

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/13/2020 8:07:08 PM

First name: David

Last name: Barta

Organization:

Title:

Comments: On Friday, February 7, I spent the day walking units 1970 and 1300 with a group of other Cascadia Wildlands field volunteers.

In particular I spent time surveying the NE section of the unit between Rd 2647 and the eastern boundary of the unit. This area has all the characteristics of an old forest even though it is second growth. Multi species and canopy layers, average stand size in the 40" range including quite a few between 60-82" and plenty of wood on the ground. In addition there are many more than normal large snags and living trees with broken tops. Excellent habitat for Red Tree Voles and Spotted Owls. On the East this unit is bounded by very young second growth, so there is a need for it to remain undisturbed or at most gently thinned to protect the stream below it. There was also a running stream between the two sections of the road north of the switchback and culverts leading to it, indicating that it is more than a minimal seasonal riffle.

Later that day I visited unit 1300. This is an extraordinarily rich and wet unit with, again, all the characteristics of emerging old growth forest. Again, multi species with multilayered canopy and natural openings and a large amount of old wood on the ground. This area has not only Anderson Creek running through it but another active nonseasonal stream as well. In the NE section of this unit we found a meadow ringed by old growth cedar with significant groves of multiple large trees. This is an extraordinary piece of forest that is an example of the wild and aging forest that is fire resistant, carbon sequestering, and full of wildlife potential. It needs little, if any treatment and definitely should not be treated as shelterwood harvest.