Agenda

- Preferred Alternative (H)
- Alternative G
- Next Steps and Timeline
Preferred Alternative
WHAT | Long-term Conservation Strategy

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.

DNR is developing the strategy consistent with its trust duties.
WHY | Interim strategy isn’t permanent

DNR must fulfill its commitment to develop a long-term habitat conservation strategy and amend its 1997 *State Trust Lands Habitat Conservation Plan* (HCP).
DNR staff presented a mockup alternative based on the Board’s direction from the August 2017 Board retreat.
Designated 20 special habitat areas (SHA) in strategic locations

- Set a 100-meter buffer on all occupied sites, except 200-acre occupied sites in the OESF, which received a 50-meter buffer

- Metered harvest of existing habitat outside of long-term forest cover to reduce short-term impacts

- Adjusted number and size of SHAs (as compared to Alternative D) to meet Board direction
Board Direction

Guiding Principles

• Minimize impacts to murrelets
  o Conserve all existing occupied sites
  o Capture existing habitat within conservation areas
  o Meter habitat in strategic locations

• Offset impacts and address uncertainty
  o Apply buffer to occupied sites
  o Locate conservation areas in strategic locations
  o Increase interior forest

• Reduce disproportionate financial impacts
Board Direction

Goals

• Comply with Endangered Species Act and HCP

• Reduce short-term impacts by using strategies such as metering harvest of habitat until habitat in long-term forest cover develops

• Appropriately mitigate uncertainties and risks associated with the long-term conservation strategy

• Ensure no trust or beneficiary is unduly impacted
Work Since November: Data Updates

• Ensured old-growth forest is part of long-term forest cover:
  o Added field-verified old-growth forest
  o Identified and added potential old-growth forest
• Corrected error of forest stands increasing in P-stage too quickly
• Corrected inventory data to ensure P-stage is applied correctly to stands that are at least 70 years old
Work Since November: Data Updates

- Updated northern spotted owl habitat layer
- Included disposed lands that will continue to be managed as mitigation under the terms of the HCP
Work Since November: New Information

- Metering included in preferred alternative but not incorporated into the analytical framework
- DNR regions provided operational feedback
Data Updates Affected All Alternatives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alternative</th>
<th>Long-term Forest Cover (DEIS)</th>
<th>Long-term Forest Cover (updated)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alternative A</td>
<td>620,000</td>
<td>600,427</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternative B</td>
<td>593,000</td>
<td>576,401</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternative C</td>
<td>636,000</td>
<td>617,204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternative D</td>
<td>634,000</td>
<td>618,016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternative E</td>
<td>640,000</td>
<td>621,971</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alternative F</td>
<td>734,000</td>
<td>742,875</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Preferred Alternative (H)

Increased mitigation:

• Added 10 SHAs in strategic locations, removed one SHA that provided little support for mitigation – total of 29 SHAs
• Placed 100-meter buffers on occupied sites regardless of size or location
• Maintained habitat capacity over the planning period through landscape metering
## By the Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Long-term forest cover</td>
<td>620,000 to 624,000 acres</td>
<td>610,000 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marbled murrelet specific conservation</td>
<td>37,000 to 41,000 acres</td>
<td>43,000 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupied sites and buffers</td>
<td>88,000 acres</td>
<td>92,000 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of SHAs</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acres of SHAs</td>
<td>50,000 acres</td>
<td>58,000 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated epsilon</td>
<td>400 adjusted acres</td>
<td>735 adjusted acres</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Alternative G
Alternative G

New alternative developed in response to comments on DEIS; includes:

- All habitat with a P-stage value of 0.47 and higher throughout the analysis area
- All habitat with a P-stage greater than zero in the OESF
- Emphasis areas as designated under Alternative C
- Special habitat areas as designated under Alternative D
- Marbled murrelet management areas in the Elochoman block as drawn for Alternative F, plus four areas in the North Puget HCP Planning Unit
- 100-meter buffers on all occupied sites
Next Steps and Timeline
Next Steps

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

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