WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources

PETER GOLDMARK
Washington State Commissioner of Public Lands

MEMORANDUM

October 19, 2012

TO: Forest Practices Board

FROM: Jim Hotvedt, Adaptive Management Program Administrator

SUBJECT: December 2007 storm mass wasting landslide study report - update

In my August 2012 quarterly Forest Practices Board (Board) meeting staff report, I reported on the status of a CMER non-consensus report entitled "The Mass Wasting Effectiveness Monitoring Project: An Examination of the Landslide Response to the December 2007 Storm in Southwestern Washington," commonly referred to as the "post-mortem" study. As a reminder, the report associated with the post-mortem study has gone through multiple drafts, including revisions in response to Independent Scientific Peer Review (ISPR) comments. Despite the many rewrites, some CMER members continued to have concerns with the report and have not agreed to approve the most recent version as a final report. Because CMER did not have consensus, and because some members did not believe further efforts at reconciling differences would be productive, the CMER co-chairs chose to forward the most recent version to Policy as a non-consensus report.

At the time of the August quarterly Board meeting, Policy was in formal dispute resolution and in the process of determining how to proceed in resolving remaining report issues. At its October 2012 meeting, Policy agreed on a process for coming to resolution on the dispute. That process includes:

1. CMER answering the six questions listed in the Policy/CMER Framework Interaction table contained in Board Manual 22 Guidelines for Adaptive Management Program based on the latest, non-consensus version of the post-mortem report (Version 8a). If any of the answers to the six questions cannot be completed and approved with CMER consensus, CMER will include dissenting opinion answers to the questions.

2. The Adaptive Management Program Administrator reviewing Version 8a of the study, the ISPR response matrix, the CMER minority reports, the report authors' response to the minority reports, the CMER co-chairs' transmittal memo to Policy, and CMER's response to the six questions to develop a memo that summarizes the unresolved issues categorized according to whether they are ISPR-related, whether study authors responded, how the authors responded, and why author responses were deemed inadequate by dissenters. This memo will include a discussion of the forest practice rule and/or guidance implications.

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3. The Adaptive Management Administrator assembling a Findings Report Package for distribution to Policy that includes:
    - CMER's answers to the six questions (CMER's Findings Report),
    - The Adaptive Management Administrator's summary,
    - Version 8a of the post-mortem report,
    - The CMER Co-chairs' transmittal memo dated 30 May 2012,
    - ISPR response matrix,
    - Minority reports, and
    - Authors' response to minority reports.

4. CMER completing a synthesis consistent with the Board Manual. Need for a separate synthesis will be determined after a review of the content contained in CMER's Findings Report and "completeness" of the discussion chapter in Version 8a of the report.

5. Upon receipt of the Findings Report Package, Policy will begin its process to determine how to respond to questions 7, 8, and 9 in the Policy/CMER Framework Interaction document as referenced above.

Once this process is completed, Policy will have gone through all the formal Adaptive Management Program process steps for determining 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 that CMER and the AMPA have provided.

At this time it is nearly impossible to predict when you might receive recommendations from Policy. The authors are expected to have a draft Findings Report (which includes answers to the six Policy/CMER interaction questions) completed by the end of November. The draft will then be reviewed by CMER for comment and approval, including by CMER and UPSAG members who submitted minority reports stating why they could not approve the final post-mortem report. As per Policy direction, any dissenting opinions to the answers in the Findings Report will be included in the answers.

My best guess is that Policy will not see the Findings Report anytime sooner than its January 2013 meeting. At that time, Policy will need to decide if it will also need a synthesis. If Policy does request a synthesis, Policy deliberations will be months away. If not, then Policy will likely be able to start its deliberations on recommended rule and/or guidance changes based on the post-mortem report and Findings Report in early 2013.

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources

PETER GOLDMARK
Commissioner of Public Lands

October 29, 2012

MEMORANDUM

TO: Forest Practices Board

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

SUBJECT: Forest Practices Board Manual

The Forest Practices Board Manual serves as a technical supplement to the forest practices rules. The priority for DNR staff is to initiate board manual development for rulemakings that will require technical guidance.

The Board has initiated rulemaking to integrate hydraulic projects into the forest practices rules and accompanying board manual section as required in legislation (2ESSB 6406) and Policy has initiated the process to review and make recommendations to the board for reform of the Adaptive Management Program as outlined in the May 2012 Settlement Agreement. Therefore, Forest Practices staff has initiated development of guidance for the new Forest Practices Hydraulic Project board manual section; and is preparing to initiate work amending Section 22, *Guidelines for Adaptive Management Program*.

If you have any questions feel free to call me at 360.902.1390.

ME/

October 29, 2012

MEMORANDUM

TO: Forest Practices Board

FROM: Walt Obermeyer, Compliance Monitoring Program Administrator

SUBJECT: Status of Compliance Monitoring

2012 Field Sampling

The 2012 field work is 82% complete for the standard sample. Additionally, an emphasis sample observing RMZs on Exempt 20-acre Parcel FPAs began in September and is well under way. Altogether, 53 FPAs remain to be field reviewed. The expected finish for both samples is mid-December. Staff participation in the active fire season caused a later finish than planned.

Annual Report Preparation

Staff is now editing the structure of the annual report to provide greater readability. The stakeholder committee will review the structure changes in early winter. The data analysis planned later this winter allows several months for stakeholder review prior to summer publication.

2013 Field Sampling

The population of FPAs has been randomly ranked and is being screened to establish the sample. The 2013 population is larger than 2012 due to a change in the time period considered. To avoid situations where the FPA operations were not complete, the program advanced the ending date each year from July 31 to March 31. In 2012 the population included approved FPAs submitted over an eight month period. In 2013 the population will include approved FPAs submitted over a one year period. The sample size is approximately 1/3 larger to maintain the target 12% confidence interval for each prescription type. Because of this increased workload the program will not perform any emphasis samples in 2013.

WO/

TFW/Forests and Fish Policy
Forest Practices Board

P.O. Box 47012, Olympia, WA 98504-7012

Policy Co-Chairs: Stephen Bernath, Department of Ecology
Adrian Miller, Longview Timber LLC

TO: Forest Practices Board

FROM: Stephen Bernath, Co-Chair
Adrian Miller, Co-Chair

DATE: October 30, 2012

SUBJECT: Policy Priorities Staff Report

The Forests and Fish Policy Committee (Policy) is continuing to work toward the completion of its top two priorities; development of the Type – N Water strategy and a comprehensive review of the Type – F Water rule.

Type – N Water Strategy
The Policy Type – N subcommittee has scheduled meetings to complete their review of strategies to identify a process to find the upper most point of perennial flow in Type – N Waters and assure that the CMER Type – N effectiveness monitoring projects will provide needed information to make policy determinations on rule effectiveness. The subcommittee is reviewing a report prepared by a technical ad-hoc group based on reviews of Type – N field studies, the existing processes being used for determining the upper most point of perennial flow in Type – N Waters, and the draft forest practices board manual to identify the upper most point of perennial flow in Type – N Waters. Once the review is completed, the Policy subcommittee will develop recommendations for Policy to consider. Completion of this comprehensive strategy will accomplish a Clean Water Act Assurances milestone.

Type – F Water Typing
The Policy Type – F subcommittee has scheduled meetings to assess the effectiveness of the current processes for determining the Type – F/N Water break and the interplay between the interim and permanent Type – F Water rules. This assessment has revealed that many process improvements have been completed within the Department of Natural Resources and with Agency and other stakeholder interactions. An operational and technical committee is due to complete an evaluation of the interplay between the interim and permanent rule by December. As work on the Type – N Water Strategy winds down, the Policy Type – F subcommittee will review the process improvements and the interplay evaluation and from that develop a course of action that may lead to recommendations to Policy for the transition from the interim water typing rule to a permanent rule.

cc: Forest Practice Board Liaisons
FFR Policy

October 25, 2012

TO: Chair Young and members of the Forest Practices Board

FROM: Andrew Hayes and Lauren Burnes, DNR on behalf of the Northern Spotted Owl Implementation Team

SUBJECT: Update on Activities of the Northern Spotted Owl Implementation Team (NSOIT)

Since our last update to the Board, the NSOIT has met four times and has an additional meeting scheduled in mid December. In addition, the NSOIT has (1) completed one eastside pilot project field tour in Entiat; (2) provided guidance and oversight to the NSOIT Technical Team and facilitate their interaction with The US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS); and (3) agreed to near-term actions for the group to guide the NSOIT's efforts and communicate with interested parties.

Technical Team Process: In August, the Technical Team met to refine their draft list of federal baseline and alternative non-federal scenarios. On October 24th, the Technical Team shared with USFWS their approach to draft scenarios and GIS process using federal critical habitat modeling tools, and is scheduling additional discussion on undertaking a cooperative effort to utilize federal models to answer key questions posed by the NSOIT related to their objectives. The Technical Team's progress is dependent on the availability of USFWS staff to assist, which has been limited due to the pending release of the 2012 Critical Habitat rule for the Northern Spotted Owl in November. While the USFWS has been able to provide preliminary data and nominal consultation with the technical team to date, success for the Technical Team is reliant on increased engagement with the Service. The Technical Team and NSOIT are mindful of their time and resource constraints and therefore strive to develop the most cost-effective and efficient process that will provide the most useful information to the NSOIT.

Eastside Pilot Project: The goal of the eastside pilot project is to explore whether prescriptions for thinning overstocked stands on the eastside could be both economically and operationally feasible. Success of the pilot is a high priority for the NSOIT as it could demonstrate how incentives would be applied to promote beneficial management of spotted owl habitat on non-federal lands. This August, the NSOIT pilot project team met in Entiat for a field tour to take an initial look at stands within the pilot location and held a discussion on possible treatments and methods to consider for the pilot. The initial field tour did not yield appropriate candidate stands for the team to explore; therefore, we are currently working with Longview Timber, our project partner, to scope additional stands on their lands for a possible second field tour in November. Results from cruises and weather conditions will ultimately determine whether the team is able to get out in the field in early November. A successful field visit would allow the team to discuss treatments this winter for possible treatment next summer. Additionally, USFWS has committed $25,000 towards the work of this project team and scoping of the pilot project.

Near-Term Actions of the NSOIT: The NSOIT has nearly finalized an agreement on near-term actions for the group that capture the group's planned efforts over the next 6-12 months. The plan will communicate to external entities and potential funders the focus and priorities of the group over the next year. While the document is still a draft, components will include: (1) investigating and recommending market-based and or government program-based mechanisms geared at encouraging both large industrial and small landowners to engage in habitat creation, improvement, and maintenance as well as other conservation (with three initial areas of inquiry under development); (2) funding a pilot project to test the operational and financial feasibility of improving or creating habitat for the northern spotted owl in unhealthy overstocked eastern WA stands; (3) identifying priority areas for investing in volunteer conservation efforts on non-federal lands, which will be accomplished by assistance from the NSOIT Technical Team in cooperation with USFWS's NSO habitat modeling team using tools developed for the federal critical habitat rule; and (4) continuing to be informed on the status of the project and EIS for the *Experimental Removal of Barred Owls to Benefit Threatened Northern Spotted Owls.* These four near-term actions implement four of the consensus recommendations and direction of the Forest Practices Board from the January 10th, 2010 board meeting, but have been prioritized over other work plan components in the near-term.

We will be available during the November Board meeting should you have any questions.

NORTHERN SPOTTED OWL IMPLEMENTATION TEAM
WORK PLAN

On February 10, 2010 the Forest Practices Board (Board) accepted the consensus recommendations of the Northern Spotted Owl Policy Working Group, and directed DNR to form an Implementation Team (NSOIT) of five members: DNR, WDFW, industry, conservation caucus, and a land trust group.

The Board also directed the NSOIT to develop a work plan, including prioritization, and directed the team to coordinate with the federal agencies with regard to the Barred Owl control experiments.

In addition, the Board directed the NSOIT to formally convene a technical team to assess spatial and temporal allocation of conservation efforts on nonfederal lands using best available science.

While the Board has been provided regular status updates of the NSOIT's work items, the following represents the group's formal prioritized work plan, and is intended to provide information relative to the status and next steps of each recommendation. Information in the work plan will be modified as progress is made on existing tasks, when new tasks are identified, etc.

Item	Status	Next Steps
Endorse a Voluntary Incentives Program For Landowners to Achieve Conservation Goals	Members of the NSOIT are investigating the feasibility of convening a conservation funding summit in the winter, which may include a panel of landowners, land trusts, conservation organizations, and economists to explore issues related to funding conservation actions and to explore the question: "under what conditions are landowners willing to pursue transactions related to conservation?" Bettina Von Hagan (EcoTrust) & Cindy Mitchell (WFPA) interviewed an expert in the field of forest incentives (Becca Madsen, Biodiversity Program Manager at Ecosystem Marketplace, Washington, D.C.) and have provided background material to the NSOIT on various ecosystem service markets around the world. They also included links to suggested reading as well as contacts for the various markets. House Bill 2541 was passed in 2010, and will dovetail with efforts of the NSOIT. DNR is required to develop landowner conservation proposals, including both markets and conservation easements, which support forest landowners by December 31, 2011. In the development of the proposals, the DNR must consult with the Board, Indian tribes, small forest landowners, conservation groups, industrial foresters, and state, federal, and local government. The proposed initiatives, if any, must be presented to the Governor, the Legislature, the Commissioner of Public Lands, and the Board. The DNR must also offer to present its findings to the Washington congressional delegation, local governments, and appropriate agencies of the federal government. Paula Swedeen attended the World Resources Institute/American Forest Foundation Conference in Madison, WI at the end of June and led a discussion session on incentives for owl conservation. Participants gave the following recommendations: 1) Develop a state-level "Conservation Stamp" program similar to the federal Duck Stamp program that is used for wetlands conservation.	1. Possible Conservation Funding Summit 2. Have a discussion on which market(s) and/or framework would work best for NSO habitat in WA 3. Develop a list of questions relative to NSO habitat markets possibilities for future conference calls w/ experts. 4. Pending NSOIT follow-up: recommend to FPB inclusion of NSO habitat outside of SOSEAs for RHOSP. 5. The NSOIT Technical Team process includes developing incentive-based recommendations to best achieve desired conservation outcomes from biological recommendations; their work will help inform the NSOIT of voluntary incentives programs for landowners to achieve conservation goals.

	Commission artists to design stamps, sell them with hunting licenses and at recreational good stores, legislatively protect the proceeds so they are used for buying easements on owl habitat/restoration areas; 2) Raise funds from development impact fees; 3)Take advantage of overlap of funds from other ecosystem service priorities such as source drinking water protection areas and watersheds important for salmon; 4) prioritize funds in next Farm Bill (all acknowledged challenges in current federal budget climate). Mark Nechodem, Special Assistant to Secretary Vilsack agreed that targeting funds from the Farm Bill like the Healthy Forest Reserve Program, was a good idea, and he would help us advocate for it. The Encumbered State Forest Land Transfer program, enabled in 2009, provides the necessary tools for the state to maintain long-term working forests and trust revenue to small rural counties. It does so by acquiring productive working forest lands to replace State Forest lands encumbered by harvest restrictions due to Endangered Species Act-listed species, thereby maintaining the corpus of the State Forest trusts. Encumbered habitat lands have to meet two requirements. They have to (a) be located in counties with a population less than 25,000, and (b) be encumbered with timber harvest deferrals that are associated with federal ESA-listed wildlife species and greater than 30 years in length. Lastly, when transferred, lands that meet these criteria must be appraised at fair market value without consideration of management or regulatory encumbrances associated with the listed species' habitat. Once transferred using the Trust Land Transfer program, lands are placed in Natural Resources Conservation Areas. DNR submitted a report to the Legislature in October 2010 detailing implementation of the program, including an estimate of its overall cost. DNR then submitted to the 2011 Legislature a FY 11-13 funding proposal of $2 million to begin implementation of the program. The proposal, funded in the capital budget, will allow DNR to transfer three small encumbered properties, one each in Pacific, Wahkiakum and Skamania counties. While the timber value will go	

	to the beneficiaries of the trusts, the land value identified in the appraisal will go to a revolving fund to be used for the purchase of new unencumbered forested trust lands to be managed for the long term benefit of those beneficiaries.	
Support an Action Program: Outreach to Owners Of Specific Lands Inside And Outside Of SOSEAs	The NSOIT has disused this item, which is intended to conduct outreach to specific landowners who may wish to secure important NSO habitat that is currently not protected.	Work on this will be enhanced after the team convenes and obtains results from the Board-mandated Technical Team, which will assess the spatial and temporal strategic allocation of conservation efforts on nonfederal lands. See the last item on this work plan. Develop communication strategy, including possible outreach materials for distribution once mechanisms are in place. Cindy (WFPA) has expressed interest in assisting the NSOIT with the outreach program once this component is ready to be addressed.
Promote Barred Owl Control Experiments and Research	The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the lead agency on Barred Owl control experiments, and the NSOIT is coordinating with the Service on the progress of these experiments, through the Barred Owl Working Group operating within the context of the Northern Spotted Owl Recovery Planning process.	There is not a lot of activity on this issue outside of the Barred Owl EIS process. The NSOIT has requested an update from USFWS once the Barred Owl EIS is finalized in early 2013. The NSOIT continues to track the progress of the Barred Owl EIS process and to-be-rechartered Barred Owl Working Group.
Continue the Current Decertification Process for owls Sites During a Transition Period	This item has been accomplished. The Forest Practices Board adopted a permanent rule in May 2010 which establishes a three-member, multi-stakeholder Spotted Owl Conservation Advisory Group that makes a determination on whether owl site centers and surrounding habitat is important to the Northern Spotted Owl while the Forest Practices Board determines a long-term strategy for spotted owl habitat	Membership will be reconsidered and possibly updated at the November 2012 Forest Practices Board Meeting. To date, the Conservation Advisory Group has not been convened.

	conservation. The Advisory Group makes their determination after the Department of Fish and Wildlife determines that surveys for Northern Spotted Owls have met survey protocols that indicate the absence of spotted owls.	
Initiate Two Washington Pilot Projects for Thinning and Habitat	1. A FPB Pilot Rule was adopted to allow one pilot project with Longview Timber in the Entiat SOSEA. The project would explore whether thinning in highly stocked suitable owl habitat will improve habitat quality and is operationally and economically feasible. Efforts to secure funding to conduct the thinning project have not been successful. 2. A Section 6 grant application was submitted to thin and defer Westside forest with the goal of accelerating NSO habitat development. This application was not funded.	**Eastside Pilot:** This pilot is currently underway. Project team members have been identified to staff the Entiat pilot. The pilot team held an initial meeting on June 25th to go over stand data produced by Longview Timber and began discussing logistics. Members went on a field tour to the project location last August and have a tentative additional field tour date in November. It is anticipated that an additional meeting will be held subsequent to the field tour in order to begin scoping a process for developing prescriptions for thinning overstocked suitable spotted owl habitat. Initial planning up front will assist Andy and Lauren in developing grant proposals for funding to support the planning and implementation phases of the pilot. **Westside Pilot:** Non-profits (Pacific Forest Trust and Seattle Audubon) are working to advance owl-related Section 6 projects with landowners for the 2012 funding cycle. Due to lack of financial support for the pilot, initial attempts at initiating the project have been unsuccessful. The NSOIT is investigating whether, and how, this project, or a similar project, could be

		reinitiated.
Support Identification and Design of a Flagship Incentive Project	The concept is to test incentives options on a landscape scale, possibly w/ multiple landowners, in order to achieve significant conservation value and competitive, economically sustainable forest management.	Investigate and possibly find areas of opportunity to learn from or collaborate with other efforts, i.e., Tapash Collaborative, Oregon Safe Harbor Agreement, etc. Further efforts are contingent on information obtained from incentive pilots, funding, etc. A pilot under the auspices of ESHB 2541 in the Nisqually River Basin is in early planning stages. Landowners and other participants in the pilot are interested in having a component focusing on owls, in addition to murrelets, water, and possibly carbon.
Approve Measures of Success	"Measures of Success" were recommended to the FPB, which accepted the final report of the Northern Spotted Owl Policy Working Group.	Re-assess previously proposed "Measures of Success," determine if they provide the proper metrics. Consider updating and reporting FPB.
Convene a Technical Team to Assess Spatial and Temporal Allocation of Conservation Efforts on Nonfederal Lands Using Best Available Science	This is the current focus of the NSOIT. The technical team component of our work plan has commenced now that the Final Northern Spotted Owl Recovery Plan and draft Critical Habitat rule has been released, which contains critical modeling tools intended to assess the importance of different scenarios of blocks of land to be managed for the Northern Spotted Owl. During the NSOIT meeting last August, Brian Woodbridge gave a presentation on how modeling information can be useful for WA State. Last March, Ken Berg (USFWS) presented information on the draft NSO Critical Habitat and draft Barred Owl EIS to the NSOIT and Technical Team. The final Critical Habitat rule will be available on November 15, 2012. In April, the Technical Team held a meeting	The Technical Team is currently developing federal and non-federal baseline scenarios to compare against future modeling runs. In addition, the team is currently working on determining how much can already be answered with existing information and identifying what would need to be answered with additional modeling runs. The Technical Team met with USFWS in October to share their draft scenarios, next steps include scheduling an additional conversation to discuss the logistical aspect of getting the modeling

	with Brian Woodbridge (USFWS) and discussed how we can cooperate with the USFWS modeling team to answer key analytical questions developed by the Technical Team. In October, the Technical Team shared their draft scenarios with USFWS for initial feedback, more back and forth with the USFWS modelers will be needed during the process to ensure the Technical Team understands the utility and capability of using the critical habitat modeling tool for their analysis.	done.

Other Processes the NSOIT is tracking that might be relevant and fruitful:
WWRP appraisal process
Funding

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PETER GOLDMARK
Washington State Commissioner of Public Lands

MEMORANDUM

October 29, 2012

TO: Forest Practices Board

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

SUBJECT: Rule Making Activity

Following is an update on rule making activity.

Conversion Activities and Forest Practices Applications – At your November meeting, staff will request your adoption of forest practices rules to incorporate a number of amendments to the Forest Practices Act. This rulemaking incorporates changes related to conversion activities resulting from recent legislation including Senate Bill 5883 (2007 legislation) and HB 1582 (2011 legislation). The rule proposal also includes some changes related to Second Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 6406 (2012 legislation).

2ESSB 6406 - Staff will request your approval to initiate rulemaking to incorporate the fish protection standards in the hydraulic code rules into the Forest Practices rules. A draft rule proposal to initiate rulemaking is expected at your May meeting.

WAC 222-16-080 Critical Habitat – Staff will request your approval to initiate rulemaking to amend rules identifying which wildlife plans are required to be reviewed under the State Environmental Policy Act and the critical habitat definition for gray wolf. A draft rule proposal to initiate rulemaking is expected at your May meeting.

If you have any questions feel free to call me at 360.902.1390.

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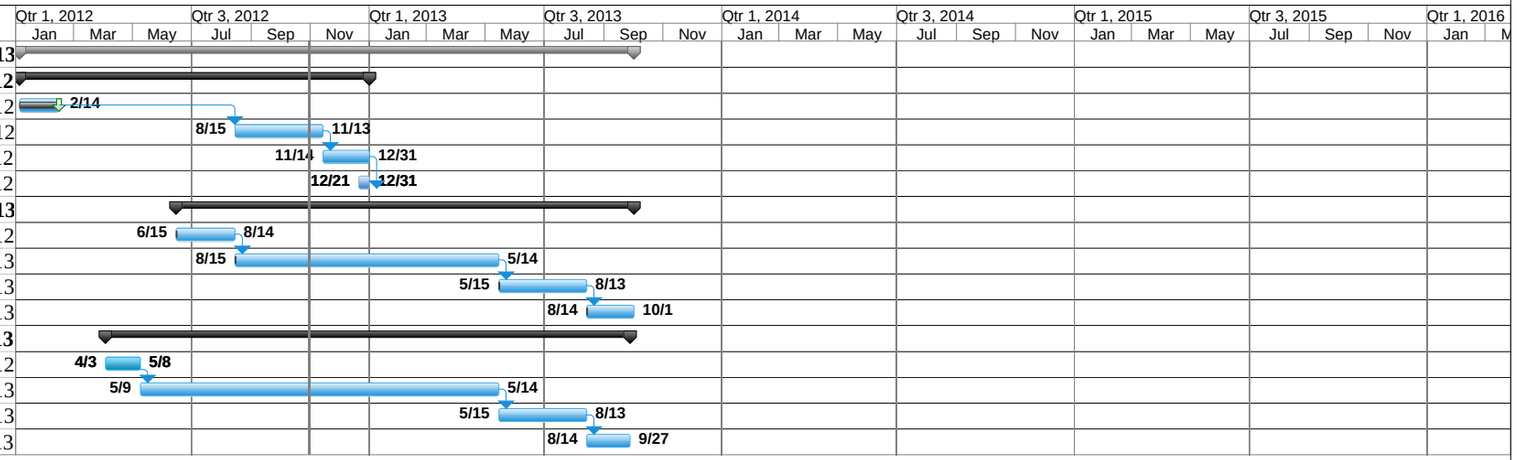
FOREST PRACTICES BOARD
2012-2013 Rule Making Schedule

ID	Task Name	Start	Finish
0	**2012-2013 Rule Making Schedule**	**Thu 1/5/12**	**Tue 10/1/13**
1	**Conversion Activities / FPA**	**Thu 1/5/12**	**Mon 12/31/12**
2	CR101	Thu 1/5/12	Tue 2/14/12
3	CR102 (CBA, SBEIS, SEPA)	Wed 8/15/12	Tue 11/13/12
4	CR103	Wed 11/14/12	Mon 12/31/12
5	Estimated effective date	Fri 12/21/12	Mon 12/31/12
6	**WAC 222-16-080**	**Fri 6/15/12**	**Tue 10/1/13**
7	CR101	Fri 6/15/12	Tue 8/14/12
8	CR102 (CBA, SBEIS, SEPA)	Wed 8/15/12	Tue 5/14/13
9	CR103	Wed 5/15/13	Tue 8/13/13
10	Estimated effective date	Wed 8/14/13	Tue 10/1/13
11	**HPA/FPA (2ESSB 6406)**	**Tue 4/3/12**	**Fri 9/27/13**
12	CR101	Tue 4/3/12	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	Estimated effective date	Wed 8/14/13	Fri 9/27/13



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
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MEMORANDUM

October 29, 2012

TO: Forest Practices Board

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

SUBJECT: Small Forest Landowner Office and Advisory Committee

Small Forest Landowner Advisory Committee
The Small Forest Landowner Advisory Committee did not meet this reporting period.

Forestry Riparian Easement Program (FREP)
DNR continues to receive new applications for the FREP. There are currently 88 landowners that have applied for a forestry riparian easement with a total of 101 applications on file (some landowners have more than one easement application).

Forestry Riparian Easement Program Outreach

- Small Forest Landowner Office (SFLO) staff is in the process of creating a promotional and educational brochure about the program. The brochure will increase awareness to the public and encourage eligible landowners to apply for forestry riparian easements.
- SFLO staff continues to interact with stakeholders at Timber/Fish/Wildlife (TFW) and staff at DNR Region District Meetings to provide updates about the changes to the FREP.

Rivers and Habitat Open Space Program (R&HOSP)
As stated in the previous report to the Board, the DNR administered R&HOSP is funded by the State Legislature through the Riparian Open Space Program. Though the R&HOSP was not funded in the 2011-13 biennium, DNR has requested funding the program at $4 million in the next biennial budget.

To demonstrate landowner interest and environmental benefits through the funding of this program, the SFLO is asking forest landowners to indicate their interest in submitting a R&HOSP application (once funding becomes available) by filing a Notice of Intent form with DNR. This form is not an application for RHOSP. The SFLO is gathering these forms and the results are shown in the table below. At present, landowners are showing interest in Skamania, Klickitat, Clallam, Yakima, Jefferson, Whatcom, Pacific, and Pierce counties. The SFLO will continue to gather Notice of Intent forms and will make the list of interested landowners available to the legislature and any other interested parties for the upcoming legislative session.

Rivers and Habitat Open Space Program From 16 Notice of Intent forms collected as of October 15, 2012	**TOTAL ACRES**
Total acres of CMZ	**407**
Total acres of Northern Spotted Owl Habitat (NSO)	**1,195**
Total acres of Marbled Murrelet Habitat (MM)	**318**
Total acres of a mixture of NSO and MM Habitat	**359**
TOTAL ACRES	**2,279**

Family Forest Fish Passage Program (FFFPP)

During the 2012 construction season, the FFFPP eliminated 19 fish passage barriers on 15 landowner's properties opening up 55.7 miles of fish habitat. The FFFPP has now cumulatively eliminated 251 fish passage barriers, reconnecting 540 miles of habitat. Two projects scheduled for this year were deferred until next year, but by working closely with the project sponsors and engineers, Program staff coordinated the completion of an additional four sites that had originally been planned for 2013. With an additional $10 million dollars received from the Legislatures Jobs Bill, the FFFPP will be completing approximately 50 projects per year, for the next two years.

Family Forest Fish Passage Program Outreach

- The Family Forest Fish Passage Program (FFFPP) has amplified outreach efforts to the public through widespread mass media messages. Articles outlining successful projects to eliminate fish passage barriers and creating safer all season access roads onto small forest landowner properties have been published in the Capital Press, Olympian, Tacoma News Tribune, Landscape Washington, Olympic Peninsula Environmental News, Bellingham Herald, NW Sportsman Magazine, the Walla Walla Union Bulletin, and the Private Landowner Network website; and an airing touting the success and availability of FFFPP to SFL was broadcast on KMAS News Radio.
- SFLO staff is increasing outreach and recruitment efforts to potential landowners through local groups (ex. Rotary Clubs, Society of American Foresters, etc.). In addition, staff continues to interact with stakeholders at TFW meetings and DNR staff at Region District Meetings to provide updates and inform about changes to FFFPP.
- The majority of the filming of the FFFPP outreach video has been completed, with the final product due at the end of the calendar year. When complete, a copy of the video will be sent to the Board.

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 approval of the proposed harvest of the total area identified on the LTA; and the second step, Phase 2, is the resources protection strategies review. There are a total of 108 approved long term applications; which is an increase of 12 approved applications since the end of the last reporting period (07/19/2012).

LTA Applications	**LTA Phase 1**	**LTA Phase 2**	**TOTAL**
Approved	0	108	**108**
Under Review	3	2	**5**
TOTAL	**3**	**110**	**113**

The SFLO is currently updating the long-term application brochure posted on the SFLO website. This update will ensure it reflects the new information regarding the changes to the Forest Practices Application and updating region contact information.

Alternate Plans

The SFLO is developing an Alternate Plan Assistance Guide which will be posted on the small forest landowner website. This Guide is being developed to be used as a tool to help landowners evaluate the resources that need to be addressed when developing an alternate plan. In addition to the Assistance Guide, staff is updating the Frequently Asked Questions document about Alternate Plans.

Below is a compilation of all Alternate Plans that have been approved since 2001. This information is separated into small forest landowners and large landowners and both seem to use the process equally.

Alternate Plans	2001-2003	2004-2006	2007-2009	2010-2012	**Total**
Small Forest Landowners	18	86	79	200	**383**
Large Landowners	57	81	113	128	**379**
Total	**75**	**167**	**192**	**328**	**762**

Forest Stewardship Program

Forest Stewardship Coached Planning Short Courses:

A Forest Stewardship Coached Planning Short Course is currently underway in southwest Washington with others to follow in northwest Washington and the Puget Sound area. The 8-week course (one evening course per week) is offered in partnership with WSU Extension and is the "flagship" of the Forest Stewardship Program. This popular, practical, hands-on short course program began in southwest Washington in 1992. Since then, thousands of forest landowners across the state have learned about being good stewards of their forestland and have prepared their own personalized Forest Stewardship Plan with guidance and "coaching" from natural resource professionals. The Coached Planning program is designed to help forest landowners develop customized management solutions to meet their own unique ownership objectives.

Forest Health and Wildfire Workshops:

During October, DNR, in cooperation with WSU Extension, will conduct landowner's Forest Health workshops in those central Washington communities in which the Commissioner of Public Lands recently issued a Forest Health Warning. Additionally, DNR and several other agencies are working together to conduct an "After the Burn" workshop for landowners affected by the recent large fires in central Washington.

Eastern Washington Forest Landowner Cost-Share Program:

This program continues to provide 50% cost-share funds to help non-federal landowners improve forest health and reduce wildfire and bark beetle risk. The program is primarily funded by competitive grants from the U.S. Forest Service and funding through the state "Jobs Bill".

Program Staffing Update:

DNR's statewide Forest Stewardship Program Wildlife Biologist, Jim Bottorff, retired in September. Efforts are already underway to refill the position. Efforts are also continuing to create and hire a Northwest Washington Stewardship Forester.

Forest Stewardship Program Outreach

- This summer, Washington's Forest Owner's Field Day program achieved a major milestone, since its inception in 1996, the Field Day reached 10,000 attendees! The 2013 Field Days are tentatively in the works for Northwest Washington, North Central Washington, and the southern Idaho Panhandle.
- The Forest Stewardship Program promotes many of its events and classes through the DNR Small Forest Landowner News.

Small Forest Landowner Outreach/Grant Applications

The SFLO has distributed the September issue of Small Forest Landowner News and is in the process of assembling the headlines for the November issue. The Small Forest Landowner Survey remains open with many SFLs continuing to complete the survey and subscribe to the Small Forest Landowner News. The SFLO website has been updated giving the homepage a new look. Please check it out at: www.dnr.wa.gov/sflo. All SFLO program pages are in the process of being updated to ensure user's ease of navigation and accessibility of information.

The SFLO is continuing to seek grant opportunities to support all of the SFL programs. The SFLO, in partnership with Northwest Natural Resources Group, was not awarded funding through the 2013 National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's (NFWF) Conservation Partners Grant. However, there are other grant opportunities through the NFWF and other sources that the SFLO will explore.

One of the SFLO goals is to continue to provide the highest quality outreach to the small forest landowners. Staff will continue to pursue the use of media and social media to inform the public on the programs and the resources offered by the SFLO. Another important goal of the SFLO is to solicit feedback from users and track all program outreach activities to ensure this outreach is effective.

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

Oct 23, 2012

MEMORANDUM

TO: Forest Practices Board

FROM: Timber/Fish/Wildlife Cultural Resources Roundtable Co-Chairs
Jeffrey Thomas, Puyallup Tribe of Indians
Peter Heide, Washington Forest Protection Association

SUBJECT: Quarterly Report of Timber/Fish/Wildlife Cultural Resources Roundtable covering the period since August 2012.

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 every month by the Roundtable and updated here to reflect current activities. Changes from the August report are highlighted in red and italic print.

Since our last report, thanks to Lee Stilson, the Roundtable completed a guide to the use of historic maps in locating historic and cultural sites. The guide provides information on accessing land survey maps and records from as far back as the late 1800 along with other public and private map records to supplement historic site information in Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation files. This guide is a valuable addition to the tools foresters use to prepare and review forest practices applications.

Jeffrey and I will be at the November meeting to answer or comment on questions you may have, and please do not hesitate to contact either of us before the meeting.

jeffrey.thomas@puyalluptribe.com and (253) 405-7478l

pheide@wfpa.org and (360) 791-8299

Enc.

T/F/W Cultural Resources Roundtable					*10/16/2012*	*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		
High	2	Prepare the cultural resource guidance documents and tools as agreed to in the CRPMP					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.	Co-Chairs and DAHP	In progress	Review completed drafts, prepare drafts on remaining sections.	
			Post Roundtable guidance documents and other information and training material on the DNR Forest Practices web site		On going		
High	*3*	Include information about RCW and WAC for historic sites in the instructions for question 7 of the forest practices application and suggest that if the environmental features called out in the instructions are present they should be shown on FPA map.		Sherri	Scoping	*Review the instructions and prepare a draft of a revision*	*This would be an edit to Appendix B of the Cultural Resources Protection and Management Plan*
High	*4*	*Review the State Environmental Policy act rule making by the legislature and participate in the SEPA advisory committee established by the Department of Ecology to draft rules to implement the legislation*		*Gretchen*	*On going*	*Gretchen has established communications with Mary Rossi, Program Director of Applied Preservation Technologies who regularly attends the advisory group representing CR issues*	
High	*5*	*Prepare a training workshop to be for private industrial foresters in the May or June 2013*		*Peter*	*Planning*	*Securing a date and preparing an agenda*	*An education component of the CRPMP*

T/F/W Cultural Resources Roundtable					*10/16/2012*	*Changes from the previous report are in Red or Italics*
Project Priority		**Action Items**	**Lead**	**Status**	**Next Action**	**Relationship to the CRPMP**
Medium	8	Develop a Logo for the Cultural Resources Roundtable	Jeffrey	In progress	*Draft logo under review*	Publicity
Medium	9	CRPMP amendments to consider and further discuss:	Sherri	*Scoping*	*Each member of the Roundtable will bring suggestion for amendments to the January 2012 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				
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)	Jeff and Pete	On hold	Wait for other higher priority items to be addressed	

T/F/W Cultural Resources Roundtable					10/16/2012	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 monthly; (b) Report- to the FP Board at each regular meeting; (c) Review the CRPMP in June 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 Nov 13, Report due Oct 19.		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	Jeff 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	Jeff	*Planning*	*Select calendaring software*	*CRPMP Support*
	4	Emphasize accomplishments when communicating progress on implementing the CRPMP.	All	Post examples of successes and cooperative opportunities on the DNR Forest Practices web site.		Communication
(Moved from projects to on-going tasks)	5	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
(Moved from projects to on-going tasks)	5	Individual caucuses will support funding in the biennium 13-15 budget 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 2013 Legislature	DNR Forest Practices Program support
	7	Seek funding for a CR Module pilot project		On hold	Waiting for the next opportunity	Board Manual Section 11 Appendix J
Completed Items	1	Cultural Resource Protection and Management Plan (CRPMP)		Completed 2003		

T/F/W Cultural Resources Roundtable					10/16/2012	Changes from the previous report are in Red or Italics
Project Priority		**Action Items**	**Lead**	**Status**	**Next Action**	**Relationship to the CRPMP**
	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		

T/F/W Cultural Resources Roundtable					10/16/2012	*Changes from the previous report are in Red or Italics*
Project Priority		**Action Items**	**Lead**	**Status**	**Next Action**	**Relationship to the CRPMP**
	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*

State of Washington
Department of Fish and Wildlife

Mailing Address: 600 Capitol Way N, Olympia WA 98501-1091, (360) 902-2200, TDD (360) 902-2207
Main Office Location: Natural Resources Building, 1111 Washington Street SE, Olympia WA

October 19, 2012

MEMORANDUM

To: **Forest Practices Board**

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

SUBJECT: **UPLAND WILDLIFE UPDATE – GRAY WOLF FOREST PRACTICES RULE**

The Forest Practices Board (Board), at its August 14, 2012 meeting, initiated the rule making process to amend the critical habitat definition for the gray wolf, as well as to clarify which wildlife plans are required to be reviewed under SEPA. The action related to the wolf was recommended by the Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), based on WDFW's Wolf Conservation and Management Plan (wolf plan).

The Wildlife Work Group was assembled and has met three times since the end of July. Work group discussions have centered on relevant aspects of wolf life history, the species' vulnerability to disturbance from various forest practices, the current wolf forest practices rule, WDFW's wolf plan, other information, etc. In addition to the group meetings, numerous discussions have occurred with individual caucuses.

The goal relative to a timeline was to deliver consensus rule language to the Department of Natural Resources by the end of September, in order to facilitate a November 13 Board discussion relative to the next step in the rule making process (a possible CR-102). However, while the Wildlife Work Group has made progress in terms of an increased understanding of wolf protection related to various forest management activities, the group has not reached consensus on language for a revised rule. In addition, there has been a delay in the process relative to the SEPA clarification for wildlife plans.

Therefore, the Wildlife Work Group will continue its work on the wolf rule, with the goal of reaching an agreement on rule language that may be provided to the Board at its February 2013 meeting.