

I have reviewed this SEPA Checklist and have included comments in blue.

6/1/2023

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FP Coordinator- Olympic Region DNR

2617956

## **SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST**

### ***Purpose of checklist:***

Governmental agencies use this checklist to help determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant. This information is also helpful to determine if available avoidance, minimization or compensatory mitigation measures will address the probable significant impacts or if an environmental impact statement will be prepared to further analyze the proposal.

### ***Instructions for applicants:***

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Please answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. You may need to consult with an agency specialist or private consultant for some questions. You may use "not applicable" or "does not apply" only when you can explain why it does not apply and not when the answer is unknown. You may also attach or incorporate by reference additional studies reports. Complete and accurate answers to these questions often avoid delays with the SEPA process as well as later in the decision-making process.

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

### ***Instructions for Lead Agencies:***

Please adjust the format of this template as needed. Additional information may be necessary to evaluate the existing environment, all interrelated aspects of the proposal and an analysis of adverse impacts. The checklist is considered the first but not necessarily the only source of information needed to make an adequate threshold determination. Once a threshold determination is made, the lead agency is responsible for the completeness and accuracy of the checklist and other supporting documents.

### ***Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:***

For nonproject proposals (such as ordinances, regulations, plans and programs), complete the applicable parts of sections A and B plus the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (part D). Please completely answer all questions that apply and note that the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proponent," and "affected geographic area," respectively. The lead agency may exclude (for non-projects) questions in Part B - Environmental Elements –that do not contribute meaningfully to the analysis of the proposal.

## **A. Background**

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable: **T3 Riparian Gaps – Agreement #30-105299**
2. Name of applicant: **Washington Department of Natural Resources**

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:

**Mike Potter**  
**Department of Natural Resources**  
**411 Tillicum Lane**  
**Forks, WA 98331**  
**(360) 374 - 2800**

2617956

4. Date checklist prepared: **4/7/2023**

5. Agency requesting checklist:

Washington Department of Natural Resources

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable): **Project activities will occur between July 2023 and October 2025.**

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.

**Riparian research and monitoring connected with this project will be occurring indefinitely.**

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal. **Geotechnical Report prepared by Jeff Keck dated Feb.15, 2023.**

Geo Report is available on FPARS with FPA 2617956

9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.

**No**

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.

**Forest Practice Application** FPA 2617956 is available on FPARS

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

**This project involves the harvest of two ¼ acre gaps within the Riparian Management Zone (RMZ) of two type 3 waters on the adjacent T3 Camp Run and T3Upper Manor timber sales. The cruised volume is 14 mbf . Of the combined 0.5 acres there are approximately 0.25 acres of timber removal within the outer portion of the RMZ and 0.25 acres of timber that will be fell and left on the unstable portion including a component that will be fell into the stream itself.**

Proposed acres and volume confirmed via FPA 2617829

**This activity is located within the Upper Clearwater Watershed Administrative Unit (WAU) and requires no additional road work.**

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.

Gap #1 is located near the C-2010 road in Sec.3 (25-11) and Gap #2 is located near the C-1000 road in Sec 22 ( 25-11).

FPA 2617956 is located in Jefferson County.

**B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS**

**1. Earth**

a. General description of the site:

**steep slopes,**

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)? **110%**

Steepest slope confirmed via FPA 2617956 Q19

c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any agricultural land of long-term commercial significance and whether the proposal results in removing any of these soils.

| State Soil Survey # | Soil Texture    |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| 0902                | SILT LOAM       |
| 7643                | V.GRAVELLY LOAM |

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.

**Yes, portions of both of these gaps are located on inner gorges.**

FPA 2617829 geotech report, SSIF, & SSIF

e. Describe the purpose, type, total area, and approximate quantities and total affected area of any filling, excavation, and grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

**None**

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.

**Yes. Some erosion could occur as a result of timberharvest operations.**

g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?

None

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:

**To maintain slope stability, trees will be cut and left on rule identified unstable slopes. These trees will be felled in an orientation that will funnel water away from the wall of the inner gorges**

## 2. Air

- a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal during construction, operation, and maintenance when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.

**Minor amounts of engine exhaust from logging and road construction equipment and dust from vehicle traffic on roads will be emitted during proposed activities. If landing debris is burned after harvest is completed, smoke will be generated. There will be no emissions once the proposal is complete.**

**Harvest operations and the removal of timber will result in minor amounts of CO2 emissions from the direct proposal site. See A.13.a. for details regarding completed**

- b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.

**Carbon dioxide emissions associated with harvested wood products are analyzed in Alternatives for the Establishment of a Sustainable Harvest Level Final Environmental Impact Statement (2019) and the Long-Term Conservation Strategy for the Marbled Murrelet Final Environmental Impact Statement (2019).**

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:

**If landing debris is burned, it will be in accordance with Washington State's Smoke Management Plan. A burn permit will be obtained before burning occurs.**

**Following harvest, native tree species will be planted on site at a level higher than existed prior to harvest resulting in regeneration of the forest stand and initiating carbon sequestration through forest stand growth.**

## 3. Water

- a. Surface Water:

- 1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.

**This activity will occur adjacent to Type 3 waters. Downstream water bodies include North Fork Manor Creek, Manor Creek, Clearwater River, Queets River, Pacific Ocean**

2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.

**Timber felling, bucking, and yarding will occur within 200 feet of all the described waters above. All activities will be done in accordance with the DNR's HCP and Forest Practice rules.**

FPA 2617856 is available on FPARS

2) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected.

Indicate the source of fill material.

**None**

4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. **No**

5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.  
**No**

6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.

**No**

b. Ground Water:

1) Will groundwater be withdrawn from a well for drinking water or other purposes? If so, give a general description of the well, proposed uses and approximate quantities withdrawn from the well. Will water be discharged to groundwater? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

**No**

2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals. . . ; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.

**None**

c. Water runoff (including stormwater):

- 1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.

NA

- 2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.

NA

- 3) Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe.

NA

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water, and drainage pattern impacts, if any:

None

#### 4. Plants

a. Check the types of vegetation found on the site:

deciduous tree: alder,

evergreen tree: fir, cedar, western hemlock, Sitka spruce

shrubs: huckleberry, salmonberry

grass

pasture

crop or grain

Orchards, vineyards or other permanent crops.

wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other

water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other

other types of vegetation

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

**Approximately 14 MBF of 64-68 year old timber will be harvested with this proposal.**

**FPA 2617956 will harvest 0.5 acres of timber**

c. List threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.

**None found in corporate database**

- c. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:

**None**

e. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site.

**Himalayan Blackberry, Scotch Broom**

**5. Animals**

a. List any birds and other animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site.

Examples include:

- X birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds,
- X mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver
- X fish: salmon, trout

b. List any threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.

| TSU Number | Common Name          | Federal Listing Status | State Listing Status |
|------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Units 2    | Northern Spotted Owl | Threatened             | Endangered           |
| Units 2    | Marbled murrelet     | Threatened             | Endangered           |

c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.

FPRAM review indicates proposal is within the SOSEA, within the median home range circle of site #42. FPRAM review also indicates that the proposal is within the 1.5 mile buffer of an occupied MM site.

**All of Washington State is considered part of the Pacific Flyway. No impacts are anticipated as a result of this proposal.**

d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:

**Species/Habitat: Northern Spotted Owl**

The DNR mitigates for the potential of significant adverse environmental impacts to northern spotted owls in the OESF by implementing the HCP strategy. This strategy established threshold percentages for spotted owl habitat on DNR-managed lands for Landscape Planning Units (LPU). Each LPU is managed to achieve and maintain at least 20% Old Forest Habitat and at least 40% of Old and Young Forest (or Structural) Habitat types taken together according to a schedule of habitat enhancement and harvest activities developed within the Forest Land Plan (FLP). This sale is located within the Upper Clearwater SOMU. This SOMU is currently at 54.1% NSO habitat. Following the planned harvest of 94 acres of Young Forest habitat within this proposed timber sale, this SOMU will remain above the 40% threshold of Young Forest Habitat or better. This SOMU meets the criteria to be in the Maintenance and Enhancement Phase and is currently at 26.3% Old Forest, meeting that threshold as well. The harvest of NSO Young Forest Habitat in this SOMU complies with the DNR State Trust Lands HCP Implementation Agreement for the Northern Spotted Owl dated in 2017, as over 40% of the landscapes will remain as Young Forest Habitat and better. No harvest of Old Forest Habitat will occur.

This sale is within the Lower Stequaleho owl circle, and is more than 10,000 ft from the best 70.

**Species/Habitat: Marbled Murrelet**

This proposal does not occur within a marbled murrelet special habitat area, occupied site or buffer, or contain murrelet habitat (P-stage) that has been designated for metering. Previously modeled long term forest cover (LTFC) is being updated as a result of layout fieldwork.

**Species /Habitat: Riparian**

This activity is meant to introduce small amounts of light into the riparian area to encourage the growth of primary producers.

**Species /Habitat: Upland**

Harvest will not occur in areas with moderate or high risk of slope failure or delivery to a public resource. Wind-firm, dominant, and structurally unique trees were targeted for retention. A minimum of eight trees per acre were retained individually and in clumps to provide habitat structures for wildlife species within VRH units. Timber removal will temporarily create open environments that provide valuable foraging and potential habitat for a variety of wildlife species associated with early-stage forest environments

- e. List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site.

**There are no known invasive animal species on or near the site.**

**6. Energy and Natural Resources**

- a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.

**Petroleum fuel (diesel or gasoline) will be used for heavy equipment during active road building, timber harvest operations, and for transportation. No energy sources will be needed following project completion.**

- b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties?  
If so, generally describe.

**No**

- c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal?  
List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:

**None**



## 7. Environmental Health

- a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe.

### None known

- 1) Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.

### None

- 2) Describe existing hazardous chemicals/conditions that might affect project development and design. This includes underground hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines located within the project area and in the vicinity.

### None

- 3) Describe any toxic or hazardous chemicals that might be stored, used, or produced during the project's development or construction, or at any time during the operating life of the project.

**Petroleum-based fuel and lubricants may be used and stored on site during the operating life of this project.**

- 4) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

**The Department of Natural Resources, private, and fire protection district suppression crews may be needed in case of wildfire. In the event of personal injuries, emergency medical services may be required. Hazardous material spills may require Department of Ecology and/or county assistance.**

- 5) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:

**No petroleum-based products will be disposed of on site. If a spill occurs, containment and cleanup will be required. Spill kits are required to be onsite during all heavy equipment operations. The cessation of operations may occur during periods of increased fire risk. Fire tools and equipment, including pump trucks and/or pump trailers, will be required on site during fire season.**

## b. Noise

- 1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?

### None

2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.

**There will be short term, low level and high level noise created by the use of harvesting equipment and hauling operations within the proposal area. This type of noise has been historically present in this geographical area**

3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:

None

## 8. Land and Shoreline Use

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties? Will the proposal affect current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties? If so, describe.

**Current use of site and adjacent land types: Commercial forest lands**

**This proposal will not change the use of or affect the current/long term land use of areas associated with this sale.**

b. Has the project site been used as working farmlands or working forest lands? If so, describe. How much agricultural or forest land of long-term commercial significance will be converted to other uses as a result of the proposal, if any? If resource lands have not been designated, how many acres in farmland or forest land tax status will be converted to nonfarm or nonforest use?

**This proposal site has been used as working forest lands. This proposal will retain the site in working forest lands.**

1) Will the proposal affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations, such as oversize equipment access, the application of pesticides, tilling, and harvesting? If so, how:

No

c. Describe any structures on the site.

None

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?

No

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?

**Commercial Forest Land**

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?

**Commercial Forest**

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?

**Not applicable.**

h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify.

**No**

i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?

**None**

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?

**None**

k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:

**None**

l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:

**This project is consistent with current comprehensive plans and zoning classifications.**

m. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with nearby agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any:

**None**

## **9. Housing**

a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

**None**

b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

**None**

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:

**None**

## 10. Aesthetics

- a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?

**Does not apply**

- b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?

**Timber will be harvested within the boundaries of the gaps.**

- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:

**The harvest area will be replanted with native species following harvest.**

## 11. Light and Glare

- a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?

**None**

- b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?

**No**

- c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?

**None**

- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:

**None**

## 12. Recreation

- a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?

**Dispersed informal recreation in the form of hiking, hunting, fishing, berry picking, and sightseeing. Logging roads are also used for ATV/motorcycles, mountain bike riding, and horseback riding.**

- b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.

**There may be some disruptions to recreational use during periods of harvesting and hauling.**

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:

**None**

### 13. Historic and cultural preservation

- a. Are there any buildings, structures, or sites, located on or near the site that are over 45 years old listed in or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers? If so, specifically describe.

No

FPRAM review indicates no conflict with historic sites or cultural resources.

- b. Are there any landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation? This may include human burials or old cemeteries. Are there any material evidence, artifacts, or areas of cultural importance on or near the site? Please list any professional studies conducted at the site to identify such resources.

None

- c. Describe the methods used to assess the potential impacts to cultural and historic resources on or near the project site. Examples include consultation with tribes and the department of archeology and historic preservation, archaeological surveys, historic maps, GIS data, etc.

**A check of the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) database, Land Resource Manager (LRM) Special Concerns Report, and historical maps were used to identify cultural resources in the proposed project area. During timber sale preparation, trained foresters found no evidence on or near the site to indicate any potential cultural resources.**

FPRAM review indicates no conflict with historic sites or cultural resources.

- d. Proposed measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for loss, changes to, and disturbance to resources. Please include plans for the above and any permits that may be required.

**If a presently unknown cultural resource is discovered during project operations, DNR will comply with the Cultural Resources Inadvertent Discovery Guidance dated March 2010 or its successor procedure.**

In the event that any unknown historical/archaeological resources are encountered, ground disturbing activities must be halted and DAHP and local tribes contacted.

### 14. Transportation

- a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site or affected geographic area and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.

**Highway 101, Clearwater County Road**

- b. Is the site or affected geographic area currently served by public transit? If so, generally describe. If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

**No. Nearest transit spot is approximately 13 miles away.**

- c. Will the proposal require any new or improvements to existing roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle or state transportation facilities, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private). \_\_\_\_\_

No

- d. Will the project or proposal use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.

No

- e. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project or proposal? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur and what percentage of the volume would be trucks (such as commercial and nonpassenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?

**Approximately 8-10 trips per day will occur for a short time frame for harvest of these gaps. Peak volumes would occur during the yarding and loading activities between 4:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. of the operating period. The completed project will generate less than one vehicular trip per day. Estimates are based on the observed harvest traffic of past projects.**

- f. Will the proposal interfere with, affect or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products on roads or streets in the area? If so, generally describe.

No

- g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:

None

#### 15. Public Services

- a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, public transit, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.

No

- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.

None

#### 16. Utilities

- a. Circle utilities currently available at the site:  
 electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system,  
 other \_\_\_\_\_

None

- b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.

None

### C. Signature

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature: Mike Potter

Name of signee Mike Potter

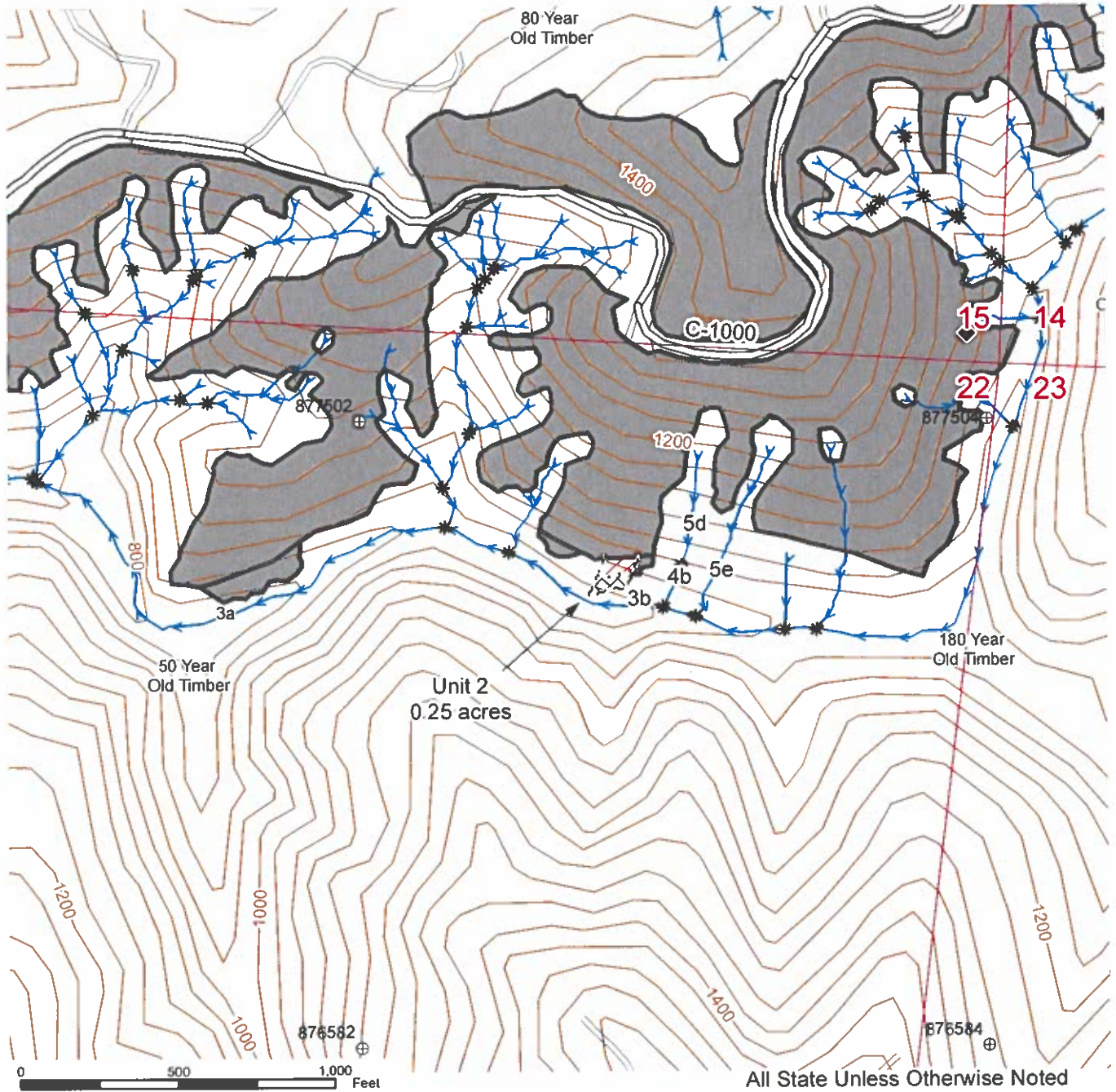
Position and Agency/Organization District Manager/DNR

Date Submitted: 5/22/23



# FOREST PRACTICES ACTIVITY MAP

SALE NAME: T3 Riparian Gaps  
 APPLICATION #: TBD by FP Staff

COUNTY(S): Jefferson  
 TOWNSHIP(S): T25R11W



All State Unless Otherwise Noted

|   |                                  |   |                              |
|---|----------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
|  | T3 Upper Manor (FPA no. 2617713) |  | Public Land Survey Townships |
|  | Existing Roads                   |  | Public Land Survey Sections  |
|  | Streams                          |  | DNR Managed Lands            |
|  | Contours 40-foot                 |  | Cut and Leave                |
|  | Survey Monument                  |  | Harvest Area                 |
|  | Tics - 2000' Interval            |   |                              |

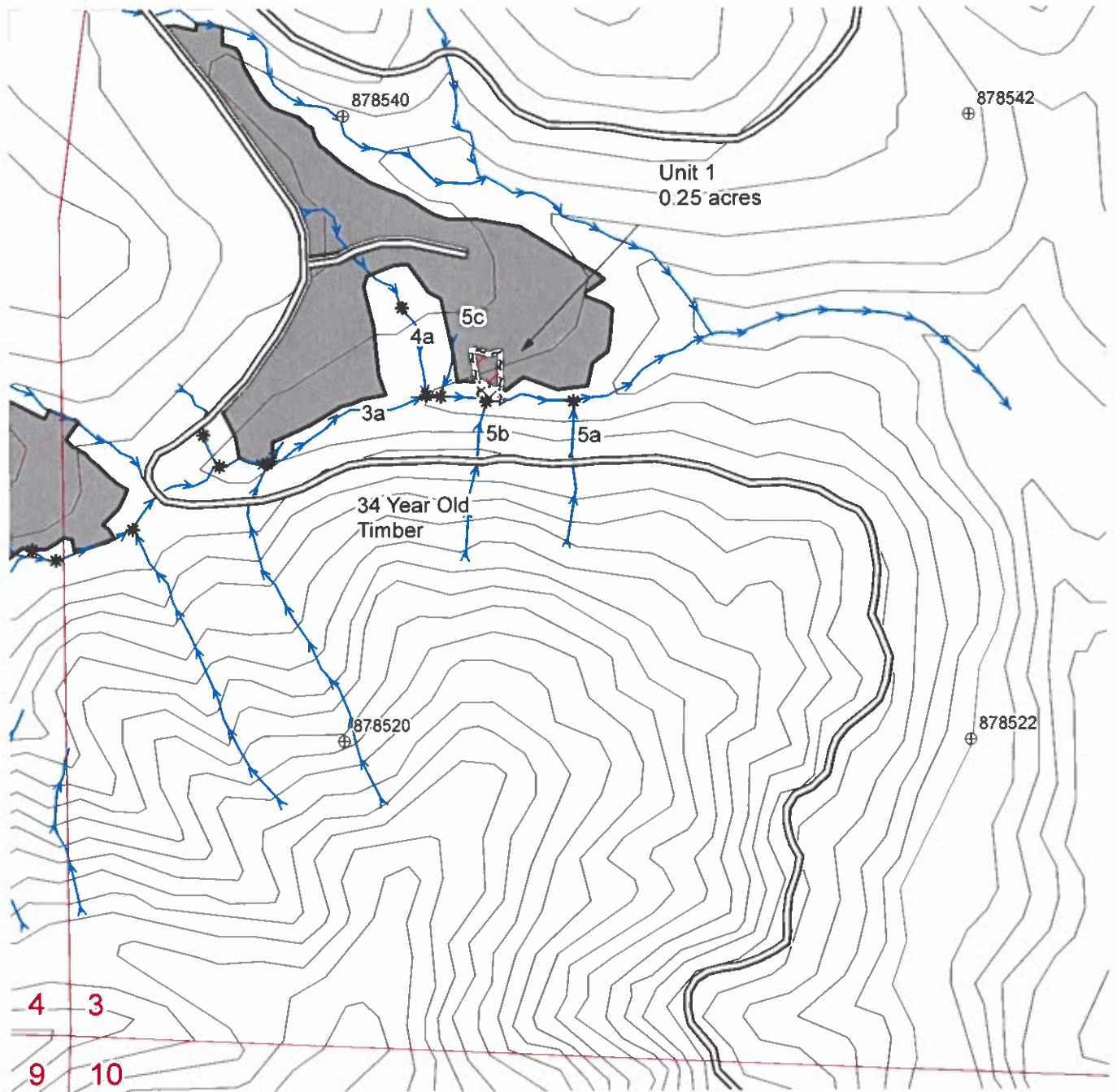




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SALE NAME: T3 Riparian Gaps  
 APPLICATION #: TBD by FP Staff

COUNTY(S): Jefferson  
 TOWNSHIP(S): T25R11W



All State Unless Otherwise Noted

| Unit_Tags |                    | Activity Area |                               |
|-----------|--------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|
| ~ ~ ~     | Sale Boundary Tags |               | Cut and Leave                 |
| · · · x x | Special Mgmt Area  |               | Harvest Area                  |
| *         | Stream Break       |               | T3 Camp Run (FPA no. 2617385) |
|           | Existing Road      | —             | Contours 40-foot              |
|           | Streams            |               | Public Land Survey Townships  |
|           |                    |               | Public Land Survey Sections   |
|           |                    |               | DNR Managed Lands             |
|           |                    | ⊕             | Tics - 2000' Interval         |

