

impaired function or are functioning-at-risk and to the degree that project activities would contribute to those conditions, projects shall restore ¹² or not retard ¹³ attainment of desired conditions. Short-term adverse effects ¹⁴ from project activities may occur when they support or do not diminish long-term recovery ¹⁵ of watershed function desired conditions and federally listed species. Exceptions to this standard include situations where Forest Service authorities are limited (Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, 1872 Mining law, valid state water rights, etc.). In those cases, project effects shall be minimized and not retard attainment of desired conditions for watershed function to the extent possible within Forest Service authorities. Use Blue Mountains ARCS Appendix A to assist in determining compliance with this standard.

- WM-2S All projects shall be implemented in accordance with best management practices, as described in national and regional technical guides.
- RE-1G Watershed restoration projects should be designed to utilize or emulate natural ecological processes to the extent practicable, for meeting and maintaining restoration objectives.
- RE-2G Watershed restoration projects should be designed to minimize the need for long-term maintenance.
- RE-3S Except where Forest Service authorities are limited, mitigation or planned restoration shall not be used as a substitute for preventing long-term watershed or habitat degradation.
- RE-4S Hydrologic connectivity and sediment delivery from roads and trails shall be minimized. This includes roads, or road segments, whether inside and outside of riparian management areas, that deliver sediment to streams.

1.2 Species Diversity

- SD-1G To the extent practical, known cavity or nest trees should be preserved when conducting prescribed (planned ignition) burning activities, mechanical fuel treatments, and silvicultural treatments to protect the integrity of the nest site.
- SD-2G Known bat maternity and roost sites should not be disturbed to minimize disturbance to bats during critical times and to protect the integrity of the site.
- SD-3G With the exception of the removal of danger/hazard trees or fuel treatments within the wildland-urban interface, when a need to harvest or destroy snags is identified as part of a silvicultural treatment, current conditions should be evaluated relative to the desired conditions tables for each snag size class (see Sec. 1.15, Table 13 and 16) and:
 - Treatments should be limited to the extent that they will not result in a
 desired size-density category becoming underrepresented relative to
 desired conditions.

¹² See glossary in the Blue Mountain ARCS (Appendix A) for definitions of "restore."

¹³ See glossary in the Blue Mountain ARCS (Appendix A) for definitions of "retard attainment."

¹⁴ See glossary in the Blue Mountain ARCS (Appendix A) for definition of "short-term adverse effects."

¹⁵ See glossary in the Blue Mountain ARCS (Appendix A) for definition of "long-term recovery."

- If an area is determined to be currently underrepresented in one or more of the desired size-density categories, snags should be retained within treatment units in quantities that will contribute to the highest density levels that are currently underrepresented.
- Areas containing very low levels (less than 1 per acre) of snags as a result
 of the treatment should not exceed 10 contiguous acres in the dry upland
 forest potential vegetation group, or 5 contiguous acres within all other
 potential vegetation groups to assure a sufficient supply of habitat for snagdependent wildlife species.
- SD-4G In addition to the requirements of guideline SD-3G, if a need for post-fire salvage harvesting is identified, current conditions should also be evaluated relative to the desired conditions table pertaining to post-fire habitat, (see Sec. 1.15, Table 15) and (see next items):
 - Post-fire salvage treatments should be limited to the extent that the desired potential vegetation group proportions for post-fire habitat are currently being exceeded.
 - Post-fire salvage should generally not occur following individual fire events of less than 100 acres, except within the wildland-urban interface or where necessary for the removal of danger/hazard trees.
- SD-5S Any management activities that take place within greater sage-grouse habitat shall follow the specific plan direction (desired conditions, objectives, standards, and guidelines) identified in Appendix B Sage Grouse Guidance for Malheur and Wallowa-Whitman National Forests. Appendix B contains general, special use authorization (non-recreation), land ownership adjustment, land withdrawal, wind and solar, habitat, livestock grazing, fire management, wild horse and burro, roads/transportation, fluid mineral, coal, locatable mineral, non-energy leasable mineral, and mineral material direction for the greater sage-grouse. Appendix B contains considerations for compensatory mitigation for the greater sage-grouse.
- SD-6G¹⁶ Management activities within one mile of a known active (during same calendar year that use is documented) wolf den and rendezvous sites should implement appropriate seasonal restrictions based on site specific consideration and potential activity effects, to reduce disturbance to denning wolves.
- SD-7G¹⁶ Do not authorize turnout of sick or injured livestock to reduce risk of attracting wolves.
- SD-8G¹⁶ Remove or otherwise dispose of livestock carcasses such that the carcass will not attract wolves. If, due to location of the carcass, this is not possible, develop other remedies.
- SD-9G¹⁶ Do not authorize salt or other livestock attractants near known active (during same calendar year that use is documented) wolf dens or rendezvous sites to minimize livestock use of these sites.

¹⁶ Applies to all wolves on the national forest, regardless of whether they are federally listed or non-listed.