Shaping Oregon's State Public Forest Management:
A survey guide/cheat sheet for ODF's Forest Management Plan Strategy Survey

Survey link: **https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HNQ8SG6**
Deadline: **January 7, 2022**

Overview and Survey Instructions:

This Oregon Department of Forestry public survey covers draft strategies associated with each goal under the draft Western Forest Management Plan, which covers approximately 613,000 acres of state public forests including the Tillamook, Clatsop, and Santiam. These strategies are intended to provide specific management direction for these lands and represent an opportunity to build a better model for how the state approaches public forest management.

The survey will first ask you to select the goals most important to you, then ask for your relative sense of satisfaction with the current strategy language tied to a given goal, and offer you a chance to input specific comments (and move on to other goals/strategies). **Please look over the survey and provide feedback on the goals and strategies that are most important to you.** Use your best judgment to rank each strategy as sufficient or insufficient; if you don't have a strong opinion, select the "don't know" option. You will be given a chance to write specific comments under each Goal.

Below is an outline of the goals we find most important and/or feel need the most work, with recommendations for what you could helpfully input into each goal's survey comment box. Feel free to copy and paste (or adapt) this text for your own use in the comment boxes. This survey should take approximately 20 minutes to complete. The results are critical for determining the ODF's future direction managing Oregon's state forests. **Responses are due by Friday, January 7, 2022.**

==**Provide Feedback to support Climate Resilience**==

Forest Resilience Goal 1: Bullets for input into survey comment box:
- Manage to promote mature and old growth forest characteristics as these have higher ecosystem diversity, resilience to climate extremes, and increased water availability.

Climate Change Goal 2: Bullets for input into survey comment box:
- Strongly support ODF identifying (and protecting) climate-sensitive habitats and utilizing an internal carbon price to inform management decisions.

Carbon Goal 3: Bullets for input into survey comment box:

- Model and promote longer logging rotations in areas that optimize the role of mature forests in improving resilience to the impacts of climate change, storing more carbon, and producing improved water quality and instream flows.

Restoration Goal 5: Bullets for input into survey comment box:

- Focus efforts on the restoration or maintenance of essential ecosystem functions, such as:
  - Carbon storage and sequestration (e.g., promoting old growth forest characteristics);
  - Hydrologic function (e.g., water quality and quantity);
  - Soil productivity (e.g., ensure burned vegetation remains on the landscape), and;
  - Biodiversity (e.g., preserving habitat for at risk wildlife).
- Include a strategy that calls for "modeling priority areas where longer-rotation forestry could prove most beneficial to the enhancement of instream flow/water quantity, and prioritize longer rotation management in those areas."

Provide Feedback to Support Biodiversity, Fish and Wildlife

Generally speaking, the plan's wildlife and aquatics/riparian goals seem well-crafted. There are, however, some areas where improvement is needed through revision.

Wildlife Goal 6: Bullets for input into survey comment box:

- Strategy 6.5 should say "passive and active management" instead of just "active."

Aquatics & Riparian Goal 9: Bullets for input into survey comment box:

- Strategy 9.4 should state ODF will avert human-induced landslides.
- Strategy 9.6 should add "best available science" as the basis for habitat restoration efforts.
- Strategy 9.8 should say "no loss" of wetlands on state forest lands (instead of "no net loss"). Further, instead of saying "allow" for new wetland creation, it should say "support, and where possible, plan for new wetlands."
- Reduce reliance on pesticides that introduce combinations of chemicals into aquatic habitats, degrade water quality, and potentially harm fish species.

Provide Feedback to Prioritize Community Health and Environmental Justice

The current framing of the drinking water and the recreation, education, and interpretation goals seem positive (worth supporting), but it is important to improve them in a few ways:

Drinking Water Goal 10: Bullets for input into survey comment box:

- Prioritize protection of water quality as well as quantity. Streamflow was 50 percent lower in young plantations relative to mature forests (Segura et al. 2020).

- For strategy 10.4, ensure the State Forest Division also works closely with DEQ on monitoring and protecting drinking water supplies (in addition to the Private Forests Division).

Recreation, Education & Interpretation Goal 18: Bullets for input into survey comment box:
- Track workforce development, jobs, and revenue stemming from or tied to state forest recreation.
- Ensure equitable access (safe, widely-accessible, and affordable opportunities for those who have traditionally been excluded from and discriminated against in these spaces).

Cultural Goal 21: Bullets for input into survey comment box:
- Given that it appears this goal remains under development, either incorporate the following language (from a previous ODF goals document) as a standalone goal or incorporate into the strategies for this goal: *"Ensure forest management planning and implementation fully evaluates and redresses environmental justice impacts, facilitates meaningful involvement of impacted communities, and prioritizes distribution of benefits and minimization of burdens to historically underserved communities—including BIPOC, rural, low-income, and forest labor communities."*

Provide Feedback on Logging and Revenue

Revenue Goal 13: Bullets for input into survey comment box:
- Amend the goal language for revenue to include revenue for the State Forest Division tied to public forest management costs (not just a revenue goal for counties, schools, taxing districts).
- Include a strategy tied to securing new revenue for ODF's State Forest Division from non-timber sources that is tied to the non-timber values produced by state forest lands.

Timber Production Goal 14: Bullets for input into survey comment box:
- Utilize precautionary principles and best management practices to protect against soil loss and erosion during logging operations, especially where risk of landslides or erosion is high.
- Ensure timber production does not decrease forest inventory and is not detrimental to achievement of climate, carbon, wildlife, aquatic, and drinking water values.

Transportation System Goal 15: Bullets for input into survey comment box:
- Strongly recommend that this goal be reviewed and revised by the staff working on the wildlife and aquatics & riparian goals.
- Commit to reducing the current road density on state forests so as to (a) promote aquatic, water quality or other goals, and (b) ensure the road system is better scaled to the costs associated with maintaining it. Focus evaluation of roads within conservation areas that could be decommissioned, with harvest no longer planned in these areas.
- Strategies 15.3, 15.6, 15.7, 15.10 "Construct, design, improve, and maintain roads….," should include the practices of decommissioning roads wherever possible to restore ecological function.