

Agenda Item No.:	3
Work Plan:	Private Forests
Topic:	Board Updates
Presentation Title:	Annual Forest Practices Division Monitoring Update
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SUMMARY

This agenda topic provides an update on Private Forests Monitoring Unit activities since the update to the Board of Forestry in March 2018. We address the compliance audit, two monitoring projects assessing effectiveness of streamside protections, and other Unit work.

CONTEXT

The Board's 2011 Forestry Program for Oregon supports an effective, science-based, and adaptive Oregon Forest Practices Act (FPA) as a cornerstone of forest resource protection on private lands in Oregon (Objective A.2). The discussion of Goal A recognizes that the FPA includes a set of best management practices to ensure that forest operations meet state water quality standards. The Board's objectives also promote management practices that protect forest soil productivity from losses due to human-induced landslides, soil erosion, and soil compaction (Objective D.8). The Board's guiding principles and philosophies includes a commitment to continuous learning, evaluating and appropriately adjusting forest management policies and programs based upon ongoing monitoring, assessment, and research (Value Statement 11). The Board has also adopted administrative rules that emphasize effectiveness monitoring for riparian management areas, landslides and public safety, and pesticides.

BACKGROUND

At their March 2018 meeting, the Board received a general update on Private Forests monitoring activities. Topics included: a compliance audit annual report, implementation of voluntary measures, progress report on analyses for Riparian Function and Stream Temperature (RipStream) project, Trask Watershed Road Sediment study, scoping of monitoring questions in the eastern Oregon and Siskiyou geographic regions, and the monitoring strategy.

ANALYSIS

High-priority Forests Practices monitoring projects over the last six months include (see Attachment 1 for details):

- Completion of the 2017 compliance audit annual report (Attachment 2), plus progress on development of the next phase of the audit.
- Siskiyou Streamside Protections Review: Initiation of an effectiveness monitoring project in the Siskiyou geographic region. This project assesses sufficiency of streamside rules to meet desired future conditions, and stream temperature and shade. The assessment is based on scientific literature. We methodically include stakeholders and Tribes in the process (Attachment 3).
- Western Oregon Streamside Protections Review: Initiation of an effectiveness monitoring project in western Oregon. This project assesses sufficiency of streamside rules in western Oregon (excluding the Siskiyou georegion) to meet desired future conditions for streamside vegetation and large wood in streams. This assessment is based on field data, scientific literature, and possibly modeling. We methodically include stakeholders and Tribes in the process (Attachment 4).

Unit personnel have also been involved in various other duties as assigned.

RECOMMENDATION

This agenda item is informational only.

ATTACHMENTS

- (1) Forest Practices Implementation and Effectiveness Monitoring Update
- (2) Forest Practices Compliance Audit: 2017 Annual Report
- (3) Stakeholder and Tribal Involvement in Siskiyou Streamside Protections Review
- (4) Timeline for Western Oregon Streamside Protections Review