



**DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES**

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ADDENDUM

SEPA File No. 24-021301

Description of the original proposal:

Bologna Timber Sale #105951 and Forest Practice Application #2819311 is a variable retention and right-of-way harvest with 92.2 acres in 10 units (8 VRH, 2 ROW) removing approximately 3,865 MBF of timber in the North Puget HCP Planning Unit. This proposal includes 5,663 feet of road construction, 4,928 feet of road reconstruction, up to 1,251 feet of temporary road construction road to be abandoned after completion if built, 3,277 feet of existing road to be abandoned after completion of use, and 92,922 feet of pre-haul maintenance. The harvest area stand development stage has been categorized as biomass accumulation/stem exclusion/Maturation I/Maturation II. The stands in the Bologna timber sale have not been identified as those needed to meet older forest targets over time. What follows describes structurally complex forests managed to meet older forest outcomes in the North Puget HCP Planning Unit.

Description of the addendum:

DNR is providing an addendum to this SEPA analysis to document the evaluation and identification of suitable structurally complex forest to be managed to meet the older-forest targets expected as a modeled byproduct of management under the 1997 Trust Lands Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), and a policy target stated in the DNR's Policy for Sustainable Forests (PSF).

The General Silviculture Strategy (policy) in the Policy for Sustainable Forests emphasized that older forest targets will be accomplished over time and that DNR intends to actively manage structurally complex forests to achieve older-forest structures (i.e. stands with older forests identified by structural characteristics) across 10 to 15 percent of each western Washington HCP planning unit in 70 to 100 years.

In May 2024, the DNR produced a document titled '*Landscape Assessment to Identify and Manage Structurally Complex Stands to Meet Older-Forest Targets in Western Washington*', which is incorporated by reference in this Addendum. This document describes the background, historical analyses regarding attainment of older forest conditions in western Washington, and updated data and modeling analyses showing when the various HCP planning units across western Washington are expected to attain a level of older forest conditions through

implementation of the HCP and other conservation objectives, and outlined as targets within the PSF.

This landscape assessment identifies the existing structurally complex forests of existing structurally complex stands, and additional stands suitable to be managed for older forest targets over time. The identified stands are located in conservation areas and deferred stands unavailable for regeneration harvest. These stands include areas identified as long-term forest cover under the marbled murrelet long-term conservation strategy, riparian areas, areas conserved under the multispecies conservation strategy, potentially unstable slopes, spotted owl nest patches, old growth, Natural Areas and Natural Resource Conservation Areas, and other conservation areas deferred from regeneration harvest.

The results from the May 2024 landscape assessment, and included in the above-referenced memorandum, show that while the North Puget HCP Planning Unit does not currently contain 10 to 15 percent older forest conditions, it demonstrates that through implementation of the HCP and other Policies and laws, stands containing structurally complex forests or managed for older forest targets in conservation areas is projected to exceed 10 percent in the North Puget HCP Planning Unit by 2070 (Table 1). Stands currently identified to meet older forest targets are represented in the attached map titled, “2021 Older Forest Within Conservation N. PUGET” (2024). Additionally, those stands projected to meet older-forest targets are depicted in the attached map titled, “Projected 2100 Older Forest Within Conservation N. PUGET” (2024).

Table 1. Percent area western Washington HCP planning units with older-forest stands in conservation areas by decade through 2120. With plot discounts and disturbance factor.

ADJUSTED QUERY OUTPUT (WITH PLOT DISCOUNT & DISTURBANCE FACTOR)											
HCP Planning Unit	Year										
	2021	2030	2040	2050	2060	2070	2080	2090	2100	2110	2120
COLUMBIA	1.1%	1.2%	1.4%	1.8%	2.6%	4.3%	6.8%	10.1%	14.0%	17.3%	18.9%
N. PUGET	3.2%	3.9%	4.9%	6.2%	7.9%	10.2%	13.2%	16.7%	20.6%	23.9%	25.0%
OESF	10.2%	10.7%	11.0%	11.7%	12.6%	13.9%	16.0%	20.1%	25.0%	28.4%	29.6%
S. COAST	0.2%	0.3%	0.6%	1.2%	2.2%	3.6%	6.0%	8.8%	12.3%	16.0%	18.7%
S. PUGET	1.7%	2.1%	2.7%	3.6%	4.6%	6.1%	8.4%	11.3%	14.4%	17.2%	18.7%
STRAITS	1.8%	2.5%	3.2%	4.3%	5.6%	7.4%	9.9%	12.6%	15.0%	17.9%	19.3%

The Bologna timber sale is not identified as one of those stands designated to meet older-forest targets over time. In the Bologna timber sale 92.2 acres are being harvested, while 27.8 acres are being conserved (23% of proposal area) for potential unstable slopes, riparian and wetland management zones, and leave tree areas that will contribute to older forests over time. Following the timber sale, the harvest units will be replanted with native, conifer tree species that will be supplemented by natural regeneration expected to occur as a result of the conservation areas in and around the harvested units.

In addition, approximately 5 acres of existing blowdown, adjacent to Unit #5, will be used to supply material to the DNR’s Watershed Resilience Action Plan program and the Tulalip Tribes’

log jam project along the Pilchuck River. Following this operation, this area will be planted in the same manner as the surrounding harvest units.

Description of Pilchuck River Fill Removal:

Restoration work is planned to take place on a segment of abandoned road grade that is adjacent to the Pilchuck River within the Channel Migration Zone of the river. This project will not involve any in-stream work or work within the current channel.

Work at the restoration site will involve the removal of the road prism material of this abandoned grade. The fill material will be used to fill in trenched out areas that was likely created during the creation of this grade. The remainder of the fill material will be pulled back to the outer edge of the lower terrace that this grade segment is located on. The approximate amount of fill material to be removed from the grade is 500 cubic yards. Approximately 11 trees, sapling to pole size, will have to be felled to accomplish this work, they are a mix of alder and maple. They will be left on site and strategically placed on the restoration site for down woody debris. All exposed soils will be grass seeded, and a protective cover of mulch, forest debris or other similar cover will be applied to areas of exposed soils. Restoration site may also be planted with a mix of Douglas-fir and western redcedar.

Access to the restoration site will involve walking one piece of tracked equipment down an abandoned grade to the site. The abandoned grade is currently blocked to highway vehicles. This blocking barrier will be removed to access the grade then re-established once work is complete. Restoration work should take approximately one week. No water crossings exist on this road grade.

Description of existing environmental document: State Forest Land SEPA Environmental Checklist

Proponent: Washington State Department of Natural Resources

Lead Agency: Washington State Department of Natural Resources

This addendum is being distributed pursuant to WAC 197-11-600 and 197-11-625. It has been determined that this new information does not substantially change the analysis of significant impacts in the existing environmental document.

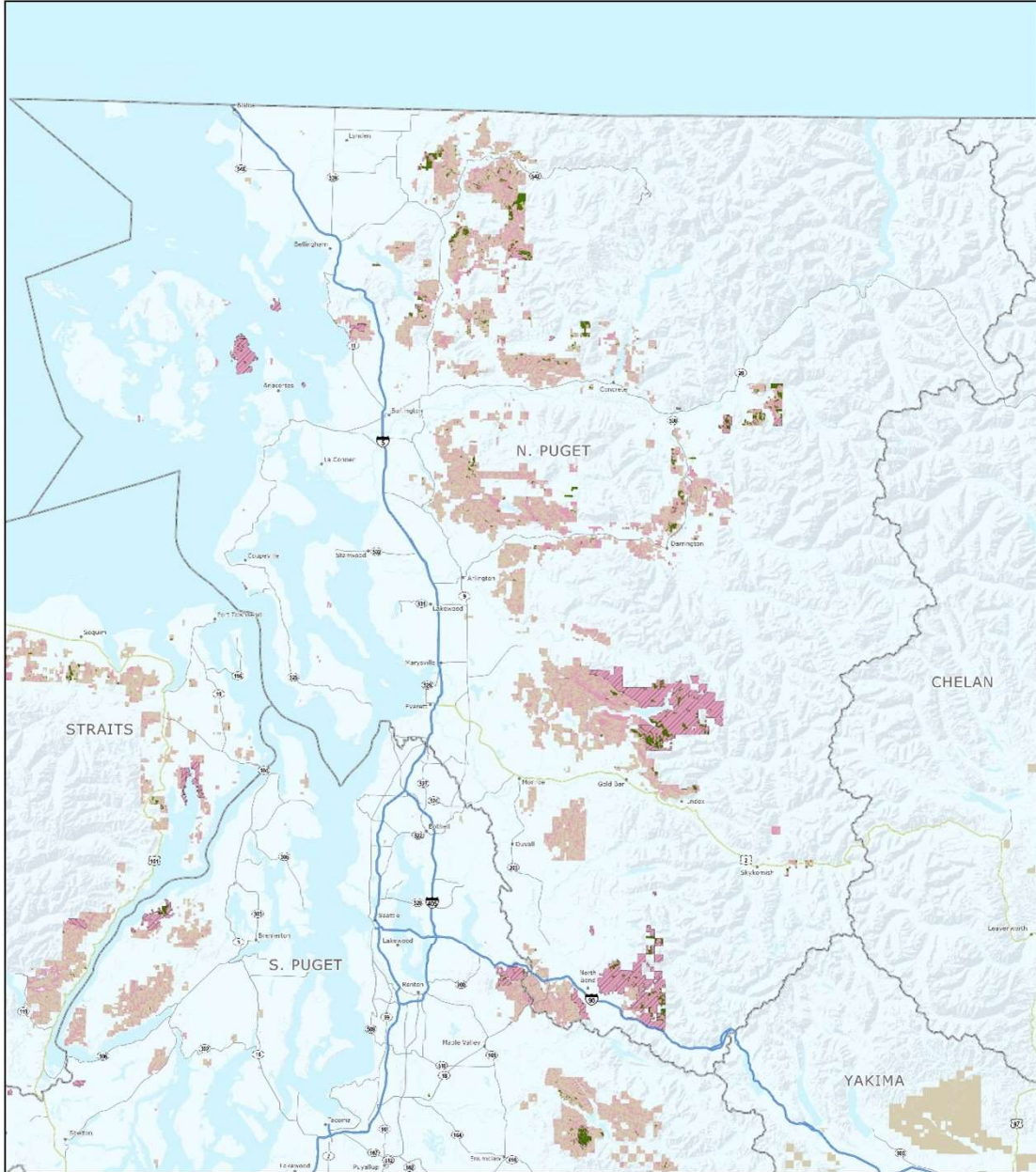
Responsible Official: Jay Guthrie

Position/Title: Northwest Region Manager **Phone:** (360) 856-3500

Address: 919 North Township Street, Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284

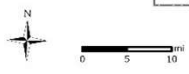
Date: 5/8/24 **Signature:** _____ 

There is no DNR administrative SEPA appeal.

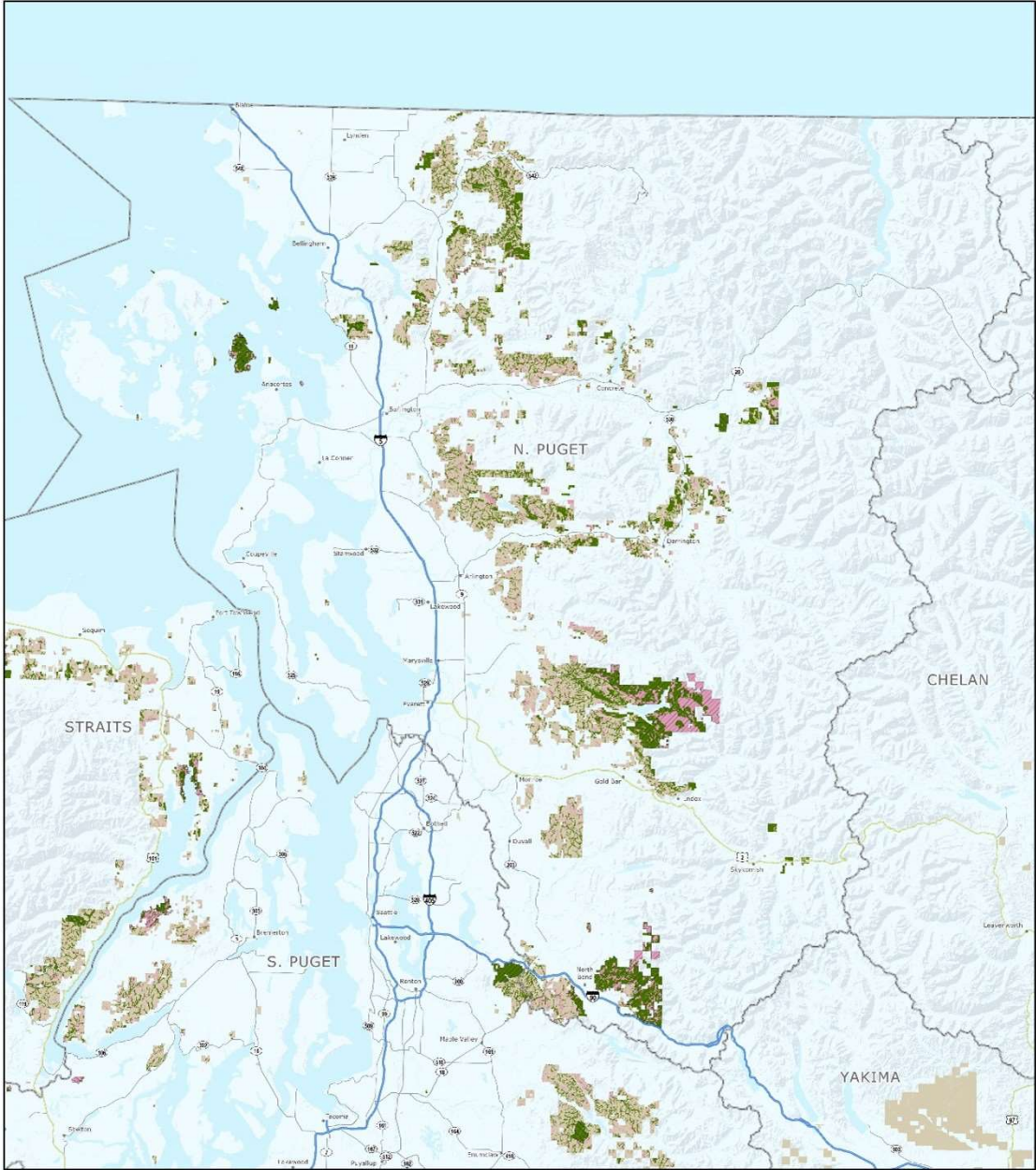


2021 Older Forest
Within Conservation
N. PUGET

- Older Forest in 2021
- Westside Forest Cover
- HCP Planning Units
- Natural Area Preserve
- Natural Resource Conservation Area
- Other DNR-Managed Lands



Map created on 4/18/2024 of older forests and westside forest cover identified from the analysis documented within the memo titled "Identifying Stands to Meet Older Forest Targets in Western Washington, May 11, 2021." All data are draft and subject to change.



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES

**Projected 2100
Older Forest
Within Conservation
N. PUGET**

Projected Older Forest in 2100

Westside Forest Cover

HCP Planning Units

Natural Area Preserve

Natural Resource Conservation Area

Other DNR-Managed Lands



Map created on 4/18/2024 of older forests and westside forest cover identified from the analysis documented within the memo titled "Identifying Stands to Meet Older Forest Targets in Western Washington, May 11, 2021." All data are draft and subject to change.