

MEMORANDUM

To: Reviewers
From: Neal Coenen, Manager, Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds
Governor's Natural Resources Office
Date: September 14, 2001
Subject: Review of **Proposed Statewide Riparian Policy**

INTRODUCTION

This proposed policy is being distributed for public review and comment. We would like to receive comments by October 15, 2001.

Comments may be sent to me by email at Neal.Coenen@state.or.us or by hard copy to me at the following address, 900 Court St NE, Salem OR 97301-4047. This policy document and all related reports are located on the Internet as well. Websites are referenced below.

Development of this policy is the result of a number of activities identifying a common need to create a framework within which shared riparian resource management responsibilities could and should occur across many landscape components – forest, agricultural, rural residential and urban lands.

The essential need is to assure “connectivity” of the riparian resource across all landscapes so that protection and improvements in habitats for salmonids and achieving water quality standards are met. The basic policy document is available on the Internet at www.Oregon-Plan.org.

BACKGROUND AND INFORMATION SOURCES

A number of activities have led to the development of the proposed Statewide Riparian Policy and include these significant reference materials.

1. Governor Kitzhaber's Executive Order 99-01, guiding implementation of the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds directed a number of key state agencies to review and evaluate their riparian resource management programs. The review teams November 13, 2000 report is available at www.Oregon-Plan.org.
2. Governor Kitzhaber's Executive Order also called upon the Oregon Board of Forestry to evaluate its forest practices program. A Forest Practices Advisory Committee was formed and produced a consensus recommendation to address landscape connectivity, for riparian resources. The Advisory Committee's September 6, 2000 report is also available on the Internet at www.odf.state.or.us/fp/fpac/toc.htm. See recommendation No. 41 (pg 64).
3. Finally, the Oregon Plan's Independent Multidisciplinary Science Team (IMST), in its November 1999 review of forest practices, also made recommendations to develop a landscape view and recommended additional agencies review and evaluate their respective programs. This report is available on the Internet at www.fsl.orst.edu/imst.