STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

BOARD OF NATURAL RESOURCES

RESOLUTION NO. 1110

A **RESOLUTION** authorizing the Department of Natural Resources to prepare the Final Environmental Impact Statement for Sustainable Forest Management of State Trust Lands in Western Washington.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF NATURAL RESOURCES, DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, STATE OF WASHINGTON, THAT THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES SHALL BE INCORPORATED INTO THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE:

SECTION 1. State law (formerly RCW 79.68, recodified at Laws of 2003, Ch. 334, sec. 555(3)) directs the DNR to apply "sustained yield" management to state trust forestlands. The law requires the DNR to periodically adjust acreages designated for inclusion in the sustained yield management program, and calculate a sustainable forestry harvest level.

SECTION 2. The "sustainable harvest level" means the volume of timber to be scheduled for sale from state-owned lands during a planning decade. This is part of DNR's strategic plan for sustainable forest management. It provides for sustainable harvesting on a continuing basis without major prolonged curtailment or cessation of harvest, as required by state law.

SECTION 3. A draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) was issued, November 2003. The DEIS identified six alternatives without identifying a preferred alternative. Scoping comments, multiple public meetings, extensive written comments on the DEIS, direct public comments to the Board of Natural Resources, special Board Sustainable Forestry Workshops, comments from the Sustainable Forestry Technical Committee,

outputs from the ***Options*** policy simulation model, and the DEIS itself, all have provided important information that has led to the development of the preferred alternative.

SECTION 4. The Preferred Alternative shall be analyzed in the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). The DNR shall publish the FEIS and present its findings to the Board of Natural Resources and the public during May 2004. The Preferred Alternative shall be based upon the following statements and the documents referenced in Section 6:

A. Inter-decadal sales variability shall be limited to +/- 25%, based on volume.

B. The model calculation will be based on value. Operational management will also use volume to make stand-level decisions to capture forest value growth while managing the total inventory.

C. Sustainable harvest calculation groups shall be twenty (17 Forest Board Counties, Capital Forest, Olympic Experimental Forest (OESF) and all federal grants and Forest Board Purchased as a single group).

D. Actively manage the land base consistent with our fiduciary and Habitat Conservation Plan responsibilities.

E. Maturity criteria that reflect forest health and value-based considerations will be used by the DNR to provide professional management of the forested trust assets.

F. Bio-diversity pathways will be used to simultaneously increase the production of trust revenue and complex forest habitat with a priority for habitat areas, and across the landscape as appropriate.

G. Old Growth Research Areas continue to be deferred. Over time, target 10-15% of each westside HCP planning units for the development of older forests as defined by structural characteristics provided that existing old growth (as defined by the HCP) and older stands will be a priority focus in developing HCP planning unit targets.

H. The "50/25" strategy is removed and cumulative effects will be addressed through other SEPA processes.

I. The HCP directions shall replace the current legacy & reserve tree requirements.

J. For northern spotted owls:

   a. Nesting/roosting/foraging and Dispersal Management: implement the HCP strategy for 50% habitat targets.

   b. Prior to 2007, protect circles identified in Owl Memo #1.

   c. Prior to 2007, protect Stat 1-R circles outside of the OESF.

   d. Prior to 2006, protect SW owl circles other than those above.

   e. Prior to 2005, protect owl circles in the OESF.

K. Riparian management shall be consistent with the HCP requirements and agreement with the federal services.

L. The Department shall annually report to the Board of Natural Resources its assessment of the environmental and economic results of implementing the Preferred Alternative. The Department shall employ a structured monitoring and reporting program.

SECTION 5. The Department shall present an analysis to the Board of Natural Resources during the May 2004 meeting that identifies hiring, implementation timelines and cash flow necessary to transition to the Preferred Alternative management practices and associated harvest levels. The Department is directed to prepare a Preferred Alternative that shall meet an average annual harvest target of 636mmbf as soon as possible.

SECTION 6. The FEIS shall take guidance from the following documents in the preparation of the FEIS and its Preferred Alternative: Document One (Management Principles and Objectives, February 3, 2004 as amended by the Board February 17, 2004). Document Two (The description of the Preferred Alternative as presented and amended by the Board on February 17, 2004).

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Natural Resources, Department of Natural Resources, State of Washington, this second day of March, 2004.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of the Commissioner of Public Lands.

DOUG SUTHERLAND
Commissioner of Public Lands

Approved as to form,
March 2, 2004

Phil Ferester, AAG