

NOTICE OF RULE MAKING HEARINGS

The Forest Practices Board (Board) will hold four hearings to receive comments on proposed forest practices rule amendments affecting WAC 222-30-021 Western Washington riparian management zones.

In response to the DFC study findings, the Board is considering three alternative rule amendments to WAC 222-30-021(1). The intended effects of all of the alternatives are to increase the basal area retained in riparian management zones.

- The first alternative would increase the target basal area per acre to 325 square feet for all site classes.
- The second alternative would increase the target basal area per acre the same as the first alternative, and would also:
 - allow landowners to credit the required inner zone leave trees towards meeting the riparian zone basal area target; and
 - expand the table, "Option 2. Leaving trees closest to water", to provide harvest opportunities in the outer portions of inner zones for site classes III and IV on streams greater than 10 feet in width.
- The third would increase the target basal area per acre the same as the first alternative, and allow landowners to credit the required inner zone leave trees towards meeting the riparian zone basal area target.

You may review documents associated with these rule changes by accessing the Forest Practices Board's rule making activity website at

http://www.dnr.wa.gov/BusinessPermits/Topics/ForestPracticesRules/Pages/fp_rules_activity.aspx.

Under "Current Rule Making Activity" see PDF documents under "Desired Future Condition Performance Targets" sections.

Hearing dates, times, locations are:

Tuesday, December 16, 2008	6:00 p.m.	Borst Park, Kitchen 1, 902 Johnson Road, Centralia
Thursday, December 18, 2008	6:00 p.m.	Port Townsend Fire Station, 701 Harrison St., Port Townsend
Tuesday, January 6, 2009	6:00 p.m.	DNR SE Regional Office, 713 E. Bowers, Ellensburg
Thursday, January 8, 2009	6:00 p.m.	Mt. Vernon Fire Department, Station 3, 4701 E. Division Street, Mt Vernon

The Board will hear oral testimony at the hearings; hard copies of testimonies are appreciated. Comment deadline is January 9, 2009.

Send **written** comments to:

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