

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Sylvan Pearl Sales Jacket

**FROM:** Alan Mainwaring, Region Biologist

**SUBJECT:** Cliff Protections, Unit 5, Sylvan Pearl Timber Sale

**DATE:** October 5, 2023

Unit 5 of the Sylvan Pearl Timber Sale is located in King County in Section 14, of Township 21N, Range 09E, WM.

### **Background:**

Nick Chicano, Black Diamond Unit Manager, identified a rock cliff outcrop, approximately 70 feet in height within unit 5 with talus located at the base. This talus area is well under 1 acre in size and thus does not trigger protection through the Protecting Talus Fields procedure. The talus is a unique habitat feature and will be included with the cliff protection. A second cliff area was identified outside of unit 5 to the south. This cliff is in excess of 100' in height and located in a riparian area. Each of these three areas are protected by and will remain within mature forest.

### **Mitigation Plan:**

No mitigation necessary as the cliff feature within unit 5 has been excluded from the harvest in a 2.95 acre non-tradable leave tree area (See Maps 1 & 2).

### **Cliff /Talus Protection:**

While no bats were observed, small overhangs or fissures in cliffs are suitable for bat roosting habitat. The soils immediately below the cliff are very rocky with areas of talus. Rock slough inputs from the cliff above make this area distinctive from the surrounding forest and adds to the biological diversity of the landscape. The cliff/talus habitat may contribute to the life cycle of amphibians such as the Western Red-backed Salamander (*Plethodon vehiculum*) and Pacific Tree Frog (*Pseudacris regilla*). Mature second-growth Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) within and below the cliff offer perch and nesting opportunities for raptors such as red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*). Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife do not record any raptor nests in the vicinity. No nests or raptors have been observed in timber sale layout.

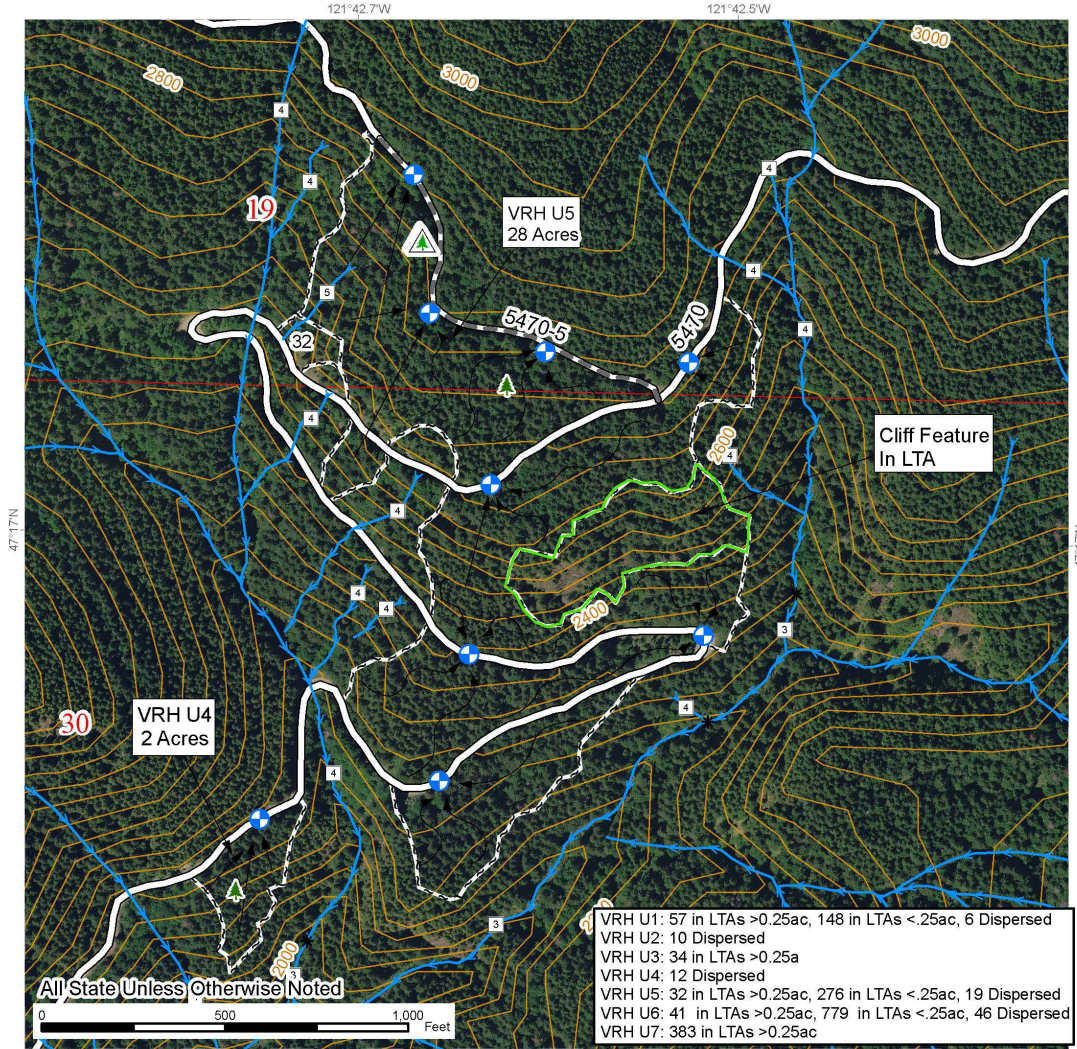
This unique habitat has been tagged out of the harvest unit in a non-tradable leave tree area. Timber will not be yarded through the cliffs or talus area. Protection of this nature will ensure compliance with PR14-004-190, Protecting Cliffs.

# Map 1.

## LOGGING PLAN MAP

SALE NAME: SYLVAN PEARL  
 AGREEMENT#: 30-103620  
 TOWNSHIP(S): T21R8E, T21R9E  
 TRUST(S): Common School and Indemnity (3), State Forest Transfer (1)

REGION: South Puget Sound Region  
 COUNTY(S): King  
 ELEVATION RGE: 1320-3280



Ground Harvest	Stream Type 5	Contours 40-foot
Cable Harvest	Stream Break	Public Land Survey Sections
Sale Boundary Tags	Streams	
Leave Tree Tags	Landing - Proposed	
Existing Roads	Leave Tree Area <1/4-acre	
Required Pre-Haul Maintenance	Non-Tradeable Leave Trees	
Stream Type 3	Cliff Feature Area	
Stream Type 4		

Prepared By: nvon490

Modification Date: nvon490 9/12/2023

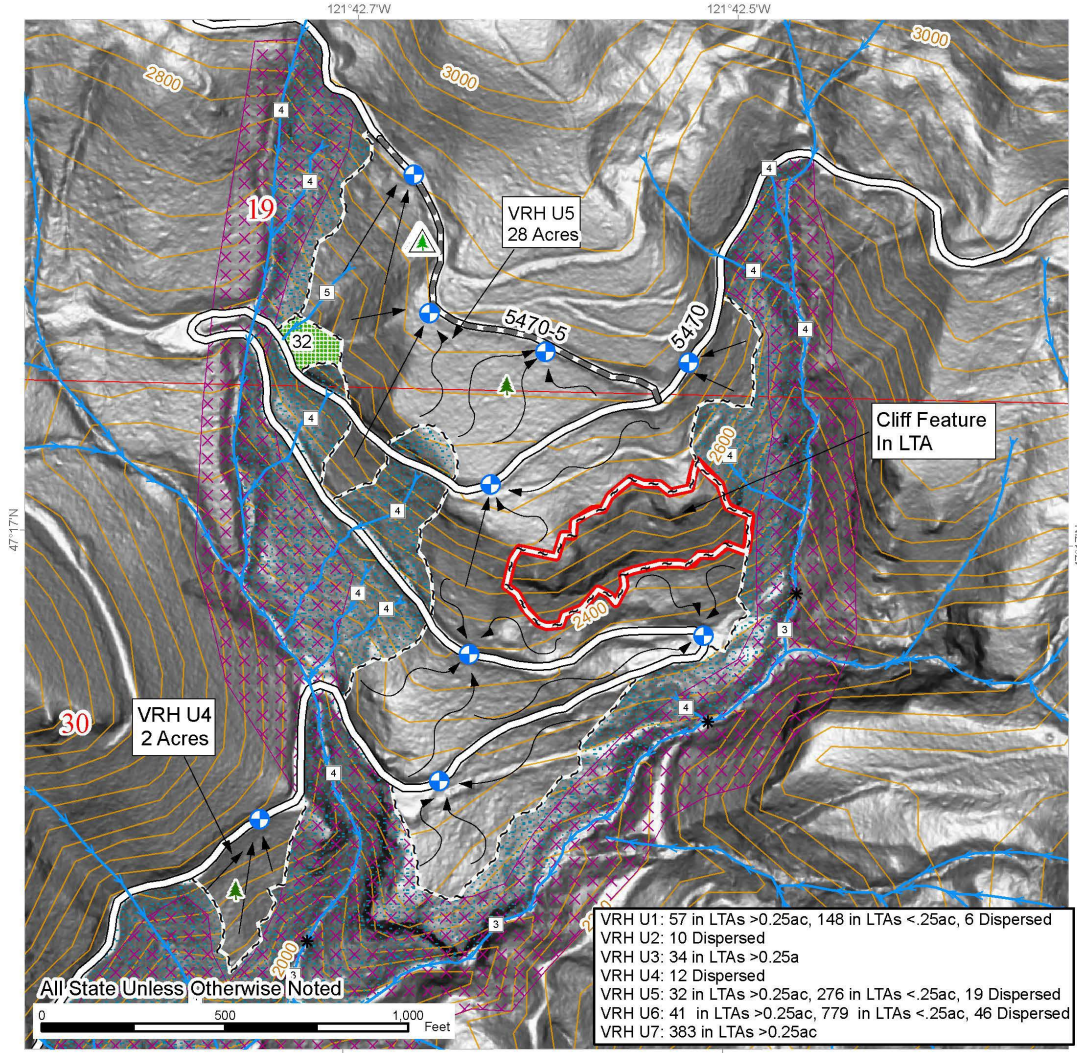


# Map 2.

## LOGGING PLAN MAP

SALE NAME: SYLVAN PEARL  
 AGREEMENT#: 30-103620  
 TOWNSHIP(S): T21R8E, T21R9E  
 TRUST(S): Common School and Indemnity (3), State Forest Transfer (1)

REGION: South Puget Sound Region  
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VRH U1: 57 in LTAs >0.25ac, 148 in LTAs <.25ac, 6 Dispersed  
 VRH U2: 10 Dispersed  
 VRH U3: 34 in LTAs >0.25a  
 VRH U4: 12 Dispersed  
 VRH U5: 32 in LTAs >0.25ac, 276 in LTAs <.25ac, 19 Dispersed  
 VRH U6: 41 in LTAs >0.25ac, 779 in LTAs <.25ac, 46 Dispersed  
 VRH U7: 383 in LTAs >0.25ac

Ground Harvest	Riparian Mgt Zone	Leave Tree Area <1/4-acre
Cable Harvest	Leave Tree Area	Non-Tradeable Leave Trees
Sale Boundary Tags	Stream Type 3	Contours 40-foot
Leave Tree Tags	Stream Type 4	Public Land Survey Sections
Existing Roads	Stream Type 5	Stream Break
Required Pre-Haul Maintenance	Streams	Landing - Proposed
Tailhold Restriction Area		
Non-Tradeable Leave Clump		

Prepared By: nvon490

Modification Date: nvon490 9/19/2023