

2008 Forest Plan Conservation Strategy

Course Filter

Reserve Design Guidelines

The broad design focused on maintaining a functional and interconnected system of old-growth reserves, which conserved critical characteristics of old-growth ecosystems composition, structure and processes (function).

Reserve Size	Total #	Total Size (ac)	POG	HPOG (ac)	Minimum Distance between Reserves
Large	38	40k	20k ac	10k	20 mi (between larges)
Medium	112	10k	5k ac	2.5k	8 mi (from a medium or large)
Small	237	16 % of a VCU	400 ac and at least 50% of reserve area	No criterion	No criterion

- Spacing between reserves is maintained in the four cardinal directions
- More circular than linear to maximize interior forest habitat
- Minimize amount of early seral habitat
- Where early seral habitat is included emphasize those that were previously HPOG
- Minimize inclusion of roads and log transfer facilities
- Consider site-specific factors to help meet biodiversity or wildlife habitat objections in reserve placement
- Large reserves in brown bear range contain at least one Class I anadromous fish stream
- Large and medium reserves provide connectivity between non-development LUDs
- Additional criteria apply to Small reserves (Page D-8 of the 2008 Forest Plan Amendment FEIS Volume II)

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Fine Filter

Management of the Development LUDs Contributes to the Conservation Strategy

Fine filter design elements support the capacity of the reserve design to maintain the composition, structure, and function of old-growth forest. Fine filter elements apply to the area of the Forest outside of reserves. Its purpose is to further provide landscape connectivity and to provide finer scale resource protection for maintaining the integrity of ecosystems in the matrix.

Examples of Forest-wide Standards and Guidelines:

- Beach and Estuary Fringe (BEACH1, Pages 4-4 and 4-5, 2008 Forest Plan): "To maintain an approximately 1,000-foot-wide beach fringe of mostly unmodified forest to provide important habitats, corridors, and connectivity of habitat for eagles, goshawks, deer marten, otter, bear, and other wildlife species associated with the maritime-influenced habitat. Old-growth forests are managed for near-natural habitat conditions"
- Riparian Planning (RIP2, Pages 4-50 through 4-53, 2008 Forest Plan): "No commercial timber harvest [or] timber salvage...is allowed within 100 feet...of Class I streams and Class II streams that flow directly into a Class I stream." "Use riparian corridors in the design of wildlife travel corridors to provide horizontal connectivity between watersheds, and vertical connectivity between lowland and alpine areas."
- Landscape Connectivity (WILD1 VI, Pages 4-91 & 4-92, 2008 Forest Plan): "The objective is to maintain corridors of old-growth forest among large and medium Old-Growth Habitat reserves...and other Non-Development LUDs at the landscape scale."
- Legacy Forest Structure (WILD1 IV, Pages 4-90 & 4-91, 2008 Forest Plan): "The intent...is to ensure that sufficient residual trees, snags, and clumps of trees remain in timber harvest units within...value comparison units that have had concentrated past timber harvest activity and are at risk for not providing the full range of matrix functions"
- Sitka Black-tailed Deer (WILD1 VII, Page 4-92, 2008 Forest Plan): "Consider Sitka black-tailed deer habitat needs before or as part of project analysis."
- Northern Goshawk (WILD4 II.A., Pages 4-99 and 4-100, 2008 Forest Plan): "Preserve nesting habitat around all goshawk nest sites." "Maintain an area of not less than 100 acres of old-growth Forest (if it exists) generally centered over the nest tree"