

About the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR)...

- The department is steward of approximately 5.6 million acres of state lands, which includes forested, aquatic and agricultural lands.
- Of these lands, approximately 2.1 million acres are forested.
- DNR is managed by an elected Commissioner of Public Lands.
- The policy decisions regarding the management of the trust are made by the Board of Natural Resources.



What are state "Trust Lands" and how are funds distributed?

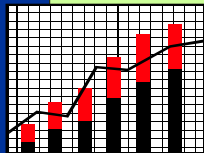
- Federal Grant lands given at statehood provide financial support for state institutions:
 - Schools, universities, correctional facilities, and others
- 'State Forest' lands (mostly logged and abandoned in early 1900s)
 - Acquired by transfer or purchase
 - Provide financial support to counties and state general funds for schools

Role as a Trust Manager

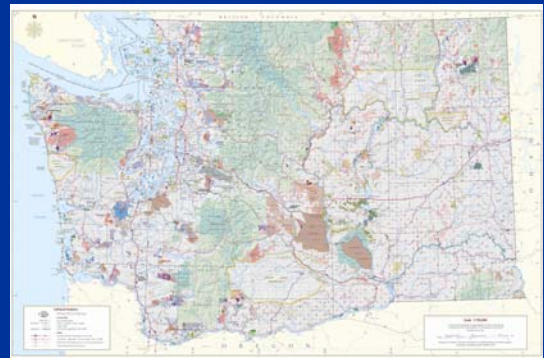
Analogy: Imagine you are given \$1 million to manage "in trust" for a designated family.

Your Duties are to:

- Provide long-term trust revenue, without favoring one generation of family members (beneficiaries) over another generation
- Act prudently and carefully on their behalf



DNR's Major Public Lands...



East side old growth - Success gained through communication and collaboration



2004 ESHB 2573, Section 905:

- Convene Panel of Scientists to Define Old Growth
- Inventory and Map Old Growth on State Lands
- Completed by June 2005
- Publish Notification of Proposed Cutting or Removal of Trees or Stands 160 Years of Age or Older

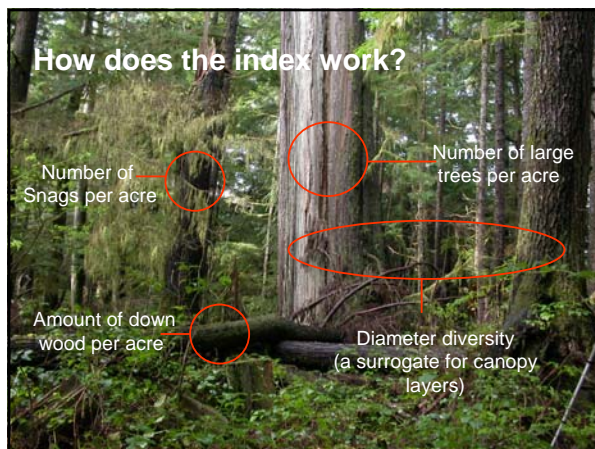


Landscape approach on West Side

- Habitat Conservation Plan for West Side sets landscape level protections for Older Forest dependent species through:
 - Management for Northern Spotted Owl Habitat on designated landscapes
 - Management for an overall target of 10 to 15% of landscape in older forest conditions.
 - Target largest trees in stand for leave tree retention. (8 trees per acre)

Chapter 1 – West side old Growth Definitions

How does the index work?



Conclusion Reached Concerning Eastside Old Growth

We do not have reference condition for old growth on the Eastside necessary to construct a definition.

Existing definitions are inadequate for state lands.

Past fires have left old growth unevenly distributed across the landscape.

Once defined and identified, old growth forests on the Eastside will require management to maintain them.



Chapter 2 – East Side Old Growth

2006 Capital Budget Proviso

"...the department shall... develop a definition for old growth trees and stands located east of the crest of the Cascade mountains using attributes measured in DNR inventory plots..."

DNR will conduct an inventory of old growth stands, based on the definition: "...*The inventory must include:* maps that illustrate the distribution of forest stands containing old growth ponderosa pine, dry mixed conifer species, and pine-oak plant associations, including sites with residual old growth ponderosa pine trees..."

ESSB 6384, section 189



Until the completion of the inventory ...the department ...may not cut or remove any Douglas fir, ponderosa pine, or larch trees from state lands locate east of the crest of the Cascade Mountains if the tree is one hundred sixty years in age or older and has a diameter of twenty-eight inches or more measured at breast height, unless...necessary to prevent an imminent physical or ecological hazard or otherwise satisfy a safety concern."

ESSB 6384, section 189



The Old Growth Definition Committee: an independent science panel

Dr. Jerry Franklin, University of Washington (Chair)

Dr. Miles Hemstrom, USFS PNW Research Station

Dr. Bob Van Pelt, University of Washington

Other Team members:

Joe Buchanan: WDFW Representative

Sabra Hull: DNR Representative/project coordinator

Rex Crawford: DNR Eastside ecologist

Walt Obermeyer & Steve Curry: DNR Data stewards

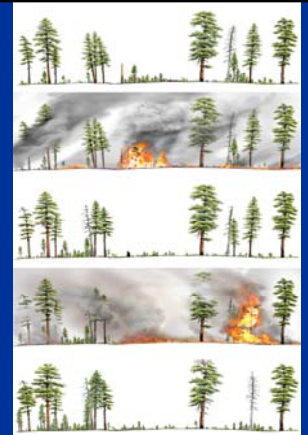
• Eastside is different

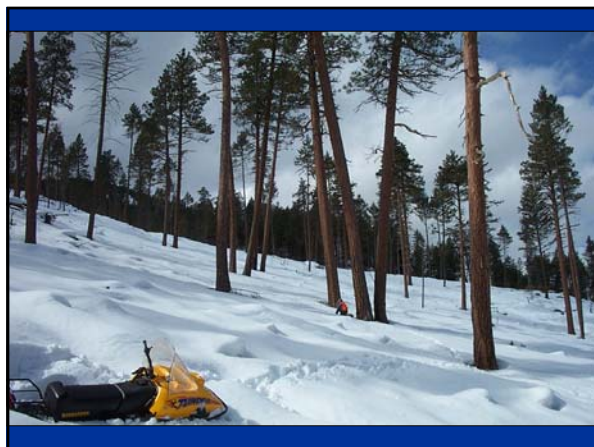
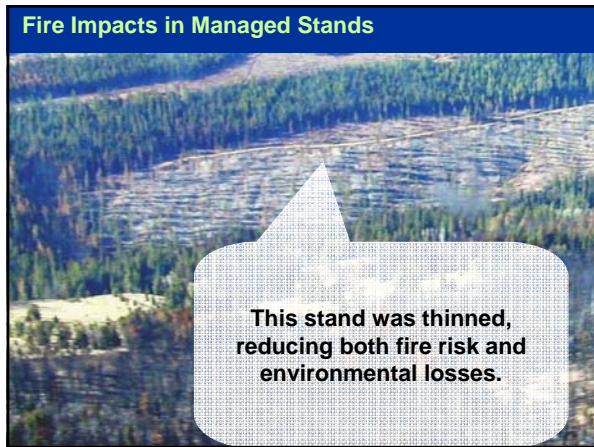
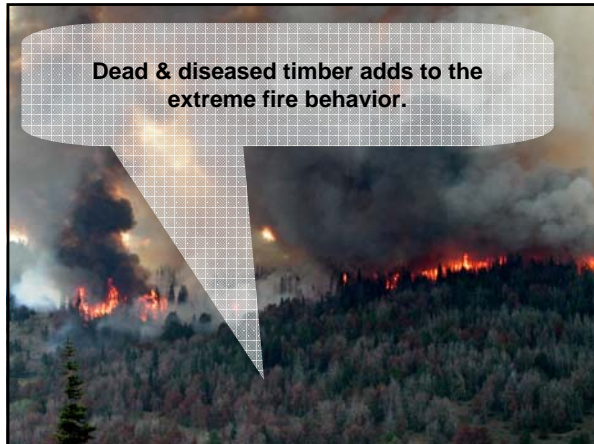
- Management History
 - No reference stands

- Stand variability
 - Inventory issues

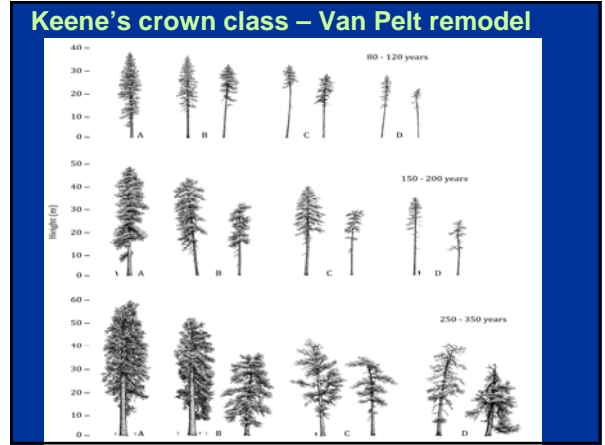
- Landscape variability (Multiple Plant Association Groups)

- Interconnected Ecosystem issues





- Things to consider in strategic approach to thinning**
- Ecosystem type and comparison to historic condition
 - Lodgepole pine, high elevation forests, mixed Douglas-fir, Ponderosa pine
 - Wildlife habitat - Northern Spotted Owl, Lynx
 - Markets for thinning wood
 - Landscape level issues
 - Neighbor's strategy for management
 - Provision for appropriate returns to the trust



Individual tree approach

- Conserve highest rated Keene's crown class as part of leave tree strategy,
- Grow a commercial cohort of site appropriate trees in the under-story.
- What about establishing a certain percentage of the landscape in an older forest condition?

CHAPTER 3 – Central Washington Landscape Analysis

- Break?
- Franklin book
- Pass out results of workshops

CHAPTER 3 – Central Washington Landscape Analysis

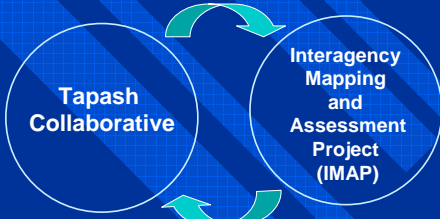
- Tapash Cooperative
 - New directions for Nature Conservancy
 - Building partnerships
 - Incremental approach
 - Issues that it is easier to unite people behind

Who is involved

Tapash Collaborative

- Local Partnership
- Common Goals
- Ownership Blind

Who is involved

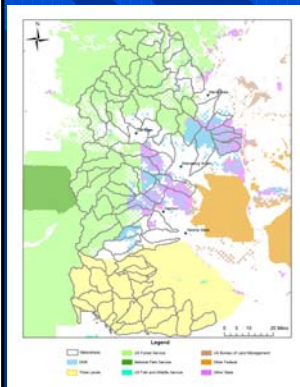


Project Goals

- Resilient dry forest landscapes
- Managing and conservation of older forest conditions
- Forest biomass utilization

Potential Study Area

- 3.7 million acres



IMAP

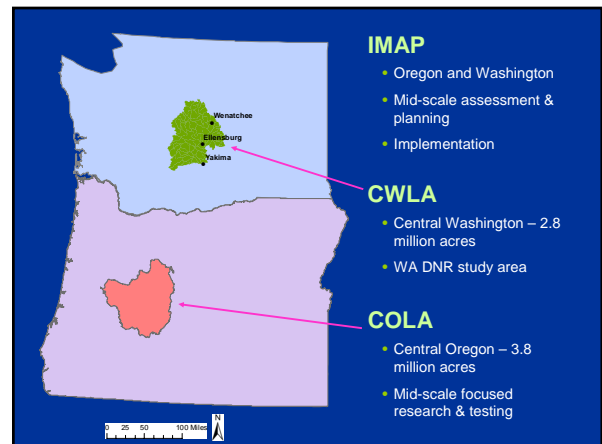
- Oregon and Washington
- Mid-scale assessment & planning
- Implementation

CWLA

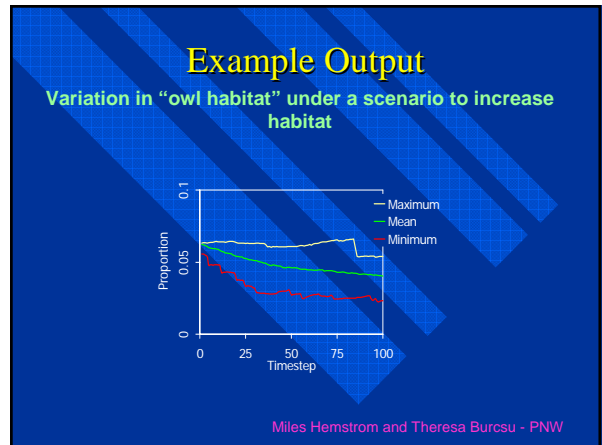
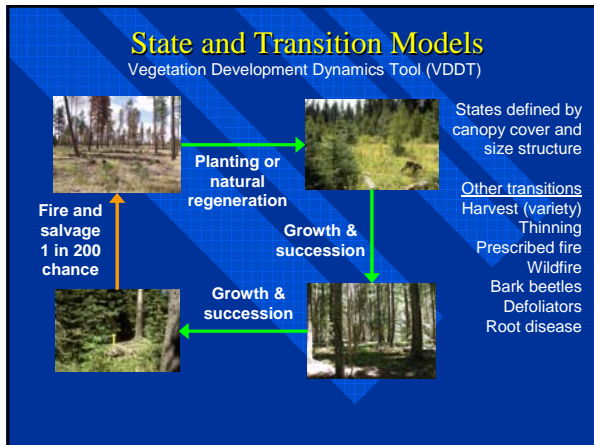
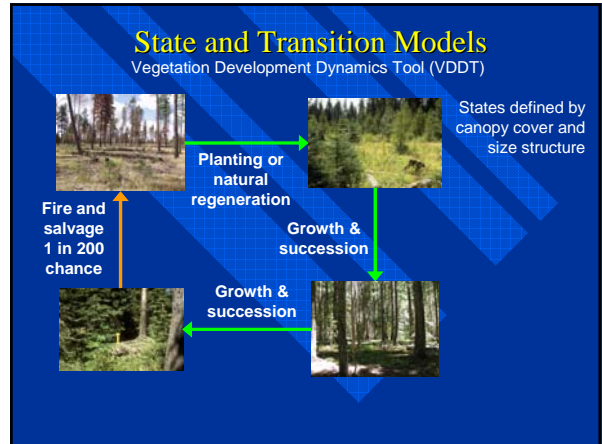
- Central Washington – 2.8 million acres
- WA DNR study area

COLA

- Central Oregon – 3.8 million acres
- Mid-scale focused research & testing



Vegetation Model



- ## Good News
- Increased collaboration among groups and recognition of the following elements of good decisions:
 - Understanding ecosystems (avoid blanket solutions)
 - Collecting data to support decisions
 - Respect for different landowner objectives when formulating strategies
 - Landscape approach

- ## Questions I have
- How much did social readiness play into the cooperative effort with the legislators and conservation groups – or was it simply exceptional individuals. Or both?
 - How much did the lead role of Nature Conservancy play in getting stakeholders together for the Tapash?
 - What role did the local nature of the Tapash cooperative play in it's success?

Questions I have

- To what extent did the charismatic and competent science team influence the positive course of the collaborative field meetings?
- Will this project be able to form the foundation of a bigger, cooperative cross landscape planning project. Would that be a good thing?
- How will the organizational goals of the players be resolved?
- Will other groups that did not participate challenge and thus delay or derail the project?