

April 14, 2021

To: Forest Practices Board’s Water Typing Rule Committee

From: Anadromous Fish Floor Project Team

Subject: Direction for the Anadromous Fish Floor Analysis

The Anadromous Fish Floor Project Team is in the process of preparing a recommendation for a spatial analysis based on the different AFF proposals. This work has included developing a lidar-based hydrolayer in the selected watersheds, compiling anadromous and resident fish data, and checking for errors in the resulting GIS maps displaying these channel and fish data. Most recently, the Project Team has been discussing how the different AFF proposals (tribal and landowner) are to be interpreted and treated in the analysis. These conversations have focused in particular on how to interpret the 5%, 7% and 10% gradient thresholds that were approved by the Board at their May 2018 meeting.

Project team questions for Board Committee on water typing:

There is uncertainty within the AFF Project Team if the Board intended for the 5%, 7%, and 10% gradient floor alternatives to be incorporated into the landowner proposal (as appears to be the case in alternative C – see below), or for the landowner proposal to be written as in alternative ‘D’, and the 5%, 7% or 10% gradient thresholds be analyzed as separate alternatives (alternative ‘E’)?

Recommendation:

To continue making progress on the project, the Project Team recommends analyzing each option from the table below as part of the GIS analysis. If needed, the full Board may clarify its intention with these gradient values, and at a future date provide guidance to the AFF workgroup accordingly.

Alternative A ¹	Alternative C ¹	Alternative D ²	Alternative E ³
Waters within the anadromous fish floor. These are waters connected to saltwater and extending upstream to a sustained 10% gradient or a permanent natural barrier, whichever comes first. These waters contain main stem stream segments and associated tributaries.	Waters within the anadromous fish floor. These are waters connected to saltwater that have a sustained gradient of 5% [or 7% or 10%] or less, and include associated tributaries lacking a 5% gradient increase or permanent natural obstacle at the junction with the main stem.	Waters within the anadromous fish floor. These are waters connected to saltwater that are included in widely available GIS datasets of known and presumed anadromous use (such as SWIFD or StreamNet), and include associated tributaries lacking a 5% gradient increase or permanent natural obstacle at the junction with the main stem.	Waters within the anadromous fish floor. These are waters connected to saltwater and extending to a sustained 5% or [7% or 10%] gradient. These waters contain main stem stream segments and associated tributaries.

¹ Language accepted by the FP Board at the May 2019 Board meeting.

² Language crafted by AFF Project Team to reflect the AFF proposal as explained by the large landowner caucus in April 2021.

³ Language crafted by the project team. This alternative includes the 5%, 7%, or 10% component of alternative C, but does not include the natural barrier component of alternative A or the 5% gradient increase component of alternative D.