

Agenda Item No.:	8
Work Plan Title & #:	State Forests Work Plan 2
IBI # & Title:	IBI 6 Improve the Northwest Oregon Forest Management Plan to achieve desired outcomes
Presentation Title:	Options for Peer Review
Date of Presentation:	March 3, 2010
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SUMMARY

The purpose of this agenda item is to update the Board of Forestry on opportunities for scientific review of the revised forest management plans.

CONTEXT

The Board continues to contemplate changes to the Northwest and Southwest State Forest Management Plans. At the September 2009 meeting the Board approved language for the formal rulemaking process, while also expressing eight concerns to be reviewed before final rulemaking decisions, planned for the April Board meeting. The Board requested that the Department advise the Board as to how and when to review these concerns, through Work Plans or periodic status reports. This agenda item addresses concern #4.

*Concern 4. The need for a scientific review, which provides a basis to evaluate the efficacy of the revised FMP, the SAH strategy upon its sunset, and the SOC plan and strategies, including the adaptive management process.
In addition to the scientific review, a review of the social and economic effects of the revised FMP and the Species of Concern Strategy.*

UPDATE

The Department of Forestry has been working with the Independent Multi-Disciplinary Science Team (IMST) to develop options for the Board of Forestry. In addition, the IMST is currently working to meet the needs of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Oregon Water Resources Board.

It is anticipated that IMST could take on two of the Department's projects between now and September 2010. A next step after these two products would be to work with the Board and Department to determine how to meet remaining needs and needs that are outside of the IMST Charter, specifically some of the wildlife questions that are outside the current IMST charter as well as the social and economic questions.

The two products IMST is prepared to concentrate on are:

1. A review of aquatic and riparian goals, strategies, and analysis from the Elliott State Forest. A review of this work will assist ODF in management of the Elliott and will inform management decisions on the NW and SW State Forests where goals and strategies are very similar or the same; this may address the efficacy of the aquatic and riparian goals to meet the forest management plan goals.
2. A review of ODF Species of Concern goals, strategies, and analysis. A review of this work will assist ODF in managing NW forests.

Staff continues to pursue other options for completing the desired reviews.

NEXT STEPS

Staff will provide an update at the March Board of Forestry meeting.

ATTACHMENTS

- (1) Scientific Review Options - Background