

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

OFFICE OF THE COMMISIONER OF PUBLIC LANDS 1111 WASHINGTON STREET SE OLYMPIA WA 98504

360-902-1000 WWW.DNR.WA.GOV

MEMORANDUM

July 13, 2023

TO: TFW Policy, TFW Policy SAO Workgroup, and CMER

FROM: Schedule L-1 Workgroup &

Lori Clark, Adaptive Management Program Administrator (AMPA)

lori.clark@dnr.wa.gov | 360-819-3712

SUBJECT: Schedule L-1 Review and Revision Process Recommendation

<u>Introduction</u>

Schedule L-1, part of the original Forests and Fish Report and later adopted by the Forest Practices Board in February 2001 with minor revisions, includes a description of the three overall performance goals, resource objectives as defined by the functional objectives and performance targets, and three key questions concerning compliance, effectiveness, and validation monitoring. Schedule L-1 serves as the foundation for the Adaptive Management program, and more specifically guides the development of research and monitoring projects described in the Cooperative Monitoring Evaluation and Research Committee's workplan.

Background

In response to the Forest Practices Board-approved <u>State Auditor's Office (SAO) Response Plan</u>, <u>Recommendation 5¹ (Net Gains Option 1)</u> and SAO Recommendation 6², TFW Policy recognized the need to identify in advance specific criteria for decision making after a study is complete. <u>Schedule L-1</u> contains Resource Objectives that are broken down into Functional Objectives and Performance Targets intended to be met as part of the FP HCP. These Objectives and Performance Targets are meant to serve as the basis for the quantitative measures for the decision criteria in a structured decision-making model. To ensure the measures are based on best available science in a structured decision-making model, TFW Policy identified the need to review and update as appropriate Schedule L-1 (attached).

TFW Policy and CMER each selected 3 representatives to serve on a joint Workgroup to draft a recommendation to TFW Policy on a process for opening Schedule L-1 for review and revision. The Schedule L-1 Workgroup met on May 9, 2023, to identify suggested process components and order of operations for TFW Policy, TFW Policy SAO Workgroup, and CMER- consideration and feedback.

The Process the workgroup recommends includes:

- ¹ **SAO Recommendation 5**: Implement a "net gains" approach to each proposal, project, and decision that benefits more than one caucus by considering packages of projects instead of individual projects. 5 Net Gains Options were approved. (1) Net Gains Option 1 Adopt Multi-Criteria Decision Making/Structured Decision-Making
- ² **SAO Recommendation 6**: Adopt decision criteria for determining actions that will occur depending on project results before those results have been found, such as the ones promoted in Adaptive Management: The U.S. Department of the Interior Technical Guide.

- 1. **Historical review** gather information to document previous process of establishing original Schedule L-1. Functional Objectives and Performance Targets were established over 20 years ago in the Forest and Fish Report (1999), slightly revised and adopted by the FPB in 2001 then incorporated into the FP HCP (2006).
- 2. Prioritize review identify the Functional Objectives and Performance Targets that are in need of more clarity and refinement. Prioritize updating those Functional Objectives and Performance Targets that are most immediately relevant to adaptive management decision making priority for review based on:(1) CMER studies that are closest to completion (e.g., ENREP), (2) Performance Targets which have been recommended for review in completed CMER study reports, Stillwater Report, or planned CMER studies (e.g., water typing, wetlands, shade targets), and (3) Functional Objectives with no corresponding Performance Targets.
- 3. **Establish Subject Matter Expert(s)(SME) Group(s)** define the appropriate expertise necessary to be a SME in the AMP based on the topic. Determine capacity to contribute to the decision criteria review/revision process and identify individuals or groups within or outside CMER to serve in this role. The Schedule L-1 Workgroup acknowledges that the Principal Investigators may serve this role for active projects (SME knowledge and capacity gaps, scope alternatives for filling gaps).
- 4. **Review evidence** Assess the current state of scientific knowledge and identify what is needed to develop Performance Targets based on best available science. If needed, perform updated systematic literature review and synthesis of primary evidence to inform science-based retention or revision of decision criteria.
 - The Schedule L-1 Workgroup recognizes this step exists within, or development of interim criteria, including information about interrelationships/potential tradeoffs between criteria and information necessary to inform interim criteria as needed.
 - Draft reports based on priority determined in #2.
- 5. **Identify measurable criteria for Performance Targets -** clearly stated and functional objectives and measurable performance targets identified through evidence review and agreed upon by TFW Policy.
 - The Schedule L-1 Workgroup acknowledges the need to include the implications of climate change while determining performance targets.
 - The Schedule L-1 Workgroup acknowledges the potential need for interim targets when updated research is needed.

Maintain the Schedule L-1 Workgroup to oversee the Schedule L-1 review and revision process and prioritization of these steps. The Workgroup will give updates to TFW Policy and the Forest Practice Board, as needed. CMER will be tasked with selecting the SME(s) with appropriate Performance Target(s) expertise and will provide status updates to Schedule L-1 Workgroup.

Attachments:

➤ Schedule L-1