

Agenda Item No.: C
Title and # of Issue: Forest Regulation – Issue #6
Objective # & Title: Objective 2 – Minimize Adverse Effects of Regulations
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SUMMARY

This is an update on the status of Water Protection Rule Concepts 3, 4 and 8.

CONTEXT

OAR 629-635-0200(13), Rule Concept 3 Water Classification - Riparian Management Areas Above Barriers to Fish Passage and OAR 629-640-0210, Rule Concept 4 - Leaving Green Trees and Snags Along Small Type N Streams Subject to Rapidly Moving Landslides, were adopted by the Board on September 6, 2006 with an implementation date of October 1, 2007.

Rule Concept 8 was last addressed by the Board on March 8, 2006 with direction to move forward with development of the technical rule elements (HAP, monitoring and implementation strategy), and evaluate if making those changes and implementing the concept would for consistency, necessitate technical or other adjustments to the desired future condition goal. An update on monitoring data collected to answer key questions regarding rule implementation feasibility was provided to the Board in April 2007 (Consent Agenda Item B).

BACKGROUND

Rule Concept 3 - OAR 629-635-0200 (13) Water Classification

Rule Concept 4 - OAR 629-640-0210 Leaving Green Trees and Snags Along Small Type N Streams Subject to Rapidly Moving Landslides

Guidance is currently being developed for the Water Classification Rule. Guidance is well developed for the Leave Trees for Landslides Rule and is currently being updated based on feedback from a number of Stewardship Foresters from across western Oregon. Feedback was generally favorable. Example plans for alternate practices are also being developed to complement the guidance and to ensure landowners and Stewardship Foresters have easy access to a number of options when meeting the requirements of the Leave Trees for Landslides Rule.

An adaptable model has been developed to produce screening maps for both rules. The model currently runs on 10-meter digital elevation models, but can be run using better quality data, such as LiDAR, as it becomes available. In addition, parameters can be adjusted to reflect performance observations. The model is functional, and samples will be available for review soon.

Next Steps

- Guidance and map samples released to a broad audience for input.
- Interested parties will be invited for a field review of the maps.
- Rule guidance and maps completed by the end of summer 2007.
- District training will be provided by staff.
- Staff will monitor the performance of the rules and revise guidance as necessary.

Rule Concept 8

The field validation project undertaken by the Monitoring Unit appears to show that the HAP concept has the potential for wide application. The preliminary results have been distributed and more discussion is anticipated to determine possible application techniques.

A literature review exploring the scientific assumptions behind the HAP concept and its correlation with the High Intrinsic Potential (HIP) concept coined by the Coastal Landscape Analysis and Modeling Study (CLAMS) has been drafted. This review will be circulated and augmented through review from stakeholders.

Next Steps

- Complete literature review.
- Share and discuss results with stakeholders.
- Develop a draft rule proposal.
- Discuss draft rule proposal with stakeholders.
- Based upon discussions, identify concerns and possible modifications.
- Do GIS and other analysis of the likely impacts and benefits of the draft proposal.
- Meet with interest groups, share and discuss modified draft, document concerns of interest groups and, where appropriate, incorporate input into draft proposal.
- Discuss draft and concerns with select members of the Board of Forestry (Chair Hobbs, members Craig and Hutchinson). Modify if necessary.
- Create draft concept for presentation to the Board. Seek approval for formal rulemaking or further work on the alternative.