WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources

Peter Goldmark - Commissioner of Public Lands

Western Washington Sustainable Harvest Calculation

For Forested State Trust Lands
A Report to the
Board of Natural Resources

Kyle Blum
May 2015

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Sustainable Harvest Calculation

- March
  - Scoping Comment Summary

- This Month
  - Draft Purpose and Need Revisions

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Sustainable Harvest Calculation
Purpose, Need and Objectives

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SHC Proposal

The proposal is to establish a sustainable harvest level for the 2015 to 2024 fiscal year planning decade for forested state trust lands in western Washington.

Subject to change - May 2015

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SHC Purpose

- The 'Purpose' describes what DNR is trying to achieve

PURPOSE

The purpose of the proposal is to:

- Analyze the sustainable harvest level associated with the Marbled Murrelet Long-Term Conservation Strategy alternatives.
- Analyze alternative courses of action regarding the arrearage from the 2004 to 2014 planning decade; and
- Incorporate new information into an updated model to calculate the decadal sustainable timber harvest level. New information includes changes in the land base, changes in forest inventory, and changes in technology.

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SHC Purpose

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PURPOSE

The purpose describes what DNR is trying to achieve:

- Recalculate a sustainable harvest level consistent with DNR policies, including the *Policy for Sustainable Forests* and the *State Trust Lands Habitat Conservation Plan* (HCP), and applicable state and federal laws.
- Determine a course of action for the arrearage from the 2004 to 2014 fiscal year planning decade.

SHC Need

- The 'Need' describes why DNR is seeking to accomplish the above purpose

NEED

DNR needs to calculate a new sustainable harvest level and determine the best course of action regarding the arrearage consistent with state law and DNR policy.

- RCW 79.10.320 requires DNR to "periodically adjust the acreages designated for inclusion in the sustained yield management program and calculate a sustainable harvest level."

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SHC Need

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The need describes why DNR is seeking to accomplish the above purpose:

- RCW 79.10.320 requires DNR to "manage the state-owned lands under its jurisdiction which are primarily valuable for the purpose of growing forest crops on a sustained yield basis insofar as compatible with other statutory directives. To this end, the department shall periodically adjust the acreages designated for inclusion in the sustained yield management program and calculate a sustainable harvest level."

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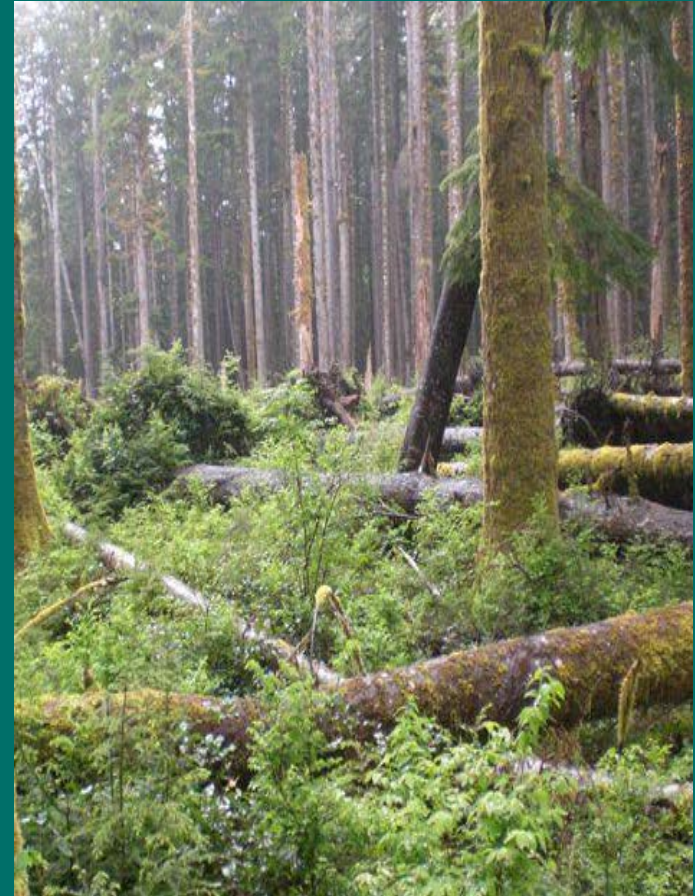www.dnr.wa.gov

SHC Need

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The need describes why DNR is seeking to accomplish the above purpose:

- RCW 79.10.320 requires DNR to "manage the state-owned lands under its jurisdiction which are primarily valuable for the purpose of growing forest crops on a sustained yield basis insofar as compatible with other statutory directives. To this end, the department shall periodically adjust the acreages designated for inclusion in the sustained yield management program and calculate a sustainable harvest level."

- RCW 79.10.330 states that "[i]f an arrearage exists at the end of any planning decade, the department shall conduct an analysis of alternatives to determine the course of action regarding the arrearage which provides the greatest return to the trusts based upon economic conditions then existing and forecast, as well as impacts on the environment of harvesting the additional timber. The department shall offer for sale the arrearage in addition to the sustainable harvest level adopted by the board of natural resources for the next planning decade if the analysis determined doing so will provide the greatest return to the trusts."

- The *Policy for Sustainable Forests* states that "[t]he department, with Board of Natural Resources approval, will recalculate the statewide sustainable harvest level, for Board of Natural Resources adoption no less frequently than every ten years."

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SHC Objectives

- The 'Objectives' describe how the purpose and need statements are fulfilled

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SHC Objectives

- Coordinate with the Marbled Murrelet Long-term Conservation Strategy (LTCS) environmental analysis so that the Board of Natural Resources can consider the effects of the range of Marbled Murrelet LTCS alternatives on the sustainable harvest level and arrearage.

Reason:

To enable DNR to examine marbled murrelet long-term conservation strategy alternatives in the SHC EIS process.

SHC Objectives

- Incorporate new information into an updated model to calculate the sustainable timber harvest level. New information includes changes in the land base, changes in forest inventory, changes in technology, and any updates from the finalized Olympic Experimental State Forest and South Puget HCP Planning unit forest land plans.

Reason:

To incorporate land area changes, new inventory data, and new GIS information, as well as incorporating landscape-specific management strategies developed during forest land planning.

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SHC Objectives

- Consider climate change as part of the affected environment, analyze climate change impacts and benefits of the alternatives, and identify possible mitigation measures that will reduce or eliminate any identified adverse environmental climate change impacts of the proposal.

Reason:

To understand how different harvest levels affect climate benefits and impacts.

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SHC Objectives

- Ensure alternatives analyzed are reasonable, feasible, and consistent with DNR's trust management obligations, existing DNR policies, and applicable state and federal laws.

Reason:
    To comply with DNR's trust mandate and all applicable policies and state and federal laws.

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SHC Objectives

OBJECTIVES

The objectives describe how the purpose and need are fulfilled:

- Coordinate with the Marbled Murrelet Long-term Conservation Strategy (LTCS) environmental analysis so that the Board of Natural Resources can consider the effects of the range of Marbled Murrelet LTCS alternatives on the sustainable harvest level and arrearage.

- Incorporate new information into an updated model to calculate the sustainable harvest level. New information includes changes in the land base, changes in forest inventory, changes in technology, and any updates from the finalized Olympic Experimental State Forest and South Puget HCP Planning Units forest land plans.

- Consider climate change as part of the affected environment, analyze climate change impacts and benefits of the alternatives, and identify possible mitigation measures that will reduce or eliminate any identified adverse environmental climate change impacts of the proposal.

- Ensure alternatives analyzed are reasonable, feasible, and consistent with DNR's trust management obligations, existing DNR policies, and applicable state and federal laws.

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Next Steps

- Marbled Murrelet
  - Biological implications
  - Baseline acres
  - Alternatives

- Sustainable Harvest Calculation
  - Purpose and Need
  - Alternatives

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