Western Washington Sustainable Harvest Calculation

For forested State Trust Lands
A Report to the
Board of Natural Resources

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February 2014
Sustainable Harvest Topics

• Context with Other Plans
• RCW’s and Policy
  – Sustainable Harvest RCWs
  – Policy for Sustainable Forests
• Sustainable Harvest Calculation
  – Review of the 2004 and 2007 calculations
• Timeline
Timeline – the longer term
Major State Lands Planning Projects

2014 SHC
MMLTCS
Adjust SHC

SHC = Sustainable Harvest Calculation
MMLTCS = Marbled Murrelet Long-term Conservation Strategy
Timeline – Short Term

Sustainable Harvest Calculation

February
- Background presentation

March/April
- In depth look at modeling assumptions

May
- Harvest Volumes
- Environmental Analysis
- Arrearage

June
- Sustainable Harvest Recommendation Resolution
Revised Code of Washington (RCWs)

- **RCW 79.10.310**
  - "Sustained yield plans"
- **RCW 79.10.320**
  - Sustainable harvest program
- **RCW 79.10.330**
  - Arrearages — End of decade
- **RCW 79.10.340**
  - Sustainable harvest sale
Policy for Sustainable Forests (PSF)

• Definition of sustainability for the sustainable harvest calculation
  – 20 sustainable harvest units
  – A harvest level for each unit
  – Harvest flow controls
  – Optimize the economic value of the forest over long term

• Recalculation of the sustainable harvest level

• Harvest deferral designations
DNR managed forests lands in Western Washington
Policy for Sustainable Forests

Sustainable Harvest Units

OESF & Capitol Forest
Policy for Sustainable Forests

Sustainable Harvest Units

State Forest Transfer Units

Individual Counties
Policy for Sustainable Forests

Sustainable Harvest Units

Federally Granted Trusts & State Forest Purchase as One Westside Unit
Policy for Sustainable Forests

Sustainable Harvest Units

20 Sustainable Harvest Units
- OESF
- Capitol
- 17 Counties
- 1 Westside unit
Policy for Sustainable Forests
Harvest Flow Control – Inter-decadal

Example: Capitol Forest

Harvest volume (MMBF/year)

-25%
+25%

Harvest Level

Decades

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Optimize economic value

• “The department will analyze the financial characteristics of forest stands in order to optimize the economic value of forest stands and timber production over time, in calculating the sustainable harvest level,...”

Policy on Definition of Sustainability for the Sustainable Harvest Calculation
Policy for Sustainable Forest, 2006, page 29
Review of 2004 and 2007 Sustainable Harvest Calculations
2004 Sustainable Harvest Calculation

• Public Process
  – Scoping initiated February 22, 2002
  – 6 public meetings, plus 10 informal meeting with stakeholders

• Draft EIS
  – 7 public meetings/hearing December 2003
  – 330 public meeting participants, 410 written letters,
  – approximately 2,000 individual comments
2004 Sustainable Harvest Calculation

- Examined a number policies and procedures
  - Sustainable Harvest Units
  - Even flow
  - Harvest regulation
  - Rotation age
  - Northern Spotted Owl management
  - Old forest components
2004 Sustainable Harvest Calculation

• Alternative 1
  – No Action
• Alternative 2
  – Habitat Conservation Plan Intent
• Alternative 3
  – Combined Ownership
• Alternative 4
  – Passive Management Approach
• Alternative 5
  – Intensive Management Approach
• Alternative 6 (Preferred Alternative)
  – Innovative Silvicultural Management
2004 Sustainable Harvest Calculation

- Lawsuit *WEC v Sutherland* argued that the SEPA process was inadequate as to impacts on the:
  - Alternatives analyzed
  - Northern spotted owl
  - Riparian management
  - Cumulative effects
2007
Sustainable Harvest Adjustment

• By 2007, Department had:
  – Settled the \textit{WEC v Sutherland} lawsuit
  – Approved Policy for Sustainable Forests
  – Implemented Riparian Forest Restoration Strategy for five Westside HCP planning units

• Outcomes
  – Harvest volume reduced from 597 to 550 MMBF
Sustainable Harvest Calculation
Timeline
Timeline – Short Term

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