

Example Special Resources and Biodiversity Sections (Resource Category 7)

Special Resources Example 1

An analysis completed by the Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in 2017 has determined that no threatened or endangered species. However, there is a known bald eagle nest on or near the property. While no longer listed as an endangered species, the bald eagle is still protected by the Federal Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. Part of the property may be within the 660-foot nest buffer where there are certain forest practice restrictions. Prior to timber harvest or any other regulated forest practice activity, we will consult with DNR and the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) to ensure that all applicable regulations and best management practices are followed. Additional information on bald eagle protection requirements in Washington State is available at http://file.dnr.wa.gov/publications/fp_041212_baldeagle_fact_sheet.pdf.

The DNR analysis also found that there is a known archeological site on or near the property. Prior to undertaking any harvest or other activities that would require a FPA, we will consult with the Washington Department of Natural Resources to determine what restrictions or special considerations apply. More information on archeological and historic sites is available from the Washington State Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation (<http://www.dahp.wa.gov/>). This property is not considered a forest of recognized importance (FORI).

Habitat features on our property that provide for biodiversity include a variety of native trees, mast-producing shrubs, snags, downed logs, and wetland areas. We will protect and maintain these features to continue to provide for biodiversity.

Special Resources Example 2

A. Current resource conditions, issues, needs, and opportunities

Based on an analysis by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in 2017, there are no known cultural, or historical resource protection issues on this property. However, part of the property is within the non-habitat portion of a northern spotted owl circle associated with the Mineral Block/Link Spotted Owl Special Emphasis Area (SOSEA). The northern spotted owl is a federally-listed threatened species and a state-listed endangered species. Forest practices activities are restricted within a certain distance of a spotted owl site. More information on the northern spotted owl is available from WDFW at http://wdfw.wa.gov/conservation/endangered/species/northern_spotted_owl.pdf and from USFWS at http://www.fws.gov/arcata/es/birds/NSO/ns_owl.html.

Also, the property is within winter elk range habitat, which is listed in the WDFW Priority Habitats and Species (PHS) Program. Information on the PHS program is available from WDFW at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/conservation/phs/>. Management recommendations are available at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00032/>. This property is not considered a forest of recognized importance (FORI).

Habitat features on our property that provide for biodiversity include a diverse mix of timber stands; native shrubs and groundcovers; and snags and downed logs.

B. Any management practices which the owner plans to protect, enhance, or restore these resources

Before undertaking regulated forest practices activities such as timber harvest, road construction, or aerial application of chemicals, we will consult with DNR as part of our forest practices application process to identify specific restrictions and best management practices within the SOSEA. We will also consult with DNR and/or the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife to identify best management practices for the winter elk range priority habitat, such as minimizing disturbance during calving season (May 1 – June 30) and planting forage mixes in cleared areas.

Continue to protect and maintain diverse habitat features to provide for biodiversity. This will include protecting and preserving snags (when safe to do so), controlling invasive species, protecting water resources, and encouraging a variety of native shrubs (planting when necessary).

Special Resources Example 3

A. Current resource conditions, issues, needs, and opportunities

An analysis completed by the Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in 2017 has determined that no threatened or endangered species or cultural or historical resources are known to exist on the property. This property is not considered a forest of recognized importance (FORI).

Our property has several large diameter old-growth redcedar stumps with spring board notches, an artifact of the days felling was done with a “misery whip” and loggers burned 10,000 calories per day. These are a cultural resource not on any registers, but unlikely to ever be produced again. We will keep them intact to the best of our ability and provide opportunities for interpretive visits by various groups. The road on our property is also the original grade that accessed the summit of Timber Mountain and a fire lookout tower.

The diverse habitat features on our property provide for biodiversity. These features include multiple forest types; a variety of native trees, shrubs, and groundcovers; snags; and water features. These habitat features provide for a diversity of birds, mammals, and amphibians.

B. Any management practices which the owner plans to protect, enhance, or restore these resources

Continue to maintain the old-growth stumps and provide forest ecology and forestry practices field trips. Continue to protect and maintain diverse habitat features to provide for biodiversity. This will include protecting and preserving snags during harvest operations (when safe to do so), controlling invasive species, buffering water resources, and encouraging a variety of native shrubs (planting when necessary).