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Business Process Improvement Preliminary Recommendations

<p>Short Term (Implement fully in less than one year)</p>	<p><i>Long Term</i> <i>(Staff out to work teams now, begin implementation in more than a year)</i></p>
<p><u>Policy</u> Communicate current guidance regarding the use of scale sales and continue to evaluate scale sale criteria</p> <p>Encourage exploration of emerging technologies and innovative processes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pilot emerging technologies (e.g., LiDAR use of infra-red technology for surveys) ○ Invest in and provide employee incentives for innovation ○ Communicate results to all districts (feedback loop) <p><u>Timber Sale Contracts</u> Update timber sale contract</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Review stipulations and revise as necessary ○ Develop a standard contract template and policy on its use <p>Evaluate current timber measurement and appraisal methods and standards Develop and standardize the process for collecting and providing log prices</p>	<p><u>Policy</u> Further investigate a potential change to the 5003 regulations to create an additional administrative remedy option, wherein the decision maker could opt to issue the timber sale decision and begin the protest period at completion of the environmental analysis</p> <p>Improve marketability, increase value, and strengthen economic viability of timber sales</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Re-evaluate the application of management direction from the resource management plans (RMP) to ensure its use is cost-effective <p><u>Timber Sale Contracts</u> Update Timber Sale Handbook</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Establish an update schedule (phased approach) ○ Publish, provide training ○ Establish intermediate milestones in timber sale process ○ Establish post sale review procedures <p>Streamline timber sale quality control to insure efficiencies Develop and implement a timber sale program communication plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Manage the message, internal and public (“social license to manage”-- forest management is sustainable and promotes long-term health and productivity of the land) ○ Develop a system to disseminate timber sale related information, including legal rulings, decisions and corresponding guidance ○ Establish roles for State, District, and Resource Area outreach

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<p><u>NEPA Process</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Design and implement a standard template for simplified timber sale EA document ○ Strengthen and emphasize tying the EA back to the RMP ○ Explore contracting opportunities in EA development <p><u>Training</u> Expand training opportunities in: Westside Thinning Program (continuation)</p> <p>Western Oregon Plan Revision (WPOR) (relative to timber sales) NEPA Road Show (continuation)</p> <p><u>Employee Development</u> Integrate timber sale related employee development program with Mid-Career Strategy initiative</p>	<p><u>NEPA Process</u> Gather and publish ID Team best practices and provide additional guidance, e.g.,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ articulate clear objectives, ○ strong facilitation, ○ define roles (including Field Manager), ○ documentation of decisions, ○ review ID team results ○ legal review and control of process ○ establish intermediate milestones in NEPA process ○ establish post sale review ○ establish a tracking role to assure continuity and follow-through in legal issues, open cases, claims, sold and unawarded sales, and monitoring <p>Explore alternative ways to create an EA and determine the most efficient</p> <p><u>Training</u> Expand training opportunities in: Timber Sale Contracting Officer (CO) for Field Managers Contract administration</p> <p>Updated timber sale handbook (phased approach) The administrative remedy and legal processes</p> <p><u>Employee Development</u> Integrate timber sale related employee development program with Mid-Career Strategy initiative</p>
<p>Succession/Overlap of Employees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mentoring & Cross Training ○ Retaining institutional knowledge 	<p>Revive general forestry orientation (rotation through disciplines)</p>