
General Environmental Commitment

EP1: Environmental Principles Commitment.
Plum Creek commits to continue practicing forestry according to its 11 Environmental Principles. (page 1-14)

Road and Upland Management Commitments

- R1: BMP Compliance.**
Specifies that State Best Management Practices are a rigorous starting point for implementing additional measures. (page 2-6)
- R2: New Road Construction.**
Requires “enhanced BMP” standards when constructing new logging roads. (page 2-8)
- R3: Road Condition Tracking.**
Use of a GIS database layer to track status and condition of roads provides a comprehensive system for road management. (page 2-10)
- R4: Road Condition Inspections.**
Inspection of roads updates the road database and identifies those places that require attention. (page 2-12)
- R5: Upgrade of Old Roads.**
Commits to a time frame for upgrading all old Plum Creek roads to enhanced BMP standards. (page 2-13)
- R6: Hot Spot Treatments.**
Provides a mechanism for identifying and prioritizing special treatment for critical problem areas (“hot spots”) on roads with lingering effects from past management activities. (page 2-16)
- R7: Abandonment of Surplus Roads.**
All roads no longer needed by Plum Creek will be identified and abandoned. (page 2-17)
- R8: Periodic Re-Inspection and Maintenance.**
Roads will be re-inspected on specified intervals and maintained as needed to preserve BMP function. (page 2-18)
- R9: Road Sediment Delivery Analyses.**
A technical approach for calculating erosion from road surfaces will be performed for all roads in selected watersheds during the first decade. (page 2-20)
- R10: Poaching Mitigation.**
A road management plan to reduce fish mortality from poaching will be developed. (page 2-21)
- R11: Road Restrictions.**
Provides for restricting public access to newly constructed roads and managing road restrictions for other roads using a road database. (page 2-22)
- R12: Papoose Creek Landslide Assessment.**
Commits to the development of a watershed specific landslide assessment in Papoose Creek and an action plan associated with it. This watershed is historically prone to landslides. (page 2-23)

Riparian Management Commitments

- Rp1: State Riparian Rules As A Basis.**
Applies State riparian rules as a base prescription for riparian areas. (page 3-7)
- Rp2: High Sensitivity Channel Migration Zone (Tier 1).**
Provides for extra tree retention and wider streamside management zones along stream reaches with the highest sensitivity to management in bull trout spawning watersheds. (page 3-12)

Rp3: Moderate Sensitivity CMZs (Tier 1).
Provides for extra tree retention and wider streamside management zones along stream reaches with a moderate sensitivity to management in bull trout spawning watersheds. (page 3-15)

Rp4: High and Moderate Sensitivity CMZs (Tier 2).
Provides for extra tree retention and wider streamside management zones along stream reaches with a high or moderate sensitivity to management in all other watersheds. (page 3-16)

Rp5: High Sensitivity Streams Without CMZs (Tier 1).
Specifies a no-harvest restriction zone along confined stream channels that are sensitive to management in bull trout spawning watersheds. (page 3-18)

Rp6: Other Perennial Fish-Bearing Streams.
Specifies additional conservation guidance for all other fish-bearing streams. (page 3-19)

Rp7: Headwater Streams Both Perennial and Connected.
Describes streamside management zone requirements for non-fish-bearing perennial streams. (page 3-20)

Rp8: Interface Caution Areas.
Extends additional tree retention and other restrictions beyond the riparian area to provide additional caution. (page 3-23)

Rp9: Riparian Harvest Deferrals.
Harvest in streamside riparian stands is deferred for the first decade in seven watersheds. (page 3-25)

Range Management Commitments

- G1: Grazing BMPs.**
Requires grazing leaseholders to perform range management planning and implement Plum Creek Grazing BMPs in grazing lease areas on Plum Creek lands. (page 4-7)
- G2: Grazing Exlosures.**
Provides for fences to exclude cattle from selected stream reaches in highly impacted grazing areas. (page 4-8)
- G3: Evaluate Long-Term Effectiveness of Plum Creek’s Grazing BMPs.**
Establishes a monitoring strategy and a rigorous scientific study for evaluating the effectiveness of restoring riparian function in grazing areas. (page 4-9)
- G4: Status Of Vacated Leases.**
Specifies riparian health criteria that must be met before a vacated lease may be re-leased. (page 4-9)
- G5: Rancher Training.**
Provides for training of ranchers and Plum Creek personnel in grazing BMPs. (page 4-10)

Land Use Planning Commitments

- L1: Land Use Principles.**
Specifies use of Plum Creek Land Use Principles as a guide for land use planning. (page 5-4)
- L2: Federal Agency and Not-For-Profit Conservation Organization Dispositions.**
Incentives are provided to find public conservation buyers for lands that may be sold. (page 5-6)
- L3: Conservation Dispositions and Selling Away of Development Rights.**
Incentives are provided to find private conservation buyers for lands that may be sold, or to keep the land in commercial forestry and sell away the rights to develop the land. (page 5-7)

L4: Restricted Dispositions—Land Use Conservation Areas.
Where conservation sales are not possible, a specified set of land use restrictions would be required on some lands and encouraged on others if the land were to be sold. (page 5-8)

L5: “Conservation Neutral” Dispositions.
Incentive is provided, if selling land, to pass along NFHCP commitments. (page 5-10)

L6: Unrestricted Dispositions.
Lands sold without any restrictions are limited and can only occur in certain places without requiring a permit amendment. (page 5-11)

L7: Land Acquisitions.
An incentive is provided when purchasing land to apply conservation measures and include in the NFHCP. (page 5-12)

L8: Land Exchanges.
Land exchanges are encouraged as an alternative to selling lands. (page 5-12)

L9: Proportionality Balance.
Requires reporting of land sales according to a point system that calculates the net conservation certainty outcome of land transactions. (page 5-14)

Legacy and Restoration Commitments

- Lg1: Assessment—Riparian Condition Survey.**
Provides for a survey of all key migratory rivers for restoration opportunities. (page 6-3)
- Lg2: Implementation—Riparian Vegetation Restoration.**
Restoration projects will be designed and implemented along severely impacted key migratory rivers. (page 6-4)
- Lg3: Monitoring—Riparian Vegetation Restoration.**
Provides for monitoring of treated river reaches to determine rate of riparian function restoration and cost effectiveness of restoration projects. (page 6-5)
- Lg4: Engineered Habitat Restoration.**
Provides opportunity for cooperative habitat improvement projects, such as addition of large woody debris or boulder placement. (page 6-6)
- Lg5: Diversions.**
Provides for development of a plan to manage impacts caused by irrigation diversions on Plum Creek land. (page 6-7)
- Lg6: Brook Trout Suppression In Gold Creek.**
A project to remove brook trout, a non-native species, and determine the benefits of this action to native trout will be conducted. (page 6-8)
- Lg7: State Fish And Game Enforcement Agreements.**
Agreements with fish management agencies will be sought to cooperate on enforcement activities that compliment native fish conservation efforts. (page 6-9)
- Lg8: Watershed Cooperation.**
Plum Creek will participate in watershed groups and share information with neighboring landowners. (page 6-10)

Administration and Implementation Commitments

- A1: Field Implementation Manual.**
A field implementation manual for Plum Creek foresters will be written within 3 months of NFHCP initiation. (page 7-1)

A2: Forester And Contractor Training.
Foresters and key contractors will be trained in NFHCP prescriptions. (page 7-2)

A3: Logger Certification And Training.
Requires certified logger training for Plum Creek loggers. (page 7-2)

A4: NFHCP Internal Audits.
Internal audits will be conducted early in the permit period to get the NFHCP off to a good start. (page 7-3)

A5: NFHCP External Audits.
Third party audits will be conducted throughout the NFHCP to ensure and document proper implementation. (page 7-4)

A6: Metrics And Reporting.
Performance metrics (units of measurement) are defined for each commitment and provisions are made to report to the Services using them. (page 7-4)

Adaptive Management and Monitoring Commitments

- AM1: NFHCP Effectiveness Monitoring And Core Adaptive Management Projects.**
Four Core Adaptive Management Projects (CAMPs) will be conducted that will provide the scientific basis for NFHCP effectiveness monitoring. (page 8-14)
- AM2: Evaluate And Respond—The NFHCP Implementation Framework.**
A framework is provided that evaluates implementation and effectiveness monitoring data against the NFHCP biological goals. If certain conditions are not met, a process is set in motion that results in an appropriate management response. (page 8-15)
- AM3: Changed Circumstances.**
Provides for a process to follow and actions to be taken if a fire, flood, or landslide within a pre-determined size range occurs. (page 8-26)
- AM4: Native Fish Assemblages.**
An opportunity is provided for the Services and Plum Creek to collaborate on customized management prescriptions for seven identified watersheds in the Planning Area that have unusual diversity of native fish species. (page 8-29)
- AM5: Landslide Monitoring.**
Plum Creek will monitor the occurrence of landslides and report it to the Services along with an assessment of the cause of the landslide. This will provide information for possible cooperative management responses. (page 8-31)
- AM6: Adding Tier 1 Watersheds.**
A procedure is specified whereby additional watersheds may be added to the Tier 1 watersheds regardless of the species of fish for which there is a concern. (page 8-31)

**NFHCP
Commitments at
a Glance**