Annual Report to the National Marine Fisheries Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Oregon Department of State Lands

Elliott State Research Forest

Fiscal Year: July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Land Acknowledgement

The forested lands and waterways that now constitute the Elliott State Research Forest are a central part of the traditional lands of the Hanis and Quuiich (Lower Umpqua) peoples. Descendants of these first stewards of this area are today enrolled in five federally recognized Tribes of Western Oregon: the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians (CTCLUSI); Confederated Tribes of Siletz; the Coquille (Ko'Kwel) Tribe; the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians; and the Confederated Tribes of Grande Ronde.

Oregon Department of State Lands (DSL) wishes to acknowledge the past and enduring connection of Indigenous peoples to the Elliott landscape, and to honor the importance of this connection as part of the ESRF's future as a place inclusive of the expression of Indigenous stewardship, research, cultural values and practices.

Other Acknowledgements

DSL would like to acknowledge and thank the many members of the public and community of people who care about the Elliott. We also thank the ESRF Board of Directors and the State Land Board. Additionally there are many others who have been part of assisting and informing the ESRF staff with implementation of the HCP, including the following: Meagan Abele, Dan Draper and Haley Lutz with Coos Watershed Association; Barbara McIntosh and Eric Farm with Farm Unlimited, Jordan Mayor with ICF Incorporated, Matt Gostin, Ryan Greco and Randy Smith with Oregon Department of Forestry; Amy Darr, Ed Hughes and Evan Leonetti with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife; Jeff Young with National Marine Fisheries Service; and Colleen Holland with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS

°C	degrees Celsius
BOP	Biennial Operations Plan
CoosWA	Coos Watershed Association
CRW	Conservation research watershed
CTCLUSI	Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians
dbh	diameter at breast height
DEQ	Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
DSL	Oregon Department of State Lands
ESA	federal Endangered Species Act
ESU	evolutionarily significant unit
ESRF	Elliott State Research Forest
FMP	Forest Management Plan
FR	*Federal Register*
HCP	Habitat Conservation Plan
HSI	Habitat Suitability Index
ITP	incidental take permit
Magnuson-Stevens Act	Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
ODF	Oregon Department of Forestry
ODFW	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Oregon ESA	Oregon Endangered Species Act
Oregon FPA	Oregon Forest Practices Act
OSU	Oregon State University
SB	Senate Bill
State Land Board	Oregon State Land Board
STEP	Salmon and Trout Enhancement Program
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Habitat Conservation Plan Background

In May 2025, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) signed Permits for Incidental Take of Threatened Species numbered WCRO-2024-03430 and ESPER19132223 respectively. The Incidental Take Permits (ITPs) grant the Oregon Department of State Lands (DSL) authorization to operate the Elliott State Research Forest (ESRF or Forest) subject to the provisions of the implementing agreement for the Elliott State Research Forest Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP). The NMFS ITP covers one anadromous fish species, Oregon Coast Evolutionarily Significant Unit (ESU) coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*) and the USFWS ITP covers two terrestrial species, marbled murrelet (*Brachyramphus marmoratus*) and northern spotted owl (*Strix occidentalis caurina*) all of which are currently listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1974.

The Elliott State Research Forest HCP includes five habitat conservation measures and eleven conditions from sections 5.4 and 5.5 on covered activities that are expected to minimize and mitigate, to the maximum extent practicable, the effects of take on the covered fish and wildlife. These conditions and measures are designed to improve habitat environments for the covered fish and wildlife species within the 83,000-acre research forest as well as additional species contained within the Forest and waters downstream of the ESRF in the Coos, Tenmile Lakes and Lower Umpqua basins.

Conservation measures in the ESRF comprise targeted restoration and stream enhancement as well as expansion of riparian conservation areas. The measures also include reduction of the Forest's road density and negative impacts of the road network within the permit area, management and research of the invasive barred owl (*Strix varia*), as well as enhanced protection for marbled murrelet through habitat buffering. The HCP measures are being implemented and monitored over the 80-year permit period.

1.2 Annual Report Organization

This report is organized to provide the status of work and planned accomplishments for HCP monitoring and research efforts conducted during the 2025 fiscal year running July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. The monitoring section is intended to be divided into compliance and effectiveness monitoring, which will be completed in future years' reports, but as very little active management occurred within the permit area during the single month of this reporting period after the HCP was approved and ITPs signed, there was almost nothing to monitor.

2.0 COVERED ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION

Briefly summarize the discussion in this section below and provide any additional necessary information to inform our review of the information provided in the following subsections. Include a description of covered activities implemented during the reporting year, as well as cumulative total (i.e., from the start of the permit term as it relates to the HCP commitment) and how conditions on covered activities as defined for this HCP, which are specific take avoidance and minimization measures have been applied to the covered activities.

2.1 Timber Harvest and other Tree Removal

Discuss timber harvest operations including implementation of covered activities for the reporting year (e.g., yarding corridors, acres of harvest by allocation type, location of harvests, treatment types and acres of each treatment type, all harvest related information as stated in section 7.3.1, *Annual Reporting*, of the HCP). Identify any exceedances of harvest acre caps, the reasons for exceedance, and how DSL will adjust operations in future to mitigate for and avoid exceedances.

Acres and location of timber harvest by type:

None during 2025 fiscal year. Planned for upcoming year, anticipate timber harvest operations as early as March of 2026.

Removal of trees predating the 1868 fire:

None during 2025 fiscal year.

2.2 Allocation Operational Standards

Discuss DSL's implementation of the operational standards for each allocation type. Provide all necessary information to inform the Services' review of DSL's implementation of the operational standards for consistency with how they are described in the HCP. Identify any circumstances where DSL did not meet the operational standards as described in the HCP (e.g., retention of less than 20% pre-harvest density in a thinned CRW or MRW reserve).

None during 2025 fiscal year. Planned for upcoming year, anticipate implementation early 2026.

2.3 Supporting Management Activities

Identify supporting management activities implemented during the reporting year. Include acres treated or harvested, including acres disrupted for supporting management activities (such as road maintenance or construction), and dates of operations in modeled terrestrial species habitat. Habitat data will include modeled quality ratings (e.g., highly suitable, suitable, marginal) (Chapter 2, Tables 2-6 and 2-7) for stand conditions prior to and after treatment. For extensive treatments, habitat data will also include pre- and post-treatment stand density conditions.

None during 2025 fiscal year.

During the 2026 fiscal year, three overgrown spur roads (5600, 5100 & 2740) were partially reopened for a total combined mileage of 2.14 (further details included in ESRF Forester's road report below). Both the 2740 and 5600 roads are located on ridgelines, while the 5100 (Big Creek Road) does run adjacent to a coho bearing stream. The majority of the light road work conducted on the 5100 was outside of the 200-foot RCA buffer, at closest coming within 50 feet of the creek bed and did not reach the furthest existing upstream crossing. Additional

management activities are planned for upcoming year, with anticipated implementation in the 2026 calendar year.

2.4 Supporting Infrastructure

Discuss implementation of road construction, use, and maintenance, quarries, and communication lookout sites. Provide all information necessary as described in the HCP to inform the Services' review of DSL's construction, use, and maintenance of roads in the permit area during the reporting year. Identify any circumstances where activities for road construction, maintenance, and use; quarry construction or use; or communication lookout sites were not conducted as described in the HCP and measures taken to correct any errors in implementation of these covered activities.

None, only routine maintenance of road system during this reporting year.

During the 2026 reporting year, three roads (2740, 5100 and 5600), which were previously not in drivable condition, a combined total distance of 2.14 miles were brushed and graded, with no widening or modification of the roads' template. Both the 2740 and 5600 roads run along ridgelines with all work outside the Riparian Conservation Area (RCA) allocation. Work that was accomplished on the 5100 (Big Creek road) was located upstream of coho habitat by approximately 0.85 miles and all but the final 150 feet were outside of the RCA. Additional details regarding the road segments in the repair areas are included in ESRF Forester's road report below.

Also, during the upcoming reporting year, soil and debris originating from upslope slipped down and impacted road number 9000 alongside Elk Creek (See Figures 2.4.1 and 2.4.2) near the confluence with the West Fork Millicoma River (43.582590, -123.932523), T23S-R10W-S07. Loose material was observed and documented by ESRF staff on July 14th, 2025. The road maintenance contractor removed material from road and reported site was not problematic. The site of slump was revisited on December 13th observing additional action but sliding material had not entered Elk Creek. Upon revisiting site on December 22nd, additional material had filled ditch and flowed down roadbed to bridge across WF Millicoma River. To address transport of material from slide, certified weed-free straw bales were installed the following week to mitigate sediment movement until dry season when repair efforts can be initiated. This slide will continue to be monitored regularly, including after high precipitation events to ensure effectiveness of straw bales and identifying when additional straw bales or other mitigation activities are needed. *Candidate location for turbidity monitoring in Elk Creek.

Figure 2.4.1. Slump delivering material onto 9000 road near confluence of Elk Creek and West Fork Millicoma River.

Additionally, during the 2026 fiscal year, two culverts were replaced on September 10th and 11th, 2025 on the 8000 road which are also included in ESRF Forester's road report below (see Figure 2.4.2). Both streams with the replaced culverts are tributaries of the West Fork Millicoma River and are located within T23S-R10W-S08 (43.581245, -123.905569) and (43.577390, -123.914718).

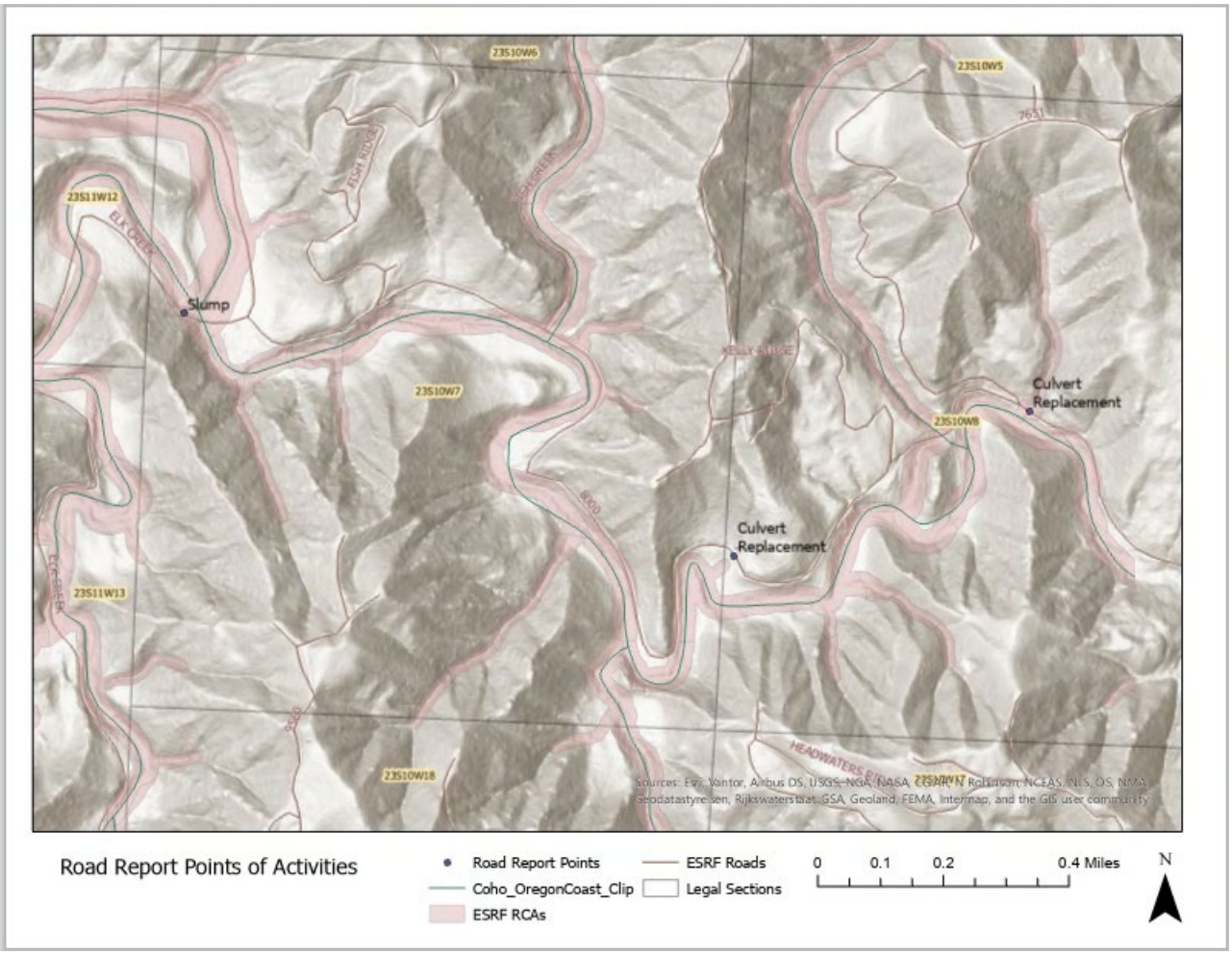

Figure 2.4.2 Locations of slump above 9000 road alongside Elk Creek and culvert replacements all within the West Fork Millicoma River drainage.

Road Information for 2024-2025 FY Reporting

Kaitlyn Athearn - Forester

12/16/2025

FY July 1st, 2024-June 30th, 2025

- Regular, year-round road maintenance (includes brushing, grading, ditch clearing, and spot rocking) on all roads in figure below (with the exception of the 0300 road).

Road Numbers				
0300	1840	1900	4000	7700
0400	1850	3300	7000	7800
0440	2000	3400	7100	8000
1000	2200	3500	7300	8800
1100	2300	4900	7400	9000
1400	2400	5000	7500	9200
1600	3000	6000	7600	9300
1800	3200	3600	7650	9500

FY July 1st, 2025-December 12th, 2025

- System road re-opened for management units (no management actions in units yet)
  - 5600 road
    - 5164 ft (0.97 mi)
    - Brushed and graded. No widening or modification of road template
    - Along road Habitat suitability is lowest (Modeled NSO Suitability Davis et al. 2016)
    - 1000 feet adjacent to suitable and within 300 feet of activity center #37 (Wind Creek)
    - Completed August 1st, 2025
  - 5100 road
    - 3667 feet (0.7 mi)
    - Brushed and graded. No widening or modification of road template
    - Habitat suitability is marginal (Modeled NSO Suitability Davis et al. 2016)
    - Completed July 11th, 2025
  - 2740
    - 2500 feet (0.47 mi)
    - Brushed and graded. No widening or modification of road template
    - Habitat suitability is moderate along road (Modeled NSO Suitability Davis et al. 2016)
    - Adjacent to Occupied MAMU and within 100-ac core of activity center 53 (Scholfield Creek)
    - Completed November 27th

- 2 Culverts replaced on September 10th and 11th 8000 road. T23sR10wSec.8 (43.581245, -123.905569) (43.577390, -123.914718)

- Minor slides have been documented through road maintenance contractors

- Elk Creek (9000 road) south of junction with 8000 road. This may have introduced some sediment to the W. Fork of the Millicoma in December 2025.
- November 2025 – Minor rockslide on road 3000
- Noted existing small slides July 2025 (Or previous)-November 2025
  - 9500
  - 0440
  - 5400
  - 6500
  - 2200 (0.4 miles from end, small)
  - 2400 (Slide midpoint and 0.1 mile from end)
  - 3000 (Shoulder slide 4 mi)
  - 3500 (1.5 mi)
  - 5000
  - 7100
  - 7650 (3/4 mi above 8000 road, small)
  - 8000
  - 9000 (see above)
  - 9500 (rock slide in ditch midpoint)

2.5 Indigenous Cultural Use of Cedar Trees

Summarize the implementation of the restrictions on Tribal cultural use of cedar trees. Provide all information necessary as described in the HCP to inform the Services' review of implementation of this activity. Identify any circumstances where these activities were not conducted in a manner consistent with this activity's description in the HCP.

None during 2025 fiscal year.

2.6 Fish Salvage and Fish Research and Monitoring

Describe all fish salvage and research and monitoring activities that occurred during the reporting year. Provide all necessary information as described in the HCP to inform the Services' review of DSL's implementation of these activities to assess take including, but not limited to, methods of capture and handling, numbers and species and life stages captured, number of observed mortalities, and timing when salvage, research, or monitoring activities occurred.

None during 2025 fiscal year.

During the 2026 fiscal year, Oregon State University researchers, under the guidance of Dr. Dana Warren and operating under their own 4D permit (# 28574) for collecting coho and other fish, electro-fished to sample fish presence. Sampling was conducted at Elk Creek (N 43.546435, W 123.943003) and Fish Creek (N 43.600025, W 123.916292) on September 18th, 2025, between the hours of 8:30am and 11:30am. The water temperature at Elk Creek during sampling was 14.1°C and water temperature at Fish Creek was12.8°C and the air temperature that morning was between 7°C and 10°C. 76 juvenile coho were caught at Elk Creek and at Fish Creek, 42 juvenile coho were caught. No mortalities were observed at either sampling location. To minimize stress, electrofisher settings were kept low and fish were scooped and placed into buckets with cold water from each stream with aerators. Fish

were only processed to identify species (not sedated) and returned quickly to their stream after identification.

2.7 Conditions on Covered Activities

Provide all necessary information as described in the HCP to inform the Services' review of DSL's implementation of these specific take avoidance and minimization measures. Describe any exceptions to the following conditions on covered activities that occurred during the reporting year.

2.7.1 Condition 1: Seasonal Restrictions Around Northern Spotted Owl Nest Sites

Seasonal disturbance restrictions will be applied to any active nest sites found in the permit area through monitoring or other means as well as to the 22 historic activity centers unless a determination has been made that nesting is not occurring (per USFWS-accepted protocols).

Exceptions: None.

2.7.2 Condition 2 Retention of Northern Spotted Owl Nesting Core Areas

Nesting core areas comprising 100 acres of the highest-quality contiguous habitat will be maintained for a minimum of 22 of the most recently occupied nest sites (or designated activity center if nest site location is unknown). Designation of the individual nesting core areas will be established prior to any harvest activities occurring in the surrounding core use area of a site and no modification or treatment will occur within those designated 100 acres.

Exceptions: None.

2.7.3 Condition 3: Retention of Northern Spotted Owl Core Use Areas

Core use areas of at least 502 acres of the highest-quality habitat will be established for the 22 historic activity centers. The designated core use areas will be contiguous habitat, and the edge will be no less than 300 feet from the nest location or activity center if the nest is unknown. Within the core use areas, at least 50% (more than 251 acres) of the highest-quality contiguous habitat will be retained at all times. Core use habitat may be reallocated within each 502-acre core use area as long as minimum quality and quantity are retained. Any core use areas that currently do not meet the minimum standard of at least 251 acres of nesting, roosting, and foraging habitat will not be thinned or harvested until that minimum is met.

Exceptions: None.

2.7.4 Condition 4: Retention of Habitat in Northern Spotted Owl Home Ranges

Within the home ranges (a 1.5-mile-radius circle centered on the activity center) of at least the 22 historic activity centers at least 40% (1,809 acres) of the highest-quality nesting, roosting, and foraging habitat will be retained. For areas within the home range but outside of the core use area, the contiguous habitat requirement will not apply to the broader home range area, although any habitat grown and used as replacement habitat must meet the requirements of the highest-quality nesting, roosting, and foraging habitat.

Exceptions: None.

2.7.5 Condition 5: Maintenance of Northern Spotted Owl Dispersal Landscape

At least 40% of the MRW will be retained as dispersal habitat, which includes nesting, roosting and foraging habitat, but at minimum dispersal requires at least 50% of trees with 11 inches diameter at breast height or greater, and with roughly a minimum 40% canopy cover.

Exceptions: None.

2.7.6 Condition 6: Seasonal Restrictions in Marbled Murrelet Occupied Habitat

Seasonal disturbance and/or daily timing restrictions will be applied during the murrelet nesting season to any covered activities in designated occupied habitat, or other areas which are determined to be occupied using surveys.

Exceptions: None.

2.7.7 Condition 7: Survey Requirements for Modeled Potential Marbled Murrelet Habitat

All modeled potential marbled murrelet stands that are subject to proposed harvest treatments will be examined for presence of marbled murrelet nest sites prior to treatments utilizing the following process: Completion of desktop review to determine if contiguous patches of trees older than 80 years (estimated current age at time of review) that are 5 acres or larger are present. If contiguous potential habitat which contains no gaps in suitable forest cover wider than 328 feet is identified, conduct field assessment to determine the likelihood of the stands supporting nesting. Conduct nesting surveys in those stands determined to have characteristics which could support nesting following occupancy survey methods accepted by USFWS. Stands found to be occupied will be designated as *occupied* and managed as an MRW Reserve, expanded RCA, or aggregate retention under extensive harvest treatments. For those stands found to not be occupied (i.e., probable absence) after completing the required number of surveys over each of 2 consecutive years, the survey area will be classified as *not occupied* for a period of 5 years.

Exceptions: None.

2.7.8 Condition 8: Limits on Harvest and Designation Changes in Occupied and Modeled Potential Marbled Murrelet Habitat

Intensive or extensive harvest treatments in modeled potential marbled murrelet habitat are prohibited unless they are in areas determined as not occupied (i.e., probable absence) through the process set forth in Condition 7. Locations that were previously determined to be occupied will continue to be considered occupied if there have been no changes to habitat condition since the last marbled murrelet detections were made (e.g., pre-HCP harvest or other stand management activities, or substantial changes in habitat quality due to natural events such as storms, fire, or disease). Further, any known nest trees or trees within 300 feet of known nest trees will be included in retention areas for any allowable extensive treatment.

Exceptions: None.

2.7.9 Condition 9: Maintaining Aggregate Amount of Marbled Murrelet Occupied Habitat Over Time

There will be no temporal loss of the aggregate number of acres of designated occupied habitat or HSI-weighted-acres (HSI-acres) as a result of harvest treatments in the permit area. This condition applies to designated occupied habitat. Any areas of modeled potential habitat that are found to not be occupied and areas outside of modeled potential habitat, are not subject to this requirement and can be managed as part of covered

activity implementation. Acres of occupied habitat and HSI-acres will be accounted for annually and summarized in annual reports along with 6-year Summary Reports and 12-year Comprehensive Reviews, including the newly discovered locations in the CRW or MRW Reserves, to demonstrate compliance with this condition.

Exceptions: None.

2.7.10 Condition 10: Management on Steep Slopes

During harvest planning and layouts, intensive harvests will avoid slopes identified to be unstable by the Slope Stability Analysis tool unless field surveys reveal that areas are suitable for harvest. Moreover, in the full subwatersheds each acre slated for intensive harvest will be matched with an equal amount of acreage placed in Reserves in the same subwatershed designation. This approach will ensure that at least 50% of any given intensively managed subwatershed will be placed in a Reserve.

In extensive or restoration thinning treatments, field surveys and/or retention commitments can address concerns over areas identified as unstable by the Slope Stability Analysis tool. Also, across treatment types, cable or tethered logging systems will primarily be used on slopes >40%, new road construction (temporary and permanent) will be located in stable locations (ridgetops, stable benches, or flats). Additionally, treatments in stands <65 years (as of 2020) will be focused on previously logged stands where construction of new roads will be minimal.

Exceptions: None.

2.7.11 Condition 11: Road Construction and Management

Geotechnical specialists will be consulted, as needed, when designing roads to carefully site roads and plan appropriately to minimize the length of roadbed needed to support timber management activities, fire protection, and recreational uses, minimizing the detrimental impacts on the aquatic environment supporting Oregon Coast coho from road construction and maintenance. Road construction and management will follow Oregon FPA restrictions as well as the road design measures outlined in section 5.5.12.1 of the HCP. While road maintenance activities will also follow the guidelines from HCP section 5.5.12.2.

Exceptions: None, only routine maintenance of road system during this reporting year.

3.0 CONSERVATION STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION

Summarize the discussion in this section below and provide any additional necessary information to inform the Services' review of the information provided in the following subsections. Include monitoring actions and summary of surveys conducted through the monitoring program in the reporting year, including a description of surveys conducted, protocols used, and survey results (e.g., presence, breeding, occupancy, location, and species response). Identify any circumstances where activities were not conducted as described in the HCP and measures taken to correct any errors in implementation of these covered activities. Discussion of possible changes to the monitoring and research program based on interpretation of monitoring results and research findings, if applicable.

3.1 Conservation Measure 1: Targeted Restoration and Stream Enhancement

Summarize the restoration and stream enhancement activities implemented under Conservation Measure 1 as described in the HCP for in-channel restoration, riparian vegetation management in riparian conservation areas, and beaver-related habitat management. Include information relative to this conservation measure and these activities identified in Section 6.2.1.

None during 2025 fiscal year.

Coos Watershed Association is currently in the technical guidance stage of planning in-stream placement of large wood in West Fork Millicoma River. ESRF has committed $2,500 towards matching funds for the Millicoma Forks project funded by an OWEB grant and anticipate implementation in 2027.

3.2 Conservation Measure 2: Expanded Riparian Conservation Areas on Select Management Research Management Streams

Provide necessary information to show implementation of expanded RCAs in the Lower Millicoma River watershed, volume replacement allocations treated with extensive treatments due to presence of marbled murrelet occupancy, and flexible extensive allocations in the Big and Palouse Creek subwatersheds.

None during 2025 fiscal year.

3.3 Conservation Measure 3: Reduce Density and Negative Impacts of the Forest Road Network in the Permit Area

Provide necessary information to show implementation of road density reduction and efforts to mitigate negative impacts of roads including prevention of water quality degradation and associated impacts on aquatic and riparian resources, minimizing disruption of natural drainage patterns, providing adequate fish passage, and minimizing exacerbation of natural mass-wasting processes.

None during 2025 fiscal year. Planned for upcoming year, anticipate road repairs to be conducted during dry season.

3.5 Conservation Measure 4: Barred Owl Management and Research

Provide necessary information to show collaboration with USFWS as well as other federal and state management agencies to develop and implement barred owl management and research integrating the monitoring and data collection related to northern spotted owl necessary to assess the effectiveness of barred owl management.

None during 2025 fiscal year. Planned for upcoming year, anticipate barred owl management implementation in autumn of 2026.

Supporting activities to monitor and conserve NSO habitat as well as determine baseline population prior to initiation of barred owl management:

Delineated 100-acre highest quality habitat for nesting core areas utilizing GIS layers, including aerial photos, LiDAR and previous 70-acre core areas designated by ODF wildlife biologist as required by Condition 2 above.

Funded NSO monitoring surveys, solicited proposals from private vendors, at time of drafting this report the DSL is currently in the intent to award process with procurement for forest-wide call-back surveys during the breeding season. Those surveys may be augmented by ARUs and supplementary activity center searches in addition to the 22 that are required by HCP as capacity and funding allows. Planned NSO surveys of the entire 83,000 acres within the permit for 2026 and 2027 to provide a baseline prior to implementation of barred owl management.

Tracking habitat modifications within the required 22 NSO core use areas and home ranges. Regular check-in meetings held with USFWS and ODFW to initiate development of barred owl management and research integrating the monitoring and data collection related to northern spotted owl necessary to assess the effectiveness of barred owl management.

3.6 Conservation Measure 5: Harvest and Thinning Adjacent to Occupied Marbled Murrelet Habitat

Provide necessary information to demonstrate implementation of habitat buffering as described in HCP Appendix D to enhance protection for marbled murrelet occupied habitat from edge effects. Summarize any additional buffering, treatment layout and stand-level boundary adjustments, or other protections that occur as part of the biennial planning process to incorporate this conservation consideration.

None during 2025 fiscal year.

4.0 GOVERNMENT AND REGULATORY AGENCY COORDINATION

Summarize any substantive coordination between the Permittee and local, state, federal, and Tribal governments and other stakeholders regarding implementation of the HCP.

4.1 Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

The ESRF Forest Biologist and ODFW Regional Habitat Biologist met regularly during the report period to discuss implementation of the HCP, scientific take permitting process and development of the Elliott's Implementation and Adaptive Management Committee. Additionally, status updates and coordination occurred with the Umpqua Watershed District Manager, as well as the local District Fish Biologist, Assistant District Wildlife Biologist, Assistant District Fish Biologist and Fish Habitat Restoration Biologist/WOSRP. As of this report, we're expecting to continue meeting with individuals in the above positions as well as Principal Executive/Managers and Deputy Administrator of Inland Fish to discuss the agency's Salmon and Trout Enhancement Program (STEP), implications of Senate Bill 221 and the potential impacts to coho salmon populations occurring within and downstream of the ESRF.

4.2 Oregon Department of Forestry

ESRF staff met multiple times and coordinated with ODF staff including the Deputy Division Chief, Coos Bay Unit Forester, Forest Roads Inventory Assessment Coordinator, Planning and Stewardship Foresters and the local Wildlife Biologist who previously worked on the Elliott when it was managed by their agency. Continued coordination and collaboration between ODF and ESRF are anticipated during the upcoming report period and beyond.

4.3 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration – National Marine Fisheries Service

The ESRF Forest Biologist and NMFS Fish Biologist met multiple times during this reporting period to coordinate the implementation of the ESRF HCP. Later, during the following reporting period met to discuss in-water work timing, reporting requirements for fish sampling, existing consultations for the Coos River Fall Chinook Hatchery and Genetic Management Plan (HGMP) and to discuss ODFW's local Salmon and Trout Enhancement Program (STEP) efforts and the potential impacts to coho salmon populations occurring within and downstream of the ESRF.

4.4 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

The ESRF Forest Biologist and USFWS's Fish and Wildlife Biologists met multiple times during this reporting period to discuss specifics of the implementation of the ESRF HCP including design of the barred owl management plan as well as regular status updates on consultation compliance. Early during the following reporting period, meetings occurred to discuss annual reporting requirements, potential research topics and follow-up discussions that included status updates.

4.5 Tribal Governments

At the time of this report DSL leadership is currently undertaking Government to Government consultations with Tribes statewide and additional staff to staff communications are expected

to commence once those consultations have been accomplished. Below is an outline of coordination efforts between DSL and Tribal governments and staff during this reporting period:

August 2024: DSL sent letters to all five western Oregon Tribes providing a reminder of changes to HCP / FMP made to date based on Tribal input, affirmation of FMP space for additional changes, incorporation of Indigenous values, concept for project-level partnership stemming from Tribal summit conversations.

September 2024: The five western Oregon Tribes were invited meet to discuss research, Indigenous engagement. Coquille, Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians (CTCLUSI), and Siletz attended. Following the meeting DSL proposed, to all five western Tribes, working on a forestry prescription project together with the revenue from the timber sold going to Tribes to cover their staff costs. This potential project was seen by DSL as a way to build trust, allow for regular contact, but Tribes were not eager to engage.

January 2025: An email introduction was sent to the five western Oregon Tribes from ESRF's Policy and Partnership Coordinator providing an overview of the Elliott's Biennial Operations Plan (BOP) and public process. ESRF's Transition Director replied to all emails with documentation of the edits to the HCP and FMP to reflect Indigenous interests.

February 2025: DSL sent letters to the five western Oregon Tribes providing updates on FMP and HCP progress, Board appointments, ESRF staff hiring, Shutter Creek update, recognition of Tribal capacity and commitment to working together.

March 2025: ESRF staff and management met with CTCLUSI to discuss the recently adopted FMP, incorporation of Western Red Cedar tribal use into HCP and FMP, concerns over management in area within the Elliott allocated as Conservation Research Watershed (CRW). CTCLUSI encouraged representation from each Tribe on IAMC, discussion of how a lack of management on the Elliott means that the land has not been managed as CTCLUSI would like, discussion of Shutter Creek and the redevelopment plan being prepared by Otak Inc. CTCLUSI voiced interest in access to Shutter Creek for prayer site, and discussed desire for a meeting to discuss management in each ESRF land allocation designations.

May 2025: ESRF Board member introduces ESRF's Policy and Partnership Coordinator to the Siletz Tribe's Natural Resource Director.

June 2025: The Natural Resource Director for the Siletz attended June 10 event at Shutter Creek, noting that the property needs to be cleansed.

5.0 IMPLEMENTATION COSTS

Summarize total costs associated with HCP implementation for the fiscal reporting year, as well as any budget projections for the next fiscal year.

5.1 Current Fiscal Year Expenditures

During the period between July 1, 2024, and June 30, 2025, expenses associated with implementing ESRF's HCP are estimated to be $265,871.37. This amount is comprised of $30,000 for equipment and materials, $175,277.97 for contracted services and $60,593.40 for personnel compensation.

5.2 Projected Expenditures for Upcoming Fiscal Year

At the time of this report, expenses associated with implementing ESRF's HCP between July 1, 2025, and June 30, 2026, are expected to total a minimum of $485,143.26. This amount is anticipated to include $242,453.53 for contracted services and $242,689.73 for personnel compensation and does not include any substantial purchases of equipment or materials.