

Dungeness Watershed Action Plan Criteria for Ratings

Numerical ratings were assigned to the proposed projects in order to quantify the relative importance of each project. The numerical rating reflects the consistency of each project with a specific land management or species direction, and the relative contribution to the attainment of the desired future condition for the resource area. Projects judged to have beneficial effects were given positive rankings, those with no effect were given a zero, and those with detrimental effects were given a negative ranking. Not all criteria were applicable to all projects, as it depended on the scope and scale of project as it related to a resource.

Fisheries

<u>Type of project</u>	<u>Criteria</u>
Aquatic Organism Passage	Amount of fish habitat reconnected
Large Wood Placement	Amount of habitat improved (i.e., increase pool habitat, amount old side channels re-activated, increase cover, etc.)
Road	Reduction of sediment delivery to streams, and proximity to fish habitat, road segment historically sedimentation problem
Other projects	Potential to generate sediment delivery to streams, and proximity to fish habitat

Soils and Hydrology

- Number of stream crossings (perennial and intermittent)
- Landforms, erosive/unstable soils and historic mass wasting/erosion
- Steepness of slopes/slope shape/concavity
- High road densities
- For other project proposals - hazard/risk potential and likely success of mitigating/controlling sedimentation and routing of water, effectiveness of Best Management Practices.

Wildlife & Botany

- Land Allocation: Adaptive Management Area versus Late-Successional Reserve
- Distance to or presence of Late-successional/Old-growth habitat (Direct impacts, connectivity and disturbance)
- Presence of Critical Habitat of spotted owl or marbled murrelet
- Distance to occupied sites of marbled murrelets, spotted owls, or sensitive species.
- Potential habitat for survey and manage species
- Game species impacts: distance to foraging, security areas and habitat improvement projects. road density effects (disturbance and security)
- Presence of wetlands and/or botanical areas or rare habitats
- Invasive plant species presence or potential to spread into important habitats
- Aquatic organism connectivity (amphibians, etc) in streams and other water quality effects on riparian productivity.

Vegetation (Silviculture)

Road Upgrades

Road upgrades were considered to be beneficial due to retention of access for future vegetation management and fire suppression. Ratings were assigned based on the relative area of managed stands accessed by each road segment.

Road Decommissioning and/or Conversion to Trails

These categories of projects remove access for future management, and were judged to have negative effects. For some stands within LSR, coordination of these projects with treatments designed to accelerate the development of late-successional habitat could decrease these negative effects by increasing the probability that stands will attain the desired future condition within the next century. Stands associated with each road segment were grouped based on stand age and potential silvicultural treatment type, including precommercial thinning, commercial thinning and future commercial thinning (within the next 20 years).

The criteria used to assign ratings are displayed in the table below, with an additional -1 was added to the value given in the table below for roads that provide access to stands predominately designated as Adaptive Management Areas (at least 30 acres). As a result, the final ratings ranged from 0 to -3 for projects in this category.

Condition	Value
Less than 30 ac (regardless of road length)	0
Accesses at least 100 ac. per mile	-1
Accesses at least 150 ac. per mile	-2

Recreation

- Sustainable trails
- Sustainable recreation sites
- Cost to maintain new sites (strain on budget)
- Commitment of organized volunteer group
- Ability to maintain access to the forest, trails, and recreation sites
- Address public wants and needs, including loop trails and dispersed recreation opportunities