Status of Road Maintenance and Abandonment Plans (RMAPs)

FOREST PRACTICES BOARD MEETING
February 9, 2022

Donelle Mahan
Forest Regulation Assistant Division Manager, Operations
RMAP Requirements
Large Forest Landowners

• RMAPs were required by rule (WAC 222-24-050) in 2001 to meet FP rule standards by October 31, 2016

• WAC 222-24-051 Large forest landowner schedule
  ▪ 20% of roads or land base annually with entire inventory completed by July 1, 2006
  ▪ Worst first – highest benefit to the public resources
  ▪ Even flow
  ▪ Annual Report
RMAP Extension of Performance Period

- 2011 – new rule allowing large forest landowners to apply for an extension to complete work by October 31, 2021

- 57 plans were granted extensions
  - 24 RMAP extensions completed before January 1, 2020
  - 33 RMAP extensions with remaining work in the final operating season (Summer 2021)
What has been Accomplished?

• Over the last 21 years:
  ▪ 30,782 miles of forest road have been improved
  ▪ 8,468 fish passage barriers have been corrected, opening 5,184 miles of streams to fish habitat
RMAP Work Expected to be Done by 10/31/2021

- 33 RMAP plans to be completed
- 1,446 miles of forest road to be improved
- 147 fish passage barriers to be corrected
Barriers to be Corrected

• Landowners reported 595 fish passage barriers identified for 2021 operating season

• Barrier Total Includes:
  - 362 “life of pipe” decisions
  - 86 new discoveries

• 147 fish passage barriers remaining to be corrected by October 31, 2021 (1.6% percent of total barriers identified)
Fish Barriers Remaining After October 31, 2021

• 19 barriers are known
  ▪ Unable to purchase specific culverts
  ▪ Limited entry to reduce impact to public resources (water, fish, wildlife)
  ▪ Adjacent landowners’ restricting entry/other property disputes
  ▪ Disagreements on water typing or non-fish stream observed fish

• DNR is working with landowners taking appropriate action
DNR Maintaining Focus on Forest Roads

• DNR is maintaining a regulatory focus so that forest roads meet forest practices rule standards
  ▪ Focusing on sediment delivery to waters, and
  ▪ ensuring fish passage.

• DNR devotes about 10-15% of its regulatory operating capacity on road review and compliance
Recognition in May