5/18/2022
Notice of Final Determination
Fir Reals Sorts Timber Sale, App. No. 30-103222
SEPA File No. 22-050302
FP No. 2940203

The Department of Natural Resources issued a [X] Determination of Non-significance (DNS), [ ] Mitigated Determination of Non-significance (MDNS), [ ] Modified DNS/MDNS on 5/3/2022 for this proposal under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) and WAC 197-11-340(2).

This determination is hereby:

[X] Retained.

[ ] Modified. Modifications to this proposal include the following:

[ ] Withdrawn. This proposal has been withdrawn due to the following:

[ ] Delayed. A Final Determination has been delayed due to the following:

Responsible Official: Eric Wisch
Position/title: Pacific Cascade Region Manager  Phone: (360) 577-2025
Address: P.O. Box 280 Castle Rock, WA 98611

Date: 5/30/22  Signature: Eric Wisch

Summary of Comments and Responses (if applicable):

Specific Comment Summary:

Center for Responsible Forestry – Comments received with feedback related to older forests.

Response: DNR implements practices to achieve older forest structures across 10-15% of the Columbia HCP Planning Unit over the next 70-100 years. Stands designated to meet this goal include old growth stands and structurally complex forests located in special ecological management zones, areas of
potentially unstable slopes, natural areas, gene pool reserves, etc. The Columbia Planning Unit is on track to meet at least 10% older forest within conservation areas by 2090.

As described in the SEPA checklist, 62 acres immediately adjacent to the proposed harvest are being retained for riparian and unstable slope protection; the majority of which is the same stand type as the proposed harvest area. Approximately 19 acres of leave tree areas were also identified for retention, with an emphasis on preserving areas of older and larger trees that will contribute to future stand structure. These areas comprise approximately 46% of the total area evaluated for harvest. They will be deferred from harvest and will contribute to the older forest thresholds.