

## FSC Forest Management Audit

### Public Summary Report

Audit Conducted By	Bureau Veritas Certification Holding SAS Tour Alto 4 Place des Saisons  COURBEVOIE  92400 France <a href="https://certification.bureauveritas.com/wood-scheme-certification-documents-and-standards">https://certification.bureauveritas.com/wood-scheme-certification-documents-and-standards</a>
Contact Person	Krzysztof Wypij
Report last updated on	28 December 2023
Certificate Holder	Washington State Department of Natural Resources  1111 Washington Street. SE P.O.Box 47014 Olympia  Washington State Department of Natural Resources  98504-7016 United States <a href="http://www.dnr.wa.gov">www.dnr.wa.gov</a>
Contact Person	Tracy Petroske
Certified Forest Areas	South Puget Sound
FSC certificate registration code	BV-FM/COC-080501
Certificate issue date	14 May 2023
Certificate expiry date	13 May 2028
Audit Sequence	Surveillance

This forest has been certified by Bureau Veritas Certification Holding SAS as meeting the requirements of FSC national forest standard FSC-US Forest Management Standard V1.1.

## Certificate Holder and Certification Body Details

Question	Inputs	Units	Validation
<b>Certificate Holder</b>			
1.01 Certificate holder name *	Washington State Department of Natural Resources		OK
1.02.1 Street Address *	1111 Washington Street. SE		OK
1.02.2 Address Line 2	P.O.Box 47014		OK
1.02.3 City *	Olympia		OK
1.02.4 State or Province	Washington State Department of Natural Resources		OK
1.02.5 Postal Code	98504-7016		OK
1.03 Country *	United States		OK
1.04 Contact person full name *	Tracy Petroske		OK
1.05 Email *	Tracy.Petroske@dnr.wa.gov		OK
1.06 Telephone	360-790-9356		OK
1.07 Website *	www.dnr.wa.gov		OK
<b>Certificate Parameters</b>			
1.08 FSC licence code *	FSC-C012959		OK
1.09 Certificate code *	BV-FM/COC-080501		OK
1.10 Former certificate code (if any)			
1.11 Certificate type *	FM/COC		OK
1.12 Group certificate *	No		OK
1.13.1 Initial certification date *	2008-06-25		OK
1.13.2 Most recent certification date *	2023-05-14		OK
1.13.3 Certificate expiry date *	2028-05-13		OK
1.14 Total number of MUs in the scope of certificate *	1		OK
1.15 Total area certified *	71289.00	ha	OK
1.16 Change of scope since previous audit *	No		OK
1.16.1 Nature of scope change			
1.17 Ecosystem services (ES) in the scope *	No		OK
1.26 Continuous Improvement Procedure being followed	No		OK
1.25 Name and/or location of the certified forest area(s)	South Puget Sound		OK
<b>Certification Body</b>			
1.18 Certification body name *	Bureau Veritas Certification Holding SAS		OK
1.19.1 Street Address *	Tour Alto 4 Place des Saisons		OK
1.19.2 Address Line 2			
1.19.3 City *	COURBEVOIE		OK
1.19.4 State			
1.19.5 Postal Code	92400		OK
1.20 Country *	France		OK
1.21 Contact person full name *	Krzysztof Wypij		OK
1.22 Email *	krzysztof.wypij@bureauveritas.com		OK
1.23 Telephone			
1.24 Website *	<a href="https://certification.bureauveritas.com/wood-scheme-certification-documents-and-standards">https://certification.bureauveritas.com/wood-scheme-certification-documents-and-standards</a>		OK

# The evaluation process

Question	Inputs	Units	Validation
<b>Audit Parameters</b>			
2.01 Audit type *	Surveillance		OK
2.01.1 Audit sequence	Surveillance		OK
2.02 Audit start date *	2023-10-10		OK
2.16 First stakeholder consultation date for this audit	2023-10-10		OK
2.03 Audit finish date *	2023-10-13		OK
2.04 Total person days *	7.0		OK
2.05 Date of report *	2023-12-28		OK
2.06 Total area under evaluation *	71289.0	ha	OK
<b>Normative Documents</b>			
<b>2.07 Evaluated international normative document(s)</b>			
2.07.1 Trademark standard FSC-STD-50-001 *	Yes		OK
2.07.2 Group standard FSC-STD-30-005 *	No		OK
2.07.3 CoC standard FSC-STD-40-004 *	No		OK
2.07.4 ES procedure FSC-PRO-30-006 *	No		OK
2.07.5 Excision Policy FSC-POL-20-003 *	Yes		OK
2.07.6 Pesticides Policy FSC-POL-30-001 *	Yes		OK
2.07.7 Applicable NTFP Standard *	No		OK
2.07.8 CIP FSC PRO 30-011 *	No		OK
2.08 Code(s) of NFSS or INS used *	FSC-US Forest Management Standard V1.1		OK
2.09 Web link to the standard used	<a href="https://us.fsc.org/en-us/certification/forest-management-certification">https://us.fsc.org/en-us/certification/forest-management-certification</a>		OK
2.10 If applicable, the adaptation process of CB interim standard			
<b>Evaluation Methodology</b>			
<b>2.11 Sampling system employed for the audit</b>			
2.11.1 stratified sampling			
2.11.2 cluster sampling			
2.11.3 random sampling			
2.11.4 systematic sampling	Yes		OK
2.11.5 Other, please specify your input here	Sampling followed FSC-STD-20-007 and BV FSC Auditor Handbook.	Sites sele	OK
2.12 Rationale for selection of MU/ members, including a clear description of the surveillance schedule that will be implemented by the certification body	See comments in 2.11.5.		OK
<b>2.13 Documentation reviewed during this audit</b>			
2.13.1 copies of applicable laws	Some		OK
2.13.2 long term management plans	All		OK
2.13.3 technical management guides relating to operations	All		OK
2.13.4 concession agreements	Some		OK
2.13.5 documentation showing tenure or land-use rights	All		OK
2.13.6 up to date maps of roads, management sites, etc	Some		OK
2.13.7 inventory records	Some		OK
2.13.8 work instructions	Some		OK
2.13.9 contractor contracts	Some		OK
2.13.10 agreements with affected local communities	Some		OK
2.13.11 agreements with affected Indigenous Peoples, etc	Some		OK
2.13.12 records of payments of royalties, fees, or taxes	Some		OK
2.13.13 records of complaints/disputes and resolution	Some		OK
2.13.14 records of payments to workers	Not Requested		OK
2.13.15 wildlife evaluation records	Some		OK
2.13.16 environmental impacts monitoring records	Some		OK
2.13.17 social impact survey results	Some		OK
2.13.18 results of monitoring forest growth and health	All		OK
2.13.19 harvesting and production records	All		OK
2.13.20 chemical use records	All		OK
2.13.21 communications with stakeholders	Some		OK
2.13.22 purchasing and sales documentation	Some		OK
2.13.23 Integrated pest management	Some		OK
2.13.24 ESRA	All		OK
2.13.25 agreements with group members	Not Applicable		OK
2.13.26 CIP: Self-Conformity Check Results	Not Applicable		OK
2.13.27 CIP: Action Plan	Not Applicable		OK
2.13.28 CIP: Self-Monitoring Results	Not Applicable		OK
2.13.98 Other, please specify			

## The evaluation process

Question	Inputs	Units	Validation
2.13.99 Further information on documents reviewed			
2.14 Additional techniques employed for evaluation			
<b>2.15 Geographically relevant tools employed by the auditing team for evaluation</b>			
2.15.1 FSC GIS Portal	No		OK
2.15.2 Google maps, Bing maps and similar			
2.15.3 Global Forest Watch			
2.15.4 GPS tracking devices (including GPS-enabled smartphones)	Yes		OK
2.15.5 Desktop GIS tools QGIS, ArcGIS			
2.15.6 CB's own GIS system			
2.15.7 CH's own GIS system	Yes		OK
2.15.8 Drones, UAVs or similar	Yes		OK
2.15.9 Other, please specify Your input here			
<b>2.17 Means of stakeholder engagement</b>			
2.17.1 Face to face meetings	Yes		OK
2.17.2 Virtual meetings			
2.17.3 Contacted by phone			
2.17.4 Email, or letter	Yes		OK
2.17.5 Notice published in the national and/or local press			
2.17.6 Notice published on relevant websites			
2.17.7 Local radio announcements			
2.17.8 Local customary notice boards			
2.17.9 Social media broadcast			
2.17.10 Other, please specify Your input here			
<b>2.18 Stakeholder groups engaged in audit</b>			
2.18.1 Economic interests	Yes		OK
2.18.2 Social interests	Yes		OK
2.18.3 Environmental interests	No		OK
2.18.4 FSC-accredited certification bodies active in the country	No		OK
2.18.5 National and state forest agencies	Yes		OK
2.18.6 Experts with expertise in controlled wood categories	No		OK
2.18.7 Research institutions and universities	Yes		OK
2.18.8 FSC regional offices, FSC network partners, registered standard development groups and NRA working groups in the region	No		OK
2.18.9 Forest workers, contractors	Yes		OK
2.18.10 Local communities, residents	Yes		OK
2.18.11 FME personnel	Yes		OK
2.18.12 Indigenous Peoples	No		OK
2.18.13 Other, please specify Your input here			
<b>Certification Decision</b>			
2.19 Difficulties identified during the evaluation	None.		OK
<b>2.20 Conditions (corrections of minor non-conformities) or pre-conditions (corrections of major non-conformities) associated with the certification decision</b>			
2.20.1 No specific condition *	Yes		OK
2.20.2 Correction of minor NCRs issued within required timelines *	No		OK
2.20.3 Correction of major NCRs issued within required timelines *	No		OK
2.20.4 Correction of the pre-conditions to certification identified *	No		OK

## The evaluation process

Question	Inputs	Units	Validation
2.20.5 Other			
<b>2.21 Lead auditor opinion</b>			
2.21.1 The certificate holder's system of management, if implemented as described, is capable of ensuring that all of the requirements of the applicable standard(s) are met over the whole forest area covered by the scope of the evaluation. *	Yes		OK
2.21.2 The certificate holder has demonstrated, subject to correction of the identified non-conformities, that the described system of management is being implemented consistently over the whole forest area covered by the scope of the certificate. *	No		OK
<b>2.22 Auditor recommendation for the certificate holder's management system and performance</b>			
2.22.1 A certificate can only be issued/reissued/maintained when all identified Major CARs are closed *	No		OK
2.22.2 The FM system of the evaluated enterprise does not comply with the provisions and standards of FSC. Due to the number of identified major non-compliances the auditors recommend the immediate suspension of the certificate *	No		OK
2.22.3 Other			
2.23 Certification decision *	Maintain		OK
2.24 Decision detail	The Bureau Veritas Certification decides that the FSC FM certificate of the Washington State Department of Natural Resources remains valid. There are no non-conformities identified.		OK
2.25 Decision date *	2024-01-18		OK
2.26 Decision making entity *	FSC FM HUB of Bureau Veritas Certification		OK

## Personnel / audit team

3.01 Name *	3.02 Role *	Person Days		Expertise					3.06 Auditor UAN (enter 0 if none) *	3.07 Profile
		3.03 Prep / pre-evaluation *	3.04 On-site *	3.05.1 Forestry	3.05.2 Ecology	3.05.3 Sociology	3.05.4 Environment	3.05.5 Economics		
Sarah Bros	Audit team leader	0.00	3.50	Yes				Yes	0	Sarah Bros is a licensed professional forester with 40 years' experience in forest management planning, silviculture, forest
Rance Frye	Technical expert	0.00	3.50	Yes				Yes	0	Rance Frye is a licensed professional forester with 30 years experience in forest management planning, land acquisition, wood



## Forest management enterprise information

Question	Inputs	Units
<b>Forest Area</b>		
<b>5.01 Area certified both to FSC and another scheme (specify if non-PEFC)</b>		
5.01.1 Area certified both to FSC and another scheme (PEFC Endorsed) *	71832.00	ha
5.01.2 Other certification scheme used (Non-PEFC) - name		
5.01.3 Other certification scheme used (Non-PEFC) - area certified		ha
5.02 Brief description of any area of forest over which the certificate holder has some responsibility, whether as owner (including shared or partial ownership), manager, consultant or other responsibility) which the certificate holder has chosen to exclude from the scope of the certificate, together with an explanation of the reason.	In 2019 DNR applied to excise work centers in 6 locations, Meridian Seed Orchard, Tumwater Compound and the Webster Nursery from their certified area. The certificate area at that time was 71,311 hectares (176,207 acres). Some of the area included in the above is outside the boundaries of the certified forest lands and, as such, a total of 19.02 hectares (47 acres) of certified forest lands were excised.	
<b>5.03 Area of forest owned/managed but excluded from MUs in the scope of certification</b>		
5.03.1 According to FSC-POL-20-003 *	19	ha
5.03.2 Other reasons *	0	ha
5.04 Explanation as to how MUs designated as SLIMF meet the eligibility criteria as a SLIMF (as per FSC-STD-01-003)	Not applicable.	
<b>Forest Workers</b>		
5.05 Male forest workers *	118	
5.06 Female forest workers *	35	
5.07 Average wage in USD paid to males employed in managerial positions during the last calendar year		USD
5.08 Average wage in USD paid to females employed in managerial positions during the last calendar year		USD
5.09 Number of males employed in managerial positions during the last calendar year		
5.10 Number of females employed in managerial positions during the last calendar year		
5.11 Total number of local community members employed through management activities, including contractors, during the last calendar year		
5.12 Number of accidents since previous audit	0	
5.13 Direct costs in USD associated with forest management induced to comply with the requirements for FSC certification		USD
<b>Impacted Parties</b>		
<b>5.15 Third parties related/impacted by forest management activities</b>		
5.15.1 Third parties related/impacted by forest management activities (Local Communities) *	Yes	
5.15.2 Third parties related/impacted by forest management activities (Traditional Peoples) *	No	
5.15.3 Third parties related/impacted by forest management activities (Indigenous Peoples) *	Yes	
5.15.4 Third party description (existence, interests or activities etc.)	The Washington State Department of Natural Resources (Washington DNR) manages state forest lands for a variety of public trusts (i.e., local communities) which fund state-wide school construction, universities, state institutions, and county services. Forest management is directed by the Policy for Sustainable Forests (PSF), and DNR's Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), which is a contractual agreement with the U.S. Federal Services (United States Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) which include DNR-managed forested state trust lands within the western part of the State as well as lands on the east slopes of the Cascade Range. DNR carries out the planning and implementation of forest management activities through a hierarchy of planning processes. All of which is subject to a public review process by local communities.	



## Forest management enterprise information

Question	Inputs	Units
<b>5.16 Services provided to local communities</b>		
5.16.1 water source *	No	
5.16.2 recreation *	Yes	
5.16.3 training *	Yes	
5.16.4 road maintenance *	No	
5.16.5 other, please specify		
<b>Environmental Values</b>		
5.17 Area of forest classified as High Conservation Value forest *	71885.78	ha
<b>5.18 HCVs Present</b>		
5.18.1 HCV1 Species diversity *	Yes	
5.18.2 HCV2 Landscape-level ecosystems and mosaics *	No	
5.18.3 HCV3 Ecosystems and habitats *	Yes	
5.18.4 HCV4 Critical ecosystem services *	Yes	
5.18.5 HCV5 Community needs *	No	
5.18.6 HCV6 Cultural values *	Yes	
<b>5.19 Environmental safeguards relevant to forest operations</b>		
5.19.1 buffer zone *	Yes	
5.19.2 chemical use control *	Yes	
5.19.3 conservation area set aside *	Yes	
5.19.4 erosion control *	Yes	
5.19.5 other, please specify		
5.20 Description of environmental safeguards	The Forest Handbook contains procedures related to environmental safeguards. Timber sale and silviculture contracts require buffer zones. Silviculture contracts require specific nozzles to control chemical application; as well use of ground applicators reduces risk of damage to non-target species. Road guidelines and timber sale contracts include measures for erosion control.	
<b>Commercial Stocks</b>		
5.21 Total growing stock of broadleaves	822,327.4	m3
5.22 Total growing stock of conifers	9,456,764.6	m3
<b>5.23 Species selection and rationale</b>		
5.23.1 fast growing *	Yes	
5.23.2 pest & disease resistant *	No	
5.23.3 climate change *	No	
5.23.4 other, please specify	native species	
<b>Management Changes</b>		
5.24 The main obstacles to meeting the requirements of FSC certification	None.	
5.25 Main changes in forest management implemented to comply with requirements for FSC certification	One main change in forest management is the requirement for ESRAs to continue with pesticide use.	

## Forest management enterprise information

Question	Inputs	Units
<p>5.26 Main strengths and weaknesses with respect to the overall conformity with the Forest Stewardship Standard used for the evaluation</p>	<p>Main strengths: 1. As a government agency, DNR has access to resources in other departments, and other agencies. 2. DNR has been certified since 2008 and understands the FSC process.</p> <p>Main weakness: 1. Trust lands are designed to generate revenue. Revenue has been declining over a number of years due to policy changes to manage for all uses not just timber. There is a concern that, at some point, timber sales may not generate enough revenue for the state to continue with timber sales. 2. As with any government agency, change is slow and process-driven.</p>	

### Group Management

Only required for Group Certificates

5.27 Total number of group members		
5.28 Group members located in more than one country		
5.29 Maximum manageable number of group members		
5.30 Number of members sampled annually by group entity		
<b>5.31 Sampling system implemented by the group entity</b>		
5.31.1 stratified sampling		
5.31.2 cluster sampling		
5.31.3 random sampling		
5.31.4 systematic sampling		
5.31.5 other, please specify		
5.32 Group entity's sampling system employed to select MUs for evaluation, and its implementation		
<b>5.33 Responsibilities for implementation of the applicable standard(s) in the group</b>		
5.33.1 Management planning		
5.33.2 Forest protection		
5.33.3 Silviculture		
5.33.4 Harvesting		
5.33.5 Sales & marketing		
5.33.6 Use of trademark		
5.33.7 Stakeholder engagement		
5.33.8 Training		
5.33.9 Ecosystem services impacts		
5.34 Elaboration of responsibilities of group entity, members and contractors, include ecosystem services if applicable		

## Management Units

										Area Units: ha											
7.01 MU name *	7.02 Forest zone *	7.03 SLIMF type *	7.04 Tenure-ownership *	7.05 Tenure-management *	7.06 Centroid Latitude *	7.07 Centroid Longitude *	7.08 Total production forest area *	7.09 Total non-production forest area *	7.10 Total area of MU *	7.11 Natural Forest area *	7.12 Plantation area *	7.13 Replanted Forest area *	7.14 Natural regenerated forest area *	7.15 Conservation area *	7.16 Strictly protected area *	7.17 NTFP area *	7.18 Area with ecosystem services claims	7.19 Annual allowable cut (AAC) *	7.19.1 Units *		
Number of Valid Entries:		1	Area Totals				65,586.00	5,703.00	71,289.00	71,289.00	0.00	3,909.00	14,257.00	41,606.00	517.00	0.00	0.00				
South Puget Sound Region	Temperate	Non-SLMF	State	State	121.99150000°	47.20430000°	65,586.00	5,703.00	71,289.00	71,289.00	0.00	3,909.00	14,257.00	41,606.00	517.00	0.00	0.00	136,256.00	m3		

## Main commercial timber species included in scope of the certificate

8.01 Species *	8.02 Product code *	8.03 Trade name	8.04 Harvest planned in current calendar year *		8.05 Remarks	8.06 Sold with FSC Claim in previous calendar year *	
			8.04.1 Units *			8.06.1 Units *	
Abies amabilis	W1.1 Roundwood (logs)	SPF		0.00 MBF			0.00 MBF
Abies grandis	W1.1 Roundwood (logs)	Grand Fir		0.00 MBF			0.00 MBF
Abies procera	W1.1 Roundwood (logs)	Noble Fir		1,758.00 MBF			25.00 MBF
Acer glabrum	W1.1 Roundwood (logs)	Douglas Maple		0.00 MBF			0.00 MBF
Acer macrophyllum Pursh	W1.1 Roundwood (logs)	Bigleaf Maple		0.00 MBF			0.00 MBF
Alnus rubra var. pinnatisecta Sarker	W1.1 Roundwood (logs)	Red Alder		718.00 MBF			1,514.00 MBF
Betula papyrifera	W1.2 Fuel wood	Birch		0.00 MBF			0.00 MBF
Pseudotsuga menziesii	W1.1 Roundwood (logs)	Douglas Fir		37,551.00 MBF			21,717.00 MBF
Thuja plicata	W1.1 Roundwood (logs)	Western Red Cedar		921.00 MBF			372.00 MBF
Tsuga heterophylla (Raf.) Sarg	W1.1 Roundwood (logs)	Western Hemlock		10,481.00 MBF			5,510.00 MBF
Populus deltoides	W1.1 Roundwood (logs)	Cottonwood		134.00 MBF			57.00 MBF
Picea spp.	W1.1 Roundwood (logs)	SPF		0.00 MBF			7.00 MBF
Pinus contorta	W1.1 Roundwood (logs)	Lodgepole Pine		41.00 MBF			0.00 MBF
Pinus monticola	W1.1 Roundwood (logs)	White Pine		79.00 MBF			0.00 MBF
Abies alba	W1.1 Roundwood (logs)	Silver Fir		2,351.00 MBF			909.00 MBF
Acer spp.	W1.1 Roundwood (logs)	Maple		210.00 MBF			258.00 MBF

# NTFP - non-timber forest products

9.01 Species *	9.02 Product code of NTFP *	9.03 Trade name	9.04 Current annual harvest	9.04.1 Units
Gaultheria shallon	N6 Plants and parts of plants	Salal	2,119,686.00	# items
Vaccinium	N6 Plants and parts of plants	Huckleberry	102,774.00	# items
Pseudotsuga menziesii	N6 Plants and parts of plants	Douglas Fir	330,840.00	lbs
Thuja plicata	N6 Plants and parts of plants	Western Red Cedar	62,180.00	lbs
Pinus monticola	N6 Plants and parts of plants	Western White Pine or Princess Pine	136,620.00	lbs
Bryophyta spp.	N6 Plants and parts of plants	Moss species	760.00	lbs
Polystichum munitum	N6 Plants and parts of plants	Sword fern	15,000.00	# items

## Pesticide use since previous audit/year

Pesticide Restrictions Data Last Updated		3/31/2021					
10.01 Active ingredient *	10.02 Restriction	10.03 Applied area *	10.03.1 Units *	10.04 Reason for use *	10.05 Quantity of ingredient *	10.05.1 Units *	10.06 Summary of ESRA *
clopyralid	Unrestricted	1,367.80	acre	control of competing vegetation and/or protection of vegetation/seedlings and/or weed control. ** NB: chemical applied in combination with other chemicals listed here.	223.00	US gallons	<p>Permitted use as per FSC-POL-30-001a V3. Application is broadcast foliar with backpack sprayers applied by trained workers in PPE. Application to native, non-native and/or invasive brush and weed species to reduce competing vegetation of planted seedlings. Pre-work stakeholder engagement, public information, spray signage, pre-work conference between CH &amp; contractor to discuss contractual obligations (e.g., health &amp; safety of workers, environmental safeguards, treatment logistics, on-site emergency equipment, incident reporting), monitoring during application, following chemical label guidance related to water reduce risk. Chemical is not highly volatile, is non-toxic to mammals, birds and fish and does not introduce substantial risk to the ability to harvest NTFP. The risk to HCVP's is low as it may be applied to target invasive, exotic and/or noxious weeds species to aid in restoration and conservation of native plants and animal habitats.</p> <p>Chemical is not expected to degrade ecosystem services such as water and soil quality or the forest's ability to sequester carbon. Chemical is only applied 1-2x in a rotation (not less than 30 years).</p>

## Pesticide use since previous audit/year

Pesticide Restrictions Data Last Updated				3/31/2021			
10.01 Active ingredient *	10.02 Restriction	10.03 Applied area *	10.03.1 Units *	10.04 Reason for use *	10.05 Quantity of ingredient *	10.05.1 Units *	10.06 Summary of ESRA *
glyphosate	Restricted	624.26	acre	control of competing vegetation and/or protection of vegetation/seedlings and/or weed control. ** NB: chemical applied in combination with other chemicals listed here.	460.00	US gallons	<p>Permitted use as per FSC-POL-30-001a V3. Application is broadcast foliar with backpack sprayers applied by trained workers in PPE. Application to native, non-native and/or invasive brush and weed species to reduce competing vegetation of planted seedlings. Pre-work stakeholder engagement, public information, spray signage, pre-work conference between CH &amp; contractor to discuss contractual obligations (e.g., health &amp; safety of workers, environmental safeguards, treatment logistics, on-site emergency equipment, incident reporting), monitoring during application, following chemical label guidance related to water reduce risk. Chemical is not highly volatile, is non-toxic to mammals, birds and fish and does not introduce substantial risk to the ability to harvest NTFP. The risk to HCVP's is low as it may be applied to target invasive, exotic and/or noxious weeds species to aid in restoration and conservation of native plants and animal habitats.</p> <p>Chemical is not expected to degrade ecosystem services such as water and soil quality or the forest's ability to sequester carbon. Chemical is only applied 1-2x in a rotation (not less than 30 years).</p>

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Pesticide Restrictions Data Last Updated				3/31/2021			
10.01 Active ingredient *	10.02 Restriction	10.03 Applied area *	10.03.1 Units *	10.04 Reason for use *	10.05 Quantity of ingredient *	10.05.1 Units *	10.06 Summary of ESRA *
imazapyr	Unrestricted	624.26	acre	control of competing vegetation and/or protection of vegetation/seedlings and/or weed control** NB: chemical applied in combination with other chemicals listed here.	258.00	US gallons	<p>Permitted use as per FSC-POL-30-001a V3. Application is broadcast foliar with backpack sprayers applied by trained workers in PPE. Application to native, non-native and/or invasive brush and weed species to reduce competing vegetation of planted seedlings. Pre-work stakeholder engagement, public information, spray signage, pre-work conference between CH &amp; contractor to discuss contractual obligations (e.g., health &amp; safety of workers, environmental safeguards, treatment logistics, on-site emergency equipment, incident reporting), monitoring during application, following chemical label guidance related to water reduce risk. Chemical is not highly volatile, is non-toxic to mammals, birds and fish and does not introduce substantial risk to the ability to harvest NTFP. The risk to HCVP's is low as it may be applied to target invasive, exotic and/or noxious weeds species to aid in restoration and conservation of native plants and animal habitats.</p> <p>Chemical is not expected to degrade ecosystem services such as water and soil quality or the forest's ability to sequester carbon. Chemical is only applied 1-2x in a rotation (not less than 30 years).</p>



## Pesticide use since previous audit/year

Pesticide Restrictions Data Last Updated				3/31/2021			
10.01 Active ingredient *	10.02 Restriction	10.03 Applied area *	10.03.1 Units *	10.04 Reason for use *	10.05 Quantity of ingredient *	10.05.1 Units *	10.06 Summary of ESRA *
trichlopyr	Unrestricted	805.73	acre	control of competing vegetation and/or protection of vegetation/seedlings and/or weed control** NB: chemical applied in combination with other chemicals listed here.	175.22	US gallons	<p>Permitted use as per FSC-POL-30-001a V3. Application is broadcast foliar with backpack sprayers applied by trained workers in PPE. Application to native, non-native and/or invasive brush and weed species to reduce competing vegetation of planted seedlings. Pre-work stakeholder engagement, public information, spray signage, pre-work conference between CH &amp; contractor to discuss contractual obligations (e.g., health &amp; safety of workers, environmental safeguards, treatment logistics, on-site emergency equipment, incident reporting), monitoring during application, following chemical label guidance related to water reduce risk. Chemical is not highly volatile, is non-toxic to mammals, birds and fish and does not introduce substantial risk to the ability to harvest NTFP. The risk to HCVP's is low as it may be applied to target invasive, exotic and/or noxious weeds species to aid in restoration and conservation of native plants and animal habitats.</p> <p>Chemical is not expected to degrade ecosystem services such as water and soil quality or the forest's ability to sequester carbon. Chemical is only applied 1-2x in a rotation (not less than 30 years).</p>

# Pesticide use since previous audit/year

Pesticide Restrictions Data Last Updated				3/31/2021			
10.01 Active ingredient *	10.02 Restriction	10.03 Applied area *	10.03.1 Units *	10.04 Reason for use *	10.05 Quantity of ingredient *	10.05.1 Units *	10.06 Summary of ESRA *
aminopyralid	Unrestricted	122.73	acre	control of competing vegetation and/or protection of vegetation/seedlings and/or weed control** NB: chemical applied in combination with Triclopyr.	85.22	US gallons	<p>Permitted use as per FSC-POL-30-001a V3. Application is broadcast foliar with backpack sprayers applied by trained workers in PPE. Application to native, non-native and/or invasive brush and weed species to reduce competing vegetation of planted seedlings. Pre-work stakeholder engagement, public information, spray signage, pre-work conference between CH &amp; contractor to discuss contractual obligations (e.g., health &amp; safety of workers, environmental safeguards, treatment logistics, on-site emergency equipment, incident reporting), monitoring during application, following chemical label guidance related to water reduce risk. Chemical is not highly volatile, is non-toxic to mammals, birds and fish and does not introduce substantial risk to the ability to harvest NTFP. The risk to HCVF's is low as it may be applied to target invasive, exotic and/or noxious weeds species to aid in restoration and conservation of native plants and animal habitats.</p> <p>Chemical is not expected to degrade ecosystem services such as water and soil quality or the forest's ability to sequester carbon. Chemical is only applied 1-2x in a rotation (not less than 30 years).</p>

# Pesticide use since previous audit/year

Pesticide Restrictions Data Last Updated				3/31/2021			
10.01 Active ingredient *	10.02 Restriction	10.03 Applied area *	10.03.1 Units *	10.04 Reason for use *	10.05 Quantity of ingredient *	10.05.1 Units *	10.06 Summary of ESRA *
sulfometuron	Unrestricted	87.71	acre	control of competing vegetation and/or protection of vegetation/seedlings and/or weed control** NB: chemical applied in combination with other chemicals listed here and as a mix with sulfometuron.	7.50	US gallons	<p>Permitted use as per FSC-POL-30-001a V3. Application is broadcast foliar with backpack sprayers applied by trained workers in PPE. Application to native, non-native and/or invasive brush and weed species to reduce competing vegetation of planted seedlings. Pre-work stakeholder engagement, public information, spray signage, pre-work conference between CH &amp; contractor to discuss contractual obligations (e.g., health &amp; safety of workers, environmental safeguards, treatment logistics, on-site emergency equipment, incident reporting), monitoring during application, following chemical label guidance related to water reduce risk. Chemical is not highly volatile, is non-toxic to mammals, birds and fish and does not introduce substantial risk to the ability to harvest NTFP. The risk to HCVP's is low as it may be applied to target invasive, exotic and/or noxious weeds species to aid in restoration and conservation of native plants and animal habitats.</p> <p>Chemical is not expected to degrade ecosystem services such as water and soil quality or the forest's ability to sequester carbon. Chemical is only applied 1-2x in a rotation (not less than 30 years).</p>

## Pesticide use since previous audit/year

Pesticide Restrictions Data Last Updated				3/31/2021			
10.01 Active ingredient *	10.02 Restriction	10.03 Applied area *	10.03.1 Units *	10.04 Reason for use *	10.05 Quantity of ingredient *	10.05.1 Units *	10.06 Summary of ESRA *
metsulfuron	Unrestricted	87.71	acre	control of competing vegetation and/or protection of vegetation/seedlings and/or weed control** NB: chemical applied in combination with other chemicals listed here and as a mix with sulfometuron.	7.50	US gallons	Permitted use as per FSC-POL-30-001a V3. Application is broadcast foliar with backpack sprayers applied by trained workers in PPE. Application to native, non-native and/or invasive brush and weed species to reduce competing vegetation of planted seedlings. Pre-work stakeholder engagement, public information, spray signage, pre-work conference between CH & contractor to discuss contractual obligations (e.g., health & safety of workers, environmental safeguards, treatment logistics, on-site emergency equipment, incident reporting), monitoring during application, following chemical label guidance related to water reduce risk. Chemical is not highly volatile, is non-toxic to mammals, birds and fish and does not introduce substantial risk to the ability to harvest NTFP. The risk to HCVP's is low as it may be applied to target invasive, exotic and/or noxious weeds species to aid in restoration and conservation of native plants and animal habitats.

# Forest context and management plan

Question	Inputs
11.28 Description of the forest	<p>The South Puget Sound (SPS) HCP Planning Unit is located in west central Washington. It stretches from the cities of Everett in the north to Olympia in the south. The counties and parts of counties in this planning unit that contain DNR-managed lands are southern King, Pierce, eastern Thurston, north-central Lewis, Kitsap and eastern Mason. The Cedar, Green, White, Carbon, Puyallup, Nisqually and Deschutes rivers are also included in the planning unit. The planning unit encompasses the cities of Seattle and Tacoma and is the most populated part of Washington state.</p> <p>The boundaries of the SPS planning unit are based on biophysical attributes determined by the 1997 Habitat Conservation Plan. Within the boundaries of the planning unit there are approximately 71,503 hectares of DNR-managed State Trust forest lands organized into 8 landscape blocks: Green Mountain, Tahuya forest, Sherwood Forest, Capital Forest, portion of Crawford Mountain, Elbe Hills, Tahoma Forest, Enumclaw Forest and Tiger Mountain.</p> <p>The SPS HCP planning unit is predominantly conifer with the majority species Douglas Fir (69.2%) and, Western Hemlock (15.5%) and to a lesser degree occurrences of Grand Fir, Pacific Silver Fir, and Noble Fir. Approximately 17% of the forest is hardwood comprised of Red Alder (7%) and Bigleaf Maple (~1%) with the balance Black Cottonwood.</p>
11.29 Description of the management system	<p>The CH employs "cohort management" to implement even-age variable retention harvest methods so that a variety of stand attributes are retained including large woody debris, snag (habitat) trees, super-canopy trees and legacy (old growth) trees. The silviculture systems applied on the SPS planning unit use even-aged variable retention (VRH) harvest, commercial thinning and variable density thinning (VDT). Prescriptions are based on stand and site characteristics in addition to habitat requirements, and strategic goals (e.g., revenue generation, habitat development). The CH employs innovative methods to create or enhance habitat for northern spotted owl, an R.T.E. species.</p>
11.01 Legislative, administrative and land use context of the forest operation	<p>"In 1957, the legislature created the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to manage state trust lands for the people of Washington. Under the elected leadership of the Commissioner of Public Lands, DNR manages seven specific trusts to generate revenue and preserve forests, water, and habitat. DNR now manages 5.6 million acres of forest, range, agricultural, aquatic, and commercial lands for more than \$200 million in annual financial benefit for public schools, state institutions, and county services." (<a href="http://www.dnr.wa.gov/about-washington-department-natural-resources">www.dnr.wa.gov/about-washington-department-natural-resources</a>).</p> <p>DNR manages more than 2 million acres of forested state trust lands for long-term timber production, specific habitat objectives, and protection of clean, abundant water. These forests often provide public recreation opportunities too. Of that, 176,000 acres are certified to FSC.</p> <p>As stewards of the state's lands and natural resources, DNR draws upon a variety of staff, including foresters, engineers, geologists, biologists, archaeologists, hydrologists, economists as management activities are planned.</p>
11.02 Roles of responsible government agencies involved in aspects of forest management	<p>DNR, as a state agency, is responsible for the management of forested state trust lands as stated in 11.01 above. A number of committees, councils, advisory boards, advisory groups and roundtables including the Forest Practices Board oversee forest management by providing guidance, support opportunities for education and make recommendations on the State Trust lands rules and requirements. Other agencies such as Department of Archeology and Historical Preservation, Departments of Ecology and Fish and Wildlife, and local government work with DNR forestry staff to ensure values are protected.</p>

# Forest context and management plan

Question	Inputs
<p>11.03 Ownership and use-rights (both legal and customary) of lands and forest of external parties other than the certificate holder</p>	<p>Washington DNR maintains government-to-government relations with the 13 federally-recognized Tribes residing in the South Puget Sound HCP planning area. The department recognizes the separate Tribal rights and authorities and commits to work to resolve problems, and to develop relations at all levels of the department to assure good communication and availability of technical and policy expertise. The Commissioner's order on tribal relations -- "It is further ordered that DNR staff members are encouraged to resolve mutual issues and concerns with the Tribes whenever possible at the organizational level that is closest to the issue and that has appropriate delegated authority" has been seen to be well implemented. DNR involves local stakeholders and stakeholder groups (e.g., recreationists), adjacent landowners, communities as volunteers who assist with monitoring (e.g., wildlife, property damage) and managing the forest.</p>
<p><b>11.04 Non-forestry activities being undertaken within the area evaluated, whether they are undertaken by the certificate holder or by some other party (e.g. mining, industrial operations, agriculture, hunting, commercial tourism, etc.)</b></p>	
11.04.1 mining	No
11.04.2 industrial operation	No
11.04.3 agriculture	No
11.04.4 hunting	Yes
11.04.5 commercial tourism	Yes
11.04.6 other, please specify	non-commercial tourism
<p>11.05 Forest management objectives</p>	<p>Management objectives outlined in the SPS Habitat Conservation Plan Forest Plan are categorized into 3 main groups:  a) uplands with general ecological management - objective is to manage under DNR's general policies, procedures, plans and applicable state Forest Practice Rules  b) uplands with specific management objectives - lands contain designated wildlife habitat, are visually sensitive, or have been identified as needing a specific strategy to address protection of public resources (e.g. unstable land forms), and  c) riparian and wetland areas - objective is manage toward the goal of maintaining or restoring riparian or wetland functions.</p> <p>Those goals are further broken down into sub-objectives: i) revenue production - DNR has a responsibility to provide a sustainable flow of revenue to its trust beneficiaries; ii) northern spotted owl conservation strategy - to restore and maintain at least 40% by area in each of the 11 landscapes as young forest habitat and better (young forest or old forest habitat), at least 20% in each landscape as old forest habitat and, an overall habitat threshold target of 50 percent for each SOMU with dispersal management areas with an additional target of at least 35 percent of each SOMU will be movement, roosting, and foraging (MoRF) habitat or better (MoRF Plus). The remaining habitat must be Movement habitat or better (Movement Plus); iii) riparian conservation strategy - maintain or restore and protect riparian forest and prevent increases in peak flow during storm events (&gt;=10%); iv) marbled murrelet strategy - protect identified habitat; v) multispecies conservation strategy - maintain a variety of habitat conditions that support multispecies goals by meeting all of the other objectives (i.e., i-iv) or by implementing site or species specific conservation measures; vi) adaptive management - use best science, where science is incomplete assess the risks around outcomes and provide information to decision makers to consider in future management; and, vii) research and monitoring - conduct monitoring (effectiveness, validation, implementation) to assess implementation of conservation strategies and research to gain new information for L/T conservation strategies and improve effectiveness of the 4 major habitat conservation strategies identified above.</p>
<p>11.06 Land use and ownership status of the forest resource</p>	<p>See 11.01</p>
<p>11.07 Socio-economic conditions of the forest management</p>	<p>See 11.01</p>

# Forest context and management plan

Question	Inputs
11.08 Brief description of forest composition	See 11.28
<b>11.09 Profile of adjacent lands</b>	
11.09.1 urban	Yes
11.09.2 agriculture	Yes
11.09.3 wetland	Yes
11.09.4 mining	No
11.09.5 desert	No
11.09.6 pasture	Yes
11.09.7 orchards	No
11.09.8 other, please specify	communication sites
11.10 Management structure of the certificate holder	The certificate holder is a government agency led by an elected Commissioner of Public Lands. There are 3 main management heads: Chief Operating Officer (COO), Tribal Relations Director and Chief of Staff. Under the COO, there are 8 Directors/Deputy Supervisors that manage the agency. The Deputy COO is responsible for the Region Managers, law enforcement and risk and legal affairs. Within the SPS HCP planning unit there are 4 administrative units: Belfair, Snoqualmie, Black Diamond and Elbe. Each unit reports to SPS region office.
11.11 Division of forest management responsibilities	DNR is responsible for all forest management activities in the certified forest area.
<b>11.12 Use of contractors by the certificate holder</b>	
11.12.1 silviculture	Yes
11.12.2 road building	Yes
11.12.3 harvesting	Yes
11.12.4 transportation	Yes
11.12.5 forest protection	No
11.12.6 pest and disease control	Yes
11.12.7 other, please specify	DNR also has a roads department that does road maintenance and/or road repairs or culvert replacements. DNR's Forest Resilience Division monitors forest insects and disease conditions and works with field offices to control outbreaks.
11.13 Training implemented by the certificate holder	DNR has a comprehensive training program available to all staff through their intranet site. Examples of training include: old growth, history and policies of DNR Trust lands, science updates, understanding cultural resources and health and safety. Training is also done periodically by Department Managers such as Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation that conduct training updates related to identifying grave sites.
11.14 Silvicultural system/regime implemented by the certificate holder	See 11.29
<b>11.15 Technique used for harvesting operations of the certificate holder</b>	
11.15.1 mechanized harvesting	Yes

# Forest context and management plan

Question	Inputs
11.15.2 manual harvesting	No
11.15.3 semi-mechanized harvesting	Yes
11.15.4 animal hauling	No
11.15.5 other, please specify	steep slope cable yarding
<hr/>	
11.16 Management strategy for the identification and protection of rare, threatened and endangered species	The HCP aligns with the State's Natural Heritage Program that "catalogs plants, animals and ecosystems" and prioritizes their conservation requirements and that determines funding levels and provides the template for the state-wide system of natural areas. The HCP includes objectives for 2 key State and federally listed species that occur within the SPS planning unit: marbled murrelet and spotted owl.
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<b>11.17 Forest monitoring methods implemented by the certificate holder</b>	
11.17.1 forest inventory	Yes
11.17.2 drone monitoring	Yes
11.17.3 remote sensing	No
11.17.4 social survey	Yes
11.17.5 sampling plots	Yes
11.17.6 other, please specify	
<hr/>	
11.18 Elaboration of Monitoring of growth, yield and forest dynamics including change of fauna and flora	DNR forestry staff conducted surveys on approximately 5,000 acres (2023.5 hectares) in 2021. The surveys included forest health, initial survival surveys on regeneration, post harvest survey to assess retention, pre-commercial thinning surveys, pre-harvest survey to verify stand information, stocking assessments on regeneration, survival assessments on regeneration, pre- and post vegetation competition surveys. These surveys are in addition to surveys carried out by other departments.
<hr/>	
11.19 Environmental and social impacts, and costs, productivity, and efficiency	Each year DNR reports on the revenues generated, collected and expended during a fiscal year. Auditors reviewed the report for FY2021. The report details all expenditures for managing the resource including protection, forest practices, law enforcement, forest health, recreation and natural area, community forest and agency operations.
<hr/>	
11.20 Explanation of the assumptions (e.g. silvicultural) on estimate of the maximum sustainable yield for the main commercial species	DNR used a spatial model (Remsoft Spatial Planning System) based on linear programming. The program assumptions include the forest vegetation simulator (FVS) using Pacific Northwest coast variant to generate yields. The variant was developed by the USDA Forest Service (Dixon 2002), and simulates forest vegetation change in response to natural succession, natural disturbances, and management. Two classes of yield tables are generated for a stratum: stands <= 25 years and, stands >25 years. This allows the model to project slower growth in stands harvested using variable retention because not all trees are removed. This allowed for a more realistic sustainable harvest level and yields into the future. New yields were developed that included cover types based on dominant or co-dominant species: Douglas Fir, Western Hemlock and Red Alder. The harvest flow constraint was set at 15% (harvest levels could not fluctuate more than 15% in any planning decade). Themes were created to allow for reporting information by county. Financial assumptions (discount rate) was set at 3% and management costs and timber prices were set based on actual data for 2016 & 2017. The inventory was updated to reflect all disturbances (recent harvests) plus land acquisitions since 2018. The model included assumptions for northern spotted owl and marbled murrelet habit projections. Budget for management activities revenue was set at \$1.5 million over cost per decade.



# Forest context and management plan

Question	Inputs
<p>11.21 Reference to the source of data (e.g. inventory data, permanent sample plots, yield tables) on which estimates are based</p>	<p>See 11.18 and 11.20 above.</p>
<p>11.22 Investments and measures taken for the prevention and control of natural hazards (fires, storm, flood, disease, pests, pathogens etc.) during the last calendar year</p>	<p>As a state agency, DNR is the initial response to wildfires. Work with landowners, communities, fire districts and public in prevention and response to wildfires. DNR sets Fire Precaution levels for working in the woods, issue fire bans, control issuance of burn permits, provide Fire Prevention and Fuels Management Mapping and fire risk ratings in each county within the SPS. DNR relies on partnerships with communities to restore and/or maintain the health of Washington forests. The Good Neighbor Authority agreements with US Forest Service is a partnership for restoring federal forests through knowledge and technology transfer. DNR may issue Forest Health Hazard warnings in response to threats to forest health due to insects, disease or unhealthy stand conditions. These warning create cost-sharing opportunities for private landowners. DNR partners with federal agencies to monitor and protect forest condition through the State Forest Health Program and the Good Neighbor Authority. These programs share knowledge and technology transfer with public and private landowners. DNR's urban and Community forestry program works with local governments and landowners to educate the public is healthy forests.</p>
<p>11.23 The risk of products from non-certified sources (including any areas specifically excluded from the scope of the certificate) being mixed with products from the forest area evaluated</p>	<p>All DNR timber sales within the SPS planning unit are sold as FSC certified 100%. There are special load tickets and contract specifications (G115) in the Timber Sale contracts for the SPS planning unit that must be adhered to so there is no chance of mixing with non-certified sources. This was verified during field audit.</p>
<p>11.23.1 Description of segregation controls implemented</p>	<p>See 11.23 above.</p>
<p>11.24 Explanation of the control (tracking and tracing) systems in place that address the risk identified</p>	<p>Load tickets for scale sales accompany each load as a requirement of all Timber sale contracts. A summary of the amount of material sold and removed, from State Trust Forests within the SPS planning unit, is sorted from mill receipts provided for each calendar year.</p>

## Forest context and management plan

Question	Inputs
<b>11.25 The documentation or marking system that allows products from the certified forest area to be reliably identified</b>	
11.25.1 documents with transportation	Yes
11.25.2 tree mark	No
11.25.3 bar code or quadratic code	No
11.25.4 other, please specify	
<b>11.26 Elaboration of the chain of custody documentation or marking system</b>	
	DNR maintains a summary of timber sales for State and is able to sort that data into planning units, regions, and timber sale contract. This allows DNR staff to track contract volumes from the certified forest to the mill.
<b>11.27 The final point or forest gate of the certified product</b>	
11.27.1 log yard	No
11.27.2 road side	Yes
11.27.3 other, please specify	

## Stakeholder comment(s)

12.01 Stakeholder group	12.02 Stakeholder description	12.03 Stakeholder's comment	12.04 Notified before audit?	12.05 Interviewed during this audit?	12.06 CB's follow up
Indigenous Peoples	local Tribes (3)	No response.	Yes	No	None. Attempt to reach out at the next surveillance audit.
Local communities, residents	resident (3)	complimentary of CH's efforts to accommodate stakeholder issue during forest management	No	Yes	None. Stakeholders thanked for input and that comments are considered in the evidence gathered in the audit.
FME personnel	21 Management Staff, Regional staff Managers, District staff foresters, Regional Engineers, Archeologists, Product Sales Department, Information Management, Silviculture Proram Manager/Forest Resources Division, Scientific Consultation/Cultural Resources Program, GIS/IT Manager, Presale Operation manager, HCP and Scientific Consultation Section Manager/Assistant Division Manager, Unit Recreation Manager, Foresters & Contract Administrators, SPS Region Biologist, Intensive Management Forester, Audit Lead, SPS Assistant Region Manager	good organization to work for; explanation of sites;	Yes	Yes	None. Staff thanked for input and that comments are considered in the evidence gathered in the audit.
Social interests	hunters (4)	more shooting pits; less regulation; don't really know about forest management; DNR staff have job to do, but ...	No	Yes	None. Stakeholders thanked for input and that comments are considered in the evidence gathered in the audit. Stakeholders were not interested in sharing last names or contact information, so no follow up required.
Social interests	ORV recreationists (12)	very complimentary of DNR staff and efforts to accommodate needs of the user group;	Yes	Yes	None. Stakeholders thanked for input and that comments are considered in the evidence gathered in the audit.

## Complaint(s) received

13.01 Received date *	13.02 First received by *	13.03 Complainant *	13.04 Complaint detail *	13.05 Open/Closed *	13.06 Actions *	13.07 Close date *
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## Nonconformities/Observations raised

14.01 Unique Finding number *	14.02 CB Non-conformity Ref	14.06 Grading *	14.07 Open / Closed *	14.08 Standard *	14.09 Clause *	14.03 Issue date *	14.04 Due date *	14.05 Close date *	14.10 Requirement *	14.11 Description of audit finding *	14.12 Corrective action taken by the audittee	14.13 CB's review of corrective actions
2023-C012959-01	OBS/SB-01	Obs	Open	NFSS	6.5.d	13-10-2023	12-10-2024	12-10-2024	The transportation system, including design and placement of permanent and temporary haul roads, skid trails, recreational trails, water crossings and landings, is designed, constructed, maintained, and/or reconstructed to reduce short and long-term environmental impacts, habitat fragmentation, soil and water disturbance and cumulative adverse effects, while allowing for customary uses and use rights. This includes: sediment discharge to streams is minimized.	: During the site visits, auditors observed on one steep slope road (B-Line Rd), DNR had installed "speed" bumps to slow the velocity of run off water and direct it into the ditch before reaching the low point of the road (bridge). Auditors noted that the bridge deck was collecting water and when trucks crossed, the silt collected from the road was spilling into the water course. Interviews with DNR staff indicated the "speed bumps" were recently installed and they were working with Forest Practices to monitor the success of the "speed bumps" in preventing run off into the water course. An observation (OBS/SB-01) has been issued to ensure this issue is properly addressed.		

# Principles & Criteria Summary

Version		V4		
Display	Index	18.01 Standard Requirement	18.02 Num CARs	18.03 Summary Assessment
	P1	<b>Forest management shall respect all applicable laws of the country in which they occur, and international treaties and agreements to which the country is a signatory, and comply with all FSC Principles and Criteria.</b>	0	
	C1.05	Forest management areas should be protected from illegal harvesting, settlement and other unauthorized activities.	0	Under the Forest Practices Act, there is a division responsible for ensuring regulatory requirements are met. The FPA officers approve timber sale applications and carry out compliance inspections on forest operations. Additionally, as above (1.1a) field staff regularly inspect forest operations for compliance with HCP and FPA. DNR also has an enforcement Division: DNR Police. The DNR Police oversee public safety, assets and the environment through enforcement on all DNR lands. Auditors reviewed inspection records at sites visited during the audit and interviewed public recreationists for compliance with this Indicator. Auditors found DNR works with local recreation groups to control unauthorized activities.
	P2	<b>Long-term tenure and use rights to the land and forest resources shall be clearly defined, documented and legally established.</b>	0	<b>Conformance.</b>
	C2.01	Clear evidence of long-term forest use rights to the land (e.g. land title, customary rights, or lease agreements) shall be demonstrated.	0	DNR is a State Agency, and the certified lands are held in trust and managed by DNR on behalf of the residents of Washington State. This is clearly stated on the DNR website. DNR maintains a list of leases and permits, including brush leases, gravel pits, bough removals, and Christmas tree removals. Also, the DNR website identifies legal uses for State Forests. Access rights held by other parties are maintained with gated access. One example (Smuggler U3) was visited in the audit and demonstrates conformance with this Indicator. Audit observations and document review confirm conformance with this Indicator.
	C2.02	Local communities with legal or customary tenure or use rights shall maintain control, to the extent necessary to protect their rights or resources, over forest operations unless they delegate control with free and informed consent to other agencies.	0	DNR operates under the Commissioner of Public Lands order to ensure management of state lands is done in collaboration with the 29 federally recognized tribes of Washington State. Auditors visited one site (Flat Top U4) where Tribes were given access to harvest site for firewood and another site where the adjacent Tribe has an access agreement for recreation users. Each timber sale is reviewed by the public for input, including from affected Indigenous Peoples. The state archeologist works with local tribes prior to setting up a timber sale if it is suspected a cultural resource may be present. Efforts to interview local Tribes were unsuccessful. DNR does work with local Tribes that have adjacent lands to State Forests (SF). For example, at Smuggler U3 auditors heard how DNR works with the adjacent tribe to manage use of their cabin.
	C2.03	Appropriate mechanisms shall be employed to resolve disputes over tenure claims and use rights. The circumstances and status of any outstanding disputes will be explicitly considered in the certification evaluation. Disputes of substantial magnitude involving a significant number of interests will normally disqualify an operation from being certified.	0	A process is in place to address disputes, including disputes with local tribes. The only issue in the past few years is a lawsuit filed by the Snohomish in 2013. This was resolved, although there is no evidence of how it was resolved. Those records are sealed. Efforts to interview local Tribes were not successful. There are no other disputes on record.
	P3	<b>The legal and customary rights of indigenous peoples to own, use and manage their lands, territories, and resources shall be recognized and respected.</b>	0	
	C3.02	Forest management shall not threaten or diminish, either directly or indirectly, the resources or tenure rights of indigenous peoples.	0	The evidence from the renewal audit is still relevant. A review of policies and legislation state that Tribes of the Washington territory ceded the FMU back in the 1850s, but that tribal rights to fish, hunt and gather at "usual and accustomed places" was reserved. The Commissioner's Order on Tribal Relations requires the FME to communicate and collaborate with Tribes to protect culturally significant values. Evidence presented confirms the FME is implementing Commissioner's Order as there is regular and ongoing communication with local Tribes." Regular training is conducted and offered to all DNR staff regarding protecting tribal rights.
	P4	<b>Forest management operations shall maintain or enhance the long-term social and economic well-being of forest workers and local communities.</b>	0	

# Principles & Criteria Summary

Version		V4		
Display	Index	18.01 Standard Requirement	18.02 Num CARs	18.03 Summary Assessment
	C4.02	Forest management should meet or exceed all applicable laws and/or regulations covering health and safety of employees and their families.	0	Evidence from the renewal audit has not changed for this Indicator. Auditors checked training records for 2 DNR staff and found regular training is taking place that is relevant to their job responsibilities. Audit check of Timber sale agreements list clause G-116.1 under SFI that requires at least one person on site that has completed an approved training program. Auditors did not view any active operations. A check of the WA Contract Logger Association against audit timber sales visited found each of the contractors on the list of qualified contractors. Auditors did not view unsafe conditions during the audit.
	C4.04	Management planning and operations shall incorporate the results of evaluations of social impact. Consultations shall be maintained with people and groups (both men and women) directly affected by management operations.	0	No change to the evidence from the renewal audit. DNR's SEPA Center assists DNR programs and regions to conduct clear, concise and consistent evaluations, coordinate public review, and ensure proper SEPA records. DNR makes decisions on projects or other actions on DNR-managed state lands and for activities regulated by DNR on other lands, such as forest practices and mining reclamation. Forest Practices Application (FPA) Environmental checklist addresses impacts to public. The FPA process also has a public review process where interested parties can comment on any activity requiring an FPA (timber harvest and road construction, aerial site prep spray)
	P5	<b>Forest management operations shall encourage the efficient use of the forest's multiple products and services to ensure economic viability and a wide range of environmental and social benefits.</b>	0	
	C5.06	The rate of harvest of forest products shall not exceed levels which can be permanently sustained.	0	As noted in the renewal audit evidence, management alternative B was chosen as the long-term sustainable harvest level at 320 MMBF/year and is documented in Appendix C of the HCP. Auditors reviewed the harvest summary for 2020 and found harvest levels are less than 50% of the sustainable harvest level. A review of Appendix C found all elements in this Indicator were considered in the determination of the sustainable harvest level. Auditors viewed VRH and VRT harvests and research harvests, and found they are meeting plan objectives.
	P6	<b>Forest management shall conserve biological diversity and its associated values, water resources, soils, and unique and fragile ecosystems and landscapes, and, by so doing, maintain the ecological functions and the integrity of the forest.</b>	0	<b>Conformance. OBS/SB-01 issued under 6.5.</b>
	C6.02	Safeguards shall exist which protect rare, threatened and endangered species and their habitats (e.g., nesting and feeding areas). Conservation zones and protection areas shall be established, appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management and the uniqueness of the affected resources. Inappropriate hunting, fishing, trapping and collecting shall be controlled.	0	DNR collaborates with the state wildlife agencies, natural heritage programs, NatureServe and the National Marine Fisheries Service prior to operations for the presence or absence of RTE species. Surveys are conducted by the FME Biologist with expertise in the RTE species. If found, the DNR Biologist is notified and if confirmed, protection measures are implemented as per requirements and databases updated with the information collected. The audit visited examples (e.g., Ferda, Flat Top, Vespa) of where the FME biologist had conducted surveys to determine presence of suitable habitat for NSO and/or flying squirrel prior to issuing timber sale. The audit observed controlled recreation sites such as mountain bike trails, 4x4 trails and shooting pits located where there was no identified vulnerable species or communities. The FME also makes use of gates and decommissioning of roads and water crossings to assist with control of unauthorized activities or activities that could impact vulnerable species and communities.
	C6.03	Ecological functions and values shall be maintained intact, enhanced, or restored, including: a) Forest regeneration and succession. b) Genetic, species, and ecosystem diversity. c) Natural cycles that affect the productivity of the forest ecosystem.	0	The FME maintains a Natural Heritage Information System database of >7,000 records of rare or quality ecological communities. The FME works collaboratively with the State Natural Heritage program ecologists to conduct surveys and record rare communities and set conservation goals. The FME has a policy for protection of old forest through implementation of the HCP EIS following the guide for identifying mature and old forest in Western Washington. The audit checked sites identified as having old forest and auditors were given a presentation by an expert in old forest tree identification regarding changes to clarify and update the guide.

# Principles & Criteria Summary

Version		V4		
Display	Index	18.01 Standard Requirement	18.02 Num CARs	18.03 Summary Assessment
	C6.05	Written guidelines shall be prepared and implemented to: control erosion; minimize forest damage during harvesting, road construction, and all other mechanical disturbances; and protect water resources.	0	During the site visits, auditors observed on one steep slope road (B-Line Rd), DNR had installed "speed" bumps to slow the velocity of run off water and direct it into the ditch before reaching the bridge, the low point of the road. Auditors noted that the bridge deck was collecting water and when trucks crossed, the silt collected from the road was spilling into the water course. Interviews with DNR staff indicated the "speed bumps" were recently installed and they were working with Forest Practices to monitor the success of the "speed bumps" in preventing run off into the water course. An observation (OBS/SB-01) has been issued to ensure this issue is properly addressed.
	C6.09	The use of exotic species shall be carefully controlled and actively monitored to avoid adverse ecological impacts.	0	DNR does not use exotic species.
	P7	<b>A management plan - appropriate to the scale and intensity of the operations - shall be written, implemented, and kept up to date. The long term objectives of management, and the means of achieving them, shall be clearly stated.</b>	0	
	C7.01	The management plan and supporting documents shall provide: a) Management objectives. b) Description of the forest resources to be managed, environmental limitations, land use and ownership status, socio-economic conditions, and a profile of adjacent lands. c) Description of silvicultural and/or other management system, based on the ecology of the forest in question and information gathered through resource inventories. d) Rationale for rate of annual harvest and species selection. e) Provisions for monitoring of forest growth and dynamics. f) Environmental safeguards based on environmental assessments. g) Plans for the identification and protection of rare, threatened and endangered species. h) Maps describing the forest resource base including protected areas, planned management activities and land ownership. i) Description and justification of harvesting techniques and equipment to be used.	0	No change to the renewal audit evidence for this Indicator. The FME provided evidence that DNR manages the certified forest lands on behalf of the State Trust beneficiaries. The HCP Final EIS represents the landscape level objectives for all State managed lands including the certified forest. The SPS Forest Land Plan is the detailed operational plan for the certified forest and covers areas visited during the audit. The SPS Forest Land Plan includes details on the items listed in ii, iii and iv. Item v is found in the HCP.
	C7.02	The management plan shall be periodically revised to incorporate the results of monitoring or new scientific and technical information, as well as to respond to changing environmental, social and economic circumstances.	0	No change to the renewal audit evidence for this Indicator. The South Puget Sound HCP Planning Unit Forest Land Plan Final EIS was finalized and approved in January 2010. DNR is required by law to update the sustainable harvest level and the most recent one was completed for the 10-year period 2025-2034. Monitoring, research and new scientific information is used to update management activities and is applied in the field. Auditors observed examples of new science and/or policies being implemented in, for example, FMAs 322538, 317435, 322902, 317438,57119, 327703 and 141550. : No change to the evidence for this Indicator. The South Puget Sound HCP Planning Unit Forest Land Plan Final EIS was finalized and approved in January 2010. DNR is required by law to update the sustainable harvest level and the most recent one was completed for the 10-year period 2025-2034. Monitoring, research and new scientific information is used to update management activities and is applied in the field. Auditors observed examples of new science and/or policies being implemented in, for example, FMAs 322538, 317435, 322902, 317438,57119, 327703 and 141550.
	C7.03	Forest workers shall receive adequate training and supervision to ensure proper implementation of the management plan.	0	The FME provided a list of all State Lands training in 2023 including number of staff that took the training, training dates, topic and examples of FME staff training records. Training is geared to the employees job as evidenced by training records and interviews with FME staff during the audit.