

Compliance Monitoring Updates

Northwest Oregon

Regional Forest Practice Committee Meeting

May 16, 2025

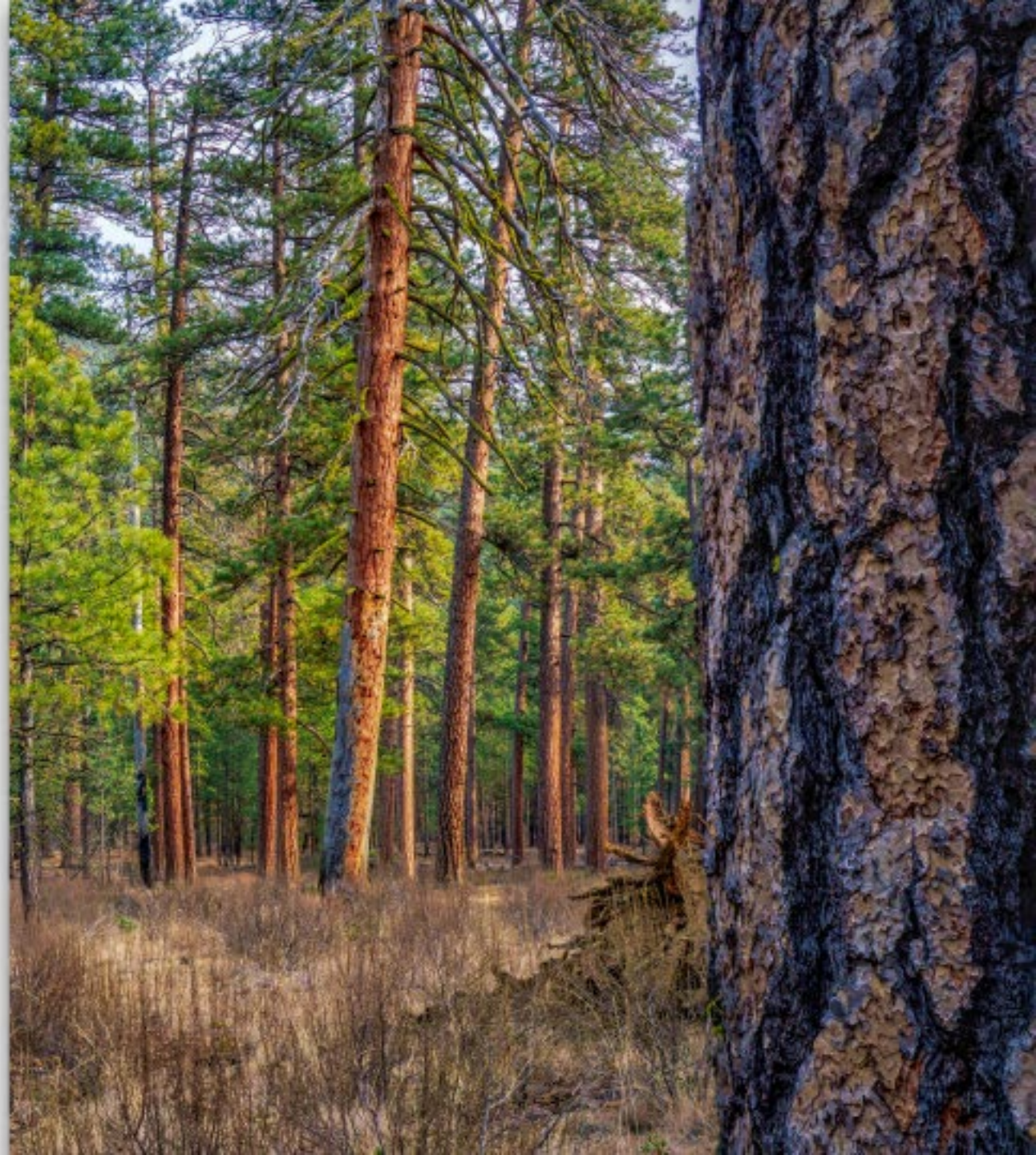


Water Quality & Compliance Monitoring Manager: Adam Coble
Monitoring Staff: Rebecca McCoun, Emily Martin, John Hawksworth,
David Showalter, Sarah Siefken, Elise Chiba, & Marta Frias Bedolla



Topics

- Overview of Compliance Monitoring Program
- Update on Compliance Monitoring Studies
- Q&A





Compliance Monitoring Program (CMP)

Purpose & Goals (OAR 629-678-0000)

1. Monitor forest practice rule implementation & analyze compliance rates.
2. Assess Forest Practice Act (FPA) rule compliance & report findings
3. Provide information that will improve FPA rule compliance through training, guidance, clarification, & targeted enforcement, thereby increasing the public's trust in the implementation of the FPA & rules.



<https://tinyurl.com/ODF-Monitoring>





Background: CMP History

Before PFA

- **1998 – 2002:** Best management practices studies
- **2013 – 2017:** Forest practices monitoring implementation studies

After PFA

- **2022 – present:** Establish long-term forest practices compliance monitoring



A close-up photograph of a fir tree branch with several small, brown, cone-like structures (possibly developing cones or seed pods) and green needles. The background shows a blurred mountain landscape.

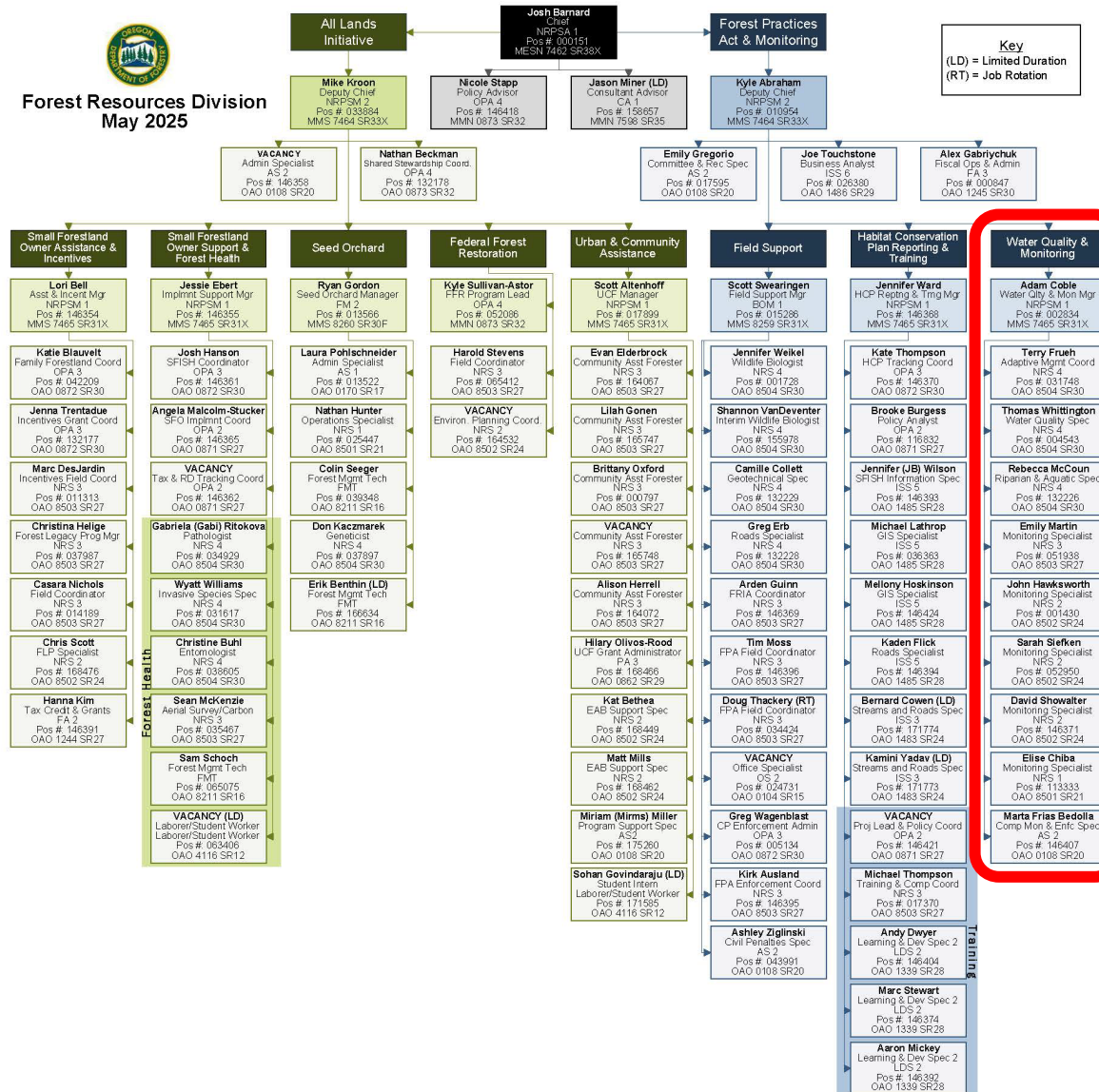
Background: Recent Changes

Rule Priorities

- Vegetation along streams
- Road construction & maintenance
- Harvesting on steep slopes
- Other rules as directed by Board of Forestry



Compliance Monitoring Program



Who Does What?

Compliance Monitoring

- Assesses compliance with forest practice rules
- Statewide statistical studies; no enforcement
- Informs education, outreach, & process improvement



Stewardship Foresters

- Conduct site-specific inspections & enforcement
- Focus on high-risk, complex operations
- Provide technical assistance to landowners



Effectiveness Monitoring

- Evaluates if rules achieve resource protection goals
- Works with AMPC & IRST
- Informs rule changes & guidance updates





Increasing Public Understanding: Compliance Monitoring Story Map

ODF Compliance Monitoring Program (DRAFT)



ODF Compliance Monitoring Program (DRAFT)

Understanding the Oregon Department of
Forestry's Compliance Monitoring Program.

Oregon Department of Forestry
Draft

Compliance Monitoring Study Development





Compliance Monitoring Study Process

Rule Selection

Pilot Study

- Study Design
- Data Collection
- Data Analysis
- Report

Full Study

- Study Design
- Data Collection
- Data Analysis
- Report

Education & Outreach



Collaborative Partners



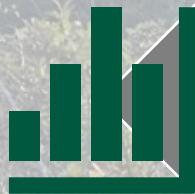
Oregon Department of Forestry

- Includes Monitoring Unit staff, FPA Field Coordinators, & other subject matter experts



Compliance Monitoring Program Committee

- Stakeholder advisory committee with representatives from state agencies, industry, conservation groups, etc.



Mount Hood Environmental

- External statistician assisting with study design & data analysis



Rule Selection

- Which FPA rules can be translated into research questions for CMP studies?
- Prioritize rules
 - Impractical to monitor every rule
 - Focus on rules that are most critical & feasible for monitoring
- Each rule is framed as a question & analyzed to determine its suitability for inclusion in monitoring studies



FPA Rule



Study Question

Rule Selection: Key Questions

- Is the rule easily measurable?
- Has this rule been assessed in previous ODF monitoring studies?
- Do other states include this rule in their compliance programs?
- Are there past compliance issues or penalties related to this rule?
- Can compliance be determined 1-2 years after the activity? (Or is it better assessed by a Stewardship Forester?)



Rule Selection Example

FPA Rule



OAR 629-643-0105

Western Oregon Standard Practice Vegetation Retention Prescription for Type N Streams

- (3) For large and medium Type N streams, the operator shall:
- (a) Retain all trees and vegetation within 75 feet from the edge of the active channel or channel migration zone.



Study Question



Q. For large & medium Type N streams: Did the operator retain all trees & vegetation within 75 ft from the edge of the active channel or channel migration zone?



Current Compliance Monitoring Studies





Compliance Monitoring Studies

Reforestation Rules



✓ Finished

Riparian Rules



Road Rules



Steep Slopes Rules



In Progress

Compliance Monitoring Studies: **Reforestation Study**





Reforestation Study: Ruleset Overview

Division 610 Forest Practices Reforestation Rules

- Study estimated percent compliance with selected rules related to **Free to Grow (FTG)** stocking standards.



Image credit: Oregon Forest
Resources Institute

Reforestation Study: Results



Landowner Type	Required SEQ/Acre	Harvest Units (n=)	Compliance Estimate	95% Binomial Tolerance Interval
PI	125	8	100%	100% – 100%
PI	200	31	90.3%	76.6% – 100%
PI total	-	39	92.3%	80.9% – 100%
PNI	200	25	76%	55.2% – 94.8%
Overall	-	64	89.4%	76.3 % - 99.1%





Reforestation Study: Main Points

Reforestation
compliance is high
overall

Nonindustrial
landowners face
greater challenges





Reforestation Study: Education & Outreach

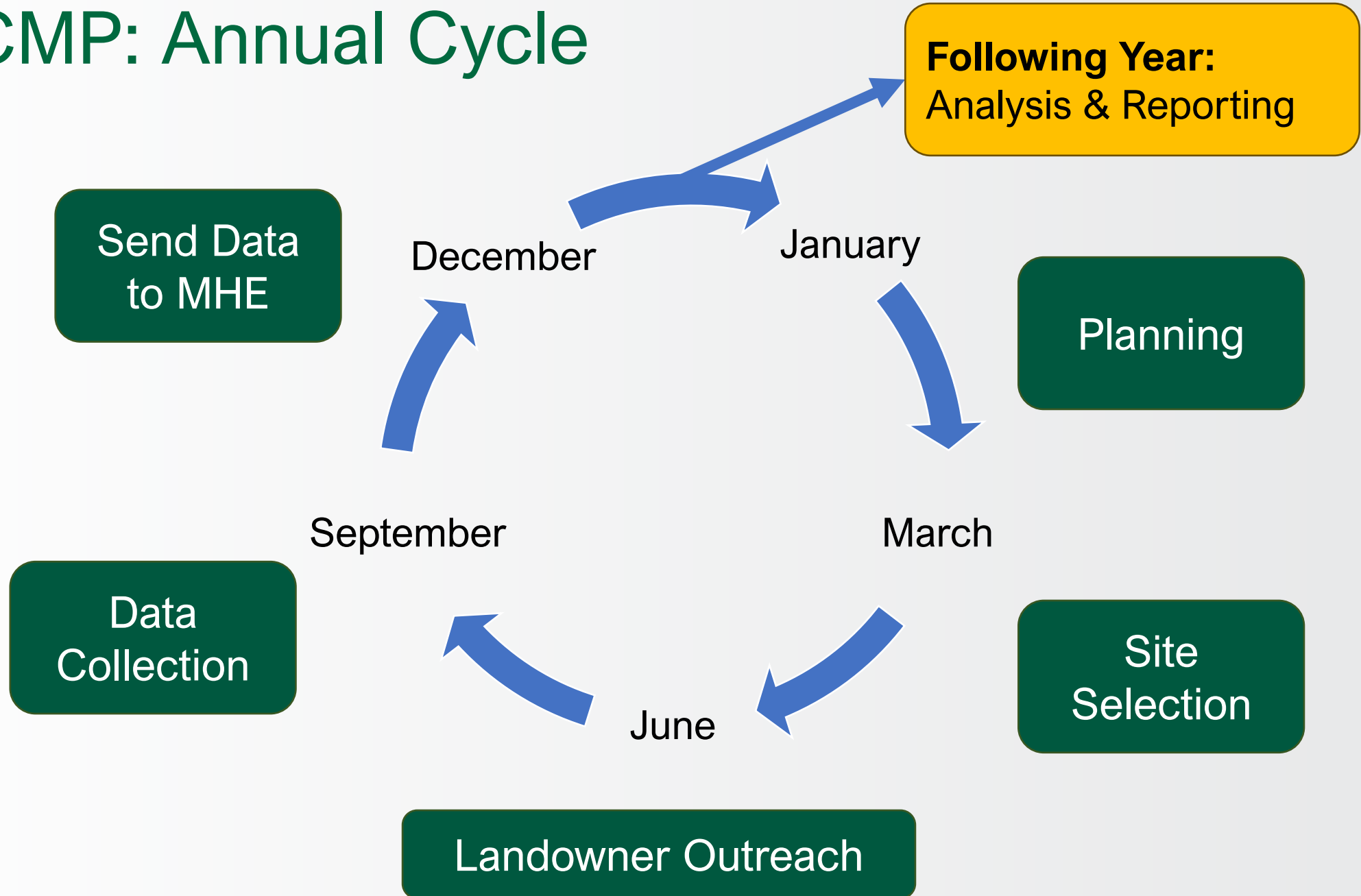
- **Communication Plan:** Share study results & improve understanding of reforestation compliance
- **Key Audiences:** ODF staff, landowners, CMPC, BOF, industry & conservation groups, public
- **Communication Strategies:**
 - Presentations, trainings, & committee updates.
 - Report & online resources.
 - Outreach through partner organizations.



Reforestation training for ODF stewardship foresters, Feb. 2025



CMP: Annual Cycle



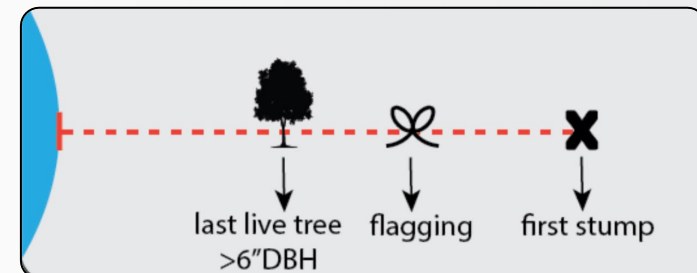
Compliance Monitoring Studies: **Riparian Pilot Study**



Riparian Pilot Study: Ruleset Overview

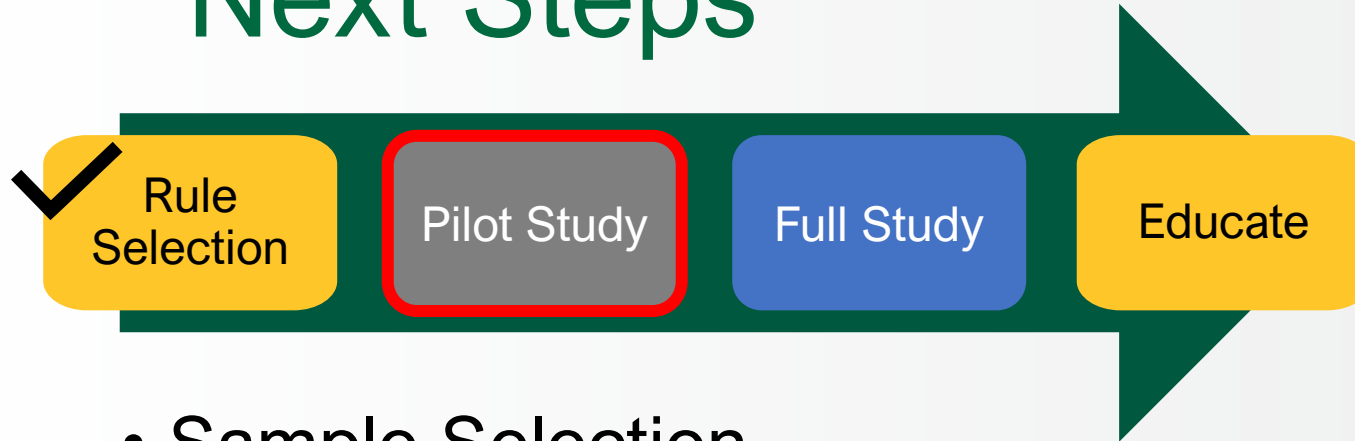
Division 643 Water Protection Rules: Vegetation Along Streams

- **Pilot study** will **refine methods** that will be used in a future compliance monitoring study on stream buffer rules.
- Measure **Riparian Management Area (RMA)** widths from active channel to last live tree, flagging, & first harvested tree.



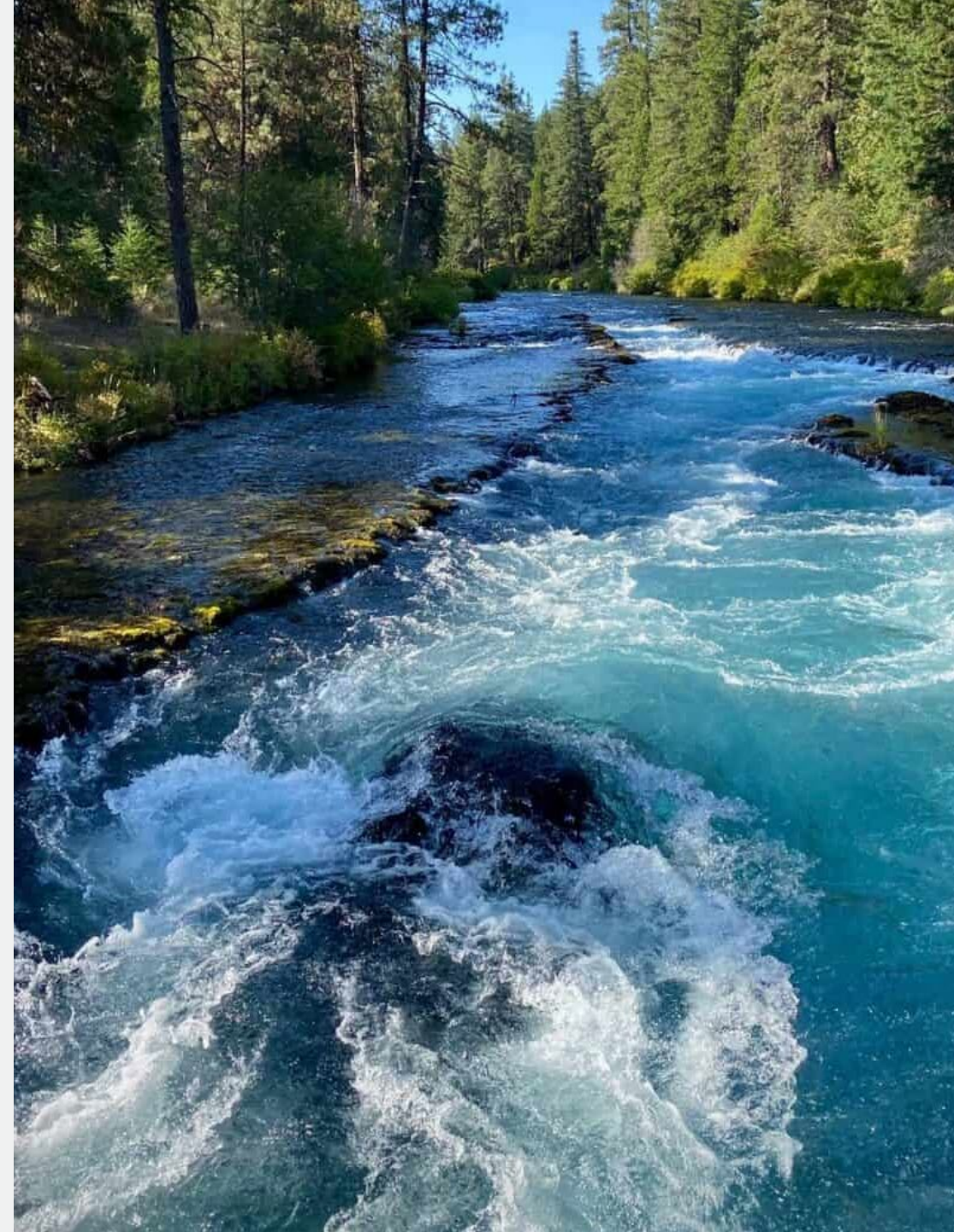


Riparian Pilot Study: Next Steps



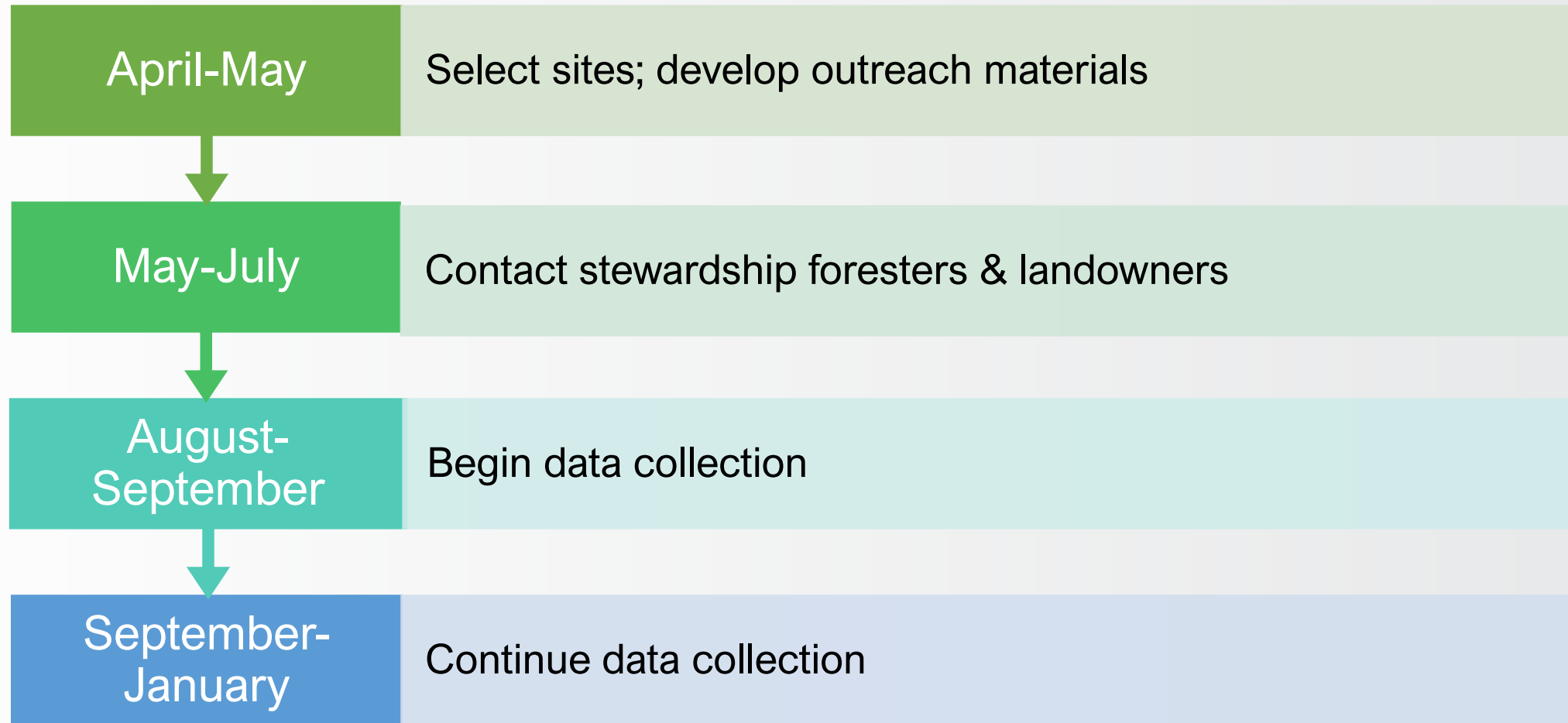
- Sample Selection

- Randomly draw candidate units from FERNS
- Coordinate with stewardship foresters
- Incorporate CMPC feedback
- Begin contacting landowners





Riparian Pilot Study – 2025 Timeline



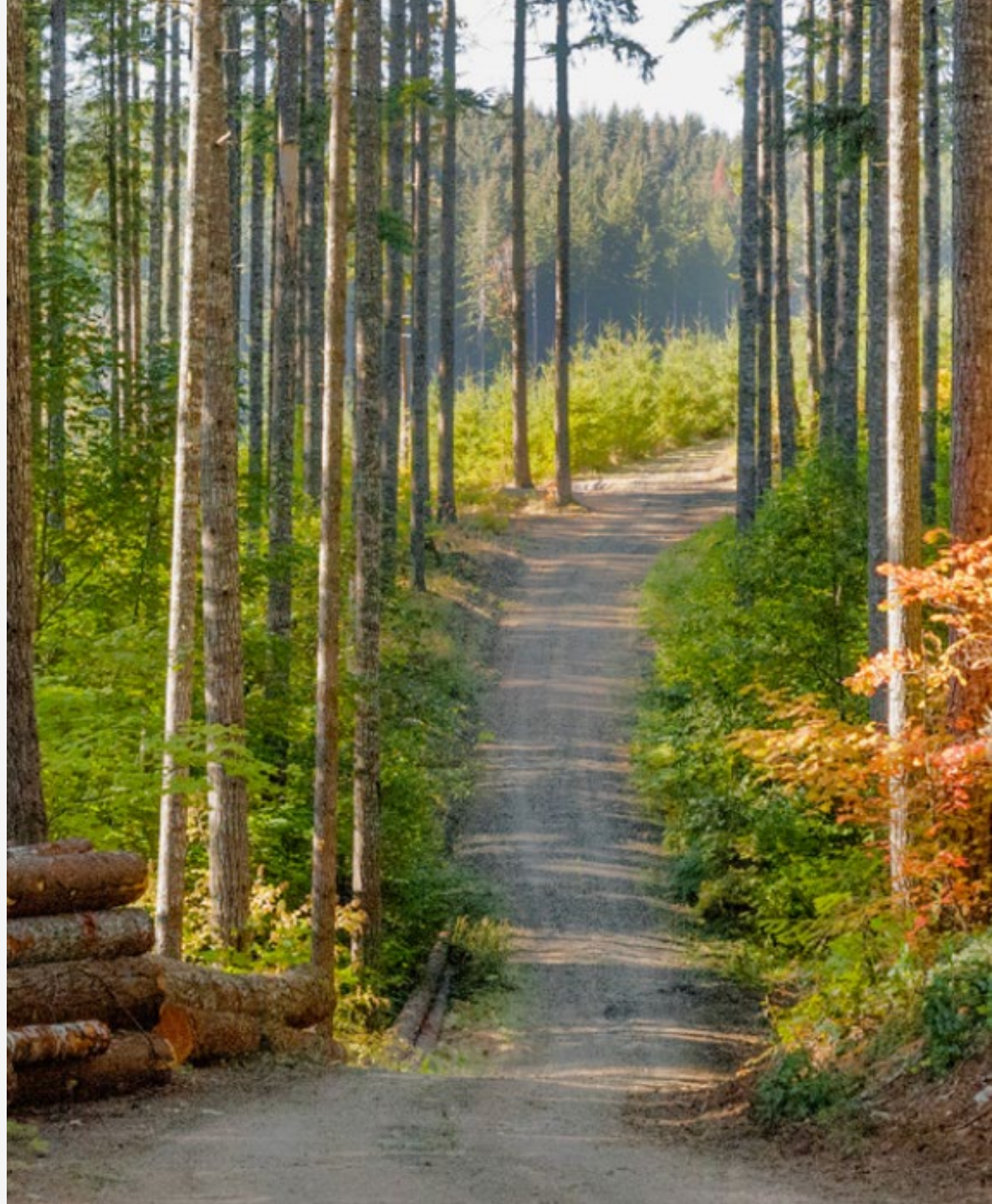
Compliance Monitoring Studies: **Roads & Steep Slopes Pilot Studies**





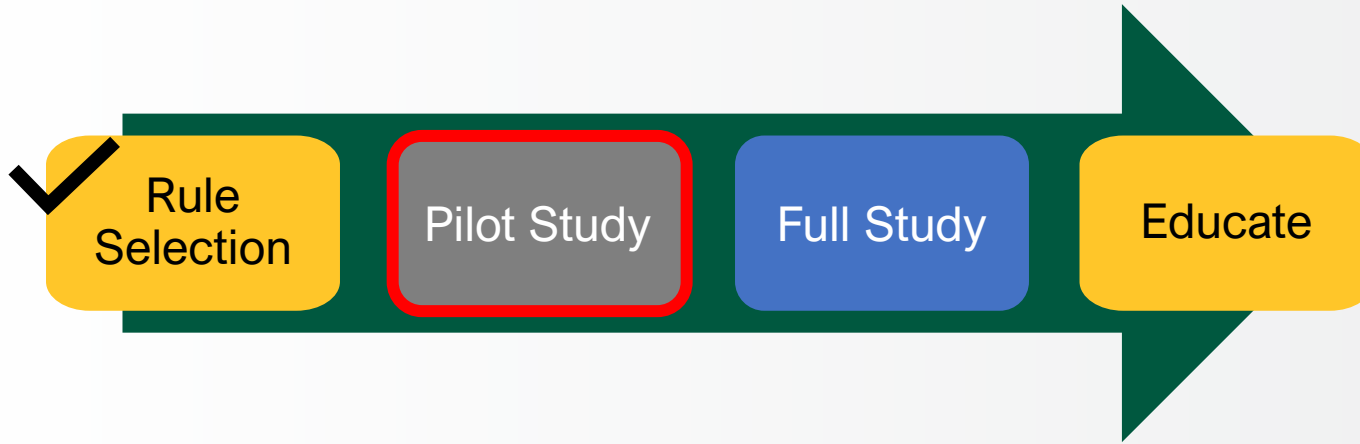
Roads & Steep Slopes: Ruleset Overview

- **Division 625** Forest Road Construction & Maintenance
- **Division 630** Harvesting on Steep Slopes

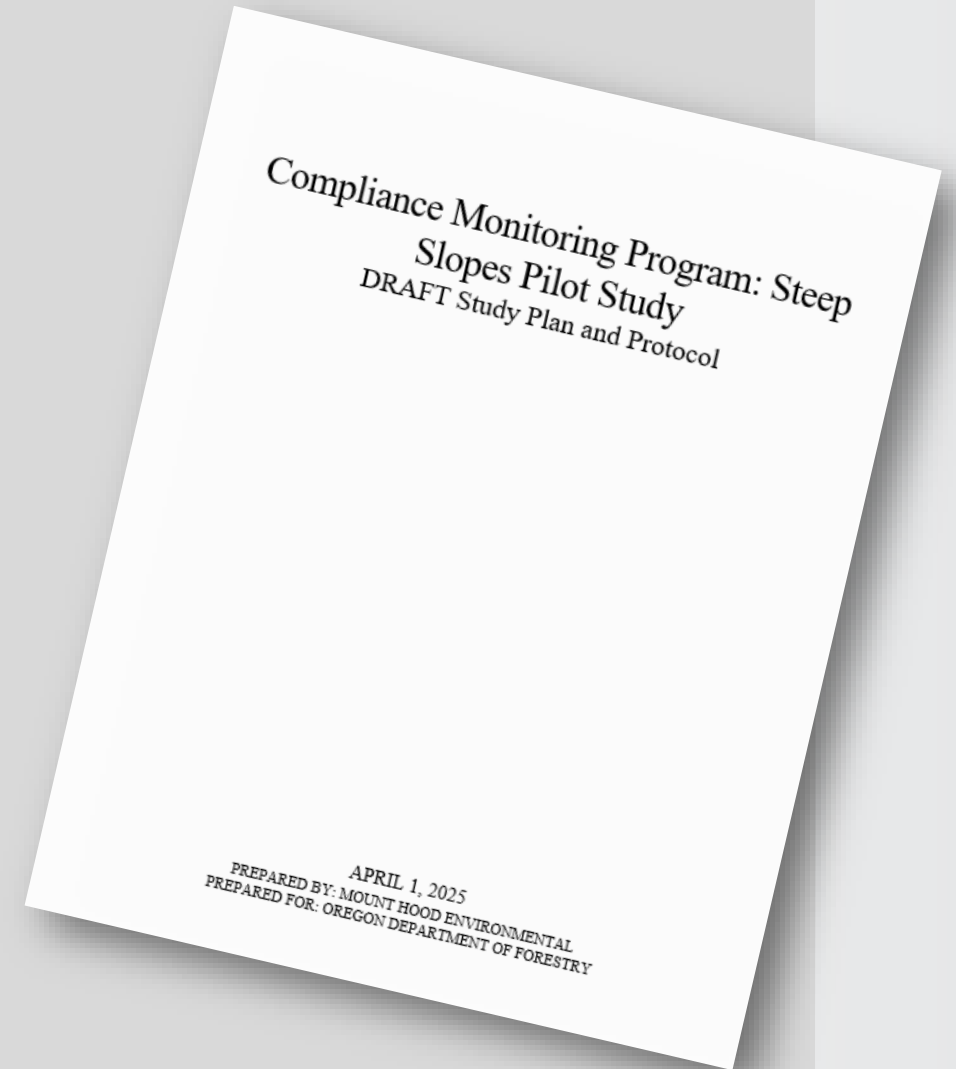




Roads & Steep Slopes: Current Phase



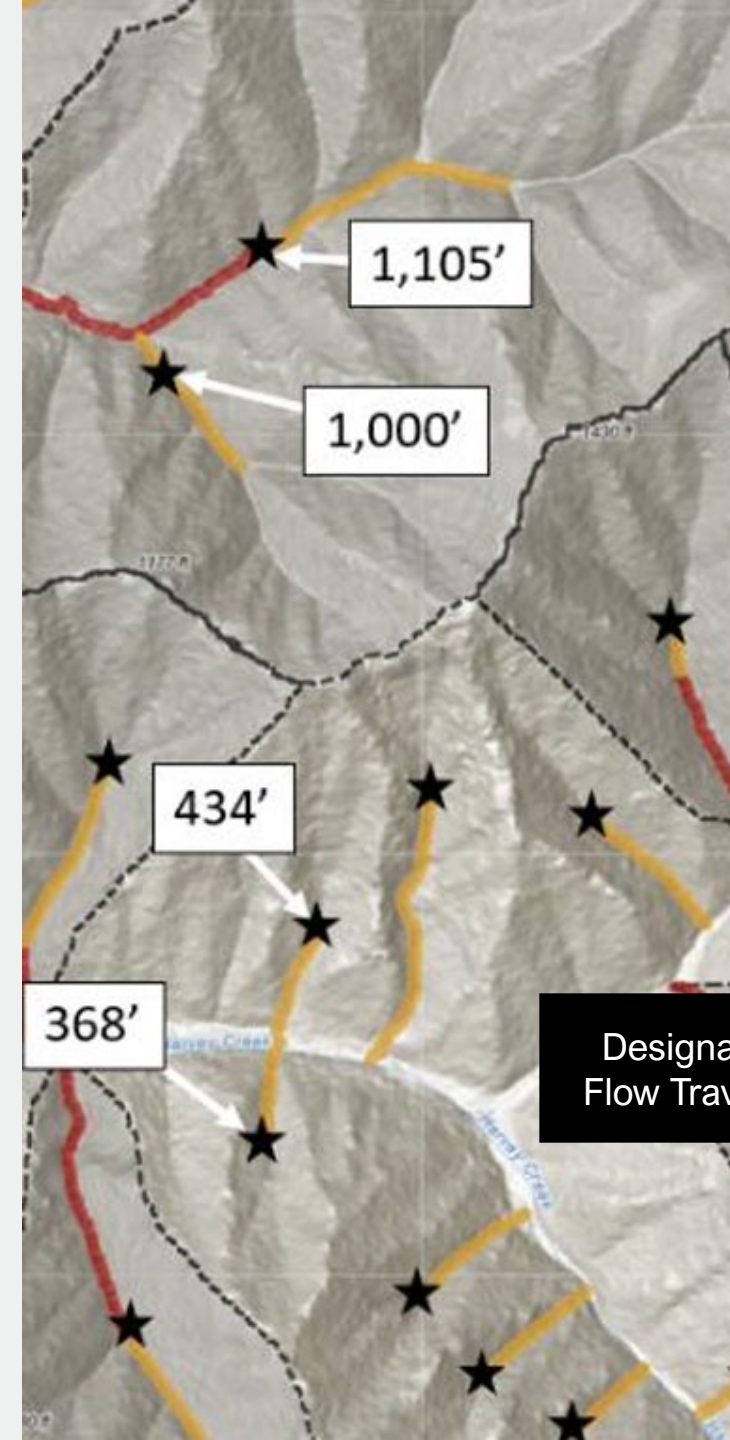
- Rule selection completed (Spring 2025)
 - Identified rules for pilot study
- Pilot study design underway
 - Draft protocol document completed by Mount Hood Environmental (April 2025)
 - Currently under internal review
 - CMPC review (Summer 2025)





Roads & Steep Slopes: Early Insights

- Balance quantitative rigor with qualitative rule language (e.g., “minimize sediment”)
- Some rules are highly technical
- For certain new rules, low implementation rates currently limit available sample size
- Decided to separate roads & steep slopes into two pilot studies





Five-Year Outlook: Monitoring Studies

Study	Timeframe
Riparian Pilot Study	Fall 2025 to Spring 2026
Roads & Steep Slopes Pilot Studies	Fall 2026 to Spring 2027
Riparian Study	Fall 2027 to Spring 2028
Roads & Steep Slopes Studies	Fall 2028 to Spring 2029
Riparian Study	Fall 2029 to Spring 2030

- Two-year reporting to Board of Forestry (i.e., BoF Meeting)
- 8-year aggregate cumulative report (Compliance Trends)

Questions?

