WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources

PETER GOLDMARK
Washington State Commissioner of Public Lands

MEMORANDUM

TO: Forest Practices Board

FROM: Jim Hotvedt, Adaptive Management Program Administrator

DATE: January 24, 2012

SUBJECT: LEAN Review of AMP

As you well know, multiple attempts have been made since 2009 to secure long-term funding for the Forest Practices Adaptive Management Program (AMP). However, given state budget challenges, the primary focus has been on year-to-year and biennial funding necessary to continue active projects. The governor's budget contains some of the recent lost capacity of the Forest Practices program to sustain the Forest Practices Habitat Conservation Plan and CWA assurances for the state, as well as improve AMP performance through an independent performance review. This request will contribute to the agency's ability to better meet its adaptive management performance measures, that is, the number of completed scientific reports received by the Forests and Fish Policy group and acted upon in the form of a recommendation to the Forest Practices Board for action or no-action.

To improve program efficiency, the Forest Practices Board directed the Adaptive Management Program at its November 2011 quarterly meeting to spend some portion of the CMER budget to facilitate a LEAN review of the Adaptive Management Program. The Board also directed the program to review findings with the Board as soon as they are available and to report to the Board in February 2012.

To accomplish this, we are taking a two-step process:

- The first step is the completion of an "opportunity assessment" of AMP processes suitable for reviewing through a LEAN event. We will be looking at both Policy and CMER processes during this step. We are contracting with a LEAN expert to help us with the process.
- The second step will be to choose a process (or processes) and have a LEAN expert work with AMP participants to perform an exhaustive review of the process, with the intent of making it more effective and efficient.

The opportunity assessment is expected to take no more than two to three weeks, with a report to the Forest Practices Board at its February 14 quarterly meeting. Following that, our goal is to have an AMP process reviewed through LEAN strategies in the next few months.

JEH/

1111 WASHINGTON ST SE • PO BOX 47041 • OLYMPIA, WA 98504-7041
TEL: (360) 902-1250 • FAX: (360) 902-1780 • TTY: (360) 902-1125
Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action Employer