




February 5, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: Forest Practices Board

FROM: Dan Pomerenk, FP Division Acting SFLO Manager 

SUBJECT: Small Forest Landowner Office and Advisory Committee Update

Forest Stewardship Program:

- Forest Stewardship Coached Planning Courses will occur around the state this winter and spring in addition to a new succession planning workshop called "Ties to the Land". DNR staff, with aid from partner agencies, taught two "Ties to the Land" courses in November and December: one in White Salmon with 16 participants, and one in Dayton with 28 participants. Each course consisted of two-three hour sessions.
- Family Forest Field Days are planned for June 27, 2009 in Ferry County and August 1 in Skagit County. Field day events include informational talks and exhibits.
- The SFLO is cooperating with USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service in a statewide marketing campaign to encourage family forest owners to participate in the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Deadline for applications for 2010 EQIP funds is July 15.
- DNR foresters worked diligently to complete post 2007 storm clean-up inspections to allow those who are enrolled in the EQIP program to receive payment for their work.
- The US Forest Service now requires annual statistical field sampling to determine the degree to which Forest Stewardship Plans are actually being implemented on-the-ground. The fall 2008 survey showed a 91% implementation rate.

Small Forest Landowner Advisory Committee:

- The advisory committee assembled an interdisciplinary field team to evaluate the success of establishing conifer in the harvested riparian area according to an alternate plan. The team members included a person from DNR, WDFW, Ecology and a forestry consultant. The team reviewed 21 alternate plan sites that were harvested in 2003 and 2004. The team collected quantitative and qualitative information and looked for trends, relationships, and common occurrences. The committee delivered its recommendations and findings to the advisory committee and to DNR forest practices staff.
- The advisory committee is reviewing information on eastside riparian restoration forest health issues to use as an aid for developing an alternate plan.
- The number of long-term forest practices applications submitted has been less than expected. The advisory committee is exploring ways generate more interest in the long-term application option.

Long Term Application (LTA) Program Progress beginning October 2007:

- Number of LTA's as of 15 January 2009 by county

Step 1 Validations only	Approved Applications (Step 1 & Step 2)
1 Whatcom	1 Garfield
3 Skagit	2 Pacific
2 Lewis	4 Lewis
2 Grays Harbor	1 Okanogan
2 Clark	1 Pend Oreille
1 Ferry	2 Stevens
1 Mason	
12 Total	11 Total

Family Forest Fish Passage Program (FFFP):

- This construction season (June – Sept. 2008) 37 fish passage projects (20 Westside and 17 Eastside) were completed. This is an increase from an average of 24 completed projects in the previous construction seasons. A storm damage assessment will be conducted on all sites to assess the state-wide impacts of this year's storm events (2 FFFPP projects were effected). FFFPP received a \$25,580 grant from the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation to correct a fish barrier with the Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition on Fletcher Creek, tributary to the Hoh River.

Forestry Riparian Easement Program (FREP):

- Currently we have approximately 114 miles of stream under FREP easements. The FREP program is on schedule to allocate all funds allotted for this biennium. The FREP program has a waiting list for the 2009-2011 biennium of 52 landowners for an estimated cost of \$5.2 million.
- The table below features the easements purchased in the past quarter (October – December 2009):

Region	Cost	Acres
Northeast	\$ 92,046.61	24.8
Northwest	\$ 323,317.40	59.3
Olympic	\$ 174,871.27	33.7
Pacific Cascade	\$ 442,682.64	58.3
Southeast	\$ 118,185.39	11.8
South Puget	\$ 62,502.73	33.5
Total	\$ 1,213,606.03	221.4
24 Easements		

Legislative Reports:

- Two SFLO reports are due to the Legislature. The small forest landowner demographic report to the Legislature is due every four years and will be completed for the Legislature and the Forest Practices Board in Spring 2009. The Road Maintenance and Abandonment Plan checklist report is complete and at executive management for review.

Please contact me at 360-902-1427 or dan.pomerenk@dnr.wa.gov with your questions.