



**DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES**

OLYMPIC REGION

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ADDENDUM

SEPA File No. 23-091402

Description of the original proposal:

Ridge Run Timber Sale #103766 and Forest Practice Applications #2618095 #2618196 and #2618266 is a variable retention harvest with 175 acres in seven units removing approximately 5,629 MBF of timber. This proposal includes 6,557 feet of road construction and approximately 31,000 cubic yards of spoils. The harvest area stand development stage has been categorized as biomass accumulation/stem exclusion/Maturation I. The stands in Ridge Run 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 OESF 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 OESF” (2024).

The results from the May 2021 landscape assessment, and included in the above-referenced memorandum, show that the OESF HCP Planning Unit currently contains 10 to 15 percent of stands containing structurally complex forests managed for older forest targets in conservation areas (Table 1). Stands identified to meet older forest targets are represented in the attached map titled, “Projected Older Forest Within Conservation OESF” (2024). This timber sale is not identified as one of those stands designated to meet older forest targets over time. In the Ridge Run timber sale 175 acres are being harvested, while 104 acres are being conserved (36% of proposal area) for potential unstable slopes, riparian and wetland management zones, and leave tree areas that will contribute to older forests over time.

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%	11.6%	16.1%
North Puget	3.3%	4.1%	5.1%	6.6%	8.6%	11.3%	14.6%	18.5%	22.5%
OESF	10.3%	10.9%	11.4%	12.3%	13.5%	15.5%	18.9%	25.6%	32.6%
South Coast	0.2%	0.3%	0.7%	1.2%	2.2%	3.6%	6.1%	9.0%	12.5%
South Puget	2.5%	3.3%	4.3%	5.7%	7.4%	9.8%	12.9%	16.3%	19.6%
Straits	1.7%	2.4%	3.1%	4.1%	5.4%	7.1%	9.6%	12.3%	14.8%
Total (Western Washington)	3.4%	3.9%	4.5%	5.5%	6.9%	9.0%	12.0%	16.1%	20.5%

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

Following the timber sale, the harvest area will be replanted with native, conifer tree species that will be supplemented by natural regeneration expected to occur as a result of the conservation areas in and around the harvested units.

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.

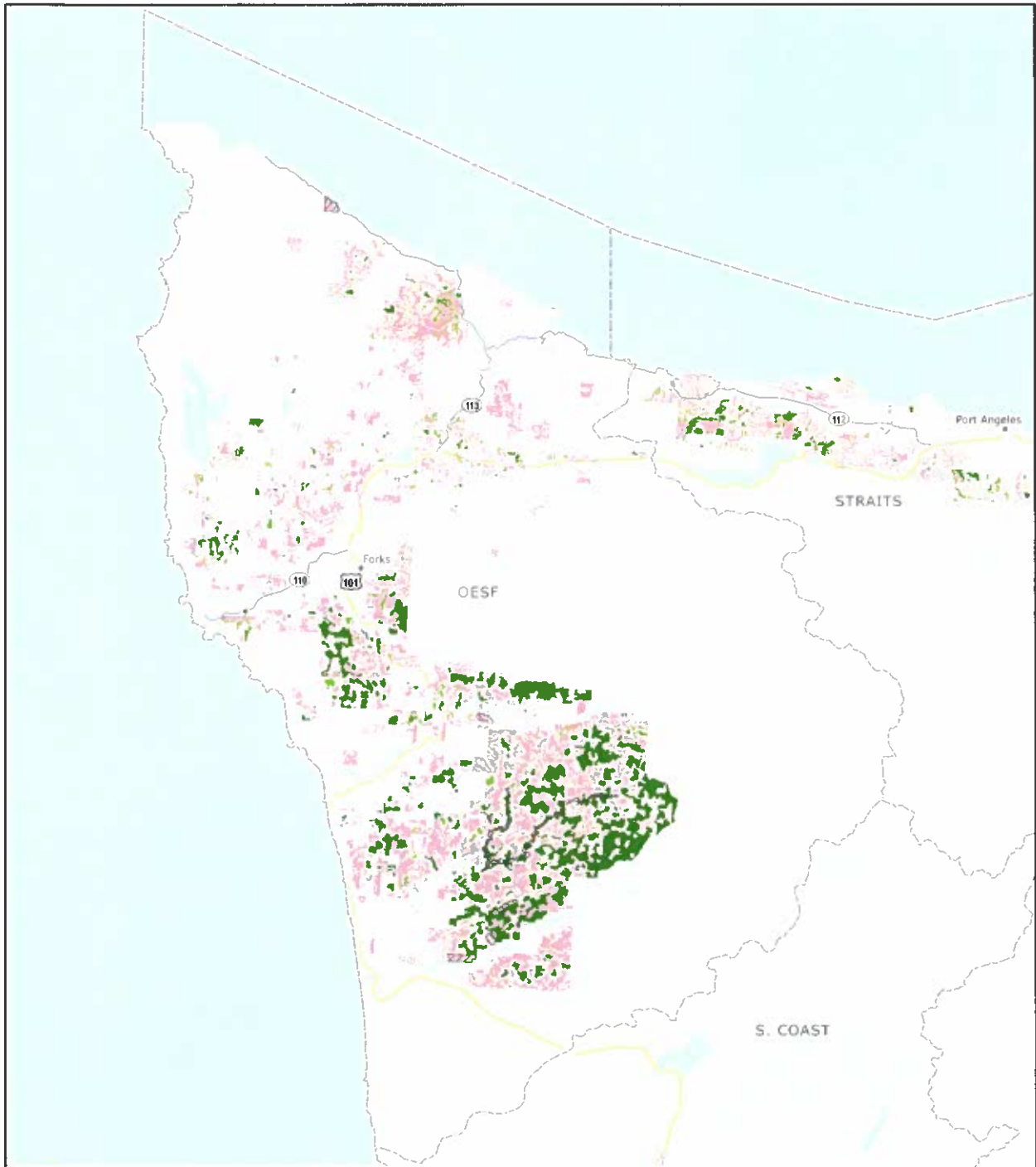
Responsible Official: Bryan Suslick

Position/Title: Assistant Region Manager **Phone:** 360-374-2800

Address: 411 Tillicum Lane, Forks, WA 98331

Date: 3/27/2024 **Signature:** 

There is no DNR administrative SEPA appeal.



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES

2021 Older Forest and
Structurally Complex Stands
Within Conservation
OESF



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.



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES

**Projected Older Forest
Within Conservation
OESF**

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.