NORTHWEST CERTIFIED FORESTRY™

FOREST BIODIVERSITY ASSESSMENT

Early seral or young stands - Pacific Northwest Version 1.0

Date:_____ **Stand:**_____

TOPOGRAPHY & SITE CHARACTERISTICS	E
1. Site on SE - SW facing slope steeper than 20 % (1:5)	◯
2. Site on NE - NW facing slope steeper than 20 % (1:5)	◯
3. Forested slope steeper than 60 % (3:5)	◯
4. Conspicuous gorge or ravine	◯
5. Conspicuous cliff, scree or talus slope	
6. Large boulder(s) or rocky outcrop(s)	◯
FOREST DYNAMICS	
7. Small (< 0.25 ac) canopy gaps	
8. Medium (0.25-1 ac) canopy gap(s)	
9. Larger (1-5 ac) canopy opening(s) created by wind or fire	
10. Open or semi-open canopy	
11. Numerous naturally regenerating tree saplings	
12. Ground vegetation very patchy and heterogeneous	
13. Exotic shrubs and trees absent or nearly absent*	◯
14. Trees with bark charred by recent fire	
15. Living tree(s) with wounds or scars from fire	
16. Living tree(s) with wounds or scars from more than one fire	◯
17. Numerous trees or tree tops broken by ice or snow	◯
18. Tree(s) felled by beaver or areas inundated by beaver	
HABITAT IN THE FOREST	
19. Conspicuous bald(s)	◯
20. Open or semi-open prairie, native grassland or meadow area	◯
21. Forested wetland area	
22. Open wetland area	◯
23. Forested spring or seep area	◯
24. Riparian forest*	◯
25. Streambed with substantial amounts of large woody debris*	◯
26. Stream with section(s) of cascades	◯
27. Streambed with section(s) of cobble or gravel	◯
28. Large hollow and internally decayed tree(s)	◯
29. Tree(s) with twig nests	◯
30. Nesting holes in trees or snags*	◯
Site total	
Highest possible site total 19	

TREES	E
31. Some (native) nut-, berry- or fleshy fruit trees or shrubs*	◯
32. Numerous (native) nut-, berry- or fleshy fruit trees or shrubs*	◯
33. Canopy composed of 3 or more tree species	
34. Canopy composed of 5 or more tree species	
35. Numerous hardwood trees > 10" dbh	◯
36. Some hardwood trees > 20" dbh	◯
37. Numerous trees > 20" dbh	◯
38. Some trees > 30" dbh	◯
39. Numerous trees > 30" dbh	
40. Some trees > 40" dbh	◯
FOREST STRUCTURE	
41. Substantial amounts of understory and subcanopy trees	
42. Canopy and sub-canopy trees of different diameters	
43. Some large (veteran) trees from previous forest generation(s)	
44. Numerous large (veteran) trees from previous forest generation(s)	◯
45. Forest area(s) remaining or retained after fire, storm or logging	◯
46. Some trees with thick branches or stem forks	◯
47. Some tree trunks and branches covered by mosses and lichens	
DEAD TREES, SNAGS AND DOWN LOGS	
48. Some standing dead or dying trees or snags > 10" dbh*	◯
49. Some standing sun-exposed dead or dying trees or snags > 10" dbh	
50. Some standing dead or dying trees or snags > 20" dbh*	◯
51. Numerous standing dead or dying trees or snags > 20" dbh	
52. Some standing dead or dying trees or snags > 30" dbh*	◯
53. Some down logs > 20" diameter at mid-log*	◯
54. Some sun-exposed down logs > 20" diameter at mid-log*	◯
55. Some down logs > 30" diameter at mid-log*	◯
56. Some down logs > 40" diameter at mid-log*	◯
57. Down logs in various different stages of decay	◯
58. Some down logs covered by mosses	◯
59. Some trees, snags or logs with shelf fungi	◯
60. Signs of woodpecker foraging on trees, snags or logs	◯
Stand total	
SITE & STAND TOTAL	
Highest possible stand total 21	
Highest possible combined total 40	

E = Early seral reference condition

* Indicates a biodiversity element that can be enhanced with technical/financial assistance provided by EQIP.

** Indicates a biodiversity element that can be enhanced through either commercial thinning or EQIP assistance.

What Next?

If your forest scores 30 points or less, its biodiversity value has the potential to be enhanced through active management. Contact NNRG, or another natural resource professional, to schedule a site visit to discuss options for improving the biodiversity value of your forest.

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