



# 2018 Legislative Session Update

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Andrew Hayes

*May 1, 2018*



# Highlights from 2018

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- Engrossed Substitute House Bill 2285
- GF state budget proviso: Marbled murrelet alternatives
- Capital budget proviso: Assessing and improving economic performance of state trust lands



# Marbled Murrelet Conservation Strategy Update

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*May 1, 2018*



# Agenda

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- Preferred alternative
- Process update
- Timeline
- Next meeting



# Preferred Alternative



## WHAT

## Long-term Conservation Strategy

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DNR is developing a long-term marbled murrelet conservation strategy that does not appreciably reduce the likelihood of the survival and recovery of the species in the wild and that will, to the maximum extent practicable, minimize and mitigate impacts.



## WHY | Interim strategy isn't permanent

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DNR must fulfill its commitment to develop a long-term habitat conservation strategy and amend its 1997 *State Trust Lands Habitat Conservation Plan* (HCP).





# November Board of Natural Resources Decisions

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- Directed staff to develop and analyze the selected, preferred alternative using updated data
- Provided staff with guiding principles



# Guiding Principles – Direction to Staff

- **Minimize impacts to murrelets**
  - Conserve all existing occupied sites
  - Capture existing habitat within conservation areas
  - Meter habitat in strategic locations
- **Offset impacts and address uncertainty**
  - Apply buffer to occupied sites
  - Locate conservation areas in strategic locations
  - Increase interior forest
- **Reduce disproportionate financial impacts**

# Process Update



# Work Since November

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- Developing preferred alternative
  - Updated data
  - Consulted with DNR region staff
  - Consulting with USFWS
  - Rebalancing take and mitigation consistent with BNR's guiding principles
- Began developing revised draft environmental impact statement (RDEIS) and an amendment to the HCP for the marbled murrelet long-term habitat conservation strategy (HCP amendment)
- Updating population viability analysis

# Next Steps

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- Complete RDEIS under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA)
- Complete HCP amendment





**Selection of alternative**

*Work on RDEIS*

*Work on HCP Amend.*

Release Revised Draft EIS

Submit HCP Amendment To USFWS

60 day Public Comment Period

60 day Public Comment Period



Prepare Final EIS

Prepare Final Amendment

# Additional approval steps

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- Biological opinion
- Section 10 Endangered Species Act findings
- NEPA record of decision
- Incidental take permit
- Board resolution



# Next Meeting





# June 2018 BNR Meeting

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Overview of preferred alternative to be analyzed in the RDEIS



