

## Updated List of Recommendations - UMF WA 2008 Update

### Mixed Conifer Forest Type Analysis

Somewhere around 2,274 acres of closed canopy, mid-development young forest and 7,648 acres of closed canopy late-successional forest need to be treated in some fashion to make them considerably less dense. See Appendix B, Table 1, page 13 (*Reference 9e, 17a, 21a, 35a, 35c, 35d, 43a*)(*references the number given to recommendations from previously WAs*)

A Forest Plan amendment is recommended to create a Management Area with the goals and objectives for restoring and maintaining an open forest type for biodiversity enhancement.

Prioritize treatment in areas not encumbered by conflicting land uses such as Critical Habitat Units or Late-Successional Reserves.

The areas to focus on would be the northwestern portion of the forest type; that area from Deadhorse Creek to Hill's Creek Reservoir which includes the Buck, Cone, Estep, Pine, Boulder, and Young's Creek drainages. Additionally, the Jim's Oak Patch and surrounding area (the lower portions of the Coal and Indian Creek drainages) should also be considered for immediate restoration.

There are also several areas outside the contiguous Mixed Conifer forest type (and hence outside of the Seral Stage Condition Class analysis presented above) that exhibit similar vegetative characteristics and are not encumbered by other land use classifications. Those areas could generate some biodiversity benefits if restored, but would likely not have a large effect on the Fire Regime Condition Class of the landscape. These areas include portions of the Willow, Little Willow, and Bull Creek drainages east of the Hill's Creek Reservoir, and the areas adjacent to and including Packard Creek Campground on the west shore of the Reservoir.

### Botany

#### Non-Forested Special Habitats Recommendations

- Use prescribed burning to keep the disturbance regime in fire maintained special habitat communities as long as mitigation against increasing noxious weeds can be effective. (*Reference 17a, 27*)
- Target non-forested special habitats for noxious weed survey and control using mechanical, biological and chemical methods within guidelines set by the Willamette National Forest's Integrated Weed Management Environmental Assessment (March 2007)
- Restore and maintain special habitat areas. (*Reference 20*)

### **Specific Area Recommendations**

*The areas below are specific recommendations. Other areas that are recommended for treatment are special habitats in the Buck Creek 5<sup>th</sup> field watershed, Little Willow Creek and any planning area that has these features.*

#### **Calapooya Divide**

- Reconnaissance of these meadows is needed to plan treatment methods and priorities.
- Use whip felling, tree falling, broadcast burning, and seeding with natives to restore meadows.
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#### **Grassy Glade Meadow**

- Manually pull St. John's wort, cut and chemically treat the isolated blackberry patch along the road side. Cut and scatter conifers under 10" dbh around the meadow edge and along the fingers of the meadow.

#### **Bear Mountain Meadow**

- Visit to decide treatment methods.
- Treat weeds, increase big game forage, possibly cut encroaching conifers around meadow edge.

#### **Rigdon Point**

- This area should be visited and surveyed by fire, botany, ecology and silvicultural personnel to determine possible treatments to increase habitat for knobcone pine.

### **Botanical Species**

- Most of the watershed has not been surveyed for sensitive species. Inventory and document sensitive species sites during project planning. *(Reference 31)*
- Monitor known sensitive plant locations to insure that their habitats are being maintained for the persistence of the species. *(Reference 31)*
- Control or eradicate invasive species, remove vehicle access to sensitive plant sites, and manage vegetation to maintain sensitive species habitat.
- Restore and manage potential habitat for sensitive species.

### **Botanical Species Distribution Recommendations**

*(Reference #33)*

- Most of the watershed has not been inventoried for non-native species. Inventory and document invasive species.
- Species that are new invaders to the watershed will be targeted for eradication. Established weed populations will be prioritized for treatment and treated.
- Noxious weeds will be controlled using mechanical, biological and chemical methods within guidelines set by the Willamette National Forest's Integrated Weed Management Environmental Assessment (March 2007).
- Roads that are listed for closure in this analysis and update will be surveyed and pre-treated for invasive plant species.
- Invasive plant species in the Hills Creek Reservoir area will be treated in accordance with the related plan (Hills Creek Reservoir Plan 2008).

## Re-vegetation Recommendations

- Genetically appropriate (local) native plant materials are the first choice for restoration and rehabilitation where timely natural regeneration of the native plant community is not likely to occur. *National Policy is Forest Service Manual Chapter 2000, Chapter 2070- Vegetation Ecology 1/14/08*
- In 2005 the *USDA Forest Service Decision Notice for Pacific Northwest Region Invasive Plant Program Preventing and Managing Invasive Plants, ROD* amended our Forest Plan to include Standard 13: "Native plant materials are the first choice in revegetation for restoration and rehabilitation where timely natural regeneration of the native plant community is not likely to occur."
- Use native local genetic seed as the first choice when seeding any areas. Use weed free or native straw for mulch.
- Areas that are disturbed from maintenance

## Fire and Fuels

Prescribing controlled burning in timber harvest areas where dead/down fuel loadings are not excessive and residual trees are fire resistant species and >15"dbh. (Vegetation Condition and Pattern—Fire Process (p.104 of 1998 document)

## Road Management

See Appendix D for listing of recommended road work.(reference

## Fisheries

- 1). Continue Phase II and III work at Indigo Springs to provide bull trout passage at Rd. 2100 and complete the new spawning channel reference(*Reference 3c*).
  - a) Phase II will complete the upstream portion of the spawning channel.
  - b) Phase III connect the upper spawning channel with lower channel by competing a passage structure under Rd 2100.
  - c) Continue to develop Indigo Springs into an outdoor education arena where the public can witness bull trout in the wild.
- 2). Continue LWM placement in the MFW and tributaries occupied by bull trout and spring Chinook salmon (*Reference 4, 5a, 5b, 5c, 48a, 49b*)
  - a) Swift Creek, from confluence of Bear Creek to confluence with Middle Fork Willamette (three miles of habitat).
  - b) Bear Creek, from confluence with Swift Creek upstream to Rd 2149 crossing (two miles), if it is determined that bull trout continue to use these sections.

- c) Echo Creek from the confluence with Middle Fork Willamette upstream two miles.
  - d) Middle Fork Willamette River from confluence of tumblebug Creek to Sand Prairie Campground.
  - e) Staley Creek, from confluence with Middle Fork Willamette upstream two miles.
- 3). Continue to close high risk roads that were identified in ATM and focus on areas around high quality bull trout and salmon habitat (*Reference 3f, 14, 50b,*).
- a) list in spreadsheet the red roads in the three polygons from the 2002 WA update.
  - b) Field truth roads deemed high risk and focus on roads with greatest potential to contribute sediments to the stream network.
- 4). Analyze historic data and information to better understand what the river system looked like historically. Understand when we have reached a “completed” level in adding wood to the MF (*Reference 3g*).
- 5). Monitor bull trout populations annually. Continue PIT tag tracking program to monitor adult spawning populations and trapping operations for juveniles (*Reference 1b, 3g,*).
- 6). Complete repair, removal or replacement of top ten impassable culverts (see Map 1) (*Reference 3e*)
- |                           |                               |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| a) Indigo Spring Rd. 2100 | f) South Fork Staley Creek    |
| b) Buck Creek Rd. 2100    | g) Noisy Creek Rd. 2100       |
| c) Upper Coal             | h) Simpson Creek Rd. 2135-283 |
| d) Lower Coal Rd. 2134    | i) Bear Creek Rd. 2149        |
| e) Windfall Rd. 2117      | j) Gold Creek Rd. 2117.138    |
- 7). Continue to transfer genetic material from the McKenzie watershed to ensure a prolonged and viable bull trout population.
- 8). Assess bull trout usage of Hills Creek Reservoir and other areas such as Hills Creek Watershed.
- 9) Conduct habitat modeling exercise to show all habitat favorable to bull trout life cycle in the watershed.
- 10) Maintain Human use statement and Wild and Scenic options as listed in WA pg 103

## **Big Game Habitat Management**

The top five big game emphasis areas recommended for road closures are:

1. Upper Staley and Lower Staley
2. Buck Creek 6th
3. Coffeepot Creek
4. Paddy's Valley
5. Swift Creek

## Hydrologic Recovery Percentages

The following tables present an updated analysis of the hydrologic aggregated recovery percentages for the Forest Plan planning subdrainages in both the Upper Middle Fork and Hill Creek Reservoir watershed.

PSUB #	PSUB Name	Forest Plan Mid Point ARP	Current 2008 ARP	
187	Hatchery	70		
18A	Oakridge	60		
20A	Montieth Rock	75		
211	Deadhorse	75		
212	Indian South	70		
213	Rigdon	70		
214	Coffeepot	70		
215	Waterdog	70		
216	Emile Fir	75		
217	South Packard	75		
218	Coal Fork	70		
219	Gold	75		
21A	Modoc	65		
21B	Willow	70		
21C	Coffeepot Head	75		
21D	Powder Buck	70		
21E	Cone Bills	70		
21F	Dry Pine	70		
21G	Young	70		
21H	Deadwood	65		
21I	Steeple	70		
21J	Coal Center	70		
21K	Coal Head	70		
21L	Indian North	70		
21M	Spring Snake	75		
21N	Bohemia	75		
21P	Windfall	75		
21Q	McFarland	75		
21R	Packard North	75		
21S	Stony Snow	75		
21T	Packard Cove	75		
21U	Larison Head	75		
21V	Larison Mouth	75		
21W	Lower Larison	75		
21X	Major Alias	75		
21Y	Gray Deception	75		
21Z	Chilly Spot	70		
22A	CT Beach	70		

<b>PSUB #</b>	<b>PSUB Name</b>	<b>Forest Plan Mid Point ARP</b>	<b>Current 2008 ARP</b>	
231	Potter	70		
232	Laura's Neighbor	70		
233	Umpqua Staley	65		
234	Rigdon Point	70		
235	Spider Plus	70		
236	Little Dome	65		
237	River	70		
238	Calapooya	70		
239	Dome	70		
23A	Warner Simpson	70		
23B	Simpson	70		
23C	Noisy Head	65		
23D	Noisy Mouth	75		
23E	Coulee Moss	70		
23F	Swift Head	65		
23G	Bear	65		
23H	Lower Bear	65		
23I	Indigo Skunk	75		
23J	Corrigan Gulch	65		
23K	Emmigrant Beaver	65		
23L	Paddy's Center	75		
23M	Paddy's Valley	75		
23N	Start O' Willamette	60		
23P	Tumblebug	65		
23Q	Douglas Lane	70		
23R	Gorge	70		
23S	McGowan Tumble	65		
23T	Lighthouse	65		
23U	Grassy Echo	75		
23V	Echo East	70		
23W	Echo Start	60		
23X	North Fork Lizard	65		
23Y	South X	60		
23Z	Staley South Fork	65		

The following subdrainages are recommended to having the midpoint ARP percentages i

## Riparian Reserve Vegetation Conditions

6 <sup>th</sup> field Subwatershed				
Buck				
Coal				
Echo				
Gray				
Larison				
Packard				
Paddy's Valley				
Pioneer Gulch				
Staley				
Swift				

The top three sub-watersheds recommended for silviculture treatments in the Riparian Reserve to improve stand conditions are:

1. Buck
2. XXX
3. XXX