

SAO Audit Recommendations

Adaptive Management Program

May 2022

Contents

1- Background

2- Net Gains Options for TFW Policy

3- Update on Implementation of SAO Recommendations

1. Background

- Office of the Washington State Auditor (SAO) completed a performance audit of the Adaptive Management Program (AMP) in January 2021
- SAO recommended 13 actions to improve program performance
- 11 of these recommendations were for the Forest Practices Board to consider
- The Board approved a response plan for the implementation of the 11 recommendations
- The plan committed TFW Policy and the AMP Administrator to present to the Board a list of net gains options for SAO recommendation #5 at the Board's May 2022 meeting

2. Rec. # 5: Adopt a Net Gains Option

“ Use a net gains approach to each **proposal, project, and decision** that benefits more than one caucus by considering **packages of projects** instead of individual projects” SAO

- The **Yakima Basin Integrated Plan** program pursues a net-gain approach : every project put forward by its program participants aligns with at least one of the six elements that align with stakeholder goals
- “The term “net gains” refers to the principle that the **benefits of broad-scale agreements should be greater than the cost for every party involved**. No person or group should be expected to accept a net loss so that someone else can gain. **Only “win-win” agreements**, in which all parties see more gain than loss should be completed under the SLS”

Net Gains Options ...

- Policy formed a Workgroup on SAO Recommendation
- AMPA and Workgroup focused on net gains options for Policy
- A suite of 6 potential net gains options are identified
- A draft document is prepared that describes these options for Policy

Net Gains Options:

1- Adopt Multi-Criteria Decision Making:

- A logical framework for considering several decision factors simultaneously
- Iterative and rational process. Close to the intent of net gains recommendation for Policy
- Guidance and training needed. Doesn't require changing rules. BM22 changes would be needed.

2- Clarify process for Outside Science

- Guidance on when and under what conditions completed outside science could be considered in AMP
- Criteria for considering outside science
- Potentially revise PI process for outside science
- **May require rule change and BM 22 updates**

Net Gains Options

3- Set clear AMP Priorities

- Clarify master project schedule process in BM22
- Review current prioritization process
- Use Structured Decision Making to prioritize AMP projects
- BM22 update and may not require rule changes

4- Review Dispute Resolution Process/Timelines

- Adequacy of current DR timelines specially the informal stage
- Extend the timeline to allow time for consensus building
- BM22 guidance on dispute revised/clarified
- **Any changes other than guidance require rule modifications**

Net Gains Options

5- Initiate Dialogue with CMER

- CMER membership and structure
- Focus on science alone and strengthening firewall
- Process improvements

6- Develop Guidance or Manual for TFW Policy

- Update, revise or adopt a detailed set of committee procedures, guidance and clear roles and responsibilities

3. Update on Implementation

| | | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|--|---|
| <p>SAO Rec # 1 and 2: Review decision making model and require participation by caucus principals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Two rounds of principals meetings have been held - To complete this biennium <p>On track</p> | <p>SAO Rec #5: Implment a "net gains" approach to each proposal, project, and decision that benefits more than one caucus by considering packages of prjoects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Present final options paper at the November Board Meeting</u> <p>On track</p> | <p>SAO Rec #4: Board should set a trigger for dispute resolution</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify and recommend to the Board process based triggers 2. Add line item for DR in MPS 3. Establish on-call contracts for DR (Policy and CMER) 4. Establish on-call statistical assistance contract for CMER <p>Complete - (2,3 and 4)</p> | <p>SAO Rec # 9: Complete biennial fiscal and performance audits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Requires additional funding - Board Manual updates by August '22 <p>Planned</p> | | <p>SAO Rec #7: Peer review science program every 5 years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Requires additional funding <p>Planned</p> |
| <p>SAO Rec # 6: Adopt a decission criteria for determining actions that will occur depending on project results before those results have been found</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CMER workgroup formed and provided detailed feedback - TFW Policy workgroup to consider options - <u>Deadline: November '22</u> <p>On track</p> | <p>SAO Rec # 3: Update language in Board manual to reflect WAC: dispute resolution is required when consensus cannot be achieved</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Board approved amendments in February '22 <p>Complete</p> | <p>SAO Rec # 10 and 11: Tracking system for life cycle of proejcts and Public Facing Dashboard</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Board's approval requested to use existing resources <p>On track</p> | <p>SAO Rec #8: Onbaording and training for new AMP members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Requires additional funding <p>Planned</p> | | |