



FINAL

FOREST PRACTICES

HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN

December 2005



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources
Doug Sutherland - Commissioner of Public Lands

On behalf of Washington State,
this plan was prepared by the
Washington State Department of Natural Resources,
Doug Sutherland, Commissioner of Public Lands.
2005

Acknowledgements

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(360) 902-1400 or TTY 711

December 2005

To Interested Parties:

I am pleased to present the final Washington State Forest Practices Habitat Conservation Plan. The Washington Department of Natural Resources, on behalf of the state of Washington, has prepared this document as part of an ongoing process to provide protection of aquatic species while also providing a regulatory climate conducive to a viable forest products industry.

This habitat conservation plan covers over 9 million acres of state and private forestland and represents a unified and coordinated conservation effort among state, federal, tribal and local governments, environmental interests, and small and large forest landowners. This successful partnership will help preserve healthy forests and clean streams for our wild salmon and other aquatic species, provide for a healthy forest products industry, and secure the sustainable and responsible management of our forests, now and for future generations.

I want to thank the many people who participated in this process, and I want to especially thank my Federal Assurances Manager, Debora Brown Munguia and her team, and the many folks from the federal agencies, other state agencies, and interested parties, who put in many long hours to ensure this plan was complete and thorough.

Sincerely,

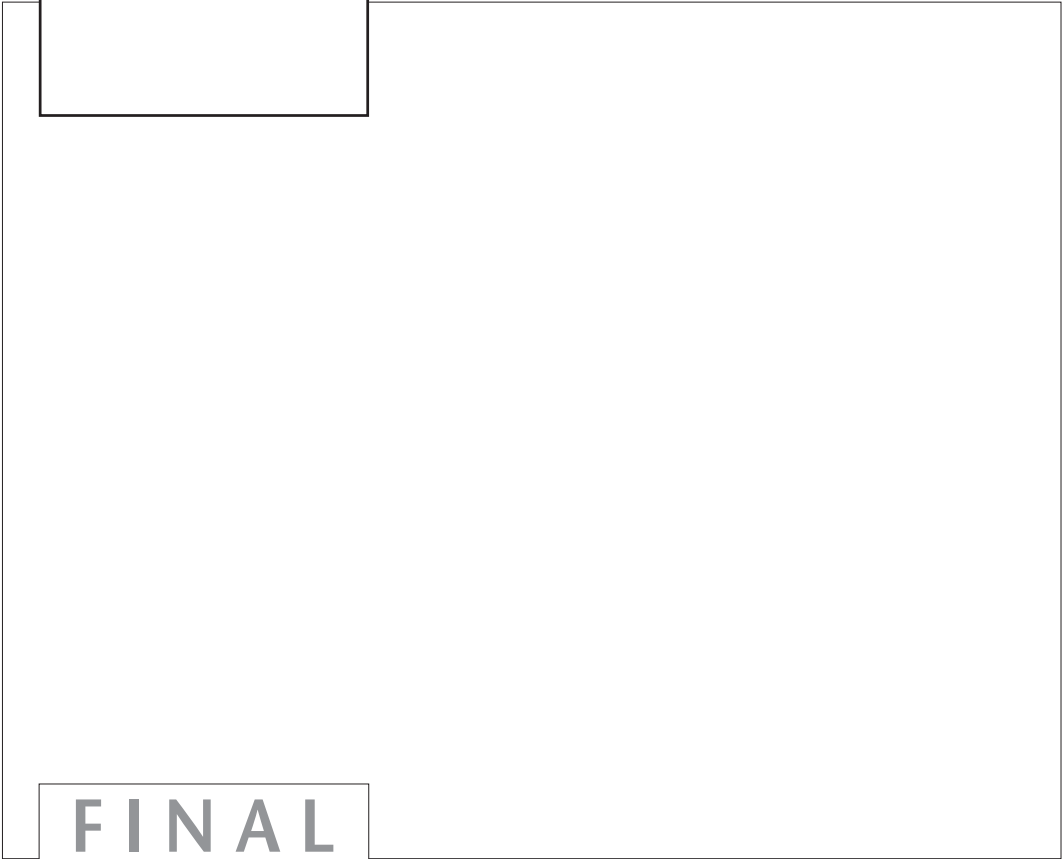
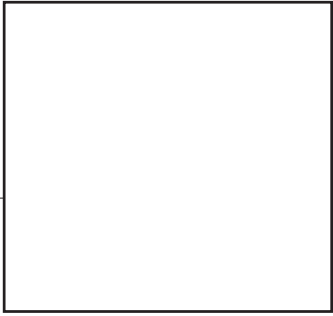
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Doug Sutherland".

Doug Sutherland
Commissioner of Public Lands

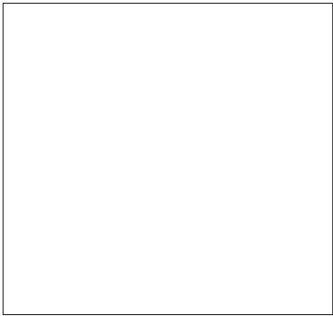
**EDITS TO THE
WASHINGTON FOREST PRACTICES HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN
DECEMBER 2005**

Final FPHCP Subsection	Page # in the Final FPHCP	Summary of Major Changes Made to the draft FPHCP that appear in the final FPHCP
FPHCP	Throughout	The number of acres that the FPHCP covers was refined from 9.1 million acres to 9.3 million acres GIS analysis for the draft missed approximately 228,000 acres of state land on the east side.
FPHCP	Throughout	Appendix B reference was changed to Appendix N. Appendix N is a new appendix for Schedule L-1
Executive Summary – The Forest Practices Habitat Conservation Plan	iv	Clarification made that landowners are not legally required to participate in the non-regulatory, collaborative elements of the Forest Practices program.
Executive Summary – Alternative 3	vii	Updated information about the No Surprises rule in reason #4.
Section 1-2.3 Funding	7	Information about Forest Practices program funding was added, including federal and state funding and in-kind contributions from stakeholders.
Section 1-2.3 Funding	8	Figure 1.1 added: “Appropriations for Forests and Fish 1999-2005.”
Section 1-2.4	10	An updated description of the No Surprises rule as it relates to the FPHCP, the Permits, and the Implementation Agreement was added. The history of No Surprises rule was removed.
Section 1-2.5	10-13	A more detailed description of changed circumstances was added - including natural events such as wildfire, winds, floods, disease/pest outbreaks or listing of new species.
Section 1-4	15, 16	A new subsection was added that more specifically describes non-covered activities and lands.
Section 1-5	17	Footnote #2 was added, clarifying the types of lands that are shown in Figure 1.2.
Section 1-5	19	Footnote #3 was added, clarifying the types of lands that are shown in Figure 1.3.
Section 1-5	20	Minor adjustment to several figures in Table 1.2.
Section 2-1	46	Discussion was included on the reasons why watershed analysis may have been a prohibitive process for some landowners and that many of the issues addressed in watershed analysis were important components of FFR. Correction was made to the number of completed watershed analyses statewide.
Section 2-1	47	Corrections made to the figures from the 1988-1991 DNR rate of harvest study.
Section 2-1	47	Information was added about the 1991-1993 DNR rate of harvest study.
Section 2-1	47	Updates on the protection of Northern Spotted Owls were added.
Section 2-1	51	Update on RMAP rules for small forest landowners based on FPB action in August 2005 was added.
Section 2-1	52	Updates about the cultural resource watershed analysis module and rule package and the Cultural Resources Protection and Management Plan were added.
Section 2-3.6	67	Update on Washington’s Water Quality Management Plan to Control Nonpoint Source Pollution (Nonpoint Plan) was added.
Section 2-3.6	69, 70	Update on the annual report of accomplishments in implementing the Nonpoint Plan was added.
Section 2-3.9	72	Added a new section describing WDFW’s Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA) process and its relationship with the Forest Practices program. An update on the integration of the forest practices permitting process with the HPA process was also added.
Section 4a-1.3	144	Update on the integration of the forest practices permitting process with the HPA process was added.
Section 4a-3.1	160-166	The section describing DNR’s compliance monitoring program was reorganized. New information was added about the preliminary assessment of the RMZ rules including sample size and population; data collection; measurement techniques; sampling unit; sampling method; preliminary assessment results; and preliminary assessment review. The future direction of the compliance monitoring program was updated, including a proposed timeline for rule review.
Section 4a-3.1	163	Added Table 4.1 - Western Washington Type 1 - Type 3 RMZ Preliminary Assessment Results.
Section 4a-3.1	163	Added Table 4.2 - Eastern Washington Type 1 - Type 3 RMZ Preliminary Assessment Results.
Section 4a-3.1	166	Added Table 4.3 - Proposed Forest Practices Compliance Monitoring Timeline.
Section 4a-4	173	Information was added about Schedule L-1 of the FFR and it’s relationship to the Adaptive Management program. Added information about the process followed if there are changes

		proposed to resource objectives, performance targets, and research and monitoring priorities.
Section 4a-4.2	176	Information was added about the relationship between the CMER work plan and Schedule L-1, and CMER prioritization of programs.
Section 4a-4.2	178, 179	A summary of two completed high priority CMER studies was added: Type N Stream Demarcation Study and Desired Future Condition Study.
Section 4b	181, 182	Information was added on the role of Schedule L-1 as it relates to the conservation objective of the riparian strategy.
Section 4b-1	182, 183	Update was added on the FPB's action regarding the water typing system - to continue following the original interim rule (WAC 222-16-031) while using new water type maps.
Section 4b-3.3	206	Footnote #1 of Figure 4.7 was added clarifying the lands managed under existing HCPs and the relationship to the lands covered by the FPHCP.
Section 4c	217	Information was added on the role of Schedule L-1 as it relates to the conservation objective of the upland strategy.
Section 4c-2.3	224	Data was added about the number of approved RMAPS from July 2001 to December 2004.
Section 4c-2.3	224	Update was added on RMAP rules for small forest landowners based on FPB action in August 2005.
Section 4c-2.3	226	Table 4.13 was added detailing the Family Forest Fish Passage Program accomplishments from 2003-2005.
Section 4d-1.1	236, 237	Revised "Exempt 20-Acre Parcels" in section 4d-1.1 - Riparian Management Zones: Providing Large Woody Debris and Shade.
Section 4d-1.1	239	Added information regarding Type Np protection in relation to harvest strategies.
Section 4e-2	251	Information was added regarding recommendations from the recently completed CMER study - Type N Stream Demarcation Study.
Section 4e-3	252-254	Acreage and percentage figures were revised for the critical area acres under the minimal effects strategy and the FPHCP strategy. Acreage and percentage figures reported in the draft FPHCP were not consistent with acreage and percentage figures reported in Appendix K, and were updated based on revised stream mile figures.
Section 4e-3.1	254	Clarification added under "Implications" section regarding figures associated with the critical area acres identified in the minimal effects strategy.
Section 4e-4	263	Acreage and percentage figures were revised for the critical area calculations under the minimal effects strategy and the FPHCP strategy.
Appendix H		2005 CMER Work Plan was replaced with 2006 CMER Work Plan
Appendix J		New information added characterizing implementation of the 20-acre exempt rule - how many 20-acre exempt applications are Class IV General forest practices (likely conversions), and on post-harvest RMZ characteristics for 20-acre exempt forest practices.
Appendix K		Critical area acres were updated based on revised stream-mile figures.



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