APPENDIX F

Floodplain Connectivity and Habitat Assessment Information

Goodell Creek Wildlife Habitat Checklist

Spotted Owls

Spotted owl habitat is divided into different categories based on quality. The highest quality of habitat is used by owls for nesting, and it would be good to look for this in the field. Nesting stands typically include a moderate to high canopy cover (60 to over 80 percent); a multilayered, multispecies canopy with large (greater than 30 in dbh) overstory trees; a high incidence of large trees with various deformities (e.g., large cavities, broken tops, mistletoe infections, and other evidence of decadence); large snags; large accumulations of fallen trees and other woody debris on the ground; and sufficient flying space below the canopy. Lesser quality habitat can also be used by owls for roosting, foraging, and dispersal. Generally it is assumed they do not use stands younger than 60 years. If any areas I delineated appear younger than 60 years or are missing all of the habitat features, mark the areas to be removed from the habitat delineation.

Please note any areas that contain these features:

- Confer Dominated, Mixed Composition
- Multi-storied Canopy
- Trees > 30 in. DBH
- 60% Canopy Closure
- Large Woody Debris
- Snags

Bald Eagles

There is likely a bald eagle territory in the project area. Bald eagles like big trees with large branches near the water where they can build nests (see picture of eagle nest below). They will often perch towards the top of the tallest tree (or a prominent tree) in a stand or open area and you may be able to spot one. Please note any nests or bald eagle activity you observe.

Other Birds

If you observe any other raptors, such as osprey, that would be good to note. Also, snags are really important habitat features for forest birds, such as pileated woodpeckers, so please GPS any quality snags or note forest stands with a large component of snags.

Amphibians

Amphibians could be found in many habitat types in the project area, including forest. The best place to key in on amphibian species would be in the wetland area or where water is ponding. The species to be most concerned about is the Western Toad (see picture below). Please note any amphibian activity and if you feel like taking photos so that species could be identified, that would be helpful too.

Example of a Bald Eagle Nest

Osprey

Western Toad

Additional Species Noted by NPS (Personal Communication, Roger Chistophersen, NPS email to Rick Hartson, USIT, on April 8, 2014):

From: Christophersen, Roger [mailto:roger_christophersen@nps.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, April 08, 2014 11:18 AM
To: Rick Hartson
Subject: Re: Goodell Communication Chart

Rick,

Wildlife species that are most often addressed in NOCA EAs and should be addressed in the Goodell EA are T & E species to include: **gray wolf, grizzly bear, wolverine, Canada lynx, northern spotted owl, and marbled murrelet. Other sensitive species in or near the project area include: bald eagle, peregrine falcon, harlequin duck, pileated woodpecker, osprey, and northern goshawk**. Often we address several bat species that are either WA State candidate and monitor or Federal species of concern including: **Townsend's Big-eared, Western long-eared, Long-legged myotis, Fringed myotis, Western small-footed, and Yuma myotis**.and . I can offer more information about species distribution, potential effects, etc. as needed. Hope this helps.

Roger

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