

Example Special Resources and Biodiversity Sections (Resource Category 7)

Special Resources Example 1

Resource assessment

An analysis completed by the Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in 2024 determined that no threatened or endangered species or cultural or historical resources are known to exist on the property. This property is not considered a forest of recognized importance (FORI).

Having different forest development stages represented on the landscape is important for biodiversity. Our property has three: stand initiation, stem exclusion, and understory reinitiation. Of these, stem exclusion provides the lowest level of diversity.

Management recommendations

Thinning Stand 2 will open up more sunlight for increased plant diversity which will attract increased wildlife diversity. Our plans to promote more deciduous species will increase bird diversity.

Special Resources Example 2

Resource assessment

An analysis completed by the Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in 2024 determined that no threatened or endangered species or cultural or historical resources are known to exist on the property. This property is not considered a forest of recognized importance (FORI).

There are some very large old-growth stumps with springboard notches and large, old logs that, while not considered historical resources by the state, have historical significance to me as the landowner.

In terms of biodiversity, the property is dominated by hardwoods, mainly bigleaf maple, with 10 % of the stand composed of conifers, primarily Douglas-fir and western hemlock, distributed throughout. Minor components of western redcedar, red alder, black cottonwood, and cascara are also present. Tree ages range from 50-90 years old, with a small component of tree regeneration present in the understory. The ground vegetation

consists of salmonberry, huckleberry, vine maple, sword fern, Oregon grape, and devil's club. In the greater landscape, the majority of forested cover is mostly coniferous, so this parcel and the few adjacent to it consist of species that are relatively rare in the surrounding areas and thus greatly contributes to the biodiversity of the surrounding landscape.

Management recommendations

Biodiversity will be increased by planting native species present only in small quantities or not at all, such as red flowering currant, red-osier dogwood, thimbleberry, and mock orange. Old growth stumps and logs will be protected from damage.

Special Resources Example 3

Resource assessment

An analysis completed by the Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in 2024 has determined that no threatened or endangered species or cultural or historical resources are known to exist on the property. This property is not considered a forest of recognized importance (FORI). However, the property is within winter elk range habitat, which is listed in the WDFW Priority Habitats and Species (PHS) Program. Information on the PHS program is available from WDFW at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/conservation/phs/>. Management recommendations are available at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00032/>.

There are old growth stumps throughout the forest, remnants of the history of logging old growth that we wish to protect. There is one very large western hemlock (over 40 inches in diameter), possibly the largest tree on the property, that appears healthy and doing well with neighboring western redcedars that we especially wish to protect.

Our property already supports biodiversity, with evidence of significant wildlife use. Different features on our property that provide for biodiversity include a diversity of native tree and shrub species, wet areas, snags, downed logs, and mast-producing species.

Management recommendations

Prior to undertaking any activities that would require an FPA, we will consult with DNR and/or WDFW to identify best management practices for the winter elk range priority habitat, such as minimizing disturbance during calving season (May 1 – June 30) and planting forage mixes in cleared areas.

All old-growth stumps and logs should be preserved. This is important for wildlife considerations anyway, but these are irreplaceable aesthetic resources.

Removing invasive species, encouraging a variety of native vegetation, protecting the wet areas, building habitat piles, and retaining snags and downed logs when safe to do so will help our property to continue supporting a high level of biodiversity.



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