

11/4/2021 Dispute Language as revised 11/17/2021:

The Small Forest Land Owner Caucus invokes dispute resolution on lack of consensus for TFW Policy to accept for review and recommendations to the Forest Practice Board the Proposal Initiation requesting inclusion of criteria in board manual 21 to assist the department in determining whether a Small Forest Landowner alternate plan qualifies as a low impact alternate plan. The WFFA PI is based on criteria included in the SFL Advisory Committee recommendation from July 2020.

RCW 76.13.100 (2) (partial) states: “. . . small forest landowners should have the option of alternate management plans or alternate harvest restrictions on smaller harvest units that may have a relatively low impact on aquatic resources”.

WAC 222-12-0403 seeks to further clarify legislative intent regarding smaller harvest restrictions on smaller harvest units that may have a relatively low impact on aquatic resources by indicating that “The (Board) manual should include:(5) Criteria to assist the department in determining whether a small forest landowner alternate plan qualifies as a low impact alternate plan.”

References:

RCW 76.13.100 (2) partial – “The legislature further finds that **small forest landowners should have the option of alternate management plans or alternate harvest restrictions on smaller harvest units that may have a relatively low impact on aquatic resources.** The small forest landowner office should be responsible for assisting small landowners in the development and implementation of these plans or restrictions.”

WAC 222-12-0403- “**The (Board) manual should include:** (3) Template Prescriptions designed to meet resource objectives to address common situations that are repeatedly addressed in alternate plans or strategies to simplify the development of future plans or strategies, including low impact situations and site-specific physical features;” (4) **Appropriate recognition or credit for improving the condition of public resources;** and (5) **Criteria to assist the department in determining whether a small forest landowner alternate plan qualifies as a low impact alternate plan.**”