

MEETING SUMMARY

WESTERN OREGON STATE FORESTS HCP SCOPING TEAM

Wednesday, April 26, 2023, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

By Webinar/Video Conference

ATTENDEES

Participants: Jeff Young (NOAA Fisheries), Joe Zisa (USFWS), Rod Krahmer (ODFW), Julie Firman (ODFW), Jiajia Lin (DEQ), Josh Seeds (DEQ), Nick Palazzotto (ODF), Ron Zilli (ODF)

Technical Consultants and Guests: Melissa Klungle and Jordan Mayor (ICF)

Facilitation Team: Sylvia Ciborowski and Ellen Palmquist (Kearns & West), Cindy Kolomechuk (ODF)

WELCOME AND AGENDA REVIEW

Sylvia Ciborowski, Kearns & West, welcomed Scoping Team (ST) members and reviewed the agenda, which included: 1) Welcome and Agenda Review, 2) Agency and Stakeholder Engagement Updates, 3) Small Group Meeting Update, 4) Report Out and Seek Alignment on HCP Topics, 5) Report Out to HCP Steering Committee (SC), and 6) Approach Going Forward, Next Steps, and Summary.

Cindy Kolomechuk, ODF, mentioned that the HCP process began five years ago, in April 2018, and thanked everyone for their engagement in the process.

AGENCY AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT UPDATES

Members of the ST provided the following updates relevant to the Western Oregon State Forests HCP:

- **NOAA Fisheries:** NOAA Fisheries hired Jennifer Quan as the new Regional Administrator for the West Coast Region.
- **USFWS:** No updates.
- **DEQ:** No updates.
- **DSL:** No updates.
- **ODF:** 1) The revised implementation plans (IPs) were approved by the State Forester and posted to ODF's website. The State Forester directed staff to consider timber volume as possible during the implementation of the IPs. 2) The release of harvest

modeling has been delayed. 3) The Forest Management Plan (FMP) will likely be shared with the BOF for direction in November instead of December.

Sylvia Ciborowski shared that the HCP SC was updated on HCP ST topics, the two-year IPs, and harvest modeling during their April 25 meeting.

SMALL GROUP MEETING UPDATE

Jordan Mayor, ICF, shared that a meeting was held in March with ODF, the Services, and their solicitors. The purpose of the meeting was to understand concerns around specific HCP topics and to seek alignment or a path forward. Topics included:

- Coverage of new activities – No language changes were made and the group reached alignment on this topic.
- Dispute resolution process – A sentence in section 8.8 was removed and the group reached alignment on this topic.
- Monitoring and reporting and triggers for adaptive management – ODF has met individually with the Services over the past month to discuss issues related to monitoring and reporting. The full group will meet in the coming months to further discuss monitoring, reporting, and adaptive management. Any language changes will be shared with the ST.
- Land acquisition and permit amendments – The solicitors are continuing to work on developing language to include in the Incidental Take Permit (ITP) around process and implications of any future land acquisitions or transfers in the HCP plan and permit area. ODF will share the results of these conversations at future ST meetings.
- Reciprocal right-of-way agreements – ODF has reciprocal right-of-way agreements with BLM. The solicitors are reviewing the agreements and identifying which are nondiscretionary.

Cindy Kolomechuk provided an update that the most recent draft of the HCP was shared with the Services for review, but will not be shared with others in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act. ODF will continue to update ST members on anything that needs alignment in the HCP.

Discussion

Comment: ODFW is working on adaptive management for the Private Forest Accord. Would it be possible to share lessons learned from the HCP adaptive management process with the group?

- **Melissa Klungle:** Yes, ODF can share lessons learned. It would also be valuable for the Services to share what they're looking for in an adaptive management program.

Question: If new land is added to the HCP permit area, how will ODF determine if the land will be added to a Habitat Conservation Area (HCA) or not? Would this process be internal or in collaboration with the Services?

- **Cindy Kolomechuk:** This is the type of process language ODF is considering. We are looking to add language into the HCP to indicate what processes are required for various types of permit area changes. ODF needs to build in language that accounts for changes to the permit area and how the conservation value would be made up.

REPORT OUT AND SEEK ALIGNMENT ON HCP TOPICS

Downed wood reporting

Jordan Mayor shared that ODF is continuing to discuss the scope and scale of downed wood requirements outside of HCAs with the Services. ODF will share the outcome of the discussions at the next ST meeting.

Minor edits to Harvest-Related Language

Jordan shared that minor edits were made to harvest related language. ODF and the Services reached alignment on these topics during small group meetings.

- In Chapter 3, the Services agreed to remove table 3.2.1 showing historic harvest. The table was useful for context when developing the HCP but is not necessary for the Final HCP.
- Minor updates were made to Chapter 5 Effects Analysis related to watershed harvesting, including the addition of the word “potential”.
- In Chapter 6, ODF clarified that activities would be reported out for timber harvest.

Quarries in Riparian Conservation Areas (RCAs)

ODF will share additional information on quarries in RCAs at the next ST meeting.

Monitoring and Reporting

Jordan shared that ODF will working with the Services at a future meeting to get alignment on monitoring and reporting and look at it holistically with adaptive management. Additional monitoring and reporting updates include:

- Wet weather hauling – ODF is working with NOAA Fisheries to revise the language for reporting wet weather hauling events.
- Annual reporting updates – ODF modified the number of annual reporting requirements and reached alignment with the Services on streamlining the annual reporting requirements.

REPORT OUT TO HCP STEERING COMMITTEE

Sylvia Ciborowski asked the ST if they had anything to report to the SC. The ST did not provide any updates for the SC.

APPROACH GOING FORWARD, NEXT STEPS, AND SUMMARY

Sylvia Ciborowski shared appreciation for ST engagement in the HCP process and reviewed upcoming meetings before closing the meeting.

- Wednesday, May 24 1-3pm – *HCP Scoping Team Meeting*
- Tuesday, June 27 12-2pm – *HCP Steering Committee Meeting*
- Wednesday, June 28 1-3pm – *HCP Scoping Team Meeting*

Cindy Kolomechuk shared that ODF will continue to work with the Services on monitoring and reporting topics.