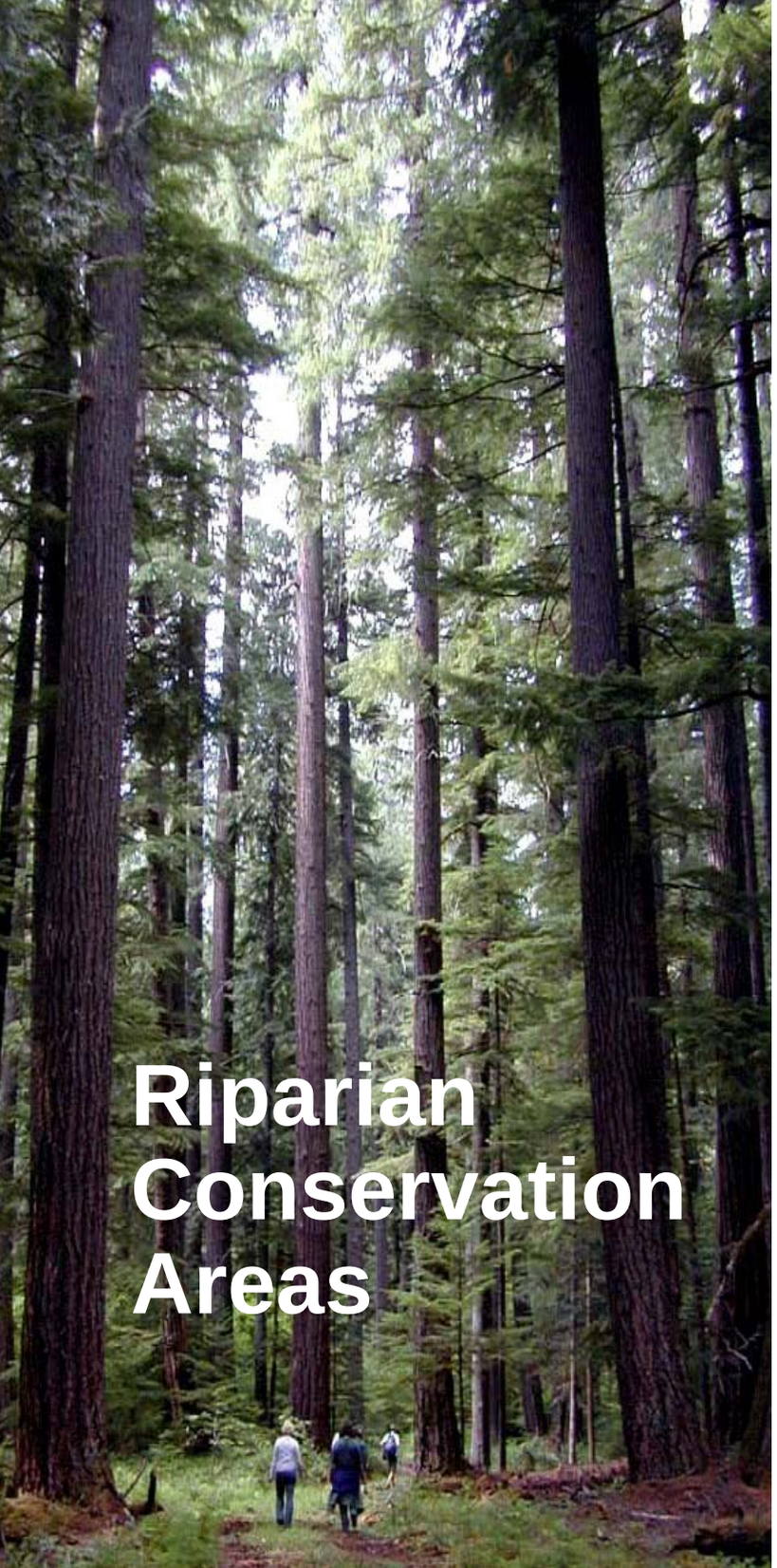
Objectives generally cover the following elements

- Promote long-term wood recruitment
- Enhance overall channel complexity through targeted enhancement projects
- Maintain and enhance water quality and quantity
- Improve fish passage



Components of the Aquatic Strategy

- Road Network Management
- Stream Enhancement Projects
- Riparian buffers

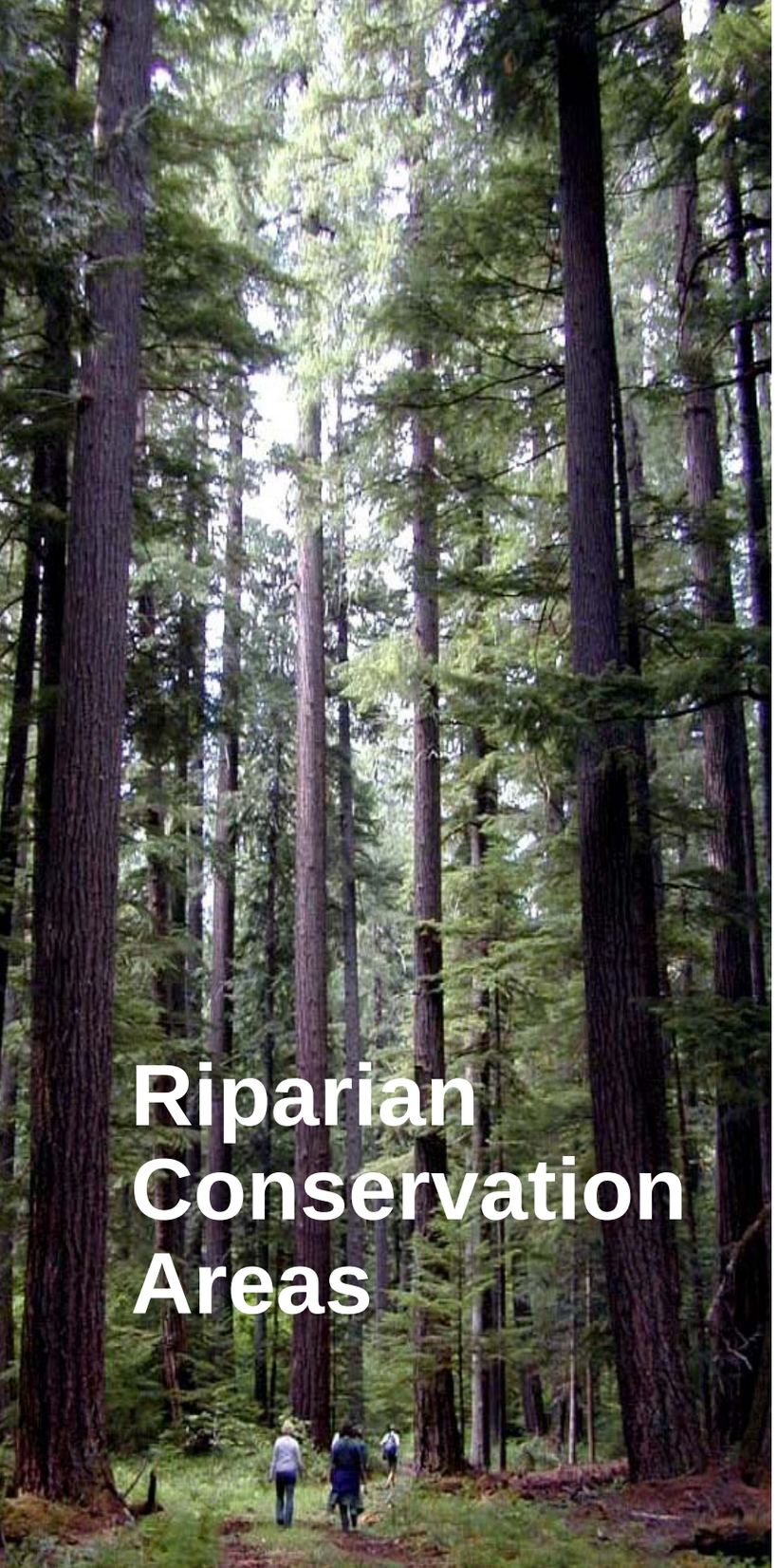


Riparian Conservation Areas

Riparian buffers = Riparian Conservation Area (RCA)

How big are RCAs and where are they applied

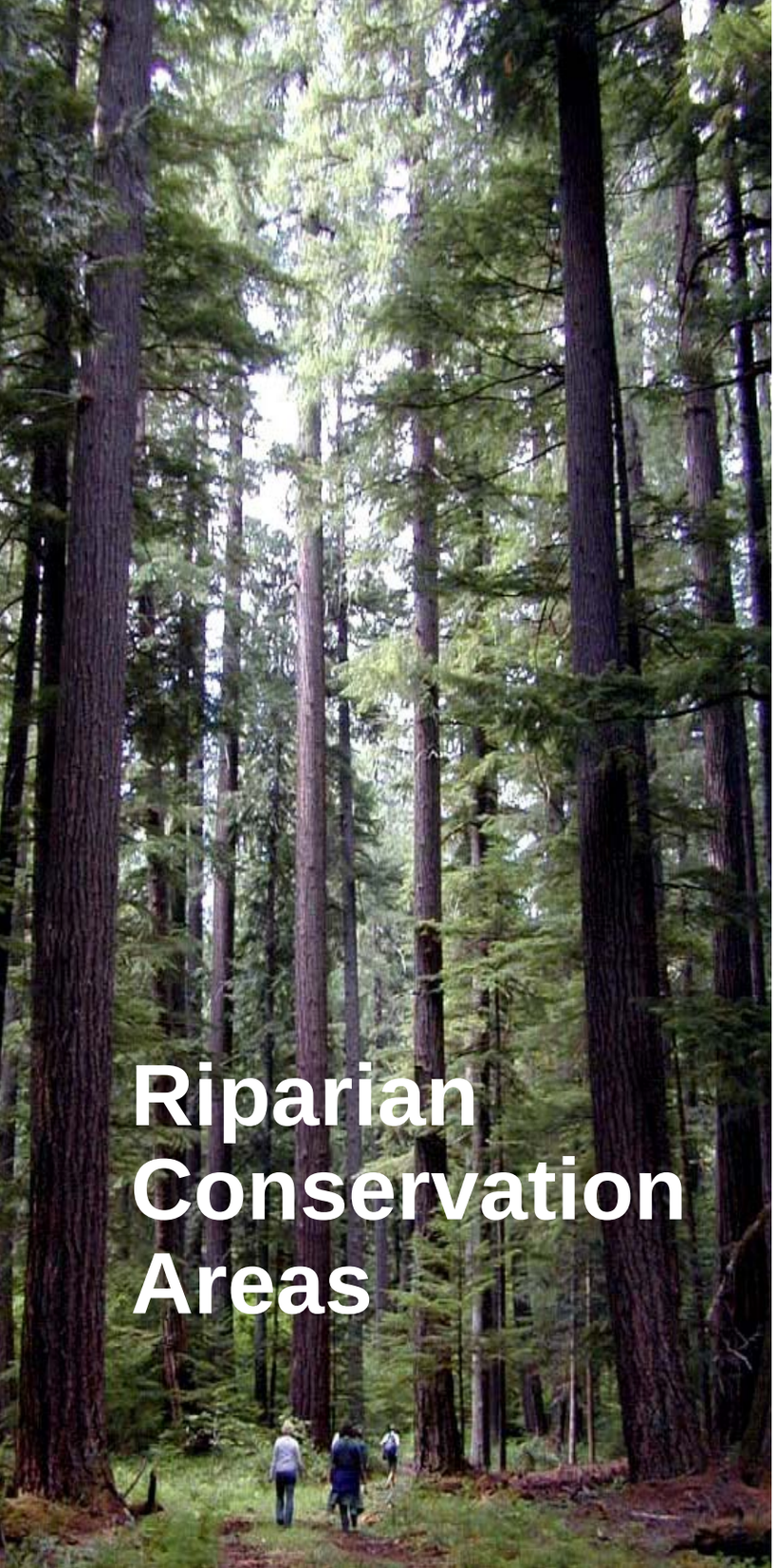
- Tie RCA strategy to stream functions identified in BGOs (e.g., temp, sediment, wood recruitment)
- Consider stream types and size
- Memorialize process of laying out buffers in the field



Riparian Conservation Areas

Variation in RCA width would be informed by:

- Fish bearing vs non-fish bearing stream
- Stream size
- Location in the watershed (e.g., adjacency to fish bearing streams)
- Locations with high debris flow or landslide potential
- To minimize sediment and temperature increase
- Provide for adequate wood recruitment



Riparian Conservation Areas

Use data and model outputs to validate buffer strategy

- Intrinsic Potential
- Areas with high landslide/debris flow potential
- Stream segments sensitive to thermal loading
- Stream segments at risk of low summer flow
- Key floodplain/off-channel areas
- Potential wood recruitment

Q&A and Discussion on Aquatic Conservation Strategy

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Summary and Next Steps

Discussion

This is an opportunity for further discussion on any topics presented at today's meeting.

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Western Oregon State Forests HCP

More Information

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

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