

Prince of Wales Landscape Level Analysis Project Final Environmental Impact Statement

Appendix B

Implementation Plan

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Implementation Plan

Introduction

The Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) describes the purpose and need, alternatives and the effects of managing the Prince of Wales Landscape Level Analysis (POW LLA) project area. This Implementation Plan is integral to the analysis of effects in the FEIS and the Selected Alternative in the Record of Decision (ROD).

The Implementation Plan documents the process for implementation of the activities. This is meant to be a ‘living’ document and may need to be adjusted, as noted in this appendix, as we learn more through the implementation of each activity. As activities are designed, the process will likely be smoother and new technology or expertise may be used.

It was developed in conjunction with the Activity Cards in Appendix A to provide a linkage from the FEIS to the project-specific work without the need for additional NEPA analysis. The Activity Cards provide activity-specific design criteria, best management practices, and mitigation measures and the implementation plan includes site conditions, triggers, or other requirements for each type of activity to inform future data needs and field visits to develop treatment scenarios that are consistent with the NEPA analysis. This plan outlines the process each activity will follow during implementation to ensure the effects are within the scope of the effects analysis in the FEIS, the activity is allowed under the Selected Alternative in the ROD, and that all resource-specific guidelines and protection measures are incorporated into activity design. The Implementation Plan is an essential component of this landscape-level project for accountability, tracking, decision-making, and documentation purposes. It must be considered alongside the alternatives, effects analyses, activity cards, and the ROD for the success of the project as a whole.

The Implementation Plan is designed to be consistent with the 2016 Tongass Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan). The intent is that this Implementation Plan will be used over a 15-year timeframe.

The purpose of this document is to describe the implementation process for the POW LLA Project. The primary goals are to:

- demonstrate effects of implementation are within the scope of activities and the range of effects described in the FEIS and authorized in the ROD;
- conduct a transparent implementation process that keeps the public informed of and involved in activity location, timing, and design;
- continue the public participation and collaborative learning that occurred during the planning phase, encourage and support the continuation of collaborative efforts throughout implementation;
- ensure implementation of activities is responsive to dynamic on-the-ground conditions, new scientific information, and public input;
- ensure integrated engagement of interdisciplinary team members, field resource specialists, scientists, Line Officers, and the public; and
- focus on shared priorities and work to resolve concerns and solve problems related to selection and implementation of POW LLA Project activities.

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Public Involvement

The public participation and collaboration that occurred during the planning process was aided by the efforts of a collaborative group. Opportunities to be involved in the implementation of activities are outlined in the implementation process and occur during steps 1, 4, 5, and 9 (see below).

Step 1 – Determine activity to be implemented: The public (collaborators, partners, tribes, native corporations, and other interested stakeholders) is invited to attend the spring and autumn workshops. At these workshops, the Forest Service and the public will be able to present activities that they would like to be implemented and will help to determine locations, activity design components, methods, mitigation measures, and integration opportunities for activities presented. If a member of the public is not able to attend, they may submit their activity proposals to the Forest Service to be presented at the workshop. Additionally, the public will be able to submit and review submitted applicable peer-reviewed research or individual studies to be considered that may influence implementation of activities. Activities are constrained by the Selected Alternative, as outlined in the ROD and by the Activity Cards (Appendix A) and as such these documents will be used during discussions at the workshops.

During workshops the public will have the opportunity to provide feedback to the Forest Service regarding prior-year management, potential changes in the Implementation Process, monitoring results, GIS tools, and priority sequences of activities. Following the workshop, activities that are decided to be implemented will be placed on the Project Out-year Plan as “draft” and will be posted to the project website for additional public review and comment (see step 4 below).

Indian tribes, defined at 36 CFR 800.16(m), have a special and unique legal and political relationship with the United States government as reflected in the United States Constitution, treaties, statutes, court decisions, executive orders, and memoranda. This relationship imparts a duty on all federal agencies to consult, coordinate, and communicate with federally recognized Indian tribes on a government-to-government basis, as well as native village, regional corporation or village corporation on a government-to-corporation basis. Consultation also takes place with non-federally recognized tribes, who are considered stakeholders. Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) requires federal agencies to determine if historic properties could be affected by proposed activities, and if so, consult the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), and consult tribes regarding actions on or affecting tribal lands. The Forest Service plans to follow Section 106 protocol during implementation, meaning that any future activities will require Section 106 review and consultation. Government-to-government consultation will continue to occur on an activity-by-activity basis. These consultations may occur after a workshop, during the 30-day comment period as outlined in step 4 below, or during step 5 (see below).

Step 4 – Obtain Line Officer approval and place in Out-year Plan: The refined activities from the workshops will be placed on the Project Out-year plan as “draft”. The Project Out-year Plan will be made available to the public to give an opportunity for input and feedback on proposed activities. The comment period will be open for 30 days and we will accept comments on activity locations, activity design components, methods, mitigation measures, integration opportunities, potential changes in the Implementation Process, monitoring results, priority sequences of activities, and on prior-year management of activities. This comment period gives an opportunity for members of the public, who may not be able to attend the workshops, to provide their input on how and when activities are to be implemented before the activities are made final. Activities are made final after the input from the comment period has been considered and any needed changes are incorporated. The Line Officer with the delegated authority (as outlined in Forest Service Handbook and Forest Service Manual) retains the authority to make final decisions related to location, extent, and types of activities planned and

completed, consistent with the ROD. However, as questions or concerns are raised related to implementation under the POW LLA Project, the Line Officer with the delegated authority for the activity will respond to them and let interested parties know how their concerns were addressed.

Step 5 – Conduct fieldwork and consultations: We invite the public to conduct field surveys with Forest Service specialists for proposed activities to confirm that activities can be implemented as designed. Surveys are important because they will confirm on-the-ground conditions and determine if the activity can be implemented. There are many different types of field surveys for each activity that may be required.

Step 9 – Implement the activity, document implementation, and associated monitoring, etc.: We invite the public to help conduct any required monitoring surveys for activities that have been implemented and to help implement any activity that will be accomplished using Forest Service personnel.

All submitted proposed activities must adhere to the FEIS, ROD, and Activity cards. If the submitted proposed activity does not, then it will be deferred until the next workshop for discussion and modification. In the event that an activity needs to be changed because of on-the-ground conditions, the following criteria will be used to determine whether to defer the activity until the next workshop.

- Changes will be implemented if they do not require the location to be adjusted and result in similar or lesser impacts as what was analyzed and displayed for the proposal. Documentation of the review will be placed in the implementation record.
- If the location needs to be substantially adjusted, the design has a substantial change, or circumstances are discovered relevant to environmental concerns, then the Line Officer would defer the activity until the next workshop.

Any activity that is deferred until the next workshop will begin the Implementation Process over and will proceed through each step again.

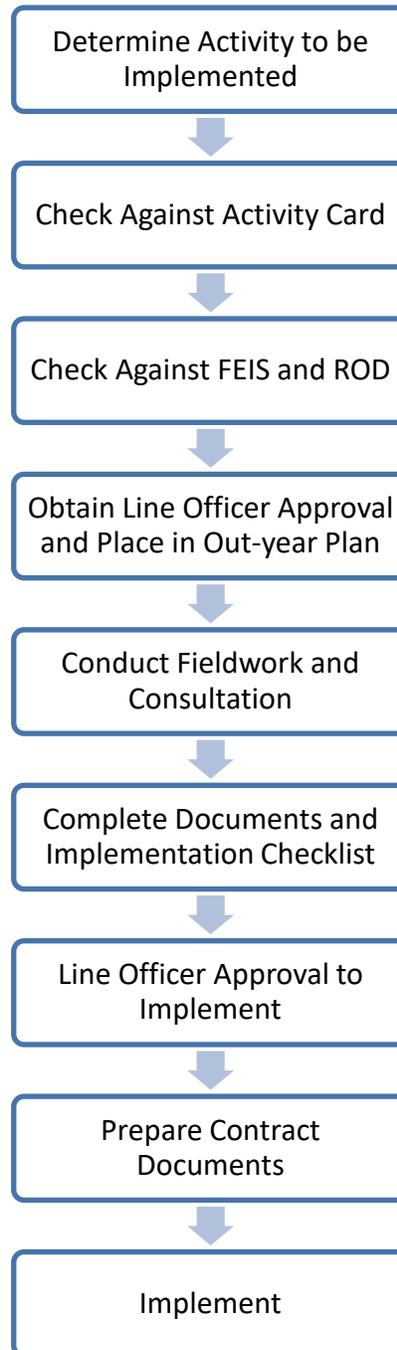
Implementation Record

As part of POW LLA project record, implementation records will be kept to document each activity as it goes through the Implementation Process. All required documentation for the implementation record is identified below for each step in the Implementation Process. Each file will have a record number associated with it for organized filing and long-term record keeping.

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Implementation Process

Activities that occur under the authority of the ROD will take several months to a year to go through all steps of the implementation process. Therefore, at any given time there may be several planned activities in different steps of the process. Each year, public involvement will occur to discuss proposed activities. This will include workshops and other public involvement techniques to be able to reach a wide audience.



Step 1) Determine activity to be implemented.

This implementation process starts when the public or the Forest Service presents an activity proposal at either the spring or autumn workshop. It is the expectation that at these workshops a wide array of activities for all resource areas will be presented and that the public will help to determine activity locations, activity design components, methods, mitigation measures, and integration opportunities. If a member of the public is not able to attend a workshop they can submit their activity proposals to the Forest Service to be presented at the workshop.

At each workshop, the public will have the opportunity to submit, review, or discuss the following:

- Report status of activities already planned or in process of being implemented and current Out-year Plan;
- New proposed out-year activities (use decision trees below);
- Evaluation and feedback on potential need for change in implementation program;
- Review recent monitoring results (such as from the annual BMP monitoring program) that may relate to the activity and result in adaptations;
- Updates and future use of GIS tools.

The public would have the opportunity to:

- Have input on types and locations of activities, review maps for proposed activities;
- Evaluate, discuss, and recommend the priority sequencing of activities, treatment prescriptions and integration of activities for funding;
- Review updated maps of planned/in-process activities to provide feedback to Forest Service regarding prior-year management;
- Submit applicable peer-reviewed research or individual studies to be considered that may influence implementation of activities/treatments.

The Forest will publish a single notice in the *Ketchikan Daily News*, put the notice on the project webpage, and post on community bulletin boards within the project area at least 2 weeks prior to when a workshop will happen. An email will also be sent to the project's electronic mailing list. The notice will outline the location and time of the meeting. Meeting times and locations will be determined by location of potential activities and to achieve greatest participation by the public. Alternate methods of communication will be explored such as teleconferences or videoconferences to encourage participation by individuals, organizations or communities that cannot attend the workshop in person.

Following the workshop, activities that are decided to be implemented will be placed on the Project Out-year Plan as "draft" and will be posted to the project website for additional public review and comment. The comment period gives an opportunity for the public that may not be able to attend the workshops, to provide their input on how and when activities are to be implemented before the activities are made final. Activities are made final after the input from the comment period has been considered and any needed changes are incorporated (see step 4 below).

The Forest Service will continue to engage in government-to-government consultation with local federally-recognized tribes, native corporations, and non-federally recognized tribes. Per Forest Service Handbook 2409.18_87.18, 12/29/2008, the Forest Service will "Comply with FSM 1560, USDA Departmental Regulation 1350-001 (Tribal Consultation), and the November 6, 2000,

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Executive Order 13175 – Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments. Consultation with federally recognized tribes is required prior to issuing any permits, contracts, or other authorized instrument when there is a possible impact to tribal treaty and other rights and interests in the permitted or contracted area. The Forest Service is required to honor the unique legal relationship, including the trust relationship, between the Federal government and Indian tribal governments.”

All meetings will be documented by a Forest Service representative by recording discussion points and decisions in meeting notes and placed in the implementation record.

Step 2) Check against activity cards.

The activity cards describe potential activities considered within the project area, without regard to specific locations. Information about each activity includes what it usually accomplishes, how it is typically implemented, what constraints and resource-specific guidelines apply, and when it would be implemented. Resource concerns are often mitigated by design criteria, which are presented in the activity cards, as well as consistency with the Forest Plan and best management practices (BMP).

The Forest Service will document what activity cards will be used for implementing the proposed activities that are decided upon from the workshop and comment period. This documentation will include a summary of each activity card and how the proposed activities meet the constraints outlined in the activity cards. This documentation will be placed in the implementation record. A proposed activity must have all components listed in the activity cards to determine if it was included in the POW LLA Project analysis. If all the components are not met, then the activity would be deferred until the next public workshop for design modifications.

There are activities that are brought to the Forest Service that may not be able to wait for a workshop, such as requests for microsals and mineral material disposal. These activities would follow the implementation process and will need to meet the same requirements as other activities. If this type of activity is authorized to be implemented it will be disclosed on the Project Out-year Plan and during the next scheduled workshop.

Step 3) Check against FEIS and the ROD.

The FEIS analyzes the effects of alternatives and will need to be checked to verify that the effects of the proposed activity is within the effects analyzed for the Selected Alternative. The ROD documents the decision rationale for the alternative that was selected and any modifications to the Selected Alternative. The ROD includes any constraints for activities.

The Forest Service will document that the activity to be implemented is covered by the decision and that it adheres to all design criteria for the Selected Alternative. The Forest Service will document how the activity is within the FEIS effects analysis. This documentation will be placed in the implementation record.

The proposed activity will be added to the implementation tracking form that contains the parameters of the Selected Alternative on what may be implemented per activity (acres, volume, road miles, miles of stream, etc.). This form will be used to track how much has been implemented to date and to verify that the limits are within the Selected Alternative.

Step 4) Obtain Line Officer approval and place in Out-year Plan.

The POW LLA Project Out-year Plan will provide participants an opportunity to stay informed of and comment on activity implementation, priority listing, and on-the-ground activity design. The Out-year Plan will identify activities within a 3 to 5-year timeframe that will include the current status of already planned/in-process activities, new proposed activities, maps, follow-up treatments, and will identify timeframes for field surveys listed in the activity specific resource requirements and implementation checklist. The refined activities from the workshops will be placed on the Project Out-year plan as “draft”.

The updated Out-year Plan will be made available on the project website after a workshop to initiate a 30-day comment period on proposed activities. A public notice will be published in the *Ketchikan Daily News* and an email notification will be sent out to notify the public that the Out-year Plan is available for review and comment. The comment period gives an opportunity for members of the public who may not be able to attend the workshops to provide their input on how and when activities are to be implemented before the activities are made final. We will accept comments on activity locations, activity design components, methods, mitigation measures, integration opportunities, potential changes in the Implementation Process, monitoring results, priority sequences of activities, and on prior-year management of activities. A summary of comments will be included in the implementation record.

The Line Officer reviews the proposal for an activity including a determination that the activity will meet all requirements under the ROD, Forest Plan, and other applicable laws and regulations. Activities are made final after the input from the comment period has been considered and any needed changes are incorporated. The Line Officer with the delegated authority (as outlined in Forest Service Handbook and Forest Service Manual) retains the authority to make final decisions related to location, extent, and types of activities planned and completed, consistent with the ROD. However, as questions or concerns are raised related to implementation under the POW LLA Project, the Line Officer with the delegated authority for the activity will respond to them and let interested parties know how their concerns were addressed. The Out-year Plan will include who the activity leader and Line Officer would be for each activity.

The Line Officer would incorporate the final proposed activities from the Project Out-year Plan into the Tongass Out-year Plan to compete for funding. For final proposals listed in years 1 and 2, the Line Officer would assure that funds and personnel are available to prepare and implement the activity. Proposals that do not have the funds or personnel available may be deferred in the Project Out-year Plan or re-evaluated at the next workshop. This review will determine if the proposal is included in the Out-year Plan.

Local federally recognized Indian tribes will be consulted on a government-to-government basis, as will native villages, regional corporations, or village corporations on a government-to-corporation basis to solicit their input regarding the updated Out-year Plan. All meetings will be documented by a Forest Service representative by recording discussion points and concerns in meeting notes.

Step 5) Conduct fieldwork and consultations.

Forest Service personnel will conduct field surveys and GIS queries of proposed activities and locations to confirm that activities can be designed and implemented consistent with the ROD. We invite the public to conduct field surveys with Forest Service specialists for proposed activities to confirm that activities can be implemented as designed. Surveys are important because they will confirm conditions on-the-ground and determine if the activity can be implemented. Survey results may

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refined activity design components. Decision trees may be used to incorporate required design components to a potential activity based on field data collected. For example, presence of a goshawk nest in the proposed area triggers the use of required design components to protect goshawk nests. Activities will be adjusted as needed to conform to requirements or the activity will be deferred.

Formal consultations will be conducted, as required by federal and state law, with federally recognized Indian tribes on a government-to-government basis, as well as native villages, regional corporations, or village corporations on a government-to-corporation basis, and other federal agencies and state agencies such as: United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), and the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO).

All field notes, GIS queries, and formal consultation documentation will be placed in the implementation record.

Step 6) Complete Documents and Implementation Checklist.

Forest Service resource specialists will prepare documents that summarize requirements and recommendations for the activity layout, best management practices (BMP), design features, or other aspects of the activity based on activity cards, field reconnaissance, and formal consultations. Field data that is collected will be included to document baseline conditions of site and provide a basis for rationale for refinement of proposed activity. Documents and the implementation checklists are to disclose all the steps leading up to implementation of the activity that allows it to move forward. Activity documents would include design components, location map, and will include unit cards, road cards, and other attachments as required.

Forest Service resource specialists will complete the implementation checklist (see pages B-33 through B-49) for each activity to ensure resource surveys and consultations are completed as required by the Forest Plan, Forest Service Handbook and Manual, and other requirements. The checklist also ensures compliance with the ROD and activity cards. The activity leader will be responsible for ensuring that the checklist is complete and finalized for review by the Line Officer. All documents and implementation checklists will be included in the implementation record.

Step 7) Line Officer approval to implement.

The Line Officer reviews the documents and checklist to determine that the activity has met all requirements under the ROD and Forest Plan. Once a Line Officer has determined that the activity has met all requirements they will approve and sign the checklist. The signed checklist will be placed in the implementation record.

Step 8) Prepare contracts and other implementation documents, as needed.

Forest Service resource specialists will review or prepare all contract documents prior to bids being solicited to implement the activity. This will include the contract, agreements, burn plans, unit cards, road cards, activity maps, bid packages or other implementation instruments as required. See the Activity-specific Resource Requirements section for appropriate measures and provisions that will be incorporated to ensure that effects are as planned. All required associated documentation will be placed in the implementation record.

Step 9) Implement the activity, document implementation, and associated monitoring, etc.

The implementation record will include any inspection reports, photographs of the implementation, photographs of the completed activity, and so on. It is especially important to document any change from the planned activity and why those changes occurred. Contract documents that contain proprietary information will be excluded from the record. The Forest Plan will be followed for any necessary monitoring, and results will be included in the implementation record.

We invite the public to help conduct any required monitoring surveys for activities that have been implemented and to help implement any activity that will be accomplished using Forest Service personnel.

Activity Decision Trees

A decision tree maps the possible outcomes of a series of choices. It allows the implementation team to use resource surveys to determine the type of activity to implement to meet on-the-ground conditions. Data will be collected to document baseline conditions of site variables to determine appropriate activity given current site conditions.

Aquatics

In order to meet the purpose and need for the POW LLA Project, watershed restoration actions will be implemented to improve watershed condition and restore aquatic habitat that was degraded by past management activities. Certain watersheds with diminished sockeye runs or habitat barriers could benefit from fish habitat improvement activities. This section steps through the decision making process for choosing where to implement watershed restoration and fish habitat improvement activities.

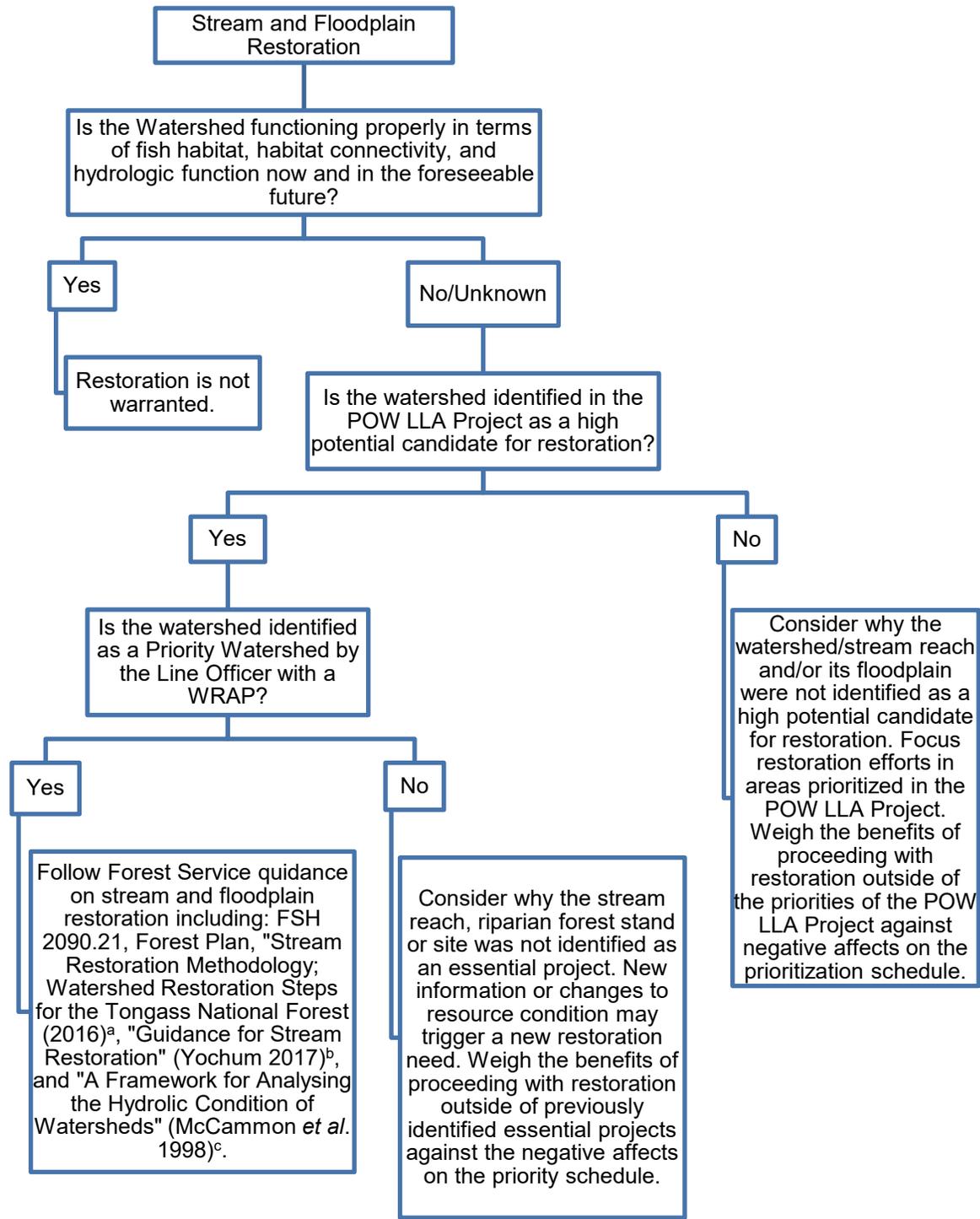
The national Watershed Condition Framework (USDA Forest Service, 2011, Watershed Condition Framework FS-977) guides our approach to implementing watershed restoration. A 2015 assessment identified about thirty watersheds in the project area with known restoration needs (High Potential Restoration Watersheds spreadsheet in the project record). Public input to the POW LLA Project supported restoration in these watersheds and identified additional watersheds to be considered for restoration. Watershed Restoration Action Plans (WRAPs) will be developed to identify the essential activities necessary to improve watershed condition. The WRAPs are informed by existing data and field assessments of roads and drainage structures, streams, riparian vegetation, landslides, and invasive species.

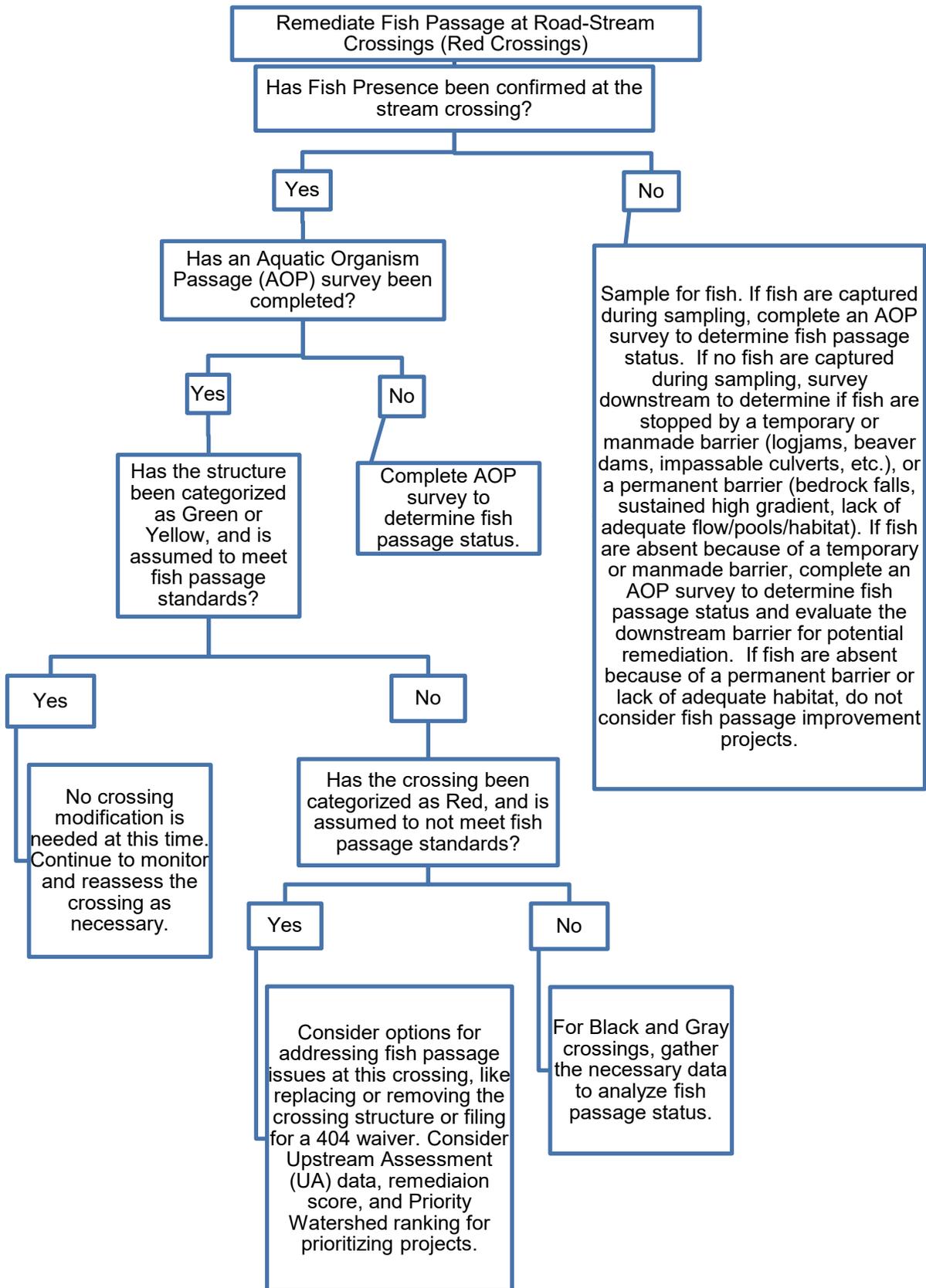
Plans will be put in place to address restoration needs through activities that include (but are not limited to) the following:

- Stream and Floodplain Restoration (Activity Card 28)
- Improve Fish Passage on Roads and Trail Systems (Red Crossings (Activity Card 26)
- Riparian Thinning (Activity Card 06)
- Road Storage, Decommissioning, and Maintenance (Activity Cards 21, 22, 24)
- Restored Altered Karst Surface Water Flow Paths (Activity Card 33)
- Invasive Plant Treatments (Activity Cards 34, 35)
- Fish Habitat Improvement (Activity Card 27)

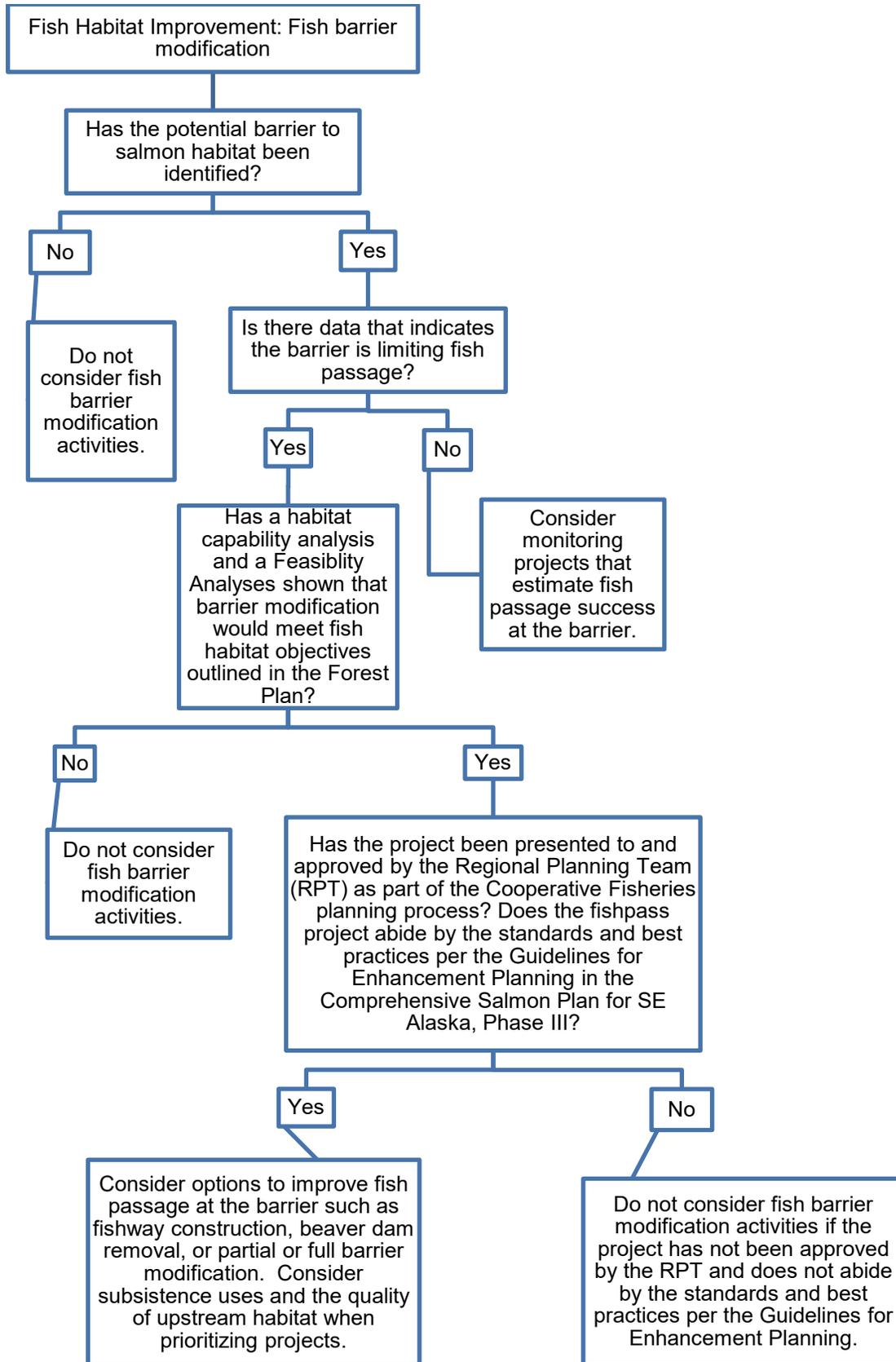
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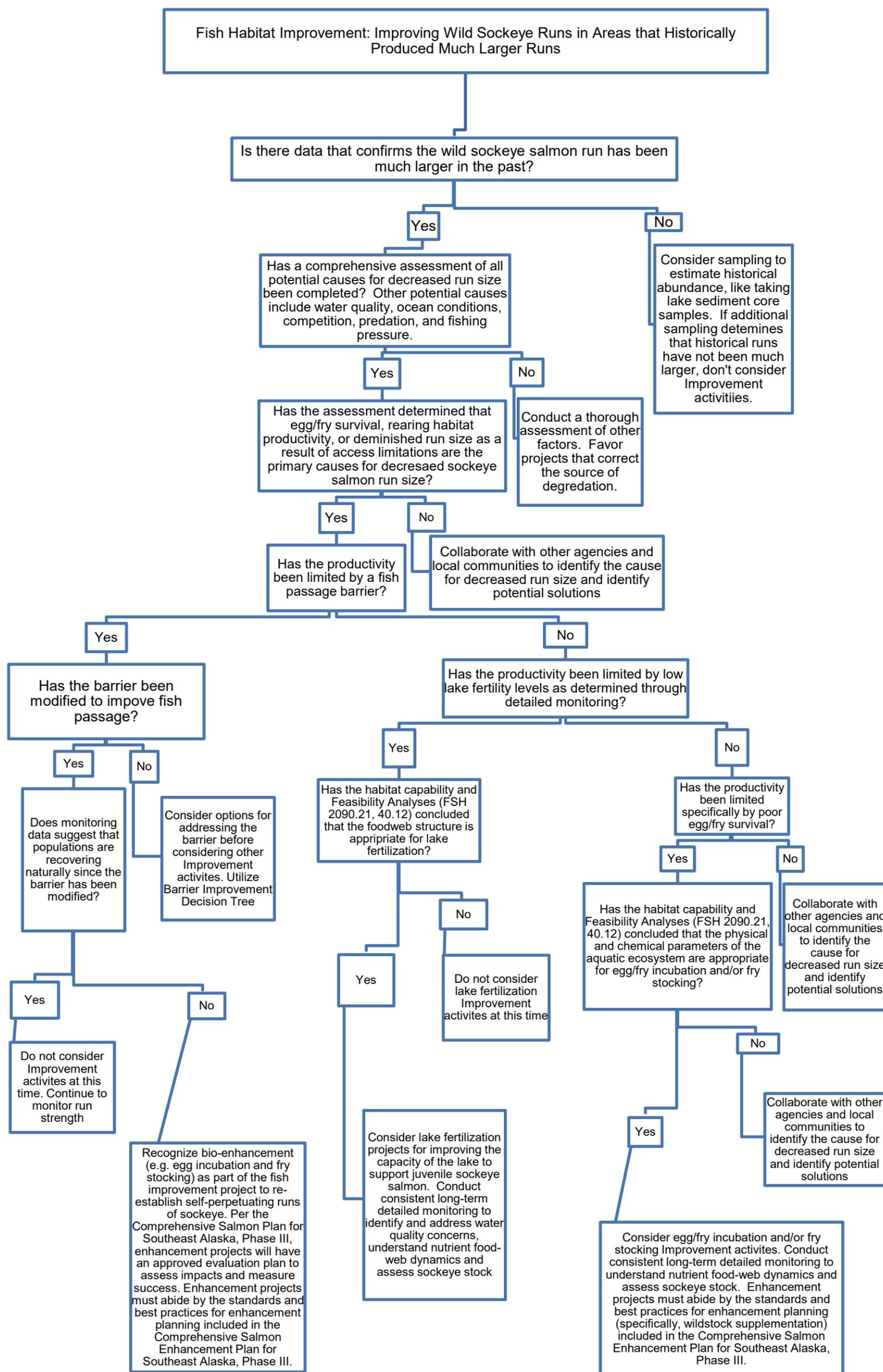
The following section displays the decision process when determining the appropriate aquatic habitat restoration and improvement activities.





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Invasive Plants

The following outlines the process to implement invasive plant treatments. It applies to all target invasive plant species and site types analyzed for treatment in the FEIS, as well as new populations found during inventory, where Early-Detection Rapid-Response (EDRR) is proposed.

Annually, program managers for each ranger district will identify sites for potential treatment and develop a treatment plan. These plans will be reviewed and approved by the Forest Invasive species program leader or delegated personnel and may be adjusted or further refined based on input from the public. The following strategy will help ensure the chosen sites are within the treatment bounds analyzed within the FEIS.

Strategy Objectives and Priorities

To develop a comprehensive invasive plant treatment strategy, three prerequisite pieces of information must be evaluated: 1) what to treat: selection of the highest priority infestations; 2) where to treat: target locations; and 3) management objective for the site.

Using these three criteria, this section delineates the information that will be considered for developing annual treatment plans for invasive plants in the project area.

Criterion 1: What to Treat – Target Species and Invasiveness Ranking

The documented invasive plant species list (see project record Invasive Risk Assessment) identifies the current infestations and will be evaluated to determine species and/or areas proposed for treatment. In some areas it may be desirable to treat all non-native plants while in others only invasive plants with a high invasive ranking may be targeted for treatment.

Criterion 1 of the invasive plant treatment strategy includes the analysis of two species lists:

- Known invasive plant infestations: non-native plant species documented in the project area. This includes invasive species and other non-native species located in sensitive habitats or non-development land use designations (LUD) (see Forest Plan for definition of LUDs).
- Invasive Species Watch List: species currently undocumented in the project area and classified as noxious and/or invasive. If these species are found, they would be treated quickly using the EDRR strategy.

The Alaska Natural Heritage Program has developed an evaluation tool to rank the expected invasiveness of non-native species in Alaska. The process uses a numerical ranking system from 0 to 100. A ranking of 0 indicates the lowest risk for ecological harm and 100 indicates the highest risk. When determining the target species for treatment, the invasiveness ranking plays an important role in the treatment strategy. The higher the invasive ranking for the species, the greater risk for continued spread.

Criterion 2: Where to Treat - Target Locations and Pathways of Spread

Also important in deciding what to treat is the location of the infestation. Target locations are based on the sensitivity of the habitat, the relative risk of changing ecosystem functions within the habitat as a result of the infestation, and/or the underlying desired condition (as defined by the LUD) for the site. The concept of high-value habitat is used as a means of defining areas with a specific environmental, biodiversity or landscape value for which there is special interest or concern relative to the overall area.

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Pathways of spread, or vectors, include transportation methods of dispersing seeds and other plant propagules of the target species. These include road corridors, marine access facilities, rock quarries, vehicles and equipment, water and air. A sound strategy for control includes a focus on areas associated with vectors that are likely to spread the infestation. For evaluating priority treatment locations, site types are used to capture these common vectors.

Criterion 3: Management Objective for the Infestation

The management objective is often based on the likelihood of success considering the resources needed and those available, including adequate funding. In practice, a combination of management priorities and treatment techniques would be implemented in any given year. There are three management objective definitions identified which would be considered in concert with criteria 1 and 2 above.

- **Eradicate:** Total removal or elimination of the last remaining individual invasive plant species in the target infestation on a given site. It is determined to be complete when the target species is absent from the site for several years after the last individual was observed.
- **Control/Contain:** Reduce the size of the infestation over time and prevent the spread of the invasive plants beyond the perimeter of patches or infestation areas mapped from current inventories.
- **Tolerate:** Accept the continued presence of established infestations; however, try to exclude new infestations through prevention practices. This objective applies to target species infestations that are widespread but occur in habitat types that have a low susceptibility for ecological damage, and for infestations of invasive plant species that are not directly threatening ecosystem functions at a particular location.

Selection of the Most Cost-efficient and Effective Treatment Method

After prioritizing target species, target locations and management objectives, there are five steps in selecting the most cost-efficient and effective treatment method for a particular infestation:

Step 1: Research, review and consider all known treatment alternatives, given site consideration inputs.

Tool(s) and treatment technique(s) selected will depend on many different variables, called site considerations. These considerations include biotic and abiotic resources and factors that, if not considered properly, are likely to adversely affect the success of the treatment and restoration strategy. These factors include the following (note the site considerations below represent only a sample of all possible variables):

- Habitat type (wetlands, riparian area, alpine, disturbed sites, uplands, etc.);
- Population density (percent cover);
- Human environment and safety (front country, back country, use level);
- Sensitive or designated natural and cultural resources (water, Wilderness, prehistoric and historic artifacts and landscapes, threatened, endangered and sensitive species);
- Infestation size (in acres);
- Location (widespread, accessibility, isolated and distinct).

Step 2: Select treatment techniques and identify resource-specific sideboards (see Activity Cards 34 and 35) required to mitigate adverse impacts.

Species biology, size of infestation and site characteristics are evaluated to determine the appropriate treatment technique. In general, rhizomatous species such as Canada thistle and Japanese knotweed require herbicide treatments to be effective, as proposed in Alternative 3, while annual/biennial species such as bull thistle and tansy ragwort can be effectively treated with manual methods, as proposed in all action alternatives. Once appropriate treatment techniques and tools are identified, impacts caused by their use also need to be identified. All tools and techniques will have some type of consequence, whether intentional or unintended, beneficial or adverse, direct or indirect. At this point in the decision-making process, steps need to be identified to reduce or eliminate any potential adverse impact to the site considerations identified above. These steps can be resource-specific sideboards that are practices incorporated into the planning phase of the treatment to prevent potential adverse impacts (*e.g.*, treatments will occur pre-emergence or post-seed set for any rare plants nearby).

Step 3: Review economic viability and feasibility of selected.

If the selected treatment techniques and conservation/mitigation measures are affordable, effective and practical then the treatment plan is approved for implementation.

Step 4: Interdisciplinary team (IDT) and Line Officer review treatment plan.

IDT resource specialists would review draft treatment plans to ensure consistent and effective treatment is applied for each resource, and appropriate sideboards are included. Next, the Line Officer with the delegated authority would review the treatment plan, and if in agreement that the proposed treatments are within the scope of the effects analyzed within the FEIS, approve the plan for implementation. For any sites where herbicide is proposed, a Pesticide Use Proposal (PUP) must be completed and reviewed by the Regional Pesticide Use Coordinator, and approved by the Regional Forester or other delegated official¹ before implementation. All PUPs will be placed in the implementation record.

Step 5: Implement and monitor where feasible and affordable; no treatment where infeasible and/or too expensive.

At a minimum, implementation of any treatment plan would include monitoring of its effectiveness for at least 50 percent of the treatment acres. More formal monitoring may occur in cases where specific biological or ecological thresholds are identified prior to treatment implementation. If the treatment or conservation/mitigation measures selected are NOT affordable, effective and/or practical, the treatment plan cannot be approved as it stands and the Line Officer needs to revert to containment or tolerance of the infestation.

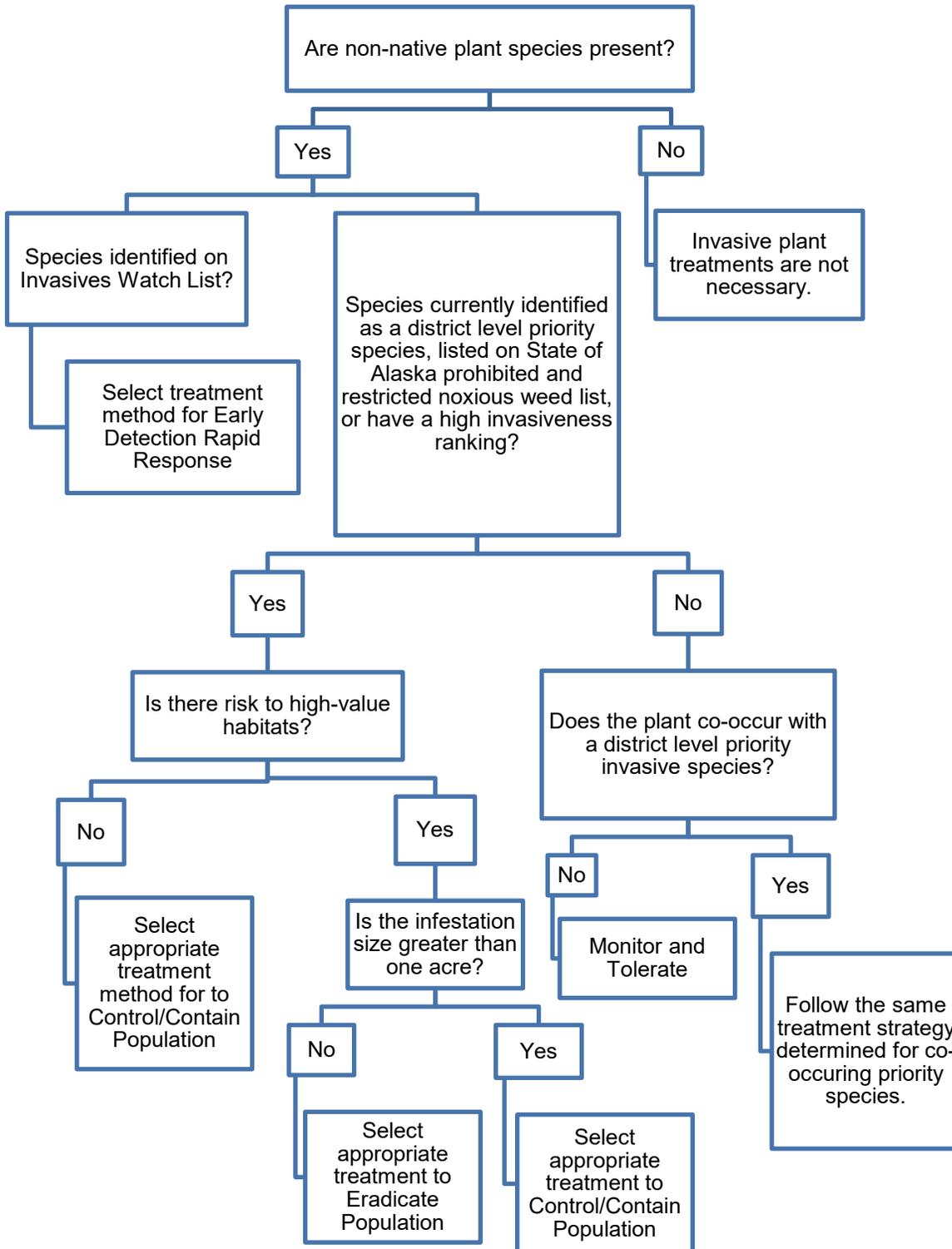
There may be cases when all known treatments and conservation/mitigation practices are not affordable, effective or practical and a determination of “No Treatment” must be made. This is not necessarily a decision to not address the problem at all, rather, it is an acknowledgement that the problem may need to be monitored further and re-evaluated at a later date when more data or new control technologies/strategies become available or if changes in environmental circumstances render the problem more easily addressed using available techniques and strategies.

¹ Only the Regional Forester has the authority to approve pesticide use on NFS lands. This line of authority may be delegated to the Forest Supervisor and then the District Ranger for pesticide use in non-wilderness areas. The RF remains the only official with authorized approval for use of pesticides in Wilderness areas.

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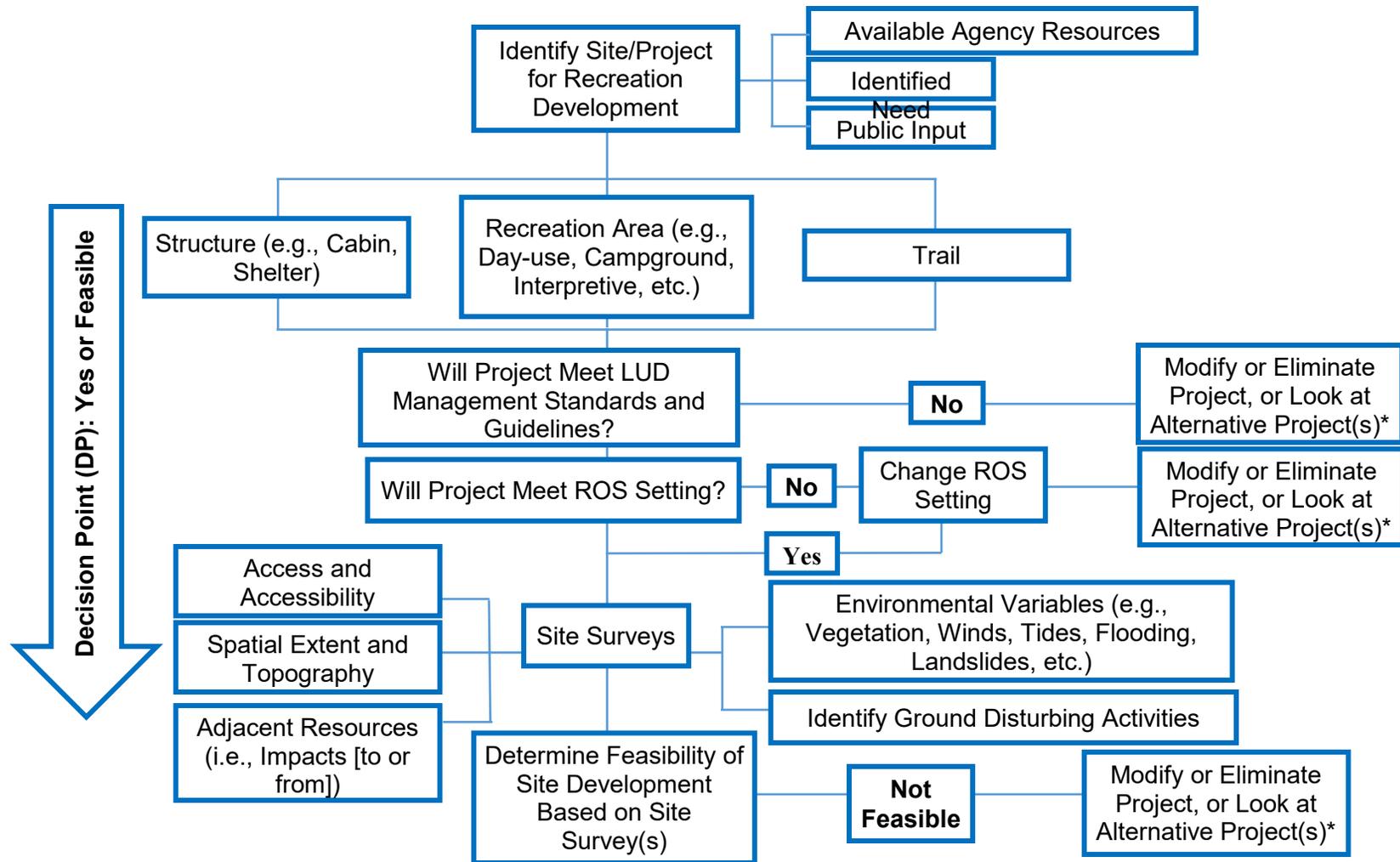
Invasive Plant Management

The following section displays the decision process when determining the treatment options for invasive plants.



Recreation

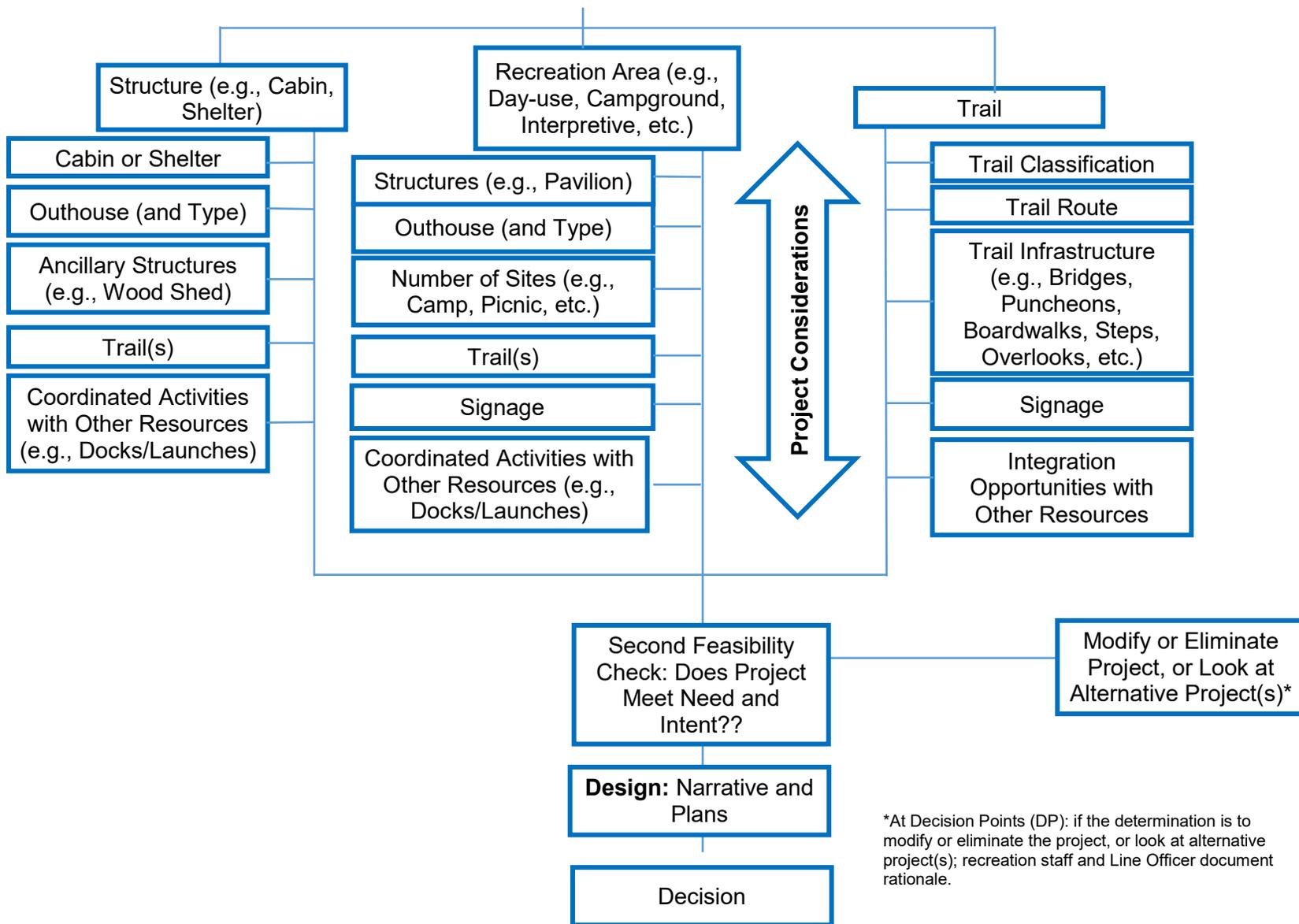
Forest Service recreation infrastructure includes sites and facilities where users can engage in recreation activities. Infrastructure includes, but is not limited to, developed recreation sites, such as trails, picnic/day-use sites, campsites, interpretive sites, and cabins and shelters. The following displays the decision process when determining a site and/or facility for proposed infrastructure.



(Continued Next Page)

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(Continued From Previous Page)

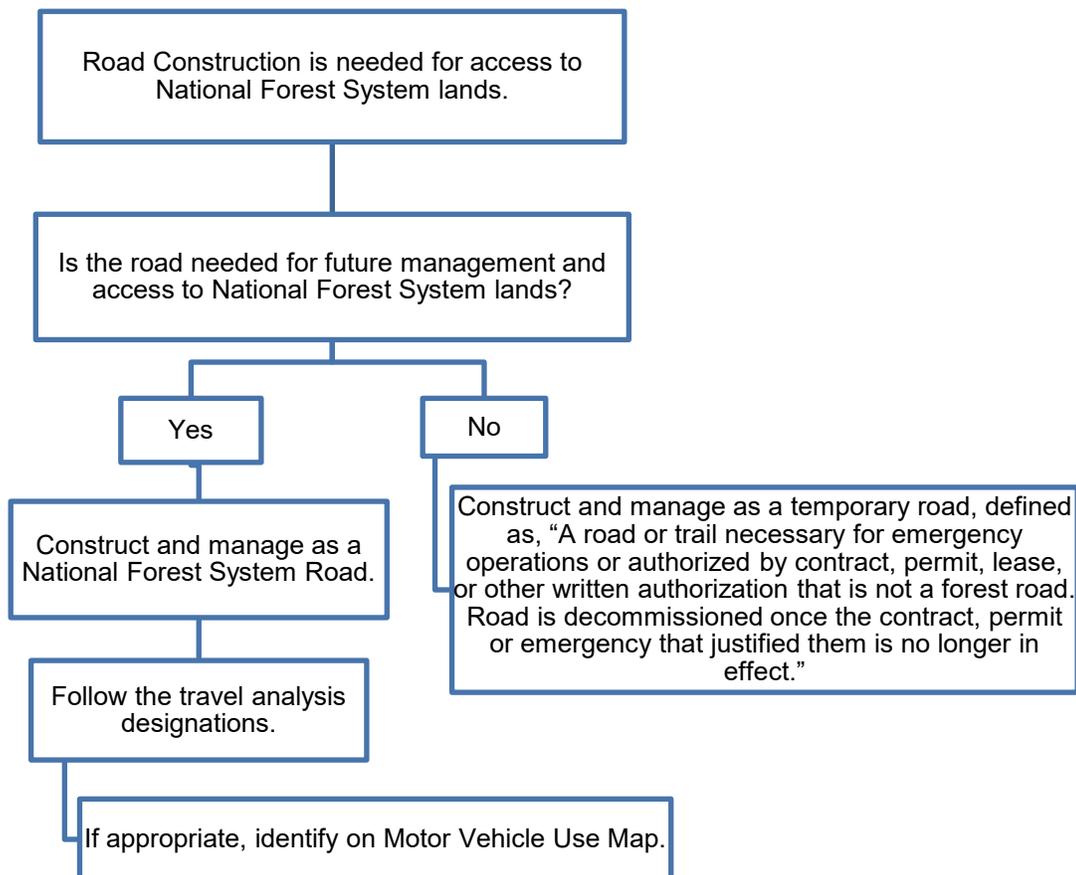


*At Decision Points (DP): if the determination is to modify or eliminate the project, or look at alternative project(s); recreation staff and Line Officer document rationale.

Transportation

The following section displays the decision process for determining road management when there is a need for road construction. Forest Service personnel conduct inventory surveys on roads planned for use in this project. These surveys supply site-specific detailed information about each road (and section of road) surveyed, including:

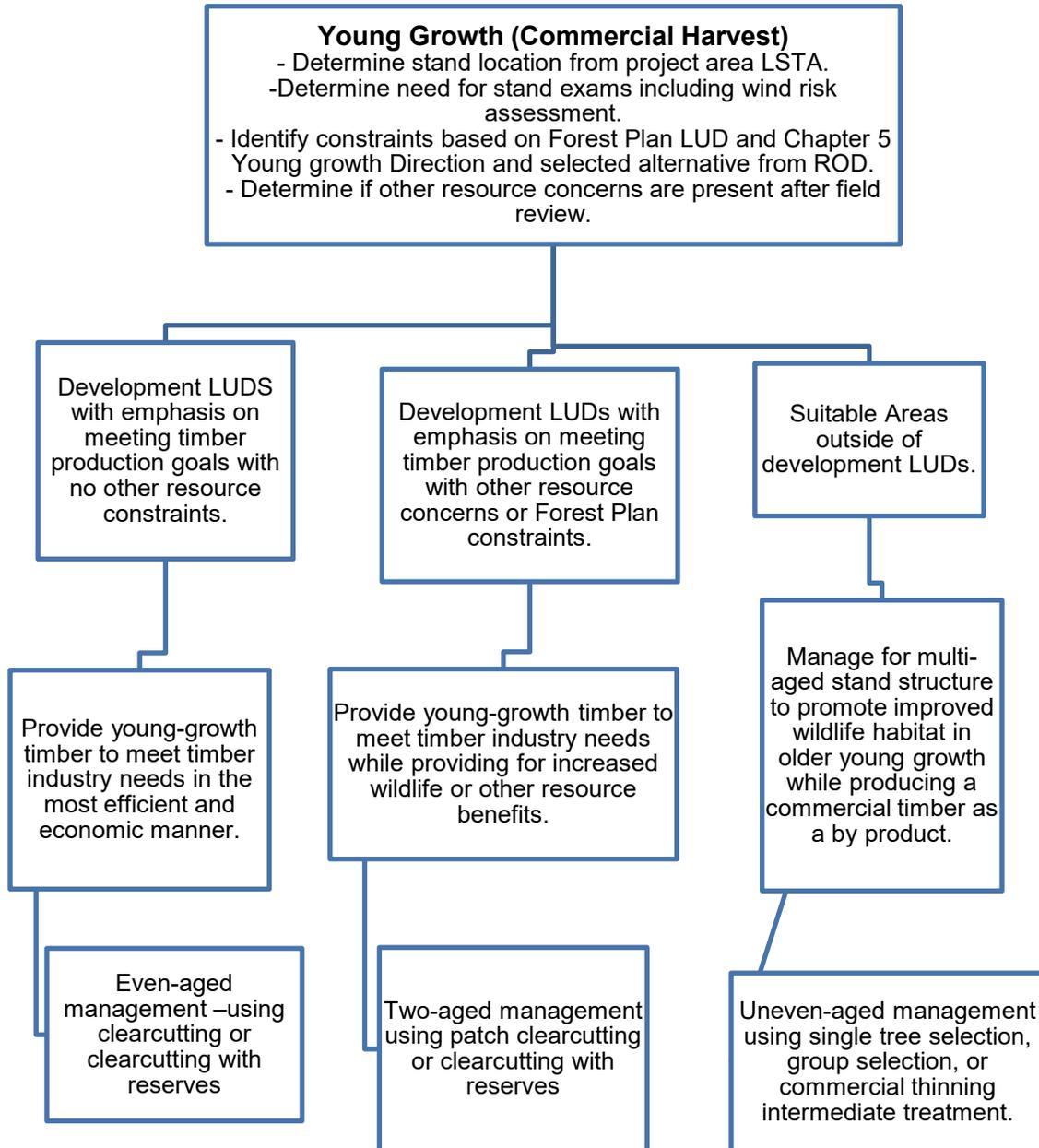
- Whether the road, or a particular section of the road, is drivable
- Number, size, and condition of drainage structures and bridges
- Barriers to vehicle access (vegetation, barrier ditches, pulled bridges, slides, etc.)
- Maintenance requirements
- Verify barriers to fish passage through road drainage structures
- Field locate new road construction routes
- Resource specialists review and if necessary prepare mitigation measures
- Conduct necessary surveys and designs

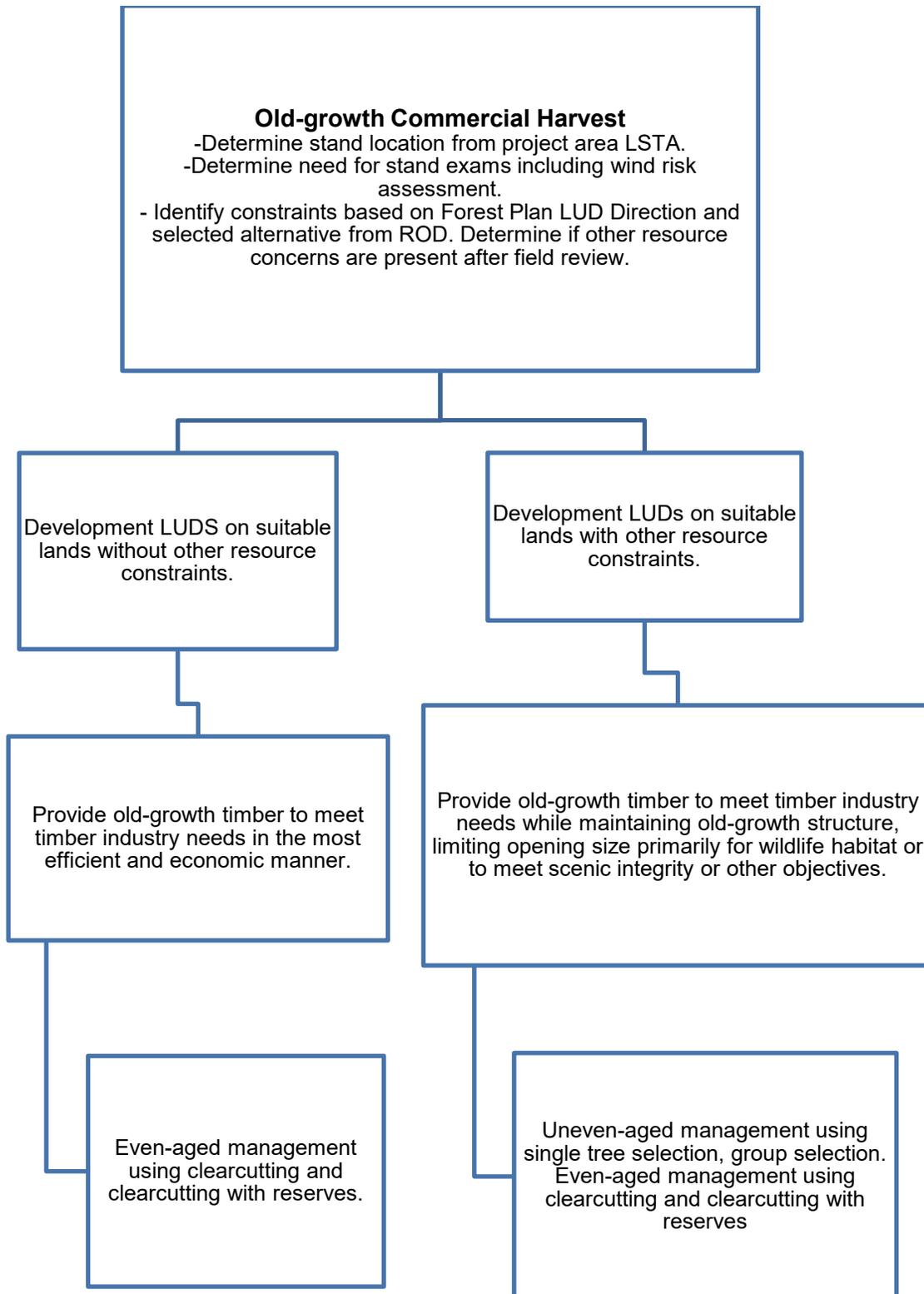


Appendix B

Vegetation Management

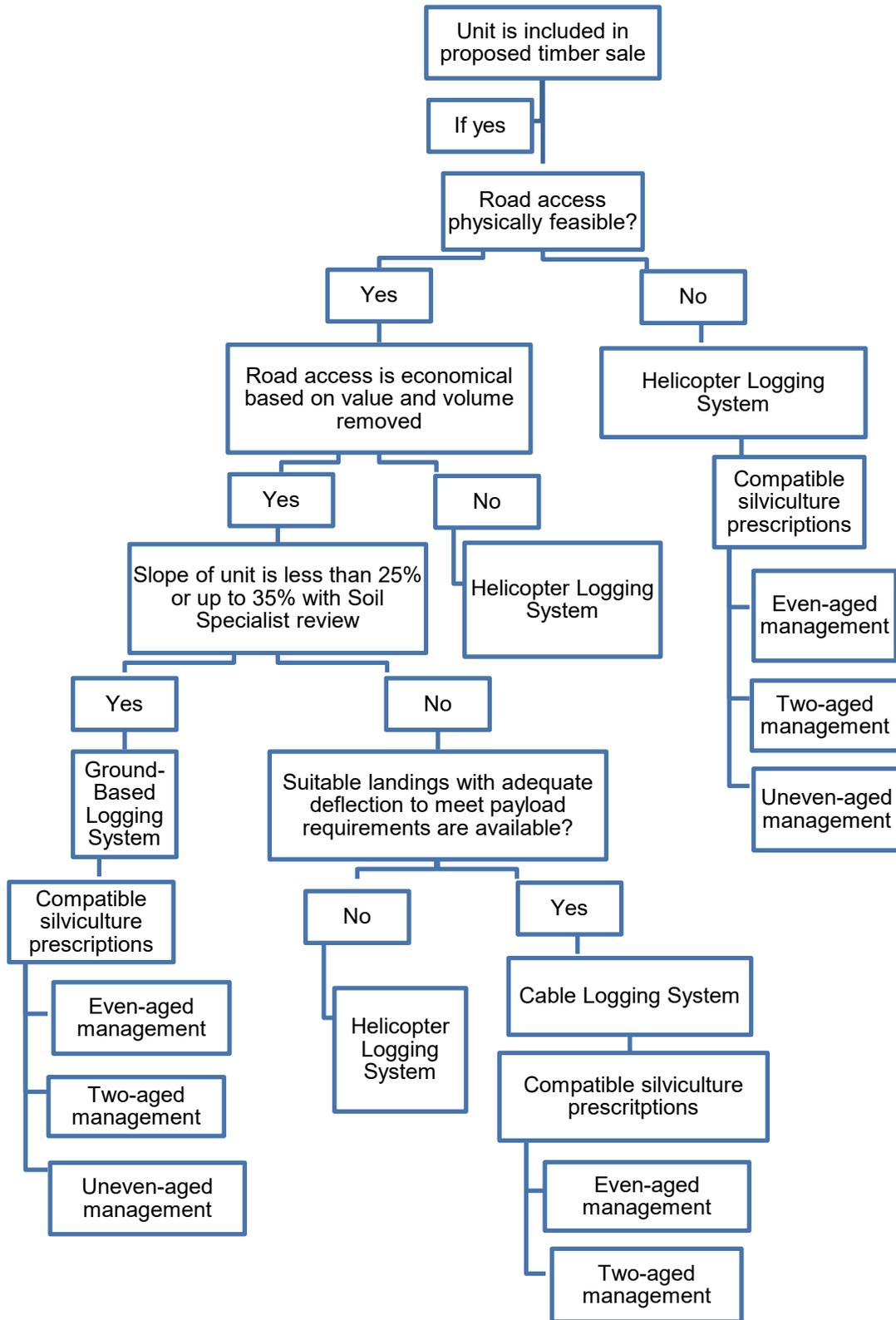
The following section displays the decision process for determining the appropriate silvicultural prescription for proposed young-growth and old-growth commercial harvest, for determining the appropriate logging system for a timber stand, and stand establishment and stand improvement activities. Consider resource specialists' concerns during project planning (e.g., Hydrologist for peak flow rates).

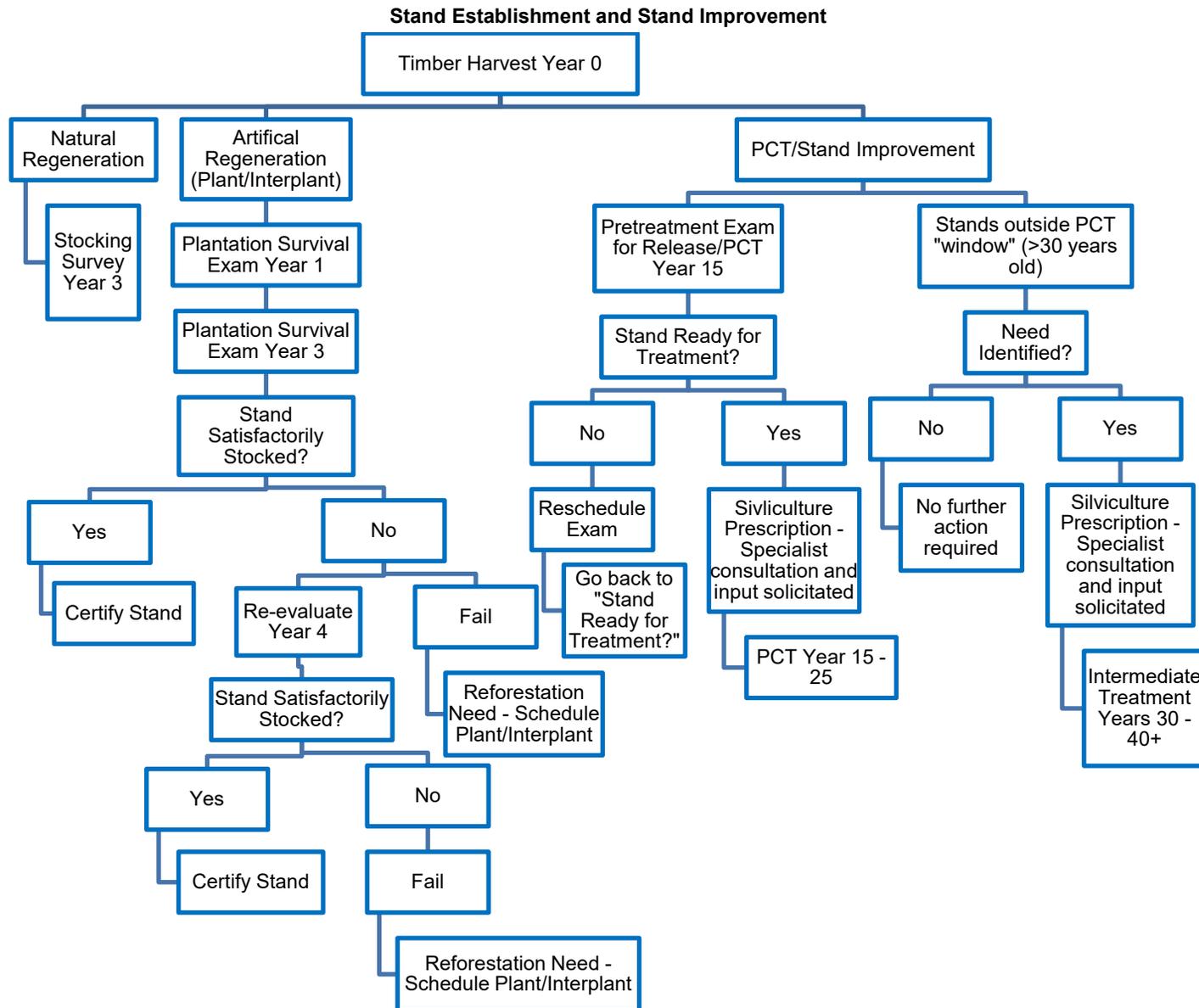




Appendix B

For all proposed timber harvest the most cost effective logging system feasible will be considered first. Management objectives and silviculture prescriptions may dictate logging system.



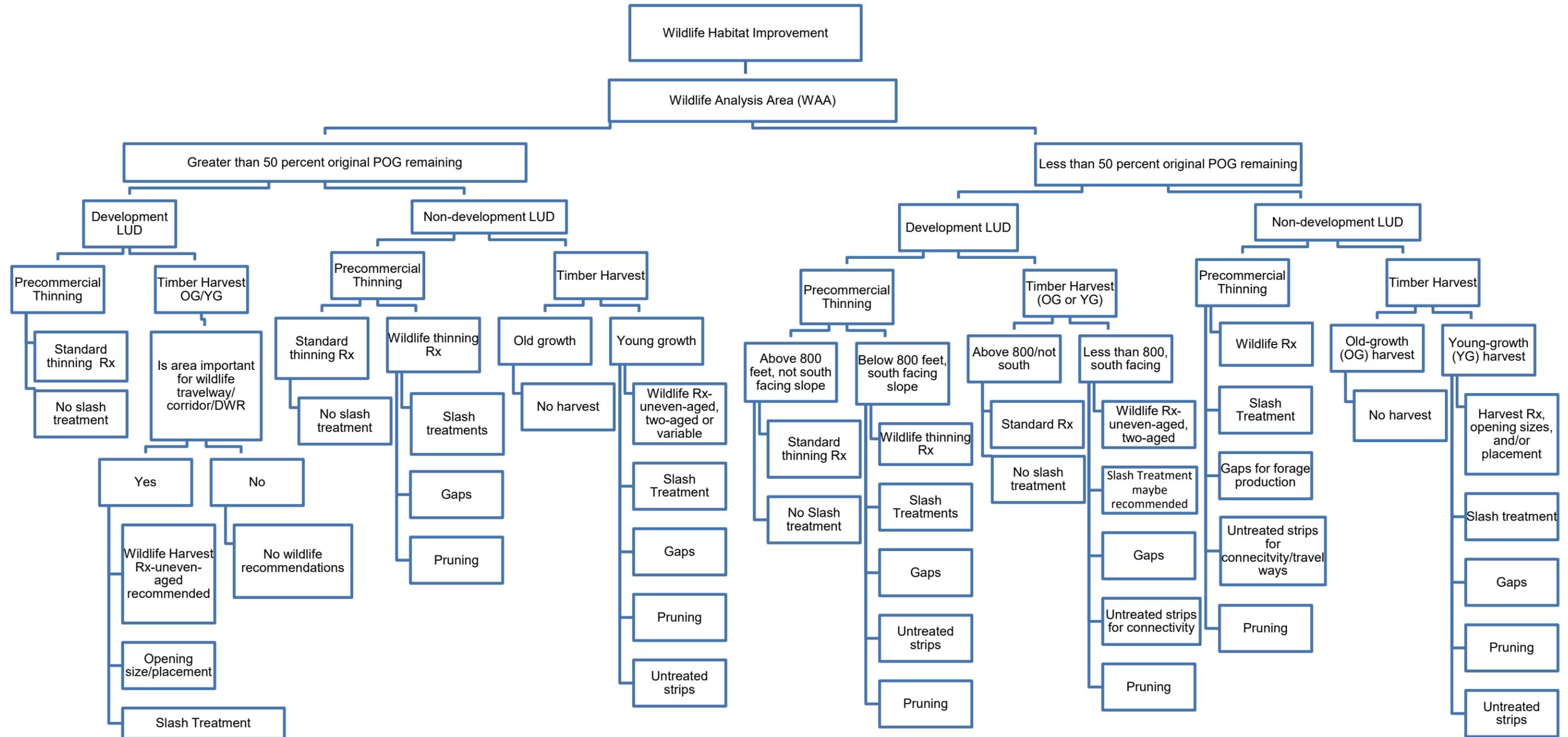


Appendix B

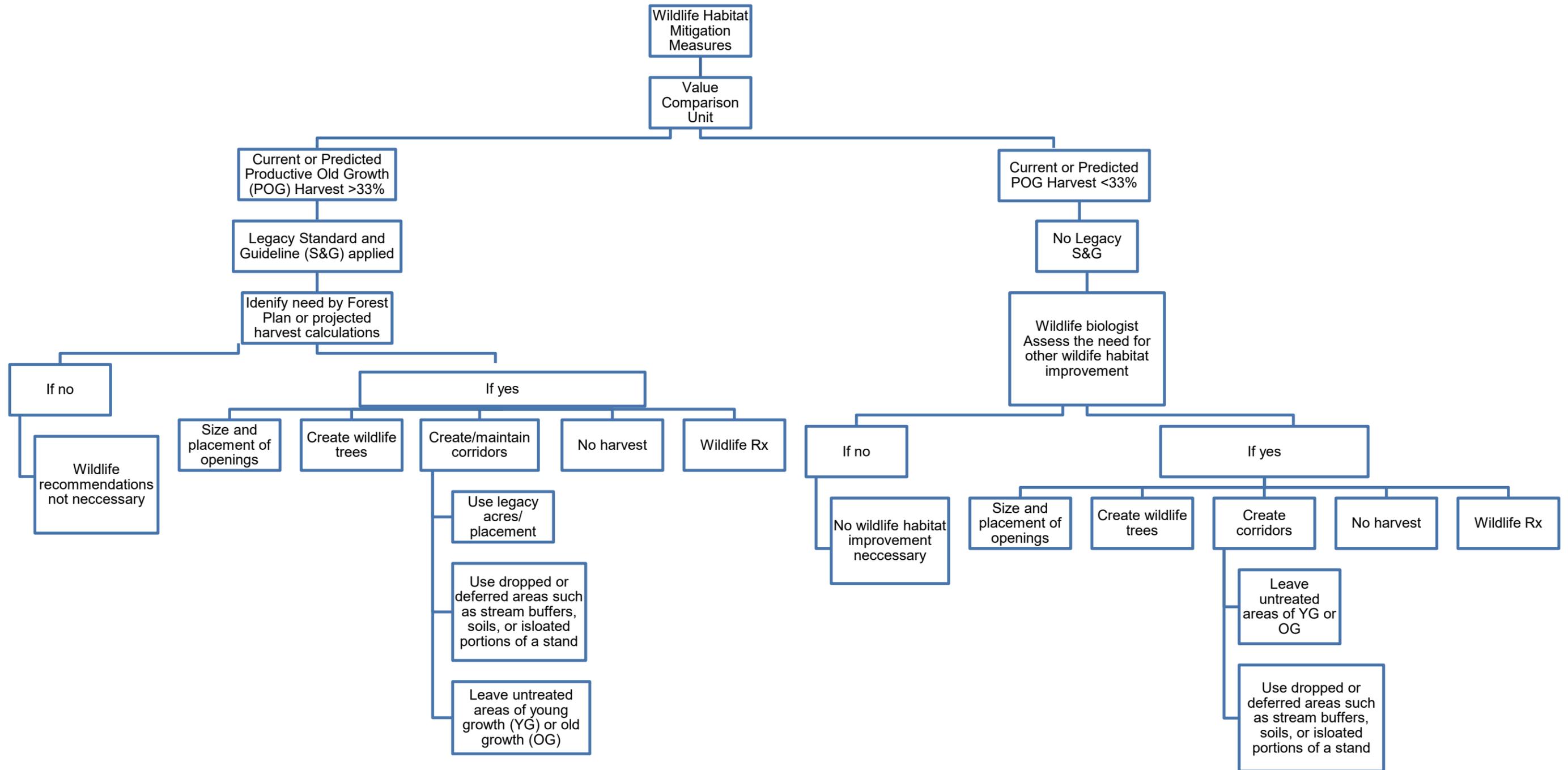
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Wildlife

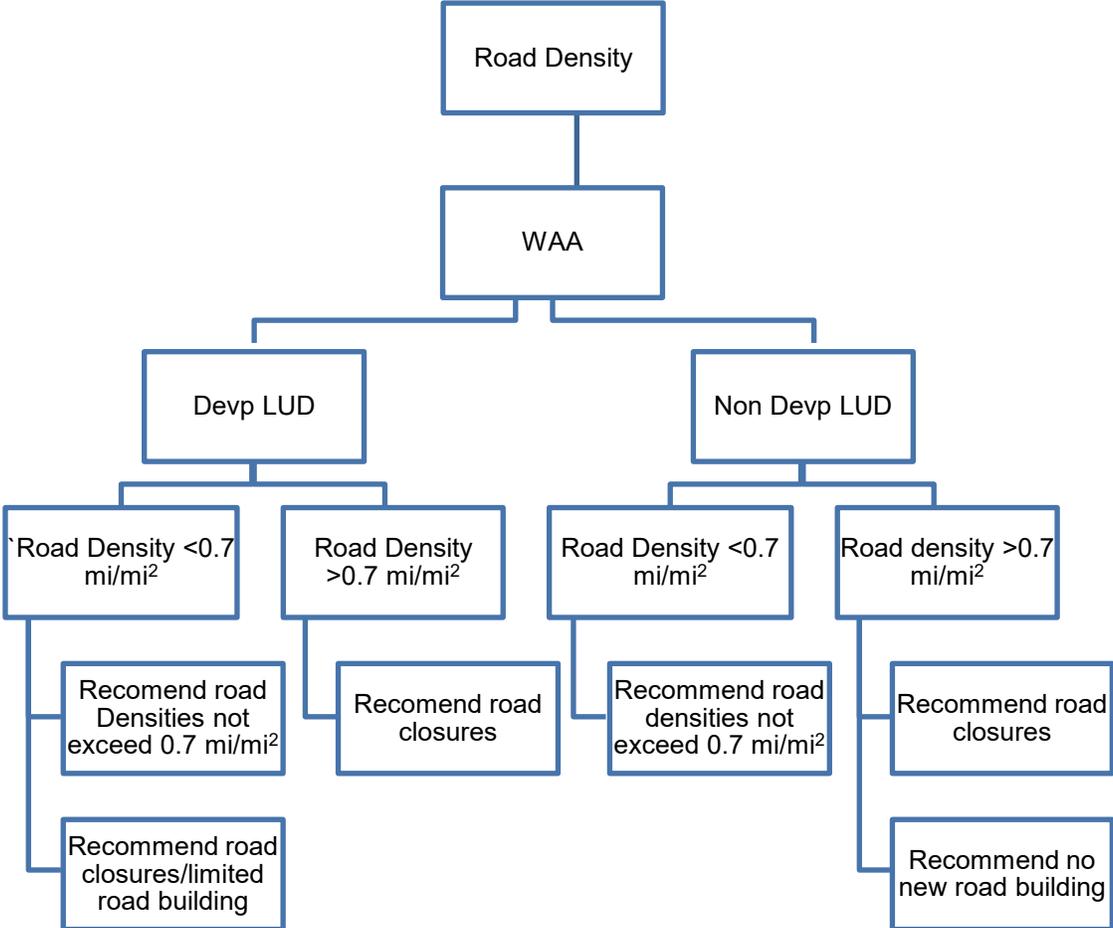
The following section displays the decision process when determining the appropriate wildlife habitat improvement and wildlife enhancement activities.



Applying Wildlife Habitat Mitigation Measures

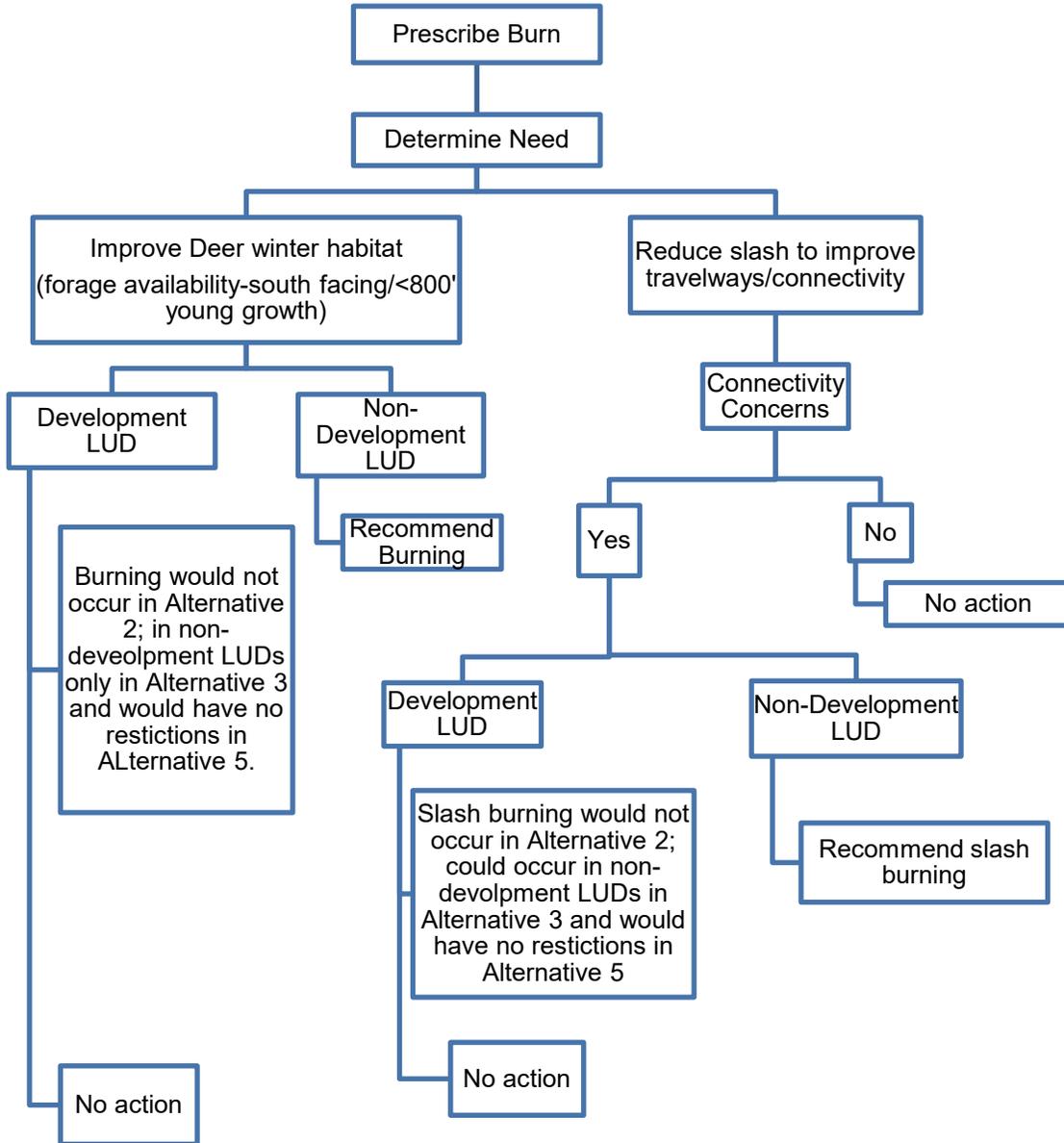


Minimizing road effects to Wildlife Habitat



Appendix B

Decision Tree for implementing Prescribed Burning for Wildlife Habitat Enhancement after Young Growth Harvest



Activity-Specific Resource Requirements

This section contains additional detail regarding how the project activities will be implemented. They include additional sideboards and mitigation measures not identified in the Activity Cards.

Sideboards: a list of requirements designed to guide implementation of on the ground activities to achieve desired conditions while minimizing adverse effects.

Mitigation Measure: an activity or limitation placed upon a project activity to avoid or minimize adverse effects.

Fish and Hydrology

Prior to any ground-disturbing activities, streams in the affected area need to be surveyed so that any mandatory stream protections can be prescribed and implemented. In addition to stream classification and mapping, these surveys can include the hanging of flags and resource tags on streams in/near potential timber harvest units and the hanging of resource tags at stream crossings.

Concurrence with the Alaska Department of Fish & Game is required for any activity occurring below mean high water, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers regulatory permits may be required for some restoration activities.

For timber harvest activities, detectable peak flow increases will be assessed based on the criteria outlined in the FEIS (based on Grant *et al.* 2008) to ensure that effects are within the scope of the effects analysis, consistent with the ROD, and meet Forest Plan goals for fish and water quality. Mitigating factors for detectable changes to peak flow rates include watershed size, location and timing of harvest (how much of a watershed is harvested within a 30-year moving time period), size of canopy openings created, extent and condition of the road system, the effect of riparian no harvest buffers, the nature of the downstream landscape (*e.g.*, are there wetlands or lakes that absorb increased peak flow rates?), and whether or not downstream channel types are geomorphologically vulnerable to changes in upstream peak flow rates.

Temporary roads that might pose a risk to aquatic resources (*e.g.*, excessive erosion) when no longer maintained by timber operations will be closed at the end of operational use. Contractual agreements must ensure that funding will be in place to close temporary roads after the three year firewood and biomass collection period designated in the ROD has expired.

Specific attention will be given to any activity occurring in public drinking water supply source watersheds, young growth timber harvest in any of the TNC/Audubon conservation priority areas or T77 VCUs and young growth timber harvest in RMA or beach fringe areas to ensure that Forest Plan Goals and Objectives, and Standards and Guides are met.

Heritage

In response to discrete activities (undertakings) developed under the umbrella project of this FEIS the Forest Service Heritage Professional shall follow procedures in the *2017 Programmatic Agreement Among the USDA Forest Service, Alaska Region, the Advisory Council On Historic Preservation, and the Alaska State Historic Preservation Officer Regarding Heritage Program Management On National Forests in the State Of Alaska* (PA) (USDA Forest Service 2017) if a finding of “no historic properties affected” or “no adverse effect” is returned. Standard Section 106 procedures shall be applied to activities (undertakings) with findings of “adverse effects”, or when in the professional judgement of the Heritage Professional using Standard Section 106 procedures is warranted.

Appendix B

Should a determination be made that an activity (undertaking) will have an adverse effect on historic properties, Standard Section 106 procedures at 36 CFR 800.5 shall be followed including consultation with the SHPO, and potentially the ACHP. Adverse effects shall be mitigated through a Memorandum of Agreement or a Programmatic Agreement.

Section 106 requires that Alaska Native Tribes, Alaska Native Corporations and other stakeholders, including non-federally recognized tribes, be afforded the opportunity to participate in the Section 106 process. This will be accomplished through government to government consultation and/or public notification processes as appropriate.

Scenery

If an activity card says to consult a scenery resource specialist for that activity, the scenery resource specialist is most effective if brought into the activity as early as possible to help create an activity that is consistent with all applicable components of the Forest Plan. Depending on the scale and location of the activity, plan 1 to 6 months for scenic analysis to be conducted.

Silvicultural Prescriptions

The following timber harvest Activity Cards will require information from walk-through assessments and/or plot-level inventory data for silviculture prescription development. Silvicultural prescriptions will be prepared on an individual stand basis and approved by a Certified Silviculturist using the decision trees displayed earlier in this document, and based on management objectives from Forest Plan LUDs and project-specific constraints identified in the Activity Cards for the POW LLA Project. The following Activity Cards require silvicultural prescriptions:

- 01 – Rotational Harvest of Young Growth Using Even-aged Management;
- 02 – Rotational Harvest of Young Growth Using Two-aged Management;
- 03 – Harvest of Young Growth Using Uneven-aged Management;
- 04 – Commercial Thinning of Young Growth;
- 13 – Rotational Harvest of Old Growth using Even-aged Management; and
- 14 – Harvest of Old Growth using Uneven-aged Management.

There are potentially components of timber harvest in the following list of Activity Cards:

- 15 – Salvage of Dead, Dying, and Damaged Timber;
- 18 – NFS Road Construction;
- 19 – Temporary Road Construction;
- 39 – Winter Sport Access Improvements for Over-the-snow Vehicle Use; and
- 42 – Viewshed Improvements.

Implementation of certain non-timber activities may necessitate the cutting and/or removal of trees in order to meet the objectives of the activity, such as removal of all trees from the road prism for new road construction, or cutting some trees that have grown into the view in front of a recreational cabin for view improvements. Prescriptions may be necessary depending on the scope and scale of the activity and what the long-term goals are for the use of that land; consult the Activity Card and a Certified Silviculturist.

Instructions for the Activity Implementation Checklist Packet

An implementation checklist packet will be prepared using templates on the following pages. These templates are activity and resource checklists that would be used to verify that all implementation process steps have been followed and documented. The instructions below refer to this template.

1. Ensure Steps 1 through 5 of the Implementation Process have been completed prior to the completion of this packet.
2. Keep the implementation record current with all documentation related to implementation. Include a record number in all file names for indexing and long-term record keeping and include the record number on the following pages to show all pertinent files are a part of that record and can be easily obtained.
3. “Activity Information” page: This section is general activity information. For relatively simple activities, all information may be presented here, including map images. For more complex activities, include summary or general information and reference detailed activity information, such as maps, activity design, unit cards, road cards, or other relevant documents.
4. “Process Checklist” page: This section should document all the steps leading up to implementation of the activity and show that the Forest Service has followed the process within this implementation plan. Example: process-related records are listed in the template, but the list for any given activity should include all records disclosing the Forest Service’s process leading up to implementation.
5. The remainder of the template pages are dedicated to resource documentation and rationale for approval of the activities. All documentation referred to should be a part of the implementation record. If separate documentation is not necessary due to the scale or complexity, the space on that template page may be used to disclose any necessary information.

Appendix B

Activity Name

Activity Information

Contact Person and Title:		
Legal Description or Location:		
Activities are within the following LUD(s):		
General Vicinity Description:		
<i>List All Maps and General Activity Documents</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Record Number</i>

This section is general activity information. For relatively simple activities, all information may be presented here, including map images. For more complex activities, the summary for the activity or general information and referenced detailed activity information, such as maps, activity design, unit cards, road cards, or other relevant or required documents would be presented here.

Process Checklist

<i>Step</i>	<i>Document</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Record Number</i>
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			

Refer to all documentation that shows the implementation process was followed. Attached documents that would be listed above could include:

- Applicable Workshop Meeting Notes;
- Out-year Plan(s) activity listed on;
- comments received and summary of comments;
- letters sent or email communications with the public;
- government-to-government consultation documentation with local tribes (including meeting notes, letters sent, etc.);
- notifications printed in *Ketchikan Daily News*; and
- any letters or memos associated with the activity that authorizes it or that the Line Officer has signed off on.

A process summary can occur in this space if needed to explain any of the above.

Appendix B

Botany

<i>Activity Documentation and Information</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Record Number</i>

Standard inclusions above (if documentation is attached) or in this space (if only a few lines are needed) could include: confirmation that the activity fits within the range of effects analyzed in the FEIS and why; if adjustments were made to the original proposal due to this resource; surveys or other form of data collection (attached, or reasoning why not needed); contacts made with the public pertaining to this resource for this activity; compliance with laws and regulations; Biological Assessment, Biological Evaluations, and other records of rare and sensitive species; and any other required documentation.

Name, Title (print and sign)

Date

Appendix B

Heritage

<i>Activity Documentation and Information</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Record Number</i>

Standard inclusions above (if documentation is attached) or in this space (if only a few lines need to be written about it) could include if adjustments were made to the original proposal due to this resource; surveys or other form of data collection (attached, or reasoning why not needed); contacts made with the public pertaining to this resource for this activity; compliance with laws and regulations; Section 106 compliance documentation; SHPO consultation documentation (letters, emails, etc.); any Memorandum of Agreements or other mitigation documents if adverse effects are found; any additional consultation with tribes; if any sites are eligible; and any other required documentation.

Name, Title (print and sign)

Date

Invasive Plants

<i>Activity Documentation and Information</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Record Number</i>

Standard inclusions above (if documentation is attached) or in this space (if only a few lines need to be written about it) could include: confirmation that the activity fits within the range of effects analyzed in the FEIS and why; if adjustments were made to the original proposal due to this resource; surveys or other form of data collection (attached, or reasoning why not needed); contacts made with the public pertaining to this resource for this activity; compliance with laws and regulations; if there are invasive plants located in the project area; previous treatment plans or reports; Invasive Weed Risk Assessment; timing restrictions; and any other required documentation.

Name, Title (print and sign)

Date

Appendix B

Karst

<i>Activity Documentation and Information</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Record Number</i>

Standard inclusions above (if documentation is attached) or in this space (if only a few lines need to be written about it) could include: confirmation that the activity fits within the range of effects analyzed in the FEIS and why; if adjustments were made to the original proposal due to this resource; surveys or other form of data collection (attached, or reasoning why not needed); contacts made with the public pertaining to this resource for this activity; compliance with laws and regulations; karst vulnerability assessment if conducted; maps of low, moderate, and high-vulnerability karst areas and the contributing watersheds if known; compliance with the Federal Cave Resources Protection Act; studies on the karst systems; if there are timing restrictions; and any other required documentation.

Name, Title (print and sign)

Date

Recreation

<i>Activity Documentation and Information</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Record Number</i>

Standard inclusions above (if documentation is attached) or in this space (if only a few lines need to be written about it) could include: confirmation that the activity fits within the range of effects analyzed in the FEIS and why; if adjustments were made to the original proposal due to this resource; surveys or other form of data collection (attached, or reasoning why not needed); contacts made with the public pertaining to this resource for this activity; compliance with laws and regulations; if any developed or dispersed recreation sites are within or near the project area; if there are any timing restrictions; public notifications made/posted; and any other required documentation.

Name, Title (print and sign)

Date

Appendix B

Scenery

<i>Activity Documentation and Information</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Record Number</i>

Standard inclusions above (if documentation is attached) or in this space (if only a few lines need to be written about it) could include: confirmation that the activity fits within the range of effects analyzed in the FEIS and why; if adjustments were made to the original proposal due to this resource; surveys or other form of data collection (attached, or reasoning why not needed); contacts made with the public pertaining to this resource for this activity; compliance with laws and regulations; modeling used to evaluate effects; which, if any, Visual Priority Routes and Use Areas affect the project area; what the Scenic Integrity Objective(s) are and if they are met; and any other required documentation.

Name, Title (print and sign)

Date

Soils and Wetlands

<i>Activity Documentation and Information</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Record Number</i>

Standard inclusions above (if documentation is attached) or in this space (if only a few lines need to be written about it) could include: confirmation that the activity fits within the range of effects analyzed in the FEIS and why; if adjustments were made to the original proposal due to this resource; surveys or other form of data collection (attached, or reasoning why not needed); contacts made with the public pertaining to this resource for this activity; compliance with laws and regulations; if there are steep slopes, highly erosive soils, landslides, wetlands, or alluvial fans located in the project area; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permit(s) and documentation; and any other required documentation.

Name, Title (print and sign)

Date

Appendix B

Timber

<i>Activity Documentation and Information</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Record Number</i>

Standard inclusions above (if documentation is attached) or in this space (if only a few lines need to be written about it) could include: confirmation that the activity fits within the range of effects analyzed in the FEIS and why; if adjustments were made to the original proposal due to this resource; surveys or other form of data collection (attached, or reasoning why not needed); contacts made with the public pertaining to this resource for this activity; compliance with laws and regulations; documentation associated with completion of Gates 1, 2, and 3 if applicable; economics analyses, marking guidelines, cruising data, and layout information; recording of stands designated for small sale strategy if applicable; and any other required documentation.

Name, Title (print and sign)

Date

Transportation

<i>Activity Documentation and Information</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Record Number</i>

Standard inclusions above (if documentation is attached) or in this space (if only a few lines need to be written about it) could include: confirmation that the activity fits within the range of effects analyzed in the FEIS and why; if adjustments were made to the original proposal due to this resource; surveys or other form of data collection (attached, or reasoning why not needed); contacts made with the public pertaining to this resource for this activity; compliance with laws and regulations; Travel Analysis or Access & Travel Management documentation; road activity information associated with the activity; if roads will be added to or removed from the Forest Transportation System; if revisions will be needed for the Motor Vehicle Use Maps; easement or surfacing agreements; and any other required documentation. Document road storage and decommissioning requirements in compliance with immediate needs for storage or decommissioning. Document on road cards as required.

Name, Title (print and sign)

Date

Appendix B

Quarry Development: Rock quarries will be reviewed by an interdisciplinary team prior to implementation. The Line Officer must approve quarry development prior to implementation.

QUARRY DEVELOPMENT CHECKLIST			
Site Name:		District:	
Location Description:			
GPS Coordinates:			
Responsible Party/Contactor:			
Estimated use of Materials Developed:			
Bond Required:	YES []	NO []	
Special restrictions:			
APPROVALS			
Recommended: _____		Date:	
Coordinator			
Approved: _____		Date:	
Line Officer			
STAFF REVIEW			
Timber:		Wildlife:	
Recreation:		Heritage:	
Scenery:		Engineering:	
Geology/Karst:		Fisheries:	
Botany:		Soils:	
Hydrology:			
NOTES			
Use additional pages as needed for site specific details.			

Vegetation Management

<i>Activity Documentation and Information</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Record Number</i>

Standard inclusions above (if documentation is attached) or in this space (if only a few lines need to be written about it) could include: confirmation that the activity fits within the range of effects analyzed in the FEIS and why; if adjustments were made to the original proposal due to this resource; surveys or other form of data collection (attached, or reasoning why not needed); contacts made with the public pertaining to this resource for this activity; compliance with laws and regulations; approved prescriptions; if there will be regeneration needs or intermediate treatments for the stand(s) associated with the activity; and any other required documentation.

Name, Title (print and sign)

Date

Appendix B

Wildlife

<i>Activity Documentation and Information</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Record Number</i>

Standard inclusions above (if documentation is attached) or in this space (if only a few lines need to be written about it) could include: confirmation that the activity fits within the range of effects analyzed in the FEIS and why; if adjustments were made to the original proposal due to this resource; surveys or other form of data collection (attached, or reasoning why not needed); contacts made with the public pertaining to this resource for this activity; compliance with laws and regulations; Biological Assessment, Biological Evaluations, and other records of T&E/Rare/Sensitive species; consultation with State and Federal Agencies; if there are any timing restrictions for the activity; and any other required documentation.

Name, Title (print and sign)

Date

ROD Implementation Tracking Form

This form will be used to track actions for which there are limits specified in the Record of Decision. Limits may be for the amount of an activity that can occur, either in total, within a timeframe (such as annually), or if there is a maximum within a geographical area. The limit may also be related to an effect caused by implementation, if it requires tracking from one activity to the next to ensure that limit is not exceeded in the life of the POW LLA Project.

Activity and Maximum Allowable:		Old-growth Timber Harvest	Young-growth Timber Harvest	Precommercial Thinning	Stream Restoration	New NFS Road Construction	Legacy Acres
<i>Activity Name</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>XXX MMBF</i>	<i>XXX MMBF</i>	<i>4,500 acres annually</i>	<i>XX Miles</i>	<i>XX Miles</i>	
<i>Insert new rows above with new activities and update #s</i>							
Total Remaining:							

Note that all pertinent activities or trackable measures would be added and included depending upon the selected alternative and its components.