

Example Landowner Objectives and Introductory Overview Sections

Objectives Example 1

- A well-managed, biologically diverse forest that is free of invasive species
- A healthy forest that provides a natural habitat for wildlife
- Maintain an unencumbered view of the Puget Sound
- Promote healthy, productive, and chemical-free soil
- Maintain a sustainable supply of firewood
- A beautiful forest to pass on to our heirs at some point in the distant future!

Objectives Example 2

Stewardship Vision Statement:

The following forest management recommendations balance enhancement of water quality, wildlife and biological habitat values, forest management activities, education and passive recreational activities. Forest management of the property is consistent with the larger landscape vision of forestry and rural forest districts. Forest stewardship planning is a long-term flexible and dynamic process. As conditions of the resource and our understanding change the plan may be amended.

Specific objectives

- Provide a forested environment ensuring that water quantity and quality are protected with emphasis on forested wetland protection and enhancement and down-stream fish habitat improvement and maintenance.
- Maintain and improve wildlife habitat across our property.
- Protect sensitive areas including streams and wetlands.
- Ensure that management practices will accelerate the development of forest structure and biodiversity.
- Develop a road maintenance plan and upgrade existing road to current forest practice standards.
- Foster cooperative stewardship with adjacent landowners.
- Harvest both timber and non-timber forest products for personal use and sale.
- Provide forest ecology educational opportunities to non-profit sponsored tours, school groups and WSU Forest Stewardship Program field sessions.

Introductory Overview Example 1

The 5 acre property was acquired by us in July 2004. It is located 5 miles NE of Sampletown, WA in Section ## of Township ## North, Range # East, in Westside County. Access is via a ¼ mile private paved road with other 5 acre properties, east of its junction with Happy Tree Road). The south side of the property is bordered by several residential lots, while all other borders are adjacent to undeveloped private property. Elevation is fairly consistent at about 490 feet above sea level. Property slope is negligible at 3-5 % in a few areas and is fairly wet in places.

The Sampletown area was first pioneered in the 1880's by logging and railway contractors connected with the West Coast Railway, which traveled from Sampletown to Anothertown. The land's first timber harvest is estimated to have occurred in the late 1880s or 1890s. The Second harvest was in the 1950s, after which most of the current properties were platted. In general, the current condition of the forested property is good, with a few trees showing possible evidence of root rot while most remain vigorous and multi-aged.

Surrounding land uses include open timber, undeveloped private owned wood lots, with increasing encroachment of clustered and single residential home sites on the south side of the property.

The site receives heavy winds during the fall and winter and there has been resulting blow down damage. The average rainfall for the area is 40 inches, which contribute to heavily soaked soils in the winter and spring.

Introductory Overview Example 2

John and Jane Landowner acquired this 10-acre property in August 2014. It is located on high ground one mile east of Puget Sound and 3 miles WSW of Treeville, WA in Section 22 of Township 00 North, Range 00 East, in Westside County.

Access is via a ¼ mile private gravel road, north of its junction with Happy Tree Ln. The private drive is not named; it runs along a 40' easement established on two adjoining properties.

The north and east sides of the property are bordered by two 10-acre lots. The north lot has one residence, while the east lot is undeveloped. There is an undeveloped 20-acre lot south of the property and an undeveloped 5-acre lot to the west.

The property is rectangular, measuring 1364' east/west and 330' north/south. The property elevation rises from 230' above sea level at the west border to 400' ASL at the east border. The average slope of 12.5% provides an attractive view of Puget Sound and the Olympic Mountains from the east side of the property, where a residence will be constructed. There is no open or flowing water on the property.

This area, like many in Westside County, was heavily logged in the 19th and 20th century. The most recent logging on this property was conducted circa 1990; a smaller harvesting of timber also occurred in 2008. Consequently, red alder are predominant throughout the property, accounting for approximately 80% of all trees. The remaining 20% consist of Douglas-fir, western hemlock, and western redcedar. The forest floor is generally covered by sorrel, moss, mushrooms, ferns, decaying trees, and some invasive species (Himalayan blackberry, English holly).

Weather

The climate is temperate. Summer temperatures are generally in the 60's and winter temperatures in the 40's. The warmest month of the year is August with an average maximum temperature of 74 degrees Fahrenheit, while the coldest month of the year is January with an average minimum temperature of 34 degrees Fahrenheit. Temperature variations between night and day during the summer can reach 19 degrees Fahrenheit, while winter has an average difference of 13 degrees Fahrenheit. Rainfall is fairly evenly distributed throughout the year, with an annual average precipitation of 37 Inches. The wettest month of the year is November with an average rainfall of 5.11 Inches.

Forest Stands on the Property

1. Four and one half acres of predominantly young red alder, with a few random Douglas-fir, western hemlock, and western redcedar trees. The red alder filled in following the logging of the property circa 1990. It is likely that Douglas-fir was planted in this stand, but was overtaken by the faster growing red alder. The understory consists primarily of salal, sword fern, holly, mosses, and various berries – salmonberry, elderberry, raspberry, gooseberry, Himalayan blackberry, trailing blackberry, and snowberry.
2. Three acres of 20-25 year-old Douglas-fir, planted following the most recent logging of the property. The trees are approximately 10 feet apart; there is very little undergrowth in this stand, due to the limited amount of sunlight that reaches the forest floor. Thinning is required.
3. Two and one half acres of mixed red alder, Douglas-fir, and western hemlock. The understory is similar to stand 1, though not as dense. There are thickets of Himalayan blackberry that are extremely dense and require removal.
4. One acre set aside for residence, garden, and beekeeping.