



## **Siskiyou-Eastside Streamside Monitoring**

Oregon Department of Forestry

Private Forests Division

November 2016

### **Key Messages**

- The Oregon Board of Forestry (Board) and the Department of Forestry are committed to reviewing and revising – as necessary – the Forest Practices Act using available science, monitoring and research.
- In November last year (2015), the Board of Forestry increased streamside protection standards in western Oregon. The Siskiyou region was not included because of different vegetative and geologic conditions, and the Eastern Oregon region was out of the scope of the science used in the review.
- This year at the November 2016 meeting, the Board directed the Department to include in its monitoring plan:
  - Potential questions regarding streamside protections in the Siskiyou and Eastern Oregon regions
  - Estimate the work: timeline & resources
  - Work with stakeholders to inform the Division
  - Bring questions and estimate of work back to Board in July 2017
- At the Board meeting in July 2017, the Board is expected to identify one or more monitoring questions to review regarding streamside protections in the Siskiyou and Eastern Oregon regions. The Board would also direct the Department about the methods and estimated timelines for undertaking this review.
- The final outcome of such a review could have a range of outcomes:
  - No change
  - Targeted education and outreach programs
  - Voluntary measures
  - Incentive programs
  - Rule increases, or rule decreases

Prior to changing rules to increase protection standards on the ground, the Board must decide that a resource is being harmed. According to ORS 527.714, economic impacts to forest landowners, the timber industry, and effects to fish, wildlife, and water quality must be considered in such decisions.

### **Questions?**

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### **Background – Board of Forestry Decisions and Direction**

**November 2015** - The Board decided to increase streamside protection standards in western Oregon

- The Board did not include the Siskiyou region given differing vegetative and geologic conditions.
- The Eastern Oregon region was out of scope of this review process.

**March 2016** - The Division was asked to inform the board of what would be needed to review streamside protections in the Siskiyou and Eastern Oregon regions.

**April 2016** - The Board decided that Siskiyou and Eastern Oregon streamside protections would be discussed in association with the Private Forests Monitoring Strategy at the November 2016<sup>1</sup> Board meeting.

**November 2016** - The Board approved the Private Forests Monitoring Strategy (the monitoring strategy establishes a list of priority monitoring questions with stakeholder involvement).

The Department will work with stakeholders to:

- refine potential monitoring questions regarding streamside protections in the Siskiyou and Eastern Oregon regions
- estimate the work, resources and timelines needed to answer these questions
- Work products are due to the Board in July 2017.

### **What Does This Mean?**

- The November 2016 Board decision is the first step in starting a review process.
- The results of this review can result in a range of outcomes: no change, targeted education and outreach programs, voluntary measures, incentive programs, rule increases, or rule decreases.
- For the Board to change rules that increase protection standards on the ground, they must first decide that a resource is being harmed. This is required by state law. See Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 527.714.
- State law also requires the Board to consider information about economic impacts to forest landowners, the timber industry generally, and effects to fish and wildlife.

### **Next Steps**

- **Project Charter:** To be completed by Division Monitoring staff, this will include a stakeholder list, products, and timelines.
- **Last quarter 2016 – First quarter 2017.** Engage with stakeholders to refine potential monitoring questions, scope analysis options.
- **July 2017:** Products presented to the Board of Forestry
  - (1) refined list of potential monitoring questions to address regarding streamside protections in the Siskiyou and Eastern Oregon regions and
  - (2) estimate the work, resources and timelines needed to answer these questions

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<sup>1</sup> The April 2016 Board notes indicate that the Monitoring Strategy would be discussed in September 2016. This topic was delayed until November 2016.