


Introduction to Statewide Assessment of Forest Conditions and Resource Strategy

A Presentation to the
ORMP Working Group
January 7, 2010

A stylized silhouette of a mountain range in shades of teal, located at the bottom right of the slide.

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Today's Objectives

1. Familiarize You With SWARS
2. Invite You to Collaborate
3. Identify ORMP Issues/Strategies That Overlap with SWARS
4. Seek Your Advice on Public Outreach Process

2 Minute Intro to SWARS

- New Requirement in 2008 Farm Bill
- Each State must Produce SWARS in order to qualify for a large suite of USDA Programs (Forest Service, NRCS)
- SWARS is 2 documents
 - Statewide Assessment of Forest Condition
 - Resource Strategy (for next 5-10 years)
- Assessment Must Identify Priority Issues
- Map (GIS) Priority Land Units (PLU's)

Real Agenda

1. Identify Where Resources Should be Focused
2. Foster Collaboration Between Land Steward Agencies and Organizations

Scope is Comprehensive

- ◆ Focus on lands that are forested or could support forests.
 - ◆ Consider all land ownerships (State, Federal, Private, Tribal)
 - ◆ Includes Urban Forestry
 - ◆ Integrate With New National Themes
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- A decorative graphic at the bottom of the slide showing a silhouette of a mountain range in a teal color, matching the background.

Integrative

- ◆ Required to integrate existing plans
 - Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)
 - Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy (CWCS)
 - “Other Relevant Plans” i.e. ORMP

Very Short Timeline (2 years)

- ◆ State Forester must submit to Secretary of Agriculture by June 18, 2010
- ◆ Federal Guidance has been vague, often conflicting
- ◆ Resources have been slow to arrive
- ◆ Economic Crisis, furlough, RIF, etc.

Where Are We At Now?

The Assessment Document

- ◆ Hawaii is behind schedule
- ◆ Table of Contents on PDF Provides General Outline
- ◆ Now We Have Very Efficient System

Assessment Timeline

- ◆ Complete DOFAW Review Jan 31
- ◆ Complete Partner Review Feb 28
- ◆ Produce Public Draft March 31
- ◆ Neighbor Island Public Meetings in April
- ◆ Assessment to Board of DLNR May

Strategy Timeline

- ◆ Begin Feb 1
- ◆ Complete DOFAW Internal Review March 1
- ◆ Complete Partner Review April 1
- ◆ Public Review Period April 1 – 30
- ◆ To BLNR in May with Assessment

Submission Process

- ◆ State Forester has final say
- ◆ State Forester Must Complete Official Checklist
- ◆ Submit Both Documents to Forest Service June 18, 2010

Product and Process

- ◆ The SWARS Documents will be what they will be.
- ◆ Products will be printed, on website, and on DVD.
- ◆ Recognition that this is the first one, next one will be better.

Process so Far

- ◆ Hawaii “gets it”. Link SWARS to ORMP and other plans.
- ◆ Higher level of coordination already happening between agencies.
- ◆ It is up to us to translate that to “on the ground results”

Conclusion

- ◆ I seek your advice on outreach process
- ◆ I seek your advice on review process
- ◆ I welcome any time, data or other resources that you can contribute
- ◆ We embrace new era of collaboration, ahupua`a approach

If Interested

- ◆ Please contact me, to schedule meeting/conference calls, etc.
- ◆ Timeline is Short so HONEST FEEDBACK IS ESSENTIAL. IF WE ARE MISSING SOMETHING PLEASE BE BLUNT!
- ◆ I Really need your help
 - ◆ Setting up public meetings on neighbor islands
 - ◆ Better communication with Hawaiian community
 - ◆ Better communication with military

On behalf of DOFAW, mahalo for
your time and support.

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