



August 13, 2018

Richard Periman, Forest Supervisor
Mt. Hood National Forest
16400 Champion Way
Sandy, OR 97055

Re: Recap of July 24, 2018 Forest Service, Industry Meeting

Dear Richard:

This letter is to provide a recap of the Mt. Hood/Timber Industry meeting that was held on July 24, at the Zigzag Ranger District and subsequent field trip to look at the Zigzag Integrated Stewardship project near Government Camp. A list of the attendees is attached.

Following introductions, Tom gave a reminder that the meeting will follow the anti-trust guidelines. New Forest Supervisor Richard Periman introduced himself and provided the group with his background in the Forest Service, and also presented his perspective on forest management. Richard gave a forest update including that getting a full staff remains a high priority for him. He said the Forest's budget is pretty stable, and the FY19 budget should be similar to FY18. Richard also mentioned that he is very interested in using all of the tools available to the agency including Good Neighbor Authority, and Farm Bill CE's in insect and disease areas.

Kraig and Brad discussed the current and out year timber sale programs (see attached). The Forest is going to ramp up their timber program, going from 30 mmbf in FY18, to 33 mmbf in FY19, and eventually getting up to 40 mmbf by FY21. It was also mentioned that the percentage of stewardship timber sales has been about 75%, but will be go down to about 50%. The group had a discussion of the need to do a lot of presale work and Phil mentioned that the Forest is trying to do more stand exams before the projects to have the best data for where management is needed.

Regarding out year projects, the Rocky planning area went through scoping in 2015, should be out with a draft EA in late August. The North Clackamas decision has not yet been signed, but should be out for public comment by fall. At the time of the meeting the Forest was in level 3 fire precaution, but was trending to level 4 which is a forest wide shut down. Conditions have worsened since that time.

The group then drove to the Zigzag integrated stewardship project. The project is located in two areas, the Lolo Pass area which is 1,000 acres and the Trillium Lake sale which is 1,100 acres. We had three stops on the Trillium Lake side of the project. Those stops included looking at a

plantation that was about 60 years old, we also visited an older fire originated stand in Matrix that had larger trees (108 years old). The discussion here was about how the Forest should be managing that area. The Forest products area acknowledged they support harvest in those older stands. We also looked at a stand that had some overstory, but the trees were smaller in diameter and in poor forest health. It was decided that the Forest should treat the stand and replant to reestablish a healthier stand.

AFRC and our members thought the field trip was very beneficial and we were pleased that the Zigzag Ranger District is moving forward with this project. The group was also pleased that the Forest is going to be treating a lot of matrix areas and doing a variety of harvest regimes including regeneration. Finally, we want to thank the Mt. Hood National Forest for ramping up their timber sale program and the number of timber purchasers on the trip shows the interest of the industry in the project.

Our next meeting will be on October 9 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon at the Supervisor's office. Again, thanks for a great meeting, and in the meantime, if there is anything AFRC can do to help you or your timber program please don't hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tom Partin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Tom Partin
AFRC Consultant
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Lake Oswego, Oregon 97035