



**DEPARTMENT OF  
NATURAL RESOURCES**

**NORTHWEST REGION**  
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Sedro Woolley, WA 98284

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[WWW.DNR.WA.GOV](http://WWW.DNR.WA.GOV)

**ADDENDUM**

**SEPA File No. 23-121903**

**Description of the original proposal:**

East Cavanaugh SWT Timber Sale #104692 and Forest Practice Application #2819250 is a small wood thinning harvest with 268.1 acres in four units removing approximately 2,097 MBF of timber. This proposal includes 6,119 feet of road construction, 1,585 feet of road reconstruction, 219 feet of temporary construction (to be abandoned following use), and 39,804 feet of pre-haul maintenance. Based on field review, the harvest area stand development stage has been categorized as biomass accumulation/competitive exclusion. This stage of stand development is not considered 'structurally complex' per the department's guidance. The stands in the East Cavanaugh SWT timber sale do not meet DNR's definition for a structurally complex forest. Nonetheless, what follows describes structurally complex forests managed to meet older forest outcomes in the North Puget HCP Planning Unit.

**Description of the addendum:**

DNR is providing an addendum to this SEPA analysis to document the 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 General Silviculture Strategy (policy) in the Policy for Sustainable Forests 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.

In May 2021, the DNR produced a document titled '*Identifying Stands to Meet Older Forest Targets in Western Washington*', which is incorporated by reference in this Addendum. This 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 forests of existing structurally complex stands managed for older forest targets as of 2021. These structurally complex stands include old-growth stands, stands in special ecological management areas, stands meeting targets for other HCP conservation strategies, suitable marbled murrelet nesting habitat and designated marbled murrelet occupied sites, and riparian areas that are currently meeting the Riparian Desired Forest Condition. Stands identified as older forest and structurally complex stands are represented in the attached map titled, “2021 Older Forest and Structurally Complex Stands Within Conservation N. PUGET” (2024).

The results from the May 2021 landscape assessment, and included in the above-referenced memorandum, show that while the North Puget HCP Planning Unit does not currently contain 10 to 15 percent, it demonstrates that through implementation of the HCP and other Policies and laws, stands containing structurally complex forests or managed for older forest targets in conservation areas is projected to exceed 10 percent in the North Puget HCP Planning Unit by 2070 (Table 1). Stands identified to meet older forest targets are represented in the attached map titled, “Projected Older Forest Within Conservation N. PUGET” (2024). This timber sale is not identified as one of those stands designated to meet older forest targets over time. In the East Cavanaugh timber sale 268.1 acres are being harvested, while 32 acres are being conserved (12% of proposal area) to protect wildlife habitat, slope stability and operational concerns, and stream and wetland buffers.

Table 1. Percent area western Washington HCP planning units with older forest conditions in conservation areas by decade through 2100. Values over 10% in bold.

HCP Planning Unit	Year								
	2021	2030	2040	2050	2060	2070	2080	2090	2100
Columbia	1.0%	1.1%	1.3%	1.7%	2.6%	4.4%	7.4%	<b>11.6%</b>	<b>16.1%</b>
North Puget	3.3%	4.1%	5.1%	6.6%	8.6%	<b>11.3%</b>	<b>14.6%</b>	<b>18.5%</b>	<b>22.5%</b>
OESF	<b>10.3%</b>	<b>10.9%</b>	<b>11.4%</b>	<b>12.3%</b>	<b>13.5%</b>	<b>15.5%</b>	<b>18.9%</b>	<b>25.6%</b>	<b>32.6%</b>
South Coast	0.2%	0.3%	0.7%	1.2%	2.2%	3.6%	6.1%	9.0%	<b>12.5%</b>
South Puget	2.5%	3.3%	4.3%	5.7%	7.4%	9.8%	<b>12.9%</b>	<b>16.3%</b>	<b>19.6%</b>
Straits	1.7%	2.4%	3.1%	4.1%	5.4%	7.1%	9.6%	<b>12.3%</b>	<b>14.8%</b>
Total (Western Washington)	3.4%	3.9%	4.5%	5.5%	6.9%	9.0%	<b>12.0%</b>	<b>16.1%</b>	<b>20.5%</b>

Additionally, DNR has designated forest stand acreage in each HCP planning unit to meet or exceed the policy’s 10% older forest target.

**Description of existing environmental document:** State Forest Land SEPA Environmental Checklist

**Proponent:** Washington State Department of Natural Resources

**Lead Agency:** Washington State 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.

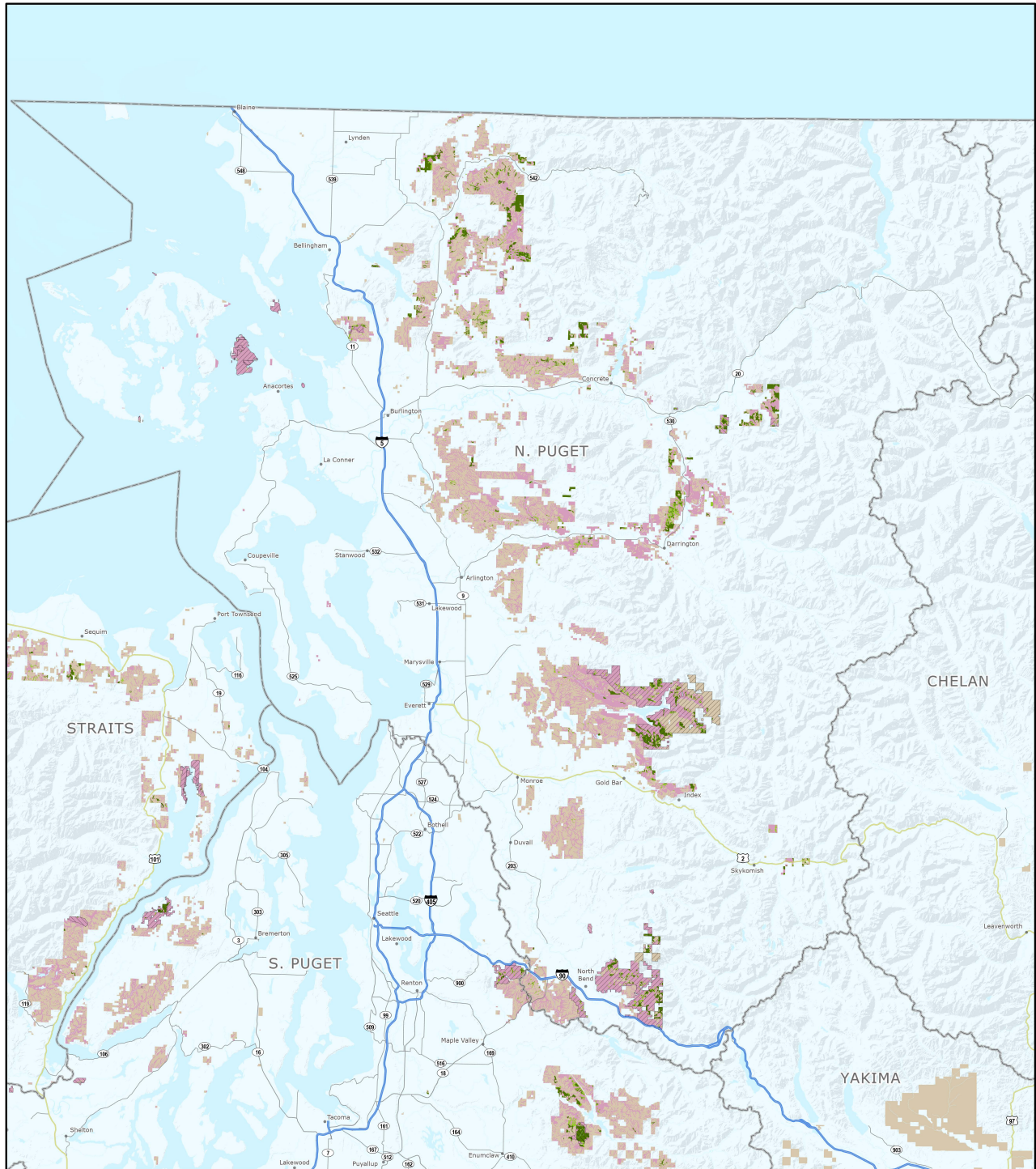
**Responsible Official:** Jay Guthrie

**Position/Title:** Northwest Region Manager **Phone:** (360) 856-3500

**Address:** 919 North Township Street, Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284

**Date:** 3/29/24 **Signature:**  \_\_\_\_\_

There is no DNR administrative SEPA appeal.



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## 2021 Older Forest and Structurally Complex Stands Within Conservation N. PUGET



Older Forest in Conservation



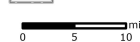
Structurally Complex Stand in Conservation



Westside Forest Cover



HCP Planning Units



Natural Area Preserve



Natural Resource Conservation Area

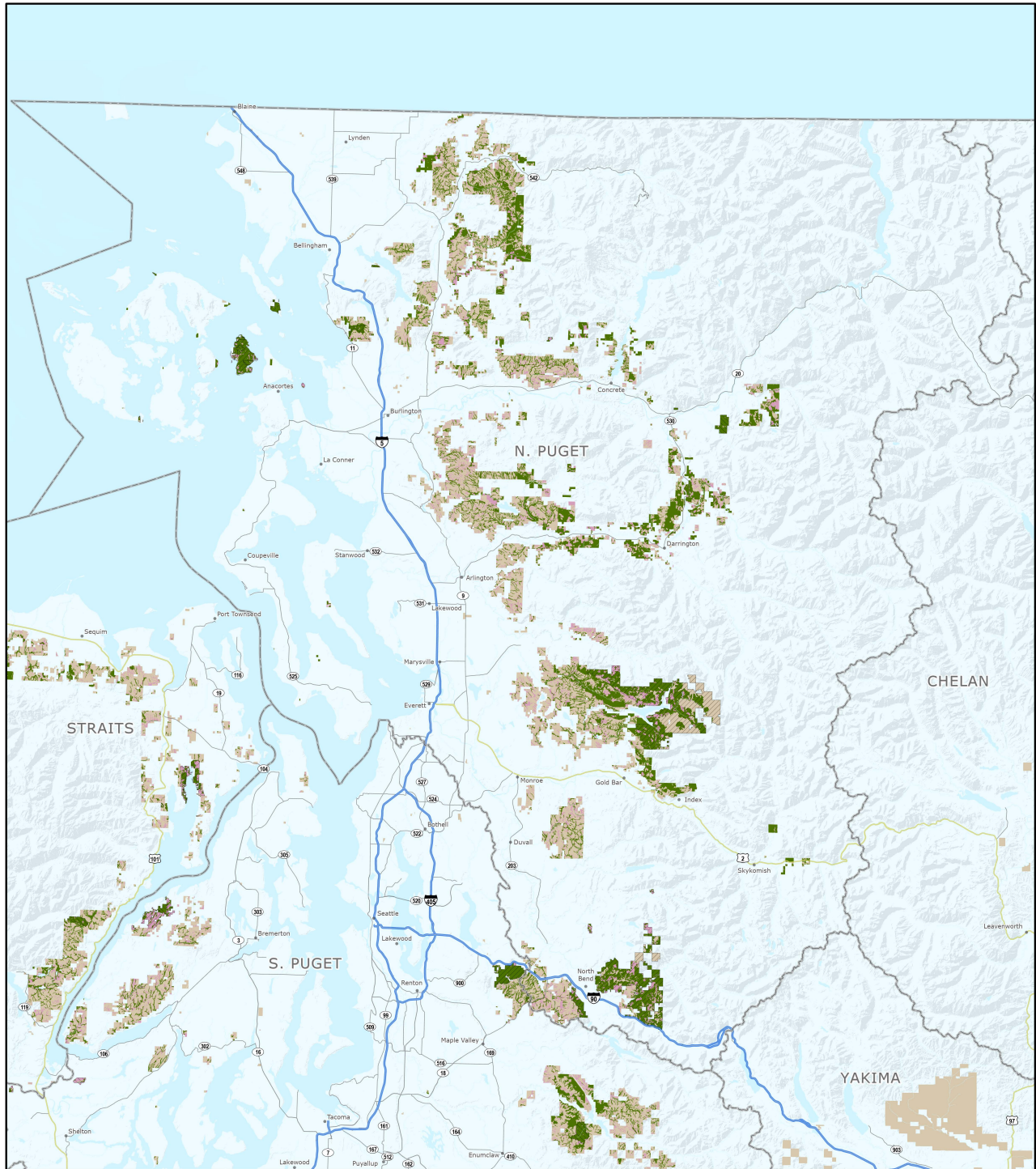


Other DNR-Managed Lands



Map created on 2/22/2024 of older forests and westside forest cover identified from the analysis documented within the memo titled "Identifying Stands to Meet Older Forest Targets in Western Washington, May 11, 2021." All data are draft and subject to change.





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## Projected Older Forest Within Conservation N. PUGET



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Projected Older Forest in 2100



Westside Forest Cover



HCP Planning Units



Natural Area Preserve



Natural Resource Conservation Area



Other DNR-Managed Lands



Map created on 2/2/2024 of older forests and westside forest cover identified from the analysis documented within the memo titled "Identifying Stands to Meet Older Forest Targets in Western Washington, May 11, 2021." All data are draft and subject to change.