



Forest Road 6808 Potential Control Line Treatments

Skamania County, Washington

Consistency Determination (CD-25-03-S)

Background

The Gifford Pinchot National Forest (GPNF) proposes to conduct Potential Control Line thinning within 500 feet of Forest Road 6808, including thinning of up to 8-inch diameter at breast height trees, roadside mastication of vegetation, and use of prescribed fire and pile burning. Road 6808 traverses the boundary between the GPNF and the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area (CRGNSA); portions of the road within the CRGNSA were included within the project area. In order to implement the project within the CRGNSA, a Consistency Determination was required as part of the GPNF's environmental review and decision-making process. GPNF is the lead agency for this project and will be responsible for implementation of the project, consistent with their Finding of No Significant Impacts and Decision Notice for the project as well as this Consistency Determination.

Decision

I find that the above proposal is consistent with the Management Plan for the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area (CRGNSA) if it is implemented as described in the application materials, the CRGNSA Consistency Determination and Findings of Fact referenced as CD-25-03-S, and provided the following conditions are applied:

1. The use of native plant species of the Columbia River Gorge shall be required for any necessary restoration activities.
2. The inadvertent discovery procedure described in the Cultural Resources section of this Consistency Determination shall be followed in the event that cultural resources are discovered during construction.

Administrative Review (Appeal) Opportunities

A written request for review of the National Scenic Area Consistency Determination, with reasons to support the request, must be received within 20 days of the date shown with the Forest Supervisor signature below. Requests for review should be addressed to: Request for Review, Regional Forester, P.O. Box 3623, Portland, OR 97208. An electronic copy of the request should be provided to the USFS-CRGNSA Office at 902 Wasco Street, Suite 315, Hood River, Oregon 97031, ATTN Appeals, and/or emailed to appeals-pacificnorthwest-columbia-river-gorge-nsa@usda.gov.



Implementation Date

This project may begin immediately after the date of this decision. Project implementation must comply with the conditions of approval described above. The Consistency Determination expires two years after the date on this determination. If implementation has not commenced before that date, a new consistency review or request for extension shall be required.

NICOLAS GRANUM
Deputy Forest Supervisor
Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area

Date



CRGNSA Consistency Determination Forest Road 6808 Potential Control Line Treatments, CD-25-03-S Parcel/Tax Lot # 03080000010000, Skamania County, Washington

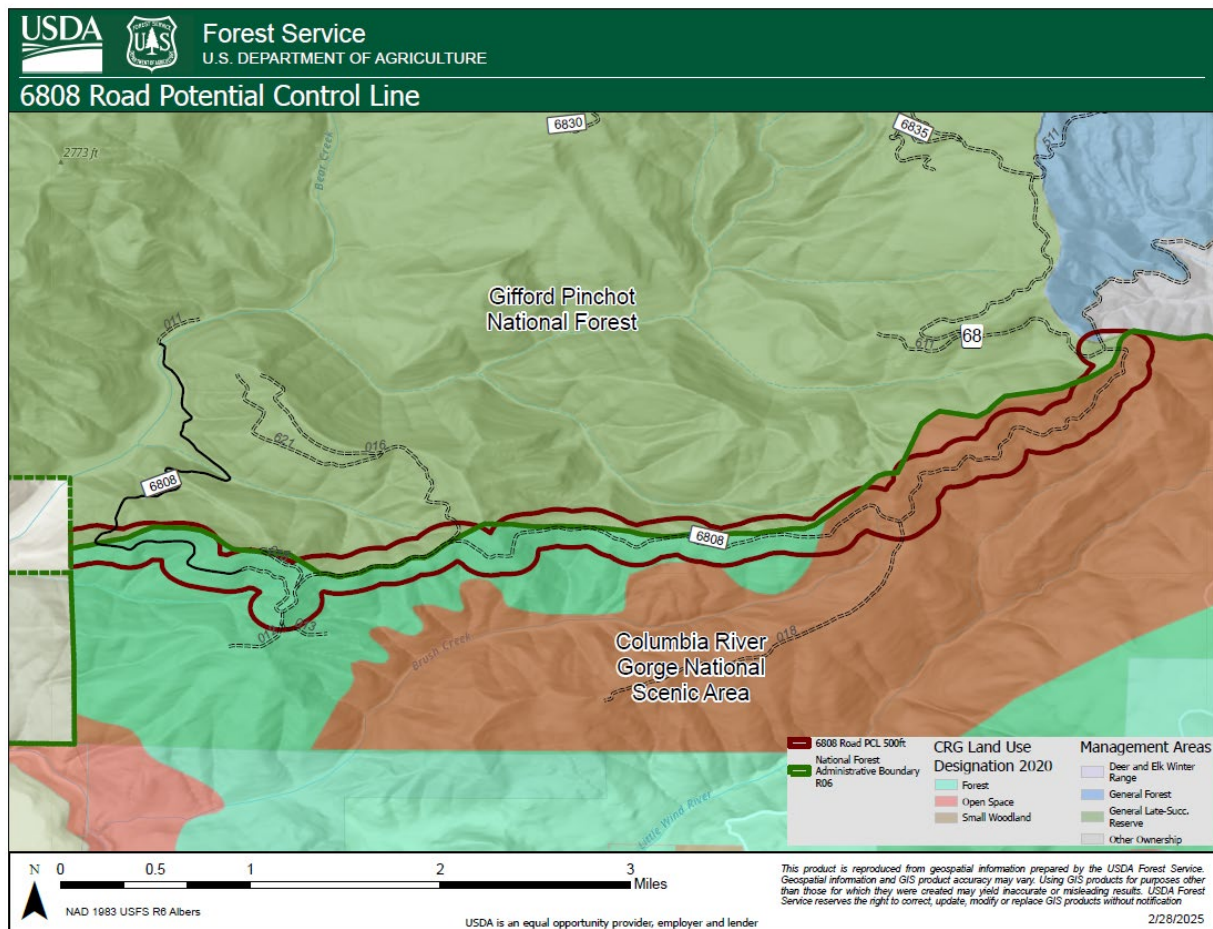
Findings of Fact

LANDOWNER:	USDA Forest Service
APPLICANT:	Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area
PROPOSED ACTION:	Establishment of a potential control line, including thinning small diameter trees, piling and pile burning, underburning, and mechanical treatment of roadside vegetation
LOCATION:	T03N R08E, Sections 02, 03, PB37, PB38, PB39, PB41
NATIONAL SCENIC AREA DESIGNATION:	Special Management Area
LAND USE DESIGNATION:	Open Space; Forest
LANDSCAPE SETTING:	Gorge Walls, Canyons, and Wildlands; Coniferous Forest

The following findings of fact contain the applicable standards and guidelines from the CRGNSA Management Plan. The Management Plan, as adopted in 2020, is in effect. The CRGNSA Management Plan standards and guidelines are displayed in regular type. The findings are displayed in **bold type**.



Project Site Plan



Public Comment

A notice describing the project was sent to a mailing list of known interested parties and adjacent landowners on April 4, 2025. A period of 30 days was allowed for public comment. The following comments were received:

Comment: Marc Ratcliff with Washington Department of Natural Resources expressed his support for the project.

Response: CRGNSA staff thank Washington DNR for their comment.

Comment: Steve McCoy with Friends of the Columbia Gorge highlighting the requirement to review for cumulative effects to natural resources. Additionally, the comment notes the need to show consistency with the guidelines for resource protection throughout the Management Plan.

Response: Review for cumulative effects within the CRGNSA is included in the findings of fact below.



Project Proposal

The purpose of the proposed forest practice is to restore forest health within the area of the potential control line. Overstocked forests with small diameter trees decrease availability of water and nutrients, causing stress across the stand and leading to increased risk of tree mortality from dieback, insects, or disease. In the event of a wildfire, these overstocked stands burn at a higher intensity causing additional tree mortality. After treatment, expected wildfire intensity is reduced to levels that are within an acceptable range for native fire-adapted tree species. Additionally, with lower fire intensity, the potential control line will be more valuable as a resource to limit the spread of wildfire across the landscape to and from the GPNF and the Carson, Stevenson, and Home Valley Urban Areas.

Forest Road 6808 traverses the boundary between the GPNF and CRGNSA for approximately six miles. Within the CRGNSA, approximately 521 acres of forest will be treated within the 500-foot buffer on either side of the road. Within the treatment area, canopy cover is approximately 88% and understory cover is approximately 45%. Canopy height (the top of the canopy) is approximately 38 meters, while canopy base height (the distance from the ground to the canopy) is approximately 15 meters. The treatment area is densely stocked, with approximately 215 trees per acre at least 5 inches in diameter. Stand growth is likely to be near the biological maximum, but inter-tree competition is limiting diameter growth, preventing attainment of late-seral forest structures.

The silvicultural prescription for the PCL treatment is non-commercial hand thinning of trees less than 8 inches diameter at breast height, including hand piling, pile burning, underburning, and mechanical treatment of roadside vegetation. Approximately 130.25 MBF could be removed within the 521-acre treatment area, though in implementation that number is likely to decrease through application of resource protection buffers and consideration of site-specific conditions affecting fire spread, such as topography. All tree species within the treatment area less than 8 inches in diameter will be removed, with no preference for one species over another. Trees to be thinned primarily include Douglas-fir, western hemlock, mountain hemlock, and grand fir; individual trees of other species in the treatment area may be incidentally removed.

Following treatment, no changes are expected to canopy closure in the treatment area because the larger trees that create the canopy closure will be retained. Approximately 165 trees per acre will remain after treatment. The desired future vegetation structure has lower densities of larger trees, with greater canopy base height, maintaining the current canopy closure above 80%. No revegetation is proposed.

Land Use Designation – Open Space

1. An Open Space plan shall be completed by the primary managing agency or landowner prior to any new land uses or development, and shall be reviewed by the Forest Service. The Open Space plan shall include the following:

- A. Direction for resource protection, enhancement, and management.
- B. Review of existing uses to determine compatibility with Open Space values.
- C. Consultation with members of the public and with agency and resource specialists.

Finding: The property is within the Wind River watershed. The Forest Service conducted a watershed analysis of the Wind River watershed in 1996, and updated the watershed



analysis in 2001. This analysis serves as the Open Space plan for the Wind Mountain SMA; it provides direction for resource protection, enhancement, and management, reviews existing uses for compatibility with Open Space values, and was prepared in consultation with members of the public and with agency and resource specialists.

2. The following new uses may be allowed on lands designated Open Space subject to review for compliance with scenic, cultural, natural, and recreational resources guidelines:

B. Resource enhancement projects for the purpose of enhancing scenic, cultural, recreation or natural resources, subject to the guidelines in “Resource Enhancement Projects” (Part II, Chapter 7: General Policies and Guidelines). These projects may include vegetation management and forest practices (subject to the forest practice guidelines of Part II, Chapter 2: Forest Land) for the restoration of forest health, new structures (e.g., fish ladders, sediment barriers) or activities (e.g., closing and revegetating unused roads, recontouring abandoned quarries).

Finding: The proposed action is a resource enhancement project for the purpose of enhancing natural resources, through a forest practice for the restoration of forest health. The applicable guidelines for Resource Enhancement Projects and Forest Practices are below.

1. Applications for resource enhancement projects must describe the goals and benefits of the proposed enhancement project. They must also thoroughly document the condition of the resource before and after the proposed enhancement project. Applicants shall seek technical assistance from federal, state or county technical experts for assistance in designing voluntary wetland, stream, habitat, plant, and scenic enhancement projects.

Finding: The draft Environmental Assessment (EA) provided with the application described the goals and benefits of the proposed project, documented the current condition of the project area and described the condition of the project area after implementation. The Final EA, Decision Notice, and Finding of No Significant Impact were published on October 9, 2025, which did not significantly change the proposed action. The applicant is the Forest Service which has the technical experience necessary to complete the project successfully.

Land Use Designation – Forest

1. The following uses may be allowed on lands designated Forest subject to review for compliance with scenic, cultural, natural, and recreational resources guidelines. The use or development shall be sited to minimize the loss of land suitable for the production of forest products:

X. Forest practices in accordance with an approved forest practices application (see application requirements) and subject to the additional guidelines in this chapter.

(1) The following information, in addition to general site plan requirements (see Part II, Chapter 7: General Policies and Guidelines) shall be required:

(a) Delineate the following on a recent aerial photo or detailed map:



- (i) The size, shape, and exact location of the proposed treatment area including any clumps of leave trees to remain. If more than one silvicultural prescription is to be used, code each on the photo.
 - (ii) Other important natural features of the subject parcel such as steep areas, streams, wetlands, rock outcrops, etc.
 - (iii) Road and structure construction or reconstruction location.
 - (iv) Location of proposed rock or aggregate sources.
 - (v) Major skid trails, landings, and yarding corridors.
 - (vi) Commercial firewood cutting areas.
 - (vii) Protection measures for scenic, cultural, natural, and recreation resources, such as road closures.
- (b) Describe the existing forest in terms of species, ages, sizes, landscape pattern (including how it fits into the surrounding landscape pattern) and canopy closure for all canopy layers.
- (c) Describe how the forest practice will fit into the existing landscape pattern and how it will meet scenic and natural resource standards in Review Uses 1.X(4)(a-g) and 1.X(5)(a-d).
- (d) Written silvicultural prescriptions with projected post-treatment forest condition specified in terms of species, ages, sizes, landscape pattern (including how it fits into the surrounding landscape pattern) and canopy closure for all canopy layers.
- (e) Road and structure construction or reconstruction design.
- (f) Existing and proposed rock pit development plans.
- (g) A discussion of slash disposal methods.
- (h) A reforestation plan as reviewed by the appropriate state forest practices agency.

Finding: The forest practice application included all applicable information. This guideline is met.

(2) As part of the application, flag, stake or mark buffers, any trees or downed wood to be retained or removed (whichever makes the most sense), and areas for placing fill or removing material in preparation for a field visit by the reviewer.

Finding: No ground disturbance is proposed. This project will be implemented by USFS staff on the GPNF; because the reviewing agency is also the action agency, CRGNSA staff determined that this guideline does not apply.



(3) Stewardship Plan Requirements: The following information, in addition to the applicable portions of the forest practice application requirements above and general site plan requirements (see Part II, Chapter 7: General Policies and Guidelines) shall be provided:

(a) Outline the long-term goals, proposed operations, and future sustainability of the subject parcel.

(b) Describe the time frame and steps planned to reach the long-term goals.

(c) For Forest Practices, describe how the proposed activities fit into the long-term goals and sustainability of the parcel and forest health. The following shall be addressed:

(i) Describe the range of natural conditions expected in the forest in terms of tree species, structure, and landscape pattern.

(ii) Describe what the resulting tree species, structure, and landscape pattern will be after the proposed activities.

(iii) Give a clear explanation of how a deviation from the applicable guidelines may better achieve forest health objectives.

(iv) Give a clear explanation of how and why the proposed activities will move the forest towards its range of natural variability and result in reaching sustainability, resiliency to disturbances.

(d) For clearing trees for new agricultural use, the following shall be addressed in addition to X(3)(a) and (b) above:

(i) Submit NRCS soil unit description and map for each soil unit affected by the proposed clearing or treatment.

(ii) Based on the needs of the operation, give a clear explanation as to the exact size of the clearing needed and how it will meet the natural and scenic requirements set forth in W(4)(a-d) in this chapter.

(iii) Describe in sufficient detail for evaluation the proposed agricultural use, the improvements needed on the parcel, timeline for its establishment, and its marketability.

(iv) Show evidence that an agricultural specialist, such as the county extension agent, has examined and found the proposed agricultural use reasonable and viable.

Finding: The Forest Service prepared a Draft Environmental Assessment containing long term goals and sustainability of the parcel and forest health, and the time frame and steps planned. The Draft EA was incorporated into the application materials through a link to the public project webpage. The Final EA, Decision Notice, and Finding of No Significant Impact were



published on October 9, 2025, which did not significantly change the proposed action. This guideline is met.

(4) For forest practices, the following scenic resource guidelines shall apply: (See Scenic Resources section)

(5) Forest practices shall maintain the following in addition to applicable natural resources guidelines in Part I, Chapter 4, SMA Natural Resources: (See Natural Resources section)

Finding: Consistency with these guidelines is discussed below.



Scenery

SMA Design Guidelines Based on Landscape Settings

Finding: The site is within the Gorge Walls, Canyons, and Wildlands, and the Coniferous Woodlands Landscape Settings.

1. The following guidelines apply to all lands within SMA landscape settings regardless of visibility from KVAs (includes areas visible from KVAs as well as areas not visible from KVAs):

B. Coniferous Woodland and Oak-Pine Woodland: Woodland areas shall retain the overall appearance of a woodland landscape. New development and land uses shall retain the overall visual character of the natural appearance of the Coniferous Woodland and Oak-Pine Woodland landscape.

(1) Buildings designed to have a vertical overall appearance in the Coniferous Woodland landscape setting and a horizontal overall appearance in the Oak-Pine Woodland landscape setting shall be encouraged.

(2) Use of plant species native to the landscape setting. Examples of native species are identified in the Scenic Implementation Handbook as appropriate to the area shall be encouraged. Where non-native plants are used, they shall have native-appearing characteristics.

Finding: No buildings are proposed and no plantings are proposed. Following treatment, the forested areas within the treatment area will retain the overall appearance of a woodland landscape, because only small diameter, understory trees will be removed. This guideline is met.

E. Gorge Walls, Canyonlands, and Wildlands: New development and land uses shall retain the overall visual character of the natural-appearing landscape.

(1) Structures, including signs, shall have a rustic appearance, use nonreflective materials, have low contrast with the surrounding landscape, and be of a Cascadian architectural style.

(2) Temporary roads shall be promptly closed and revegetated.

(3) New utilities shall be below ground surface, where feasible.

(4) Use of plant species non-native to the Columbia River Gorge shall not be allowed.

Finding: No structures are proposed. No temporary roads are proposed. No utilities are proposed. No plantings are proposed. Following treatment, lands within this landscape setting will retain the overall visual character of the natural-appearing landscape, because only small diameter, understory trees will be removed. This guideline is met.



SMA Guidelines for Development and Uses Visible from KVAs

1. The guidelines in this section shall apply to proposed development on sites topographically visible from key viewing areas.

Finding: The landscape is topographically visible from the following Key Viewing Areas:

KVA	FOREGROUND	MIDDLEGROUND	BACKGROUND
Columbia River			X
Interstate 84			X
Historic Columbia River Highway			X

2. New development and land uses shall be evaluated to ensure that the required scenic standard is met and that scenic resources are not adversely affected, including cumulative effects, based on the degree of visibility from key viewing areas.

Finding: Consistency with the guidelines in this section ensures that the proposed forest practice will meet the applicable scenic standard, and that scenic resources are not adversely affected. Because there are no adverse effects, there are no adverse cumulative effects.

3. The required SMA scenic standards for all development and uses are summarized in the following table:

LANDSCAPE SETTING	LAND USE DESIGNATION	SCENIC STANDARD
Coniferous Woodland, Oak-Pine Woodland	Forest (National Forest Lands), Open Space	Not Visually Evident
River Bottomlands	Open Space	Not Visually Evident
Gorge Walls, Canyonlands, Wildlands	Forest, Agriculture, Public Recreation, Open Space	Not Visually Evident
Coniferous Woodland, Oak-Pine Woodland	Forest, Agriculture, Residential, Public Recreation	Visually Subordinate
Residential	Residential	Visually Subordinate
Pastoral	Forest, Agriculture, Public Recreation, Open Space	Visually Subordinate
River Bottomlands	Forest, Agriculture, Public Recreation	Visually Subordinate

Finding: The landscape settings for the proposed forest practice are Coniferous Woodland and Gorge Walls, Canyons, and Wildlands. The Land Use Designations are Forest and Open Space. The project occurs on National Forest System lands. The applicable scenic standard is *Not Visually Evident*.



4. In all landscape settings, scenic standards shall be met by blending new development with the adjacent natural landscape elements rather than with existing development.

Finding: No new development is proposed. This guideline does not apply.

5. Proposed development or land uses shall be sited to achieve the applicable scenic standard. Development shall be designed to fit the natural topography, to take advantage of landform and vegetation screening, and to minimize visible grading or other modifications of landforms, vegetation cover, and natural characteristics. When screening of development is needed to meet the scenic standard from key viewing areas, use of existing topography and vegetation shall be given priority over other means of achieving the scenic standard such as planting new vegetation or using artificial berms.

Finding: No new development is proposed. Siting of the proposed forest practice must occur within 500 feet of Road 6808 to achieve the project purpose. The remaining vegetation in the project area and other intervening vegetation on the property will provide necessary screening from KVAs to ensure that the treatment meets the applicable scenic standard. This guideline is met.

6. The extent and type of conditions applied to a proposed development or use to achieve the scenic standard shall be proportionate to its degree of visibility from key viewing areas.

A. Decisions shall include written findings addressing the factors influencing the degree of visibility, including but not limited to:

- (1) The amount of area of the building site exposed to key viewing areas,
- (2) The degree of existing vegetation providing screening,
- (3) The distance from the building site to the key viewing areas from which it is visible,
- (4) The number of key viewing areas from which it is visible, and
- (5) The linear distance along the key viewing areas from which the building site is visible (for linear key viewing areas, such as roads).

B. Conditions may be applied to various elements of proposed developments to ensure they meet the scenic standard for their setting as visible from key viewing areas, including but not limited to:

- (1) Siting (location of development on the subject property, building orientation, and other elements),
- (2) Retention of existing vegetation,
- (3) Design (form, line, color, texture, reflectivity, size, shape, height, architectural and design details, and other elements), and
- (4) New landscaping.

Finding: The Project Proposal section and SMA Guidelines 1-6 for Uses Visible from KVAs in this section address the factors influencing the visibility of the proposed forest



practice. Because only the smaller understory trees are proposed for removal, because retained and intervening vegetation will obscure the forest practice from view, and because the proposed forest practice is only visible in the background of KVAs, the proposed forest practice will meet the scenic standard of Not Visually Evident. As such, no additional conditions are necessary. This guideline is met.

7. Sites approved for new development to achieve scenic standards shall be consistent with guidelines to protect wetlands, riparian corridors, sensitive plant or wildlife sites and the buffer zones of each of these natural resources, and guidelines to protect cultural resources.

Finding: No new development is proposed. This guideline does not apply.

8. Proposed development shall not protrude above the line of a bluff, cliff, or skyline as visible from key viewing areas.

Finding: No new development is proposed. This guideline does not apply.

9. Structure height shall remain below the average tree canopy height of the natural vegetation adjacent to the structure, except if it has been demonstrated that meeting this guideline is not feasible considering the function of the structure.

Finding: No new development is proposed. This guideline does not apply.

10. The following guidelines shall apply to new landscaping used to screen development from key viewing areas:

A. New landscaping (including new earth berms) to achieve the required scenic standard from key viewing areas shall be required only when application of all other available guidelines in this chapter is not sufficient to make the development meet the scenic standard from key viewing areas. Development shall be sited to avoid the need for new landscaping wherever possible.

B. If new landscaping is necessary to meet the required standard, existing on-site vegetative screening and other visibility factors shall be analyzed to determine the extent of new landscaping, and the size of new trees needed to achieve the standard. Any vegetation planted pursuant to this guideline shall be sized to provide sufficient screening to meet the scenic standard within five years or less from the commencement of construction.

C. Landscaping shall be installed as soon as practicable, and prior to project completion. Applicants and successors in interest for the subject parcel are responsible for the proper maintenance and survival of planted vegetation, and replacement of such vegetation that does not survive.

D. The Scenic Resources Implementation Handbook shall include recommended species for each landscape setting consistent with the Landscape Settings Design Guidelines in this chapter, and minimum recommended sizes of new trees planted (based on average growth rates expected for recommended species).

Finding: No new development is proposed. This guideline does not apply.



11. Unless expressly exempted by other provisions in this chapter, colors of structures on sites visible from key viewing areas shall be dark earth-tones found at the specific site or the surrounding landscape. The specific colors or list of acceptable colors shall be included as a condition of approval. The Scenic Resources Implementation Handbook shall include a recommended palette of colors as dark, or darker than the colors in the shadows of the natural features surrounding each landscape setting.

Finding: No new development is proposed. This guideline does not apply.

12. The exterior of structures on lands seen from key viewing areas shall be composed of non-reflective materials or materials with low reflectivity. Continuous surfaces of glass shall be limited to ensure meeting the scenic standard. The Scenic Resources Implementation Handbook includes a list of recommended exterior materials and screening methods.

Finding: No new development is proposed. This guideline does not apply.

13. Any exterior lighting shall be sited, limited in intensity, and shielded or hooded in a manner that prevents lights from being highly visible from key viewing areas and from noticeably contrasting with the surrounding landscape setting, except for road lighting necessary for safety purposes.

Finding: No exterior lighting is proposed. This guideline does not apply.

14. Seasonal lighting displays may be permitted on a temporary basis, not to exceed 3 months.

Finding: No seasonal lighting is proposed. This guideline does not apply.

15. New buildings shall be compatible with the general scale of existing nearby development. Expansion of existing development shall comply with this guideline to the maximum extent practicable. New buildings that are 1,500 square feet or less are exempt from this guideline. Findings addressing this guideline shall include but are not limited to:

- A. Application of the landscape setting design guidelines, if applicable.
 - B. A defined study area surrounding the development that includes at least ten existing buildings, not including existing buildings within urban areas or outside the National Scenic Area.
 - C. Individual evaluations of scale for each separate proposed building in the application and each separate building in the study area, including:
 - (1) All finished above ground square footage;
 - (2) Total area of covered decks and porches;
 - (3) Attached garages
 - (4) Daylight basements
 - (5) Breezeways, if the breezeway shares a wall with an adjacent building
 - (6) Dimensions, based on information from the application or on Assessor's records D.
- An overall evaluation demonstrating the proposed development's compatibility with surrounding development. Buildings in the vicinity of the proposed development that are



significantly larger in size than the rest of the buildings in the study area should be removed from this evaluation.

Finding: No new development is proposed. This guideline does not apply.

SMA Guidelines for KVA Foregrounds and Scenic Routes

Finding: The proposed forest practice is not within the foreground of a KVA or a scenic route. These guidelines do not apply.

SMA Guidelines for Areas Not Visible from KVAs

Finding: The proposed forest practice is visible from KVAs. These guidelines do not apply.

SMA Forest Practice Guidelines for Scenic Resources

(4) For forest practices, the following scenic resource guidelines shall apply:

(a) Forest practices shall meet the design guidelines and scenic standards for the applicable landscape setting and zone (See Required SMA Scenic Standards table, SMA Guidelines for Development Visible from KVAs, SMA Scenic Resource Provisions, Part I, Chapter I).

Finding: The applicable scenic standard is *Not Visually Evident*.

(b) In the western portion (to White Salmon River) of the SMA Coniferous Woodland Landscape Setting, no more than 8% of the composite KVA viewshed from which the forest practice is topographically visible shall be in created forest openings at one time. The viewshed boundaries shall be delineated by the Forest Service.

(c) In the western portion (to the White Salmon River) of the SMA Gorge Walls, Canyonlands, and Wildlands Landscape Setting, no more than 4% of the composite KVA viewshed from which the forest practice is topographically visible shall be in created forest openings at one time. The viewshed boundaries shall be delineated by the Forest Service.

Finding: This forest practice is proposed in the western portion of the SMA Coniferous Woodland and SMA Gorge Walls, Canyonlands, and Wildlands Landscape Settings. The proposed forest practice will remove small diameter trees (8 inches dbh and below) within 500 feet of Forest Road 6808. Because the large diameter trees create the canopy as visible from Key Viewing Areas, no forest openings will be created. These guidelines are met.

(d) For all other landscape settings, created forest openings visible at one time shall be within the desired range for the vegetation type as set forth in Natural Resources guidelines in Review Uses 1.X(5)(a)- (c) in this chapter.

Finding: This guideline does not apply.

(e) Size, shape, and dispersal of created forest openings shall maintain the desired natural patterns in the landscape as set forth in Natural Resources guidelines in Review Uses 1.X(5)(a)- (c) in this chapter.



Finding: The proposed forest practice will not create forest openings. This guideline does not apply.

(f) The maximum size of any created forest opening is set forth by the “Desired” vegetation type in the Forest Structure and Pattern Table.

(i) If the treatment is proposed to go beyond the above guideline based on forest health or ecosystem function requirements, a Stewardship Plan shall be required.

(ii) If the Stewardship Plan proves that the above guideline is detrimental to either forest health or ecosystem function, the size of the created forest opening shall be within the natural range for the vegetation type as listed in the Desired Forest Structure and Pattern Table for each vegetation type, shall not mimic catastrophic fires, and shall maintain scenic standards.

Finding: The proposed forest practice will not create forest openings. This guideline does not apply.

(g) Created forest openings shall not create a break or opening in the vegetation in the skyline as viewed from KVAs.

Finding: The proposed forest practice will not create forest openings. This guideline does not apply.



Cultural

SMA Guidelines

1. All cultural resource surveys, evaluations, assessments, and mitigation plans shall be performed by professionals whose expertise reflects the type of cultural resources that are involved. Principal investigators shall meet the professional standards published in 36 CFR 61.
2. For federal or federally assisted undertakings, the reviewing agency shall complete its consultation responsibilities under Section 106 of the Historic Preservation Act of 1966 [36 CFR 800.2].
3. Discovery during construction: All authorizations for new developments or land uses shall require the immediate notification of the reviewing agency if cultural resources are discovered during construction or development. If cultural resources are discovered, particularly human bone or burials, work in the immediate area of discovery shall be suspended until a cultural resource professional can evaluate the potential significance of the discovery and recommend measures to protect and if possible recover the resource. If the discovered material is suspected to be human bone or a burial, the following procedures shall be used:
 - A. The applicant shall stop all work in the vicinity of the discovery.
 - B. The applicant shall immediately notify the Forest Service, the applicant's cultural resource professional, the county coroner, and appropriate law enforcement agencies.
 - C. The Forest Service shall notify the tribal governments if the discovery is determined to be an Indian burial or a cultural resource.
4. Reviewing agencies shall use the [...] steps under 36 CFR 800.4 for assessing potential effects to cultural resources and 36 CFR 800.5 for assessing adverse effects to cultural resources. [The Management Plan includes descriptions of these steps. The descriptions have been removed from this document.]
5. Determination of potential effects to significant cultural resources shall include consideration of cumulative effects of proposed developments that are subject to any of the following: 1) a reconnaissance or historic survey; 2) a determination of significance; 3) an assessment of effect; or 4) a mitigation plan.

Finding: A cultural resource report was prepared by CRGNSA and GPNF Heritage Resource staff for Potential Control Line treatments. The report was submitted to Washington DAHP and the Tribes on May 18, 2026. The 30-day review period ended on June 17, 2026. USFS Heritage Resource staff determined that the proposed treatments would have no effect to historic properties (36 CFR 800.4(d)(1)). Washington DAHP concurred. No comment was received from the Tribes. These guidelines are met.

A condition of approval shall require that the inadvertent discovery procedure described above is followed in the event that cultural resources are discovered during construction.



Natural Resources

SMA Guidelines: Water Resources / Wildlife and Plants

1. All new development and uses, as described in a site plan prepared by the applicant, shall be evaluated using the following guidelines to ensure that natural resources are protected from adverse effects. Cumulative effects analysis is not required for expedited review uses or development. Comments from state and federal agencies shall be carefully considered. (Site plans are described under “Review Uses” in Part II, Chapter 7: General Policies and Guidelines.)

2. Water Resources (Wetlands, Streams, Ponds, Lakes, and Riparian Areas)

A. All Water Resources shall, in part, be protected by establishing undisturbed buffer zones as specified in 2.A.(2)(a) and 2(b) below. These buffer zones are measured horizontally from a wetland, stream, lake, or pond boundary as defined below.

(1) All buffer zones shall be retained undisturbed and in their natural condition, except as permitted with a mitigation plan.

(2) Buffer zones shall be measured outward from the bank full flow boundary for streams, the high-water mark for ponds and lakes, the normal pool elevation for the Columbia River, and the wetland delineation boundary for wetlands on a horizontal scale that is perpendicular to the wetlands, stream, pond, or lake boundary. On the main stem of the Columbia River above Bonneville Dam, buffer zones shall be measured landward from the normal pool elevation of the Columbia River. The following buffer zone widths shall be required:

(a) A minimum 200-foot buffer on each wetland, pond, lake, and each bank of a perennial or fish bearing stream, some of which can be intermittent.

(b) A 50-foot buffer zone along each bank of intermittent (including ephemeral), non-fish bearing streams.

(c) Maintenance, repair, reconstruction and realignment of roads and railroads within their rights-of-way shall be exempted from the wetlands and riparian guidelines upon demonstration of all of the following:

(i) The wetland within the right-of-way is a drainage ditch not part of a larger wetland outside of the right-of-way.

(ii) The wetland is not critical habitat.

(iii) Proposed activities within the right-of-way would not adversely affect a wetland adjacent to the right-of-way.

(3) The buffer width shall be increased for the following:

(a) When the channel migration zone exceeds the recommended buffer width, the buffer width shall extend to the outer edge of the channel migration zone.



(b) When the frequently flooded area exceeds the recommended riparian buffer zone width, the buffer width shall be extended to the outer edge of the frequently flooded area.

(c) When an erosion or landslide hazard area exceeds the recommended width of the buffer, the buffer width shall be extended to include the hazard area.

(4) Buffer zones can be reconfigured if a project applicant demonstrates all the following: (1) the integrity and function of the buffer zone is maintained, (2) the total buffer area on the development proposal is not decreased, (3) the width reduction shall not occur within another buffer, and (4) the buffer zone width is not reduced more than 50% at any particular location. Such features as intervening topography, vegetation, man-made features, natural plant or wildlife habitat boundaries, and flood plain characteristics could be considered.

(5) Requests to reconfigure buffer zones shall be considered if an appropriate professional (botanist, plant ecologist, wildlife biologist, or hydrologist) hired by the project applicant (1) identifies the precise location of the rare wildlife/plant or water resource, (2) describes the biology of the rare wildlife/plant or hydrologic condition of the water resource, and (3) demonstrates that the proposed use will not have any negative effects, either direct or indirect, on the affected wildlife/plant and their surrounding habitat that is vital to their long-term survival or water resource and its long-term function.

(6) The local government shall submit all requests to re-configure rare wildlife/plant or water resource buffers to the Forest Service and the appropriate state agencies for review. All written comments shall be included in the project file. Based on the comments from the state and federal agencies, the local government will make a final decision on whether the reconfigured buffer zones are justified. If the final decision contradicts the comments submitted by the federal and state agencies, the local government shall justify how it reached an opposing conclusion.

Finding: Water resource data shows known and modeled streams in the project vicinity. Brush Creek is a perennial, fish bearing stream that exists south of the project area and runs roughly parallel to Forest Road 6808. A tributary of Bear Creek at the western end of the project area is listed as perennial and fish bearing. A tributary of the Little Wind River at the eastern end of the project area is listed as perennial and fish bearing. Neither of the named creeks are within 200 feet of the project area.

The water resource data shows that the headwaters of these named creeks as well as small tributaries are within 200 feet of the project area. These water resources are intermittent, and are shown as non-fish streams in the data. Project Design Criteria in the Draft EA require that the potential control line treatments maintain a 50-foot buffer from intermittent streams. This PDC applies in the CRGNSA portion of the project and aligns with the buffer width for non-fish bearing intermittent streams in Special Management Areas. This PDC will ensure that water resources are



protected. The Final EA, Decision Notice, and Finding of No Significant Impact were published on October 9, 2025, which did not change this PDC.

There are no wetlands within 200 feet of the proposed forest practice. No further review is necessary for impacts to wetlands or wetland buffer zones.

B. When a buffer zone is disturbed by a new use, it shall be replanted with only native plant species of the Columbia River Gorge.

Finding: No buffer zones will be disturbed. This guideline does not apply.

C. The applicant shall be responsible for identifying all water resources and their appropriate buffers (see above).

Finding: Water resources and their buffers were identified. This guideline is met.

D. Wetlands Boundaries shall be delineated using the following:

(1) The approximate location and extent of wetlands in the National Scenic Area is shown on the National Wetlands Inventory (U.S. Department of the Interior). In addition, the list of hydric soils and the soil survey maps shall be used as an indicator of wetlands.

(2) Some wetlands may not be shown on the wetlands inventory or soil survey maps. Wetlands that are discovered by the local planning staff during an inspection of a potential project site shall be delineated and protected.

(3) The project applicant shall be responsible for determining the exact location of a wetlands boundary. Wetlands boundaries shall be delineated using the procedures specified in the 'Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual (on-line edition)' and applicable Regional Supplements.

(4) All wetlands delineations shall be conducted by a professional who has been trained to use the federal delineation procedures.

Finding: There are no wetlands within 200 feet of the project area. This guideline does not apply.

E. Stream, pond, and lake boundaries shall be delineated using the bank full flow boundary for streams and the high-water mark for ponds and lakes. The project applicant shall be responsible for determining the exact location of the appropriate boundary for the water resource.

Finding: Applicable water resource boundaries will be evaluated before implementation by Forest Service specialists. This guideline is met.

F. The local government may verify the accuracy of, and render adjustments to, a bank full flow, high water mark, normal pool elevation (for the Columbia River), or wetland boundary delineation. If the adjusted boundary is contested by the project applicant, the local government shall obtain professional services, at the project applicant's expense, or the local government will ask for technical assistance from the Forest Service to render a final delineation.

Finding: The Forest Service is the action agency. This guideline does not apply.



G. Buffer zones shall be undisturbed unless the following criteria have been satisfied

H. The proposed use must have no practicable alternative as determined by the practicable alternative test.

(1) Those portions of a proposed use that have a practicable alternative will not be located in wetlands, stream, pond, lake, and riparian areas or their buffer zone.

(2) Filling and draining of wetlands shall be prohibited with exceptions related to public safety or restoration/enhancement activities as permitted when all of the following criteria have been met:

(a) A documented public safety hazard exists, or a restoration/ enhancement project exists that would benefit the public and is corrected or achieved only by impacting the wetland in question, and

(b) Impacts to the wetland must be the last possible documented alternative in fixing the public safety concern or completing the restoration/enhancement project, and

(c) The proposed project minimizes the impacts to the wetland.

(3) Unavoidable impacts to wetlands and aquatic and riparian areas and their buffer zones shall be offset by deliberate restoration and enhancement or creation (wetlands only) measures as required by the completion of a SMA mitigation plan.

Finding: No buffer zones will be disturbed. These guidelines do not apply.

I. Proposed uses and development within wetlands, streams, ponds, lakes, riparian areas, and their buffer zones shall be evaluated for cumulative effects to natural resources and cumulative effects that are adverse shall be prohibited.

Finding: The proposed forest practice is not within water resources or their buffers. This guideline does not apply.

3. Wildlife and Plants

A. Protection of wildlife/plant areas and sites shall begin when proposed new development or uses are within 1000 feet of a rare wildlife or rare plant area or site. Rare wildlife areas are those areas depicted in wildlife data, including all sensitive wildlife sites and Priority Habitats listed in this Chapter. The approximate locations of rare wildlife and rare plant areas and sites are shown in wildlife and rare plant data.

Finding: The GPNF prepared a Biological Evaluation and Wildlife Report (Wildlife BE) and a Botany Biological Evaluation (Botany BE) which are included by reference in the Draft EA for the project. The Wildlife and Botany BEs list all protected wildlife and plant species within the entire project area, including the portion within the CRGNSA, and determines the potential effects of the project on those species, including cumulative effects. The Final EA, Decision Notice, and



Finding of No Significant Impact were published on October 9, 2025, which did not significantly change the Wildlife or Botany BEs.

The Management Plan lists several Priority Habitats that are not explicitly considered in the in the GPNF's Wildlife or Botany BE. Of the listed habitats, only Winter Range is present in the project area within the CRGNSA. CRGNSA staff determined that this project occurs within Winter Range. The Wildlife BE does consider effects to Roosevelt elk and concluded that the thinning will increase browse materials and have a beneficial effect to elk. The CRGNSA Wildlife Biologist reviewed the proposed action and the Wildlife BE, and concluded that the proposed actions would not have effects to deer and elk winter range.

B. The local government shall submit site plans (of uses that are proposed within 1,000 feet of a rare wildlife or rare plant area or site) for review to the Forest Service and the appropriate state agencies (Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife or the Washington Department of Wildlife for wildlife issues and by the Oregon Biodiversity Information Center or Washington Natural Heritage Program for plant issues).

Finding: An appropriate site plan was submitted. This guideline is met.

C. The Forest Service wildlife biologists and botanists, in consultation with the appropriate state biologists, shall review the site plan and their field survey records. They shall:

- (1) Identify/verify the precise location of the wildlife or plant area or site,
- (2) Determine if a field survey will be required,
- (3) Determine, based on the biology and habitat requirements of the affected wildlife/plant species, if the proposed use would compromise the integrity and function of or result in adverse effects (including cumulative effects) to the wildlife and plant area or site. This would include considering the time of year when wildlife and plant species are sensitive to disturbance, such as nesting and rearing seasons, or flowering season, and,
- (4) Delineate the undisturbed 200-ft buffer on the site plan for rare plants or the appropriate buffer for rare wildlife areas or sites, including nesting, roosting, and perching sites.
 - (a) Buffer zones can be reconfigured if a project applicant demonstrates all of the following: (1) the integrity and function of the buffer zones is maintained, (2) the total buffer area on the development proposal is not decreased, (3) the width reduction shall not occur within another buffer, and (4) the buffer zone width is not reduced more than 50% at any particular location. Such features as intervening topography, vegetation, man-made features, natural plant or wildlife habitat boundaries, and flood plain characteristics could be considered.
 - (b) Requests to reduce buffer zones shall be considered if an appropriate professional (botanist, plant ecologist, wildlife biologist, or hydrologist), hired by the project applicant, (1) identifies the precise location of the rare wildlife/plant



or water resource, describes the biology of the rare wildlife/plant or hydrologic condition of the water resource, and (3) demonstrates that the proposed use will not have any negative effects, either direct or indirect, on the affected wildlife/plant and their surrounding habitat that is vital to their long-term survival or to the water resource and its long-term function.

(c) The local government shall submit all requests to re-configure rare wildlife/plant or water resource buffers to the Forest Service and the appropriate state agencies for review. All written comments shall be included in the record of application and based on the comments from the state and federal agencies, the local government will make a final decision on whether the reduced buffer zone is justified. If the final decision contradicts the comments submitted by the federal and state agencies, the local government shall justify how it reached an opposing conclusion.

Finding: CRGNSA staff reviewed the proposed action and the GPNF's BEs. Staff determined that no additional field survey would be required, and that the proposed forest practice will not compromise the integrity and function of or result in adverse effects (including cumulative effects) to wildlife or plant areas or sites within the CRGNSA portion of the project area.

D. The local government, in consultation with the state and federal wildlife biologists and botanists, shall use the following criteria in reviewing and evaluating the site plan to ensure that the proposed development or uses do not compromise the integrity and function of or result in adverse effects to the wildlife and plant area or site:

- (1) Published guidelines regarding the protection and management of the affected wildlife/plant species. Examples include: the Oregon Department of Forestry management guidelines for osprey and great blue heron; Washington Department of Wildlife guidelines for a variety of species, including the western pond turtle, the peregrine falcon, and the Larch Mountain salamander.
- (2) Physical characteristics of the subject parcel and vicinity, including topography and vegetation.
- (3) Historic, current, and proposed uses in the vicinity of the rare wildlife/plant area or site.
- (4) Existing condition of the wildlife/plant area or site and the surrounding habitat of the area or site.
- (5) In areas of winter range, habitat components, such as forage and thermal cover, important to the viability of the wildlife must be maintained or, if impacts are to occur, enhancement must mitigate the impacts so as to maintain overall values and function of winter range.
- (6) The site plan is consistent with published guidance documents such as "Oregon Guidelines for Timing of In-Water Work to Protect Fish and Wildlife Resources"



(Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife 2008 or most recent version) and Washington's Aquatic Habitat Guidelines (2002 or most recent version).

(7) The site plan activities coincide with periods when fish and wildlife are least sensitive to disturbance. These would include, among others, nesting and brooding periods (from nest building to fledgling of young) and those periods specified.

(8) The site plan illustrates that new development and uses, including bridges, culverts, and utility corridors, shall not interfere with fish and wildlife passage.

(9) Maintain, protect, and enhance the integrity and function of Priority Habitats as listed on the following Priority Habitats Table 1. This includes maintaining structural, species, and age diversity, maintaining connectivity within and between plant communities, and ensuring that cumulative impacts are considered in documenting integrity and function.

Finding: The GPNF Wildlife Biologist and Botanist reviewed the above information in preparing the BEs. This guideline is met.

E. The wildlife/plant protection process may terminate if the local government, in consultation with the Forest Service and state wildlife agency or heritage program, determines (1) the rare wildlife area or site is not active, or (2) the proposed use is not within the buffer zones and would not compromise the integrity of the wildlife/plant area or site, or (3) the proposed use is within the buffer and could be easily moved out of the buffer by simply modifying the project proposal (site plan modifications). If the project applicant accepts these recommendations, the local government shall incorporate them into its development review order and the wildlife/plant protection process may conclude.

Finding: The BE found that while individuals of some protected species may be affected by project activities, the project will not likely contribute to a trend towards federal listing or cause a loss of viability to these populations or species. Therefore, the proposed forest practice will not compromise the integrity of the wildlife and plant areas and sites. Review for impacts to wildlife and plants may conclude.

F. If the above measures fail to eliminate the adverse effects, the proposed project shall be prohibited, unless the project applicant can meet the Practicable Alternative Test and prepare a mitigation plan to offset the adverse effects by deliberate restoration and enhancement.

Finding: The wildlife and plant review process has concluded. This guideline does not apply.

G. The local government shall submit a copy of all field surveys (if completed) and mitigation plans to the Forest Service and appropriate state agencies. The local government shall include all comments in the record of application and address any written comments submitted by the state and federal wildlife agency/heritage programs in its development review order.

Finding: The wildlife and plant review process has concluded. This guideline does not apply.



H. Based on the comments from the state and federal wildlife agency/heritage program, the local government shall make a final decision on whether the proposed use would be consistent with the wildlife/plant policies and guidelines. If the final decision contradicts the comments submitted by the state and federal wildlife agency/heritage program, the local government shall justify how it reached an opposing conclusion.

Finding: The wildlife and plant review process has concluded. This guideline does not apply.

I. The local government shall require the project applicant to revise the mitigation plan as necessary to ensure that the proposed use would not adversely affect a rare wildlife/plant area or site.

Finding: The wildlife and plant review process has concluded. This guideline does not apply.

4. Soil Productivity

A. Soil productivity shall be protected using the following guidelines:

- (1) A description or illustration showing the mitigation measures to control soil erosion and stream sedimentation.
- (2) New developments and land uses shall control all soil movement within the area shown on the site plan.
- (3) The soil area disturbed by new development or land uses, except for new cultivation, shall not exceed 15 percent of the project area.
- (4) Within 1 year of project completion, 80 percent of the project area with surface disturbance shall be established with effective native ground cover species or other soil-stabilizing methods to prevent soil erosion until the area has 80 percent vegetative cover.

Finding: The proposed forest practice will not cause ground disturbance. These guidelines do not apply.

SMA Forest Practice Guidelines for Natural Resources

(5) Forest practices shall maintain the following in addition to applicable natural resources guidelines in Part I, Chapter 3, SMA Natural Resources:

- (a) Silvicultural prescriptions shall maintain the desired natural forest stand structures (tree species, spacing, layering, and mixture of sizes) based on forest health and ecosystem function requirements. Forest tree stand structure shall meet the requirements listed in the Desired Forest Structure and Pattern Table for each vegetation type. Forest tree stand structure is defined as the general structure of the forest in each vegetation type within which is found forest openings.

Finding: Removal of trees 8-inch dbh and below will not cause the natural forest stand structures to deviate from the desired conditions described in the Management Plan. Thinning will improve stand spacing, layering, and mixture of sizes, and will not affect variation in tree species.



(b) Created forest openings shall be designed as mosaics not to exceed the limits defined as Desired in the Desired Forest Structure and Pattern Table unless proposed as a deviation as allowed under the scenic resource guideline in Review Uses 1.X(4)(f).

Finding: No forest openings will be created. This guideline does not apply.

(c) Snag and down wood requirements shall be maintained or created as listed in the Desired Forest Structure and Pattern Table for each vegetation type.

Finding: No new snags or down wood are proposed to be created, and no existing snags or down wood will be removed. Prescribed fire on the landscape will be of low intensity and will not cause a change in the number of snags or the amount of down wood within the project area. This guideline is met.

(d) If the treatment is proposed to deviate from the snag and down wood requirements based on forest health or ecosystem function requirements, a Stewardship Plan shall be required and shall demonstrate why a deviation from the snag and down wood requirements is required.

Finding: The proposed treatment will not deviate from the snag and down wood requirements. This guideline does not apply.



Desired Forest Structure Table (West Conifer)

CATEGORY	MP REQUIREMENTS	PROPOSED	FINDING
Forest Structure (Average % total canopy closure (cc))	60-80% canopy closure, Understory layer variable (0-60% of total cc)	No change to current canopy closure.	Consistent
Forest Openings	Retain forested character. All openings 1 acre or less on National Forest land and Open Space LUD Openings retain 15-40% canopy closure	No opening proposed.	Consistent
Leave Trees	Leave 15% of existing trees per acre throughout opening and in clumps Include 3 trees per acre of the largest size trees available (Includes all available remnant old forest)	Approximately 77% of existing trees will remain at a minimum, all larger than 8in dbh. No openings proposed.	Consistent
Average Down Wood (per acre)	18- 25 pieces greater than 20" dbh and at least 30 feet long, scattered	No additional down wood will be created, and no down wood will be removed.	Consistent
Average Snags (per acre, conifers, 20-40ft in height)	10 snags at 10"-20" dbh, and 7 snags greater than 20" dbh	No snags will be created or removed.	Consistent



Recreation

SMA Guidelines

1. New development and land uses shall not displace existing recreational use.

Finding: There is no established recreational area or use along Forest Road 6808. However, the road provides access to Forest Service lands and could be used as a dispersed recreation area. The proposed forest practice may temporarily impact dispersed recreational use during implementation but will not displace or otherwise permanently affect any recreational use that occurs within the project area. This guideline is met.

2. Recreation resources shall be protected from adverse effects by evaluating new development and land uses as proposed in the site plan. An analysis of both onsite and offsite cumulative effects shall be required.

Finding: Recreation resources are defined in the Management Plan as “Areas and facilities that provide recreation opportunities and experiences. Recreation resources include semi-primitive areas with few facilities and developed sites.” There are no designated areas or facilities in the project area providing recreation opportunities and experiences. There are no offsite recreation resources in the vicinity of the project area. There will be no adverse effects, including cumulative effects, to recreation resources as a result of the proposed forest practice.

3. New pedestrian or equestrian trails shall not have motorized uses, except for emergency services.

Finding: No new trails are proposed. This guideline does not apply.

4. Mitigation measures shall be provided to preclude adverse effects on the recreation resource.

Finding: There are no adverse effects to the recreation resource. No mitigation measures are required.

5. The Facility Design Guidelines are intended to apply to individual recreation facilities. Development or improvements within the same Recreation Intensity Class are considered as separate facilities if they are separated by at least 1/4 mile of undeveloped land (excluding trails, pathways, or access roads).

Finding: There are no recreation facilities within the project area or vicinity. This guideline does not apply.

6. New development and reconstruction of scenic routes shall include provisions for bicycle lanes.

Finding: The proposed forest practice does not develop or reconstruct a scenic route. This guideline does not apply.

7. A local government may grant a variance of up to 10 percent to the guidelines of Recreation Intensity Class 4 for parking and campground units upon demonstration that all of the following conditions exist:

A. Demand and use levels for the proposed activity(s), particularly in the area where the site is proposed, are high and expected to remain so or increase. Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor



Recreation Plan (SCORP) data and data from the National Visitor Use Monitoring Program shall be relied upon to meet the criterion in the absence of current applicable studies.

B. The proposed use is dependent on resources present at the site.

C. Reasonable alternative sites offering similar opportunities, including those in urban areas, have been evaluated, and it has been demonstrated that the proposed use cannot be adequately accommodated elsewhere.

D. The proposed use is consistent with the goals, objectives, and policies in this chapter.

E. Through site design and mitigation measures, the proposed use can be implemented without adversely affecting scenic, natural, or cultural resources and adjacent land uses.

F. Through site design and mitigation measures, the proposed use can be implemented without affecting or modifying treaty rights.

Finding: The proposed forest practice does not include development of a parking area. This guideline does not apply.

8. Proposals to change the Recreation Intensity Class of an area shall require a Management Plan amendment pursuant to policies 1 through 4 in "Amendment of the Management Plan" (Part IV, Chapter 1: Gorge Commission Role).

Finding: There is no proposal to change the Recreation Intensity Class in the area. This guideline does not apply.

9. The Recreation Intensity Classes are designed to protect recreation resources by limiting land development and land uses.

Finding: The proposed development is not a recreation development and is not subject to review under the Recreation Intensity Class guidelines. This guideline does not apply. The Recreation Intensity Class Guidelines have been deleted from this document.

Conclusion

The proposed potential control line treatment is consistent with the National Scenic Area Management Plan Policy and Guidelines provided they meet the criteria and conditions listed in the Findings of Fact and Consistency Determination.



In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at [How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint](#) and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.