

## *STATE FOREST LAND* **SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST**

### ***Purpose of checklist:***

Governmental agencies use this checklist to help determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant. This information is also helpful to determine if available avoidance, minimization or compensatory mitigation measures will address the probable significant impacts or if an environmental impact statement will be prepared to further analyze the proposal.

### ***Instructions for applicants:***

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Please answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. You may need to consult with an agency specialist or private consultant for some questions. You may use "not applicable" or "does not apply" only when you can explain why it does not apply and not when the answer is unknown. You may also attach or incorporate by reference additional studies reports. Complete and accurate answers to these questions often avoid delays with the SEPA process as well as later in the decision-making process.

*Questions in italics are supplemental to Ecology's standard environmental checklist. They have been added by the DNR to assist in the review of state forest land proposals. Adjacency and landscape/watershed-administrative-unit (WAU) maps for this proposal are available on the DNR internet website at <http://www.dnr.wa.gov/sepa>. These maps may also be reviewed at the DNR regional office responsible for the proposal. This checklist is to be used for SEPA evaluation of state forest land activities.*

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

### ***Instructions for Lead Agencies:***

Additional information may be necessary to evaluate the existing environment, all interrelated aspects of the proposal and an analysis of adverse impacts. The checklist is considered the first but not necessarily the only source of information needed to make an adequate threshold determination. Once a threshold determination is made, the lead agency is responsible for the completeness and accuracy of the checklist and other supporting documents.

### ***Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:***

For nonproject proposals (such as ordinances, regulations, plans and programs), complete the applicable parts of sections A and B plus the [SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS \(part D\)](#). Please completely answer all questions that apply and note that the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proponent," and "affected geographic area," respectively. The lead agency may exclude (for non-projects) questions in Part B - Environmental Elements –that do not contribute meaningfully to the analysis of the proposal.

**A. BACKGROUND**

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

*Timber Sale Name:* **PICNIC BASKET**  
*Agreement #* **30-100428**

2. Name of applicant: **Washington Department of Natural Resources**

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:

**Cory McDonald**  
**919 N. Township St.**  
**Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284**

**(360) 856-3500**

4. Date checklist prepared: **06/09/2020**

5. Agency requesting checklist: **Washington Department of Natural Resources**

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):

a. *Auction Date:*  
**12/16/2020**

b. *Planned contract end date (but may be extended):*  
**03/31/2023**

c. *Phasing:*  
**None.**

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.

*No, go to question 8.*

*Yes, identify any plans under A-7-a through A-7-d:*

a. *Site Preparation:* **Harvest areas may be treated with herbicides prior to planting. Assessment for treatment will occur after completion of harvest.**

b. *Regeneration Method:* **Hand plant conifer seedlings within two years after completion of harvest. The reforestation method is tentatively scheduled for planting seedlings, with the possibility of future FPA amendment to allow for natural regeneration. An onsite survey will be conducted to determine the suitability for natural regeneration.**

c. *Vegetation Management:* **Treatment to be assessed in 3-5 years. Competing vegetation may be treated by manual cutting and/or herbicide. Thinning treatment to be assessed in 10 to 15 years for pre-commercial thinning. A commercial thinning is possible in 25 to 45 years.**

d. *Other:*

**Road maintenance assessments will be conducted and may include periodic ditch and culvert cleanout, and grading as necessary. Onsite rock may be used for road construction, if rock sources are discovered along haul routes or within the sale area.**

**Roads:** The DK-ML road will be used for future management activities.

**Rock Pits:** The PICNIC BASKET hardrock pit will be used for future management activities.

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal. *Note: All documents are available upon request at the DNR Region Office.*

303 (d) – listed water body in WAU:

temp

sediment

completed TMDL (total maximum daily load)

Landscape plan:

Watershed analysis:

Interdisciplinary team (ID Team) report:

Road design plan:

Wildlife report:

Geotechnical report:

Other specialist report(s):

Memorandum of understanding (sportsmen’s groups, neighborhood associations, tribes, etc.):

Rock pit plan:

Other: **State Soil Survey, 1992; Policy for Sustainable Forests, December 2006; Final Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) & Environment Impact Statement, September 1997.**

**Referenced documents may be obtained at the region office responsible for this proposal.**

9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.

**None known.**

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.

FPA # \_\_\_\_\_

FPHP

Board of Natural Resources Approval

Burning permit

Shoreline permit

Existing HPA

Other: **Road Use Permit #55-101132, with Sierra Pacific Industries, dated June 30, 2020.**

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

a. Complete proposal description:

**This is a variable retention harvest (VRH) with an estimated harvest volume of 1,763 MBF of timber. Approximately 95 acres were considered for this proposal; this has been reduced**

to 62.9 timber sale acres due to operational feasibility, slope stability concerns and riparian buffers.

Road construction, road maintenance, and rock pit operations will be conducted as part of the project.

b. Describe the stand of timber pre-harvest (include major timber species and origin date), type of harvest and overall unit objectives.

*Pre-harvest Stand Description:*

Unit	Origin Date	Major Timber Species	Type of Harvest
1	1979	Douglas-fir, western hemlock	Variable Retention Harvest

**Overall Unit Objectives:**

- Generate revenue for the State trust beneficiaries.
- Protect water quality, maintain site productivity, and maintain wildlife habitat through a leave tree retention strategy.

c. Describe planned road activity. Include information on any rock pits that will be used in this proposal. See associated forest practice application (FPA) for maps and more details.

Type of Activity	How many	Length (feet) (Estimated)	Acres (Subgrade) (Estimated)	Fish Barrier Removals (#)	Steepest Side Slope Road Crosses
Construction		0	0		0
Reconstruction**		2,831		0	55%
Abandonment		1,661	0.7	0	35%
Temporary construction*		591	0.2		25%
Prehaul Maintenance		12,710			
Bridge Install/Replace	0				
Culvert Install/Replace (fish)	0				
Culvert Install/Replace (no fish)	0				

\*Of the length listed for Temporary Construction in the above table, a portion(s) of the length listed may or may not be built as forest road that is constructed and intended for use during the life of an approved forest practices application/notification, then abandoned.

\*\*Of the length listed for Reconstruction in the above table, a portion(s) of the length listed may or may not be rebuilt. However, 1,661 feet will be abandoned, upon completion of the proposal.

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist (See “WAU Map(s)” and “Timber Harvest Unit Adjacency Map(s)” as referenced on the DNR website: <http://www.dnr.wa.gov/sepa>. Click on the DNR region of this proposal under the Topic “Current SEPA Project Actions - Timber Sales.” Proposal documents also available for review at the DNR Region Office.)

a. *Legal description:*

**Includes unit harvest, road work and rock pit:  
Sections 3, 4, and 10, Township 36 North, Range 8 East, W.M.**

**Includes Road Use Permit:  
Section 3, Township 36 North, Range 8 East, W.M.**

b. *Distance and direction from nearest town:*

**The proposal is located 16 miles northeast of Hamilton and 15 miles northwest of the town of Concrete.**

13. *Cumulative Effects*

a. *Briefly describe any known environmental concerns that exist regarding elements of the environment in the associated WAU(s). (See WAC 197-11-444 for what is considered an element of the environment).*

**The Lake Shannon WAU is a mix of state and private ownership managed as industrial timberlands and federal lands managed for various conservation objectives. A small percentage of the WAU also contains residential properties along Baker Lake Road.**

**The WAU also contains the southern portion of Lake Shannon and the Lower Baker Dam. This dam is operated by Puget Sound Energy to generate hydroelectric power.**

**This WAU is known to contain potentially unstable slopes and landforms which can affect water and soils in the area. This is typical of WAUs in western Washington.**

**On DNR ownership, a portion of this WAU is managed as a Spotted Owl Management Unit (SOMU) with the intent to achieve and maintain 50% of the land area in Northern Spotted Owl (NSO) habitat characteristics. This SOMU, known as the “West Shannon NRF SOMU,” does not exceed the 50% threshold. However, the proposal area is designated as “non-habitat” due to stand characteristics and is available for VRH.**

b. *Briefly describe existing plans and programs (i.e. the HCP, DNR landscape plans, retention tree plans) and current forest practice rules that provide/require mitigation to protect against potential impacts to environmental concerns listed in question A-13-a.*

- **The Washington State [Forest Practices Rules \(Title 222 WAC\)](#) establish standards for forest practices such as timber harvest, pre-commercial thinning, road construction,**

fertilization, and forest chemical application. [The Forest Practices Board](#), an independent state agency, adopts forest practices rules to give direction on how to implement the [Forest Practices Act](#) (RCW 76.09) and [Stewardship of Non-industrial Forests and Woodlands](#) (RCW 76.13). The rules, which are designed to protect public resources such as water quality and fish habitat while maintaining a viable timber industry, are under constant review through the [Adaptive Management Program](#).

- The Department's Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) outlines strategies to protect federally listed threatened and endangered species, and species that are in danger of being listed in the future, as well as uncommon habitat types found on forest lands in western Washington. HCP riparian buffers intended to protect salmon and trout habitat have been and will continue to be applied to all proposals in the vicinity. The HCP identifies large, structurally unique trees and snags as uncommon habitats that need to be protected. An average of 8 trees per acre will be left in the proposed harvest area. These trees will function for future snag and large structurally unique tree recruitment.
- c. *Briefly describe any specific mitigation measures proposed, in addition to the mitigation provided by plans and programs listed under question A-13-b.*
- **Retaining Riparian Management Zones (RMZs) to protect water quality, stream bank integrity, stream temperatures, and provide down woody debris. RMZs will develop older riparian forest characteristics that, in combination with other strategies, will help support older riparian forest dependent wildlife and aquatic species.**
  - **Retaining a minimum of 8 trees per acre (greater than 10 inches diameter at breast height) clumped and scattered throughout the units. This strategy will provide legacy elements for recruitment of future snags, coarse woody debris, multi-layered stands, and large diameter trees. In combination, these features will provide elements of older forest habitat characteristics within the new young stand.**
  - **Analyzing, designing, and constructing roads to minimize effects on the environment.**
  - **Evaluating the proposal for potential slope instability, and excluding areas that exhibited indicators of potentially unstable slopes.**
  - **Remote and field reviews were conducted to ensure that all identified potentially unstable slopes that were interpreted as having potential to adversely impact public resources or public safety, were excluded from the harvest areas.**
  - **Rule-identified landforms with interpreted delivery potential, were excluded from harvest by timber sale boundary tags.**
  - **No tailholds will be allowed within and no timber will be yarded across any identified Forest Practices rule-identified landforms.**
  - **Cross-drains and ditch-outs will be utilized to minimize the potential for mass wasting and slope failures associated with poor drainage by dispersing water onto stable forest floor.**
  - **Skid trails may be water barred post harvesting activities, if necessary to avoid concentrating surface water runoff.**

d. Based on the answers in questions A-13-a through A-13-c, is it likely potential impacts from this proposal could contribute to any environmental concerns listed in question A-13-a?

No.

e. Complete the table below with the reasonably foreseeable future activities within the associated WAU(s) (add more lines as needed). Future is generally defined as occurring within the next 7 years. This data was obtained from DNR's Land Resource Manager System on the date of processing this checklist and may be subject to change.

WAU Name	Total WAU Acres	DNR-managed WAU Acres	Acres of DNR proposed even-aged harvest in the future	Acres of DNR proposed uneven-aged harvest in the future	Acres of proposed harvest on non-DNR-managed lands currently under active FP permits
LAKE SHANNON	52572	6862	524	389	526

**Other management activities, such as stand and road maintenance, will likely occur within the associated WAU(s).**

**B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS**

**1. Earth**

a. General description of the site (check one):

Flat,  Rolling,  Hilly,  Steep Slopes,  Mountainous,  Other:

1. *General description of the associated WAU(s) or sub-basin(s) within the proposal (landforms, climate, elevations, and forest vegetation zone).*

<b>WAU:</b>	<u>LAKE SHANNON</u>
<b>WAU Acres:</b>	<u>52572</u>
<b>Elevation Range:</b>	<u>154 - 9874 ft.</u>
<b>Mean Elevation:</b>	<u>2543 ft.</u>
<b>Average Precipitation:</b>	<u>101 in./year</u>
<b>Primary Forest Vegetation Zone:</b>	<u>Western Hemlock</u>

2. *Identify any difference between the proposal location and the general description of the WAU or sub-basin(s).*

**This proposal is a representative example of the WAUs at the same elevation and aspect.**

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?

**89%**

- c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any agricultural land of long-term commercial significance and whether the proposal results in removing any of these soils.

*Note: The following table is created from state soil survey data. It is an overview of general soils information for the soils found in the sale area. The actual soil conditions in the sale area may vary considerably based on land-form shapes, presence of erosive situations, and other factors.*

State Soil Survey #	Soil Texture
3894	GRAVELLY SILT LOAM
7100	GRAVELLY SILT LOAM
0126	V.GRAVELLY LOAM
3897	GRAVELLY SILT LOAM
1957	SILT LOAM/V.COBBLY LOAM

- d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.

No, go to question B-1-e.

Yes, briefly describe potentially unstable slopes or landforms in or around the area of the proposal site. For further information, see question A-8 for related slope stability documents and question A-10 for the FPA number(s) associated with this proposal.

**No potentially unstable landforms were identified in the proposal area.**

**Potentially unstable landforms identified around the proposal area include:**

- Inner gorges
- Bedrock hollows

- 1) Does the proposal include any management activities proposed on potentially unstable slopes or landforms?

No  Yes, describe the proposed activities:

- 2) Describe any slope stability protection measures (including sale boundary location, road, and harvest system decisions) incorporated into this proposal.

**Sale boundaries and leave tree locations were adjusted to keep the harvest area away from potentially unstable slopes.**

**Roads were designed to minimize ground-based yarding distances.**

- e. Describe the purpose, type, total area, and approximate quantities and total affected area of any filling, excavation, and grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

*Approx. acreage new roads: 0.2*  
*Approx. acreage new landings: 0.25*  
*Fill source: Native fill or rock.*

**Road construction will utilize standard cut and fill methodology, full bench construction (as needed) with end haul or side cast to obtain grade and alignment. Native soil and rock will be excavated from the road prism and used for fill in the sub-grade and over cross drains and stream crossings.**

- f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.  
**Yes. Some erosion could occur as a result of building new roads, installing culverts, and hauling timber.**
- g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)? *Approximate percent of proposal in permanent road running surface (includes gravel roads):*  
**Less than 2% of the site will remain as gravel roads.**
- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:  
*(Include protection measures for minimizing compaction or rutting.)*  
**No harvest will occur within riparian (RMZ) buffers as described in B.3.a.1.b and c.**

**For harvest activities, ground-based operations will be limited to sustained slopes generally 40% or less. Self-leveling equipment may be used on sustained slopes 55% or less. Tethered-assisted equipment may be utilized on steeper slopes. The lead end of the logs will be suspended during yarding to reduce soil disturbance. Skid trails will be water-barred as necessary.**

**For road work, rock haul and log haul, appropriate drainage devices including proper culvert size and placement, drain dips, water bars, and ditching will be used as necessary to reduce surface erosion on roads. Energy dissipaters will be installed with culverts to reduce erosion. Relief pipes will be strategically placed to minimize the amount of road ditch water that enters surface waters. Slopes that are exposed of vegetative cover during road work activities will be revegetated or straw mulched to reduce erosion and sediment-laden runoff. Storm patrols may be conducted on roads to identify and address potential erosion problems.**

## 2. Air

- a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal during construction, operation, and maintenance when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.  
**Minor amounts of engine exhaust from logging and road construction equipment and dust from vehicle traffic on roads will be emitted during proposed activities. If landing debris is burned after harvest is completed, smoke will be generated. There will be no emissions once the proposal is complete.**
- b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.

None known.

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:  
**If landing debris is burned, it will be in accordance with Washington State's Smoke Management Plan. A burn permit will be obtained before burning occurs.**

### 3. Water

- a. Surface Water:

1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into. (See "WAU Map(s)" and "Timber Harvest Unit Adjacency Map(s)" as referenced on the DNR website: <http://www.dnr.wa.gov/sepa>. Click on the DNR region of this proposal under the Topic "Current SEPA Project Actions - Timber Sales." Proposal documents also available for review at the DNR Region Office.)

No  Yes, describe in 3-a-1-a through 3-a-1-c below

a. Downstream water bodies: **Bear Creek which is a tributary to Lake Shannon and ultimately the Skagit River.**

b. Complete the following riparian & wetland management zone table:

Wetland, Stream, Lake, Pond, or Saltwater Name (if any)	Water Type	Number (how many?)	Avg RMZ/WMZ Width in feet (per side for streams)
Unnamed Type 4	4	5	100'
Unnamed Type 5	5	4	0
Forested Wetland	> 1 acre	1	116'

- b. List any additional RMZ/WMZ protection measures including silvicultural prescriptions, road-related RMZ/WMZ protection measures and wind buffers.

**RMZ buffers as listed in B.3.a.1.b. as well as the proposed measures to reduce or control erosion described in B.1.h provide protection measures for the surface waters in the vicinity of the proposal area.**

**All existing roads through RMZs will be monitored during hauling to ensure ditchwater and road runoff will not enter or otherwise adversely affect water quality or RMZ function. Corrective action such as straw bales, silt fencing, rock-lined ditches, and sediment traps will be installed/constructed if necessary.**

- 2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.

No

Yes (See RMZ/WMZ table above and timber sale maps which are available on the DNR website: <http://www.dnr.wa.gov/sepa>. Timber sale maps are also available at the DNR region office.) **Note: Timber Sale maps are DRAFT at the time of submission.**

*Description (include culverts):* **Timber will be felled immediately adjacent to the RMZs described in the table in B.3.a.1.b. No harvesting will occur within these RMZs. No stream crossings will be constructed as part of this proposal.**

3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.  
**None.**

4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. (*Include diversions for fish-passage culvert installation.*)

No       Yes, description:

5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.

No       Yes, describe activity and location:

6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.  
**It is not likely that any waste materials will be discharged into the surface water(s). However, minor amounts of oil, fuel, and other lubricants may inadvertently be discharged to the adjacent surface water(s) as a result of heavy equipment use or mechanical failure. No lubricants will be disposed of on-site.**

7) *Is there a potential for eroded material to enter surface water as a result of the proposal considering the protection measures incorporated into the proposal's design?*

No       Yes, describe:

**Soils and terrain susceptible to surface erosion are generally located on slopes steeper than 70%. The potential for eroded material to enter surface water is minimized due to the erosion control measures and operational procedures outlined in B-1-h.**

8) *What are the approximate road miles per square mile in the associated WAU(s)?*

**LAKE SHANNON = 2.5 (mi./sq. mi.)**

9) *Are there forest roads or ditches within the associated WAU(s) that deliver surface water to streams, rather than back to the forest floor?*

No       Yes, describe:

**It is likely some roads or road ditches within the WAU intercept sub-surface flow and deliver surface water to streams, however current road construction,**

**reconstruction, and/or maintenance standards will be applied that address this issue by installing cross-drains to deliver ditch water to stable forest floors.**

10) *Is there evidence of changes to channels associated with peak flows in the proposal area (accelerated aggradations, surface erosion, mass wasting, decrease in large organic debris (LOD), change in channel dimensions)?*

No       Yes, describe observations:

**There is evidence of changes to channels across the WAU(s). These changes are a result of natural events such as spring runoff from snowmelt and significant storm events. Channel migration, scouring, and deposition of material can be seen in channels across the WAU(s); this indicates those channels historically experience higher water levels and peak flows**

11) *Describe any anticipated contributions to peak flows resulting from this proposal's activities which could impact areas downstream or downslope of the proposal area. It is not likely the proposed activity will change the timing, duration, or volume of water during a peak flow event. This proposal limits harvest unit size and proximity to other recent harvests, minimizes the extent of the road network, incorporates road drainage disconnected from stream networks, and implements wide riparian buffers which all have mitigating effects on the potential for this proposal to increase peak flows that could impact areas downstream or downslope of the proposal area.*

12) *Is there a water resource (public, domestic, agricultural, hatchery, etc.), or area of slope instability, downstream or downslope of the proposed activity?*

No       Yes, describe the water resource(s): **Bear Creek, Lake Shannon and the Lower Baker Dam (Puget Sound Energy)**

*a. Is it likely a water resource or an area of slope instability listed in B-3-12 (above) will be affected by changes in amounts, quality or movements of surface water as a result of this proposal?*

No       Yes, describe possible impacts:

13) *Describe any protection measures, in addition to those required by other existing plans and programs (i.e. the HCP, DNR landscape plans) and current forest practice rules included in this proposal that mitigate potential negative effects on water quality and peak flow impacts.*

**None.**

b. Ground Water:

1) Will groundwater be withdrawn from a well for drinking water or other purposes? If so, give a general description of the well, proposed uses and approximate quantities withdrawn from the well. Will water be discharged to groundwater? Give general description, purpose,

and approximate quantities if known.

**No water will be withdrawn or discharged.**

- 2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.

**Minor amounts of oil, fuel, and other lubricants may inadvertently be discharged to the ground as a result of heavy equipment use or mechanical failure. No lubricants will be disposed of on-site. All spills are required to be contained and cleaned-up. This proposal is expected to have no impact on ground water.**

- 3) *Is there a water resource use (public, domestic, agricultural, hatchery, etc.), or area of slope instability, downstream or downslope of the proposed activity?*

No             *Yes, describe:* **Lake Shannon and the Lower Baker Dam**

*a. Is it likely a water resource or an area of slope instability listed in B-3-b-3 (above) could be affected by changes in amounts, timing, or movements of groundwater as a result this proposal?*

No             *Yes, describe possible impacts:*

*Note protection measures, if any:*

c. Water runoff (including stormwater):

- 1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.

**Water runoff, including storm water, from road surfaces will be collected by roadside ditches and diverted onto the forest floor via ditch-outs and cross drain culverts.**

- 2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.

No             *Yes, describe:*

**Waste materials, such as sediment or slash, may enter surface water.**

*Note protection measures, if any:*

**No additional protection measures will be necessary to protect these resources beyond those described in B-1-d-2, B-1-h, B-3-a-2, and B-3-a-13.**

- 3) Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe.

**No changes to drainage patterns are expected.**

- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water, and drainage pattern impacts, if any:  
**See surface water, ground water, and water runoff sections above, questions B-3-a-1-c, B-3-a-13, B-3-b-3, and B-3-c-2.**

#### 4. Plants

- a. Check the types of vegetation found on the site:

Deciduous tree:

Alder  Aspen  Birch  Cottonwood  Maple  Western Larch

Other:

Evergreen tree:

Douglas-Fir  Engelmann Spruce  Grand Fir  Lodgepole Pine

Mountain Hemlock  Noble Fir  Pacific Silver Fir  Ponderosa Pine

Sitka Spruce  Western Hemlock  Western Redcedar  Yellow Cedar

Other:

Shrubs:

Huckleberry  Rhododendron  Salmonberry  Salal

Other:

Ferns

Grass

Pasture

Crop or Grain

Orchards  Vineyard  Other Permanent Crops

Wet Soil Plants:

Bullrush  Buttercup  Cattail  Devil's Club  Skunk Cabbage

Other:

Water plants:

Eelgrass  Milfoil  Water Lily

Other:

Other types of vegetation:

Plant communities of concern:

- b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered? (Also see answers to questions A-11-a, A-11-b and B-3-a-2).

- 1) Describe the species, age, and structural diversity of the timber types immediately adjacent to the removal area. (See "WAU Map(s)" and "Timber Harvest Unit Adjacency Map(s)" on the DNR website: <http://www.dnr.wa.gov/sepa>. Click on the DNR region of this proposal under the Topic "Current SEPA Project Actions - Timber Sales." Proposal documents also available for review at the DNR Region Office.)

**The adjacent areas' timber types range from young, uniform conifer stands, less than 10 years of age to mature second growth timber similar to the proposed**

removal area as described in A.11.b.

- c. List threatened and endangered *plant* species known to be on or near the site.

**None found in corporate database.**

- d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:

**An average of 8 trees per acre will be left in scattered leave trees and clumps that are distributed across the proposal area. These clumps include all tree species currently found in the proposal area. These clumps were located around features that will contribute to the maintenance of biological diversity such as snags, down logs, areas with extensive understory development, and large wind firm conifer trees. The site will be revegetated after harvest. See green tree retention plan in A.13.b, and regeneration method in A.7.b.**

- e. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site.

**The corporate database indicates no known noxious weeds or invasive species. However, it is likely that Himalayan blackberry, bull thistle, Canadian thistle, or Scotch broom may be found on or near the site.**

## 5. Animals

- a. List any birds and other animals *or unique habitats* which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site. Examples include:

birds:

eagle  hawk  heron  owls  songbirds

other:

mammals:

bear  beaver  coyote  cougar  deer  elk

other:

fish:

bass  herring  salmon  shellfish  trout

other:

amphibians/reptiles:

frog  lizard  salamander  snake  turtle

other:

unique habitats:

balds  caves  cliffs  mineral springs  oak woodlands  talus slopes

other:

**Eagle: no known nest or roost within 660 feet of the proposal area.**

- b. List any threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site (*include federal- and state-listed species*).

**None found in corporate database.**

- c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.

*Pacific flyway*       *Other migration route:*

*Explain:*

**All of Washington State is considered part of the Pacific Flyway. No impacts are anticipated as a result of this proposal.**

- d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:

- 1) *Note existing or proposed protection measures, if any, for the complete proposal described in question A-11.*

Species /Habitat: **Mature Forest Components**

Protection Measures: **Retention tree plan described in B.4.d., see also, green tree retention plan in A.13.b.**

- e. List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site. **None known.**

## 6. Energy and natural resources

- a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.

**Petroleum fuel (diesel or gasoline) will be used for heavy equipment during active road building, timber harvest operations, and for transportation. No energy sources will be needed following project completion.**

- b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties?

If so, generally describe.

**No.**

- c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:

**None.**

## 7. Environmental health

- a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe.

- 1) Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.

**None known.**

- 2) Describe existing hazardous chemicals/conditions that might affect project development and design. This includes underground hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines located within the project area and in the vicinity.  
**None known.**
- 3) Describe any toxic or hazardous chemicals that might be stored, used, or produced during the project's development or construction, or at any time during the operating life of the project.  
**Petroleum-based fuel and lubricants may be used and stored on site during the operating life of this project.**
- 4) Describe special emergency services that might be required.  
**The Department of Natural Resources, private, and fire protection district suppression crews may be needed in case of wildfire. In the event of personal injuries, emergency medical services may be required. Hazardous material spills may require Department of Ecology and/or county assistance.**
- 5) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:  
**No petroleum-based products will be disposed of on site. If a spill occurs, containment and cleanup will be required. Spill kits are required to be onsite during all heavy equipment operations. The cessation of operations may occur during periods of increased fire risk. Fire tools and equipment, including pump trucks and/or pump trailers, will be required on site during fire season.**

*NOTE: If contamination of the environment is suspected, the proponent must contact the Department of Ecology.*

b. Noise

- 1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?  
**None.**
- 2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.  
**There will be short term, low level and high level noise created by the use of harvesting equipment and hauling operations within the proposal area. This type of noise has been historically present in this geographical area.**
- 3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:  
**None.**

## 8. Land and shoreline use

- a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties? Will the proposal affect current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties? If so, describe. (*Site includes the complete proposal, e.g. rock pits and access roads.*)

**Current use of site and adjacent land types:  
Working forest lands**

**This proposal will not change the use of or affect the current/long term land use of areas associated with this sale.**

- b. Has the project site been used as working farmlands or working forest lands? If so, describe. How much agricultural or forest land of long-term commercial significance will be converted to other uses as a result of the proposal, if any? If resource lands have not been designated, how many acres in farmland or forest land tax status will be converted to nonfarm or nonforest use?

**This proposal site has been used as working forest lands. This proposal will retain the site in working forest lands.**

- 1) Will the proposal affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations, such as oversize equipment access, the application of pesticides, tilling, and harvesting? If so, how:

**No.**

- c. Describe any structures on the site.

**None.**

- d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?

**No.**

- e. What is the current zoning classification of the site? **Commercial Forest Land**

- f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site? **Industrial Forest**

- g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?

**Not applicable.**

- h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify.

**No.**

- i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?

**None.**

- j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?

**None.**

- k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:

**Does not apply.**

- l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:

**This project is consistent with current comprehensive plans and zoning classifications.**

- m. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with nearby agricultural and forest lands

of long-term commercial significance, if any:

**None.**

## 9. Housing

- a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

**Does not apply.**

- b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

**Does not apply.**

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:

**None.**

## 10. Aesthetics

- a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?

**Does not apply.**

- b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed? **None.**

- 1) *Is this proposal visible from a residential area, town, city, recreation site, major transportation route or designated scenic corridor (e.g., county road, state or interstate highway, US route, river or Columbia Gorge SMA)?*

*No*       *Yes, name of the location, transportation route or scenic corridor:*

- 2) *How will this proposal affect any views described above?* **Does not apply.**

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any: **None.**

## 11. Light and glare

- a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?

**None.**

- b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?

**No.**

- c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?

**None.**

- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:

**None.**

## 12. Recreation

- a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?  
**This proposal lies at the foot of Dock Butte and down stream from Blue Lake, both of these features have popular recreation trails to them. Due to the proximity and the spatial location of his proposal in relation to these sites, there will be no effect to access or views and little to no effect to the user experience at either site.**
- b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.  
**No.**
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any: **None.**

## 13. Historic and cultural preservation

- a. Are there any buildings, structures, or sites, located on or near the site that are over 45 years old listed in or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers? If so, specifically describe. **No.**
- b. Are there any landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation? This may include human burials or old cemeteries. Are there any material evidence, artifacts, or areas of cultural importance on or near the site? Please list any professional studies conducted at the site to identify such resources. **No.**
- c. Describe the methods used to assess the potential impacts to cultural and historic resources on or near the project site. Examples include consultation with tribes and the department of archeology and historic preservation, archaeological surveys, historic maps, GIS data, etc.  
**A GIS review resulted in no known cultural or historic resources found on or near the site. Historic Orthophotos, GLO maps and a DNR corporate database were consulted. In addition, a meeting was held on February 26, 2020 for representatives from the Lummi Nation, Nooksack Indian Tribe, Upper Skagit Indian Tribe and Swinomish Indian Tribe in order to provide more comprehensive information concerning this and other proposals. No concerns have been raised as of the submitting of this document.**
- d. Proposed measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for loss, changes to, and disturbance to resources. Please include plans for the above and any permits that may be required.  
**If a presently-unknown cultural resource is discovered during project operations, DNR will comply with the March 2010 Cultural Resources Inadvertent Discovery Guidance.**

## 14. Transportation

- a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site or affected geographic area and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.  
**Equipment will be transported to the site via Baker Lake Road off WA HWY-20.**

**Transportation should not affect regular traffic and the DK-ML is a gated road with access across private industrial timber land.**

- b. Is the site or affected geographic area currently served by public transit? If so, generally describe. If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

**No. Nearest transit spot is approximately 15 miles away.**

- c. How many additional parking spaces would the completed project or non-project proposal have? How many would the project or proposal eliminate?

**None.**

- d. Will the proposal require any new or improvements to existing roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle or state transportation facilities, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

**Yes, see A-11-c.**

- 1) *How does this proposal impact the overall transportation system/circulation in the surrounding area and any existing safety problem(s), if at all?*

**This project will have minimal to no additional impacts on the overall transportation system in the area.**

- e. Will the project or proposal use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.

**No.**

- f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project or proposal? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur and what percentage of the volume would be trucks (such as commercial and non-passenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?

**Approximately 10 to 15 truck trips per day while the operation is active. Peak volumes would occur during the yarding and loading activities between 4:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. of the operating period. The completed project will generate less than one vehicular trip per day. Estimates are based on the observed harvest traffic of past projects.**

- g. Will the proposal interfere with, affect or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products on roads or streets in the area? If so, generally describe.

**No.**

- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:

**None.**

## **15. Public services**

- a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, public transit, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.

**No.**

- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.

**None.**

**16. Utilities**

a. Check utilities currently available at the site:

- electricity     natural gas     water     refuse service     telephone     sanitary sewer  
 septic system     other:

b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.

**None.**

**C. SIGNATURE**

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature: 

Name of signee Zachary Boston

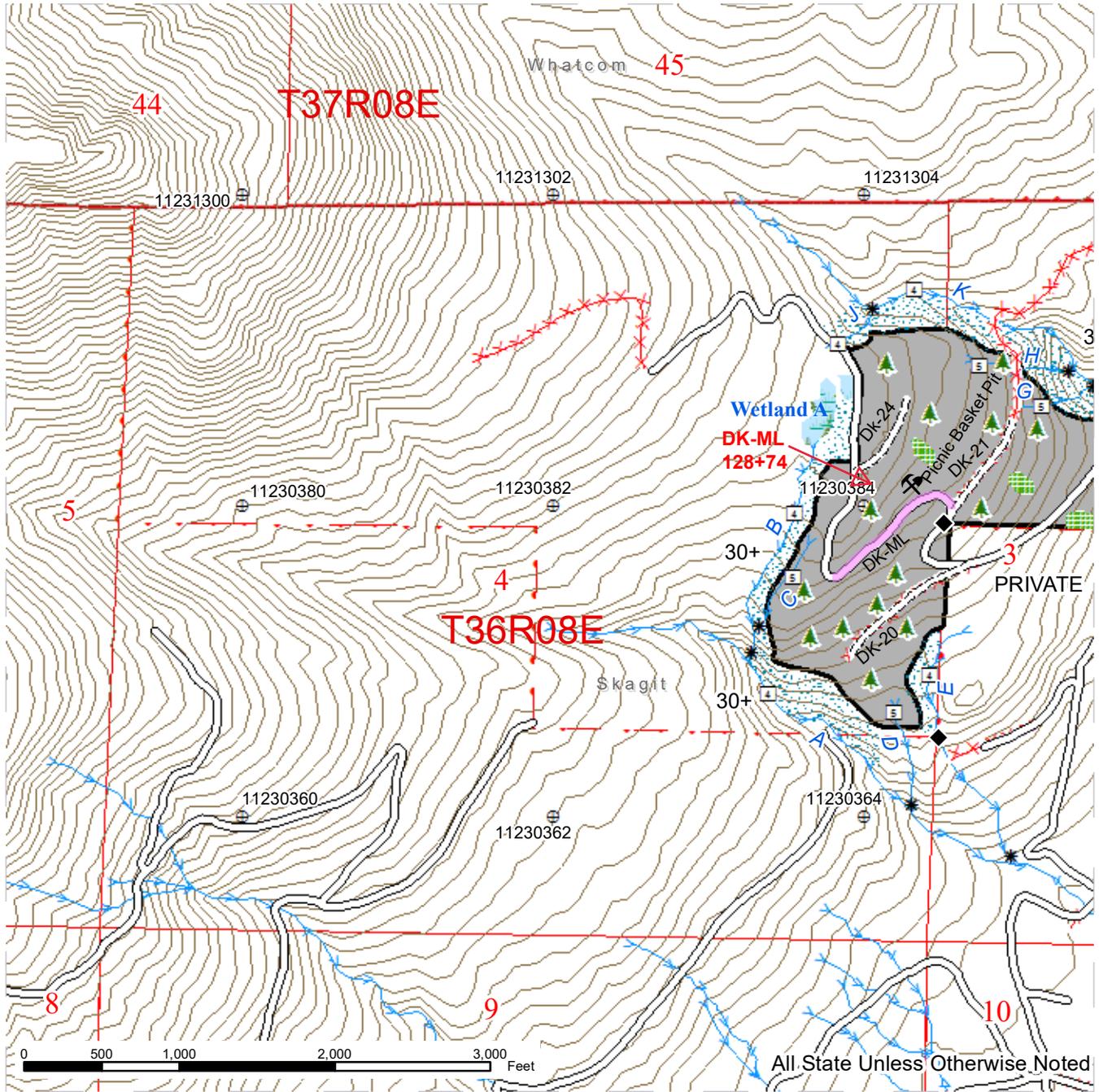
Position and Agency/Organization Hamilton Unit Forester / Wo DNR

Date Submitted: \_\_\_\_\_

# FOREST PRACTICES ACTIVITY MAP

SALE NAME: PICNIC BASKET  
 APPLICATION #: TBD by FP Staff

COUNTY(S): Skagit  
 TOWNSHIP(S): T36R8E

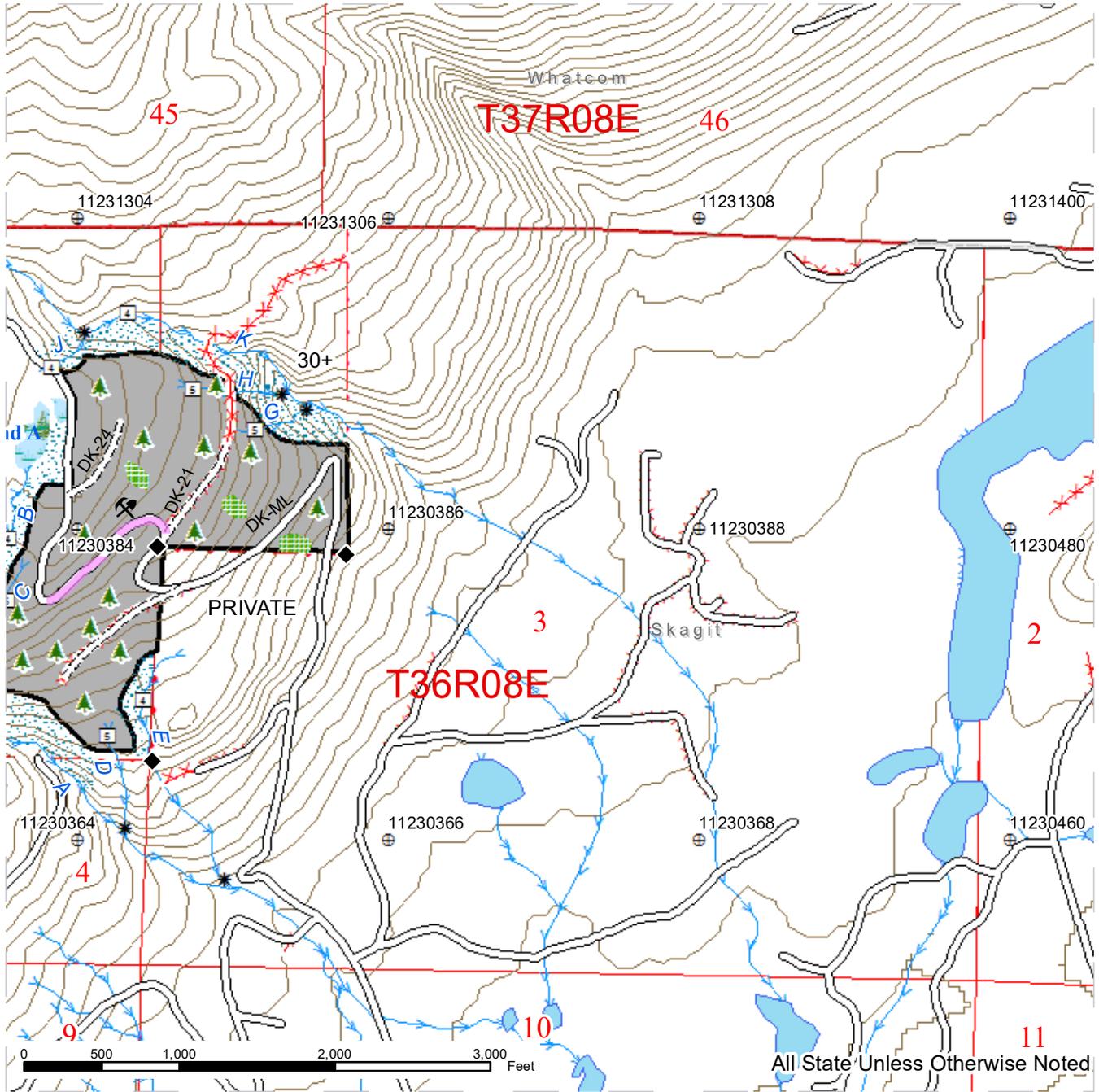


FPA Timber Sale Unit	Existing Roads	Streams
Rock Pit	Temporary Construction	Stream Type
Survey Monument	Existing Abandon/Orphan Road	Stream Type Break
	New Construction	

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