



**USDA FOREST SERVICE  
COLUMBIA RIVER GORGE NATIONAL SCENIC AREA  
FOREST PRACTICE, CONSISTENCY REVIEW APPLICATION**



U.S.D.A. Forest Service  
Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area  
902 Wasco Avenue, Suite 200  
Hood River, OR 97031

Telephone: 541-308-1700  
Fax: 541-386-1916

<b>Project Name: Forest Road 6808 Potential Control Line Treatments</b>	
<b>Date of Application:</b>	
<b>Name of Applicant(s)</b>	<b>Name of Property Owners</b>
USDA Forest Service - Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area	USDA Forest Service - Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area
<b>Mailing Address</b>	<b>Mailing Address</b>
902 Wasco Ave, Suite 200 Hood River, OR 97031	Same as applicant
<b>Applicant's Signature and Date</b>	<b>Property Owner's Signature and Date</b>
DONNA MICKLEY <small>Digitally signed by DONNA MICKLEY Date: 2025.03.31 16:10:25 -07'00'</small>	
<b>Phone:</b> 541-308-1700	<b>Phone:</b>
<b>E-Mail:</b> donna.mickley@usda.gov	<b>E-Mail:</b>
<b>Location of Property</b> (Township, Range, Section, Quarter Section And Tax Lot)	<b>Property Address</b> (If Applicable)
T03N R08E, Sections 02, 03, PB37, PB38, PB39, PB41  Skamania County Taxlot 03080000010000	N/A
<b>Parcel Size (Acres):</b> 4,931	<b>County, State:</b> Skamania County, Washington
<b>Existing Land Use:</b> Special Management Area – Forest and Open Space	

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Describe your proposed Forest Practice, including:

- [X] Details on the *purpose* for the forest practice, the *existing stand conditions* (approximate **percent canopy closure, trees per acre, tree sizes, and species composition**), and the **desired future vegetation structure and reforestation plan** (species, spacing);
- [X] Silvicultural prescription, (regeneration mosaic, overstory removal, shelterwood, small group selection, uneven-age partial cut, even-age thinning, thinning from above to release understory, thinning from below to thin understory layer, or salvage of standing dead);
- [X] **Volume and species to be removed** and the **approximate percent canopy closure and trees per acre after treatment**;
- [X] **Size and shape of the treatment units** and **associated natural features** such as streams, talus slopes, rock outcrops located on a color aerial photo or copy of a color aerial photo and the **location of roads, culverts, skid trails or other ground disturbing activities** (see criteria for site plan on p.4);
- [X] **Slash treatment** (no treatment, lop and scatter, chip and scatter, hand pile and burn, grapple pile and burn, jackpot burn.)

On July 1, 2024, the Gifford Pinchot National Forest (GPNF) initiated scoping for the Forest Wide Plantation Thinning & Potential Control Line Treatment Project. During scoping, prior to publication of the Draft Environmental Assessment, GPNF staff identified that one of the Potential Control Lines (PCLs) along Forest Road 6808 traversed the boundary between the GPNF and the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area (CRGNSA). PCLs are strategic locations, primarily along roadsides, which have the highest likelihood of being effective locations for containing and controlling future wildfires. Treatments along PCLs can be used to promote safe and effective wildfire response from an area where firefighters can efficiently anchor, flank, and contain a fire.

GPNF and CRGNSA staff convened to discuss the proposed treatment along Forest Road 6808 and determined that a Consistency Determination was necessary to allow the project to occur within the CRGNSA. The Environmental Assessment will incorporate the Consistency Determination by reference and will authorize the PCL treatment along Forest Road 6808. The Consistency Determination will only review the proposed PCL treatment for compliance with the Management Plan for the CRGNSA. There is no consideration of plantation thinning or other vegetation treatments within the CRGNSA.

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 the road. Within the treatment area, canopy cover is at approximately 88% and understory cover is at 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 required or proposed.

Natural features are visible on the attached site plan. There is no ground disturbance included in the proposed forest practice.

Additional information on the proposed PCL treatment, as well as other treatments occurring outside of the CRGNSA, can be found on the GPNF's project page, here:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/giffordpinchot/?project=65884>

## APPLICATION CHECKLIST

The following is required to complete your application:

- ☒ Application form completed and signed
- ☒ Site Plan
- ☒ Key viewing areas checklist (attached)
- ☒ Names and addresses of adjacent property owners within 200 feet of parcel
- ☒ Any additional information as required on the NSA CR Application Checklist form.

## KEY VIEWING AREAS

Key viewing areas are important public viewpoints and areas that afford opportunities to view the Gorge scenery. Key viewing areas are listed below. Please check those sites which can be seen from your property. If you are unsure, contact the planner you are working with for assistance in determining your visibility.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic Columbia River Highway    | <input type="checkbox"/> Washington State Route 14  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sandy River                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Washington State Route 142 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Portland Women's Forum State Park             | <input type="checkbox"/> Washington State Route 141 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crown Point                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Cook-Underwood Road        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rooster Rock State Park                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Dog Mountain Trail         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Multnomah Falls                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Beacon Rock                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Larch Mountain                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Cape Horn                  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Highway I-84, including rest stops | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Columbia River  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bonneville Dam Visitor Centers                | <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific Crest Trail        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sherrard Point on Larch Mountain              | <input type="checkbox"/> Oregon Highway 35          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rowena Plateau/Nature Conservancy Viewpoint   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Larch Mountain Road                           |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wyeth Bench Road                              |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> County Road 1230 (Old WA St. Route 14)        |   |

The proposed forest practice is potentially visible from the key viewing areas listed at a distance greater than 4 miles. The proposed forest practice is not visible within the foreground or middleground of any key viewing area.

## **FOREST PRACTICE SITE PLAN**

A plan drawn in black ink at a scale of about 1 inch equal to 200 feet (1:2400) or at a scale providing greater detail must be included with the application.

If the parcel is very large, you may show the forest practice on just the portion of the parcel affected by the proposed use. Be sure, however, to show enough of the parcel or some adjacent features, such as roads, so that the reviewers can orient themselves on your map. A small vicinity map showing the subject parcel and surrounding parcels may help. Use a copy of an aerial photo to show units, rock sources, natural features, roads, skid trails, landings, streams, wetlands, ponds, etc.

At a minimum, you must show the following features:

- ☐ Applicant(s) name
- ☐ Location and width of existing and proposed roads, driveways, and trails
- ☐ Scale and north arrow
- ☐ Location and size of existing and proposed structures
- ☐ Boundaries of parcel with dimensions and size
- ☐ Location of existing and proposed services including wells or other water supplies, structures, power and telephone poles and lines and outdoor lighting.
- ☐ Significant terrain features or landforms
- ☐ Location and depth of all proposed grading and ditching
- ☐ Groupings and species of trees or other vegetation on the parcel
- ☐ Location and species of vegetation that would be removed or planted
- ☐ Water courses, bodies of water, and applicable buffers of existing waterbodies

**ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS AND EXISTING LAND USE  
ON ADJACENT PARCELS WITHIN 200 FEET OF PROJECT  
PROPERTY:**

<b>Township, Range, Section, Tax Lot</b>	<b>Name and Mailing Address</b>	<b>Existing Land Use</b>
<i>(Example)</i>  <i>SW1/4 Sec. 7 T2N R8E 02N08E0700100</i>	<i>US Forest Service, CRGNSA 902 Wasco Ave., Ste 200 Hood River, OR 97031</i>	<i>SMA, Forest</i>
Sec. 5, 8, 17 T3N R8E 03081710140000, 03080800010000, 03080500040000	Birkenfeld Heritage LLC 2642 Szydlo Road Carson, WA 98610	Lot in S17 is SMA Open Space and Carson Urban Area. Lots in S5 and S8 are outside of CRGNSA.
Sec 15, 16, T3N R8E 03080000170100, 03080000170000	State of Washington 601 Bond Road, PO Box 280 Castle Rock, WA 98611-0280	SMA Open Space, Forest
Sec 7, T3N R9E 03090000180000	Seeder Tree Co, Inc C/O 105 E 8th Avenue Olympia, WA 98501	SMA Forest



**Forest Service**  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## 6808 Road Potential Control Line

