


Alternative Plan Process

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Forest Health Advisory Committee Meeting

September 20, 2019





If we manage forests to be healthy and resilient into the future, without addressing the health of the riparian zones and critical terrestrial habitats, those areas will potentially become the most vulnerable.



So What Are We Trying To Avoid...

- ▶ Stand Replacing Events
- ▶ Major Impacts to Aquatic/Riparian Habitats
- ▶ Major Loss of Terrestrial Habitats
- ▶ Negative Public Perception
- ▶ Loss of Human Lives
- ▶ Loss of Investments (Personal and Environmental)



How Do We Avoid It....

- ▶ Mechanized Logging
- ▶ Vegetation Management
- ▶ Restore Stand Types
- ▶ Fuels Reduction
- ▶ Fuel Breaks
- ▶ Prescribed Fire
- ▶ Do Nothing



Challenges...

- ▶ Riparian Management Zones
- ▶ Critical Terrestrial Habitats
- ▶ Topography
- ▶ Regulatory Restrictions
- ▶ Community Buy In/Social License
- ▶ Financial Costs
 - Process
 - Complexity of ecosystems



Terrestrial Habitat Considerations

- ▶ Specific habitat needs depend on species' needs
- ▶ Is it "Natural"?
- ▶ Is it Functioning?
- ▶ Is it at Risk?
 - ▶ How can I actively manage while still providing for function?
- ▶ Short term impacts for long term gains.

Riparian Area Considerations

- ▶ Shade, Wood Recruitment, Sediment Filtering, Leaf Litter, Bank Stability
- ▶ Is it "Natural"?
- ▶ Is it Functioning?
- ▶ Is it at Risk?
- ▶ How can I actively manage while still providing for function?
- ▶ Short term impacts for long term gains.



Taking Action....

“DO I NEED PROFESSIONAL INPUT?

YES! To do things right you need a botanist, economist, timber cruiser, entomologist, pathologist, engineer, hydrologist, ecologist, wildlife specialist and landscape architect. In a pinch, **a forester will do.**”

(Planning a Timber Harvest, Idaho Department of Lands, Forest Management No. 2, April 2009)



Managing Hazardous Fuels in Riparian Areas Using an Alternate Plan ([WA DNR Alternate Plans Website](#))

Alternate plans allow landowners to apply for more site-specific management flexibility than standard forest practices rules allow. Use an alternate plan to apply for a management plan that will maintain protection of your property's specific riparian and other ecological functions. To be approved, an alternate plan must provide protection for public resources at least equal in overall effectiveness to the protection provided by the Forest Practices Act and Rules. By law, an interdisciplinary team representing other governmental agencies and locally affected tribes is assembled to assess each proposed alternate plan and make recommendations to ensure the plan meets the standard for approval.

How does it work? The First Steps.

- 1) Work with a forester to assess the riparian functions provided by your forest stand and discuss management approaches that will meet your personal objectives while maintaining riparian function over time.
Contact the [DNR Small Forest Landowner Office](#) (SFLO) or Tami Miketa, the SFLO Program Manager directly: Phone (360) 902-1415 or tami.miketa@dnr.wa.gov.
- 2) Consult a WA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife biologist in your project area. You can find out who the best person is to contact by interacting with this [map](#).
- 3) Develop your alternate plan based on maintaining riparian functions, and complete the alternate plan form and Forest Practices Application.
- 4) Submit all materials to your [DNR region office](#).
- 5) After submittal, DNR will form an interdisciplinary team (state, federal, and tribal resource professionals) that will visit your property to assess the plan.
- 6) If your alternate plan is approved as part of your Forest Practices Application you can begin the planned management activities.



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Name ^	Updated	Size
Alternate Plan Templates	Jun 10, 2019 by Amy Ramsey	7 Files
Managing Hazardous Fuels in Riparian Areas Using an Alternate...	Jun 10, 2019 by Amy Ramsey	104.6 KB
Presentation_Considerations for the Resiliency of Aquatic and Wi...	May 28, 2019 by Amy Ramsey	1.3 MB



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Name ^	Updated	Size	
Aspen woodland alternate plan non-riparian WDFW.pdf	May 28, 2019 by Amy Ramsey	259.1 KB	
Aspen woodland alternate plan WDFW2.pdf	May 28, 2019 by Amy Ramsey	262.8 KB	
Historic prairie non-riparian alternate plan.pdf	May 28, 2019 by Amy Ramsey	258.2 KB	
Ponderosa pine woodland non-riparian alternate plan WDFW .pdf	May 28, 2019 by Amy Ramsey	279 KB	
Ponderosa pine woodland riparian alternate plan WDFW .pdf	May 28, 2019 by Amy Ramsey	263.3 KB	
White Oak pine woodland non-riparian alternate plan.pdf	May 28, 2019 by Amy Ramsey	262 KB	
White Oak woodland riparian alternate plan.pdf	May 28, 2019 by Amy Ramsey	263.5 KB	

Challenges...

- ▶ Riparian Management Zones
- ▶ Critical Terrestrial Habitats
- ▶ Topography
- ▶ Regulatory Restrictions
- ▶ Community Buy In/Social License
- ▶ Financial Costs
 - Process
 - Complexity of ecosystems
- Forest Practices & shade reduction rules in riparian areas
- Social license for active management needs in riparian areas
- Need to keep treatments site specific for forest health (not a reason to go after high value timber)
- Complexity of ecosystems (what is healthy and what is not?)
- Landowner commitment should include monitoring treatment in short and long-term

