

F2 MILL CREEK MUNICIPAL WATERSHED - UNDEVELOPED

GOALS

PROVIDE WATER AT A LEVEL OF QUALITY AND QUANTITY WHICH, WITH PRIMARY TREATMENT BY THE MUNICIPALITY, WILL RESULT IN A SATISFACTORY AND SAFE POTABLE WATER SUPPLY.

DESCRIPTION

The management area applies to all land in the Mill Creek Municipal Watershed above the intake, located in Section 12, Township 6 North, Range 37 East, W.M. The area was established as a municipal watershed by a cooperative agreement between the City of Walla Walla and the Secretary of Agriculture on June 26, 1918 (USDA Secretary 191 8). The watershed, comprising 21,740 acres, is located in Oregon and Washington.

DESIRED FUTURE CONDITION

Natural vegetative conditions will occur throughout the watershed. Riparian areas will be in natural condition except where activities associated with culinary water supply development occur. The watershed will not be grazed by domestic livestock. Administrative and recreation access will continue to be restricted to meet water quality goals. The quantity and quality of surface waters shall be maintained or enhanced and will be suitable for culinary use by the City of Walla Walla after treatment

MANAGEMENT AREAS STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES

RECREATION

Special big game hunts are allowed by permit for the purpose of protecting water quality. Other recreation activity is not allowed. Off-highway vehicle use is prohibited.

VISUAL

Meet Partial Retention visual quality objectives.

CULTURAL

Meet Forest-wide Standards and Guidelines.

WILDLIFE

Meet Forest-wide Standards and Guidelines.

Dead and down tree habitat will be managed to provide or maintain 80 percent of the potential population level for all primary cavity excavators and maintained for other cavity users.

FISH

Meet Forest-wide Standards and Guidelines.

RANGE

Livestock grazing is not permitted

TIMBER

No scheduled timber harvest activities are permitted. Firewood cutting is not permitted.

WATER

Provide water at a level of quality which meets Federal and state standards, and which, with primary treatment by the municipality, will result in a satisfactory and safe potable water supply.

Water resource management shall be conducted as follows:

1. Administer cooperative agreement with the City of Walla Walla;
2. monitor water quantity and quality;
3. administer area closure and provide a watershed rider;
4. administer permit system to control entry;
5. cooperate with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and Washington Department of Wildlife on permit system;
6. coordinate with the Washington Department of Health; and
7. sanitary regulations will be observed by persons who occupy or are employed in the watershed.

SOIL

Meet Forest-wide Standards and Guidelines.

MINERALS

Lands within the watershed are withdrawn from all forms of location, entry, and patent under mining laws, and from disposition under laws pertaining to mineral leasing.

LANDS

As opportunities arise and as needed, acquire watershed lands to improve overall watershed management.

Meet Forest-wide Standards and Guidelines for lands and land uses.

TRANSPORTATION

Construction of transportation facilities is not permitted. Maintain existing trails.

FIRE

The area is high priority for control of wildfires. The appropriate wildfire suppression response should emphasize control strategies.

If retardant is needed for any reason, only water will be used. Tractor use will not be permitted on slopes of over 50 percent or within riparian areas. Fire suppression activities may require restoration and/or other mitigation to maintain water quality and quantity.

If catastrophic conditions occur, rehabilitation practices may be used all rehabilitation activities will be directed toward protecting or improving water quality, quantity, and timing. Projects will be coordinated with the City of Walla Walla.

FUELS

Use of prescribed fire is permitted outside the riparian influence zone where needed to improve watershed conditions or reduce significant risk of watershed damaging wildfire. Prescribed burns are designed, located and scheduled to minimize risk of short term degradation of water quality.

PESTS

Use integrated pest management (IPM) principals and strategies in managing insects and diseases to meet management objectives. Management of insects and diseases (including suppression activities) is permitted, in coordination with the City of Walla Walla, to prevent unacceptable damage in the watershed. The preferred method is use of biological controls.

GENERAL

If conflicts occur between direction in Management Area D2, Research Natural Area, and direction for the Mill Creek Municipal Watershed, Management Area F2 requirements will prevail in order to meet municipal watershed objectives.