NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

The Forest Practices Board will hold five public hearings to receive comments on proposed forest practices rules affecting chapters 222-16, 222-20, and 222-24 WAC. Pursuant to 2003 legislative directive (Second Substitute House Bill 1095), the rules have been developed to limit the burden on small forest landowners from forest road maintenance and abandonment planning (RMAP) requirements.

November 17, 2005  6:00 p.m.  Omak  Sun Valley Restaurant
November 29, 2005  6:00 p.m.  Colville  Community College of Spokane
December 1, 2005   6:00 p.m.  Kelso  Kelso Red Lion
December 13, 2005  6:00 p.m.  Walla Walla  Walla Walla Community College of Spokane
December 15, 2005  6:00 p.m.  Everett  Inn at Port Gardner

The Board will welcome comments on the draft rules, and also on the draft Economic Analysis and Environmental Impact Statement pertaining to the rules. Beginning November 1, all of these documents can be seen at http://www.dnr.wa.gov/forestpractices/rules/, under “Rule Making Activity.” The rule proposal and economic analysis can also be seen in the Washington State Register, publication # 05-17-173 (September 7, 2005 publication).

The Board will hear oral testimony at the hearings; hard copies of testimonies will also be appreciated. In addition to the public hearing forum, the Board also encourages written comments. The comment deadline is 5 p.m. on December 16, 2005. If you have any questions or would like to receive the documents on a CD, please call 360.902.1413.

Send written comments to:
   Patricia Anderson, FPB Rules Coordinator
   Department of Natural Resources
   Forest Practices Division
   PO Box 47012
   Olympia, WA 98504-7012

Assistance for persons with disabilities contact:
   Forest Practices Division
   360.902.1400 or TDD: 360.902.1125
   By November 4, 2005