Fish and Wildlife Habitat in Managed Forests

Current Program Priorities

Below are the priorities recommended by the Program Advisory Committee as high priority for new research and outreach in FY2019 (there is no implied prioritization based on the order).

- Response of fish and wildlife to forest management
  - Indicators of habitat quality/quantity, especially for species of conservation concern:
    - Federal T&E, Proposed T&E, Candidate T&E species, or Species of Concern
    - Oregon Priority Species
      (see ODFW Threatened, Endangered, and Candidate Fish and Wildlife Species website and ODFW Conservation Strategy Species website.
  - Early seral habitat
  - Effects of treatments for fuels management, restoration, forest health
  - Organism passage/population connectivity
  - Ecological responses to disturbance (natural or human-induced)
  - Species distribution

- Chemicals used in forestry
  - Quantify direct and indirect effects on fish and wildlife species:
    - From the frequency, magnitude, and duration of exposure expected during a typical forest management cycle.
    - In watershed or landscape contexts

- Forest management activities impact on water quality
  - Influences on fish and wildlife
  - Scoping and development of BMPs to reduce sediment delivery from the subset of roads that connect to live water
  - Routing and storage of road-generated sediment
  - Linkages between road-generated sediment and beneficial use impacts
  - Streamside management
    - Development and testing of alternatives that balance resource protection with economic values

- Effects of fire, fire mitigation practices, and post-fire management on terrestrial and aquatic biota

For all priority research topics, the committee emphasized the need for work at the landscape/watershed scale wherever feasible, with explicit consideration for characterization of natural variability. The committee also encourages multidisciplinary proposals that address complex topics.