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: July 22, 2013

SUBJECT: Status of TFW Policy Committee action on selected CMER final reports

Upon acceptance of final reports from CMER, the TFW Policy Committee is expected to report back to the Forest Practices Board, through the Adaptive Management Program Administrator, on whether or not "action" should be recommended to the Board regarding changes to rule or Board guidance. If Policy agrees that some kind of "action" is warranted, it has up to 180 days to develop a decision, whether consensus or not, and make a recommendation to the Board. If Policy agrees that "no action" is needed in rule or Board guidance, then that recommendation also is reported to the Board through the AMPA.

CMER recently completed and delivered to the TFW Policy Committee two final reports and their associated Findings Reports (which include answers to the standard set of six questions in Board Manual 22 Appendix B Framework for Successful Policy/CMER Interaction): 1) The Mass Wasting Effectiveness Monitoring Project: An Examination of the Landslide Response to the December 2007 Storm in Southwestern Washington (aka the post-mortem report) and 2) Extensive Riparian Status and Trends Monitoring Program-Stream Temperature Phase I: Eastside Type F/S Monitoring Project Final Report.

Policy Action on Post-Mortem Final Report

In my May 2013 quarterly staff report to the Board, I reported that Policy accepted a Findings Report Package related to the non-consensus CMER report The Mass Wasting Effectiveness Monitoring Project: An Examination of the Landslide Response to the December 2007 Storm in Southwestern Washington from CMER and me at its April 4, 2013 monthly meeting. I also reported that the next steps were for Policy to determine whether or not any rule or guidance recommendations should be made to the Board, and if so, alternative courses of action that would be appropriate management responses to the information contained in the Findings Report Package.

At its May 2013 monthly meeting, the TFW Policy Committee agreed to take action in response to the post-mortem report, although that action is as yet undefined. Policy agreed to evaluate alternatives in three general categories: forest practice application review process for evaluating mass wasting risk, compliance monitoring, and additional research/monitoring. To that end, Policy approved a charter for its work at its July 2013 monthly meeting that includes tasks related to the forest practices application review process; screening tools and practices to identify unstable slopes;

documentation of unstable slope assessments and geotechnical reports; existing guidance and training options for foresters; existing CMER and external information on mass wasting; and additional research needs. The first "work meeting" is scheduled for late August.

Policy Action on Extensive Riparian Status and Trends Monitoring Program-Stream Temperature Phase I: Eastside Type F/S Monitoring Project Final Report

Policy accepted the Extensive Riparian Status and Trends Monitoring Program-stream Temperature Phase I: Eastside Type F/S Monitoring Project Final Report and associated Findings Report from CMER at its June 2013 meeting. The purpose of the extensive riparian status and trends monitoring program is to provide data needed to evaluate landscape-scale effects of implementing forest practices riparian prescriptions and to provide data needed by regulatory agencies to provide assurances that forest practices rules meet Clean Water Act requirements and achieve riparian resource objectives. The purpose of this study was to develop unbiased estimates of the distribution of Type *F/S* stream temperatures across forest lands in Eastern Washington managed under the Forest Practices Habitat Conservation Plan, as well as to identify trends over time. The timing of the second sampling has not been scheduled.

Policy agreed to take "no action" on recommending changes in rule or guidance to the Board. However, Policy requested that CMER consider high-level options for how to move forward on the extensive monitoring program. This would include consideration of alternative monitoring approaches to landscape-level performance. CMER will be asked to work on this through the summer and early fall and report on options and alternatives for discussion at Policy's November meeting. The extensive status and trends report will be delivered to you at your November 2013 quarterly meeting.

jeh/

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources

PETER GOLDMARK
Washington State Commissioner of Public Lands

MEMORANDUM

July 23, 2013

TO: Forest Practices Board

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

SUBJECT: Rule Making Activity

At your August meeting, I will request the Board adopt three rule makings: the Forest Practices Hydraulic Project rules; the Forest biomass rules; and the Adaptive Management Program reform rules.

Forest Practices Hydraulic Projects (2ESSB6406) –These rules will incorporate the fish protection standards in the hydraulic code rules into the Forest Practices rules.

Forest Biomass – The Board, in August 2012, accepted recommendations from the Forest Practices Biomass Work Group to incorporate rule changes to ensure understanding that forest biomass harvest is subject to the forest practices rules. The rule changes include a definition of "forest biomass", clarification of biomass removal as a forest practices activity and inclusion of biomass in harvest unit planning. The forest biomass rule changes are included in the Forest Practices Hydraulic Project rules.

Adaptive Management Program reform, WAC 222-12-045 – As a result of the settlement agreement on the Forest Practices Habitat Conservation Plan this rule making includes reform measures in the Adaptive Management Program.

Attached is the timeline for each rule making.

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

Attachment

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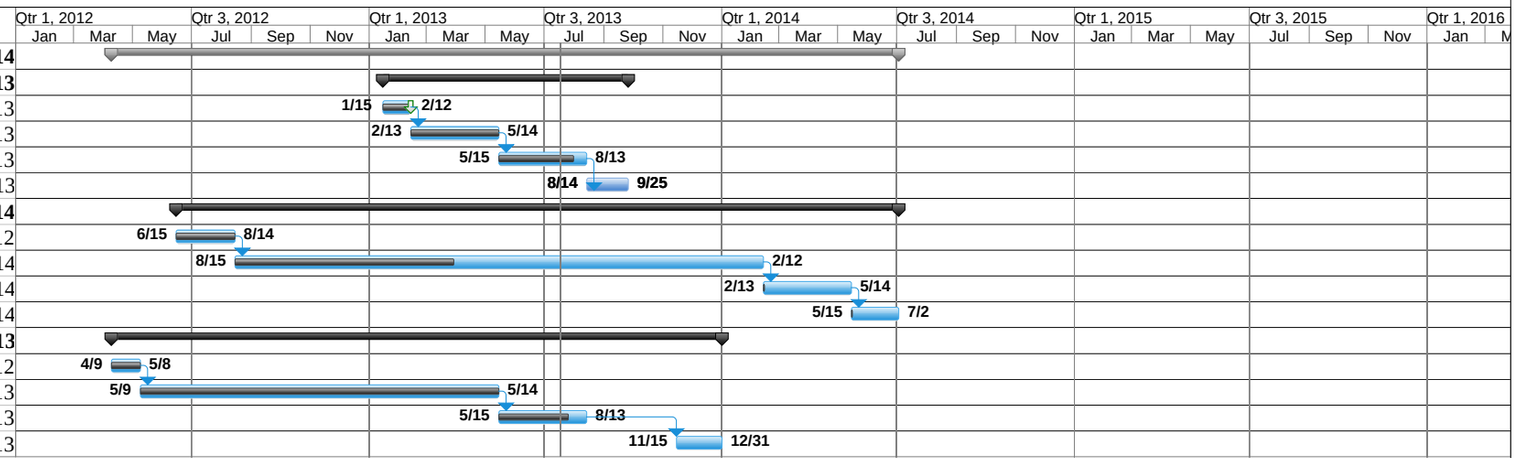
FOREST PRACTICES BOARD
2013 Rule Making Schedule

ID	Task Name	Start	Finish
0	**2012-2013 Rule Making Schedule**	**Mon 4/9/12**	**Wed 7/2/14**
1	**WAC 222-12-045 Adaptive Management**	**Tue 1/15/13**	**Wed 9/25/13**
2	CR101	Tue 1/15/13	Tue 2/12/13
3	CR102 (CBA, SBEIS, SEPA)	Wed 2/13/13	Tue 5/14/13
4	CR103	Wed 5/15/13	Tue 8/13/13
5	Estimated effective date	Wed 8/14/13	Wed 9/25/13
6	**WAC 222-16-080**	**Fri 6/15/12**	**Wed 7/2/14**
7	CR101	Fri 6/15/12	Tue 8/14/12
8	CR102 (CBA, SBEIS, SEPA)	Wed 8/15/12	Wed 2/12/14
9	CR103	Thu 2/13/14	Wed 5/14/14
10	Estimated effective date	Thu 5/15/14	Wed 7/2/14
11	**Forest Practices Hydraulic Projects (2ES**	**Mon 4/9/12**	**Tue 12/31/13**
12	CR101	Mon 4/9/12	Tue 5/8/12
13	CR02 (CBA, SBEIS, SEPA)	Wed 5/9/12	Tue 5/14/13
14	CR103	Wed 5/15/13	Tue 8/13/13
15	Effective date	Fri 11/15/13	Tue 12/31/13



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources

PETER GOLDMARK
Commissioner of Public Lands

MEMORANDUM

July 24, 2013

TO: Forest Practices Board

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

SUBJECT: Small Forest Landowner Office and Advisory Committee

Small Forest Landowner Advisory Committee (SFLAC)
The Small Forest Landowner Advisory Committee met on June 27. Issues discussed included:

- DNR's preparation of a State and Private Forestry Western Competitive Grant proposal to update the database of existing forest land ownership by small non-industrial landowners.
- The creation of a guide and fact sheet to help small forest landowners navigate through the FPA process.
- Status of the Small Forest Landowner Demographic Report to the Forest Practices Board and the Legislature.
- Draft New Forestry Riparian Easement Application and Instruction Form.
- Forest Practices Biomass Work Group's request of the Small Forest Landowner Advisory Committee to consider undertaking the development of a nutrient risk assessment tool for small forest landowner to use to determine if soil deficiencies exist; and to consider developing education/outreach materials to assess soil nutrients and potential risks to physical properties associated with timber productivity.

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. DNR purchased a total of 13 easements for the Fiscal Year 11-13 biennium.

The program is working on creating a new FREP application and detailed instructions document to assist landowners to complete the FREP application. This application is also going to be made available on-line on the Small Forest Landowner Office (SFLO) web page (www.dnr.wa.gov\sflo).

Rivers and Habitat Open Space Program (R&HOSP)
No activity in this program since last reporting period.

Family Forest Fish Passage Program (FFFPP)
The Small Forest Landowner Office received 78 new FFFPP applications totaling 96 project sites in Fiscal Year 2012 (July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012). The number of project sites is greater than the number of applicants as some landowners have more than one project site on their land. The number of applications received thus far is above the average of 54 applications normally received

in this same time period. In response to the $10 million funding provided under the Jobs in the Environment Bill, 47 barrier removal projects will be completed during the 2013 construction season opening 161 stream miles for fish access. This number of barrier corrections is nearly double the historical average, and uses no additional staffing.

For the 2014 construction season, the FFFPP plans to fund projects to eliminate approximately 50 more barriers. This number may be adjusted based on the actual costs incurred for 2013 project implementation.

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 127 approved long term applications; which is an increase of 8 approved application since the end of the last reporting period (04/15/2013).

LTA Applications	LTA Phase 1	LTA Phase 2	TOTAL
Under Review	5	2	**7**
Validated	24	0	**24**
Approved	0	127	**127**
TOTAL	**29**	**129**	**158**

The Small Forest Landowner Office is currently working on updating the long-term application website as well as the brochure which is posted on the Small Forest Landowner Office website.

Forest Stewardship Program

DNR's Forest Stewardship Program provides professional natural resource advice and assistance to help family forest landowners manage their lands. In addition to a staff of Landowner Assistance Foresters, the program also employs a full-time statewide Landowner Assistance Wildlife Biologist. The Landowner Assistance Forester and Biologist provide:

- Technical assistance to landowners– Over 1,000 on-site consultations are provided by foresters and the wildlife biologist each year.

- Education – DNR supports Washington State University Extension education programs for family forest owners which are attended by over 3,000 landowners annually. DNR and WSU Extension will host 3 Regional Forest Owners Field Day events in both eastern and western Washington. The eastern Washington field day was on June 22nd in Tonasket. The western Washington field days are scheduled for July 27th in Sumas and August 24th in Forks. These out-in-the woods educational events cover all aspects of forest management including fish and wildlife habitat protection and enhancement. Forest Stewardship Coached Planning Short Courses help landowners develop an integrated, multi-resource Forest Stewardship Plan for their property. Plans address all forest resources on the site including fish and riparian habitat, water quality, wildlife habitat, and T&E species. The next Forest

Stewardship Coached Planning Short Course is scheduled for September 24th in Preston and another scheduled for October 3rd in Oak Harbor.

Small Forest Landowner Outreach/Grant Applications

The Small Forest Landowner Office distributed the May issue of Small Forest Landowner News and is in the process of assembling the headlines for the July issue. 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. At this time, 897 small forest landowners have participated in the survey.

The Small Forest Landowner office also updated the "Do You Own Forestland?" pamphlet. This pamphlet provides information about all of the assistance programs that are offered through the Small Forest Landowner Office such as FREP, FFFPP, the Forest Stewardship Program, Long-term Applications, and Alternate Plans. It also includes a postage paid return postcard for a reader to request more information on these programs or to request a site visit to the landowner's property by a SFLO Landowner Assistance Forester or Wildlife Biologist.

SFLO staff continue 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.

The Small Forest Landowner Office is continuing to seek grant opportunities to support all of the small forest landowner programs. The office is currently working on two grant proposals, one funded by the Northwest Fish and Wildlife Foundation and the other funded by the Forest Service Western Competitive Grant solicitation.

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

July 18, 2013

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: Report of Timber/Fish/Wildlife Cultural Resources Roundtable to the August 2013 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 April, 2013) are highlighted in red and italic print.

The Roundtable focused on two major issues this quarter: a survey and revisions to Instructions for Question 7 for the Forest Practices Applications. The survey was to gather information to report how the Cultural Resources Protection and Management Plan and the updated WAC 222-20-120 (*Notice of forest practices that may contain cultural resources to affected Indian tribes*) are working. We surveyed state agencies, Tribes, private landowners and other forest industry professionals. The revisions to the Instructions should make it easier for applicants to identify potential cultural resources when completing the Forest Practices Application. The Roundtable also prepared a consolidated annual report.

Progress has also been made in several other areas. We've completed draft text for cultural resource guidance that we hope to finish soon and publish on the Cultural Resources page of the DNR's web site. While drafting this guidance, the Roundtable discovered that information regarding forest practices on DAHP's website can be improved, so that effort is still underway. The Roundtable continues to track

progress on Ecology rules to streamline SEPA and modify exemptions to SEPA processes. Addressing cultural resources is one of Ecology's top three priorities in current Phase 2 rule making. Efforts to simplify Forest Practices processes to avoid disincentives that could discourage forest landowners and land managers from actively identifying and reporting cultural resources continue to be a high priority.

Please note:

- Co-chair Jeff Thomas is continuing his graduate program in the College of the Environment at UW and his time to spend on Roundtable work remains limited.
- The Roundtable has reduced its formal meeting schedule from monthly to quarterly (January, April, July and October) for the remainder of 2013. We maintain momentum with email work sessions and in-person workgroups on specific issues between formal meetings. The Roundtable will reassess the meeting schedule at the end of the year.
- Tribes continue to host our meetings at tribal offices around the state – in April, we were guests of the Cowlitz Indian Tribe.

We look forward to your August meeting to answer questions or respond to Board requests that may arise at the meeting; and 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					*8/13/2013*	*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: December, 2013		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 ~~*July*~~ *August* to review completed drafts; prepare drafts on remaining sections with a targeted completion date in time for Forest Practices program's planned update to the Instructions	
		Post Roundtable guidance documents and other information and training material on the DNR Forest Practices web site		On going		
High	3	Update the instructions for question 7 of the forest practices application.	Sherri	*Circulate final draft for stakeholder review in July.*	*Submit any comments to Sherri by July 29.2013. By July 31, 2013, submit a final consensus draft to the Forest Practices program for inclusion in the next revision of instructions.*	This would be an edit to Appendix B of the Cultural Resources Protection and Management Plan
High	*4*	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*	
~~*Medium*~~ *High*	5	Investigate opportunities to develop training workshop curricula *and presentation* for private industrial foresters.	Jeffrey Karen	Planning	*Schedule work group in September*	An education component of the CRPMP
Medium	8	Develop a Logo for the Cultural Resources Roundtable	Jeffrey *and dAVe*	In progress	Draft logo under review	Publicity
Medium	9	CRPMP amendments to consider and further discuss:	All	Scoping	Each member of the Roundtable will bring suggestion for amendments to the October, 2013 meeting	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	10	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					8/13/2013	*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 *Aug 13*, Report due *July 22*.		Annual and 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 DRPMP 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* ~~*2013*~~ 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					8/13/2013	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	
	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

TFW Cultural Commitee

Priority		Action Items	Lead
High	1	Approach the Forest Practices Board about the official standing of the CR committee and operational funding and/of staff support	Allyson
		Prepare a letter to the FPB Contact John Mankowski regarding state responsibility for NHPA compliance under the state's FPHCP	
		Develop and approve a draft charter for the TFW Culture Committee	Tammi
		Contact individual FP Board members to "champion" CR Committee issues	
High	2	Prepare the cultural resource guidance documents or a manual as agreed to in the CRPMP	Jeffrey
		Scope the guidance/manual project to develop a detailed description and outline of the proposed guidance or manual.	
		Work procucts:1) Guidance for TFW stakeholders, 2) Guidance specific to forest landowners, and 3)guidance specific to Tribes.	
High	3	Improve knowledge and use of the GLO information to identify historic features recognized during 19th century land surveys.	Committee
Meduim	4	Individual caucuses will support funding in the biennium 12-13 budget for a full time position at DAHP for the maintenance of CR data in	Individual Caucuses
Medium	5	Consider revising to WAC 222-20-120 as per the Cowlitz' recommendation in response to concerns on identification of FPA with	dAVe
Medium	6	Seek funding for a Watershed Analysis CR Module pilot project ($150,000) Draft a proposal to include CR in the CMER work plan for	
Medium	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	
Low	8	Other CRPMP amendments to consider and further discuss:	Sherri
		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	
Low	9	Prepare a report the to the Forest Practices Board on the impact to cultural resource protection and management when forest land is	Jeff and Pete

On-Going Tasks

	1	Give a CRPMP presentation at Regional TFW meetings
	2	Emphasize accomplishments when communicating progress on

	3	Submit the Committee's action item list to the be Board as a quaterly report	Co-chairs
	4	Annual Cultural Resources Committee Report to the Forest Practices Board	CRC Chairs

Completed Items

High	Consider a recommendation to include a cultural resource question on the Phase II 15-year small landowner permit application. Finalize	Sherri

Dec-09		
Status	**Next Action**	**Relationship to the CRPMP**
		Advance the Committee'e work
Complete		
In progress	Second conversation w/Mankowski	
Complete	Meet with Commissioner Goldmark to discuss the draft.	
In progress	Encourage the establishment of a CR rep on the FPB	
	Seek a funding source to help the committee with this task	Educational Program and Commitments
In progress	Scoping workshop re-scheduled for February 16	
Not started		
In progress	Take up this issue as an education topic for agencies and landowners.	Educational Program and Commitments
On hold	Retry during next biennial budget cycle	DNR Forest Practoces Program support
In progress	Consider DNR's redraft in January	DNR Forest Practoces Program support
On hold	Waiting for the next opportunity	Appendix A Watershed Analysis Manual
New item	Consider at the January meeting	Educational Program and Commitments
On hold	Wait for the Mission etc to be completed	CRPMP Support
On hold	Wait for other higher priority items to ba addressed	

		Communication
		Communication

1st QT 2010 coming up	Submit to Patricia Anderson by January	Communication and Outreach
2009 Complete	Next report due Nov 2010	Annual obligation

Completed Spring 2009

State of Washington
Department of Fish and Wildlife

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Main Office Location: Natural Resources Building, 1111 Washington Street SE, Olympia WA

July 18, 2013

MEMORANDUM

To: **Forest Practices Board**

From: **David Whipple, Former Forest Policy Coordinator** DW

SUBJECT: **UPLAND WILDLIFE UPDATE**

In light of my transition to a new position with the Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), a number of wildlife issues have not received as much attention as is typical. Therefore, this will be a brief update.

Gray Wolf Forest Practices Rule

The Department of Fish and Wildlife continues to examine options for possible modifications of the gray wolf rule. While the Wildlife Work Group has not reached consensus on rule modifications, WDFW remains committed to ensuring appropriate protection for the gray wolf, taking into consideration the species' federal and state status, proposed federal delisting, current Washington population trend, and the potential for various forest practices to disturb wolves. As always, we are willing to explore all avenues to achieve protection.

Landscape Level Wildlife Assessment and Forest Biomass

The department remains supportive of the Landscape Level Wildlife Assessment, and continues to look for potential funding partners and options. This assessment is on the Board's Wildlife Work Plan, but as you recall, the economic recession caused the project to be mothballed after significant progress had been made. The tool would assess current and predict future habitat conditions for numerous upland wildlife species, and could also be used to assess potential implications of various levels of forest biomass removal.

Pending Federal Decisions

My May 14 Forest Practices Board memo contained updates pertaining to federal actions associated with the woodland caribou, wolverine, and fisher. I summarize them here, only with the intent of keeping them on the Board's and the public's radar screens. The earliest action, expected by the end of 2013, will be whether the woodland caribou is a listable entity. Relative to wolverine, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is expected to make a decision whether to list the species by February 2014. And the federal status review of the fisher will be published by Fall of 2014.

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).

Western Gray Squirrel

As you recall from the May 13 meeting, the Board denied a petition for rulemaking to protect nest trees of the western gray squirrel. However, the Board directed DNR staff to work with WDFW to explore operational, administrative or other mechanisms to increase the effectiveness of the current western gray squirrel voluntary protection approach. In addition, WDFW committed to provide guidance to field staff to enable successful enforcement actions for removal of nest trees, and to further investigate potential modifications to WDFW's nest tree protection statutes. The department will provide its findings on the above topics at the November 2013 Board meeting