

## **ODF 63S: AD HOC FOREST PRACTICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ESU APPLICATION:** *Western Oregon and may be expanded to eastern Oregon*

### **BACKGROUND:**

A memorandum of agreement (MOA) signed by Oregon Governor Kitzhaber, and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Regional Administrator Will Stelle, establishes a number of terms and conditions for collaboration between Oregon and NMFS in the implementation of the Oregon Salmon Plan. To address forest practice issues outlined in the MOA, the Oregon Board of Forestry has formed a nine member MOA advisory committee.

The committee consists of three members representing environmental organizations, two members representing forest industry, two members representing small woodlands and two members representing the general public. In addition, the committee contains three ex officio non-voting members one each from the Board of Forestry, the Governor's Office and NMFS.

**GOAL:** The goal of the MOA advisory committee is to evaluate the forest practices concerns outlined in the MOA and to make specific recommendations to the Board of Forestry.

**OBJECTIVE:** Objectives of the committee include:

1. Consider the best available information including the results of relevant monitoring data, field evaluations, science, and research to determine how well the forest practice rules meet water quality standards and protection of fish.
2. Building on the findings of the first objective, evaluate whether the relative combined contributions of the forest practice rules and voluntary measures will achieve Oregon Salmon Plan recovery objectives. Where possible, quantify the probability that the rules and measures will achieve the objectives.
3. Identify, if any, additional practices that might be necessary to meet commitments to the Oregon Salmon Plan and the MOA.
4. Evaluate the relative costs and benefits of additional practices that might further support the Oregon Salmon Plan recovery objectives and the MOA. This evaluation would include an analysis of the relative impacts on landowners, consideration of alternatives including non-regulatory approaches and alternatives which achieve the desired level of protection and are least burdensome to landowners.
5. Building on the work of the prior objectives, recommend a package that is necessary to meet commitments in the Oregon Salmon Plan and the MOA.
6. Complete evaluations and recommendations by the Fall of 1998 to present to the Board of Forestry.

**ACTION ITEMS:** Collect information to evaluate and make recommendations to the Board of Forestry in the Fall of 1998.

**FUNDING:** Funding for the committee, and staff support, is provided from the Departments forest practices budget from an appropriation from the state's Legislative E-board, and from the NMFS.

**WORK SCHEDULE:** A nine member committee has been selected by the Board of Forestry and has begun bi-weekly meetings. The committee has recently completed a team charter and is in the process of developing a workshop format to collect information from ODF staff, NMFS staff and the scientific community. A series of committee meetings and tours have been scheduled beginning in the fall of 1997 and will run through the summer of 1998.