Sustainable Harvest Level

A Presentation to the Board of Natural Resources

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July 6, 2021
Agenda

• Why we need a Sustainable Harvest Level
• Decision Process
• Next Steps for 2021
• What’s to come in 2022 and beyond
Why a Sustainable Harvest Level?

• Statute

• Policy

• Prudent land management

• Business need
**Sustainable Harvest Statutes**

RCW 79.10.300-320

*(summarized)*

DNR will:

- Manage state-owned lands for growing forest crops on a sustained yield basis
- Periodically calculate a sustainable harvest level

**“Sustainable Harvest Level”**

- volume of timber scheduled for sale during a planning decade

**“Sustained yield plans”**

- provide harvesting on a continuing basis without curtailment or cessation
Policy for Sustainable Forests

Board Policy Objectives

• Create trust income while providing environmental protection and social benefits, consistent with the duties of a fiduciary

• Use professional judgment, best available science and sound field forestry to achieve excellence in public stewardship;

• Promote active, innovative and sustainable stewardship on as much of the forested land base as possible
Policy for Sustainable Forests

Definition of Sustainability for the Sustainable Harvest Calculation

- Separate long-term decadal sustainable harvest level for each Sustainable Harvest Unit (SHU) as mean annual volume

- Eastern Washington:
  - SHUs determined as part of Eastern SHC

- Intergenerational equity:
  - +/- 25% preceding decade’s level

- Short-term market opportunities:
  - +/- 25% mean annual level

- Analyze and optimize economic value over time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>20 SHUs</th>
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<tr>
<td>• OESF</td>
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<td>• Capital State Forest</td>
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<td>• Federally granted lands &amp; State Forest Purchase</td>
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<td>• State Forestlands (17 Counties)</td>
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Policy for Sustainable Forests
Policy on Recalculation of the Sustainable Harvest Level

Recalculate the Statewide Sustainable Harvest Level no less frequently than every ten years

Adjust calculation with changing circumstances within planning decade, such as:

- Major changes in legal requirements
- Significant new board direction
- New information about available resource base
- Changes in technology
Trust Manager Fiduciary Duty

- Administering trust in accordance with provisions that created it
- Maintaining undivided loyalty to each trust and beneficiary
- Managing trust assets prudently
- Making trust property productive, while recognizing perpetual nature of trusts
- Dealing impartially with beneficiaries
- Reducing risk of loss to trusts
Prudent Land Manager

Ecological Health and Habitat

Meet Trust Responsibilities

Climate Disturbance
Business Need

• Westside
  • 2015-2024 Completed
  • FY 2025 – 2034 next planning decade

• Eastside
  • Last completed 1996
  • Forest Health Treatment Prioritization

Region Deliverables are driven by the Sustainable Harvest Level
What factors to consider in a decision?
Next Steps in 2021

• Development of forest estate model

• Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
  • Role - technical
  • Review the model
  • Address Board questions
  • Second Substitute House Bill 1168

• Scoping
Second Substitute House Bill 1168

Summary regarding the Sustainable Harvest Level

Hire independent third-party contractors to:

• Assist in updating forest inventory by increasing sample plots

• Review, analyze, and advise on forest growth and yield modeling

Involve the Technical Advisory Committee:

• Advise on the design, development and implementation

• Advise on the design, review and analysis
Next Steps in 2021

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• Scoping
2022 and Beyond...

- Finalize Need, Purpose, and Objectives (SEPA)
- Identify critical policy questions related to the calculations
- Perform analysis and gather public input
- Board decision
- Implementation