



HILARY S. FRANZ  
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC LANDS

**DEPARTMENT OF  
NATURAL RESOURCES**

**PACIFIC CASCADE REGION**

601 BOND ROAD  
PO BOX 280  
CASTLE ROCK, WA 98611

**360-577-2025**

TRS 711  
PACIFIC-CASCADE REGION@DNR.WA.GOV  
WWW.DNR.WA.GOV

4/16/2020

**Notice of Final Determination**  
Frances 40 Timber Sale, App. No. 30-100023  
**SEPA File No. 20-030601**  
FP No. 2937343

The Department of Natural Resources issued a [ ] Determination of Non-significance (DNS), [ X ] Mitigated Determination of Non-significance (MDNS), [ ] Modified DNS/MDNS on 3/06/2020 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[ ] Withdrawn. This proposal has been withdrawn due to the following: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:

4/17/20

Signature: Eric Wisch

*Eric Wisch*

Summary of Comments and Responses (if applicable):

We received one informational comment from the Washington State Department of Ecology. We received a comment letter from Mr. Stephen Kropp.

Summary of Comments:

Specific comments included information on stand characteristics including stand age, Sustainable Forestry Initiative, Performance Measure 4.1, Older Forest targets within DNR's Policy for Sustainable Forests, and questions about Marbled Murrelet habitat.

Response:

Field measurements of stand age using standard tree coring methods suggest a stand age of approximately 90 to 100 years old. The origin dates listed in the SEPA checklist appear to be consistent with best available information.

This proposal is consistent with Sustainable Forestry Initiative, Performance Measure 4.1. DNR's policies and procedures under the HCP and PSF do conserve biological diversity at the stand and landscape levels and support a diversity of native forest cover types across landscapes.

This proposal is consistent with the *Policy on Old-Growth Stands in Western Washington* as specified in PSF, the origin age is significantly younger than 1850. In addition, this proposal maintains the requirements of agency procedure *Identifying and Managing Structurally Complex Forests to Meet Older Forest Targets (Westside)* which sets targets for old forest conditions by HCP Planning Unit, not by the individual WRIA as the commenter calculated.

After review, this proposal is consistent the *Marbled Murrelet Long-Term Conservation Strategy* and documented in the Implementation Memo – Phase one.

After reviewing the proposal checklist and the comments it was determined that this proposal is consistent with all applicable laws, rules, policies and procedures, including the Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and Policy for Sustainable Forests (PSF). In doing so, the Frances 40 Sorts timber sale as currently designed avoids significant adverse impacts to the environment