WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources

PETER GOLDMARK
Commissioner of Public Lands

February 1, 2013

MEMORANDUM

TO: Forest Practices Board

FROM: Mary McDonald, Acting Forest Practices Division Manager

SUBJECT: Adaptive Management Reform and Forest Biomass Rule Making

At your upcoming February 12 meeting, I will request your approval to begin the rule making process by filing a CR-101 Preproposal Statement of Inquiry with the Office of the Code Reviser. This will inform the public of possible rule making that will reform the adaptive management program based on the Settlement Agreement regarding the Forest Practices Habitat Conservation Plan and to implement the recommendations of the Forest Practices Biomass work group.

Based on Policy consensus, staff will request the Board to inform the public of possible rule making to reform the Adaptive Management Program rules. This reflects a number of changes as outlined in the Settlement Agreement that are needed in the Adaptive Management Program.

The Forest Practices Biomass Working Group recommended rule changes at your August 2012 meeting. These changes include adding a forest biomass definition and amending the existing "forest practice" definition. At that time a decision was made to incorporate the biomass rule making changes with another rule making. Therefore, I recommend that this rule making begin along with the adaptive management reform rule making.

I look forward to seeing on February 12. If you have any questions in the meantime, please contact Marc Engel at 360-902-1390 or marc.engel@dnr.wa.gov.