



Next Steps:

Marbled Murrelet Long-Term Conservation Strategy and Sustainable Harvest Calculation

presented by:

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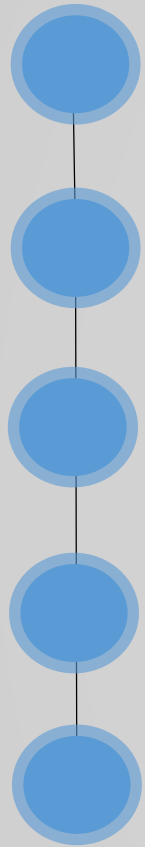
Department of Natural Resources

May 2, 2017

Agenda

- Timeline
- Primer on Marbled murrelet
- Primer on Sustainable harvest
- Background information
 - Land Classes/Deferrals

Timeline

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- July 2017: Preferred Alternative
 - March 2018: Publish FEISs
 - April 2018: **BNR Decision on amendment to submit to USFWS**
 - October 2018: USFWS approvals
 - November 2018: **BNR adoption**
 - **Marbled murrelet long-term conservation strategy**
 - **Sustainable harvest level**

Preferred Alternative Timeline

- May: Primer on MM and SHC
- June: Deeper dive into options; SHC financial analysis
- July: Summary of policy issues
- July (*special meeting*):
Decision on preferred alternative

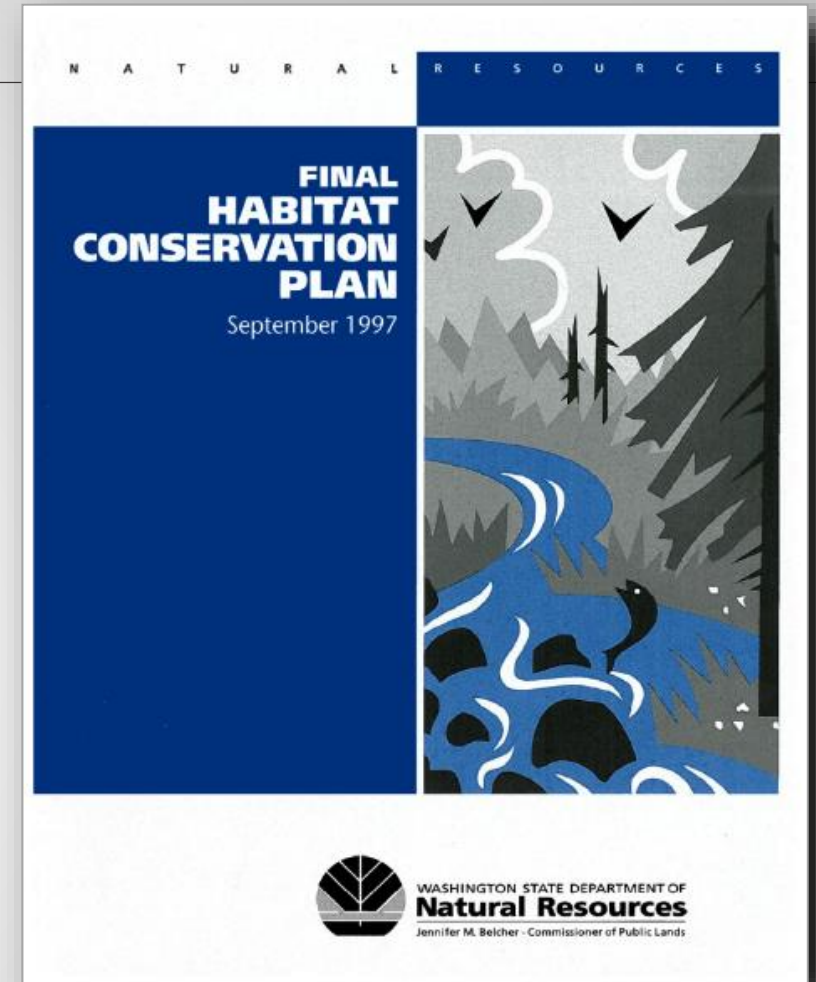
Marbled Murrelet

Long-Term Conservation Strategy



What is an HCP?

- Voluntary
- Partnership with USFWS
- HCP describes:
 - Effects of taking
 - Minimization and mitigation
 - How HCP will be funded
- An HCP is required to get an incidental take permit (ITP)



USFWS incidental take permit criteria

1. The taking must be incidental
2. The applicant will, to the maximum extent practicable, minimize and mitigate the impacts of such taking
3. The applicant will ensure adequate funding for the plan
4. The taking will not appreciably reduce the likelihood of the survival and recovery of the species in the wild



State Trust Lands HCP

4 components

- northern spotted owl
- marbled murrelet
- riparian-dependent species
- other uncommon habitat



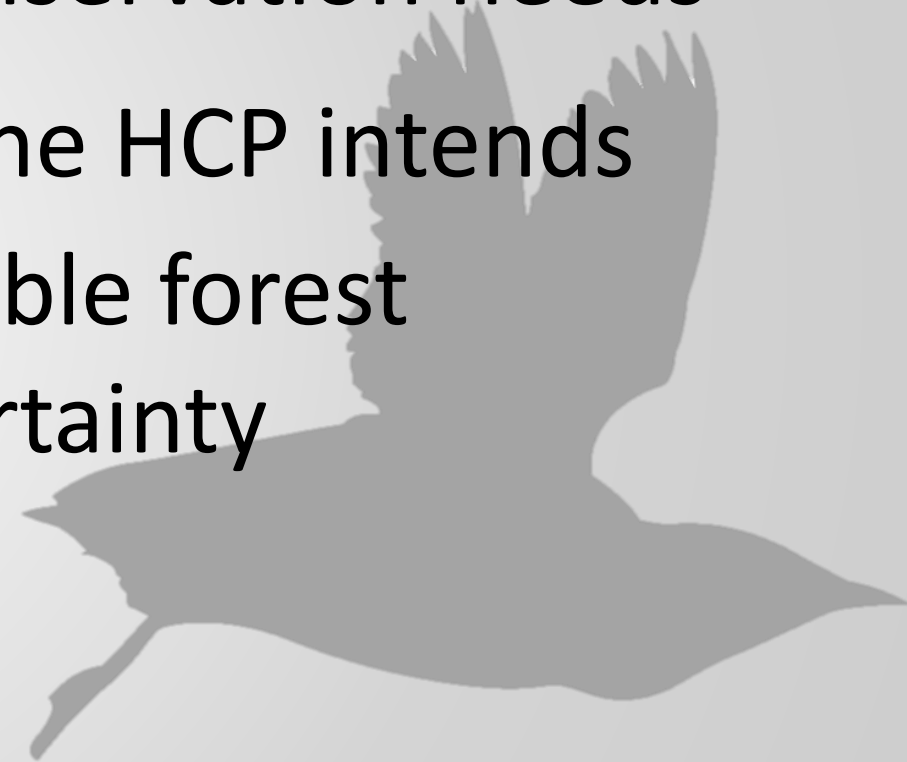
Interim strategy for marbled murrelets

- Step 1. Defer harvest of habitat.
- Step 2. Identify high and low quality habitat.
- Step 3. Release low quality habitat.
- Step 4. Survey high quality habitat.
- Step 5. Develop long-term conservation strategy.**



A long-term strategy will...

- Better respond to murrelet conservation needs
- Bring certainty under ESA, as the HCP intends
- Allow DNR to conduct sustainable forest management program with certainty



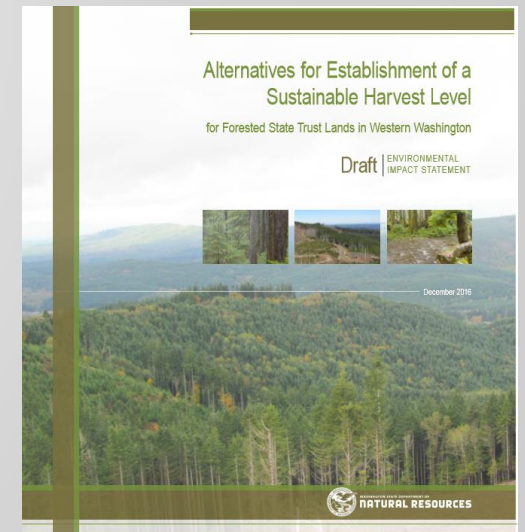
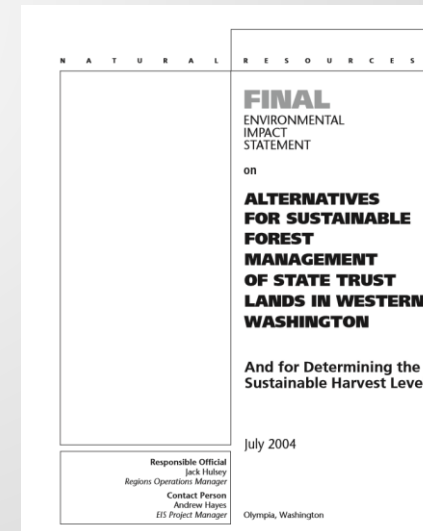
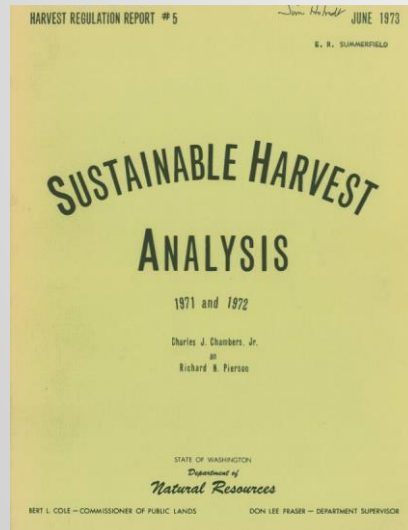
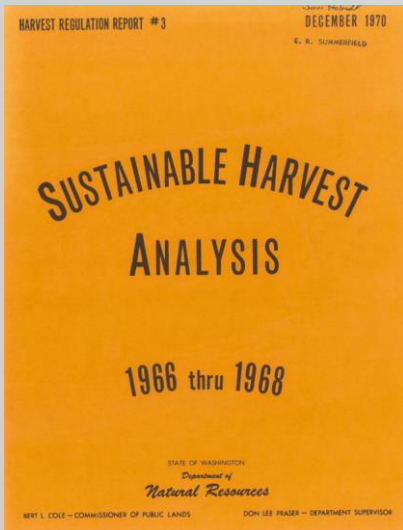
Sustainable Harvest Calculation



Why set a sustainable harvest level?

Because it is a prudent thing to do, and the legislature has directed DNR to set one

1966 → 1971 → 2004 → Today



Arrearage

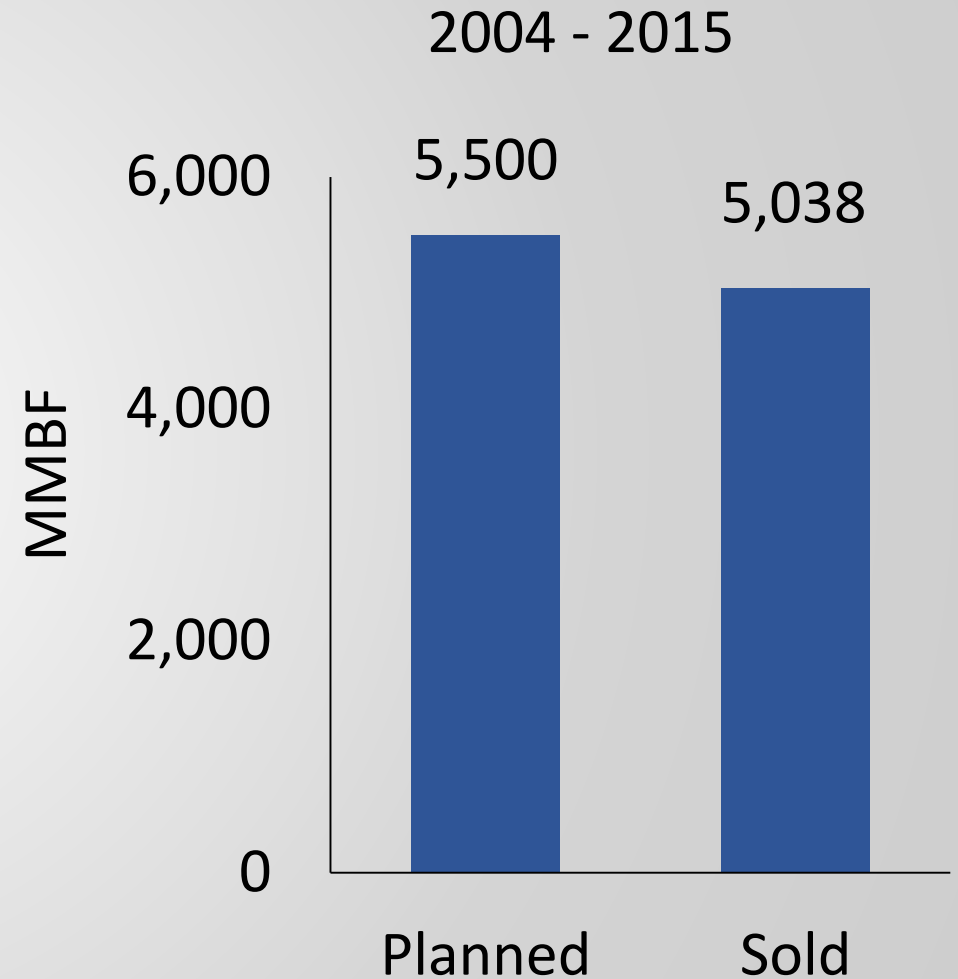
RCW 79.10.300

$$\frac{\text{Volume we planned to sell} - \text{Volume we sold}}{\text{Arrearage}}$$

RCW 79.10.330

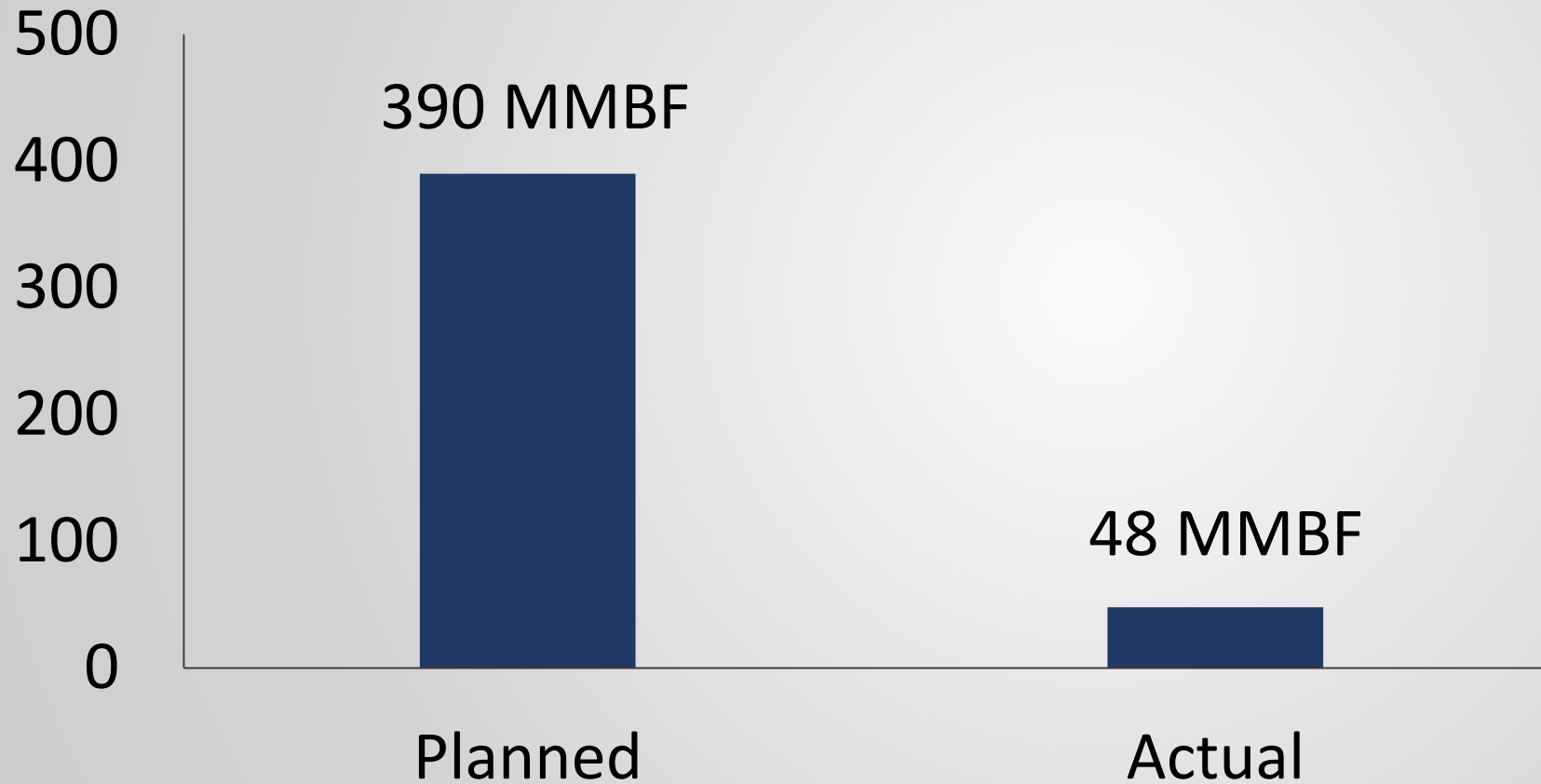
If an arrearage exists, then the department will:

- Conduct an analysis
- Identify greatest return to the trusts
- Offer for sale the arrearage in addition to the sustainable harvest level, if in the best interests of the trusts



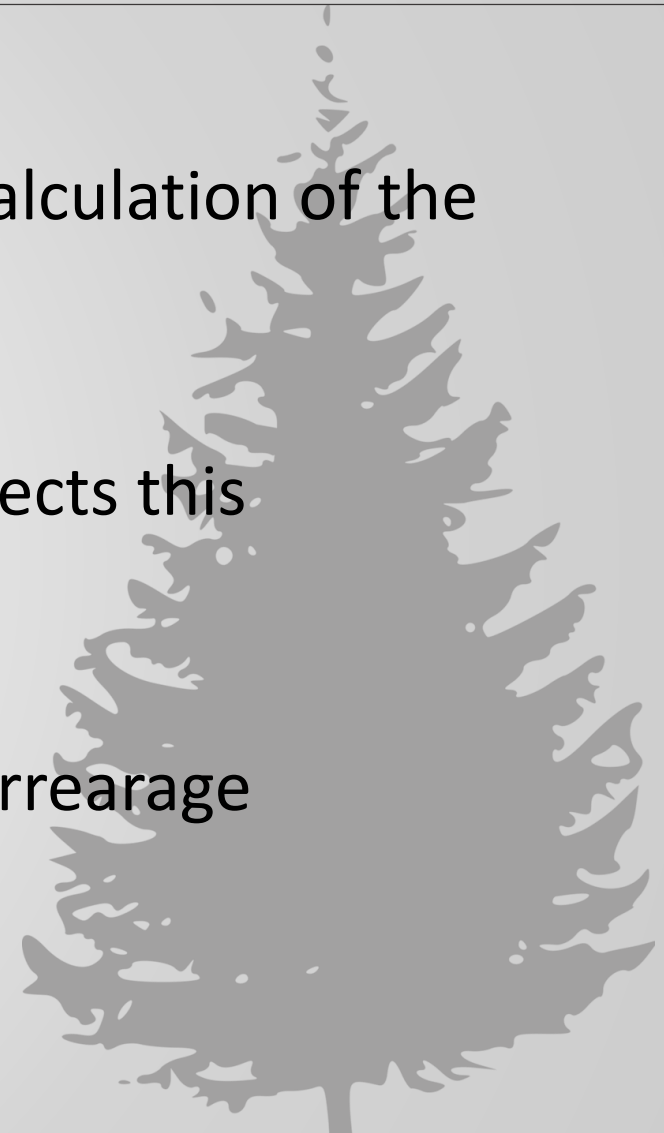
Riparian thinning

2004-2015



Need

- Comply with RCW 79.10.320 requiring periodic recalculation of the harvest level
- Comply with Policy for Sustainable Forest which directs this recalculation occur on at least a decadal basis
- Comply with RCW 79.10.330 requiring analysis of arrearage



Preferred Alternative

The Decision

Long-term habitat conservation strategy for the marbled murrelet

- What areas to include?
- What strategies to use?
- How much conservation to provide?

Arrearage

- What is the arrearage number – 702 or 462?
- When to harvest – 1,5, 10 years or overtime?

Riparian

- Is riparian harvest included in the sustainable harvest level?



Key Decision Criteria

Obligation	Key Components
Endangered Species Act	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimize and mitigate to the maximum extent practicable Not appreciably reduce the likelihood of recovery for the species
Habitat Conservation Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make a significant contribution
Trust Obligations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generate revenue and other benefits for each trust Preserve the corpus of the trust Maintain undivided loyalty to beneficiaries Act impartially with respect to current and future beneficiaries
DNR operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operational flexibility Implementation certainty

Background

The Land Base



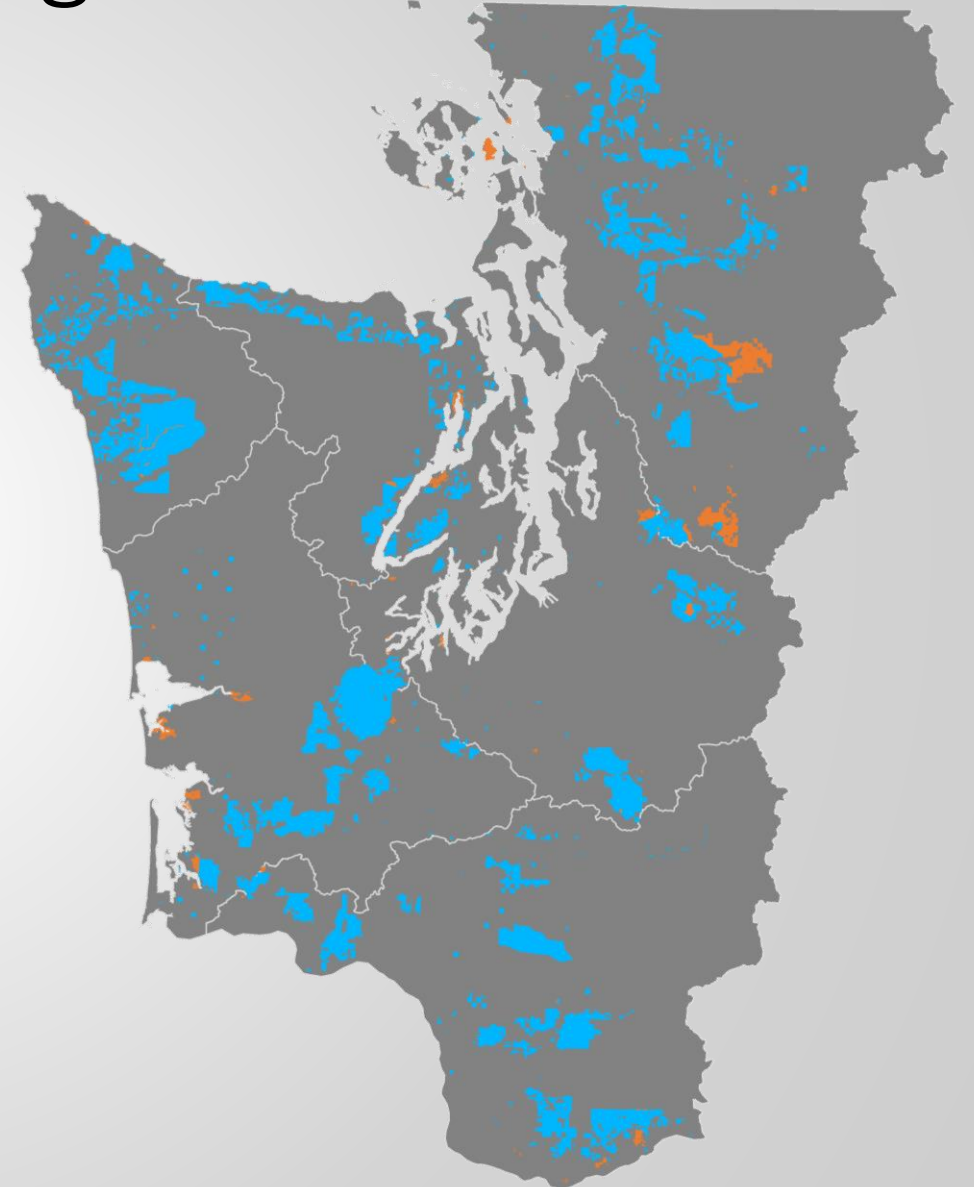
Sustainable harvest planning area

Forested acres

DNR managed land: 1,465,000

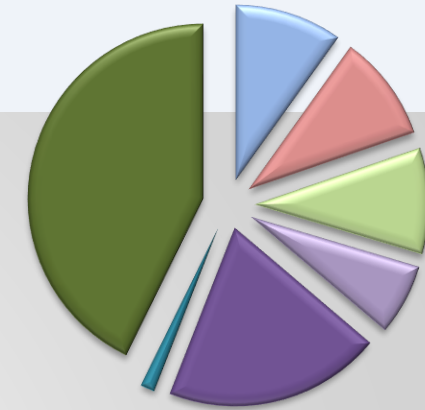
Trust land: 1,379,000

NAPs and NRCAs: 87,000



subject to change

Land Base



Deferrals

Riparian / Wetlands

Northern Spotted Owl

Marbled Murrelet

Multiple Species

Other Policies

Natural Areas Preserves and Natural Resource Conservation Areas

Old Growth

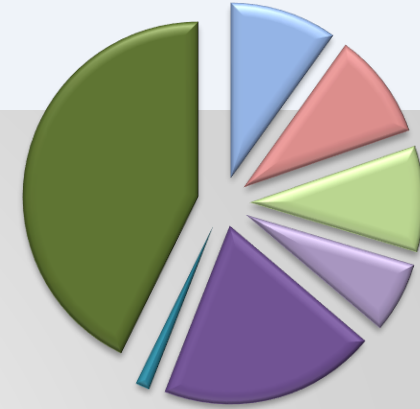
Northern Spotted Owl – High Quality

Riparian areas

- Desired Future Condition
- Potential Unstable Slopes

Potentially Unstable Slopes

Land Base



Deferrals

Riparian / Wetlands

Northern Spotted Owl

Marbled Murrelet

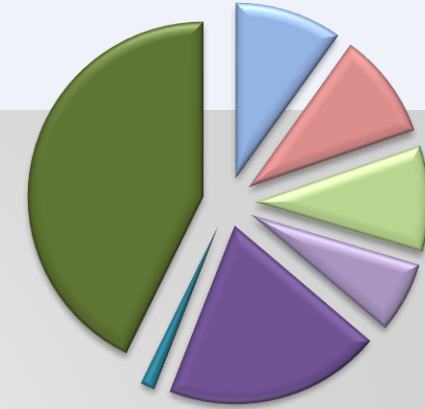
Multiple Species

Other Policies

Riparian Conservation Strategy

- Riparian Forest Restoration Strategy in the 5 Westside HCP units
- OESF

Land Base



Deferrals

Riparian / Wetlands

Northern Spotted Owl

Marbled Murrelet

Multiple Species

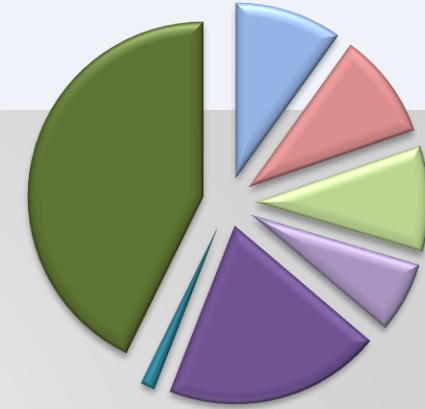
Other Policies

Nesting, Roosting, Foraging

Dispersal

OESF

Land Base



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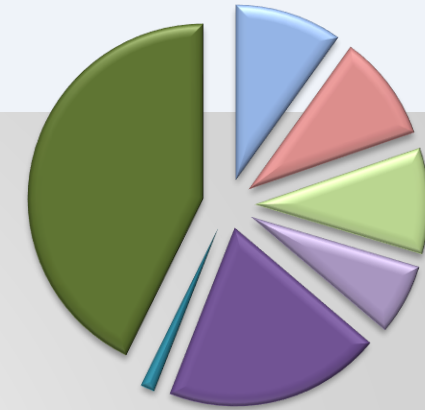
Other Policies

Interim Strategy

Long Term Conservation Strategy

subject to change

Land Base



Deferrals

Riparian / Wetlands

Northern Spotted Owl

Marbled Murrelet

Multiple Species

Other Policies

Bats

California wolverine

Common loon

Gray wolf

Harlequin duck

Northern goshawk

Oregon silverspot

butterfly

Pacific fisher

Pileated woodpecker

Vaux's swift

Balds

Cliffs

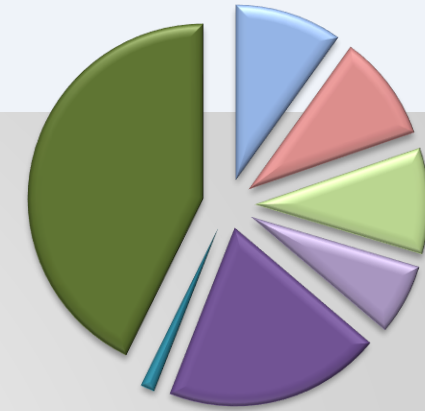
Caves

Mineral Springs

Oak woodlands

Talus

Land Base



Deferrals

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Multiple Species

Other Policies

Unstable Slopes

Cultural Resources

Special Features

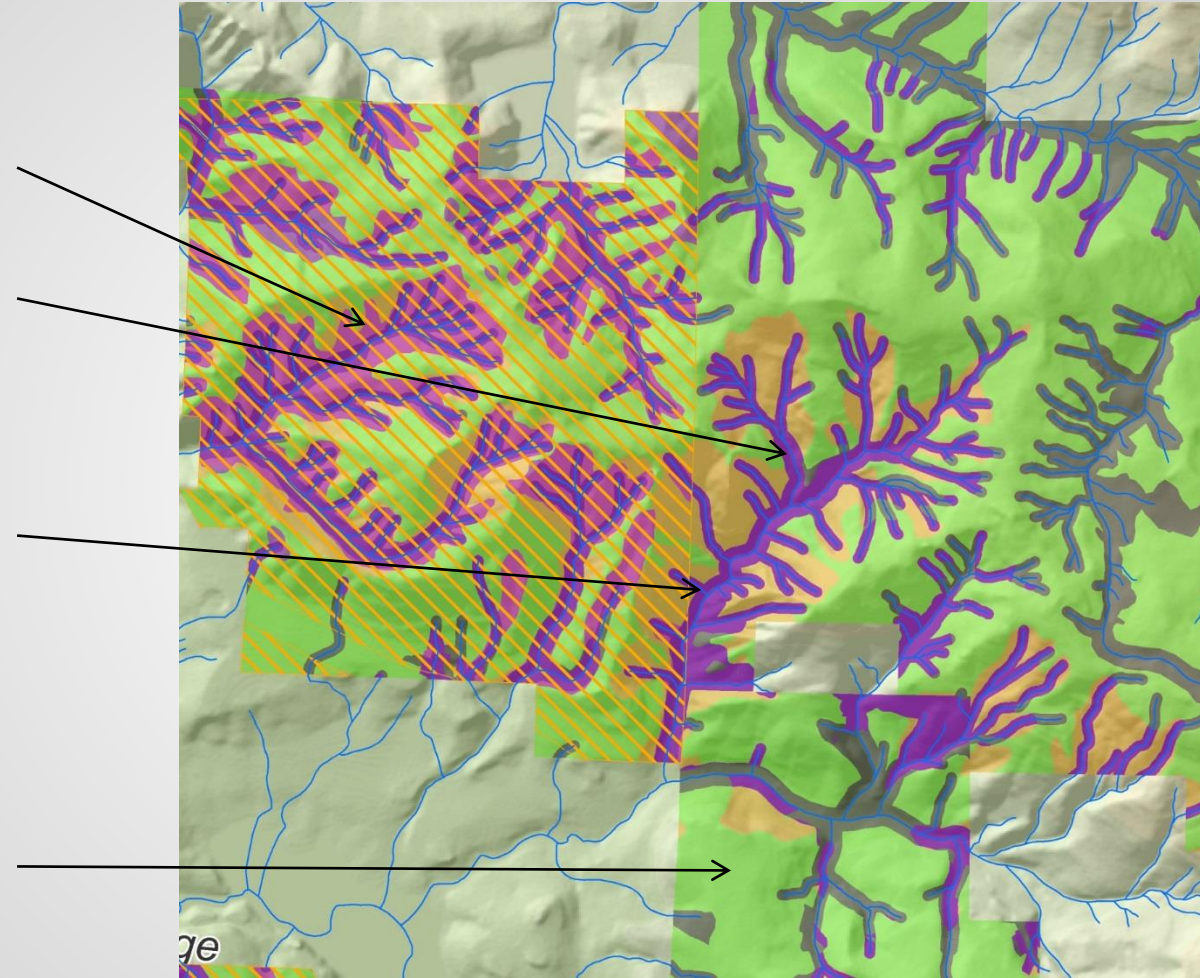
Neighbors

Visual Impacts

subject to change

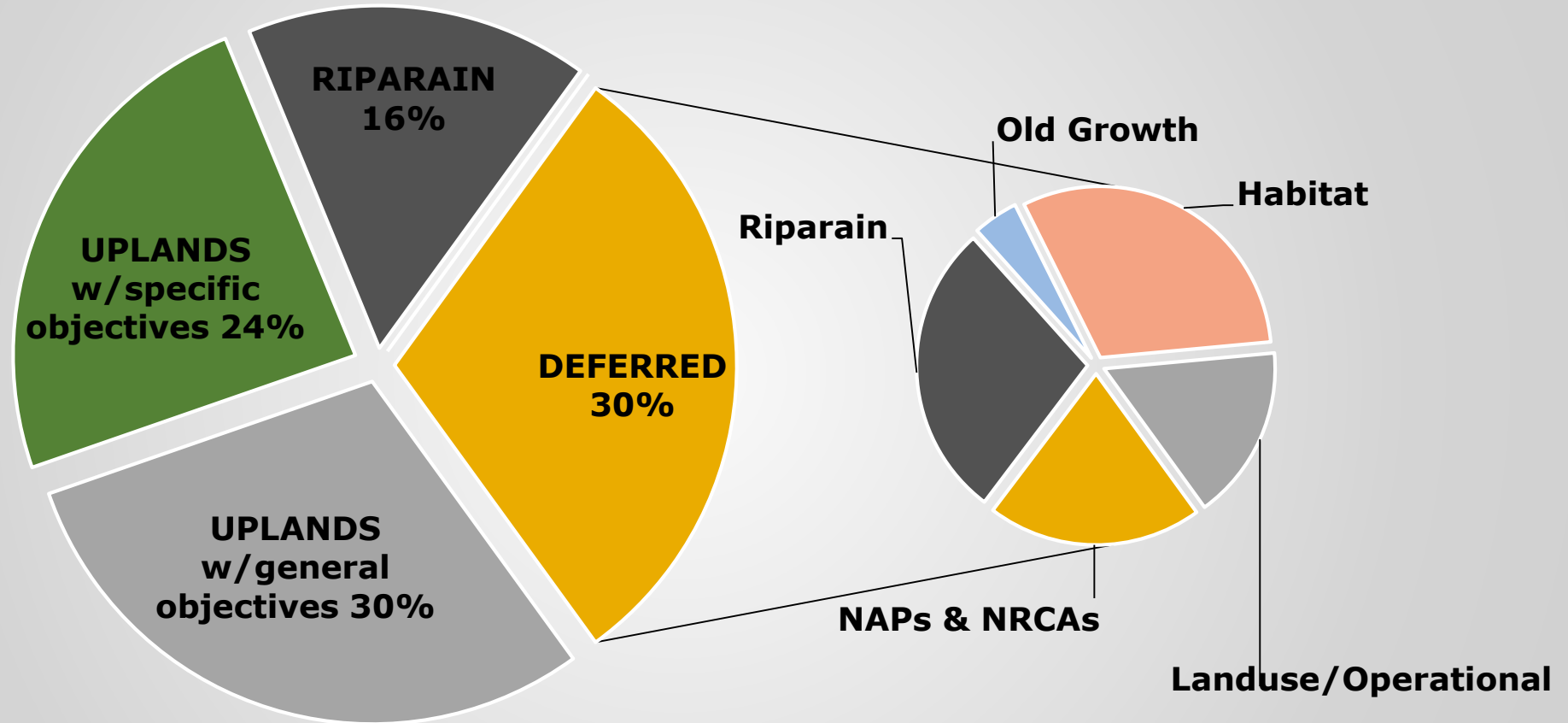
Land Base

- Deferrals
- Riparian
- Uplands with specific objectives
- Uplands with general objectives



subject to change

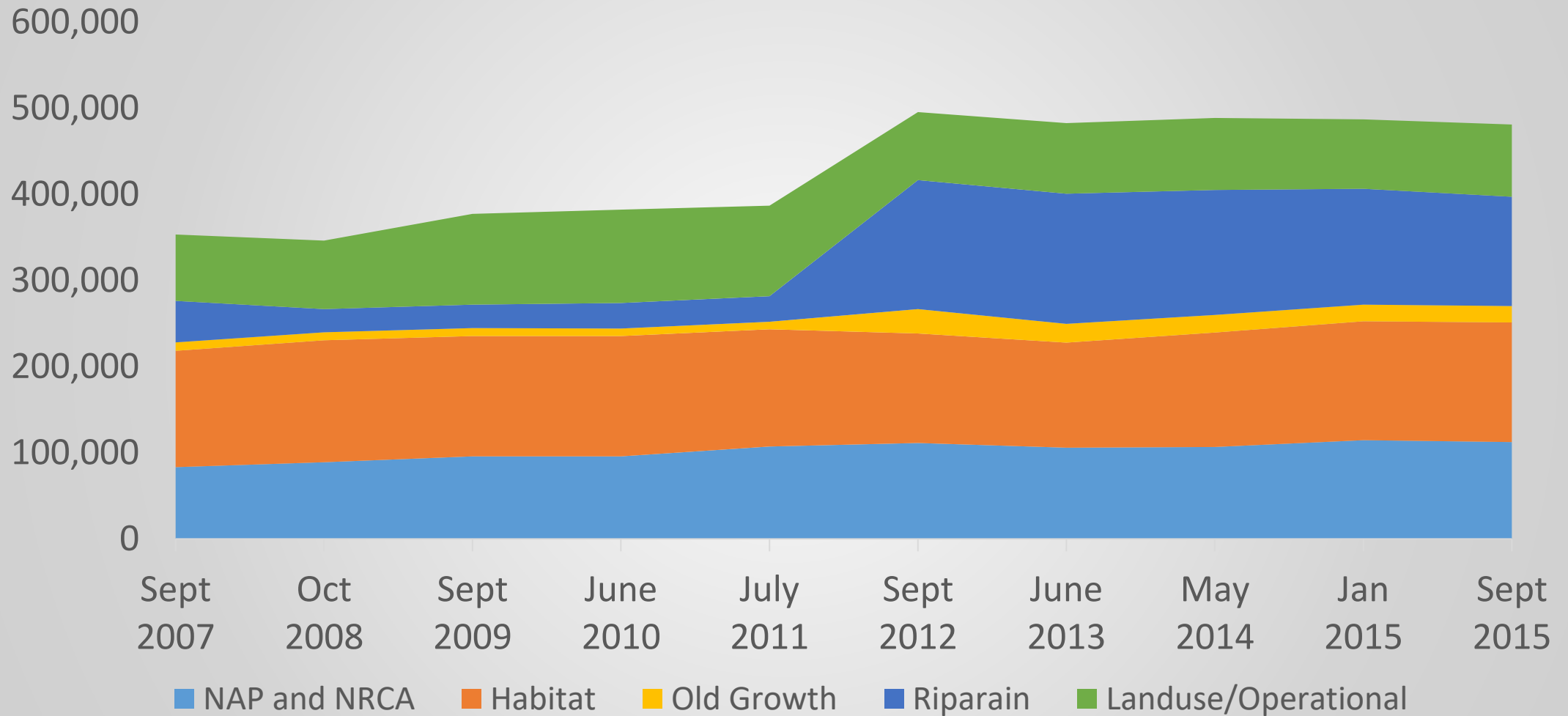
Land Base



Total forested area of DNR-managed lands in western Washington = 1.46 million acres
Includes Natural Area Preserves (NAPs) and Natural Resource Conservation Areas (NRCAs)

subject to change

Changes in deferrals from 2007 through 2015



Timeline- Preferred Alternative

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