

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item No:	6
Title of Issue:	State Forests Management - Issue 2 Objective #1 – Adapting the Forest Management Plans, Clatsop and Tillamook State Forests Strategies for the Achievement of the Performance Measures
Date of Presentation:	July 24, 2008
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SUMMARY

The purpose of this agenda item is to provide the Board with a status report of the on-going work to develop management strategies for the Clatsop and Tillamook State Forests that will achieve the Performance Measure (PM) targets.

CONTEXT

Following the adoption of PM targets for the Clatsop and Tillamook State Forests at the November 2007 meeting, the Board directed staff to develop management strategies for these forests that will achieve the PM targets and report these at the November 2008 meeting.

The Department has implemented a charter work plan to accomplish this work. At November's Board meeting staff will provide the Board with strategies for these two forests that strive to achieve high levels of all nine of the PM targets. Analysis will outline any changes to the forest management plan or implementation plans necessary to implement these strategies.

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

The charter work plan outlines the team to develop these strategies and analysis. The team is composed of Salem, Area, and District staff with a range of expertise e.g. operations, silviculture, wildlife (ODF and ODFW), planning, aquatic and riparian, roads and recreation. The team is using models to develop these strategies. The team has been working to update model input data and to develop model rules and goals to achieve the PMs.

The progress report will include:

1. H&H Model Operation. The Department has the capacity and ability to operate the H&H model and to replicate the results obtained previously. This verifies the model is being operated correctly. Staff are also improving the model outputs to allow assessments of the isolated impact of the updated data on the model results.

2. Species of Concern Selection. The ODFW Conservation Strategy's species list for the North Coast Range Ecoregion (Attachment 2) was finalized as the selected list of SOC species.
3. Inventory. Stand level inventory (SLI) imputation and new growth and yield tables are under development. The transition to imputed data for the yield tables has achieved one of the primary recommendations of the Scientific Peer Review of the H&H Model Project. The inventory has been updated through January 1, 2008.
4. Stand Structure Modeling. Refinements have been made to the algorithm used to characterize stand structure in SLI and forest modeling (Attachment 1). The results of this work will allow reporting the current stand structures by percent and acres with higher confidence than previous reports. This information will provide the Board a comparison of the updated current condition for the Clatsop and Tillamook State Forests with the information used last November to establish the performance measure target for wildlife habitat.
5. Landscape Design. Staff will present mapped draft landscape designs for achieving 17-20% Complex Structure (20% mapped) for each district, state forest, and the aggregate of the Clatsop and Tillamook state forests. The results of this work (by November) will allow analysis and reporting on the differences (pace, functionality for wildlife and financial tradeoffs) of striving to reach this performance measure target at each landscape scale.

NEXT STEPS

September 4, 2008: The Board will receive an update on the status of the Clatsop and Tillamook charter work plan at the September Board tour on the Clatsop State Forest.

November 6, 2008: Staff will report to the Board the results of the Clatsop and Tillamook State Forest Strategies for the Achievement of the Board of Forestry Performance Measures. The report will include recommended strategies and an analysis of how these strategies are likely to affect the nine Performance Measures. In addition, the report will identify what changes would need to be made to the FMP or Implementation Plans in order to implement these strategies. The Board may:

- Direct the Department to implement these strategies, and if necessary, start the process for revising the FMP; or
- Adjust the Performance Measures and direct the Department to develop strategies to achieve the adjusted Performance Measures.

ATTACHMENTS

- (1) Stand Structure Algorithm Revision Report
- (2) ODFW Conservation Strategies Species List for the North Coast Range Ecoregion