

# Sustainable Harvest Level

*A Presentation to the Board of Natural Resources*

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# Agenda

- Why we need a Sustainable Harvest Level
- Decision Process
- Next Steps for 2021
- What's to come in 2022 and beyond



# Why a Sustainable Harvest Level?



- Statute
- Policy
- Prudent land management
- Business need





# Sustainable Harvest Statutes



RCW 79.10.300-320

*(summarized)*

## “Sustainable Harvest Level”

volume of timber  
scheduled for sale  
during a planning decade

## “Sustained yield plans”

provide harvesting on a  
continuing basis without  
curtailment or cessation

## DNR will:

- 🌲 Manage state-owned lands for growing forest crops on a sustained yield basis
  - 🌲 Periodically calculate a sustainable harvest level



# Policy for Sustainable Forests

## Board Policy Objectives



- Create trust income while providing environmental protection and social benefits, consistent with the duties of a fiduciary



- Use professional judgment, best available science and sound field forestry to achieve excellence in public stewardship;



- Promote active, innovative and sustainable stewardship on as much of the forested land base as possible





# Policy for Sustainable Forests



## Definition of Sustainability for the Sustainable Harvest Calculation

- Separate long-term decadal sustainable harvest level for each Sustainable Harvest Unit (SHU) as mean annual volume
- Eastern Washington:
  - SHUs determined as part of Eastern SHC
- Intergenerational equity:
  - +/- 25% preceding decade's level
- Short-term market opportunities:
  - +/- 25% mean annual level
- Analyze and optimize economic value over time

## 20 SHUs

- OESF
- Capital State Forest
- Federally granted lands & State Forest Purchase
- State Forestlands (17 Counties)





# Policy for Sustainable Forests

## Policy on Recalculation of the Sustainable Harvest Level



- ❖ Recalculate the Statewide Sustainable Harvest Level no less frequently than every ten years

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- ❖ Adjust calculation with changing circumstances within planning decade, such as:
  - ❖ Major changes in legal requirements
  - ❖ Significant new board direction
  - ❖ New information about available resource base
  - ❖ Changes in technology







# Trust Manager Fiduciary Duty



- Administering trust in accordance with provisions that created it
- Maintaining undivided loyalty to each trust and beneficiary
- Managing trust assets prudently
- Making trust property productive, while recognizing perpetual nature of trusts
- Dealing impartially with beneficiaries
- Reducing risk of loss to trusts





Climate  
Disturbance

Meet Trust  
Responsibilities

**Prudent  
Land  
Manager**



Ecological Health  
and Habitat





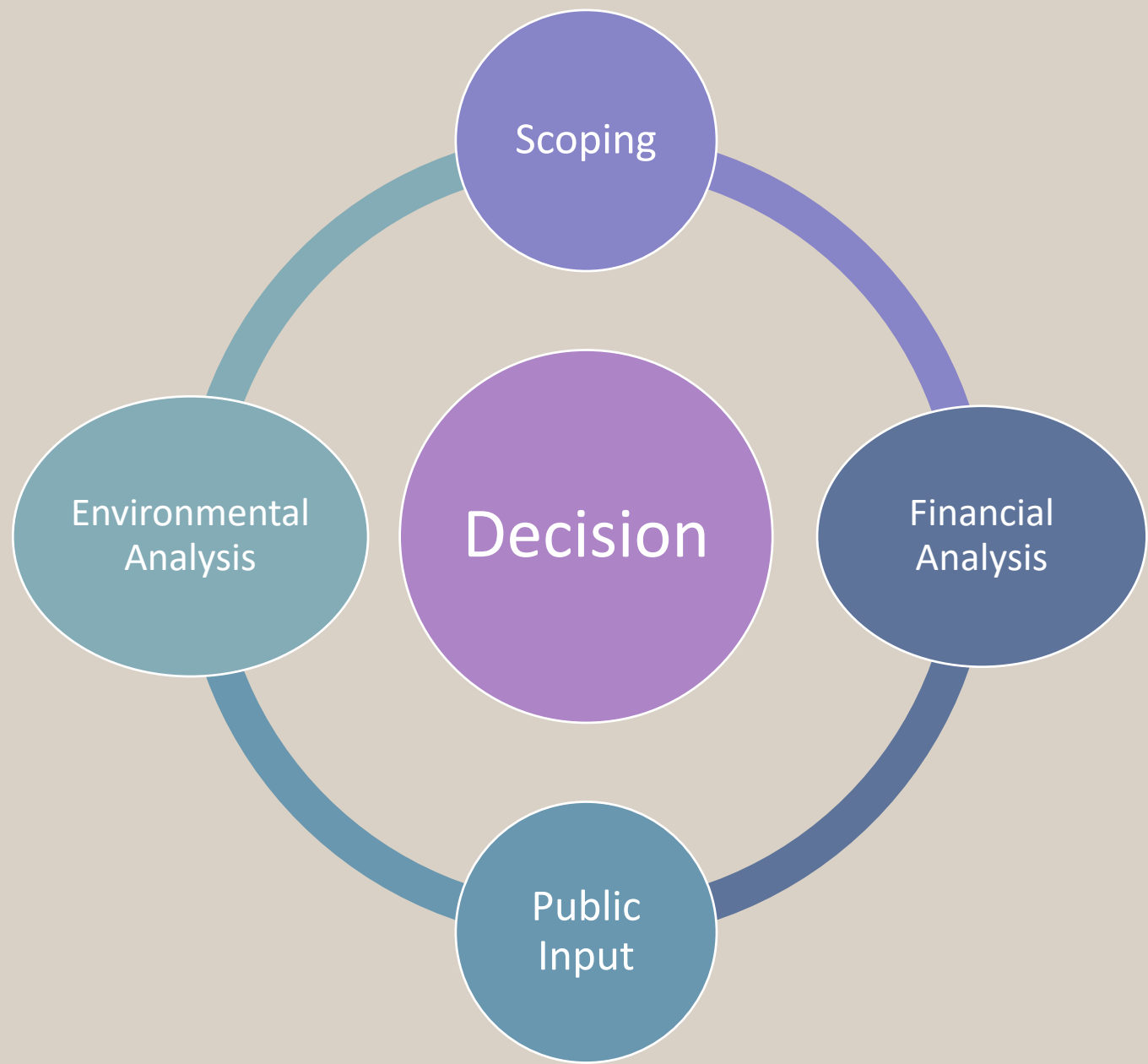
# Business Need



- Westside
  - 2015-2024 Completed
  - FY 2025 – 2034 next planning decade
- Eastside
  - Last completed 1996
  - Forest Health Treatment Prioritization

Region Deliverables are driven by the Sustainable Harvest Level

**What factors  
to consider  
in a  
decision?**



# Next Steps in 2021



- Development of forest estate model

- Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

- Role - technical
- Review the model
- Address Board questions
- Second Substitute House Bill 1168



- Scoping



# Second Substitute House Bill 1168

*Summary regarding the Sustainable Harvest Level*

## **Hire independent third-party contractors to:**

- Assist in updating forest inventory by increasing sample plots
- Review, analyze, and advise on forest growth and yield modeling

## **Involve the Technical Advisory Committee:**

- Advise on the design, development and implementation
- Advise on the design, review and analysis



# Next Steps in 2021




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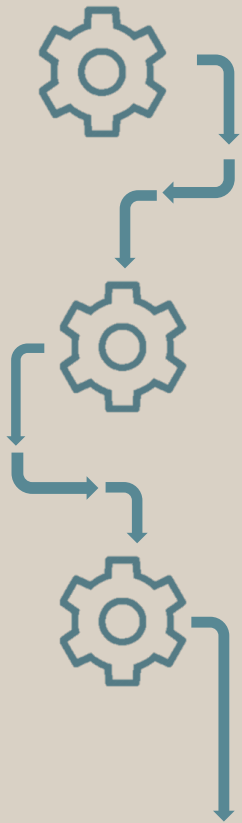


- **Scoping**



# 2022 and Beyond...

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- Finalize Need, Purpose, and Objectives (SEPA)
  - Identify critical policy questions related to the calculations
  - Perform analysis and gather public input
  - Board decision
  - Implementation





# Questions?



