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Oregon Board of Forestry
2600 State Street
Salem, Oregon 97310

Members of the Board of Forestry:

At your September meeting, I urged the Board to exercise restraint in making changes to the Forest Master Plan, lest the hard fought balance in values achieved by this Plan be disrupted. My purpose today is to address an item you will be discussing this after noon: Item 7, Issue Paper Overview: Adapting the Northwest and Southwest Oregon Forest Management Plan, Attachment 3.

Overall, I think this paper is an excellent recap of the major issues you must consider before deciding to make changes in the FMP. Given the constraints of time, I will focus my comments on "Structure-based Management (SBM) Efficiency" (Attachment 3, pg. 17 of 49). I think this issue is very important because of statements I have heard from county representatives about getting rid of Structure-based Management. Such an action would strike at the very heart of the FMP.

On the page referenced, data are given at the bottom which state that based on the 2005 Timber Harvest Report, Private Industrial lands obtain 223 bf per acre, whereas the State forestlands obtain 431 bf per acre. Intuitively, these numbers did not seem correct or else 2005 was an anomaly. Therefore, I summarized the harvest data for the four northwest counties (Clatsop, Columbia, Tillamook and Washington) for 1994 to 2005 and calculated the board feet per acre for each county and total. The data are shown in the attached table. As you can see, I also summarized the private industrial timber output for the past six years.

The data on the attached table show the following:

1. The average volume of timber removed in the four counties has doubled the past six years compared to the previous six years: 95,513 mbf vs. 191,752 mbf.
2. The board feet per acre for the state harvest in the four counties was 369.9 bf/ac vs. 479.8 bf/ac for the forest industry state-wide.

3. The four county average "hides" the fact that the productivity of these counties vary widely:

Clatsop	612.3 bf/ac.
Columbia	940.8
Tillamook	232.9
Washington	439.2

One interpretation of these data is that three of the four counties are close to or exceeding the productivity of the state-wide industrial forestlands. The Tillamook forest, on the other hand, is still struggling to recover from devastating fires 60-70 years ago, a SNC infection that reduces yield, and an infrastructure that needs a lot of work. I do not consider Tillamook's productivity issues the fault of the Forest Management Plan or SBM. My concern with the data cited above is that the legislative pressure of recent years to "cut at the top of the range" has led to harvesting levels that exceed a sustainable level in Clatsop and Columbia counties.

Finally, I have asked the Board secretary to give each of you a copy of "Pulp Friction and the Management of Oregon State Forests," by Teresa Rice and Dr. Jon Souder. This article is based on a study the authors conducted for the Board of Forestry in 1997. (I have attaché a Table of Contents to this letter.) Even though it is 10 years old, I found their analysis of the issues very informative and timely. I hope you will consider their work as well as what I have presented here in your deliberations about the FMP.

Sincerely,


Carolyn Eady

Attachments

CC: M. Brown

COUNTYSTATE FORESTS PRIVATE INDUSTRIAL

Acres	COUNTYSTATE FORESTS			Total	State Total
	Clatsop	Columbia	Tillamook Wash.		
	148,023	6,506	313,928	49,877	6,000,000
YEAR	VOLUME REMOVED (mbf)				
1994	49,655	9,422	33,442	3,065	95,584
1995	47,643	3,478	20,047	8,135	79,303
1996	22,350	4,834	28,349	13,444	68,977
1997	61,205	1,408	44,229	13,064	119,906
1998	22,950	75	35,366	7,345	65,736
1999	53,654	4,012	70,929	14,982	143,577
Avg./Yr. bfac.	42,900	3,871	38,727	10,006	95,513
	289.6	595.1	123.3	200.6	184.3
2000	77,671	5,039	57,203	19,747	159,660
2001	68,252	7,822	68,661	31,527	176,262
2002	103,468	7,637	62,807	12,371	186,283
2003	123,712	2,288	65,923	18,937	210,860
2004	77,729	9,210	76,066	28,333	191,338
2005	93,011	4,730	107,849	20,523	226,113
Avg./Yr. bfac.	90,640	6,121	73,084	21,906	191,752
	612.3	940.8	232.9	439.2	369.9
					2,878,673
					479.8

Sources: Volume Removed in 1000's of board feet 1994-2005, ODF Web site
 Acreage: Oregon Forests Report 2005

**Pulp Friction and the Management of
Oregon's State Forests¹**

By Teresa A. Rice and Dr. Jon A. Souder

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¹ This article is based on a study the authors conducted for the Oregon Board of Forestry in the summer of 1997. It was published in J. Env'tl. Law and Litigation, Vol. 13, 1998.