

STATE FOREST LAND
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.

Questions in italics are supplemental to Ecology's standard environmental checklist. They have been added by the DNR to assist in the review of state forest land proposals. Adjacency and landscape/watershed-administrative-unit (WAU) maps for this proposal are available on the DNR internet website at <http://www.dnr.wa.gov/sepa>. These maps may also be reviewed at the DNR regional office responsible for the proposal. This checklist is to be used for SEPA evaluation of state forest land activities.

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:

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:

Timber Sale Name: **GOTCHEN**
Agreement # **30-106574**

2. Name of applicant: **Washington Department of Natural Resources**

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

Southeast Region DNR
713 Bowers Rd, Ellensburg, WA 98926
Contact person: Kevin Alexander (509) 925-8510

4. Date checklist prepared: **11/15/2024**

5. Agency requesting checklist: **Washington Department of Natural Resources**

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):

a. Auction Date:
05/29/2025

b. Planned contract end date (but may be extended):
10/30/2027

c. Phasing:
None

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

No, go to question 8.

Yes, identify any plans under A-7-a through A-7-d:

a. Site Preparation:

b. Regeneration Method:

c. Vegetation Management:

d. Other:

Road maintenance assessments will be conducted and may include periodic ditch and culvert cleanout, and grading as necessary.

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal. *Note: All documents are available upon request at the DNR Region Office.*

*303 (d) – listed water body in WAU: **Trout Lake Creek***

temp

sediment

completed TMDL (total maximum daily load)

- Landscape plan:*
- Watershed analysis:*
- Interdisciplinary team (ID Team) report:*
- Road design plan:*
- Wildlife report:*
- Geotechnical report:*
- Other specialist report(s):*
- Memorandum of understanding (sportsmen's groups, neighborhood associations, tribes, etc.):*
- Rock pit plan:*
- Other: GIS generated watershed administrative units (WAU) maps showing soil types, mass wasting, erosion potential, soil stability, and hydrological maturity. Forest Practice Risk Assessment Tool (FPRAT); Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) Heritage database; Identifying Old Trees and Forests in Eastern Washington, by Robert Van Pelt, September 2008; Policy for Sustainable Forests, December 2006, Environmental Impact Statement, June 2006; Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP); DNR Smoke Management Plan, issued April 1993 (revised 1998); State Soil Survey.**

Referenced documents may be obtained at the region office responsible for this proposal.

The following analyses, policies, procedures, documents, and data layers directly pertain to or were reviewed as part of this proposal and are incorporated by reference:

- **DNR Policies and Implementation**
 - Policy for Sustainable Forests (PSF; 2006a)
 - Final Environmental Impact Statement on the Policy for Sustainable Forests (2006b)
 - Silvicultural Rotational Prescriptions
 - Land Resource Manager Reports and associated maps
- **Forest Practices Regulations and Compliance**
 - Forest Practices Board Manual
 - Forest Practices Activity Maps
- **Supporting Data for Unstable Slopes Review**
 - State Lands Geologist Remote Review (SLGRR)
 - Lidar Data and Derivatives
 - Draft Landform Remote Identification Model (LRIM) screening tool
 - Published Landslide Inventories
 - Historic Aerial Photographs
 - Published Geologic Mapping
- **Supporting Data for Cultural Resources Review**
 - Historical Aerial Photographs
 - USGS and GLO maps
 - Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation database for architectural and archaeological resources and reports (WISAARD)
- **Additional Supporting Data for Policy Compliance**
 - State Soil Survey

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.

None known.

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

- FPA # **2707780***
 FPHP
 Board of Natural Resources Approval
 Burning permit
 Shoreline permit
 Existing HPA
 Other:

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 proposal is an uneven-aged (thinning) harvest of three timber sale units with a total net acreage of 979 acres. The slopes in the project area are moderate and the logging will be ground-based. The area is a basalt outflow south of Mt. Adams and there are no typed watercourses within the timber sale units. There are several collapsed Quaternary lava tubes, that are steep sided features that are mapped as stream channels, but they do not have any evidence of surface water flow, this includes Gotchen Creek. The timber sale is within the Trout Lake sub-landscape managed for northern spotted owl (NSO) habitat under the HCP. There are 465 acres within Dispersal/DFC management and 514 acres within NRF management.

a. Complete proposal description:

Unit	Proposal Acres (gross)	RMZ/WMZ Acres	Potentially Unstable Slope Acres	Existing Road Acres (within unit)	Sale Acres	Leave Tree Clump Acres	Net Harvest Acres
1	107						107
2	94			5			89
3	783						783
Totals	984						979

b. Describe the stand of timber pre-harvest (include major timber species and origin date), type of harvest and overall unit objectives.

Pre-harvest Stand Description:

Unit	Origin Date	Major Timber Species	Type of Harvest
1	1928	Douglas-fir, grand fir	Partial cut or uneven-aged
2	1928	Douglas-fir, grand fir	Partial cut or uneven-aged
3	1933	Douglas-fir, grand fir	Partial cut or uneven-aged

The stands are approximately 80% Douglas-fir, 5-10% grand fir, and some ponderosa pine and small amounts of Oregon oak. Stocking is 75-130 trees per acre and 200-260 BA/acre, relative density of 50. Understory vegetation is light, mostly vine maple.

Overall Unit Objectives:

The sale objective is to increase the sustainability and resilience of the forest, and to generate revenue from the timber that is suppressing out of the stands. The removal is relatively light with approximately 20-25% of basal area cut in the marked Units 1 and 2, and approximately 40% of basal area cut in the prescriptive harvest Unit 3. Thinning is generally from below by dbh and from dense clumps within the stands.

c. Describe planned road activity. Include information on any rock pits that will be used in this proposal. See associated forest practice application (FPA) for maps and more details.

Type of Activity	How Many	Length (feet) (Estimated)	Acres (Estimated)	Fish Barrier Removals (#)
Construction		3030	0.75	
Reconstruction		22885		
Maintenance		15718		
Abandonment				
Bridge Install/Replace				
Stream Culvert Install/Replace (fish)				
Stream Culvert Install/Replace (no fish)				
Cross-Drain Install/Replace	2			

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 (See “WAU Map(s)” and “Timber Harvest Unit Adjacency Map(s)” as referenced on the DNR website: <http://www.dnr.wa.gov/sepa>. Click

on the DNR region of this proposal under the Topic “Current SEPA Project Actions - Timber Sales.”
Proposal documents also available for review at the DNR Region Office.)

a. *Legal description:* **T6-0N R10-0E S12, T6-0N R10-0E S14, T6-0N R10-0E S13, T6-0N R10-0E S02, T6-0N R10-0E S10, T6-0N R10-0E S11, T60N-R10E S2**

b. *Distance and direction from nearest town:* **Approximately 2 miles north of Trout Lake, Washington.**

13. Cumulative Effects

a. *Briefly describe any known environmental concerns that exist regarding elements of the environment in the associated WAU(s). (See WAC 197-11-444 for what is considered an element of the environment).*

There are no known environmental concerns to any elements of the environment in these two WAU’s from this proposal.

Individual activities, such as this proposal, are likely to emit some greenhouse gases, including CO₂; however, at the landscape scale, DNR’s sustainable land management activities, including this proposal, sequester more carbon than they emit. Recognizing the climate and carbon benefits of working forests in Washington’s Climate Commitment Act (RCW 70A.45.005), the legislature found that Washington should maintain and enhance the state’s ability to continue to sequester carbon through natural and working lands and forest products. Further, “Washington’s existing forest products sector, including public and private working forests and the harvesting, transportation, and manufacturing sectors that enable working forests to remain on the land and the state to be a global supplier of forest products, is, according to a University of Washington study analyzing the global warming mitigating role of wood products from Washington’s private forests, an industrial sector that currently operates as a significant net sequesterer of carbon. This value, which is only provided through the maintenance of an intact and synergistic industrial sector, is an integral component of the state’s contribution to the global climate response and efforts to mitigate carbon emissions.” RCW 70A.45.090(1)(a).

The legislature also found that the 2019 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report “identifies several measures where sustainable forest management and forest products may be utilized to maintain and enhance carbon sequestration. These include increasing the carbon sequestration potential of forests and forest products by maintaining and expanding the forestland base, reducing emissions from land conversion to non-forest uses, increasing forest resiliency to reduce the risk of carbon releases from disturbances such as wildfire, pest infestation, and disease, and applying sustainable forest management techniques to maintain or enhance forest carbon stocks and forest carbon sinks, including through the transference of carbon to wood products” (2020 Washington Laws Ch. 120 §1(2)).

DNR has maintained (statewide) a forest management certificate to the Sustainable Forestry Initiative standard since 2006. In managing state trust lands sustainably, DNR sequesters more carbon than it emits while conducting land management activities such as this proposal.

The timber harvested from DNR-managed lands is used to produce climate-smart forest products. The climate impacts of DNR’s land management are analyzed in multiple environmental impact statements that have informed the Board of Natural Resources’ decisions and are consistent with the IPCC, which states that “meeting society’s needs for timber through intensive management of a smaller forest area creates opportunities for enhanced forest protection and conservation in other areas, thus contributing to climate change mitigation.”

b. Briefly describe existing plans and programs (i.e. the HCP, DNR landscape plans, retention tree plans) and current forest practice rules that provide/require mitigation to protect against potential impacts to environmental concerns listed in question A-13-a.

- Forest Practice Rules regulate any activity related to growing, harvesting and processing timber. The Rules also regulate road construction and hydraulic projects in typed water.**
- **Forest Practice Rules established Riparian Management Zone (RMZ) along streams to maintain riparian functions.**
 - **Forest Practice Board Manual “Guidelines for Forest Roads” Best Management Practices (BMP) guides road construction and maintenance techniques.**
 - **The DNR Policy for Sustainable Forest (2006) guided the development and layout of the proposal.**
 - **Sale layout follows the Washington State Department of Natural Resources Policy number PO14-009 regarding wildlife habitat pertaining to federally or state listed species.**
 - **The Smoke Management Plan (SMP) regulates activities associated with pile burning or prescribed fire.**
 - **DNR 20-Year Forest Health Strategic Plan.**

c. Briefly describe any specific mitigation measures proposed, in addition to the mitigation provided by plans and programs listed under question A-13-b.

See answers under SEPA Checklist section B. for additional details.

d. Based on the answers in questions A-13-a through A-13-c, is it likely potential impacts from this proposal could contribute to any environmental concerns listed in question A-13-a?

No.

e. Complete the table below with the reasonably foreseeable future activities within the associated WAU(s) (add more lines as needed). Future is generally defined as occurring within the next 7

years. This data was obtained from DNR's Land Resource Manager System on the date of processing this checklist and may be subject to change.

WAU Name	Total WAU Acres	DNR-managed WAU Acres	Acres of DNR proposed even-aged harvest in the future	Acres of DNR proposed uneven-aged harvest in the future	Acres of proposed harvest on non-DNR-managed lands currently under active FP permits
TROUT LAKE	32130	5929	0	115	86
GOTCHEN CREEK	27635	3214	0	915	238

Other management activities, such as stand and road maintenance, will likely occur within the associated WAU(s).

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

a. General description of the site (check one):

- Flat, Rolling, Hilly, Steep Slopes, Mountainous, Other:

1. General description of the associated WAU(s) or sub-basin(s) within the proposal (landforms, climate, elevations, and forest vegetation zone).

WAU: TROUT LAKE
WAU Acres: 32130
Elevation Range: 1818 - 5914 ft.
Mean Elevation: 2987 ft.
Average Precipitation: 59 in./year
Primary Forest Vegetation Zone: Grand Fir

WAU: GOTCHEN CREEK
WAU Acres: 27635
Elevation Range: 1817 - 8814 ft.
Mean Elevation: 3603 ft.
Average Precipitation: 63 in./year
Primary Forest Vegetation Zone: Grand Fir

2. Identify any difference between the proposal location and the general description of the WAU or sub-basin(s).

This proposal is in the lower elevation of these two WAUS's.

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

30%

- 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.

Note: The following table is created from state soil survey data. It is an overview of general soils information for the soils found in the sale area. The actual soil conditions in the sale area may vary considerably based on land-form shapes, presence of erosive situations, and other factors.

State Soil Survey #	Soil Texture
3905	GRAVELLY LOAM
2223	STONY LOAM
1043	LOAM
7584	LOAM
3904	COBBLY LOAM

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

No, go to question B-1-e.

Yes, briefly describe potentially unstable slopes or landforms in or around the area of the proposal site. For further information, see question A-8 for related slope stability documents and question A-10 for the FPA number(s) associated with this proposal.

1) *Does the proposal include any management activities proposed on potentially unstable slopes or landforms?*

No *Yes, describe the proposed activities:*

2) *Describe any slope stability protection measures (including sale boundary location, road, and harvest system decisions) incorporated into this proposal.*

- 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.

Approx. acreage new roads: 0.75

Approx. acreage new landings: 5

Fill Source: 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 building new roads, installing culverts, and hauling timber.

- g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)? *Approximate percent of proposal in permanent road running surface (includes gravel roads):*

Approximately 2% of the site will remain as gravel roads, and the paved USFS 23 road.

- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:
(Include protection measures for minimizing compaction or rutting.)

A seasonal timing restriction will limit winter operations and potential compaction during wet soil periods.

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.

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

None known.

- 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.

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. *(See "WAU Map(s)" and "Timber Harvest Unit Adjacency Map(s)" as referenced on the DNR website: <http://www.dnr.wa.gov/sepa>. Click on the DNR region of this proposal under the Topic "Current SEPA Project Actions - Timber Sales." Proposal documents also available for review at the DNR Region Office.)*

No Yes, describe in 3-a-1-a through 3-a-1-c below

a. Downstream water bodies: **One Np creek is west of Unit 2 and flows into Trout Lake Creek.**

b. Complete the following riparian & wetland management zone table:

Wetland, Stream, Lake, Pond, or Saltwater Name (if any)	Water Type	Number (how many?)	Avg RMZ/WMZ Width in feet (per side for streams)
Un-named Np creek	Np	1	50'

c. List any additional RMZ/WMZ protection measures including silvicultural prescriptions, road-related RMZ/WMZ protection measures and wind buffers.

None.

- 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.

No

Yes (See RMZ/WMZ table above and timber sale maps which are available on the DNR website: <http://www.dnr.wa.gov/sepa>. Timber sale maps are also available at the DNR region office.)

Description (include culverts): **The timber sale boundary exceeds the FP Np buffer width. Timber will be harvested to the tagged boundary (within 200').**

- 3) 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. (Include diversions for fish-passage culvert installation.)

No

Yes, description:

- 5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.

No

Yes, describe activity and location:

- 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.

It is not likely that any waste materials will be discharged into the surface water(s). However, minor amounts of oil, fuel, and other lubricants may inadvertently be discharged to the adjacent surface water(s) as a result of heavy equipment use or mechanical failure. No lubricants will be disposed of on-site.

- 7) Is there a potential for eroded material to enter surface water as a result of the proposal considering the protection measures incorporated into the proposal's design?

No Yes, describe:

8) What are the approximate road miles per square mile in the associated WAU(s)?

TROUT LAKE = 3.7 (mi./sq. mi.), GOTCHEN CREEK = 3.6 (mi./sq. mi.)

9) Are there forest roads or ditches within the associated WAU(s) that deliver surface water to streams, rather than back to the forest floor?

No Yes, describe:

It is possible that some roads or road ditches within the WAU intercept sub-surface flow and deliver surface water to streams, however current road work standards will be applied that address this issue by installing cross-drains to deliver ditch water to stable forest floors.

10) Is there evidence of changes to channels associated with peak flows in the proposal area (accelerated aggradations, surface erosion, mass wasting, decrease in large organic debris (LOD), change in channel dimensions)?

No Yes, describe observations:

There is evidence of changes to channels across the WAU(s). These changes are a result of natural events such as spring runoff from snowmelt and significant storm events. Channel migration, scouring, and deposition of material can be seen in channels across the WAU(s); this indicates those channels historically experience higher water levels and peak flows

11) Describe any anticipated contributions to peak flows resulting from this proposal's activities which could impact areas downstream or downslope of the proposal area.
It is not likely the proposed activity will change the timing, duration, or volume of water during a peak flow event. The post-harvest stands will be hydrologically mature. The lack of surface water drainage due to the geomorphology and well-drained soils limits the potential for any increases to peak flows.

12) Is there a water resource (public, domestic, agricultural, hatchery, etc.), or area of slope instability, downstream or downslope of the proposed activity?

No Yes, describe the water resource(s):

a. Is it likely a water resource or an area of slope instability listed in B-3-12 (above) will be affected by changes in amounts, quality or movements of surface water as a result of this proposal?

No Yes, describe possible impacts:

13) Describe any protection measures, in addition to those required by other existing plans and programs (i.e. the HCP, DNR landscape plans) and current forest practice rules included in this proposal that mitigate potential negative effects on water quality and

peak flow impacts.

None.

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 water will be withdrawn or discharged.

- 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.

Minor amounts of oil, fuel, and other lubricants may inadvertently be discharged to the ground as a result of heavy equipment use or mechanical failure. No lubricants will be disposed of on-site. All spills are required to be contained and cleaned-up. This proposal is expected to have no impact on ground water.

- 3) *Is there a water resource use (public, domestic, agricultural, hatchery, etc.), or area of slope instability, downstream or downslope of the proposed activity?*

No *Yes, describe:*

a. Is it likely a water resource or an area of slope instability listed in B-3-b-3 (above) could be affected by changes in amounts, timing, or movements of groundwater as a result this proposal?

No *Yes, describe possible impacts:*

Note protection measures, if any:

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.

Water runoff, including storm water, from road surfaces will be collected by roadside ditches and diverted onto the forest floor via ditch-outs and cross drain culverts.

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

No *Yes, describe:*

Waste materials, such as sediment or slash, may enter surface water.

Note protection measures, if any:

No additional protection measures will be necessary to protect these resources beyond those described in B-1-d-2, B-1-h, B-3-a-2, and B-3-a-13.

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

No changes to drainage patterns are expected.

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

See surface water, ground water, and water runoff sections above, questions B-3-a-1-c, B-3-a-13, B-3-b-3, and B-3-c-2.

4. Plants

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

Deciduous tree:

Alder Aspen Birch Cottonwood Maple Western Larch

Other: **Oregon oak**

Evergreen tree:

Douglas-Fir Engelmann Spruce Grand Fir Lodgepole Pine

Mountain Hemlock Noble Fir Pacific Silver Fir Ponderosa Pine

Sitka Spruce Western Hemlock Western Redcedar Yellow Cedar

Other:

Shrubs:

Huckleberry Rhododendron Salmonberry Salal

Other: **vine maple, oceanspray, California hazel**

Ferns

Grass

Pasture

Crop or Grain

Orchards Vineyard Other Permanent Crops

Wet Soil Plants:

Bullrush Buttercup Cattail Devil's Club Skunk Cabbage

Other:

Water plants:

Eelgrass Milfoil Water Lily

Other:

Other types of vegetation:

Plant communities of concern:

- b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered? (Also see answers to questions A-11-a, A-11-b and B-3-a-2).

Approximately 7056 Mbf of timber will be harvested.

- 1) Describe the species, age, and structural diversity of the timber types immediately adjacent to the removal area. (See “WAU Map(s)” and “Timber Harvest Unit Adjacency Map(s)” on the DNR website: <http://www.dnr.wa.gov/sepa>. Click on the DNR region of this proposal under the Topic “Current SEPA Project Actions - Timber Sales.” Proposal documents also available for review at the DNR Region Office.)

The timber surrounding this proposal is generally the same age and structure with the exception of a plantation south of the Martin road, and a plantation north of Unit 2.

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

None found in corporate database

- d. 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.

5. Animals

- a. List any birds and other animals *or unique habitats* which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site. Examples include:

birds:

eagle hawk heron owls songbirds

other:

mammals:

bear beaver coyote cougar deer elk

other:

fish:

bass herring salmon shellfish trout

other:

amphibians/reptiles:

frog lizard salamander snake turtle

other:

unique habitats:

balds caves cliffs mineral springs oak woodlands talus slopes

other:

- b. List any threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site (*include federal- and state-listed species*).

TSU Number	Common Name	Federal Listing Status	State Listing Status
GOTCHEN UNIT 3	Sandhill crane	None	Endangered
GOTCHEN UNIT 3	Oregon spotted frog	Threatened	Endangered
GOTCHEN UNIT 3	Northern Spotted Owl	Threatened	Endangered
GOTCHEN UNIT 2	Fisher	Candidate	Endangered
GOTCHEN UNIT 2	Western gray squirrel	None	Endangered

There is a gray wolf recorded observation in the southern Mt. Adams area. No known wolf dens or observations are within one mile of the timber sale area.

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

Pacific flyway *Other migration route:*

Explain:

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:

The Oregon spotted frog and the Sandhill crane listed in the table above are observed and their habitat is within the open wetland and meadows around Trout Lake creek, this timber harvest is not expected to have any impacts on the wetland or meadow habitats.

The Fisher was also observed in this open habitat along Trout Lake creek.

- 1) *Note existing or proposed protection measures, if any, for the complete proposal described in question A-11.*

Species/Habitat: **Northern spotted owls** Protection Measures: **This timber harvest is designed to retain the dominant Douglas-fir overstory and a moderately closed canopy mature forest to provide these important stand structural habitat components.**

Species/Habitat: **Western gray squirrels** Protection Measures: **The post-harvest stand will provide closed canopy forest structure and the retention of dominant Douglas-fir trees for potential nesting. Oregon oak is a very minor component of the stands, none will be harvested and some thinning around oak trees is intended to improve growing conditions.**

Species/Habitat: **Gray wolf** Protection Measures: **A conditional timing restriction may be imposed in the event of a known den site being occupied within 1 mile of the sale.**

Species/Habitat: **Bald eagles** Protection measures: **No bald eagles were observed within a recorded roost site, or near the timber sale. If bald eagles are observed the Region Biologist will be contacted and protection**

measures may be developed.

- e. List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site. **None.**

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.
- 1) Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.
None known.
 - 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 known.
 - 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. (*Site includes the complete proposal, e.g. rock pits and access roads.*)

Current use of site and adjacent land types: Forest management and informal recreation.

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? **Forest Resource.**
- f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site? **Forestry.**
- 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:
Does not apply.
- 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.
Does not apply.
- b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.
Does not apply.
- 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? **None.**
- 1) *Is this proposal visible from a residential area, town, city, recreation site, major transportation route or designated scenic corridor (e.g., county road, state or interstate highway, US route, river or Columbia Gorge SMA)?*
- No Yes, name of the location, transportation route or scenic corridor:
USFS 23 road bisects Unit 2.
- 2) *How will this proposal affect any views described above?*
This proposal will not create a noticeable change to the forest along this road.
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any: **None.**

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?
Hiking, hunting, horseback riding, camping.
- 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.
- 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 known. A DNR archaeologist conducted a field review to the proposed sale area on July 25, 2024.

- 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.
Historical maps and the DAHP database of known archaeological sites were reviewed. A DNR cultural resources technician and archaeologist were consulted.
- 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 presently-unknown skeletal remains, cultural resources, or both become known during project operations, DNR will comply with the Discovery of Skeletal Remains or Cultural Resources procedure.

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.
USFS 23 Road, Martin 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 25 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.
 - 1) *How does this proposal impact the overall transportation system/circulation in the surrounding area and any existing safety problem(s), if at all?*
This project will have minimal to no additional impacts on the overall transportation system in the area.
- 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 non-passenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?
Approximately 10 to 15 truck trips or loads per day while the operation is active. 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. Check utilities currently available at the site: **None.**

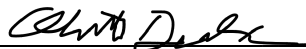
- electricity natural gas water refuse service telephone sanitary sewer
- septic system other:

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: 

Name of signee _____ **Albert Durkee**

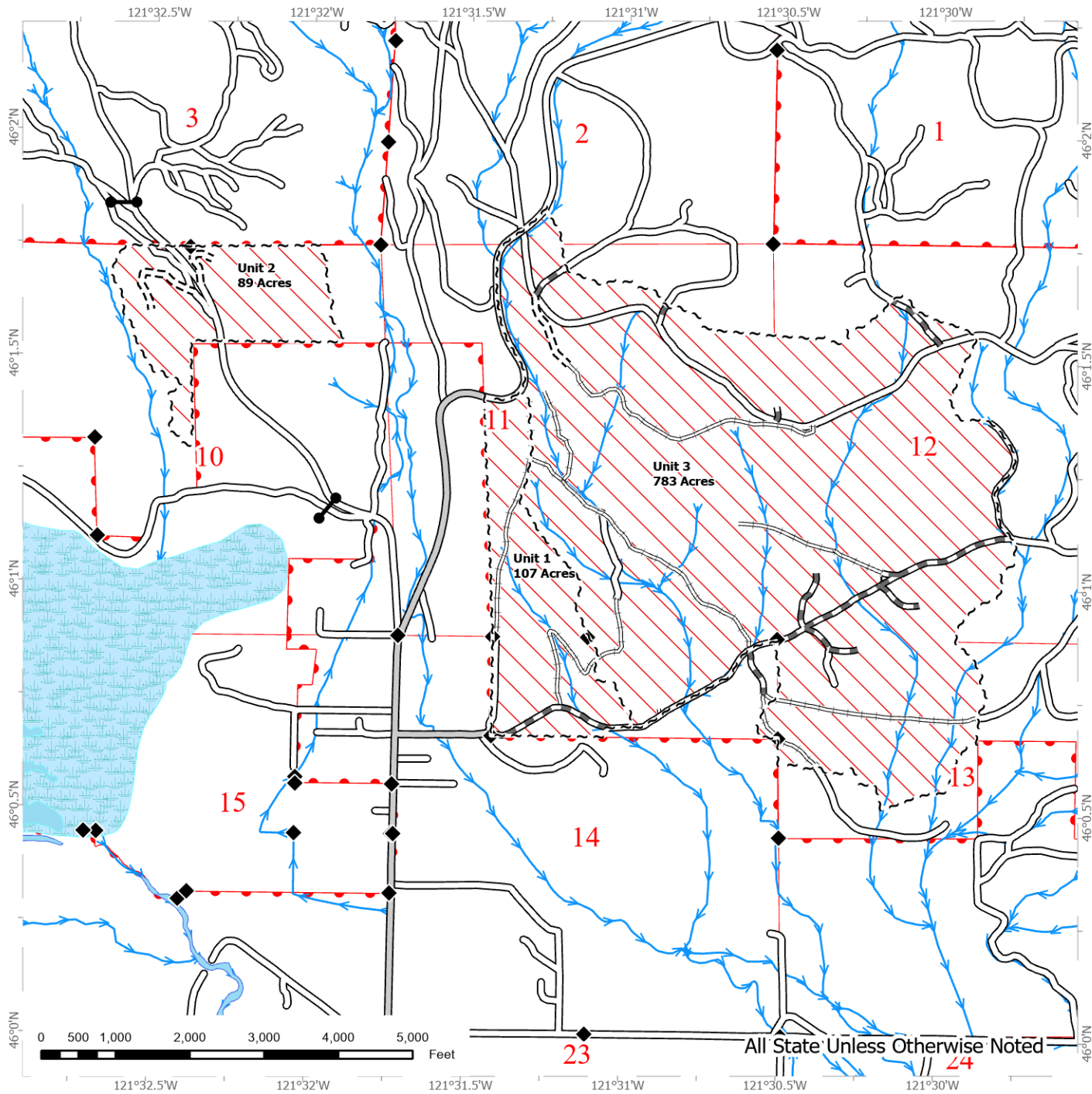
Position and Agency/Organization **Forester, DNR SE Region** _____

Date Submitted: _____

TIMBER SALE MAP

SALE NAME: GOTCHEN
AGREEMENT #: 30-106574
TOWNSHIP(S): T6R10E
TRUST(S): Normal School (8), State Forest Transfer (1)

REGION: Southeast Region
COUNTY(S): Klickitat
ELEVATION RGE: 1920-2440



~ ~ Sale Boundary Tags	— County Road	— Streams
Variable Density Thinning	Existing Roads	□ Stream Type
	Required Pre-Haul Maintenance	* Stream Break
	Required Construction	◆ Survey Monument
	Required Reconstruction	

