

# NORTHWEST FOREST PLAN AMENDMENT

DRAFT Federal Advisory Committee Recommendations to the U.S. Forest Service

*WORKING DRAFT FOR DISCUSSION AT APRIL 16-18, 2024 FAC MEETING*

## CONTENTS

1. Tribal Inclusion and Honoring Tribal Treaty, Reserved and Other Similar Tribal Rights, and Trust Responsibilities.....	3
2. Support Economic Opportunities and Sustainable Communities.....	16
3. Increase Focus on Fire Resiliency .....	17
4. Anticipate Climate-Driven Shifts and Maintain Ecosystem Integrity.....	19
5. Support Carbon Sequestration and Storage.....	20
6. Address Climate Change Effects on Recreation .....	21
7. Provide Predictability for Sustainable Timber Production .....	22
8. Conserve Mature and Old Forests (and Vegetation Management).....	23
9. Post-Disturbance Forest Management .....	25
10. Designate and Steward Community Protection Zones.....	25
11. Remove Barriers for Adaptive Management Areas .....	26
APPENDICES .....	27
Appendix A: Complete List of Recommendations .....	27
Appendix B: Adaptive Management Areas Redline.....	27

**Objective:** Provide recommendations to the U.S. Forest Service for amending the Northwest Forest Plan to (as characterized in the Notice of Intent):

- Improve fire resistance and resilience.
- Strengthen the capacity of ecosystems to adapt to climate change.
- Improve conservation and recruitment of old growth forest conditions, ensuring adequate habitat for species that depend on mature and old growth ecosystems and supporting regional biodiversity.
- Incorporate Indigenous Knowledge into planning, project design, and implementation to achieve forest management goals and meet the agency's trust responsibilities.
- Provide a predictable supply of timber and non-timber products and other economic opportunities to support the long-term sustainability of communities near National Forest System lands and economically connected to forest resources.

**Desired Conditions (DC):** A desired condition is a description of specific social, economic, and/or ecological characteristics of the plan area, or a portion of the plan area, toward which management of the land and resources should be directed. Desired conditions must be described in terms that are specific enough to allow progress toward their achievement to be determined, but do not include completion dates.

**Objectives (OBJ):** An objective is a concise, measurable, and time-specific statement of a desired rate of progress toward a desired condition or conditions. Objectives should be based on reasonably foreseeable budgets.

**Standards (STD):** A standard is a mandatory constraint on project and activity decision-making, established to help achieve or maintain the desired condition or conditions, to avoid or mitigate undesirable effects, or to meet applicable legal requirements.

**Guidelines (GDL):** A guideline is a constraint on project and activity decision making that allows for departure from its terms, so long as the purpose of the guideline is met. Guidelines are established to help achieve or maintain a desired condition or conditions, to avoid or mitigate undesirable effects, or to meet applicable legal requirements.

**Goals (GOAL):** Goals are broad statements of intent, other than desired conditions, usually related to process or interaction with the public. Goals are expressed in broad, general terms, but do not include completion dates.

**Management Approaches (MA):** Management approaches describe the principal strategies and program priorities the Responsible Official intends to employ to carry out projects and activities developed under the plan. The management approaches can convey a sense of priority and focus among objectives and the likely management emphasis. Management approaches should relate to desired conditions and may indicate the future course or direction of change, recognizing budget trends, program demands and accomplishments. Management approaches may discuss potential processes such as analysis, assessment, inventory, project planning, or monitoring.

**Suitability of Lands (SUIT):** Specific lands within a plan area will be identified as suitable for various multiple uses or activities based on the desired conditions applicable to those lands. The plan will also identify lands within the plan area as not suitable for uses that are not compatible with desired conditions for those lands. The suitability of lands need not be identified for every use or activity. Suitability identifications may be made after consideration of historic uses and of issues that have arisen in the planning process. Every plan must identify those lands that are not suitable for timber production.

**Monitoring (MONT):** Describes approaches for monitoring.

## 1. Tribal Inclusion and Honoring Tribal Treaty, Reserved and Other Similar Tribal Rights, and Trust Responsibilities

### These recommendations support:

- ✓ Incorporation of Indigenous Knowledge into planning, project design, and implementation and meeting the agency’s trust responsibilities
- ✓ Improved fire resistance and resilience
- ✓ Capacity of ecosystems to adapt to climate change
- ✓ Conservation and recruitment of old growth forest conditions and habitat for species that depend on old growth ecosystems and regional biodiversity
- ✓ Communities that rely on National Forest System lands

DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS	
1-1	Incorporate plan components that support Tribal access, biodiversity, co-stewardship, fire, First Foods, harvesting and gathering, Indigenous Knowledge, knowledge sovereignty, Treaty and other Tribal rights, Tribal workforce, and US Forest Service education into the Northwest Forest Plan. The Committee urges the Forest Service to incorporate all plan components provided by the Committee, which should also be informed by continued Tribal engagement.
1-2	<b>DC:</b> Proposed practices and management activities uphold treaty and reserved rights of all Tribes and fulfill, in part, the federal trust responsibilities owed to all Tribes and Indigenous Peoples regardless of treaty status.
1-3	<b>DC:</b> The Forest recognizes the role Tribal communities have had and continue to have in shaping and stewarding the ecology of the Forest. Proposed practices and management activities support, sustain, and incorporate Indigenous knowledge into future forest administration, planning, and operationalizing co-stewardship and collaborative projects in ways that are non-extractive, with the recognition that such knowledge is offered at the sole discretion of a Tribe as a sovereign government.
1-4	<b>DC:</b> Proposed practices and management activities are coordinated with other government agencies and Tribes to ensure requirements of all laws and regulations are met and terms of Indian Treaties are upheld.
1-5	<b>DC:</b> Forest units coordinate, consult, and collaborate with Tribes, and may allow Tribes to lead in the context of a co-stewardship agreement, in restoring, promoting, and enhancing traditional cultural use species (including but not limited to culturally significant species used for food, fiber, medicinal, regalia, artisanal, and ceremonial purposes) and ensure they are accessible to tribal members.
1-6	<b>DC:</b> Forest units coordinate with Tribes to ensure privacy and confidentiality is maintained for sensitive topics such as cultural practices, locations, and traditional cultural use species.
1-7	<b>DC:</b> The Forest provides Tribes with the resources needed to develop the organizational capacity to collaborate with partners and meet the needs of coordination, be it structurally, technically, and financially wherever possible.
1-8	<b>DC:</b> The Forest collaborates with Tribes to support youth engagement programs to cultivate the next generation of professionals and address staffing and capacity issues related to better including Indigenous perspectives in land stewardship.
1-9	<b>DC:</b> Forest units support Tribal interests in food sovereignty for all Tribes and Tribal people.
1-10	<b>DC:</b> The Forest coordinates with Tribes to ensure unregulated Forest access by tribal members for the exercise of treaty reserved rights.
1-11	<b>DC:</b> The Forest forms cooperative relationships with relevant and interested Tribes and develops a consultation process that meets the needs of those Tribes. The focus of the consultation process

	establishes norms around the timing and form of communications, as well as providing for the meaningful participation of relevant Tribes. Consultation may include the rights and abilities of the Tribes to play a leadership role in agreed upon restoration efforts to ensure the practices used are effective and appropriately implement any use of ITEK, Indigenous science, or cultural practices.
1-12	<b>DC:</b> The Forest Service regularly consults, coordinates, and collaborates with Tribes on an ongoing basis to in protect and enhance traditional cultural properties, defined as sites that include cultural landscapes, sacred places, and other culturally significant areas including populations of culturally significant plant, fungi, and wildlife species.
1-13	<b>DC:</b> Vegetation types and conditions, as well as ecological and cultural processes including fire use, provide a sustainable diversity of habitats necessary to provide plant and animal species that are of Tribal importance for traditional, ceremonial, and medicinal purposes. Plants, fungi, and animals known to be used and stewarded by Tribes for traditional use are thriving in the Forest.
1-14	<b>DC:</b> Habitats sufficiently support plant and animal species (including but not limited to fish, wildlife, roots, berries, and other cultural resources) at healthy and harvestable population levels for the exercise of treaty reserved rights and non-treaty cultural, medicinal, subsistence, and ceremonial rights and uses.
1-15	<b>DC:</b> Through monitoring, ensure that culturally significant plants used by Tribes who traditionally use the Forest are thriving and properly protected from overharvest from both commercial and non-commercial uses.
1-16	<b>DC:</b> At the forest scale, culturally significant botanical species are present and their populations are sufficiently vigorous and abundant to provide harvestable and accessible cultural resources to Tribes and Tribal people.
1-17	<b>DC:</b> Through co-stewardship, consultation, partnership, and collaboration executed in cooperation with willing Tribes on a sovereign-to-sovereign basis, the Forest undertakes management actions that recognize and support the past, present, and future of Tribal cultures.
1-18	<b>DC:</b> The Forest recognizes the treaty, reserved, and other similar rights of and trust responsibilities to Tribes within the Forest and the difficult history of claiming and enforcing these rights that have led to painful memories and events for Tribes and Tribal members that are still felt within these communities. The Forest takes seriously its role and responsibility in any healing processes that emerge from collaboration with willing Tribes.
1-19	<b>DC:</b> The Forest recognizes Tribal needs and viewpoints and fosters a robust and committed relationship to working alongside federally and non-federally recognized Tribes, Indigenous organizations, and related groups with which it consults, collaborates, and coordinates. Forest Service personnel, including but not limited to line officers, departmental staff, archaeologists, historians, and Tribal liaisons, make it a practice and norm to consult and communicate early, frequently, and openly with Tribal leadership, Tribal historic preservation officers, traditional religious practitioners, traditional gatherers, Tribal members, and other Tribal organizations.
1-20	<b>DC:</b> Forest Service personnel receive training in the cultural norms of area Tribes as well as treaty rights relevant to the forest unit.
1-21	<b>DC:</b> Indigenous Knowledge, cultural practices, and Indigenous science are valued and respected as integral parts of the land management process when developing and implementing restoration projects and other Forest programs. Inclusion of traditional ecological knowledge, cultural practices, and Indigenous science may require unique investment strategies, Tribal oversight and data sovereignty protocols, and implementation approaches so that the Tribe’s knowledge and lifeways can be appropriately supported and respectfully implemented.
1-22	<b>DC:</b> The Forest supports mentorship and leadership programs designed in collaboration with interested Tribes to recruit and engage workforce professionals trained as natural resource stewards grounded in culture and tradition to protect the Forest through innovative programs, inclusive leadership, and advancing technology supported by relevant Tribes.

1-23	<b>DC:</b> Each forest unit provides a setting for the education of Tribal youth in culture, history, and land stewardship and for the exchange of information between Tribal elders and youth and between Tribal youth and Western scientists in STEM education, if so desired by the Tribal community. Such education shall include funding to support partnerships that build capacity within Tribal Nations and build allyships across cultures.
1-24	<b>DC:</b> Cultural burning is recognized as an inherent Tribal right and responsibility that has existed for millennia and is rooted in Tribal laws and Indigenous knowledges, practices, and belief systems. It is distinct from prescribed fire and defined differently by different Tribes. Forests accommodate cultural burning and coordinate, consult, and collaborate with Tribes in order to create conditions conducive for this Tribal sovereign practice.
1-25	<b>DC:</b> The Forest supports and works with Tribes and Indigenous people to acknowledge and respectfully share Indigenous knowledge, expertise, and practices in meaningful co-stewardship including, but not limited to, planning, design, and implementation of prescribed fire and proactive wildfire management and mitigation actions and related practices.
1-26	<b>DC:</b> The Forest accommodates, supports, and aids Tribes, as requested, in conducting their Tribal cultural burning and related practices.
1-27	<b>DC:</b> The Forest supports and works with Tribes to center Indigenous knowledge, expertise, and cultural stewardship practices in co-stewardship and adaptive management of lands in all land use allocations, including Late-Successional Reserves and late-successional and old growth stands. This includes supporting, enabling, and accommodating Indigenous fire use for cultural and ecological purposes
1-28	<b>DC:</b> The Forest supports and works with Tribes to center Indigenous knowledge, expertise, and practices in co-stewardship of habitats across all Land Use Allocations, especially in plantations and post-fire landscapes, to restore fire regimes and fire-adapted landscapes.
1-29	<b>DC:</b> Consultation, collaboration, and cooperation between the Forest and Tribes, Tribal communities, Tribal organizations, and Indigenous traditional practitioners occurs in the management of culturally significant resources and species.
1-30	<b>DC:</b> The Forest recognizes and accounts for impacts of growing public use, non-tribal commercial practices, and recreation on lands administered by the Forest Service, including impacts on ecology, cultural resources, and Tribal member access for the exercise of treaty and other Tribal rights and traditional, cultural, and religious practices to sustain Tribal cultures.
1-31	<b>DC:</b> Indigenous Knowledge and science are recognized and used in ways that honor Tribal data and knowledge sovereignty and which include free, prior, and informed consent by Tribes and Tribal people, to guide Forest planning and implementation as a co-equal source of the best available science alongside any other reputable source.
1-32	<b>DC:</b> Forest staff are operationally familiar with and have received training on the Forest Service Manual Chapter 1563 (or any successor Chapter) that sets out the USFS Final Directives on American Indian and Alaska Native Relations.
1-33	<b>DC:</b> Research and monitoring of forest health, wildlife populations, fungi, flora, and fauna are inclusive and respectful of Tribal Indigenous knowledge research and data, and Indigenous data is shared in a way that respects Tribal sovereignty. The data shared according to Tribally approved protocols will assist in fostering co-stewardship, collaborative arrangements, and cooperative agreements to fulfill related mutual goals.
1-34	<b>DC:</b> Increased partnerships, collaborations, and agreements with Tribes enhance the capacity for forest stewardship to manage forest structure and composition according to desired conditions that support culturally significant species and habitats and are developed in coordination with and with support from willing Tribal participants on a sovereign-to-sovereign basis.
1-35	<b>DC:</b> Co-stewardship and Tribal management opportunities support ecological and cultural benefits for Tribal communities and offer the institutional, financial, and technical support needed to allow

	Tribes to participate in consultation and cooperative agreements that are best suited to support cultural uses and provide economic benefits (e.g. jobs, contracts, grant revenue, infrastructure) to Tribal communities for long-term sustainability.
1-36	<b>DC:</b> The Forest Service acknowledges the important roles and contributions of Indigenous nations and people as stewards of wildlife and biodiversity and as partners in stewardship, conservation, and sustainable use. Management actions ensure that the Indigenous rights, Indigenous knowledge, and cultural principles associated with wildlife and biodiversity, habitat stewardship, and management principles are incorporated into management practices with free, prior, and informed consent, including through full and effective participation in all aspects of planning, monitoring, and decision-making, in accordance with treaty rights, reserved rights, and other Tribal rights.
1-37	<b>DC:</b> The Forest Service operates under the terms of a mutually agreed upon privacy protocol and seeks free, prior, and informed consent of relevant Tribes. Treaty and other Tribal rights are protected through full, effective, early, and sustained participation in all aspects of planning, monitoring, and decision-making.
1-38	<b>DC:</b> The Forest Service supports and coordinates federal management actions congruent with Tribal forest management, biodiversity, and climate adaptation strategies, actions, and management plans, including integrated resource management plans, consistent with treaty rights, reserved rights, and other Tribal rights. Formal consultation is conducted regarding actions taken within jurisdictional areas of Tribal management plans.
1-39	<b>DC:</b> The Forest actively engages in collaboration with Tribes as a co-steward with shared interests in the management of Forest resources, including treaty-reserved resources and other culturally significant resources.
1-40	<b>DC:</b> The Forest ensures that Tribes, as co-stewards, play an integral and active role in planning, implementation, and decision making with respect to the management of the Forest. This includes Tribes, their designated tribal elders, or culture bearers leading in the design or implementation of a practice or technique needed to achieve a shared desired condition, or meet a shared objective, standard, or guideline. This process includes Tribes, their designated elders, or culture bearers ensuring compliance with tribal rights, knowledge, and practices. This also includes collaborating on the development of agreement templates that recognize and respect Tribal Sovereignty.
1-41	<b>DC:</b> The Forest works with Tribes as co-equal sovereigns to develop and implement agreements for the co-stewardship of federal lands and waters. Such agreements are created and implemented consistent with government-to-government obligations, Tribal sovereignty, and data sovereignty policies and practices.
1-42	<b>DC:</b> The Forest eliminates unnecessary regulatory and administrative obstacles that impair tribal treaty rights, reserved rights, or other Tribal rights or impede federal trust obligations to Tribes in accomplishing co-stewardship of Forest lands with Tribes.
1-43	<b>DC:</b> Beavers, a cultural and ecological keystone species, are present in and/or restored to watersheds where their activities benefit ground water, surface water, and aquatic habitat complexity, and where their activities support conservation and recovery of imperiled aquatic species, and in populations sufficient to fulfill their ecological function.
1-44	<b>DC:</b> Indigenous Youth in the NWFP area develop robust understandings of key concepts for participation in community resilience and land stewardship, including receiving curricular and experiential learning about Indigenous and colonial histories and conditions of the land, Tribal sovereignty, fire ecology, and climate resilience.
1-45	<b>DC:</b> To implement the Tribal Relations Program on each Forest and to ensure that individual Tribal needs are respected and understood, each Forest employs at least one Tribal Relations Program Manager with the responsibility of stewarding relationships between each Tribe and the Forest. The roles and responsibilities of the Tribal Relations Program Manager include Tribal outreach, staff-to-



	staff coordination, and collaboration, and are separate from Forest Service staff responsibilities associated with heritage and/or archaeology program tasks.
1-46	<b>DC:</b> Indigenous knowledge is meaningfully incorporated into Biological Assessments to the greatest degree possible, and only in ways that honor Tribal data and knowledge sovereignty, and which include free, prior, and informed consent by Tribes and Tribal people. Ideally this is done in collaboration with Tribes.
1-47	<b>DC:</b> Forests collaborate with Tribes on the development of Biological Assessments, when desired by the Tribe. This may mean a Tribe taking the lead in drafting one or more Biological Assessments
1-48	<b>DC:</b> Recognize the central role of Indigenous Knowledge in Historic Preservation issues, including determinations of eligibility, nominations, archaeological and TEK survey processes and standards, in Section 106 consultation and in Traditional Cultural Property or Cultural Management Area designations.
1-49	<b>DC:</b> Tribes have at least Invited Signatory status (rather than as Concurring Party) on Section 106 documents such as Programmatic Agreements.
1-50	<b>OBJ:</b> To produce huckleberry in a manner that promotes huckleberry abundance over the long-term, the Forest works with interested and relevant Tribes to determine annual huckleberry restoration actions at a scale meaningful to the Tribes, and completes those restoration actions through consultation with and/or through co-management agreements if possible.
1-51	<b>OBJ:</b> Collaborate with Tribes to jointly develop and implement programs and projects that support the restoration of culturally relevant focal species. There should be at least 3 such projects within the first 5 years, and as appropriate (as determined by the relevant Tribes) these should evolve into co-stewardship programs.
1-52	<b>OBJ:</b> Through consultation with interested Tribes, develop techniques and approaches to implement forest restoration, enhancements, fuels reduction, or maintenance actions in at least three areas of Tribal importance, as jointly determined by Tribal nations and the Forest Service, on a yearly basis following plan approval. Ideally, this is done in full collaboration with Tribes through co-stewardship if the Tribe desires this.
1-53	<b>OBJ:</b> Annually increase dry, serpentine, and wet meadow-associated culturally significant species, such as camas or other species identified through consultation with interested Tribes, by XX acres or other metric meaningful to the Tribe.
1-54	<b>OBJ:</b> Develop a long-term strategy with each Tribe with reserved and unreserved treaty rights and/or overlapping territorial jurisdictions on each forest unit to improve Tribal access to culturally significant places, sites, and areas on the unit within 3 years.
1-55	<b>OBJ:</b> Annually restore a mileage meaningful to [relevant Tribes] of riparian habitat suitable for beaver reintroduction or expansion, consistent with the Aquatic Conservation Strategy.
1-56	<b>OBJ:</b> Semiannually conduct employee training and education regarding Tribal cultural awareness; terminology; general trust responsibilities and Tribal rights; relevant treaty rights and history, settler colonialism, decolonization and Indigenous ecocultural restoration; principles of free, prior, and informed consent; data sovereignty; Indigenous values that underpin Indigenous Knowledge such as reciprocity, cultural humility, and the Seventh Generation Principle; and the Principles and Best Practices for Working with Indigenous Knowledge. Indigenous trainers and/or cultural monitors from willing Tribes should be hired to co-lead this instruction. Consider hosting an annual knowledge sharing event where practitioners from the Forest Service and from area Tribes can teach, train, share, and learn.
1-57	<b>OBJ:</b> Provide quarterly and onboarding training to unit Forest Service employees about local/regional Federal Tribal trust responsibilities and treaty rights, the unique history of each local/regional Tribe, as well as ways in which all Forest staff are bound to honor and implement these responsibilities. Consider retaining and compensating Indigenous trainers and/or cultural monitors from willing Tribes to co-lead this instruction.

1-58	<b>OBJ:</b> Within two years, work with Tribes to co-develop and implement with relevant and interested Tribes programmatic agreements as directed by Tribes (e.g., memoranda of agreement, memoranda of understanding, master stewardship agreements, stewardship agreements, TFPA agreements, bilateral agreements, interagency agreements, NHPA section 106/110 responsibilities) between the Forest and Tribes to establish consultation protocols and cooperative management processes.
1-59	<b>OBJ:</b> Within two years, work with Tribes to co-develop with relevant and interested Tribes co-stewardship agreements and opportunities that address Tribally-identified workforce, cultural, ecological, economic, STEM education, and business opportunities of highest importance to Tribes.
1-60	<b>OBJ:</b> Within two years, enter into one or more Government-to-government agreement(s) with Tribes per Forest to co-design, plan, and implement habitat enhancement projects and programs for culturally significant species and practices through processes that respectfully engage Indigenous knowledge and values while both promoting Tribal workforce capacity and protecting Tribal data sovereignty and culturally sensitive information about culturally significant species, places, and practices. Develop an implementation strategy for NHPA section 304 on confidentiality (54 USC § 307103) that responds to Tribal needs to protect the confidentiality of religious practices.
1-61	<b>OBJ:</b> Within two years, establish a Tribal wildlife and biodiversity regional interagency working group (Regional Tribal Operations Working Group) with Tribal and Forest Service representatives from Regions 5 and 6 to explore co-stewardship of wildlife and biodiversity that is inclusive of Indigenous knowledge and cultural practices, and western science, and that honors Tribal data and knowledge sovereignty and includes free, prior, and informed consent by Tribes and Tribal people.
1-62	<b>OBJ:</b> Within two years, establish a Tribal co-stewardship regional interagency working group with Tribal and Forest Service representatives within Region 5 and 6, and other federal agencies and regions as appropriate, to identify and address barriers to meaningful co-stewardship in an ongoing way. One key task of this group will be to develop agreement templates that respect and honor Tribal sovereignty and can be used effectively within a co-stewardship context. Another will be to develop a bioregional policy on meaningful consultation including defining the nature of meaningful consultation, developing a data privacy policy, and a process for dispute resolution.
1-63	<b>OBJ:</b> Within 5 years, work with Tribes to co-develop a long-term strategy to improve Tribal peoples' access to important cultural places on the Forest, consistent with applicable federal law, regulations, executive orders, and agency policies, Tribal laws, constitutions, and treaty, reserved, retained and other Tribal rights, including any privacy and consultation protocols.
1-64	<b>OBJ:</b> With relevant and interested Tribes co-develop actions in priority watersheds that will improve soil and watershed conditions on 3,000 to 4,000 acres every 3 years, including through system and non-system road decommissioning and increased use of tribally-led cultural burning.
1-65	<b>OBJ:</b> By the end of year 8 following amendment approval, Forests in the NWFP Area have designed and implemented a Tribal Relations Program on each Forest to build partnerships, uphold trust and legal responsibilities, and help coordinate with federally recognized and unrecognized tribes that have ancestral lands on the Forest.
1-66	<b>STD:</b> Commercial collection of special forest products shall not be permitted if the relevant Tribal governing body identifies it would result in limiting Tribal member access to treaty reserved resources. This determination shall be reviewed annually in coordination with relevant and interested Tribes to ensure treaty resources are adequately conserved and stewarded.
1-67	<b>STD:</b> Management activities that have potential to impact historic districts, buildings, sites, structures, and objects with traditional cultural significance shall be conducted in close consultation and partnership with the relevant Tribe or Tribes to fulfill treaty obligations or otherwise protect the important relationship between a relevant Tribe and the Forest and legally mandated federal Indian trust responsibilities. Project and activity authorizations shall protect and honor Tribal reserved rights and sacred land and be developed in tandem with relevant Tribes as sovereign partners with co-equal interest. The uses of these areas must be compatible with Desired Conditions, and



	compatibility shall be determined through government-to-government consultation and implemented in accordance with a consultation protocol developed with the relevant Tribes to ensure consultation is meaningful.
1-68	<b>STD:</b> Management activities that impact historic districts, buildings, sites, structures, and objects with traditional cultural significance shall not pose adverse effects to these areas, as defined through meaningful consultation with relevant and interested Tribes. Management activities shall employ best practices to protect vulnerable cultural sites and resources as outlined in Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Management activities will be developed in consultation with relevant Tribes.
1-69	<b>STD:</b> Management activities shall consider Indigenous and western scientific research and ethnographic research related to relevant Tribal cultural land-use activities and interests when analyzing project effects. Ensure that no adverse effects are caused to any treaty rights or sacred places, practices, or elements of the landscape identified as culturally important to relevant Tribes.
1-70	<b>STD:</b> Forest staff shall coordinate and collaborate with Tribes in developing appropriate staffing solutions for identifying and managing areas of traditional cultural significance, resources, and sacred places where historic preservation laws alone may not adequately protect the resources or important cultural values. Confidentiality of Tribal information and knowledge shall be maintained as allowed by law and shall not preclude implementation of further protective measures. Standards should be developed in accordance with the ACHP Policy Statement on Indigenous Knowledge and Historic Preservation, with special reference to the 12 Policy Principles set out in that Statement.
1-71	<b>STD:</b> Land management activities shall be developed in consultation with relevant Tribes to avoid, minimize, or mitigate potential conflict with forest resources used for traditional and cultural practices sacred or important to the relevant Tribes, or used in the exercise of treaty, reserved, and other Tribal rights. Tribal cultural-use species shall be prioritized for preservation and ongoing forest health management in alignment with Tribal values.
1-72	<b>STD:</b> Tribal members and people shall have reasonable access as determined by the relevant and interested Tribe to areas that provide them an opportunity to practice traditional, cultural, and religious lifeways, such as plant gathering, fishing, hunting, stewardship and ceremonial activities that are essential in maintaining their cultural identity and the continuity of their culture. Relevant Tribes may seek temporary closures of Forest Service lands in accordance with the Tribal Cultural and Heritage Cooperation Authority. Formal consultation and notification to Tribes shall be conducted for any activities in sacred site areas
1-73	<b>STD:</b> Develop protocols through meaningful consultation with relevant Tribes to protect sacred places and identify how management activities will avoid adversely affecting the integrity of these places. Formal consultation and notification to Tribes shall be conducted for any activities in sacred site areas
1-74	<b>STD:</b> Develop protocols through meaningful consultation with relevant Tribes to ensure that all land management activities of the Forest avoid impacts that would otherwise deprive or hinder Tribal members of their ability to access and exercise their treaty-reserved rights, reserved rights, and other Tribal rights and associated resources or would otherwise impair their traditional and cultural practices, as identified by the Tribe.
1-75	<b>STD:</b> Upon Tribal request, the Forest shall enter into at least one memorandum of agreement or other instrument between the Forest and each Tribe with reserved and/or unreserved treaty rights on each forest unit to: guide the meaningful consultation processes identified with relevant Tribes; include Tribes as partners in management and decision making processes; identify and make known each Tribe’s particular perspectives, priorities, and interests; allow for restoration of cultural resources and Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) assets to protect sacred sites and Traditional Cultural Properties (Places) and Cultural Management Areas; and provide for the protection of

	cultural practices and other important resources. Data privacy and sovereignty protocols shall be observed.
1-76	<b>STD:</b> Upon Tribal request, the Forest shall enter into at least one memorandum of agreement or other formal instrument with each Tribe with reserved and/or unreserved treaty rights on each forest unit pertaining to fire stewardship, cultural heritage monitoring, wildfire management, wildfire risk reduction and management, and post-fire recovery. Such memorandum(s) of agreement or other instrument(s) shall support Tribal Self-Governance, workforce and structural capacity, cultural longevity, sustenance, religious practice, and food sovereignty.
1-77	<b>STD:</b> The Forest shall consult and coordinate with willing and interested federally recognized Tribes to co-develop and partner in co-stewardship proposals and accomplish projects of mutual benefit across shared boundaries and use available federally authorized or advocated programs, including but not limited to the Tribal Forest Protection Act of 2004, Good Neighbor Authority, Tribal Forest Protection Act (TFPA), Tribal Forest Management Demonstration Projects, Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (ISDEAA), Tribal Forest Management Demonstration Projects, the Multiple-Use Sustained-Yield Act (MUSYA), Healthy Forests Restoration Act/Stewardship Contracting Authority, Challenge Cost-Share Agreements, Cooperative Funds Act, the Cooperative Funds and Deposits Act, and the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program.
1-78	<b>STD:</b> Confidentiality of Tribal information and resources collected during consultation or as part of co-stewardship, collaboration, and co-management agreements shall follow all data sovereignty protocols, as guided by best practices, and be maintained as allowed by law, unless express permission to share information is given by the relevant Tribe. This shall include the non-disclosure of highly confidential tribal information regarding ceremonial activities and features, except where authorization is specifically given by a tribally-designated representative. This may involve a higher standard of confidentiality than what is typically disclosed to a suitably-qualified USFS Archaeologist.
1-79	<b>STD:</b> The Forest shall recognize, ensure, and accommodate Tribal member access to the Forest for the exercise of Tribal treaty, reserved, and other similar Tribal rights and for any activities identified by a Tribe as having a traditional and cultural purpose, such as gathering culturally significant plants, religious or ceremonial activities, or other activities that are essential to sustaining Tribal ways of life, cultural integrity, social cohesion, and economic well-being.
1-80	<b>STD:</b> Ongoing government-to-government and staff consultation for each federally recognized Tribe and any Tribe with historical or treaty interests in the Forest's NFS lands occurs by way of a Tribally established consultation protocol, memorialized by a joint agreement of the Forest and the relevant Tribes. The USFS shall not rely on internal procedures alone to determine the sufficiency of consultation efforts.
1-81	<b>STD:</b> The Forest shall ensure that Forest Service fire mitigation and management personnel are trained to understand Tribal sovereignty regarding Tribal fire management and ecostewardship practices. Training on cultural fire history and traditions should be provided by or with the consent of Tribes or Indigenous-led organizations.
1-82	<b>STD:</b> Support Tribal cultural practitioners in gathering culturally significant plants for personal, communal, or other non-commercial traditional use on lands administered by the Forest, consistent with applicable laws, regulations, policy, and treaty-reserved rights. Gatherers shall have access to lands managed by the Forest Service for traditional practices and may request a temporary closure for such practices in accordance with the Tribal Cultural and Heritage Cooperation Authority.
1-83	<b>STD:</b> The Forest shall prioritize local traditional native gathering and will address issues regarding gathering, access, sustainability and other concerns associated with traditional native gathering in consultation and partnership with relevant Tribal traditional practitioners, Tribes, and Tribal communities. Identification of traditional native cultural gatherers shall be left to the discretion of Tribal traditional practitioners and Tribal communities.
1-84	<b>STD:</b> The Forest shall work in collaboration and partnership with relevant Tribes, Tribal communities,

	Tribal organizations, and their designated traditional cultural practitioners to steward, identify, restore, and enhance culturally important plant resources and wildlife.
1-85	<b>STD:</b> The Forest shall support Tribes and work collaboratively with relevant Tribes, Tribal communities, and Tribal organizations to monitor negative effects of recreational access to traditionally important access points for Tribes and Tribal communities, identify funding and support capacity for Tribal areas of concern, and create and implement solutions.
1-86	<b>STD:</b> The Forest shall coordinate and collaborate with Tribal land use planning and natural resource management programs and to the maximum extent shall support and accommodate the ecocultural restoration activities of approved Tribal land resource and integrated resource management plans and programs, including through the Forest’s program of work, planning, and implementation processes.
1-87	<b>STD:</b> The Forest Service shall, to the full extent allowed under the law, prevent the public disclosure and maintain the confidentiality of place-based Indigenous knowledge and culturally significant information provided by Tribes with the express expectation of confidentiality in accordance with any data sovereignty protocols and best practices.
1-88	<b>STD:</b> The Forest shall work with Tribes to consider and integrate where possible any available Tribal climate adaptation plans during Forest Service planning processes.
1-89	<b>STD:</b> Ensure that Forest actions are not detrimental to the protection and preservation of Tribal religious and cultural sites, practices, and treaty, reserved, or other Tribal rights.
1-90	<b>STD:</b> Ensure management activities are coordinated with other governmental agencies and Tribes to ensure requirements of all laws and regulations are met and terms of Indian Treaties are upheld.
1-91	<b>STD:</b> The Forest shall meaningfully engage Tribes and work with Tribes as co-stewards in the early identification and development of proposed projects and management activities on the Forest, including those that could involve programmatic agreements, and throughout the planning, implementation, and monitoring processes, as desired by the Tribes with historical connections to the Forest.
1-92	<b>STD:</b> The Forest shall provide the fiscal, personnel, and other resources necessary to allow Tribes to meaningfully participate as co-stewards and shared decision-makers in interdisciplinary team planning of projects that may affect treaty rights or resources, including Level 1 meetings with regulatory agencies. Invitations to participate will begin at the earliest stages of planning and continue through the full project planning process.
1-93	<b>STD:</b> The Forest shall provide the fiscal, personnel, and other resources necessary to engage in meaningful, early partnership and consultation with Tribes regarding Tribally-proposed projects or management activities, which directly support Tribal rights and ability to co-steward as consistent with applicable federal law.
1-94	<b>STD:</b> The Forest shall not regulate, through special use permits, licenses, or other administrative action, Tribal activities involving the use, stewardship, and occupation of Forest land and waters to navigate and guide people, through any mode of transportation consistent with other legal authorities, to facilitate Tribal heritage and culture.
1-95	<b>STD:</b> The Forest shall meaningfully engage Tribes and work with Tribes as co-stewards in the early identification and development of proposed projects and management activities on the Forest, including those that could involve programmatic agreements, and throughout the planning, implementation, and monitoring processes, as desired by the Tribes with historical connections to the Forest.
1-96	<b>STD:</b> To honor Tribal privacy, requests for temporary closure orders for cultural and traditional purposes are accommodated and will be exempt from the Freedom of Information Act if requested under the Tribal Cultural and Heritage Cooperation Authority.
1-97	<b>STD:</b> Proposed practices and management activities shall uphold treaty reserved rights of all Tribes and the federal trust responsibilities owed to all Tribes and Indigenous Peoples regardless of status.

1-98	<b>STD:</b> The Forest shall establish an intertribal forest council with representatives of all relevant and interested Tribes for the purpose of coordination, consultation, training, workforce development, and land management guidance purposes.
1-99	<b>STD:</b> Provide opportunities to practice traditional cultural and religious activities such as plant gathering and ceremonial activities to help sustain their way of life, cultural integrity, social cohesion, and economic well-being.
1-100	<b>GDL:</b> To ensure Tribal access to First Foods and culturally significant botanical species, collection of special forest products should not be authorized if it would result in destruction of important resources, as identified by relevant Tribes. If access or gathering is authorized, such activities should minimize conflicts with Tribal uses and treaty rights and resources.
1-101	<b>GDL:</b> To ensure Tribal access to first foods and culturally significant botanical species, yearly meaningful consultation with relevant Tribes should be conducted to establish a protocol for nontribal use and collection of special forest products so that appropriate permitting and locations are identified ahead of any conflict with tribal uses. During this yearly consultation with relevant Tribes, which will be set at a time of the year in advance of the harvest season (or other relevant period), Tribal governing bodies may request areas of importance to relevant Tribes for first foods and culturally important botanical species be closed to unpermitted harvest. An approved closure determination shall extend for the duration of one harvest season and shall be reviewed annually, and shall not lapse based on the lack of an annual review.
1-102	<b>GDL:</b> Management activities and uses should be planned and administered through meaningful consultation with relevant Tribes to prevent or minimize adverse impacts to the physical and scenic integrity of places that Tribes regard as sacred places, traditional cultural properties, or part of an important culturally significant landscape.
1-103	<b>GDL:</b> To support treaty rights, reserved rights, and other similar Tribal rights, management activities and permitted recreational and commercial uses should follow meaningful consultation with relevant Tribes so as to avoid areas of tribal importance during specific times of Tribal use as designated by the associated Tribe.
1-104	<b>GDL:</b> Management strategies should be designed and implemented through meaningful consultation with Tribes and the establishment of sovereign-to-sovereign cooperative agreements to minimize adverse negative effects associated with recreation sites that have historically impacted, or have the potential to impact in the future, reserved Tribal treaty rights, reserved rights and other similar Tribal rights.
1-105	<b>GDL:</b> In acknowledgement of Tribal sovereignty in fire stewardship, the Forest Service should work with relevant Tribes to accommodate cultural burns carried out by Tribes under Tribal law and Indigenous Knowledge, practice and belief systems as an ongoing activity rather than requiring renegotiation on a burn-by-burn basis. When requested by Tribes, the Forest Service should coordinate with Tribes to develop processes for coordination, communication, managing risk, providing support for Tribal fire management activities and other details regarding planning and implementation (i.e., general locations, vegetation characteristics, seasonality, extent, notification procedures, etc.) based on Tribal protocols and agreements.
1-106	<b>GDL:</b> When desired by Tribes, the Forest should appoint one or more Cultural Burn Liaison(s), designated jointly with relevant Tribal nations, to ensure treaty and reserved rights and trust responsibilities are upheld and to support and accommodate Tribal cultural burns upon Tribal request.
1-107	<b>GDL:</b> Upon Tribal request, entities gathering data and providing dispatch information regarding fire ignitions should have the authority to enter into agreements with such Tribes to protect the privacy and confidentiality of cultural ceremonial and other fire use.
1-108	<b>GDL:</b> Free use, without permit, of culturally significant plants by Tribal people should be honored for traditional native cultural gathering. Local agreements are encouraged to support such gathering.

1-109	<b>GDL:</b> Upon Tribal request, the Forest should work with Tribes to develop ecocultural stewardship implementation plans to prioritize the restoration of Forest as well as related non-Forest ecosystems and communities to support the propagation of treaty resources, First Foods, and other cultural use of culturally significant species (e.g. basketry, fiber, medicinal, regalia, ceremonial species) and associated habitats.
1-110	<b>GDL:</b> To facilitate Tribal community workforce capacity, the Forest shall work in meaningful consultation with relevant Tribes to identify areas of common workforce need, prioritize training, workforce development, and the award of a significant percentage of contracts, as determined through the Government-to-government and Tribal roundtable processes, for associated forest stewardship, construction, fire management, and wildlife and vegetation monitoring to Tribal businesses and organizations. If such Tribal businesses and organizations do not yet exist, the Forest will work with relevant Tribes to identify solutions and approaches to encouraging such businesses so the federal trust responsibility to relevant Tribes can be met while fostering self-determination through the relevant Tribe's sovereign decision making.
1-111	<b>GDL:</b> To honor treaty rights, prioritize early and sustained staff-to-staff consultation and coordination with relevant Tribes, in planning, monitoring, and management activities related to Federal and State Threatened and Endangered Species and Species of Conservation Concern. Such prioritization may require investments from the Forest in the form of funding, training, and logistical support so that relevant Tribes can have staff with the capacity to be able to meaningfully consult.
1-112	<b>GDL:</b> To honor Tribal privacy, requests for temporary closure orders for cultural and traditional purposes should be accommodated.
1-113	<b>GDL:</b> The Forest Service should solicit recommendations and/or requests from Tribes that specific land use allocations or other areas of tribal importance should be dedicated to co-stewardship and co-management, and complete a framework for assessing and implementing those recommendations and/or requests from Tribes.
1-114	<b>GDL:</b> To honor Tribal sovereignty, when planning project-level activities and upon Tribal request, the Forest Service should consider an action alternative that utilizes applicable Tribal land management plan desired conditions, standards, guidelines, and other management direction in setting and achieving the purpose and need of Forest Service projects.
1-115	<b>GDL:</b> To ensure that Biological Assessments and Limited Operating Periods are aligned with Indigenous knowledge, values and cultural practices, USFS should consult, collaborate, and coordinate with Tribes and other Federal agencies in their development and throughout the consultation process with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
1-116	<b>GDL:</b> Indigenous Youth in the NWFP area develop robust understandings of key concepts for participation in community resilience and land stewardship, including receiving curricular and experiential learning about Indigenous and colonial histories and conditions of the land, Tribal sovereignty, fire ecology, and climate resilience.
1-117	<b>GDL:</b> Solicit and act on recommendations and/or requests from relevant and interested Tribes for specific areas within the Plan area where co-stewardship and co-management should occur. Complete a framework for assessing and implementing those recommendations from Tribes.
1-118	<b>GDL:</b> To interpret the National Historic Preservation Act and National Environmental Policy Act provisions in such a way that protection and avoidance are not the only measures available. In many situations, restoration rather than avoidance is a desired approach.
1-119	<b>GDL:</b> Section 304 of the NHPA should be observed such that traditional uses of religious sites may be disclosed on a need-to-know basis only by a duly-appointed representative of the appropriate Tribal group
1-120	<b>GOAL:</b> Relevant Tribes and the Forest will meet early and regularly, as defined in meaningful consultation with each relevant Tribe, to better understand the associated needs and viewpoints of all parties. Promote the use of Forest-hosted Tribal forums and events, as well as attendance at



	Tribally-hosted meetings and events, conducted in a decolonized manner (e.g. co-led by the Tribe and the Forest Service, with traditional foods and ceremony, if desired by the Tribe) as a method to ensure consistent, respectful, and effective contact, consultation, collaboration, and partnership.
1-121	<b>GOAL:</b> Consider employee exchange opportunities between the Forest Service and relevant Tribes under Service First agreements or other mechanisms at federal expense. Provide Forest staff with detail opportunities to work with Tribes and provide Tribal staff opportunities to work with the agency, to increase reciprocal understanding and promote use of Tribal programs and legislation that is mutually beneficial.
1-122	<b>GOAL:</b> Collaborate with Tribes to develop a streamlined process to recognize cultural practitioners and burning experience as equivalent to National Wildfire Coordinating Group qualifications, including but not limited to burn boss for purposes of demonstrating different knowledge and practice systems.
1-123	<b>GOAL:</b> In consultation with relevant Tribes, and through the use of sovereign-to-sovereign cooperative agreements and funding approaches, increase Tribal community workforce opportunities and capacity building in the fields of natural and cultural resources, forest stewardship, fire, and cultural/natural resources and wildlife monitoring on the Forest, focusing on Tribal youth and young adults, ideally in collaboration with local Tribes and by providing funding to local Tribal natural resource departments and organizations.
1-124	<b>GOAL:</b> Upon Tribal request, enter into long-term contracts, master stewardship agreements, and other sovereign-to-sovereign cooperative instruments with Tribes and Tribal entities. Establish a working group of tribal and Forest Service leadership to revise existing agreement templates such that they respect Tribal sovereignty.
1-125	<b>GOAL:</b> Upon Tribal request, develop co-stewardship agreements to support the planning, implementation, and monitoring of collaborative projects to enhance resilience of cultural focal species and habitats to wildfire, climate stressors, and future climactic scenarios and to co-develop vulnerability assessments and adaptive management plans to build social and ecological resilience to climate change-related stressors at multiple scales in Tribal territories, that may have extended historically across the Forest.
1-126	<b>GOAL:</b> Upon Tribal request, develop co-stewardship agreements to support Tribally-led restoration of ecosystem function in terrestrial and aquatic habitats (including dam removal, post-dam removal, floodplain reconnection, and beneficial or intentional burning) to buffer ecosystems against wildfire threats and climate stressors and enhance their ability to respond to disturbances at multiple scales.
1-127	<b>GOAL:</b> The Forest actively and frequently works with Tribes to uphold Tribal treaty rights to interpret and showcase Tribal heritage and deep cultural connections to ancestral homelands across the Forest. These demonstrations should respect confidentiality of sites and heritage assets.
1-128	<b>GOAL:</b> Identify existing federal programs suitable as funding sources to build Tribal workforce, implementation, monitoring, and enforcement capacity.
1-129	<b>GOAL:</b> Wisely steward the land in balance for all life and for future generations, guided by an ethic of respect and reciprocity in which people give back to the forest in return for all the benefits that it provides.
1-130	<b>MA:</b> Coordinate with Tribes, Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Interior, and state agencies to evaluate current federal regulations and guidance around the treatment and mitigation of smoke from wildland fire in air quality management programs with the intent of ensuring the programs can accommodate increased use of beneficial fire, while ensuring protection of public health in a manner consistent with the Clean Air Act.
1-131	<b>MA:</b> Establish respectful and effective relationships and partnerships with relevant Tribes, tribal communities, and native traditional cultural practitioners who have rights and interests in the Forest and for whom lands within the administrative boundaries of the unit have traditional, historical,



	cultural, and/or spiritual importance. Such relationships will support STEM education for Tribal youth and young adults and help build capacity within Tribes for long-term investment in co-stewardship to help support forest climate resilience.
1-132	<b>MA:</b> Provide a meaningful role for relevant Tribes in the development of Forest annual work plans to encourage the inclusion of Tribes at the beginning of project development and prioritization of annual programs of work.
1-133	<b>MA:</b> Provide the fiscal, personnel, and other resources to allow relevant Tribes to be able to respond to Forest Service requests of relevant Tribes regarding the designation of specific lands suitable for co-stewardship or co-management and co-develop a framework for assessing and implementing those Tribal recommendations.
1-134	<b>MA:</b> Develop and implement cost-share, grant, and other financial support mechanisms to enable relevant Tribal government and Tribal staff participation in co-stewardship efforts, consultation, collaboration, coordination, monitoring, planning, administrative support, environmental analysis, and other Forest Service activities.
1-135	<b>MA:</b> Engage and consult with affected Tribes in the implementation of any barred owl control strategies.
1-136	<b>MA:</b> Forest Service Regional leadership in the NWFP Area partners with Tribes, environmental education organizations, and State Education Boards to develop or adjust academic standards, curriculum, and instructional materials to ensure public education provides students with robust understandings of climate resilience, fire ecology, and Indigenous sovereignty.
1-137	<b>MA:</b> Source Tribally-collected seeds and vegetation stocks from local Tribes for on-Forest restoration and management activities.
1-138	<b>MA:</b> Collaborate closely with Tribes to incorporate Indigenous knowledge into project and program planning, prioritization, implementation, and monitoring, but only in ways that honor Tribal data and knowledge sovereignty policies and protocols; that involve free, prior, and informed consent; and wherein culturally sensitive information is protected. This includes collaboration with Tribes on the development and implementation of Biological Assessments, Environmental Impact Statements, Environmental Assessments, and other management and planning documents.
1-139	<b>SUIT:</b> All administratively-designated lands are suitable for co-stewardship by Tribes, upon Tribal request to undertake co-stewardship activities.
1-140	<b>MONT:</b> Conduct ongoing monitoring of visitor use and develop responses in coordination with relevant Tribes when needed to safeguard treaty, reserved, and other similar Tribal rights and the resources and places upon which those rights depend, and generally, to ensure the ecological compatibility of recreation with Tribal treaty rights and resources.
1-141	<b>MONT:</b> At Tribal request and in consultation and cooperation with relevant and interested Tribes, include culturally significant species in monitoring protocols related to management activities, where appropriate and consistent with Indigenous knowledge and data sovereignty. When possible, Tribes should be designing and implementing the monitoring of culturally significant plants, and people with cultural expertise and training shall be engaged in monitoring activities that involve cultural and TEK species.
1-142	<b>MONT:</b> At Tribal request and in consultation and cooperation with relevant and interested Tribes, conduct regular monitoring of specified culturally significant resources and First Foods. Support Tribes in selecting the relevant species, designing the monitoring plans, and conducting the monitoring.
1-143	<b>MONT:</b> In cooperation with relevant and interested Tribes, conduct monitoring of implementation of the special forest products program in the Forest to ensure that Tribally-important culturally significant resources are harvested in a manner and rate consistent with sustainability.
1-144	<b>MONT:</b> In cooperation with, and as led by relevant and interested Tribes and/or their designees, co-develop monitoring thresholds or triggers and adaptive management pathways that incorporate

	Indigenous knowledge into management or mitigation responses while protecting Tribal data sovereignty and culturally sensitive information.
1-145	<b>MONT:</b> Work with Tribes to co-develop monitoring thresholds or triggers and adaptive management pathways that incorporate Indigenous knowledge into management or mitigation responses while protecting Tribal data sovereignty and culturally sensitive information.
1-146	<b>MONT:</b> In situations where Cultural Monitoring is required for implementation activities, these activities should include a tribally-designated representative, not just a Forest-designated archaeological monitor.

## 2. Support Economic Opportunities and Sustainable Communities

The EIS for the NWFP amendment should:

- Strongly emphasize intent of NWFP to deliver on socioeconomic goals including producing predictable levels of timber and nontimber resources, maintaining the stability of local and regional economies, assisting with long-term economic development and diversification, and promoting collaboration in forest management. The Forest Service should be faithful to the intent of the NWFP and Land Use Allocations to achieve socioeconomic and ecological goals.
- Analyze the recreation values to communities within the entirety of the NWFP area. This should include a consideration of the value that intact public forests provide as the settings for outdoor recreation opportunities, and how forest management activities, as well as high-severity wildfire and other stressors to forest ecosystems, affect these settings.

### These recommendations support:

- ✓ Communities that rely on National Forest System lands

DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS	
2-1	<b>DC:</b> NWFP area forests sustain place-based meaning tied to cultural identity and heritage; local economies and ways of life; traditional and subsistence uses; aesthetic, spiritual, and recreational experiences; and Indigenous histories, cultures, and practices.
2-2	<b>DC:</b> NWFP area forests provide significant social, cultural, and economic opportunities for human communities.
2-3	<b>DC:</b> Recreation activities across the Forests contribute to the sustainability of the social and economic values of local communities through jobs and income in the local economy, community stability or growth, and the quality of lifestyles in the area.
2-4	<b>DC:</b> Local service and stewardship contracting and/or cooperative agreements represent a steady to expanding percentage of non-staff spending on public lands stewardship.
2-5	<b>OBJ:</b> Every five years, the Forest will monitor socioeconomic conditions in local communities and infrastructure to better understand trends and opportunities to foster economic development supported by the National Forest System.
2-6	<b>GDL:</b> At-least biennially, local units should assess and document local cooperator and contractor interests and capabilities to help inform and align: 1.) management strategies and actions and 2.) the packaging of work opportunities (i.e. cooperative agreements, contracts) to be accessible to those local cooperators and operators.
2-7	<b>GOAL:</b> Maintain and expand contracting and partnering opportunities with local governments, businesses, and organizations. Develop partnerships that leverage different sources of funding to support opportunities to contribute to the economic and social sustainability of local communities.

2-8	<b>MA:</b> Annually evaluate utilization of the full range of Cooperative Agreement tools to leverage partnerships and capacity and provide direct economic contributions to local communities.
2-9	<b>MA:</b> At least annually, Forests and/or local management units should host a meeting open to all interested parties, including active recruitment of local cooperators and contractors/operators, to discuss interests, alignments and capabilities related to the current and future program of work.
See also: <a href="#">Provide Predictability for Sustainable Timber Production</a> , <a href="#">Consider Climate Change Effects on Recreation</a> , and <a href="#">Designate and Steward Community Protection Zones</a> .	

### 3. Increase Focus on Fire Resiliency

The EIS for the NWFP amendment should consider:

- The critical need for fire resiliency actions, including recognizing and implementing beneficial fire regimes (cultural burning, prescribed fire, managed wildfire, wildfire effects) within the region to restore landscape resilience, ecologically appropriate pre- and post-disturbance forest management, and proactive protection and post-disturbance recovery for infrastructure and communities.
- Many forest ecosystems were fire adapted systems that evolved with frequent Indigenous burning and therefore cultural burning as it contributes to beneficial fire regimes should be considered part of natural background conditions that support ecological function and fire resilience.
- The importance of prescribed fire as a management tool and acknowledge that smoke from prescribed fire can compromise public health; this is an important trade-off that should be analyzed.

#### These recommendations support:

- ✓ Improved fire resistance and resilience
- ✓ Capacity of ecosystems to adapt to climate change
- ✓ Conservation and recruitment of old growth forest conditions and habitat for species that depend on old growth ecosystems and regional biodiversity
- ✓ Incorporation of Indigenous Knowledge into planning, project design, and implementation and meeting the agency’s trust responsibilities
- ✓ Communities that rely on National Forest System lands

DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS	
3-1	<b>DC:</b> Fuel loading that is uncharacteristic to forest type/ecosystem function due to fire exclusion and plantation management is managed to reorient stands to resilient fire-adapted conditions.
3-2	<b>DC:</b> Management activities related to fire resilience recognize the diversity of fire regimes within the region, including historical fire regimes, current fire regimes and departures, and future fire regimes expected with climate change.
3-3	<b>DC:</b> Desired future conditions recognize climate-driven shifts in forest types and fire regimes.
3-4	<b>DC:</b> Management directions adapt to the evolving evidence (western science and Indigenous Knowledges) regarding typologies and geography of fire regimes.
3-5	<b>DC:</b> Youth in the NWFP area are aware of and have access to opportunities to be involved in building wildfire resilience on nearby National Forest lands, including through federal employment, youth corps, and community-based opportunities.
3-6	<b>DC:</b> National Forests in the NWFP area have partnerships with community colleges and universities, <u>including Tribal colleges</u> , to train, engage, and employ students in restoring wildfire resilience. College

	fire programs partner with National Forests to implement prescribed burns and other management for wildfire resilience.
3-7	<b>OBJ:</b> For large wildfire events, develop a plan to monitor and manage invasive species within three years after the fire.
3-8	<b>OBJ:</b> Implement monitoring and management of invasive plant species in large wildfire footprints for at least seven years; develop and implement mitigation and control strategies.
3-9	<b>GOAL/MA:</b> Expand the beneficial role of prescribed fire in the context of conditions-based management, to facilitate using beneficial prescribed fire in the right places at the right times before and after wildfires.
3-10	<b>DC/GOAL/MA:</b> To meet the pace and scale of needed wildfire resilience treatments, including thinning, prescribed fire, and cultural fire, and address the intergenerational burdens of intensifying risk, Forests should collaborate with K-12 and higher educational institutions to develop shared strategies and programs for student awareness and involvement in pathways into wildfire resilience work. The Forests should work with high school and college programs and engage with experiential and curricular learning in elementary and middle schools.
3-11	<b>GDL/MA:</b> National Forests in the NWFP area should generate partnership agreements that allow college and university fire programs to engage in prescribed fire work and training on National Forest lands, providing mutually beneficial outcomes of increasing the pace and scale of wildfire resilience treatment, and engaging youth in land stewardship career pathways.
3-12	<b>GOAL:</b> Resources, planning, infrastructure, training, and workforce development strengthen the capacity of communities to prepare for, respond to, manage, and recover from wildland fire. This includes proactive management for ecological restoration, fuels reduction, cultural burning, prescribed fire, and wildland fire. This includes recognition and inclusion of diverse perspectives such as, but not limited to, Tribal communities, timber-based economy communities, recreation communities, and biodiversity perspectives.
3-13	<b>GOAL:</b> Work with federal and state agencies regarding regulatory processes and smoke and air quality to better acknowledge regulatory and process burden to increase acres of burning. Acknowledge the impact on air quality of burning and the intent to increase the use of beneficial fire, while ensuring protection of public health, consistent with the Clean Air Act.
3-14	<b>GOAL:</b> Coordinate with regulatory agencies and Tribes to evaluate the impact of limited operating periods on prescribed burning and associated treatments to favor restoring fire where adverse short-term impacts to species are acceptable, given long-term benefits.
3-15	<b>GOAL:</b> Encourage the appropriate use of prescribed fire in designated wilderness areas where prescribed fire is determined to be the minimum tool required to maintain wilderness character. Reduce barriers to the use of prescribed burning, such as through improved public and agency understanding of the historical role of fire, including indigenous cultural burning, in preserving wilderness values.
3-16	<b>GOAL:</b> Establish a staff position on each National Forest to foster partnerships with colleges, K-12 education, and local organizations to create and expand comprehensive student training and experiential learning opportunities in fire (fire suppression and fuels related).
3-17	<b>MA:</b> Recognizing unique ecological goals of local and landscape biophysical settings, prioritize fuel treatments in areas where uncharacteristic high severity wildfire poses the greatest threat to sensitive habitats and ecological functions.
3-18	<b>MA:</b> Recognizing unique ecological goals of local and landscape biophysical settings, prioritize fuel treatments in areas where high severity wildfire poses the greatest threat to communities and highly valued resources and assets.
3-19	<b>MA:</b> In locations identified as supporting important non-forest elements of the landscape, implement tree removal, thinning and prescribed burning as tools for restoration in habitats affected by conifer encroachment (e.g. oak woodlands, meadows, grasslands, former plantations) and fire

	exclusion/suppression. In doing so, protect and retain older, larger, legacy fire- resistant conifers and hardwoods. Override any underlying LMPs (e.g. canopy closure requirements) that limits ability to shift areas that are currently forested (due to fire exclusion/plantations) to non-forested cover types where ecologically and culturally appropriate.
See also: <a href="#">Tribal Inclusion</a> , <a href="#">Anticipate Climate-Driven Shifts and Maintain Ecosystem Integrity</a> , <a href="#">Consider Climate Change Effects on Recreation</a> , <a href="#">Post-Disturbance Forest Management</a> , and <a href="#">Designate and Steward Community Protection Zones</a> .	

#### 4. Anticipate Climate-Driven Shifts and Maintain Ecosystem Integrity

The EIS for the NWFP amendment should consider:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate change effects and the need for adaptation measures. Climate change adaptation includes initiatives and measures to reduce the vulnerability of natural and human systems against actual or expected climate change effects, including: building resistance to climate-relate stressors, mitigating and buffering the severity of climate change impacts, increasing social and ecological resilience to climate change-related disturbances, and facilitating ecological transitions in response to changing environmental conditions.</li> </ul>
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**These recommendations support:**

- ✓ Improved fire resistance and resilience
- ✓ Capacity of ecosystems to adapt to climate change
- ✓ Conservation and recruitment of old growth forest conditions and habitat for species that depend on old growth ecosystems and regional biodiversity
- ✓ Incorporation of Indigenous Knowledge into planning, project design, and implementation and meeting the agency’s trust responsibilities
- ✓ Communities that rely on National Forest System lands

DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS	
4-1	<b>DC:</b> Forest and non-forest habitats are actively and adaptively managed to provide ecosystem diversity and resilience to climate change and other stressors, including but not limited to altered frequency and magnitude of fire regimes, drought and flood events.
4-2	<b>DC:</b> The composition, structure, and function of National Forests reflect a diversity of ecosystems that are resilient to climate change, fire, drought, insects, pathogens, and high wind events.
4-3	<b>DC:</b> Native plant and animal species are supported by healthy ecosystem functions and reflect the diversity, abundance , quality, resilience and capability of natural habitats of National Forests.
4-4	<b>DC:</b> Diversity of non-forest habitat types including meadows, woodlands, and wetlands are present across the landscape to promote biological diversity and ecological resilience to climate change and other stressors.
4-5	<b>DC:</b> Critical Infrastructure is managed to improve resilience to large storms and other hydrologic events.
4-6	<b>DC:</b> Beavers are present in appropriate riparian areas and support <a href="#">climate adaptation and</a> ecosystem integrity as an ecological engineer.
4-7	<b>DC:</b> The landscape displays habitat connectivity and refugia for the movement of wildlife, supporting ecological integrity in a changing climate.
4-8	<b>OBJ:</b> Within eight years, develop threshold assessments for monitoring climate change stressors including but not limited to frequency, scale, and intensity of wildfire, fish and wildlife population decreases, frequency of extreme heat days, range shifts in vegetation and wildlife, prolonged elevation

	of average stream temperatures, and significant changes in precipitation patterns (e.g. drought and flooding). Assessments will include steps to operationalize adaptive management actions within three years if monitoring indicates a climate change stressor threshold is exceeded.
4-9	<b>STD:</b> Non-forested habitats shall be managed to restore, enhance, and maintain biodiversity of species reliant on these habitats. LMPs shall not limit managers’ ability to shift areas that are currently forested due to historical fire exclusion/suppression and plantation forestry to non-forested cover types where appropriate.
4-10	<b>GDL:</b> To the extent that data is available, desired future conditions for landscape scale vegetation composition, vegetation structure, and ecosystem function of forested and non-forested habitats incorporate estimates of “future range of variability” in addition to “historical range of variability” reference conditions. This is intended to facilitate active consideration of projected future climate conditions and identify conditions that are resilient in the face of climate change.
4-11	<b>GDL:</b> Silviculture treatments and other stand-scale management activities should actively consider climate change effects and include adaptation measures.
4-12	<b>GDL:</b> Where applicable, site-specific projects should manage and mitigate risk of spread of invasive species.
4-13	<b>GDL:</b> To help ensure that climate adaptation strategies and management activities are based on the best available scientific information, Forests should consider climate change vulnerability assessments and adaptation options developed by Forest Service research stations and others.
4-14	<b>GOAL:</b> Forests work with Tribes and partners such as academia, NGOs, forest collaboratives, and community groups on climate modeling, research, monitoring, and adaptation approaches.
4-15	<b>GOAL:</b> Count natural hardwood, shrub and herbaceous regeneration needed to support diverse fire-adapted and climate change-adapted habitat mosaics in stocking requirements. Implement reforestation strategies that reflect a diversity of native species and disturbance-succession processes. Expectations are that post-fire landscape provide critical opportunities for climate change adaptation.
4-16	<b>GOAL:</b> Coordinate with state wildlife agencies on beaver management <a href="#">and restoration issues on national forest lands. Identify and enhance habitats to encourage beaver to populate uninhabited areas.</a>
4-17	<b>MA:</b> To the extent data is available or analysis is feasible, consider climate change vulnerability and adaptation in project planning.
4-18	<b>MA:</b> Ensure that site specific projects evaluate stream crossings and ensure that affected infrastructure is hardened against or can mitigate the effects of large hydrologic events.
4-19	<b>MA:</b> Ensure that site specific projects evaluate road densities and take action to reduce road densities consistent with mitigating risks of large hydrologic events and associated potential for erosion, mass wasting, etc.
4-20	<b>MA:</b> Ensure that site specific projects evaluate opportunities for stream and watershed restoration including but not limited to treatment of invasive species, planting and cultivation of desired native species cover, stabilization and remediation of erosion, restoration of floodplains, and placement or recruitment of large wood over time.
See also: <a href="#">Tribal Inclusion</a> , <a href="#">Support Carbon Sequestration and Storage</a> , <a href="#">Consider Climate Change Effects on Recreation</a> .	

## 5. Support Carbon Sequestration and Storage

The EIS for the NWFP amendment should:



- Acknowledge the regional and global significance of Northwest late-successional forests in sequestering and storing carbon.

**These recommendations support:**

- ✓ Improved fire resistance and resilience
- ✓ Capacity of ecosystems to adapt to climate change
- ✓ Conservation and recruitment of old growth forest conditions and habitat for species that depend on old growth ecosystems and regional biodiversity

DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS	
5-1	<b>DC:</b> In Moist Forests, landscape-level, in-forest carbon stocks in plantations increase and mature and old growth forests are maintained.
5-2	<b>DC:</b> In Dry Forests, forest resilience treatments are used to stabilize landscape-level in-forest carbon stocks from loss due to uncharacteristically severe disturbances. This will include a long-term shifting from carbon storage in denser forest stands with many smaller, drought and fire sensitive trees to stands with fewer, larger, drought and fire resilient trees.
5-3	<b>GDL:</b> In Moist Forests plantations, timber harvest and other active management programs should be designed to be consistent with an overall increase in landscape-level in-forest carbon stocks even as individual forest stands will experience temporary losses.
5-4	<b>GDL:</b> In Dry Forests, fire resilience treatments that may have short-term carbon emissions but that enhance long-term, landscape-level forest carbon stability should be permitted.

## 6. Address Climate Change Effects on Recreation

**These recommendations support:**

- ✓ Improved fire resistance and resilience
- ✓ Communities that rely on National Forest System lands

DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS	
6-1	<b>DC:</b> Outdoor recreation opportunities, including outdoor recreation infrastructure, is resilient to high-severity wildfire and climate-related events like flooding and atmospheric rivers.
6-2	<b>DC:</b> Wildfire threat is reduced in areas where fuel conditions currently pose the highest risk to communities and community assets, including recreation infrastructure.
6-3	<b>DC:</b> Forest health and fuels treatment projects avoid negative impacts to recreation infrastructure to the greatest effect possible and rehabilitate trails and other recreation infrastructure when impacts are unavoidable.
6-4	<b>DC:</b> Forest restoration projects contribute to the sustainability of the social and economic values of local communities, including recreation opportunities. The duration and extent of recreational closures are reduced as a result of fuels treatment and wildfire management activities.
6-5	<b>DC:</b> Education and enforcement have reduced the likelihood of wildfire starts from people.
6-6	<b>DC:</b> The transportation network is resilient to the effects of climate change, including the ability to accommodate increased runoff and peak flows that may exceed historic streamflow events. High risk roads and trails are relocated and appropriately sized culverts and stream crossings are constructed.
6-7	<b>OBJ:</b> Conduct an assessment within three to five years of climate-related impacts to trails and other recreation infrastructure in need of rehabilitation following climate-related disturbances like floods and wildfires.

6-8	<b>STD:</b> Trails and recreation infrastructure impacted by fire or damaged by fire suppression operations shall be repaired to meet agency standards, including restoration of unique recreational values and use of sustainable design principles, consistent with federal law and in consultation with Tribes.
6-9	<b>GDL:</b> The Forest should, to the greatest extent possible, use warnings and other risk mitigation methods other than closures for areas and sites impacted by climate-related disturbances like wildfire and floods. When mitigation by other means does not reduce risk to acceptable levels, targeted closures should be limited to the smallest temporal and spatial extent possible.
6-10	<b>GOAL:</b> Target climate resilience strategies, including aquatic restoration, hazardous fuels treatments, and post-fire restoration, in areas that are also valuable to recreationists and appropriate for outdoor recreation.
6-11	<b>MA:</b> Assess human-caused ignitions and implement prevention activities that reduce the likelihood of the most common human-caused ignition sources.

## 7. Provide Predictability for Sustainable Timber Production

### These recommendations support:

- ✓ Improved fire resistance and resilience
- ✓ Capacity of ecosystems to adapt to climate change
- ✓ Recruitment of old growth forest conditions and all other structural stages and habitat for species that depend on regional biodiversity
- ✓ Communities that rely on National Forest System lands

DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS	
7-1	Matrix and Adaptive Management Areas provide the primary land base that will be managed to provide a sustainable supply of wood products and for the socioeconomic wellbeing of local communities. The Forest Service should focus this activity on plantations and other previously managed forests with the goals of (1) providing a predictable and sustainable supply of wood products; and (2) restoring these forests to more structurally complex and biologically diverse managed forests that would also be more resistant and resilient to climate change.
7-2	Clearly indicate the intention for sustainable timber harvest in the Matrix. Options to achieve this intent include renaming the Matrix to “Harvest Land Base” or “Forest Stewardship Area” to better articulate the intent for this area.
7-3	Align ecological forestry and variable retention logging to support socioeconomic goals including but not limited to cultural use species and associated habitats.
7-4	<b>DC:</b> National forest lands provide significant wood products to local industries and significant non-timber economic opportunities to local and regional communities.
7-5	<b>DC:</b> Timber production in Matrix and Adaptive Management Areas, and proactive stewardship of dry forests, creates a predictable and sustainable supply of forest products <u>that significantly contributes to maintaining and increasing the current infrastructure.</u>
7-6	<b>DC:</b> Timber Harvest Stands are identified, which include all stands within matrix lands which originated after the establishment of forest reserves in the late 1800s and where a range of silvicultural actions are appropriate to achieve multiple objectives including production of timber products.
7-7	<b>OBJ:</b> During the planning horizon, timber production in Matrix and Adaptive Management Areas, and proactive stewardship of dry forests, will increase and contribute to the socioeconomic stability of communities and ecological integrity of all lands.

7-8	<b>OBJ:</b> In the planning horizon, provide regular and predictable supply of timber products, consistent with the principles of long-term sustained yield, to attain the annual Probable Sale Quantity (PSQ).
7-9	<b>OBJ:</b> During the current planning horizon, provide reliable supply of wood products from a combination of restoration treatments in Dry Forest and planted stands and a wide range of silvicultural activities in Timber Harvest Stands.
7-10	<b>STD:</b> Pre-disturbance surveys for Table C-3 wildlife species shall not be required for restoration treatments in seasonally dry, fire prone forests, or for timber harvest or timber production in matrix or in managed stands.
7-11	<b>STD:</b> In Matrix, use timber harvest to proactively manage managed stands to increase stand heterogeneity and provide for a long-term supply of timber products. Subsequent timber harvest of planted stands is encouraged.
7-12	<b>STD:</b> Active management in Timber Harvest Stands, shall be implemented to accomplish one or more of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <del>Facilitate development of future Old Forest and increase connectivity of Old Forest;</del></li> <li>b. Increase heterogeneity of forest structure and composition;</li> <li>c. Improve growth and vigor of residual trees;</li> <li>d. Reduce likelihood of loss from fire, insects, and disease;</li> <li>e. Create diverse habitat, including early seral habitat;</li> <li>f. Mitigate risk of fire that threatens communities or Old Forest; or</li> <li>g. Generate wood products</li> </ul>
7-13	<b>STD:</b> Active management in Timber Harvest Stands shall include thinning, un-even aged management, and variable retention harvest silvicultural treatments. Silvicultural treatments shall be permitted in planted stands of any age in Late-Successional Reserves shall be consistent with desired conditions for late successional reserves. Variable retention harvest to create early seral habitat shall be limited to the Matrix land use allocation.
7-14	<b>STD:</b> Active management in planted stands within riparian reserves including thinning shall be implemented that achieves desired conditions for riparian reserves.
7-15	<b>SUIT:</b> The Matrix is suitable for the removal of trees for wood fiber use and other multiple-use purposes and the purposeful growing, tending, harvesting, and regeneration of regulated crops of trees to be cut into logs, bolts, or other round sections for industrial or consumer use.

## 8. Conserve Mature and Old Forests (and Vegetation Management)

### These recommendations support:

- ✓ Improved fire resistance and resilience
- ✓ Capacity of ecosystems to adapt to climate change
- ✓ Conservation and recruitment of old growth forest conditions and habitat for species that depend on old growth ecosystems and regional biodiversity

DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS	
8-1	The EIS for the NWFP amendment should evaluate impacts of the following recommendations for a range of mature and old growth definitions, which might include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No change, in which Forest Service maintains the current definitions of mature and old growth as defined in the 1994 NWFP: Mature is around 80 years plus structural definitions. Old is at least 180-220 years. There are also structural definitions.</li> <li>• 2018 Bioregional Assessment: Mature (or “late-successional forest”) is at least 100 to 200 years. Old is greater than 200 years.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Define mature moist forests as 100 years and dry mature forests as 150 years, plus appropriate structural characteristics. Old is greater than 200 years.</li> <li>Define mature moist forests as stands originating prior to the year 1925 and dry mature forests as trees originating prior to 1875. (option to avoid “aging out” issue)</li> </ul>
8-2	<b>DC:</b> NWFP area forests continue to play a critical and distinctive role in providing diverse forest habitats and a range of ecosystem services, including but not limited to wildlife habitat, wilderness experiences, clean water, carbon storage, recreational opportunities, and wood products.
8-3	<b>DC:</b> Old forest increases across each national forest unit and the major forest types found across each National Forest relative to existing conditions. A range of passive and active management strategies relink the characteristic pattern and process feedbacks that are responsible for developing and maintaining old forest across different forest types. Both natural disturbances and human stewardship provide for: A wide range of live and dead old forest structure; the successional and disturbance dynamics that are appropriate for different landscape settings; and conditions that are resilient and adaptable to future climate and disturbance stressors.
8-4	<b>DC:</b> Actively managed stands make a contribution to: diverse stand and landscape habitat; adaptation to future climate and disturbance regimes; and, high quality, resilient forest conditions across time. Previously planted stands in matrix are managed for timber production to provide a wide range of wood products and for other multiple uses.
8-5	<b>DC:</b> Restored seasonally dry, fire prone forests continue to provide old forest habitat and critical ecosystem services into the future.
8-6	<b>OBJ:</b> During the planning horizon, active and passive management of mature and old growth forests will stabilize or increase the amount of old growth forest conditions present on the landscape over time relative to existing conditions.
8-7	<b>OBJ:</b> During the current planning horizon, restore ecological resilience to at least one third of extant Dry Forest while conserving and protecting old trees and conserving and promoting the development of future functional old-growth forest ecosystems appropriate for Dry Forests.
8-8	<b>OBJ:</b> During the current planning horizon, implement silvicultural treatments that increase diversity, structural and compositional complexity, and resilience to disturbance across at least one third of extant managed stands.
8-9	<b>STD:</b> Timber harvest and timber production in mature and old forest in all land use allocations is prohibited, except: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To prevent imminent danger to people or critical infrastructure;</li> <li>For tribal cultural uses;</li> <li>In seasonally dry, fire prone forests where: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stands likely historically experienced frequent fire;</li> <li>Natural resources including but not limited to old trees, wildlife habitat, or water quality are threatened by uncharacteristic disturbance; and,</li> <li>Silvicultural activities have been shown to be successful in restoring desired conditions for seasonally dry, fire prone forests.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
8-10	<b>STD:</b> In seasonally dry, fire prone forests in all land use allocations, proactively maintain and restore the ecological integrity of mature and old growth forest conditions. Silvicultural activities in seasonally dry, fire prone forests in all land allocations shall: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retain all extant old growth trees and sufficient mature trees to provide for the recruitment of future old forest conditions;</li> <li>Retain all extant mature trees, except where retention of mature trees is inconsistent with restoration of characteristic forest density and species composition, or where mature trees threaten the persistence of old growth trees or other important natural resource values;</li> </ol>

	<p>3) Utilize silvicultural treatments to reduce stand densities, produce desired spatial heterogeneity, shift species composition to more disturbance-resilient densities and compositions, and create small gaps to restore historical spatial patterns;</p> <p>4) Create and maintain successional heterogeneity based on local disturbance regimes and the needs of late-successional forest species; and</p> <p>5) Restore the role of fire on the landscape through the use of prescribed fire and managed wildfire.</p>
8-11	<b>STD:</b> In moist Late-Successional Reserves, proactively manage previously harvested stands to accelerate the development of mature and old growth forest conditions.

## 9. Post-Disturbance Forest Management

This topic still in discussion

## 10. Designate and Steward Community Protection Zones

These recommendations support:

- ✓ Improved fire resistance and resilience
- ✓ Communities that rely on National Forest System lands

DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS	
10-1	<b>DC:</b> Community Protection Zones are established, which are found in the immediate vicinity of communities that are vulnerable to catastrophic disturbance including fires, storms, and floods. The safety of people and property is augmented, defensible space is created, and the risk of catastrophic losses is mitigated.
10-2	<b>OBJ:</b> Within three years all Forests will establish Community Protection Zones based on wildfire and disturbance analytics and community collaborative engagement. Delineation of Community Protection Zones will include assessment of public lands and private lands surrounding communities.
10-3	<b>STD:</b> Delineation of resources included in Community Protection Zones can be revised in the course of site-specific project planning and shall include but not be limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transportation infrastructure</li> <li>• Facilities including but not limited to communications equipment, dams, power generation, and power transmission infrastructure.</li> <li>• Forest stands at high risk of transmitting catastrophic disturbance that threaten the built environment, and where common silvicultural techniques including thinning and prescribed fire can effectively manage risk.</li> </ul>
10-4	<b>STD:</b> Active management within Community Protection Zones shall augment protection of the built environment and contributes to the prevention of catastrophic losses from fire, storms, floods, and other disasters.
10-5	<b>GOAL:</b> Within identified Community Protection Zones, alleviate Survey and Manage requirements to prioritize goals for community protection and resilience to wildfire, floods, other events. Develop flexibility for logical exceptions to existing Standards and Guidelines in order to support Community Protection Zones.

10-6	<b>GOAL:</b> Identify critical infrastructure, which includes roads, stream crossings, drainage systems, communication facilities, and power transmission sites and routes. Require action to protect these resources.
10-7	<b>GOAL:</b> Facilitate planning for community disaster preparedness and evacuation.

## 11. Remove Barriers for Adaptive Management Areas

### These recommendations support:

- ✓ Incorporation of Indigenous Knowledge into planning, project design, and implementation and meeting the agency’s trust responsibilities
- ✓ Improved fire resistance and resilience
- ✓ Capacity of ecosystems to adapt to climate change
- ✓ Conservation and recruitment of old growth forest conditions and habitat for species that depend on old growth ecosystems and regional biodiversity
- ✓ Communities that rely on National Forest System lands

DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ALTERNATIVES	
The Committee recommends the following four Alternatives for evolving adaptive management concepts within the planning area, to be analyzed in the EIS:	
Alt-11-1	<p>The Committee recommends that the Forest Service work to identify, analyze, and consider removing any Standards and Guidelines that inhibit the Forest Service from successfully implementing the original goals of the Adaptive Management Areas under the Northwest Forest Plan. Adaptive management – that delivers timely results and at scale – should be a component of the NWFP Amendment.</p> <p><i>Intent: Onus on FS to identify and remove existing barriers, maintain adaptive management goals within the existing AMAs.</i></p>
Alt-11-2	<p>The Committee recommends that the Forest Service embrace the adaptive management concept across a broader planning area, e.g., in AMAs, riparian reserves, and matrix LUAs, re-orienting adaptive management as a core framework for the NWFP region as a whole. In doing so, the Forest Service removes existing barriers to adaptive management actions listed for the AMA LUAs (see for example ideas in <b>Appendix B</b> [AMAs redline document]), and in parallel re-allocates lands within existing AMA LUAs to Accelerated Restoration Areas that in partnership with the matrix LUA meet socio-economic and ecosystems goals associated with working landscapes in line with support for community livelihoods, sustainable wood supply, and ecosystem conservation and adaptation. The focus of adaptive management projects in AMAs, riparian reserves, and matrix LUAs could include but is not limited to topics of climate change resistance, resilience, mitigation and adaptation; fire adapted landscapes and communities; restoration of non-forested habitats; Tribal co-stewardship for ecocultural restoration; ecological forestry approaches, variable retention harvest, and variable density thinning.</p> <p><i>Intent: Re-orient adaptive management across the Plan region, remove barriers e.g., in redline document, and specifically point to Accelerated Restoration Areas as a new focus for existing AMAs to meet socio-economic and ecosystem goals.</i></p>
Alt-11-3	<p>The Committee recommends that the Forest Service embrace the adaptive management concept across the broader planning area, e.g., in all LUAs (AMAs, riparian reserves, matrix, LSRs), re-orienting adaptive management as a core framework for the NWFP region as a whole. In doing so, the Forest Service removes existing barriers to adaptive management actions listed for the AMA LUAs (see for example ideas in <b>Appendix B</b> [AMAs redline document]). The Forest Service identifies development of a new Adaptive Management Program with engagement from Tribes, communities, agencies, research</p>



	<p>scientists, interested parties to collaboratively identify a minimum of one core adaptive management project in each Forest unit across the Planning Region.  <i>Intent: Re-orient adaptive management across the Plan region including ALL LUAs, remove barriers e.g., in redline document, and identify a new Adaptive Management Program with collaborative engagement on at minimum one project per unit.</i></p>
<p>Alt-11-4</p>	<p>The Committee recommends that the Forest Service embrace the adaptive management concept across the broader planning area, e.g., in all LUAs (AMAs, riparian reserves, matrix, LSRs), re-orienting adaptive management as a core framework for the NWFP region as a whole. In doing so, the Forest Service removes existing barriers to adaptive management actions listed for the AMA LUAs (see for example ideas in <b>Appendix B</b> [AMAs redline document]), and in parallel re-allocates lands within existing AMA LUAs to Accelerated Restoration Areas that in partnership with the matrix LUA meet socio-economic and ecosystems goals associated with working landscapes in line with support for community livelihoods, sustainable wood supply, and ecosystem conservation and adaptation. The Forest Service identifies development of a new Adaptive Management Program with engagement from Tribes, communities, agencies, research scientists, interested parties to collaboratively identify a minimum of one core adaptive management project in each Forest unit across the Planning Region.  <i>Intent: Re-orient adaptive management across the Plan region including ALL LUAs, remove barriers e.g., in redline document, specifically point to Accelerated Restoration Areas as a new focus for existing AMAs, and identify a new Adaptive Management Program with collaborative engagement on at minimum one project per unit.</i></p>
<p>See <b>Appendix B</b>. AMA redline document.</p>	

## APPENDICES

### Appendix A: Complete List of Recommendations

[Will be provided with final recommendations report]

### Appendix B: Adaptive Management Areas Redline

To support Alt-11-2, Alt-11-3, and Alt-11-4

[Will be provided with final recommendations report]