

# NEWS

Oregon Department of Forestry  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Jeff Foreman, (503) 945-7506**

## **Comment period on annual plans for state's public forests runs from Feb. 14 to March 30**

A public comment period on Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) annual operations plans for state-managed forestlands begins Feb. 14.

Written comments on the 2007-08 plans will be accepted until 5 p.m. March 30. Annual operations plans identify and describe specific projects such as timber sales, road maintenance, stream enhancement and recreation projects on state-managed public forests.

Annual operations plans will be available Feb. 14 at each district office, area ODF offices in Forest Grove, Roseburg and Prineville, at the Salem headquarters, and on the ODF Web site at [http://egov.oregon.gov/ODF/STATE\\_FORESTS/2008\\_AOP\\_Draft.shtml](http://egov.oregon.gov/ODF/STATE_FORESTS/2008_AOP_Draft.shtml).

Plans can also be requested from ODF planning specialist Roger Welty in Salem. Comments also may be sent to him or to any of the nine ODF districts with state forestland. Welty can be reached by phone (503) 945-7258) or e-mail at [rwelty@odf.state.or.us](mailto:rwelty@odf.state.or.us).

*(Note: The nine districts and their contact information appear later in this news release.)*

After public comments have been considered and any changes made, district foresters will approve the annual operations plans for their districts. The annual operations plans under review are for the period from July 2007 through June 2008.

The 2007-08 timber harvest levels for Tillamook and Clatsop state forests are projected to total 186.3 million board feet (mmbf), about the same as the current year. The Tillamook and Clatsop state forests comprise 500,000 acres of the total 780,000 acres of state-managed public forestland.

Total harvest volume for all nine districts is projected to be 250 mmbf. A board foot is a unit of wood that measures a foot square and an inch thick. There are about 13,000 board feet of framing lumber in an average house.

All state-managed public forests are actively managed as working forests under management plans adopted by the Board of Forestry to provide economic, environmental, and social benefits to Oregonians. Most of the revenue from timber sales is distributed to county governments and local taxing districts, and to the Common School Fund to benefit schools throughout the state. From July 2005 to June 2006, timber revenue from state forestlands produced \$58 million for counties, local school and local taxing districts, and \$9.6 million for the Common School Fund.

The objectives in district annual operations plans are based on the goals and strategies found in the long-range forest management plans.

The *Northwest Oregon State Forests Management Plan* provides guidance for the 616,000 acres in the following districts: Astoria (Clatsop State Forest), Tillamook (western two-thirds of the Tillamook State Forest), Forest Grove (eastern one-third of the Tillamook), Cascade (Santiam State Forest), West Oregon (scattered tracts in Benton, Polk and Lincoln counties), and Western Lane (scattered tracts in Lane County).

The *Southwest Oregon State Forest Management Plan* covers 18,000 acres of blocked and scattered lands in Josephine, Douglas, Curry and Jackson counties.

Each district covered by the *Northwest Oregon State Forests Management Plan* and *Southwest Oregon State Forest Management Plan* has a 10-year implementation plan that describes how the management activities will achieve the goals of the forest management plans. The implementation plans are posted on the ODF web site at [http://egov.oregon.gov/ODF/STATE\\_FORESTS/planning.shtml](http://egov.oregon.gov/ODF/STATE_FORESTS/planning.shtml)

The Coos District manages the 93,000-acre Elliott State Forest in Coos and Douglas counties under the *Elliott State Forest Management Plan*. The Klamath-Lake District uses the *Eastern Region Long-range Forest Management Plan* to manage 34,000 acres in Klamath County, including the 20,000-acre Sun Pass State Forest.

The comment period on annual plans is part of an ongoing public involvement process. It provides an opportunity for ODF districts to share their annual plans with the public. It also is a time for the public to ask questions and offer comments on the planned activities on state forestlands.

Public participation on state-managed forest issues – other than on annual plans – occurs throughout the year. Regularly scheduled meetings of the Board of Forestry, Forest Trust Land Advisory Committee and State Forests Advisory Committee have time set aside for public comments. At any time, questions or concerns may be directed to field and Salem staff, including the program director, Lisa DeBruyckere (503-945-7348), or public information officer Jeff Foreman (503-945-7506).

When reviewing and commenting specifically on an annual operations plan during this comment period, it may be helpful to use the less-technical summary document as a starting point. If questions arise, refer to the more detail-oriented pre-operations reports. Written comments providing the most useful suggestions should focus on one or more of the following:

- Enhancing the consistency of an annual plan with the forest management plan and (for districts covered by NW and SW plans) the district implementation plan.
- Improving the clarity of an annual plan.
- Providing new information that will affect an annual plan (such as location of a domestic water source or a cultural resource site).
- Improving the efficiency and effectiveness of an annual plan or planned operation.

Comments and questions may be sent to ODF district offices or the Salem headquarters. They also may be e-mailed to Salem (specific district should be identified) to [rwelty@odf.state.us](mailto:rwelty@odf.state.us). Addresses and fax numbers follow:

State Forests Program, Oregon Department of Forestry, Attn: Roger Welty, 2600 State St., Salem, OR 97310. Fax: 503-945-7376.

Astoria District (Clatsop State Forest), 92219 Hwy 202, Astoria, OR 97103. Fax: 503-325-2756.

North Cascade District (Santiam State Forest), 22965 North Fork Road SE, Lyons, OR 97358. Fax: 503-859-2158.

Forest Grove District (eastern one-third Tillamook State Forest), 801 Gales Creek Road, Forest Grove, OR 97116. Fax: 503-357-4548.

Tillamook District (western two-thirds Tillamook State Forest), 5005 East 3<sup>rd</sup> St., Tillamook, OR 97141. Fax: 503-842-3143.

West Oregon District (scattered parcels), 24533 Alsea Hwy, Philomath, OR 97370. Fax: 541-929-5549.

Western Lane District (scattered parcels), PO Box 157 (87950 Territorial Road), Veneta, OR 97487. Fax: 541-935-0731.

Southwest Oregon District (blocked and scattered parcels), 5375 Monument Drive, Grants Pass, OR 97526. Fax: 541-474-3158.

Coos District (Elliott State Forest), 63612 Fifth Road, Coos Bay, OR 97420. Fax: 541-269-2027.

Klamath-Lake District (Sun Pass State Forest), 3200 DeLap Road, Klamath Falls, OR 97601. Fax: 541-883-5555.

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