

Agenda Item No: 3
Title of Issue: State Forests Management - Issue 2
Objective #1 – Adapting the Forest Management Plans
Date of Presentation: September 5, 2007
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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 suggestions to improve the performance of the Northwest and Southwest Forest Management Plans.

CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND

At the June 6, 2007 meeting, the Board directed the Department to develop suggestions to improve the performance of the Forest Management Plan (FMP) relative to achieving Greatest Permanent Value, using the following principles as a basis for the work. The Board also directed the Department to not feel constrained in exploring ways to meet the three principles:

- Improvement should seek to maintain or improve outcomes across economic, environmental and social measures.
- Improvements to the structure-based management concept should consider the utility of active and passive management, as well as the means to provide greater assurances around the achievement of complex structure in a timely manner.
- Improvements should explore ways to enhance financial performance.

Following the June meeting, the Department convened a FMP Options Development work group to develop feasible options for Board consideration at its November 2, 2007 meeting. Given the timeframe, the work group focused primarily on the north coast districts (Astoria, Forest and Tillamook), with the intention of further development and application across all affected districts in time. In addition, to the primary focus was initially on the stand structure percentages and landscape design strategies. It is anticipated that other strategies will be reviewed in a timely and systematic manner that will be outlined in the future with the Board.

ANALYSIS

Attachment 1 provides a summary of the initial options developed by the work group. Several scenarios were discussed amongst a diverse group of district, area and Salem staff prior to deciding to further refine the three outlined in the attachment. Further analysis will follow between now and November to compare and contrast the potential performance of the three options in achieving Greatest Permanent Value. This analysis will include the development of new model runs to the extent feasible.

ACTIONS REQUESTED

During this meeting the Board will review and consider the status of the work to date and provide feedback that will assist the Department in further refining and analyzing the options.

NEXT STEPS

The Department will incorporate any feedback from the Board and will present options for improving the FMP to the Board at its November 2, 2007 meeting.

ATTACHMENT

(1) Draft Alternatives for Improving Performance of the FMP