

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.

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:

Please adjust the format of this template as needed. 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: **Southeast Region Ahtanum Northern Spotted Owl Dispersal Management Adjustment**
2. Name of applicant: **Washington Department of Natural Resources**
3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person: **713 Bowers Road Ellensburg, Wa 98926 Contact: Danielle Munzing, Southeast Region Biologist 509-304-4126**

4. Date checklist prepared: **5-19-21**

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

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable): **Plan to complete adjustment before August 1, 2021**

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

DNR plans to carry out timber sales and related activities that are individually identified and consistent with its sustainable harvest policy adopted by the Board of Natural Resources. This proposal addresses changes to a landscape level habitat plan for management of lands covered by DNR's HCP for the Ahtanum State Forest (ASF). For each individual timber sale or other authorized activity subject to SEPA, there will be a site-specific analysis of its environmental impacts in conjunction with the SEPA threshold determination process.

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.

There are a number of environmental documents that have been previously prepared that relate to the Interim Conservation Strategy, including the Environmental Impact Statement for the Habitat Conservation Plan and the Environmental Impact Statement for the Sustainable Harvest Calculation and Policy for Sustainable Forests. More recently, a request by Southeast Region Biologist, to adjust NSO dispersal habitat in the ASF was presented and approved by US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).

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.

USFWS approval – request pending signature

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.)

DNR proposes eliminating quarter township management of Northern Spotted Owl (NSO) habitat in the Ahtanum State Forest (75,000 acres) of Southeast Region. The management strategy will be replaced with managing NSO habitat by spotted owl management unit (SOMU). Managing by SOMU is a landscape based approach and shifts the dispersal habitat to areas where dispersal habitat exists and where it is more likely to develop and be sustainable.

At this time, some of the quarter townships cannot reach the fifty percent threshold due to being located at high elevation, in dry forest types, on south facing slopes and in areas where the plant association does not support the canopy closure required to meet dispersal.

Establishing dispersal management areas into SOMUs that are based on forest type and areas that are dispersal habitat according to current inventory data will enhance DNR's ability to meet and maintain the conservation objectives of the HCP. Our goal is to create a configuration that provides dispersal habitat in both the short- and long-term.

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.

This proposal covers the 75,000+ acres of the Ahtanum State Forest (ASF), located in Yakima County, 35 miles west of the city of Union Gap. The ASF is bordered by mix of US Forest Service, private and Tribal lands. See maps in attached memo addressed to USFWS.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

a. General description of the site:

For each individual timber sale or other authorized activity subject to SEPA, there will be a site-specific analysis of its environmental impacts in conjunction with the SEPA threshold determination process.

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

See 1a. above.

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.

See 1a. above.

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

See 1a. above.

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.

N/A.

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.

For future harvest and/or road related activities, erosion would be controlled in a manner consistent with forest practices rules. This proposal does not specifically contemplate any

activity that would cause erosion. For each individual timber sale or other authorized activity subject to SEPA, there will be a site-specific analysis of its environmental impacts in conjunction with the SEPA threshold determination process.

- g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?

N/A.

- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:

N/A.

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.

For each individual timber sale or other authorized activity subject to SEPA, there will be a site-specific analysis of its environmental impacts in conjunction with the SEPA threshold determination process.

- b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.

N/A.

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:

N/A.

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.

For each individual timber sale or other authorized activity subject to SEPA, there will be a site-specific analysis of its environmental impacts in conjunction with the SEPA threshold determination process.

- 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.

For each individual timber sale or other authorized activity subject to SEPA, there will be a site-specific analysis of its environmental impacts in conjunction with the SEPA threshold determination process.

- 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.

Although future harvest activities may involve work over, in, or adjacent to identified waters, it is unknown at this time whether any harvest activities would require filling or dredging within wetlands or streams. For each individual timber sale or other authorized activity subject to SEPA, there will be a site-specific analysis of its environmental impacts in conjunction with the SEPA threshold determination process.

- 4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

It is unknown at this time whether any harvest activities would require surface water withdrawals or diversions. For each individual timber sale or other authorized activity subject to SEPA, there will be a site-specific analysis of its environmental impacts in conjunction with the SEPA threshold determination process.

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

For each individual timber sale or other authorized activity subject to SEPA, there will be a site-specific analysis of its environmental impacts in conjunction with the SEPA threshold determination process.

- 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.

For each individual timber sale or other authorized activity subject to SEPA, there will be a site-specific analysis of its environmental impacts in conjunction with the SEPA threshold determination process.

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.

For each individual timber sale or other authorized activity subject to SEPA, there will be a site-specific analysis of its environmental impacts in conjunction with the SEPA threshold determination process.

- 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.

N/A

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.

For each individual timber sale or other authorized activity subject to SEPA, there will be a site-specific analysis of its environmental impacts in conjunction with the SEPA threshold determination process.

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

For each individual timber sale or other authorized activity subject to SEPA, there will be a site-specific analysis of its environmental impacts in conjunction with the SEPA threshold determination process.

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

For each individual timber sale or other authorized activity subject to SEPA, there will be a site-specific analysis of its environmental impacts in conjunction with the SEPA threshold determination process.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water, and drainage pattern impacts, if any:

For each individual timber sale or other authorized activity subject to SEPA, there will be a site-specific analysis of its environmental impacts in conjunction with the SEPA threshold determination process.

4. Plants

- a. Check the types of vegetation found on the site: **For each individual timber sale or other authorized activity subject to SEPA, there will be a site-specific analysis of its environmental impacts in conjunction with the SEPA threshold determination process. The following vegetation is common within the proposed geographic area.**

- deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, oak
- evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
- shrubs
- grass
- pasture
- crop or grain
- Orchards, vineyards or other permanent crops.
- wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
- water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
- other types of vegetation

- b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

For each individual timber sale or other authorized activity subject to SEPA, there will be a site-specific analysis of its environmental impacts in conjunction with the SEPA threshold determination process.

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

For each individual timber sale or other authorized activity subject to SEPA, there will be a site-specific analysis of its environmental impacts in conjunction with the SEPA threshold determination process.

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

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

For each individual timber sale or other authorized activity subject to SEPA, there will be a site-specific analysis of its environmental impacts in conjunction with the SEPA threshold determination process.

5. Animals

- a. List any birds and other animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site. **For each individual timber sale or other authorized activity subject to SEPA, there will be a site-specific analysis of its environmental impacts in conjunction with the SEPA threshold determination process.**

Common species known to be in the area include:

birds: **hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, owls, woodpeckers, falcons**
mammals: **deer, bear, elk, beaver, cougar, fisher, mountain goat, lynx, wolverine**
fish: **salmon, trout**

b. List any threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.

DNR's HCP for state trust lands is a multi-species conservation strategy that covers the range of the northern spotted owl (NSO) within the state of Washington and contributes to the federal Northwest Forest Plan. The intent of the HCP NSO strategy is to provide habitat that significantly contributes to the species' demography, maintenance of species distribution, and facilitation of dispersal. This proposal was designed to address the efficacy of dispersal habitat.

The habitat adjustment will not change the manner in which DNR manages land using an ecologically-based landscape approach, focusing on ecosystem sustainability and the conservation of biodiversity as analyzed in the Final EIS for the Policy for Sustainable Forests, rather than a single species approach. For each individual timber sale or other authorized activity subject to SEPA, there will be a site-specific analysis of its environmental impacts in conjunction with the SEPA threshold determination process.

There are two known status 1 reproductive, northern spotted owl site centers (sites 348 and 361), located adjacent to this proposal, to the northwest of the ASF on US Forest Service land. The outer edge of Site 348 overlaps this proposal, where previously there was no habitat management designation for that portion of the circle, after the adjustment the area will be managed for dispersal.

The special concerns report for the ASF showed observations for lynx and western gray squirrel. For each individual timber sale or other authorized activity subject to SEPA, there will be a site-specific analysis of its environmental impacts in conjunction with the SEPA threshold determination process.

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

This proposal is located in the Columbia River flyway, which is part of the Pacific flyway. While migrating through Pacific Northwest forests, many Neotropical birds are closely associated with riparian areas, cliffs, snags, and structurally unique trees. Riparian areas and special habitats are protected through implementation of Forest Practices Rules. Migratory waterfowl also use the Columbia River flyway; the area for this proposal is not generally the type of area used for resting or feeding by migratory waterfowl. For each individual timber sale or other authorized activity subject to SEPA, there will be a site-specific analysis of its environmental impacts in conjunction with the SEPA threshold determination process

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

Any projects that are identified to be carried out under this objective will be evaluated for their site specific impacts during environmental review as required by SEPA. Future timber sales or other authorized activities under this proposal will be designed to comply with the HCP and provide for the protection of wildlife and their habitats. Scattered and clumped leave trees allow for feeding, roosting, nesting, and areas for Neotropical migratory birds use. Well engineered and constructed roads reduce potential water quality impacts for down-stream fish populations.

Grass seeding exposed soil aids water quality and provides forage. Large diameter leave trees, and leave trees with unique crowns, will remain post-harvest to enhance the wildlife habitat value of the future stand.

This proposal is specifically designed to maintain NSO dispersal habitat in areas where it exists and is more likely to be sustainable.

- e. List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site.

None.

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.
N/A.
- b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.
N/A.
- 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:
N/A.

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.
Access to lands managed for NSO dispersal habitat that are identified for potential future harvest or other authorized activities subject to SEPA may involve the use of heavy machinery that could result in minimal increases regarding the possibility of fire ignition during harvest operations, especially during fire season.
 - 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. **N/A.**
 - 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. **N/A.**
 - 4) Describe special emergency services that might be required.
There are no special emergency services required at this time.
 - 5) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:
For potential future harvests: pump trucks and/or pump trailers will be required on site during fire season; in the event of a lubricant spill, a harvest purchaser will be required to contact the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Ecology; clean up materials will be kept on site during operations and notification to The Department of Ecology will be made in the event of a major spill; a fire engine will be kept on site during burning operations; and burning will be done under low fire danger conditions, which will reduce the risk of fire spread.

b. Noise

- 1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?
Access to lands managed for NSO dispersal that are identified for potential future harvest or other authorized activities subject to SEPA may involve the use of heavy machinery that could result in increases in noise in their site-specific environmental review.
- 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.
N/A.
- 3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:
N/A for this proposal. Future harvest activities or other authorized activities subject to SEPA, may include measures to control noise impacts depending on their location.

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.
All lands managed for NSO dispersal identified on the map, in the memo, attached to this checklist are working state forest lands managed for timber production and Northern Spotted Owl conservation by the Department of Natural Resources. Adjacent properties are private, federal and tribal and will not be impacted by the proposal.
- 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?
The ASF is a working forest. This proposal will not convert use, it will shift the area managed for NSO dispersal habitat, but will not change the overall activities within the forest or on adjacent lands.
- c. 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.
- d. Describe any structures on the site.
There are structures in the ASF, mainly used for recreation, and the Ahtanum Guard Station.

- e. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?
None known.

- f. What is the current zoning classification of the site?
Forestry.

- g. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?
All lands managed for NSO dispersal habitat under this proposal have a comprehensive plan designation as Forest Land.

- h. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?
N/A.

- i. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify. **For each individual timber sale or other authorized activity subject to SEPA, there will be a site-specific analysis of its environmental impacts in conjunction with the SEPA threshold determination process.**

- j. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?
N/A.

- k. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?
N/A.

- l. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:
N/A.

- m. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:
This proposal will be consistent with current landscape objectives. There is no change to the existing land use, and no impacts from adjacent land uses on this proposal. Any future harvest activities or other authorized activities taking place within the identified reclassified dispersal habitat areas will be carried out in a manner consistent with the surrounding land use classifications via HCP requirements and forest practices permit conditions that buffer impacts on adjacent uses.
- n. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any:
See 8.m. above.

9. Housing

- a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.
N/A.
- b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.
N/A.
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:
N/A.

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?
N/A.
- b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?
Future harvest activities will temporarily alter views by the removal of trees from specific sites depending on their scope, methods, and location. All future harvest activities will be evaluated for aesthetic impacts as a part of their site specific environmental review.
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:
N/A.

11. Light and Glare

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

None known.

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

N/A.

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

None known.

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

N/A.

12. Recreation

- a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?

All state lands have the potential for informal recreation opportunities unless closed to the public in a manner consistent with the Multiple Use Act, RCW 79.10.100 et seq. However, hunting, hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking, mushroom and berry picking and other informal outdoor recreation activities may occur within the proposal area.

- b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.

None known.

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:

None known.

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 known places or objects are known to occur in the reclassified NSO dispersal habitat. For each individual timber sale or other authorized activity subject to SEPA, there will be a sitespecific analysis of historic or cultural sensitive areas in conjunction with the SEPA threshold determination process.

- 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.

At the time that any future specific harvest activities or other authorized activities subject to SEPA are identified, DNR will investigate and consult with DAHP and local tribes to confirm the evidence of historic, archeological, scientific, or culturally important resources are located in the area of the proposed harvest in a manner consistent with Ch. 27.44 RCW, Ch. 27.53 RCW, WAC 25-48, Ch. 68.60 RCW, RCW 79.90.565, and in accordance with the Forest Practices Act, all as applicable and as needed depending on the specific sites selected.

- 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.

See 13.b. above.

- 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.

None for this nonproject proposal. Site specific mitigation measures may be proposed and imposed for specific harvest activities in accordance with forest practices rules and DNR's responsibilities under state law with respect to these resources.

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.
N/A.

- 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?

The area is not served by public transit. The distance to nearest transit stop is unknown, the city of Union Gap is 35 miles to the east and may provide transit.

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

N/A.

- 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).

No improvements will be required. However, this proposal may expand the network of Department of Natural Resources' forest roads in the project area if existing access is not available. DNR has specific requirements for road maintenance and abandonment consistent with its obligations under the HCP as well as applicable forest practices regulations to limit impacts associated with new road construction and/or road use for harvest purposes.

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

N/A.

- 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 nonpassenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?

Vehicular trips per day for future harvest activities depend on the scope and location of the specific timber sale. All future harvest activities or other authorized activities subject to SEPA will be evaluated for traffic impacts as a part of their site specific environmental review.

- 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.

N/A.

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

N/A.

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.

N/A.

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

N/A.

16. Utilities

- a. Circle utilities currently available at the site:
electricity, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer (These may be available at recreation sites within ASF)
N/A.
- 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.
N/A.

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: Danielle Munzing

Position and Agency/Organization: Southeast Region Biologist

Date Submitted: 6-23-2021

D. SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS

(IT IS NOT NECESSARY to use this sheet for project actions)

Because these questions are very general, it may be helpful to read them in conjunction with the list of the elements of the environment.

When answering these questions, be aware of the extent the proposal, or the types of activities likely to result from the proposal, would affect the item at a greater intensity or at a faster rate than if the proposal were not implemented. Respond briefly and in general terms.

1. How would the proposal be likely to increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise?

The future harvest of timber and other management activities within Northern Spotted Owl dispersal habitat in Southeast Region is not expected to increase discharges to

water, air emissions, the release of hazardous substances, or the production of noise beyond what was contemplated for harvest activities in conjunction with the environmental review supporting the Habitat Conservation Plan. The Final Environmental Impact Statement on the Policy for Sustainable Forests (2006) are incorporated by reference and copies are available from the contact listed in A.3. of this Checklist. Harvest activities may shift within regional areas, but will not be increased above currently targeted harvest levels. Individual proposals will be evaluated for specific impacts associated with individual harvests.

2. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are: **N/A**

3. How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life?

The proposed change will allow for harvest activities to be carried forward that are consistent with the Habitat Conservation Plan adopted as BNR policy, and will result in some impacts to plants, animals, fish, and marine life as individual timber sales proceed. However, this impact is not expected to be inconsistent with or exceed the impacts identified as part of the environmental review supporting the HCP.

4. Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are:

This proposed NSO habitat shift is designed to avoid impacts to dispersing spotted owls by providing forested areas on the landscape that meet the HCP definitions for dispersal habitat. Other plants, animals, fish, and marine life that would be found to occupy the same areas may also benefit from these measures. Additionally, because the adjustment does not otherwise deviate from the HCP, the limitations that constrain harvest activities will continue to apply to protect spotted owls as well as other species that occupy the same areas. Any specific impacts in specific geographic areas as a result of individual proposals will be evaluated on a site-specific basis at the time of timber harvest to determine that the proposed timber sale is consistent with HCP commitments.

5. How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources? **N/A**

6. Proposed measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are: **N/A**

7. How would the proposal be likely to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated (or eligible or under study) for governmental protection; such as parks, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, threatened or endangered species habitat, historic or cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands?

The proposal is designed to avoid and minimize impacts to endangered species, specifically the northern spotted owl. The proposal is consistent with the part of the HCP that covers a number of other species, including: gray wolf and grizzly bear that were analyzed in conjunction with the environmental review supporting the HCP. The proposal does not identify any possible areas for harvest that include parks, wilderness areas,

wild and scenic rivers, or prime farmlands. It is not known whether harvest activities would occur in historic or cultural sites, wetlands or in floodplain areas, but any specific harvest that will affect one of these areas will be evaluated in conjunction with the environmental review conducted for each proposal.

8. Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are:

Individual proposals will be evaluated for specific impacts associated with individual harvests.

9. How would the proposal be likely to affect land and shoreline use, including whether it would allow or encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans?

The proposal would not involve any land or shoreline use except timber harvest and other activities in areas which are within state forest lands and currently managed for income production for trust beneficiaries.

10. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are: **N/A**

11. How would the proposal be likely to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities?

Although the proposal itself will not directly result in any increased demands, future timber sales that involve harvests within the Ahtanum State Forest will likely utilize some public transportation corridors to transport forest products from the harvest locations to the purchaser's location. Individual timber sale proposals may be subject to mitigating conditions associated with road use and construction, limiting project specific impacts.

12. Proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demand(s) are: **N/A**

13. Identify, if possible, whether the proposal may conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.

DNR has identified no requirement of local, state, or federal law for the protection of the environment that would conflict with the proposal.