

Agenda Item No:	7
Title of Issue:	State Forests Management - Issue 2 Objective #1 – Adapting the Forest Management Plans
Date of Presentation:	July 24, 2008
Contact:	Barbara Lee
Title:	State Forests Planner
Contact Information:	503-945-7354 bjlee@odf.state.or.us

SUMMARY

The purpose of the agenda item is to provide an update to the Board on the status of the performance measure report development for November 2008, and to provide an opportunity for Board discussion and input.

CONTEXT

The Board is operating under a “continuous improvement” approach for the State Forests Division that includes a biennial report on performance measures. The nine performance measures span the breadth of the economic, environmental and social outcomes to be provided under greatest permanent value (GPV) for Board of Forestry Lands, as defined in statute and administrative rules. The performance measures are a key tool for the Board to regularly evaluate whether or not outcomes of the forest management plans are achieving GPV.

BACKGROUND

The nine State Forests Program performance measures were adopted by the Board on March 7, 2007. At the time of adoption, the performance measures and associated metrics varied in their readiness – some took advantage of existing data that could be reported on, while others required new data sources. During performance measure development the Department identified 33 metrics to support the nine performance measures.

During the June 2007 Board meeting, a performance measure report was presented to the Board along with a summary of the key results of an initial analysis of the performance measures. The Department reported on 21 of the 33 metrics. The Department recommended dropping three of the metrics, one due to a lack of good data and two because they were redundant to other metrics. Board discussion led to the exclusion of one additional metric.

At the November 2007 meeting, the Board established targets for the performance measures specific to the north coast district. For six of the performance measures, targets were established that were either general in nature or identified the need for future work before more specific targets could be considered. These qualitative measures include: *Net Return on Asset Value* (#1); *Financial Contributions to Communities* (#2); *Forest Health* (#4); *Recreation* (#7); *Public & Stakeholder and Involvement* (#8); and *Oregonian’s*

Awareness & Support (#9). The remaining three performance measures had more quantitative targets established. These quantitative measures include: *Financial Contributions to Government Services* (#3); *Forest Road Risks and Fish Habitat* (#5); and *Wildlife Habitat* (#6).

Board discussions at the November meeting led to the identification of two possible measures or metrics that could be added to the suite of performance measures. These two concepts are being examined through and included in the work of the group charged with identifying what adjustments might be needed to forest management strategies on the Tillamook and Clatsop State Forests to meet the performance measure targets.

The Department has continued working on the performance measures and the 29 associated metrics, or units of data. Attachment 1 identifies the status of the metrics anticipated to be reportable in the November 2008 report. Staff has been working on addressing the identified limitations, and will be reporting on this work at the November 2008 Board meeting. The work conducted and/or begun to-date includes:

- ✦ Identifying data sources needed;
- ✦ Assessing whether the sources would be adequate to support the metrics;
- ✦ Determining the quality of that data and its availability (frequency, timing, etc.);
- ✦ Establishing data management and analysis methods;
- ✦ Assessing the feasibility of establishing quantitative targets for six of the measures;
- ✦ Assessing the applicability of using these nine measures and associated targets on forestlands outside the north coast area; and
- ✦ Developing a reporting format.

Additionally, staff has been developing a process within the Division's organizational structure to support this performance measure reporting function. This includes identifying what steps are required to occur within what time frame, and what positions will have responsibilities associated with this function. The work has also included assisting with the integration of these performance measures into the existing forest management planning, decision-making and review framework. This integration would help ensure these measures undergo ongoing review as new information becomes available and leads to changes when appropriate.

NEXT STEPS

The Department will present the Board of Forestry biennial Performance Report at the November 6, 2008 Board meeting.

Input received from the Board members at the November 2008 meeting will inform the Board's work planning for their 2009 Board Work Plan.

ATTACHMENT

(1) Table reflecting the anticipated status of Performance Measure data for the 2008 report.