



April 8, 2021

Western Oregon State Forests HCP

Summary of Key Changes Between October 2020 Draft and March 2021 Administrative Draft

Between October 2020 and March 2021 Oregon Department of Forestry staff, with the support of ICF, revised the draft habitat conservation plan (HCP) into the administrative draft HCP. During that time the Scoping Team reviewed the entire HCP again and provided recommendations and comments. There are changes throughout the document in response to those comments, including requests for more detail or for clarifications, when information was not clear. There were some notable changes to the HCP between the October 2020 draft and the March 2021 administrative draft. In some cases new material was inserted, in locations that were not yet complete in October 2020. In other cases information was revised in response to Scoping Team comments. The notable changes to the HCP between October 2020 and March 2021 are as follows:

Chapter 1 – Introduction

- Updated species status tables
- Moved discussion about recovery plans and other related conservation strategies to Chapters 2 and 4

Chapter 2 – Environmental Setting

- Updated section on species habitat model, particularly the methods used for terrestrial habitat modeling

Chapter 3 – Covered Activities

- Revision of herbicide activities, completion of the activity description and clarification that aerial herbicide application is not a covered activity, but ground-based application is covered
- Removal of grazing and fertilizer application as activities
- More details on recreation infrastructure placement and estimates for new facilities in the future
- More details on water drafting and storage, including constraints on how the activity is completed to minimize effects on covered fish

Chapter 4 – Conservation Strategy

- Biological goals and objectives
 - Revisions to biological goal and objective acreage numbers but not changes in construct, revisions are due to changes in how habitat suitability indices are applied
 - Addition of decadal figures for changes in NSO, MAMU, RTV habitat
- Conservation Action 1 – Establish RCAs
 - Addition of new figure showing how steep slopes are buffered
 - Addition of expanded section on steep slope identification and mapping
- Conservation Action 3 - Added detail from former Conservation Action 12
- Conservation Action 7 – management in HCAs
 - Added specifics on pace and scale of management in HCAs
 - Added table detailing the types of management that will occur
 - Added table specifying restrictions on management related to terrestrial species habitat quality



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- Conservation Action 8 – management outside HCAs
 - Added detail about habitat-based priority for green tree retention
 - Added definition of dispersal habitat for NSO
 - Updated standards for downed wood
- Conservation Action 9 – updated discussion about barred owl management, expanding the potential for that program
- Conservation Action 12 (old) - Removed Strategic Aquatic Conservation Action but subsumed it into Conservation Actions 2 and 3
- Conservation Action 10 – added detail to better define operational restrictions,
 - especially related to activities occurring in marbled murrelet habitat, and
 - herbicide application in Oregon slender salamander habitat and coastal marten habitat
- Added new Conservation Action 12 that includes restrictions on location of new recreation infrastructure relative to covered species habitat

Chapter 5 – Effects Analysis

- Revised RCA stand age distribution figure
- Added more rationale and justification for how RCAs will minimize effects on aquatic species
- Added more detail on Oregon slender salamander net effects discussion including addition of a stand age distribution figure
- Added stand age distribution figure for coastal marten habitat
- Updated all net effects discussions

Chapter 6 – Monitoring and Adaptive Management

- Complete reorganization of chapter centered around large monitoring table
- Broke large tables into several smaller tables and organized chapter around the tables
- Generally tried to link monitoring to biological objectives more clearly
- Added more detail on aquatic monitoring
- Added update timing commitment on terrestrial monitoring

Chapter 7 - Assurances

- Revised changed circumstances for fire, storms, and disease and combined them into one that is focused on changes in species habitat quality
- Added stronger provisions for responding to changed circumstances based on temporary deferment of harvest

Chapter 8 - Implementation

- Added stay ahead provision, including how to adjust it following catastrophic events
- Added more detail about reporting requirements

Chapter 9 – Cost and Funding

- Updated staffing assumptions and associated costs
- Revised aquatic monitoring costs related to staffing changes
- Updated revenue forecasts to provide more current numbers



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Chapter 10 – Alternatives to Take

- Minor edits

Additions of the following appendices:

- Appendix A – Glossary
- Appendix B – Stakeholder Engagement
- Appendix C – Species Accounts
- Appendix D – Species Considered for Coverage
- Appendix E – Effects Analysis Details
 - Fish limiting factors table
 - Temperature protection memo
 - Terrestrial modeling information
- Appendix F - HCA Maps
- Appendix G - HUC 10 Stand Age Analysis
- Appendix H - ODF Roads Manual
- Appendix I – Unstable Slopes Evaluation
- Appendix J – HCA Management Decision Tree