

## EXHIBIT 2 - BiOp Conservation Recommendations

considered. Such changes shall be evaluated to determine if the amount or extent of incidental take has been exceeded, using the best available science.

### 22 EFFECT OF THE TAKE

In the accompanying Opinion, the USFWS determined that this level of anticipated take is not likely to result in jeopardy to spotted owl and bull trout, or destruction or adverse modification of designated critical habitat for these species.

### 23 REASONABLE AND PRUDENT MEASURES AND TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The conservation measures negotiated in cooperation with the USFWS and included as part of the 1997 HCP, as amended, constitute all of the reasonable measures necessary to minimize the impacts of incidental take. On that basis, no Reasonable and Prudent Measures except for monitoring and reporting requirements are included in this Incidental Take Statement.

WDNR's reporting obligations in the 1997 HCP, as amended, are not changed or modified by this Incidental Take Statement. Section 17.2, "Notification and Annual Review of Land Transactions," and Section 20.0, "Reporting and Inspections," of the Implementation Agreement (IA); and Section V, "Plan Implementation," of the 1997 HCP describe WDNR's reporting obligations under the 1997 HCP.

### 24 CONSERVATION RECOMMENDATIONS

Section 7(a)(1) of the ESA directs federal agencies to utilize their authorities to further the purposes of the ESA by carrying out conservation programs for the benefit of endangered and threatened species. Conservation recommendations are discretionary agency activities to minimize or avoid adverse effects of a proposed action on listed species or critical habitat, to help implement recovery plans, or to develop information. The USFWS should establish quarterly meetings to coordinate with WDNR to implement the following conservation recommendations:

- a) The HCP required development of a Headwaters Conservation Strategy for westside areas outside the Olympic Experimental State Forest (OESF) (WDNR 1997, p. IV-59). The USFWS should work with WDNR to develop and finalize a Headwaters Conservation Strategy by 2026.
- b) The HCP (p. IV.62) requires completion of a comprehensive landscaped-based road network management process commonly called the Comprehensive Road Network Management Plan (CRNMP), which is both a component of the Riparian Strategy as well as a component of strategies for unlisted species. The USFWS should work with WDNR to complete a CRNMP within 2 years.
- c) The HCP and the Implementation Agreement anticipate the development of a monitoring and adaptive management program to assess the effectiveness of exterior wind buffers and to make adjustments based on that monitoring, where appropriate (WDNR, 1997, p.

IV.73). A formal monitoring and adaptive management program for windthrow has yet to be developed and implemented. The USFWS should work with WDNR to develop a windthrow monitoring and adaptive management program to evaluate the effectiveness of current procedures to maintain functional riparian buffers within the next year.

- d) In the event that the USFWS decides to implement a barred owl management strategy in Washington, the USFWS should work with WDNR to facilitate barred owl management on or adjacent to WDNR HCP lands.
- e) If the USFWS has information indicating current occupancy of a spotted owl activity center, that information should be shared with WDNR to facilitate protection of habitat within the core-area spotted owl management circle around the occupied activity center until such time as 1) the area can be managed for barred owls, or 2), the area is determined to be unoccupied by spotted owls.

## **25 REINITIATION NOTICE**

As provided in 50 CFR 402.16, reinitiation of formal consultation is required where discretionary federal agency involvement or control over the action has been retained (or is authorized by law) and 1) the amount or extent of incidental take is exceeded; 2) new information reveals effects of the agency action that may affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner or to an extent not considered in this Opinion; 3) the agency action is subsequently modified in a manner that causes an effect to the listed species or critical habitat not considered in this Opinion; or 4) a new species is listed or critical habitat designated that may be affected by the action. In instances where the amount or extent of incidental take is exceeded, any operations causing such take must cease pending reinitiation.