WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources

PETER GOLDMARK
Washington State Commissioner of Public Lands

MEMORANDUM

TO: Forest Practices Board

FROM: Jim Hotvedt, Adaptive Management Program Administrator

DATE: January 28, 2014

SUBJECT: Status of CMER LEAN pilot projects and other reports

LEAN pilot projects

Recommendations for improving CMER processes for developing study designs were presented to the Forest Practices Board at your February 2012 quarterly meeting. The recommendations resulted from a LEAN process improvement exercise. The consultant who facilitated the LEAN process improvement exercise recommended that the revised process be piloted before considering full implementation. As a result, the Board provided direction to CMER to initiate recommended scoping and study design process improvements on a few new projects.

CMER has initiated three projects using the recommendations from the LEAN process improvement exercise:

- Eastside type N riparian effectiveness project,
- Road prescription-scale effectiveness monitoring project, and
- Westside type F riparian prescription monitoring project.

CMER anticipates initiating an additional project soon using the LEAN process:

- Unstable slope criteria project: an evaluation of hillslopes regulated under Washington forest practices rules.

CMER initiated the eastside type N riparian effectiveness project early last year. As with any new process, tweaks were necessary once the project was started. Changes occurred with the task of forming initial writing teams and when the TFW Policy Committee would provide input and approval on scoping questions and alternatives for accomplishing project objectives. This is all to say that getting the first project off the ground and running took longer than expected.

One of the objectives of the LEAN process was to communicate with and obtain input from the Policy Committee earlier in the process of scoping. To date, the technical writing team for the eastside type N effectiveness project has been to the Policy Committee twice. The Policy Committee approved the project problem statement, critical questions, and objectives in mid-2013 and approved the technical writing team's recommendations for approaches to accomplishing the objectives at its November 2013 monthly meeting.

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CMER approved technical writing teams for the road prescription-scale effectiveness monitoring and westside type F riparian prescription monitoring projects at the end of 2013. Because of individual schedules and the Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday seasons, kick-off meetings for these two projects were delayed until January and February of this year.

One of the goals of the 2008 Forest Practices Adaptive Management Program strategic plan was to increase research capabilities and scientific knowledge. The primary objective under the goal was to strengthen and develop partnerships with other research organizations. CMER has been able to use the pilots as a way of strengthening and developing partnerships with other research organizations and individuals. The eastside type N riparian effectiveness project technical writing team includes a retired USDA Forest Service scientist from the Wenatchee lab. The road prescription-scale monitoring project includes a scientist from NCASI, a research scientist from the USDA Forest Service, and potentially a faculty member from the University of Washington. Finally, CMER is in discussion with another USDA Forest Service research scientist and a USGS scientist who is affiliated with the University of Washington regarding their interest in the westside type F riparian prescription project. The technical writing team for the project already has a critical mass of CMER-affiliated scientists, but is hoping to add at least one of the two scientists referred to above to the team.

Other

At your November quarterly board meeting, the TFW Policy Committee co-chairs referred to a CMER project status report that I provided to the Policy Committee in November 2013. Because Board members expressed interest in seeing the report, you will find attached an updated CMER project status report that will be submitted to the Policy Committee for their February 2014 monthly meeting. The table format resulted from completion of a CWA milestone.

In addition to the status report, you will also find attached a document highlighting CMER's 2013 accomplishments. This document is prepared at the end of each year as a means of celebrating SAG and CMER accomplishments over the year.

Attachments (2):

2013 CMER Accomplishments

CMER Budget:

- CMER projects stayed within projected 2013 budget
- CMER projects did not use the contingency fund to pay for project budget expenditures

Project Accomplishments:

- Wetland Literature Synthesis Report (WetSAG)
    - ❖ Completed SAG-approved draft report for CMER review and approval for submission to ISPR

- Bull Trout Overlay Temperature (Eastside Riparian Shade/Temperature) Project (RSAG)
    - ❖ Completed CMER-approved draft report for ISPR review

- Effectiveness of Riparian Management Zones in Providing Habitat for Wildlife: Resampling at the 10-year Post-treatment Interval, reanalysis of bird data (LWAG)
    - ❖ Completed SAG-approved draft report for CMER review and approval

- Stream-Associated Amphibian Response to Manipulation of Forest Canopy Shading (Buffer Integrity-Shade Effectiveness Project) (LWAG)
    - ❖ Completed CMER-approved draft report for ISPR review
    - ❖ Completed SAG-approved ISPR response matrix for CMER review and approval
    - ❖ Completed SAG-approved final report for CMER review and final approval

- Westside Type N Experimental Buffer Treatment – Hard Rock Study (LWAG/RSAG)
    - ❖ Developed a CMER-approved Coordinated CMER/SAG Review Memorandum (multi-chapter review process) to orchestrate a coordinated review of the report
    - ❖ Maintained/renewed access permits for all study sites
    - ❖ Worked with DNR to ensure continued access to two reference sites that were up for potential harvest in the next several years. DNR has agreed to postpone harvest of these study sites until FY2019
    - ❖ Worked with Hancock to post-pone as long as possible harvest of a third reference, now scheduled for 2016; however, market conditions could change this current harvest date
    - ❖ Conducted regular meetings with PIs (monthly or as needed) for development of final report and to promote consistency. Developed report formatting, glossary and definitions, acronyms, etc
    - ❖ Assigned SAG/CMER Reviewers for chapters 1-17 and developed a list of potential additional outside technical reviewers to support the CMER review process
    - ❖ Completed draft Chapters 1 through 4 (introduction and background, study design, management descriptions, unanticipated disturbance events) for CMER review. CMER comments submitted to PI for consideration

- ❖ Completed draft Chapters 5, 6, 8, and 9 for CMER. CMER comments submitted to PI for consideration
- ❖ Completed permit renewal process for in-stream sampling, including SEPA and HPA

- Tailed Frog Literature Review (LWAG/RSAG)
  - ❖ Completed CMER-approved draft report for ISPR review
  - ❖ Completed SAG-approved ISPR response matrix for CMER review and approval

- Mass Wasting Effectiveness Monitoring Project Report –The Mass Wasting Effectiveness Monitoring Project: A Post- Mortem Examination of the Landslide Response to the 2007 Storm in SW Washington (Post Mortem Final Study) (UPSAG)
  - ❖ Completed six questions/Findings Report (including minority opinions) for submission to TFW Policy

- Eastside Type N Buffer Effectiveness Study (TWIG)
  - ❖ Technical Writing and Implementation Group (TWIG) formed
  - ❖ Policy approval (with motion) of Study objectives, problem statement, and critical research questions refined by TWIG and presented to Policy for approval
  - ❖ Scientific merits of best available science and alternative approaches to addressing the study objectives presented to and approved by CMER and Policy
  - ❖ Study design alternatives presented to and approved by CMER and Policy

- Eastside Type N Characteristics Forest Hydrology Project (SAGE)
  - ❖ Completed draft report for SAG review and approval

- Eastern Washington Riparian Assessment Project (EWRAP) (SAGE)
  - ❖ First draft of chapters 1, 2, and 3 submitted to SAGE for review

- Hardwood Conversion Project (RSAG)
  - ❖ Preliminary draft of CMER report submitted to RSAG for review

- ❖ Eastside Type F Extensive Status and Trends Monitoring Report
  - ❖ Completed final report for CMER review and approval
  - ❖ Completed and submitted a Findings Report to Policy

LEAN Process Improvement:

- CMER initiated projects to pilot the new process for developing study designs
  - ❖ Eastside Type N Buffer Effectiveness Study (TWIG formed and active)
  - ❖ Road Prescriptions BMP Monitoring (IWT and TWIG formed)
  - ❖ Westside Type F Buffer Effectiveness (IWT and TWIG formed)

Field Work:

- Westside Type N Experimental Buffer Treatment Study - Hard Rock
    - ❖ Completed field work for extended sampling effort
- Westside Type N Buffer Characteristics, Integrity and Function (BCIF) Project
    - ❖ Completed field work for extended sampling effort
- Westside Type N Buffer Effectiveness Study - Soft Rock
    - ❖ Collected second year of pre-harvest data
- Eastside Type F Riparian Prescription Monitoring (Bull Trout Add On)
    - ❖ Completed field work on two sites

RFPs/RFQQs:

- Forest Practices and Wetlands Systematic Literature Review amendment completed

CMER Monthly Science Sessions

- Kathy Dube', Road Sediment Models
- AJ Kroll, Hypothesis Testing
- Bob Danehy, Roads BMPs
- Ken Pierce, National Agriculture Imagery Program (NAIP) Presentation
- George McFadden and others, Remote Sensing Workshop

Work Plan Review and Revisions:

- 2014 Work Plan and budget: Completed and approved by CMER, Policy, and Forest Practices Board

Protocols and Standards Manual

- Developed and approved "Use of Non-CMER Science in the Forest Practices Adaptive Management Program" document
- Revised and approved changes to Chapters 4,5, and 6 of CMER's Protocols and Standards Manual (chapters 1-6 now revised and approved)

CMER Data Information Management:

- New and historical scoping documents, study designs, reports, maps, and data collected and forwarded to NWIFC by SAGs, PMs, and others for new projects to be included in the CMER Data Information Management. Approximately 200 new documents found.

CMER Administration

- CMER monthly agendas consistently developed and sent out on time
- Continued leadership/facilitation by SAG and CMER co-chair volunteers
- Voluntary coordination within SAGs when co-chairs or PM is absent from meetings
- CMER agendas and minutes and reports loaded on the AMP web site

CMER PROGRAM PROJECT STATUS SPREADSHEET

	CMER Project Planning Initiated (Milestone)	CMER Approved Scoping Paper (Milestone)	Research Questions, Objectives, Data Needs, Options, and BAS identified (Task)		Scoping Paper Approved for CMER Review (Task)		CMER Approved Scoping Paper (Task)		CMER Approved Final Study Design (Milestone)	Study Design Drafted and Approved (Task)		CMER Approved Study Design (Task)		ISPR Review of Study Design, Matrix, CMER Approval (Task)		CMER Approved Final Study Design (Task)		Final Study Plan to policy (Milestone)	Contract completed (Milestone)		Field Research Completed (Milestone)	Field Manual Completed (Task)		QA/QC methods & Plan Complete (Task)		Site selection Completed (As Applicable) (Task)		Data Collect Field Work Completed (Task)		Approval of Database (Task)		CMER Approved Final Project Rpt. Complete (Milestone)	Data Analysis, Including Statistical Analyses (Task)		SAG Approved Project Report (for CMER review) (Task)		CMER Approved Project Final Report (For ISPR Review) (Task)		ISPR Review of Project Report Complete w/ Completed Comment Matrix (Task)		CMER Approved Final Report (Task)		SAG/CMER Findings Report Completed (Task)		Final Report to policy (Milestone)	General Status Comments
Estimated Timeframe (Months)	7 M	7 M	4 M		2 M		1 M		18 M	6 M		2 M		8 M		2 M		1 M	4 M		15 + M	3 M		3 M		5 M		PROJECT SPECIFIC		4 M		25 M	5 M		4 M		3 M		8 M		2 M		3 M		1 M	
				Finsh	START	FINISH	START	FINISH		START	FINISH	START	FINISH	START	FINISH	START	FINISH		START	FINISH		START	FINISH	START	FINISH	START	FINISH	START	FINISH	START	FINISH	START	Start	Finsh	START	FINISH	START	FINISH	START	FINISH	START	FINISH	START	FINISH	FINISH	
TYPE N RULE GROUP																																															
WWA Type N Buffer Characteristics Integrity and Function (BCIF) - Re-sample			N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A					N/A		N/A	N/A				Oct-13	Nov-13	Feb-14															Extended sampling field work completed September 2013. Data input, QA/QC, and analysis underway.
Type N Experimental Buffer Treatment - Hard Rock																																	May-14	May-13	Feb-14	May-13	Jul-14									CWA 2014	Coordinated review schedule set by chapter. Complete full draft of report likely in Spring 2014.
Type N Experimental Buffer Treatment - Hard Rock - Amphibian Genetics Component																												FY2016																		CWA 2014	Part of original hard rock study design; need a second generation of the population for genetics component
Type N Experimental Buffer Treatment - Hard Rock - Amphibian Demographics & Channel Metrics			N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A					N/A						FY2013	FY2019																	Extended field sampling proposed for Amphibian Demographics FY18, FY19. Extended Field sampling for Channel Metrics FY13, 14, 17, 18 and 19.
Type N Experimental Buffer Treatment - Hard Rock - Extended Sampling - Temp/ Sediment/ Veg./ Litter Fall			N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A					N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Apr-13	FY 2019																	Extended field sampling: FY13, 14, 18 and 19.
Type N Experimental Buffer Treatment - Soft Rock									CWA 2010												CWA 2011								FY 2017																		CWA 2018	Pre-harvest sampling FY 2013-2014, 2-year post-harvest sampling FY 2015-2017, Data analysis 10/2016 - 12/2017, and CMER approval Winter 2018.
EWA Type N Characterization - Forest Hydrology																		Apr-10																	Mar-14												Full draft report for review and approval in SAGE. Deadline for SAGE comment Jan 31,2014
EWA Type N Riparian Effectiveness		CWA 2010						Nov-13	CWA 2012												CWA 2013																										CWA 2019	Best Available Science review and recommended alternatives approved by Policy November 2013
WWA Type N Buffer Integrity - Shade Effectiveness (Amphibians)																								N/A	N/A																		Dec-13				CWA 2012	ISPR response matrix and revised report submitted for CMER review November 2013. Discussions under way about approaching an ISPR reviewer for clarification of review comments.
WWA Amphibians in Intermittent Streams	Project On Hold	CWA 2015							CWA 2017																																						Settlement Agreement scheduled start date FY 2016 with an anticipated end date of 2025 (final report). This project is on hold until the Hard Rock Rpt. completed to determine if needed.
Extensive Riparian Status & Trends Monitoring - Temp., Type N Eastside (Baseline)	Project On Hold																									2014																					On Hold. In discussion at Policy
Extensive Riparian Status & Trends Monitoring - Veg., Type N West & Eastside (Baseline)	Project On Hold									2019																																					On Hold. In discussion at Policy
TYPE F RULE GROUP																																															
EWA Riparian Assessment Project (EWRAP)		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A							Apr-14											Completed SAGE review of Sections 1, 2 & 3 of draft report. Section 4 is being drafted for review by SAGE in April 2014.
WWA Type F Riparian Prescription Monitoring		CWA 2014	Jan-14	Mar-14																																											TWIG members approved by CMER. CMER members of TWIG have begun work on review of critical questions and testable problem statement to guide development of study design.
EWA Bull Trout Overlay Temperature (Riparian Shade/Temperature)																																							Mar-14						CWA 2011	Completion of ISPR response matrix and drafting final report has started. Anticipated completion March 2014. Completion of final report delayed to address supplemental comments on statistical analysis.
EWA Type F Riparian Effectiveness Monitoring (BTO Add-on)																												May-06	Aug-14																		Two sites surveyed in 2013 and QA of data in process. One site remains to be surveyed in 2014. Once done the 5-year Post Harvest Survey work will be complete, and NWIFC CMER staff will begin data analysis in 2014.
Riparian Hardwood Conversion																																		Jul-13	Mar-14											CWA 2009	Draft report reviewed by RSAG. Authors are currently addressing reviewer comments.
Extensive Riparian Status and Trends Monitoring - Temperature - Type F Westside, Type N Westside																										CWA 2015												Mar-14									CMER review of draft report has been completed. Revisions based on CMER comments expected in winter-spring 2014. A determination if this project will go though ISPR needs to be made by Policy.
Extensive Riparian Status and Trends Monitoring - Temperature - Type F Westside & Eastside (Re-sample)	Project On Hold									2019																																					On Hold. In discussion at Policy
Extensive Riparian Status and Trends Monitoring - Vegetation - Type F Westside & Eastside (Baseline)	Project On Hold																																														On Hold. In discussion at Policy

CMER PROGRAM PROJECT STATUS SPREADSHEET

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Estimated Timeframe (Months)	7 M	7 M	4 M		2 M		1 M		18 M	6 M		2 M		8 M		2 M		1 M	4 M		15 + M	3 M		3 M		5 M		PROJECT SPECIFIC		4 M		25 M	5 M		4 M		3 M		8 M		2 M		3 M		1 M	
				Finsh	START	FINISH	START	FINISH		START	FINISH	START	FINISH	START	FINISH	START	FINISH		START	FINISH		START	FINISH	START	FINISH	START	FINISH	START	FINISH	START	FINISH	START	Start	Finish	START	FINISH	START	FINISH	START	FINISH	START	FINISH	START	FINISH	FINISH	
UNSTABLE SLOPE RULE GROUP																																																
Unstable Slopes Criteria Evaluation and Development	Project On Hold	CWA 2012							CWA 2013												CWA 2014																											Selection of the initial writing team to occur Winter 2014
Mass Wasting Landscape Scale Effectiveness	Project On Hold	CWA 2010							CWA 2011																																							Settlement Agreement scheduled start date is 2015 for scoping.
ROADS RULE GROUP																																																
Roads Subbasin Effectiveness (Resample)	Project On Hold																											2021																			CWA 2018	
Road Prescription-Scale Effectiveness (BMP) Monitoring		CWA 2013		Jan-13																																											CWA 2018	The TWIG members were approved at CMER Oct. 2013. Anticipated start date of TWIG Feb. 2014
WETLANDS RULE GROUP																																																
Wetlands Systematic Literature Synthesis										N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A					N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A			Mar-13								CWA 2012	Complete Draft Report delivered to CMER for review and comment Oct. 2013. Comments forwarded to Contractor for consideration Jan. 2014
Wetland/Stream Water Temperature Interactions	Project On Hold	CWA 2012																																														On hold until the Wetland Strategy is completed.
Forested Wetlands Effectiveness Study	Project On Hold	CWA 2013							CWA 2014																																							On hold until the Wetland Strategy is completed.
Wetlands Management Zone Effectiveness Monitoring	Project On Hold	CWA 2011																																														On hold until the Wetland Strategy is completed.
Wetlands Program Research/Monitoring Strategy	CWA 2013			Apr-14						N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A							WetSAG will be working on the first draft of the strategy report with consultant Winter/Spring 2014
WILDLIFE RULE GROUP																																																
RMZ-Resample (Birds)																																						Jan-14										A draft report has been reviewed by CMER. A request to CMER has been made to forward report to ISRP
NEW PROJECTS/NOT SCOPED																																																
Wetland Hydrologic Connectivity	Project On Hold																																															CWA project not on CMER Master Project Schedule or Forest Practice Board budget sheet (FY14-22)
Watershed Scale Assessment of Cumulative Effects	Project On Hold	CWA 2015							CWA 2017												CWA 2018																											

Table Legend (Colors):

Committee Assigned	Note: This color is provided to emphasis the column that communicates which science committee is currently responsible for overseeing the completion of the project.
Project Milestone	Note: The milestones are located in the spreadsheet before the respective tasks for that milestone. The estimated timeframe of the milestones is the total months to complete the tasks for the respective milestone. Or, the total of all of the months it takes to complete the subtasks that follow the milestone.
Task completed	Note: The spreadsheet represents the projects in the program in a linear fashion. The reality is that some of the tasks occur simultaneously. The timeframe provided in months is for reference purposes and as a gauge to determine how long it could be if the project moves through its lifecycle in an a typical fashion.
Project Milestone/Task not applicable to the project	Note: The N/A represents the tasks within the lifecycles of the project that were not applicable to that project. The reason for the task not being completed is different for each project and therefor not provided in the table.
Current Lifecycle Phase of the Project	Note: This color respresents the current phase of the project.
Clean Water Act Milestone	Note: This color represents a CWA milestone and in most cases there is a note provided on that milestone or tasks that provides the current status as provided in the lastest quarterly update by DOE (7/22/13).
Anticipated Start Date	Note: The year in the cells with no color represents the fiscal year that milestone or task is intended to start work. This is based on the FY 2014-2022 Adaptive Management Program Budget (May 2013-Board Approved).

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources

PETER GOLDMARK
Commissioner of Public Lands

MEMORANDUM

January 22, 2014

TO: Forest Practices Board

FROM: Marc Ratcliff
Forest Practices Policy and Services Section

SUBJECT: Board Manual Development update

Board Manual development for 2014 includes the following:

In August 2011, staff initiated a meeting to discuss potential improvements required to update all sections of the Board Manual. DNR recognizes the importance in these discussions and staff plans to convene a stakeholder meeting in March to re-visit the list of potential amendments and the technical aspects for all sections. The invitation will be extended to Policy Committee (Policy) representatives at the February Timber, Fish and Wildlife (TFW) Policy meeting.

Board Manual Section 22, *Guidelines for Adaptive Management Program* - At their August 2013 Board meeting, the Board approved amendments to this section resulting from the 2012 settlement agreement. Policy had identified a number of additional amendments for program clarification that, due to time constraints, were not finalized prior to the August Board meeting. Staff plans to convene a stakeholder group beginning in March with the goal to present an amended section to the Board for review and approval at their November 2014 meeting.

Board Manual Section 23, *Guidelines for Field Protocol to Locate Mapped Division between Stream Types and Perennial Stream Identification*, Part 2 - DNR is waiting for the Policy Committee to bring forward a wet season method for locating the upper most point of perennial flow (UMPPF) in Type N waters. Staff is delaying review of Part 2 until Policy decides on the guidance needed for locating the type break between Ns and Np waters.

Board Manual Section 7, *Guidelines for Riparian Management Zones* – Staff will convene a stakeholder group to assist DNR in the review of this section to coincide with the development of clarifying language in the RMZ rules.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at 360.902.1414 or marc.ratcliff@dnr.wa.gov.

MR

January 21, 2014

MEMORANDUM

TO: Forest Practices Board

FROM: Walt Obermeyer, Compliance Monitoring Program Administrator

SUBJECT: Status of Compliance Monitoring

The 2012-2013 compliance monitoring data are currently being analyzed and the biennial Compliance Monitoring report is currently being composed. The Stakeholder committee will have an opportunity to review and comment on the draft in the spring of 2014. Publication of the final report is expected prior to the August 2014 Board meeting when report contents will be discussed with Board members.

The Compliance Monitoring Program is currently responding to executive direction to assess and complete program design changes before beginning the 2014 field sampling season. A January 6, 2014 memo to the Compliance Monitoring Stakeholder committee states "*The objectives of the assessment and redesign project, beyond continuing to fulfill the requirements of WAC 222-08-160(4), are to:*

- *Maintain or improve current statistical confidence in reported compliance figures for commonly used prescriptions, and improve confidence in rarely used prescriptions;*
- *Provide improved utility and accuracy for rate-of-compliance figures for riparian management zone prescriptions, and other prescriptions if possible and warranted;*
- *Provide a statistically acceptable method of accounting for measurement and sample error tolerances;*
- *Improve detection of changes in compliance trends and their underlying causes over time; and*
- *Inform options for reapportioning resource focus to enable additional emphasis sampling, subsampling for noncompliance investigations, and training.*"

Compliance Monitoring Program staff have been engaged in program review since early December. Resumption of field sampling with revised methods is expected in late spring 2014.

Attachment

WO/

MEMORANDUM

January 6, 2014

TO: Compliance Monitoring Stakeholder Committee Members

FROM: Aaron Everett, Deputy Supervisor for Forest Practices AE

SUBJECT: Compliance Monitoring Program Update & New Initiatives

The purpose of this correspondence is to provide an update on the Forest Practices Compliance Monitoring Program (CMP), advise you of strategic initiatives that I have directed the CMP to investigate, and request your contributions toward improving the program at the appropriate time.

The CMP completed the 2013 sampling season on November 26th, and is analyzing data for the biennial report. The 2012-2013 sample included a design change to improve statistics for those prescription types which occurred less frequently. As a result of these changes the 2012-2013 field sampling will have examined nearly 350 FPAs. Considering an average of 250 working days per year, this means approximately one FPA reviewed every 1.4 days. The CMP expects to see some improvement in the statistical confidence for these prescriptions, as planned. The effects of the sheer number of FPAs in the sample, however, cause me to evaluate workload sustainability for the field coordinator, field review team, and Region staff. This, against the backdrop of continuing dialogue around the overall program, also served as an opportunity to examine whether the current design and priorities are achieving the greatest potential benefit.

Foremost, I expect that the CMP serves a central role in the accountability and integrity of the Forest Practices Program. Just as importantly, the CMP should function as a detection system for rule deviations that are not successfully intercepted by existing control systems, specifically measuring their statistical frequency and severity. For those patterns of deviations that are significant, the CMP should also be structured to assist in identifying field strategies toward continuous compliance improvement, in problem-solving related to specific prescriptions, and in identifying Forest Practices Rule or Board Manual provisions that may require clarification. Following the implementation of successful strategies, CMP should serve as the mechanism for recognizing compliance improvement.

The CMP has yet to fully evolve toward these expectations. I attribute this to three main causes: resource scarcity, strategic initiative, and the practical elements and demands of the sampling design. I have therefore directed CMP to assess and complete program design changes before beginning the 2014 field sampling season. The objectives of the assessment and redesign project, beyond continuing to fulfill the requirements of WAC 222-08-160(4), are to:

- Maintain or improve current statistical confidence in reported compliance figures for commonly used prescriptions, and improve confidence in rarely used prescriptions;
- Provide improved utility and accuracy for rate-of-compliance figures for riparian management zone prescriptions, and other prescriptions if possible and warranted;
- Provide a statistically acceptable method of accounting for measurement and sample error tolerances;
- Improve detection of changes in compliance trends and their underlying causes over time; and
- Inform options for reapportioning resource focus to enable additional emphasis sampling, subsampling for noncompliance investigations, and training.

Your review of the early assessment results will be requested at a February, 2014 meeting of the CM Stakeholder Committee. The CMP staff will have the assessment completed and any new protocols developed by the spring. Field testing of methodologies will immediately follow.

Matt Provencher, the CM Field Coordinator, has accepted a temporary assignment to lead this project. Walt Obermeyer will continue as the CMP Manager, leading analysis of the 2012-13 data, writing the biennial report, and reviewing design and protocol changes. The preparatory work for the 2014 field season, such as application screening and landowner contacts, is being conducted simultaneously.

c: Chris Hanlon-Meyer, Forest Practices Division Manager
Donelle Mahan, Forest Practices Assistant Division Manager, Operations
Walt Obermeyer, Compliance Monitoring Program Manager
Matt Provencher, Compliance Monitoring Program Field Coordinator

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources

PETER GOLDMARK
Washington State Commissioner of Public Lands

MEMORANDUM

January 28, 2014

TO: Forest Practices Board

FROM: Marc Engel, Assistant Division Manager, Policy and Services
Forest Practices

SUBJECT: Rule Making Activity and 2014 Work Plan

RMAP Clarification
Staff will at the February meeting request Board approval to file a CR-101 *Pre-proposal Statement of Inquiry* for rule making regarding road maintenance and planning. This first step of rule making provides the public with the subject of the rule making and allows DNR to assemble a stakeholder group for the development of rule language.

To provide adequate time for the preparation of rule language, cost benefit analysis, and Small Business Economic Impact Statement, staff I will request your approval to change the date for rule adoption to the November 2014 meeting.

SEPA Clarification and RMZ Clarification
Staff plans to request Board approval at the May meeting to file a CR-101 *Pre-proposal Statement of Inquiry* to initiate the rule making process for the SEPA and RMZ clarification rules. I will request your approval to change the completion date for rule adoption of the SEPA clarification to the November 2014 meeting.

The timeline for each rule making is attached along with a copy of your 2014 Work Plan.

The Work Plan reflects the Board's approved changes at the November 2013 meeting. The Work Plan now shows annual reports for the Northern Spotted Owl Conservation Advisory Group, Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly, and the Western Gray Squirrel to be presented at the May meeting; a revised completion date for Board Manual Section 7 from May to November and the addition of the hydraulic code comments from TFW caucuses.

On February 11th I will request the Board's approval to modify your Work Plan to reflect a completion date of November for the adoption of the RMAP and SEPA clarification rules, and a revised completion date for the Compliance Monitoring Biennial Report to August. All proposed changes are shown in italics on the attached Work Plan.

If you have any questions feel free to contact me at 360.902.1390 or marc.engel@dnr.wa.gov.

MDE
Attachment

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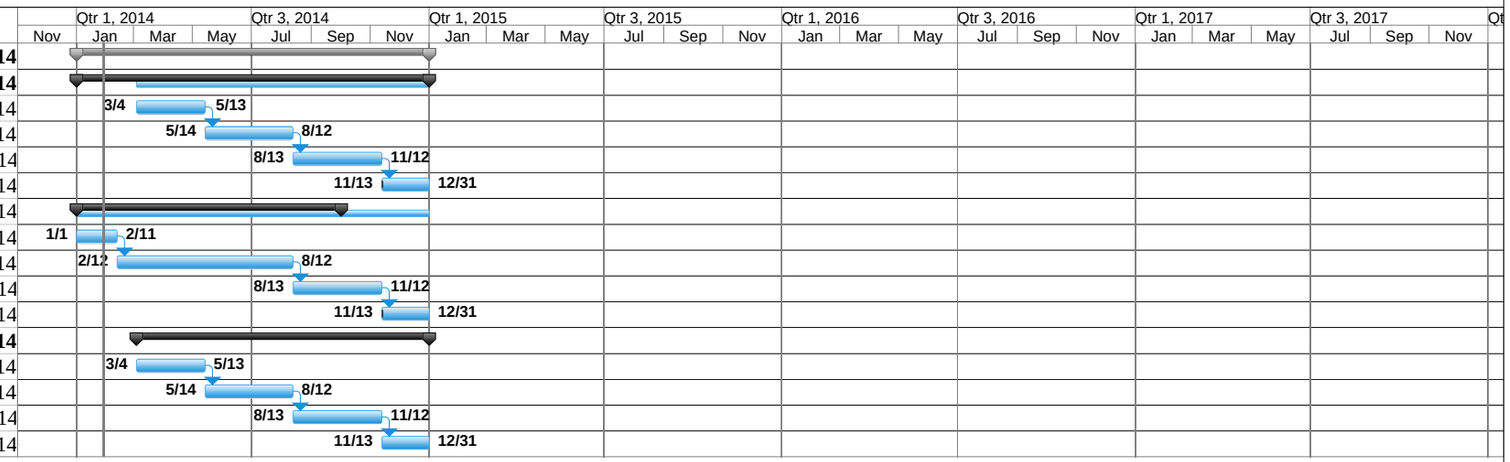
FOREST PRACTICES BOARD
2014 Rule Making Schedule

ID	Task Name	Start	Finish
0	**2014 Rule Making Schedule**	**Wed 1/1/14**	**Wed 12/31/14**
1	**WAC 222-16-080**	**Wed 1/1/14**	**Wed 12/31/14**
2	CR101	Tue 3/4/14	Tue 5/13/14
3	CR102 (CBA, SBEIS, SEPA)	Wed 5/14/14	Tue 8/12/14
4	CR103	Wed 8/13/14	Wed 11/12/14
5	Estimated effective date	Thu 11/13/14	Wed 12/31/14
6	**RMAP Clarification**	Wed 1/1/14	Wed 10/1/14
7	CR101	Wed 1/1/14	Tue 2/11/14
8	CR102 (CBA, SBEIS, SEPA)	Wed 2/12/14	Tue 8/12/14
9	CR103	Wed 8/13/14	Wed 11/12/14
10	Estimated effective date	Thu 11/13/14	Wed 12/31/14
11	**RMZ Clarification**	**Tue 3/4/14**	**Wed 12/31/14**
12	CR101	Tue 3/4/14	Tue 5/13/14
13	CR102 (CBA, SBEIS, SEPA)	Wed 5/14/14	Tue 8/12/14
14	CR103	Wed 8/13/14	Wed 11/12/14
15	Estimated effective date	Thu 11/13/14	Wed 12/31/14



FOREST PRACTICES BOARD
2014 WORK PLAN
Updated 2014

TASK	COMPLETION DATE/STATUS
Adaptive Management Program	
• CMER FY 2015 Work Plan and Budget*	May
• CMER Master Project Schedule prioritization*	May
• The Mass Wasting Effectiveness Monitoring Project: A Post Mortem Study Examination of the Landslide Response to the December 2007 Storm in Southwestern Washington*	February
• Program Funding	On-going
• Compilation of TFW Caucus Comments on Hydraulic Code Revision*	February
Annual Reports	
• Clean Water Act Assurances	August
• Compliance Monitoring Biennial Report	*August*
• Northern Spotted Owl Conservation Advisory Group	May
• Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly Report	May
• TFW Cultural Resources Roundtable including WAC 222-20-120	August
• TFW Policy Committee Priorities*	August
• Western Gray Squirrel	May
Board Manual Development	
• Section 7, Guidelines for Riparian Management Zones*	November
• Section 22, Adaptive Management Program*	November
• Section 23 (Part 2), Guidelines for Field Protocol to Locate Mapped Divisions Between Stream Types and Perennial Stream Identification	May
CMER Membership	As needed
Rule Making	
• RMAP Clarification	*November*
• RMZ Clarification	November
• SEPA Clarification	*November*
Upland Wildlife - Northern Spotted Owl	On-going
Quarterly Reports	
• Adaptive Management Program & Strategic Plan Implementation*	Each regular meeting
• Board Manual Development	Each regular meeting
• Compliance Monitoring	Each regular meeting
• Clean Water Act Assurances	February
• Legislative Update	February & May
• NSO Implementation Team	Each regular meeting
• Rule Making Activities	Each regular meeting
• Small Forest Landowner Advisory Committee & Office	Each regular meeting
• TFW Cultural Resources Roundtable	Each regular meeting
• TFW Policy Committee Work Plan Accomplishments & Priorities*	Each regular meeting
• Upland Wildlife Working Group	Each regular meeting
Work Planning for 2015	November

Italics = proposed changes
**= TFW Policy Committee*

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources

PETER GOLDMARK
Commissioner of Public Lands

MEMORANDUM

January 23, 2014

TO: Forest Practices Board

FROM: Tami Miketa, Manager, Forest Practices Small Forest Landowner Office

SUBJECT: Small Forest Landowner Office and Advisory Committee

Small Forest Landowner Advisory Committee (SFLAC)
The Small Forest Landowner Advisory Committee met on October 31 and December 19, 2013. Issues discussed included:

- Potential measures to improve small forest landowner's results from compliance monitoring.
- Landowner eligibility for the Forestry Riparian Easement Program

Forestry Riparian Easement Program (FREP)
DNR continues to receive new applications for the purchase of forestry riparian easements. There are currently a total of 107 FREP applications on file. For Fiscal Year 13-15 biennium the FRE program received $2 million and is planning on purchasing a total of 13 easements.

Rivers and Habitat Open Space Program (R&HOSP)
No activity in this program since last reporting period. However, the Legislature appropriated $500,000 to this program for the Fiscal Year 13-15 biennium.

Family Forest Fish Passage Program (FFFPP)
The FFFPP was allotted from the Legislature $2 million for the Fiscal Year 13-15 biennium. For the 2014 construction season, the FFFPP plans to use remaining funds (approximately $6 million) from the Jobs Now Act and a portion of the $2 million allotted for this biennium to eliminate 51 additional barriers.

Long Term Applications (LTA's)
The approval process for long-term forest practices applications is a two-step process. The first step, Phase 1, is the review and validation of the proposed harvest of the total area identified on the LTA; and the second step, Phase 2, is the resource protection strategies review and final approval of the application. In the past, this report has not identified LTA's that are in the Validation Phase. Considering this is an important step from Phase 1 to Phase 2, it is prudent to document these additional applications moving through the process. There are a total of 151 approved long term applications; which is an increase of 15 approved application since the end of the last reporting period (10/22/2013).

LTA Applications	LTA Phase 1	LTA Phase 2	TOTAL
Under Review	4	4	**8**
Validated	25	0	**25**
Approved	2	149	**151**
TOTAL	**31**	**153**	**184**

Forest Stewardship Program

DNR's Forest Stewardship Program provides professional natural resource advice and assistance to help family forest landowners manage their lands.

Education – DNR supports Washington State University Extension education programs for family forest owners which are attended by over 3,000 landowners annually. These educational program include:

Forest Stewardship Coached Planning Classes: This comprehensive university-based forestry class will help landowners get the most out of the land they love and achieve their objectives. This class offers course topics such as:

- How do you know if your trees are healthy? What should you do if they aren't?
- Are characteristics of your property attracting or repelling the wildlife you enjoy? What can you do if wildlife causes damage? How can you create and maintain wildlife habitat on your land?
- Are there certain trees you should always keep or remove? How do you remove trees without damaging your land?
- When selling logs, are you getting a fair deal?
- How do you find or grow edible berries or mushrooms? How do you cut holiday greens without hurting the tree?
- Are invasive and noxious weeds taking over your underbrush? What are the risks and what can you do about it?
- What kind of soil do you have and how does that affect what grows?

As part of this class the instructors will "coach" landowners in the writing of forest management plans that may qualify for property tax reductions or conservation cost-share grants. When: Class Sessions 6:00-9:00 p.m. Thursday Evenings, March 13 - May 1, 2014, Where: Thursday evening sessions will be held at the Rome Grange, 2821 Mt Baker Hwy, Bellingham, WA 98226. On-Line Coached Planning Classes: When: 6:00-9:00 p.m. Wednesday evenings, First half: April 23 - May 14, 2014, Second half: June 4 - June 18, 2014.

New On-Line Classes: Animal Damage Control: This module provides an overview of the wildlife species that most commonly damage trees. This includes those that damage seedlings as well as those that damage larger trees. This module also describes control strategies to reduce or eliminate some types of damage. Instructor: Jim Bottorff, wildlife biologist, WA DNR (retired)

Small Forest Landowner Outreach/Grant Applications

The Small Forest Landowner Office distributed the November and January issues of Small Forest Landowner News. The Small Forest Landowner Survey remains open with many small forest landowners continuing to complete the survey and subscribe to the Small Forest Landowner News.

As part of a quality improvement process, the SFLO recently analyzed the open and "click-through" rate for the last four Small Forest Landowner (SFLO) newsletters. What follows is a snapshot of our "open rate" (how many landowners opened the e-mail with the newsletter) and what our subscribers are reading ("click-throughs").

The newsletter's open rate has consistently ranged between 38% and 40%. Constant Contact reports an average of about 25% for government publications in general.

Content Popularity
Feature articles consistently have the highest "click-throughs", closely followed by regular features such as "Do You Own Forest Land" and listings for upcoming workshops.

	Click-throughs (average)				
Category	**July 2013**	**September 2013**	**November 2013**	**January 2014**	**Four Month Average**
Events/Classes	5.70%	3.05%	2.63%	1.55%	3.23%
Feature Articles	7.55%	6.16%	5.30%	8.44%	6.86%
Regular Features	4.98%	5.08%	5.52%	6.83%	5.60%
DNR Web Page	0.90%	2.10%		0.7%	1.23%
Misc. Web Link	0.10%		2.10%		1.10%
SFLO Survey on Survey Monkey	6.30%	8.40%		0.9%	5.20%
SFLO Web Page		1.20%		0.4%	0.80%
WSU Extension Web Page	0.70%	2.60%	0.50%		1.27%

While the popularity of the articles in each edition of the newsletters varies considerably, generally articles related to forest pests/bugs and money ranked the highest in popularity.

SFLO staff continues to interact with stakeholders at DNR Regional Timber Fish and Wildlife Meetings and attend Washington Farm Forestry Association Meetings to promote the program and answer landowner's questions. Staff recently attended the South Sound WFFA meeting to discuss enhancing aesthetics and recreation on small forest lands. The SWWA Landowner Assistance Forester also met with a class from Grays Harbor Community College to discuss how stewardship plans are created.

The SFLO recently developed a Southeast Region Landowner Assistance Outreach Plan directed at helping landowners address forest health issues and reduce wildfire danger on their lands. The outreach consisted of brochures for distribution, material support for community meetings community group support, press releases, and public service announcements.

Please feel free to contact me at (360) 902-1415 or tamara.miketa@dnr.wa.gov if you have further questions.

TM/

Cultural Resource Roundtable

January 21, 2014

MEMORANDUM

TO: Forest Practices Board

FROM: Timber/Fish/Wildlife Cultural Resources Roundtable Co-Chairs
Jeffrey Thomas, Puyallup Tribe of Indians
Karen Terwilleger, Washington Forest Protection Association

SUBJECT: Staff Report of Timber/Fish/Wildlife Cultural Resources Roundtable to the February 2014 Quarterly Forest Practices Board meeting

The TFW Cultural Resources Roundtable is pleased to submit this latest report to the Forest Practices Board.

Again, the report is in the form of the Roundtable's Action Item list. This list is reviewed quarterly by the Roundtable and updated here to reflect current activities. Changes from our previous report (dated November, 2013) are highlighted in red and italic print.

During the first six months of 2014, the Roundtable will focus on completing additional guidance for identifying cultural resources and complying with state law, reviewing training materials and discussing potential amendments to the Cultural Resources Protection & Management Plan and producing a new logo.

Please note:

- Beginning January 2014, The Roundtable will hold formal meetings every other month (January, March, May, July, September, and November) and informal work groups during the remaining months. We are maintaining momentum with email work sessions and in-person workgroups on specific issues between formal meetings.
- In 2014, Tribes will also continue to host our meetings at tribal offices around the state.

We look forward to your February meeting to answer questions or respond to Board requests. Please do not hesitate to contact one of us before the meeting.

jeffrey.thomas@puyalluptribe.com and (253) 405-7478

kterwilleger@wfpa.org and (360) 480-0927

Enclosure

T/F/W Cultural Resources Roundtable					*2/11/2014*	*Changes from the previous report are in Red or Italics*
Project Priority		**Action Items**	**Lead**	**Status**	**Next Action**	**Relationship to the CRPMP**
High	1	Seek funding and staff support for the Roundtable's work	Allyson Brooks	*On hold due to state budget situation*	*Identify needs and potential resources*	
High	2	Prepare the cultural resource guidance documents and tools as agreed to in the CRPMP		Target completion date: *Early 2014*		Educational Program and Commitments
		Scope the guidance/manual project to develop a detailed description and outline of the proposed guidance or manual.		Complete		
		Work products:1) Guidance for T/F/W stakeholders, 2) Guidance specific to forest landowners, and 3) Guidance specific to Tribes.	Jesse and Gretchen	In progress	Schedule work group in *February* to review completed drafts; prepare drafts on remaining sections	
		Post Roundtable guidance documents and other information and training material on the DNR Forest Practices web site		On going		
High	*3*	Follow the State Environmental Policy Act rule making by the Department of Ecology to draft rules to increase categorical exemptions.	Gretchen	*On going*	*Ecology is recommending that Cultural Resource be considered as one of three top priorities for Phase 2 rulemaking. The Roundtable will continue to monitor*	
High	4	Investigate opportunities to develop training workshop curricula *and presentation* for private industrial foresters.	Jeffrey Karen	Planning	*Schedule work group in 2014*	An education component of the CRPMP
Medium	5	Develop a Logo for the Cultural Resources Roundtable	Jeffrey *and dAVe*	In progress	Draft logo under review	Publicity

T/F/W Cultural Resources Roundtable						2/11/2014	*Changes from the previous report are in Red or Italics*
Project Priority	**Action Items**			**Lead**	**Status**	**Next Action**	**Relationship to the CRPMP**
Medium	6	CRPMP amendments to consider and further discuss:		All	Scoping	Members of the Roundtable will *provide suggestions for amendments after the guidance document task is completed.*	CRPMP Support
			Regarding MOUs, consider adding a statement specifying when DNR has a role in implementing MOUs and if there is a role, specifying its nature.				
			Under "Education Program and Commitments," modify #2 to recognize that agreements are often executed at the field level without the need for higher level contacts				
			Reference a role for the CRPMP in Forest Practices ID team deliberations and preparation of SEPA documents for Class IV Special FPAs	Jeffrey			
Low	7	Prepare a report to the Forest Practices Board on the impact to cultural resource protection and management when forest land is converted to another use and regulatory responsibility passes to local government (county or city)		Jeffrey and Karen	On hold	Wait for other higher priority items to be addressed	

T/F/W Cultural Resources Roundtable					2/11/2014	*Changes from the previous report are in Red or Italics*
Project Priority		**Action Items**	**Lead**	**Status**	**Next Action**	**Relationship to the CRPMP**
On-Going Tasks	1	The Roundtable will: (a) meet quarterly; (b) Report- to the FP Board at each regular meeting; (c) Review the CRPMP each year; (d) Report to the FP Board each August on progress of the CRPMP during the previous FY *(e) suggest recommendations for modification to CRPMP* .	Co-Chairs	FPB meeting *Feb 11* , Report due *Jan 21*		Annual & quarterly obligation
	2	Give a CRPMP presentation at Regional TFW meetings as new CRPMP support material is released.	All	Next opportunity for TFW presentations after the 20-120 rule and supporting manual is passed by the FPB		Communication
		Create a Roundtable presentation about the CRPMP and Roundtable activities with a singular message and bullet points	Jeffrey and Jesse			
	3	Maintain an annual calendar of recurring Roundtable tasks and functions and post on DNR's website. Include FP Board report due dates, DNR regional TFW meetings and upcoming training opportunities. Emphasize accomplishments when communicating progress on implementing the CRPMP. Post examples of successes and cooperative opportunities on the DNR Forest Practices web site.	Jeffrey	Planning	Select calendaring software	CRPMP Support; Communication
	4	Contact individual FP Board members to “champion” CR Roundtable issues	All	Collaborate with current FP Board members regarding cultural resources issues coming to the Board.		Advance the Roundtable's work
	5	Individual caucuses will continue to support funding for a **full time** position at DAHP for the maintenance of CR data in support of the forest practices risk assessment tool.	Individual Caucuses	Currently the position has 1/2 time funding	Next opportunity is the *2014* Legislature	DNR Forest Practices Program support
	6	Seek funding for a CR Module pilot project		On hold	Waiting for the next opportunity	Board Manual Section 11 Appendix J

T/F/W Cultural Resources Roundtable					2/11/2014	Changes from the previous report are in Red or Italics
Project Priority		**Action Items**	**Lead**	**Status**	**Next Action**	**Relationship to the CRPMP**
Completed Items	1	Cultural Resource Protection and Management Plan (CRPMP)		Completed 2003		
	2	Forest Practices Board adopted the rules recommended in the CRPMP		Completed 2005		
	3	Statutory exemption for sensitive cultural resource information gathered during a watershed analysis CR module or stand-alone CR module		Completed 2005		
	4	Updates to the CRPMP		Completed 2008		
	5	Recommendation to DNR staff and the Board for changes to the historic site definitions in Class III and Class IV Special definition to correct long standing interpretation issues		Completed 2008		
	6	A recommendation to include a cultural resource question on the Phase II 15-year small landowner permit application.		Completed Spring 2009		
	7	Draft a motion for the Forest Practices Board to request that the staff create a CR page on the Department's forest practices website		Complete (Board action was unnecessary)		
	8	With the support of the Commissioners Office, a Charter for the Timber/Fish/Wildlife Cultural Resources Roundtable (formerly known as TFW Cultural Resources Committee) delivered to the Forest Practices Board		Completed 2011		
	9	Consensus recommendation on changes to WAC 222-20-120 delivered to the Forest Practices Board		Completed 2011		
	10	As requested by the FPB, review and comment on a suggestion to amend 222-20-120 Sub-Section (3)(c))(i)		Completed 2011	Recommendation adopted by the Board in Feb, 2012	

T/F/W Cultural Resources Roundtable					2/11/2014	Changes from the previous report are in Red or Italics
Project Priority		**Action Items**	**Lead**	**Status**	**Next Action**	**Relationship to the CRPMP**
	11	Prepare a streaming video of Lee Stilson's lecture on cultural resources that typically may be found in Washington's managed forests		Completed May 2012		
	12	In time for the FY 2012 report to the FPB, develop a method for formally assessing the performance CRPMP in accomplishing its purposes as stated on page 1 of the plan.		Completed June 2012		
	13	Two new cultural resource links have been added to the DNR Forest Practices webpage. Roundtable agendas, notes and action item list are on the Forest Practices Board's webpage		Completed September 2012		
	14	Improve knowledge, understanding and use of the GLO, historic and current USGS quad maps and other publicly available information to identify historic features recognized during 19th century land surveys.		Completed October 2012		Making available tools to improve identification and recognition of cultural resources in the field
	15	Update the instructions for question 7 of the forest practices application.	Sherri	Completed October 2013	Draft submitted to DNR for inclusion in the next update of FPA Instructions.	This would be an edit to Appendix B of the Cultural Resources Protection and Management Plan

TFW Policy Committee
Forest Practices Board

P.O. Box 47012, Olympia, WA 98504-7012

Policy Co-Chairs: Stephen Bernath, Department of Ecology
Adrian Miller, Olympic Resource Management

January 24, 2014

TO: Forest Practices Board

FROM: Stephen Bernath, Co-Chair
Adrian Miller, Co-Chair

SUBJECT: Policy Committee Quarterly Update Q4 2013 retrospective, Q1 2014 forward look.

The Forest and Fish Policy Committee (Policy) continues to manage an increasing workload driven by both internal process deadlines as well as priorities directed by the Forest Practice Board (board). To accomplish this, Policy frequently schedules additional meetings beyond regularly scheduled monthly meetings to better address the issues and to meet completion deadlines. Policy continues to review and revise its Policy Work List to more effectively determine what might be accomplished during this and next calendar year.

<u>Existing Priorities</u>

- **Water Typing**
  - **Type N**
    - Policy continues to work on options for a wet season method to identify the uppermost point of perennial flow in Type N Waters. When completed, Policy will present this method to DNR for inclusion in Part 2, Board Manual Section 23.
  - **Type F**
    - Policy has concluded the second stage of the dispute resolution process without coming to consensus. Per WAC 222-12-045, the adaptive management administrator will report the majority and minority recommendations to the board at the February 2014 meeting.

- **Mass Wasting Effectiveness Monitoring Project**
  - Policy has nearly finalized recommendations in response to the Mass Wasting Effectiveness Monitoring Package at their January 2014 meeting. The recommendations are undergoing final review by all caucuses and we anticipate a decision at the February Policy meeting.

- Assuming Policy approval, Jim Hotvedt, the Adaptive Management Program Administrator, will report on the specifics of Policy's recommendations at the February Board meeting.

New Issues

- **Hydraulic Code rules revision**
  - The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) has, per RCW 77.55.361 and Appendix M of the Forests and Fish Report, presented their new proposed Hydraulic Code rules in chapter 220-110 WAC to the TFW Policy Committee for review. This review provides an adaptive management program review and comment to the WDFW Director prior to WDFW presenting draft final rules to the Fish and Wildlife Commission for rule adoption.
  - Policy at their November 2013 meeting decided to not send the revised rules through a formal adaptive management review process. Instead, caucuses may submit their comments to the adaptive management program administrator who will forward them to WDFW.
  - WDFW plans to initiate the CR-102 public review process in mid-May 2014. The final draft Hydraulic Code rules will then be presented to the Fish and Wildlife Commission in mid-2014, along with a cost-benefit analysis and a Small Business Economic Impact Statement (SBEIS) as part of the official rule adoption process.

Upcoming Work in 1st Half of calendar year 2014

- **CMER workplan and budget for FY 14, Policy will:**
  - Review the CMER Master Project Schedule and the associated CMER Work Plan in a 2 day-day meeting in March 2014
  - Review FY 2015 CMER budget in full-day meeting in April 2014
  - Make decisions and prepare board recommendations on all three elements at their April 2014 meeting
- **CMER studies coming to Policy** (timeline unknown at this point)

The Policy Committee workload is heavy, yet must also remain sensitive to the changes in various timelines and to new issues as they come up. The capacity for Policy to accept any new work as assigned by the Forest Practices Board, or taken on for other reasons, will require delaying existing priorities. Even considering the existing priorities will require scheduling additional meetings and may require (only by mutual agreement or further Forest Practice Board direction) changes to dispute resolution or timelines as outlined by the Board Manual.

cc: Forest Practice Board Liaisons
FFR Policy

State of Washington
Department of Fish and Wildlife

Mailing Address: 600 Capitol Way N, Olympia WA 98501-1091, (360) 902-2200, TDD (360) 902-2207
Main Office Location: Natural Resources Building, 1111 Washington Street SE, Olympia WA

February 11, 2014

MEMORANDUM

To: **Forest Practices Board**

From: **Terry Jackson, Forest Habitats Section Manager**

SUBJECT: **UPLAND WILDLIFE UPDATE**

The following is a summary of new and ongoing state and federal activities related to upland wildlife in forested environments.

Western Gray Squirrel

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) staff continues to implement improvements to the current western gray squirrel (WGS) voluntary protection approach. Since the November 12, 2013 Forest Practices Board meeting, WDFW has developed a mechanism for tracking FPAs having the potential to affect WGS, which will help to determine the effectiveness of the voluntary approach. In addition, SB 6041 "Regarding fish and wildlife law enforcement" was introduced this week, which includes amendments to RCW 77.15.120 and RCW 77.15.130. Existing statutory language contains broad references to nests, thereby leaving room for ambiguity in its application to the nests of mammals such as WGS. The amendments proposed in SB 6041 clarify that it is unlawful to destroy the eggs, active nests or perennial nests of fish or wildlife designated as endangered, threatened or sensitive (including the western gray squirrel), unless authorized by rule or Department permit. Threatened and sensitive wildlife are subcategories of species designated as "protected" and should receive more protection than other species classified as protected.

Pending Federal Decisions

The following updates are intended to keep the Board abreast of proposed or final actions by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) regarding upland wildlife in forested environments. The forest practices rules require that when a species is listed by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior or Commerce, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) consults with WDFW and makes a recommendation to the Board whether protection is needed under the Critical Habitat (State) rule (WAC 222-16-080). In addition to this specific requirement, WDFW and DNR continue to coordinate in order to anticipate such federal actions and/or state action in response to changes in the status of a species.

<u>Gray Wolf</u>

In June, 2013, the USFWS proposed to delist the gray wolf within the lower 48 states and establish a listed subspecies unit for the Mexican gray wolf in the southwest states. WDFW has

classified wolves as a state endangered species, adopted a Wolf Conservation and Management Plan in December 2011, and has received funding to implement the Plan. The gray wolf population in Washington continues to grow at a rate parallel to what was observed in other states of the Northern Rocky Mountain Distinct Population Segment, and Washington's wolf population is connected to adjacent states and territories. For these reasons, and many others, WDFW has supported the federal delisting proposal. A national discussion around delisting this species is ongoing, and it will be several months before a final federal rule is promulgated.

Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly

Effective October 4, 2013, the USFWS listed the Taylor's checkerspot butterfly (TCB) as endangered along with designating critical habitat (CH) for the species. WDFW concurs with the recommendations included within the attached memo from Chris Hanlon-Meyer (Forest Practices Division Manager) to the Forest Practices Board, dated January 10, 2014, concerning TCB critical habitat and forest practices rule implications.

Canada Lynx

The USFWS announced a proposed revision to their 2009 critical habitat designation for the Canada lynx on September 26, 2013. In Washington, the proposed critical habitat includes all lands currently designated plus primarily Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, some BLM lands, and Loomis State Forest lands. As in the current 2009 designation, Loomis State Forest lands covered by DNR's Lynx Habitat Management Plan are proposed for exclusion. WDFW and DNR have also determined that 3.07 square miles of private land (four small landowners in Okanogan County) have now been included with no habitat management plans yet developed. In addition, two large landowners appear to have expired habitat management plans. WDFW plans to work with the four small landowners to develop management plans, as well as work with the two large landowners to update their management plans.