Western Oregon State Forests HCP Update

FTLAC

July 19th, 2019
Salem, OR
1. Update on HCP Process
2. Overview of HCP Mission, Vision, Goals
3. Stakeholder Engagement and Communications Plan
4. Other HCP Topics?
5. Q/A
HCP Process Timeline

FTLAC and Board Engagement

- HCP Preparation
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Steering Committee Meetings (bi-monthly)
- Scoping Team Meetings (monthly)

Phase 3 - NEPA

- Public Scoping
- Public Comment

Work in Progress

2019 2020 2021

Permit Issuance and Approvals
Scope and Scale of the HCP

- Geographic Coverage
- Permit Term
- Covered Activities
- Covered Species
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
Covered Activities

- Timber Harvest
- Stand Management Activities
- Road System Management
- Recreation Facilities
- Third Party Leases and Easements
- Conservation Action Implementation
**Range:** Species in the plan area?

**Impact:** Likely to result in take of covered species?

**Status:**
- Listed species
- Non-listed species with potential to become listed during permit term

**Data:** Are data sufficient to evaluate impacts and develop conservation measures?

- 8 Fish
- 3 Amphibians
- 2 Birds
- 2 Mammals

**Note that the Lower Columbia steelhead was removed from the list.**
Environmental Setting

- Gathering and assessing background data and information
- Characterizing the physical and biological attributes of the covered lands
- Life history, distribution, and conservation needs for covered species
Species Distribution:

Upper Willamette River Winter Steelhead
Species Distribution:

Marbled Murrelet
Background Information

• Mission and goals of the HCP Program (Chapter 1)

• Baseline environmental conditions (Chapter 2)
  • Physical and biological characteristics of the plan area
  • Covered species information

• Description of the activities that will be covered by the permit, including extent, duration, and frequency (Chapter 3)
Effects, Conservation, and Monitoring

• Conservation strategy
  • Avoidance, minimization, and mitigation requirements of the HCP (Chapter 4)

• Effects of the covered activities on the covered species (Chapter 5)

• Description of the monitoring and adaptive management program that will be instituted to track the effectiveness of the conservation strategy (Chapter 6)
Assurances, Administration, and Alternatives

- Assurances requested under the HCP (Chapter 7)
  - Changed circumstances
  - Unforeseen circumstances
  - Federal “No Surprises”

- Description of how ODF will implement the HCP (Chapter 8)

- Presentation of Alternatives to Take (Chapter 10)
Cost and Funding (Chapter 9)

- Calculate costs of HCP Implementation
  - Administration
  - Habitat management/restoration
  - Monitoring
  - Reporting
  - Changed circumstances

- Demonstrate reliable funding source to pay for HCP Implementation
Mission, Vision, Goals

- Purpose of the HCP
- Anticipated Outcomes
- Context for completing the work
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, Goals

HCP Vision

The Western Oregon HCP ensures species protection and conservation as well as increased certainty that working state forestlands will continue to benefit all 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.
HCP Program Goals

1) Meet the regulatory requirements of the federal and state Endangered Species Acts through an approved HCP, using a multi-species approach to managing forest ecosystems across the landscape.

2) Ensure active and sustainable management of state forest lands under a Western Oregon HCP and an associated Forest Management Plan 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, jobs and other economic values) using the HCP as a programmatic approach to comply with the federal and state ESA over the permit term.

4) Increase certainty for long-term persistence of covered 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.

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 and the equitable enjoyment of benefits that state public forests provide.

6) Use science-based forestry to promote conditions that create sustainable, productive forests that are resilient to large fires, climate change impacts, and other disturbance events. Use an adaptive management approach to address uncertainty and change over time.
Western Oregon State Forests HCP

Stakeholder Engagement and Communications Plan
Communications and Stakeholder Engagement Goals

- Provide **opportunity to provide feedback** at key points
- Engage **counties** as part of FTLAC and through other venues
- Keep interested parties **informed**
- Allow diverse interests to **hear and learn from one another’s perspectives**
- Provide **clear expectations** for how stakeholder and public input will be considered
- Build a **common understanding** on HCP development and implementation
- **Align engagement** with related processes (i.e., FMP)
- Keep stakeholders informed to promote relevant comments during **NEPA**
Western Oregon State Forests HCP Stakeholder Engagement

Board of Forestry Meetings

Forest Trust Lands Advisory Committee (FTLAC) Meetings

Public Engagement Meetings
- Spring 2019: Phase II SOW, Plan Area & Permit Area
- Summer 2019: Covered Species Activities, & MVG
- Fall 2019: BGO, Conservation Strategies #1
- Winter 2019: Conservation Strategies #2
- Spring 2020: Funding Strategies
- Summer 2020: Draft HCP

HCP Preparation

NEPA Preparation
- Public Scoping

Permit Issuance and Approvals

smaller meetings/AOC & CFTLAC engagement

smaller meetings/focus groups as needed

DRAFT, July 2019
HCP Content
Mission Vision Goals
Stakeholder Engagement

Q&A and Discussion