

APPENDIX A - FOREST PLAN MANAGEMENT DIRECTION

1.0 RIPARIAN RESERVES

The following Standards and Guidelines for Riparian Reserves are presented in the Northwest Forest Plan (USDA and USDI 1994) and apply to the White Pass Expansion proposal.¹

- RF-2 – “For each existing or planned road, meet Aquatic Conservation Strategy (ACS) objectives by: a) minimizing road and landing locations in Riparian Reserves (RR), b) completing watershed analyses prior to construction of new roads or landings in RRs, c) preparing road design criteria, elements, and standards that govern construction and reconstruction, d) preparing operation and maintenance criteria that govern road operation, maintenance, and management, e) minimizing disruption of natural hydrologic flow paths, including diversion of streamflow and interception of surface and subsurface flow, f) restricting side casting as necessary to prevent the introduction of sediment to streams, and g) avoiding wetland entirely when constructing new roads.”
- RF-3 – “Determine the influence of each road on the ACS objectives through watershed analysis. Meet ACS objectives by: a) reconstructing roads and associated drainage features that pose a substantial risk, b) prioritizing reconstruction based on current and potential impact to riparian resources and the ecological value of the riparian resources affected, and c) closing and stabilizing, or obliterating and stabilizing roads based on the ongoing and potential effects to the ACS objectives and considering short-term and long-term transportation needs.”
- RF-4 – “New culverts, bridges and other stream crossings shall be constructed, and existing culverts, bridges and other stream crossings determined to pose a substantial risk to riparian conditions will be improved, to accommodate at least the 100-year flood, including associated bedload and debris. Priority for upgrading will be based on the potential impact and the ecological value of the riparian resource affected. Crossings will be constructed and maintained to prevent diversion of streamflow out of the channel and down the road in the event of a crossing failure.”
- RF-5 – “Minimize sediment delivery to streams from roads. Outsloping of the roadway surface is preferred, except in cases where outsloping would increase sediment delivery to streams or where outsloping is infeasible or unsafe. Route road drainage away from potentially unstable channels, fills, and hillslopes.”

¹ The Northwest Forest Plan includes Standards and Guidelines for Riparian Reserves that do not apply to the types of activities proposed in the White Pass expansion (i.e., Watershed Restoration, Grazing Management, Minerals Management, Lands, and Research). These Standards and Guidelines are not evaluated in the White Pass expansion FEIS.

- RM-1 – “New recreational facilities within RRs, including trails and dispersed sites, should be designed to not prevent meeting ACS objectives. Construction of these facilities should not prevent future attainment of these objectives. For existing recreation facilities within RRs, evaluate and mitigate impact to ensure that these do not prevent, and to the extent practicable contribute to, attainment of ACS objectives.”
- RM-2 – “Adjust dispersed and developed recreation practices that retard or prevent attainment of ACS objectives. Where adjustment measures such as education, use limitations, traffic control devices, increased maintenance, relocation of facilities and/or specific site closures are not effective, eliminate the practice or occupancy.”
- FM-1 – “Design fuel treatment and fire suppression strategies, practices, and activities to meet ACS objectives, and to minimize disturbance of riparian ground cover and vegetation. Strategies should recognize the role of fire in ecosystem function and identify those instances where fire suppression or fuels management activities could be damaging to long-term ecosystem function.”
- RA-1 – “Identify and attempt to secure in-stream flows needed to maintain riparian resources, channel conditions, and aquatic habitat.”
- RA-2 – “Fell trees in RRs when they pose a safety risk. Keep felled trees on-site when needed to meet coarse woody debris objectives.”
- WR-3 – “Do not use mitigation or planned restoration as a substitute for preventing habitat degradation.”
- FW-4 – “Cooperate with federal, tribal, and state fish management agencies to identify and eliminate impacts associated with habitat manipulation, fish-stocking, harvest and poaching that threaten the continued existence and distribution of native fish stocks occurring on federal lands.”

2.0 WENATCHEE FOREST PLAN - DEVELOPED RECREATION

Forest-wide Standards and Guidelines state the bounds or constraints within which all practices will be carried out in achieving the planned objectives (USDA 1990b). Specifically, the Forest-wide Standards and Guidelines for Recreation Planning and Inventory state that practices on the WNF must:

“12. Evaluate existing developed and dispersed recreation sites to determine if they meet present and future public expectations, needs, and desires, and if they have the resource capability of sustaining present or future levels of visitor use...

15. Plan new or developed and dispersed winter recreation opportunities in response to the growing demand for winter sports areas and developed facilities. Seek maximum

opportunities for partnerships and joint ventures with private developers and other agencies in providing recreation development.” (WNF Forest Plan, IV-65)

Furthermore, Standards and Guidelines for Recreation Facility Site Management include the following:

- “1. Manage recreation sites to provide a high degree of security, safety, and sanitary conditions for recreation visitors.
2. Provide high quality maintenance of facilities that assures a positive public image and a high degree of visitor satisfaction.
3. Keep abreast of visitor's needs and desires at recreation sites and adjust management programs to meet these needs.” (WNF Forest Plan, IV-68).

In addition, the Standards and Guidelines specific to Management Prescription RE-1 provide that:

- “1. Visual Quality Objective: Retention.
2. Plan recreation activities and facilities to provide a diverse range of recreation opportunities in Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) classes, semi-primitive to urban.
3. Develop partnerships and encourage recreation development through permits, joint ventures, and cooperative agreements.
4. Encourage development of recreation opportunities by the private providers.
5. Employ marketing strategies to determine wants and needs of recreation visitors. Incorporate these wishes in recreation planning and development.” (WNF Forest Plan, IV-159).

3.0 GIFFORD PINCHOT FOREST PLAN - DEVELOPED RECREATION

The Standards and Guidelines for developed recreation (Management Area 2L) include the following:

Recreation - Planning and Inventory

- “2. On selected sites, special facilities needed for the convenience of visitors, including the elderly, young and handicapped, should be provided.” (GPNF Forest Plan, IV-101).

Recreation - Facility and Site Reconstruction, Construction, and Management Administration

- “2. Operation and maintenance plans should be prepared...

4. Every site will be surveyed for hazard trees annually. Trees determined to be dangerous will be removed.” (GPNF Forest Plan, IV-101).

Timber - Planning and Inventory and Intermediate Harvest

“2. Trees should be removed when they may be a hazard to life or property. Methods least likely to produce lasting visual impacts should be employed. Trees may be removed to improve a ski area, provide a scenic view, or accomplish other recreational enhancements. Ordinary timber salvage should not be permitted. (GPNF Forest Plan, IV-102).