



Pinchot Partners

WORKING ON COMMON GROUND

Pinchot Partners Monthly Meeting
7.21.21
10:00 AM-3:00 PM
Location: Cowlitz Valley Ranger Station

In attendance: John O'Brien, Taylor Aalvik, Pete Krabbe, Anjoleen Price, Matt Comisky, Bill Little, David Owen, Amy Boyd, James Donahey, Rita Asgeirsson, Mary Morrell, Eli Asher, Nikia Hernandez, FS, Elizabeth Robinson, FS, Tracy Calizon, FS, Ken Wieman, Dave Olson, FS Alexa Pengelly, FS, Conner England, FS, Ronelle Goens, FS

The field trip began at 10:00 AM at the Cowlitz Valley Ranger Station.

The field trip began with introductions, updates, and a brief safety discussion as well as the planned route. Elizabeth Robinson provided maps and information about the project site (see attached). Nikia Hernandez provided a safety briefing and discussion of updates since our previous in person meetings, which he had been able to attend as a temporary ranger prior to his installation as the permanent Cowlitz Valley District Ranger.

The group caravanned in several vehicle to the former Yellowjacket Ponds Recreation Site, which is presently the staging area for the Yellowjacket Instream Restoration project. This project is a stewardship project that was included in the Woods Creek LSR project many years ago, and which has continued to be planned, funded, and implemented in multiple steps over several years in partnership with the Cowlitz Indian Tribe. Ken Wieman (FS) provided a description of the project planning activities and Eli Asher (Cowlitz) provided a description of the project objectives and intended benefits. The group looked at the accumulated large woody debris, walked onto the creek floodplain, and were able to observe a 2020 constructed log jam with a large, clear pool at its apex. Discussion included process, current survival for juveniles and adults, floodplain habitat features, watershed function, and upland management practices.

Lunch and a business meeting occurred after the site visit concluded.

12:50 PM Call to order.

Review of the agenda and Meeting notes:

MOTION: Motion to approve the June Minutes John O'Brien 2nd: Pete Krabbe – MOTION CARRIED

Treasurers Report: The current balance is \$31,687. There are no expected invoices or payments for the coming month.

MOTION: Treasurers Report approved Bill Little 2nd John O'Brien – MOTION CARRIED

Coordinator Updates:

DNR is processing an invoice so some additional funds will be coming in soon. The DNR Forest Collaborative Grant is still being processed, and will need to have the Chair's signature at some point in the coming month. Amy Boyd is temporary coordinator during Janene's maternity leave, and will facilitate next month's Zoom meeting. Janene had a healthy baby boy last week, Finley Ritchie and everyone commented on how lovely he is.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:00 PM

This meeting is adjourned at 10:43 AM



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After the business meeting, we drove from the Yellowjacket Ponds Recreation Site to Judge Timber Sale Unit 65, which was released last year with associated road work. We drove in on roads which had had maintenance included as part of the sale contract. At the site, we met up with Ronelle Goens, forest sale administrator, who walked us through the process, the general sale intentions, and some of the areas that the logger would prefer to see streamlined. We discussed the reasons why the sale was set up as it was, including which trees could be harvested to meet the harvest prescriptions. We also discussed temporary versus permanent road standards, and (Elizabeth do you have more to add here, was talking to David).

The field trip was concluded at 3:00 PM and everyone left via Forest Road 25.

Minutes prepared by, Fred Norman & Amy Boyd

PINCHOT PARTNERS FIELD TRIP

July 21, 2021

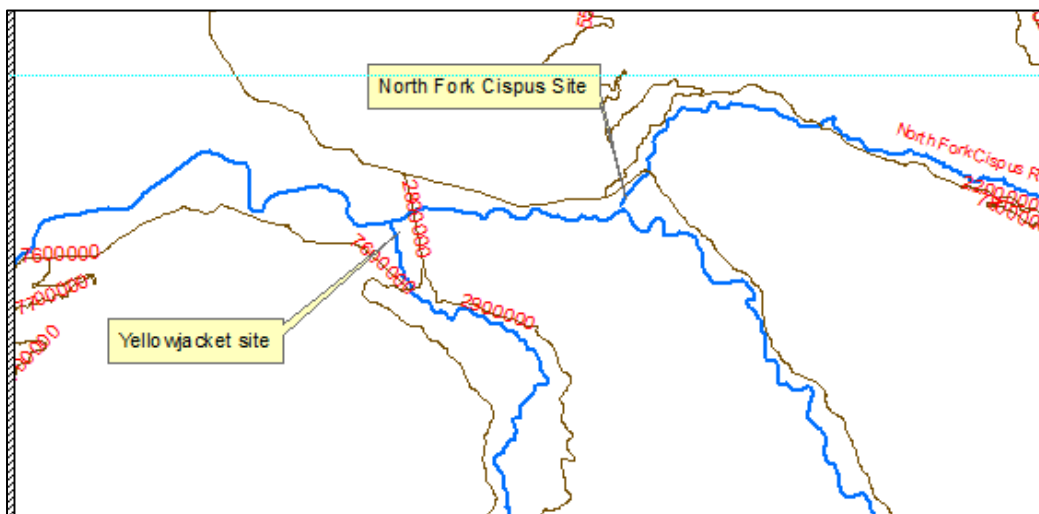
STOP #1 – YELLOWJACKET INSTREAM RESTORATION

PURPOSE OF AND NEED FOR ACTION

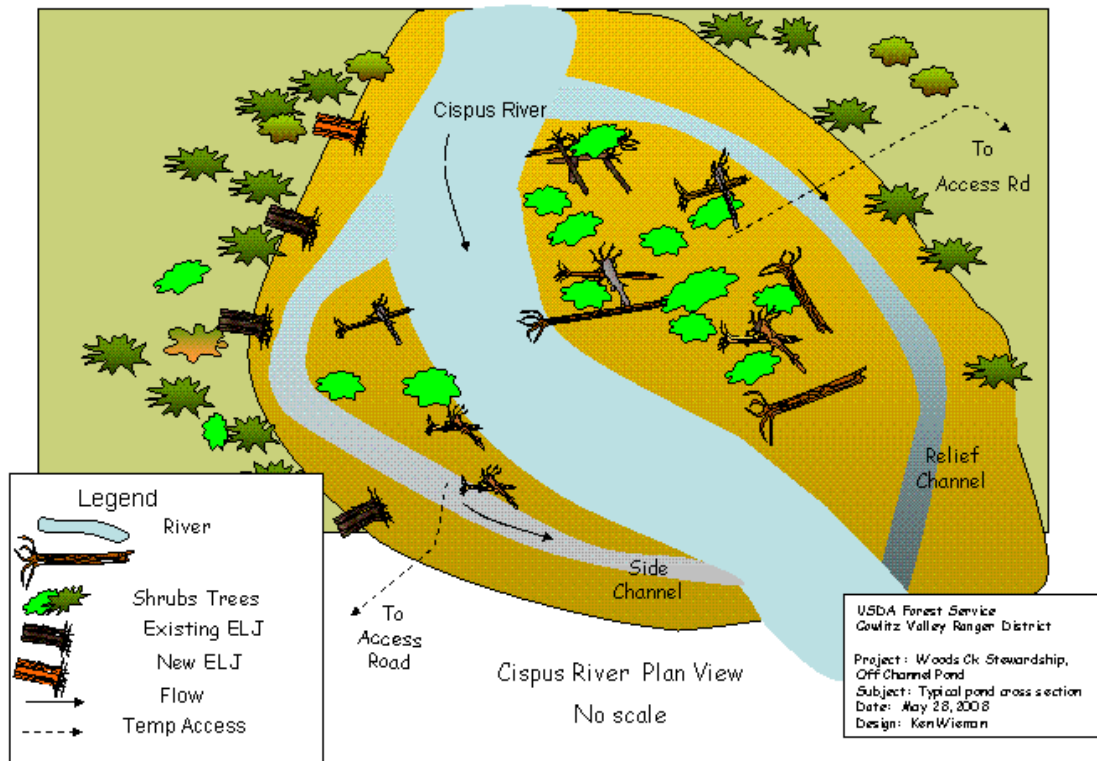
From 2014 Decision Memo for Cispus Side Channel Restoration Projects, pp. 1-2:

Numerous side channels once covered the floodplain of the lower Cispus River. This valuable Coho rearing habitat has been lost due to dike and road construction. Past storm events have also prompted channel migration and subsequent filling of side-channel habitat. The purpose of this project is to reconnect historic Cispus River side-channels with floodplains. The expected results will restore perennial water flow, increase available rearing habitat, and reduce the risk of stranding juvenile coho from the mainstem stream. This project will increase habitat diversity and complexity, improve flow heterogeneity, provide long-term nutrient storage and substrate for aquatic macro-invertebrates, moderate flow disturbances, increase retention of leaf litter, and provide refuge for fish during high flows.

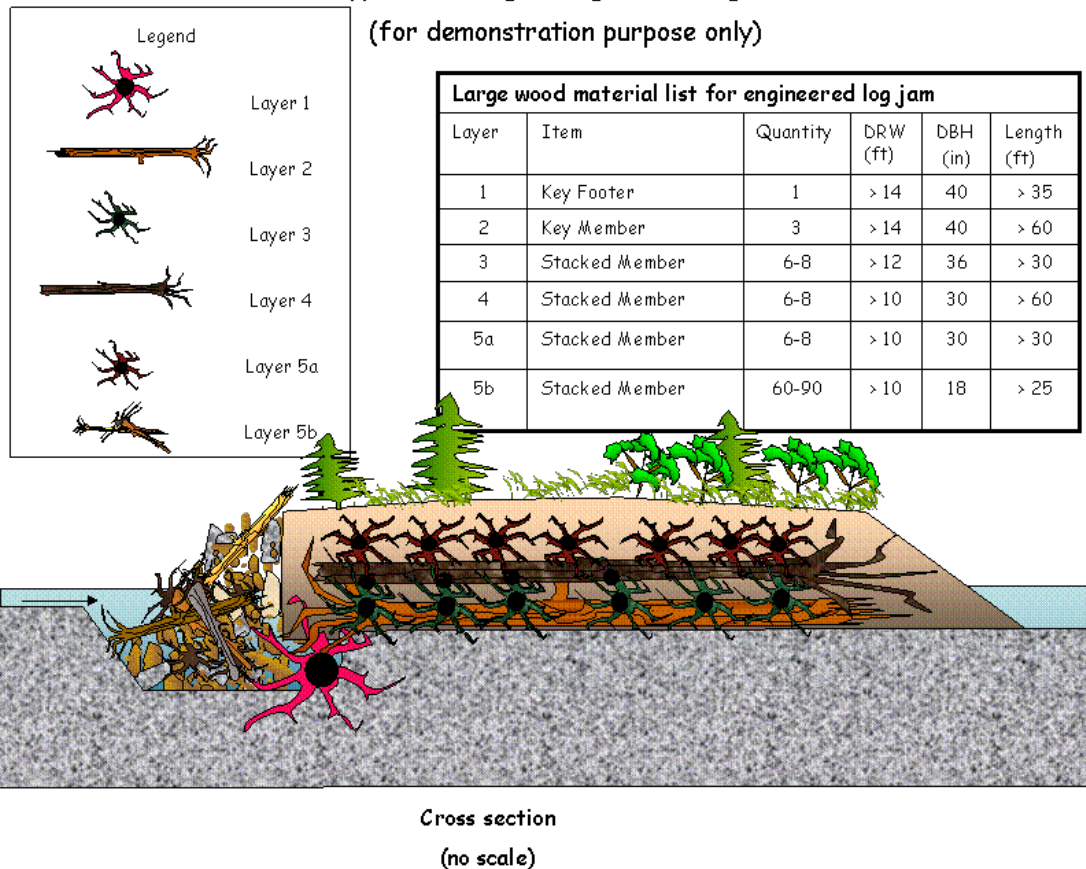
This project will allow us to move toward attainment of the Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives of maintaining and restoring amounts and distribution of instream large wood sufficient to sustain stream complexity and stability.



Typical Drawing of Floodplain Restoration (For demonstration purpose only)



Typical Drawing of Engineered Log Jam (for demonstration purpose only)



STOP #2 – JUDD TIMBER SALE UNIT 65

PURPOSE OF AND NEED FOR ACTION

From August 2020 Kraus Ridge EA, p. 4:

Ninety-eight plantations established following clearcut harvests (1953 – 1987) are currently too dense, or overstocked, and are declining in growth, health, and vigor. Thinning can reduce the density of growing trees, allowing for better access to water, light and nutrients and can increase growth. It can also help the forest become more vigorous and better able to withstand disturbance events such as drought or pathogens. Thinning overstocked plantations on Matrix can maintain optimum growth to produce timber while supplying a source of revenue from the thinned trees. Overstocked plantations in Late Successional Reserves (LSR) that lack old-growth forest characteristics, such as large diameter trees and well-developed understories, would benefit from thinning because it can increase individual tree growth and help to establish a multi-layered canopy. This can accelerate the development of an old-growth forest structure.

From August 2020 Kraus Ridge EA, Table 2 - Proposed Commercial Timber Harvest and Commercial Huckleberry Treatment, pp. 11-15:

Unit	NWFP ⁺	Year of Origin	Stand Acres	Harvest Acres	Prescription	Preferred Logging System	Existing Canopy Cover	Post-Harvest Canopy Cover
65	LSR	1970	28	28	1 - Thinning	Ground Based	74	40-50

From January 2020 Kraus Ridge Silviculture Report, Table 6 - Current Stand Attributes for Commercial Treatment Units in Kraus Ridge, pp. 15-19:

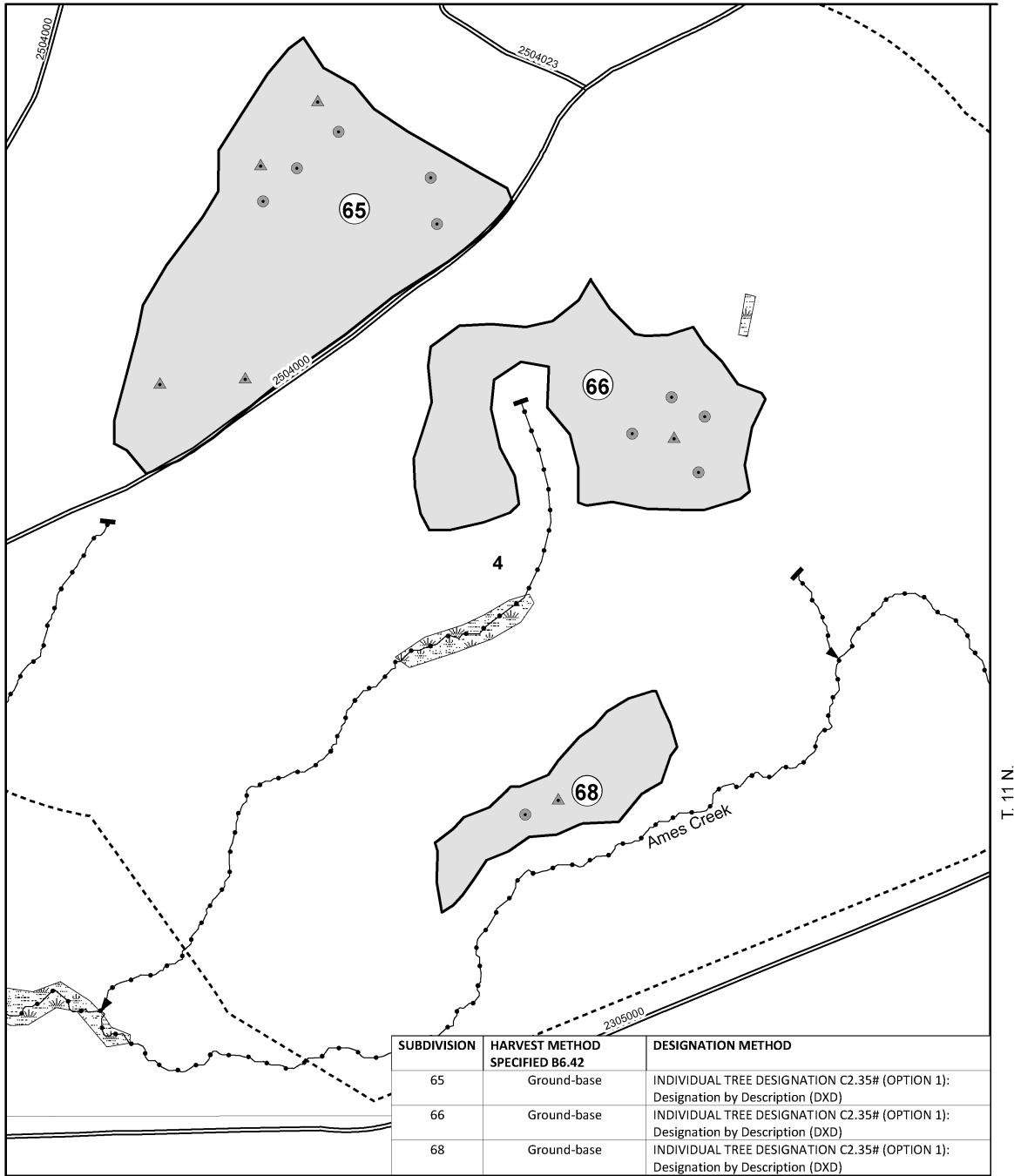
Treatment Unit	Year of Origin	NWFP Allocation	Trees Per Acre*	Basal Area (ft ² /ac)*	Quadratic Mean Diameter Breast Height*	Relative Density Percent (Curtis)*	Canopy Cover Percent*
65	1970	LSR	213	272	15	69	79

Table 6, cont.

Treatment Unit	Percent Basal Area (PSME)	Percent Basal Area (TSHE)	Percent Basal Area (ABAM)	Percent Basal Area (ABPR)	Percent Basal Area (THPL, ACMA, PIMO)	Old Growth Structure Index (OGSI)
65	91	4	0	0	0	22

From January 2020 Kraus Ridge Silviculture Report, Table 10 – Post-Harvest Treatment Results, pp. 15-19:

Treatment Unit	Trees Per Acre*	Spacing (ft.)	Basal Area (sq. ft./acre)	Quadratic Mean Diameter Breast Height	Relative Density Percent (Curtis)	Canopy Cover Percent*	OGSI
65	45	31	103	21	24	37	28



JUDD THIN SALE AREA AND SLASH DISPOSAL MAP

COWLITZ VALLEY RANGER DISTRICT - GIFFORD PINCHOT NATIONAL FOREST

Sheet 4 of 5

Legend

	Sale Area Boundary, B1.1		Existing Road, B5.12		Gap Center, C2.35# (Option 1)
	Subdivision (DXD), B1.1 and Harvest Method (GB), B6.42		Protect Streamcourse-Block marks upper limit, B6.5, C6.41#, and C6.42#		Skip Center, C2.35# (Option 1)
	Protect Wetlands, B6.62, C6.41#, and C6.42#				

Notes

- Subdivision boundaries are designated on the ground with orange paint on three sides of the tree and on the stump. All major corners are designated on the ground with blue boundary tags labeled "Judd" and orange paint through the tag, on two sides of the tree, and on the stump.
- Gaps and skips are shown on the map marked with the approximate center, C2.35# (Option 1).
- All landing slash shall be piled, C6.74#.
- Construction and closure of Temporary Roads and landings shall be in accordance with criteria described in, C5.1# (Option 1), C6.6#.
- Equipment Cleaning – All Subdivisions are known to be infested with invasive species of concern. Equipment cleaning is required as specified in B6.35.
- Directional felling is required in all Subdivisions, B6.41, C6.41#.
- All landlines are partially surveyed, A1.

0 250 500 1,000 Feet

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SAH, 11/03/20

R. 7 E.