

SOUTH PUGET SOUND REGION

950 Farman Avenue North Enumclaw, WA 98022

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ADDENDUM

SEPA File No. 23-012602

Description of the original proposal:

Juneau Timber Sale #102082 and Forest Practice Application #2423290; more than 279 acres considered for harvest was reduced to 160 net acres consisting of four variable retention harvest units, one right-of-way unit and one daylighting unit, removing approximately 7,213 MBF of merchantable timber. Road work associated with this proposal consists of 750 feet of required construction, 3,040 feet of optional construction, 760 feet of required reconstruction, 3,890 feet of optional reconstruction, 36,210 feet of required pre-haul maintenance, and 2,395 feet of required abandonment, if reconstructed, and 760 feet of required decommissioning.

In the Juneau Timber Sale 160 net acres are being harvested, while 106 acres (38% of the proposal area) are being conserved from the overall proposal area that was evaluated for harvest. These conservation areas may include potentially unstable slopes, riparian and wetland management zones and other conservation areas. Many of these conservation areas are regeneration harvest deferred and will contribute to older-forests over time. The stage of stand development for the harvest areas within this proposal on the stand level scoring using the Van Pelt guide (Van Pelt 2007) includes Biomass Accumulation/Stem Exclusion, Maturation I, and II.

The stands in Juneau Timber Sale have not been identified as those needed to meet older forest targets over time. Nonetheless, what follows describes structurally complex forests and acreage managed to meet older forest targets overlaps the South Coast HCP Planning Unit.

Description of the addendum:

Addition of short connector road and associated right-of-timber

This addendum includes the addition 500 feet of optional new road construction (E-6743A Road) and an associated right-of-way unit (Unit 7) consisting of 0.8 net acres and 3 MBF. The additional road is east of Unit 2 and located in Section 2 of Township 16 North, Range 03 West, W.M. where shown on the attached Timber Sale Map. The stand within the added right-of-way Unit 7 consists of Douglas-fir and western hemlock planted in 1994. No streams or wetlands are associated with this road and Unit 7.

<u>Incorporation of revised evaluation and identification of suitable structurally complex forest</u>

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

The Department of Natural Resources has a multi-species Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service concerning threatened and endangered species and their habitats, which requires the Department to manage landscapes to provide and sustain long-term habitat in exchange for an Incidental Take Permit. This agreement substantially helps the Department to mitigate for cumulative effects related to management activities. The Department follows Forest Practices Rules as applicable to roads and potentially unstable slopes. The Department follows Forest Protections related



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to fire hazard mitigation.

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

DNR has produced landscape assessments to evaluate and project older forest targets and determine the role of stands in meeting those targets over time. Since the May 2021 landscape assessment, DNR has produced two updated assessments (May 2024 and September 2024). Future updated landscape assessments based on new information and data, may be conducted as needed. In September 2024, the DNR revised a document titled 'Landscape Assessment to Identify and Manage Structurally Complex Stands to Meet Older-Forest Targets in Western Washington, May 2024' (landscape assessment). This document describes the background, historical analyses regarding attainment of older-forest conditions in western Washington, and updated data and modeling analyses showing when the various HCP planning units across western Washington are expected to attain a level of older-forest conditions through implementation of the HCP and other conservation objectives, and outlined as targets within the PSF.

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

Some of these conservation areas are based on specific HCP strategies that are spatially fixed and conserved on the landscape, such as marbled murrelet occupied sites or spotted owl nest patches. However, other conservation areas are modeled and must be field verified based on HCP strategies, such as riparian areas or unstable slopes. There is naturally some adjustment to the location, absence, or presence of conservation areas upon field verification. This timber sale has been field verified for compliance with all conservation objectives and the planned harvest units are determined not to be regeneration harvest deferred and are available for harvest. These harvest areas also do not count towards the attainment of older-forests over time and have been excluded from the calculations and tables included in the landscape assessment. Conversely, when field verification identifies specific areas required for conservation, they will be protected from harvest and included in future conservation area modeling.

The landscape assessment demonstrates that while the South Coast HCP Planning Unit does not currently contain 10 to 15 percent older-forest conditions, the structurally complex and other suitable stands designated to be managed for older-forest targets are projected to develop into older-forest structure that meets or exceeds this threshold by 2100, (Table A) through implementation of the HCP and other policies and laws. Stands identified to be managed toward older-forest targets, including currently older-forests and stands projected to develop older-forest structure in the future, are depicted in associated maps within the landscape assessment



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document for each western Washington HCP planning unit.

Table A. Percent area western Washington HCP planning units with older-forest stands in conservation areas by decade through 2120. With plot discounts and disturbance factor. Landscape Assessment to Identify and Manage Structurally Complex Stands to Meet Older-Forest Targets in Western Washington, May 2024 (Revised September 2024).

ADJUSTED QUERY OUTPUT (WITH PLOT DISCOUNT & DISTURBANCE FACTOR)											
HCP Planning Unit	Year										
	2021	2030	2040	2050	2060	2070	2080	2090	2100	2110	2120
COLUMBIA	1.0%	1.2%	1.4%	1.7%	2.4%	3.9%	6.2%	9.4%	13.3%	16.5%	18.2%
N. PUGET	3.2%	3.9%	4.9%	6.2%	7.9%	10.2%	13.2%	16.7%	20.5%	23.9%	25.0%
OESF	10.2%	10.7%	11.0%	11.7%	12.6%	13.9%	15.9%	20.0%	24.9%	28.3%	29.5%
S. COAST	0.2%	0.3%	0.6%	1.2%	2.1%	3.6%	5.9%	8.8%	12.2%	15.9%	18.6%
S. PUGET	1.7%	2.2%	2.7%	3.6%	4.6%	6.1%	8.4%	11.3%	14.4%	17.1%	18.7%
STRAITS	1.9%	2.6%	3.2%	4.3%	5.6%	7.4%	9.9%	12.6%	15.1%	18.0%	19.5%

DNR has designated forest stand acreage within regeneration harvest deferred areas in each HCP planning unit to meet or exceed the policy's 10% older-forest target. This identified acreage is designated in DNR's GIS database as the Westside Forest Cover (Conservation Areas) and Older-Forest in Conservation Areas layers.

The Juneau Timber Sale is not identified as one of those stands designated to meet older-forest targets over time. Following the timber sale, the variable retention harvest units will be replanted with native, conifer tree species that will be supplemented by natural regeneration expected to occur as a result of the conservation areas in and around the harvest units.

Adjustments to the location, absence, or presence of conservation areas upon field verification for this proposal include, but not limited to the following:

- ➤ Potentially Unstable Slopes
- ➤ Riparian Management Areas
- Wetland Management Areas

Incorporation of additional documents

Additionally, this addendum incorporates the following analyses, policies, procedures, documents, and data layers as directly pertaining to or were reviewed as part of the proposal:

- DNR Policies and Implementation
 - o Landscape Assessment to Identify and Manage Structurally Complex Stands to Meet Older-Forest Targets in Western Washington, May 2024 (Revised September 2024).
 - o Identifying Mature and Old Forests in western Washington by Robert Van Pelt (2007)
- DNR Trust Lands Habitat Conservation Plan and Supplemental Information
 - o Biological Opinion on the HCP, USFWS; January 27, 1997
 - o Biological Opinion on the HCP, NMFS; January 29, 1997



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- Biological Opinion on the HCP Marbled Murrelet Long-term Conservation Strategy Amendment, USFWS; November 7, 2019
- o Reinitiated Biological Opinion on the Incidental Take Permit (PRT-812521), USFWS; March 21, 2024
- Clarification of projections of forest types and stand structural conditions on Washington DNR State Trust Lands, USFWS; October 27, 2019
- Supporting Data for Unstable Slopes Review
 - Published Landslide Inventories
 - Historic Aerial Photographs
 - Published Geologic Mapping
- Additional Supporting Data for Policy Compliance
 - Stand Development Stage form for Juneau Timber Sale
 - o Stand Origin Assessment form for Juneau Timber Sale
- Sustainable Forestry Initiative certification standards and audit reports

Referenced documents may be obtained from the South Puget Sound Region Office.

Description of existing environmental document:

SEPA Checklist, Determination of Non-significance, Forest Practice Application No. 2423290

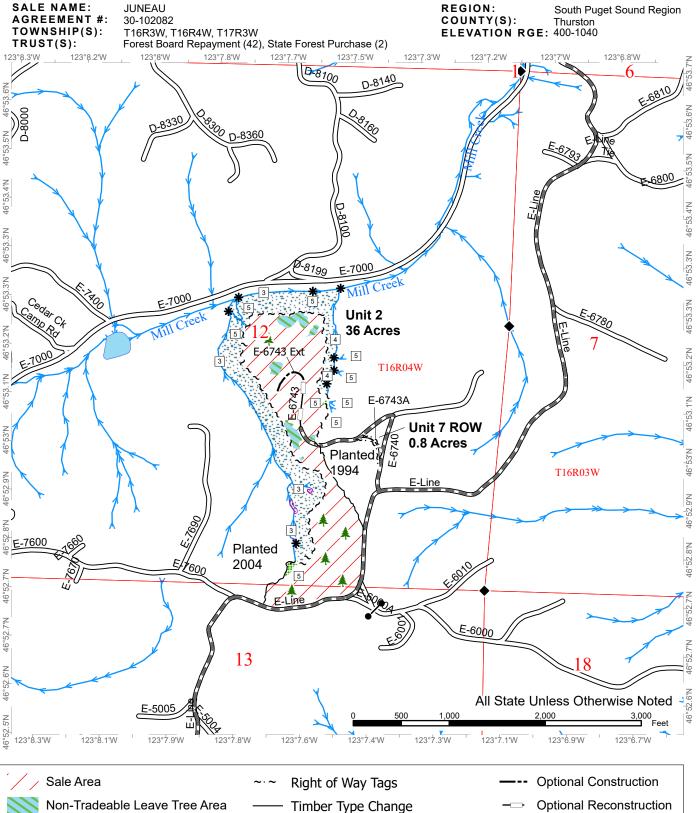
Proponent: Department of Natural Resources

Lead Agency: Department of Natural Resources

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

Responsible Office	ial: Don Melton	-
Position/Title: So	outh Puget Sound Region Manager	Phone: (360) 825-1631
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Date: 9/23/24	_ Signature: _Don Malton	AAA

There is no DNR administrative SEPA appeal.



Leave Tree Area <1/4-acre

Required Pre-Haul Maintenance

Survey Monument

Existing Roads



Leave Tree Area

Riparian Mgt Zone

Tailhold Restriction Area

Sale Boundary Tags

Stream Type Break

Streams

Gates

Stream Type