



DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES

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MEMORANDUM

July 26, 2017

TO: Forest Practices Board 
FROM: Hans Berge, Adaptive Management Program Administrator
SUBJECT: Quarterly Staff Report

This memo highlights work completed and progress made in the Adaptive Management Program (AMP) since the May 2017 Forest Practices Board Meeting. The areas of emphasis for this quarter include developing criteria for PHBs, discussing improvements for the AMP, and progress on CMER projects.

PHB Criteria

You received a report on recommendations for potential habitat breaks (PHBs) to be used in the fish habitat assessment methodology (FHAM). This report represents an analysis of existing data, literature, and the collective experience of technical experts in fish habitat relationships. The recommended criteria include metrics for gradient, stream size, and barriers that can be used to focus the initiation of a protocol survey in a location that is supported by science. It is important to note that these criteria represent the starting point for a survey and by themselves may or may not be coincident with the F/N regulatory break. The FHAM is built around a systematic process to ultimately establish the regulatory break.

AMP Improvements

Since the May Board meeting, the Board's subcommittee has met three times to discuss ways to make improvements to the AMP. This process includes consideration of the report I presented to the Board in May, setting up a meeting with principal's from TFW caucuses, and consideration of public comment. To date the emphasis has been on facilitating the principal's meeting and there will be more conversation from the subcommittee at the Board meeting on 9 August 2017.

CMER Projects

CMER has been working on a number of projects this quarter. I will highlight a couple of noteworthy accomplishments.

Hard Rock: The first phase of the Type N Hardrock Study is almost complete. Two chapters are in review at CMER and the other 14 have been approved. Policy will have an all-day workshop this fall for presentations on the results of this extensive study.

Deep-seated landslide literature review: The deep-seated landslide literature review was completed through CMER and will be transmitted to Policy in August. This work was initiated as part of the Unstable Slopes Proposal Initiation and will contribute to the research strategy for the Upland Processes Scientific Advisory Group (UPSAG).

Protocol Standards Manual: CMER completed Chapter 7 of the PSM which focuses on project management. This document describes the processes at CMER for managing research projects and is a new addition to the PSM.

It has been a very busy quarter for the AMP. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me (hans.berge@dnr.wa.gov or 360-902-1909).