

**Active Restoration Dry LOS/Old Growth Guidelines for the
Northeast Washington Forestry Coalition's
Active Management Area in the Colville National Forest
(Taskforce, 20090807)**

The Colville National Forest defines a late structural stand as having eight or more trees per acre equal to or greater than 21 inches in diameter at breast height.

When the CNF proposes mechanical thinning for the restoration of dry-forest LOS and OG stands (as defined in NIZOG, without NIZOG age criteria), minimal site-specific collaboration is required when the following criteria are met:

1. The Colville National Forest has identified, inventoried, and mapped all old-growth and LOS stands in the project area.
2. The outcome of mechanical treatments will be restored or maintained old growth components and processes, which in turn will benefit species associated with old forest habitat.
3. Prior to the development of a landscape OG management strategy, the CNF has identified, and reflected in NEPA documentation, long term objectives and management strategies for all treated old-growth and LOS stands in the project area.
4. Monitoring of treated old growth and LOS stands is identified as a priority in NEPA decisions, and a third-party/multi-party monitoring process will be utilized as appropriate.
5. The proposed prescription is a "thin from below" approach that will leave the stand density stipulated in NEWFC's post-treatment SDI table.
6. All live and dead trees >21" dbh will be retained.
7. All snags and coarse woody debris will be retained.
8. Approximately 25% of each unit will be left untreated, providing for retention of understory (shrubs, forbs, fungi, lichens, soil biota, etc.) components. [DH: still under discussion are patch size and distribution of these patches.]
9. New roads are not proposed in old-growth or LOS stands.
10. Any roads constructed that would allow increased access to OG stands will be closed following harvest of the unit.
11. OG stands in the project area that are paralleled by existing roads will be signed as "no firewood cutting" zones.
12. Winter logging will be utilized to protect forest soils from compaction, displacement, and disturbance.
13. Underburning will be implemented following mechanical treatment.
14. The CNF intends to contact all property owners adjacent to proposed old-growth treatments to avoid and/or resolve any contentious issues.