

Solutions Table – DNR Forest Management Small Group  
\*DRAFT Recommendation Language  
*Draft 10.22.2019*

In order to increase publicly available information and transparency related to the work of the Solutions Table, we support the following actions:

- Appoint an expert panel to advise the Department of Natural Resources on the Sustainable Harvest Calculation (SHC) model and planning process for the purposes of: providing technical support and review; ensuring the SHC is consistent with applicable professional standards; monitoring performance against the SHC's anticipated results and increasing understanding of any underperformance; and securing confidence in the process from diverse stakeholders.
- Prioritize (through funding and staff) the modernization of DNR's inventory of state trust lands, including: correcting GIS data layers, ground-truthing remotely sensed data, and comparing modeling outputs with data from timber cruises to better develop accurate yields. Accurate inventories are essential to support future SHC calculations and other DNR decisions.
- Recommend to the Board of Natural Resources that the Sustainable Harvest Calculation (SHC) include an estimate of riparian timber harvest volume in the SHC and allow the Department of Natural Resources to credit riparian volume timber harvests towards achievement of its stated SHC. The Solutions Table also recommends that DNR track and annually report actual riparian timber harvest volumes accomplished. Determine how this shift, if adopted, could be included in the SHC Environmental Impact Statement.
- Require the Department of Natural Resources to report to the State Legislature about its substantial budget shortfall necessary to complete all silvicultural activities required to maximize return on investment for state trust lands. DNR projects it is approximately 40 percent short of its funding needs for silviculture activities. DNR should report to the State Legislature detailing current and expected expenditures, current and expected revenue, and key factors and trends driving internal costs.

In order to improve management and planning efficiencies on DNR state trust lands, we support the following actions by the Department of Natural Resources:

- Development of 2, 3, and 5-year timber sale plans within each DNR region (statewide). Timber sale plans will help provide critical information to DNR timber purchasers, beneficiaries, and partners to inform financial, budget, and strategic decision making.
- Strategic and legal use of "Region Sales" to expedite low value timber sales to help achieve SHC volume targets and increase revenues for beneficiaries.