Appendix A: Applicable Standards and Guidelines

1990 Forest Plan

- **Recreation – General, p. 4-84:** Whenever possible, other resource activity planning such as road and timber sale developments should incorporate plans to provide or improve compatible recreation facilities or services.

- **Recreation – Dispersed, p. 4-84:** Inventory, evaluate, and manage dispersed occupancy sites.

- **Recreation – Dispersed, p. 4-84:** Identify the potential change of any proposed activity on Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) classes in all project environmental analyses.

- **Recreation – Roaded Management Areas, p. 4-84:** Abandoned or closed portions of the road system will be considered for management as trails.

- **American Indian Religious and Cultural Use p. 4-97(2):** Protect confidentiality of American Indian religious and cultural use areas.

- **American Indian Religious and Cultural Use p. 4-97(3):** Identify specific American Indian religious and cultural sites and areas according to the nature of the religious use or ceremonial practice:
  a) Spirit Quest and legendary sites
  b) Cedar area
  c) Ceremonial flora and plant areas
  d) Cemeteries

- **American Indian Religious and Cultural Use p. 4-97(5):** Review the Inventory of American Indian Religious and Cultural Use, Practices, Localities, and Resources during the scoping phase of environmental analyses.

- **American Indian Religious and Cultural Use p. 4-97(6):** Present information about planned project activities in all management areas (i.e., protected and otherwise) to religious and political leaders of tribal groups whose traditional practices might be affected.

- **American Indian Religious and Cultural Use p. 4-97(7):** Where projects will affect American Indian religious and cultural use sites, protection and mitigation measures shall be worked out with the leaders of the affected tribal groups on a project specific basis or through Memoranda of Agreement.

- **American Indian Religious and Cultural Use p. 4-97(8):** Project level protection and mitigation measures shall consider the nature of the religious site, type, and duration of use and other factors of concern to tribal leaders in determining what appropriate measures can be designed to protect site values. They shall maximize retention of purity, privacy, and isolation, consistent with overall Plan objectives.
• **American Indian Religious and Cultural Use p. 4-97(9):** In the event that religious artifacts or features are discovered during implementation of a project, follow the procedures of 36 CFR 800.11.

• **American Indian Religious and Cultural Use p. 4-97(10):** National Forest System Lands (NFSL) shall be managed to recognize and reduce social and administrative barriers to religious uses of the forest by American Indians.

• **Archaeology and Historic Properties - Inventory p.4-98(4):** Results of project-level cultural resource inventories shall be documented through environmental analysis for the project. Cultural resource compliance shall be documented according to the current [programmatic agreement] between the Washington State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest.

• **Archaeology and Historic Properties - Evaluation p.4-98(1):** Evaluate the significance of inventoried sites by applying the criteria of eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places. This will be accomplished by a professional cultural resource specialist. Sites may be treated as individual properties, thematic groups, or historic districts. Give a priority to those properties that may be affected by project activities. Evaluations will be coordinated with the criteria contained in the Cultural Resource Overview and the State Historic Preservation Plan.

• **Archaeology and Historic Properties - Evaluation p.4-98(2):** Consider the effects of all National Forest undertakings on significant cultural resources.

• **Archaeology and Historic Properties - Protection p.4-99(1):** Until proper evaluation occurs, all known cultural resource properties shall be protected.

• **Archaeology and Historic Properties - Protection p.4-99(2):** Develop measures, in consultation with the Washington SHPO, the Advisory Council, and other interested parties as defined in 36 CFR 800 to protect significant sites from adverse effects due to Forest development and management practices. Avoidance of impacts (leaving resources undisturbed) shall be explicitly considered for all significant resources. Other measures may range from avoidance of the site and protection of its environmental setting, to data recovery or recordation to the Historic American Buildings Survey or Historic American Engineering Record standards. Actual measures will be determined through Programmatic Memoranda of Agreement or during consultation for specific projects.

• **Archaeology and Historic Properties - Protection p.4-99(3):** Confidentiality of cultural resource site locations shall be maintained as required by Section 304 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

• **Archaeology and Historic Properties - Protection p.4-99(4):** Based on management plans, protect eligible cultural resources from degradation due to public use and natural deterioration. Protection activities may include, but are not limited to, scientific study and collection (as outlined in a data recovery plan), the use of fences and barriers, proper use or removal of signs, stabilization techniques, closure plans, patrol and site monitoring, maintaining site anonymity, and gaining public understanding and support through education.
• **Water Resources & Riparian Areas, p. 4-119:** Maintain the bank, floodplain, and shore stability of all wetlands, streams, lakes, and other bodies of water. Implicit in this standard are actions to prevent all forms of accelerated soil erosion and soil compaction, and the retention of the live root mat to the maximum practicable extent.

• **Water Resources & Riparian Areas, p. 4-119:** Maintain in-channel and streambank stability maintained for upper and lower channels in the Forest watersheds in order to provide stable, high-quality in streamside management units of all streams at existing levels, and (2) maintain fish habitat at existing levels.

• **Wildlife Habitat Management, p. 4-124:** Maintain a mix and distribution of successional stages that will support maintaining or enhancing diversity.

• **Wildlife Habitat Management, p. 4-125:** Maintain areas that serve as connecting habitat or corridors for indicator species native and desirable non-native plant and animal species and communalities.

• **Fish Habitat Management, p. 4-126:** Water quality shall be maintained or enhanced through application of best management practices. This meets the requirements of the Clean Water Act and state water quality standards (includes temperature, turbidity, and sediment).

• **Fish Habitat Management, p. 4-126:** Develop fish habitat restoration projects to rehabilitate lost or deteriorated habitat.

• **Fish Habitat Management, p. 4-126:** All forest management activities should provide for unobstructed fish passage to historically accessible fish.

• **Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive Species, p. 4-127:** All proposed management actions that have the potential to affect habitat of endangered, threatened, or sensitive species will be evaluated to determine if any of those species are present. Biological evaluations will be completed for all proposed management activities, which could affect threatened and endangered species. Habitat for sensitive plants and animals shall be managed to ensure that management activities do not contribute to these species becoming threatened or endangered.

• **Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive Species, p. 4-127:** Before project decision are made, consult with Federal, State, other agencies, groups, and individuals concerned with the management of T & E and sensitive species. In the design of projects for implementation where such species, areas, or habitats are known to occur, insure that appropriate action is taken to protect these species, areas, and.

• **Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive Species, p. 4-127:** Habitat for Sensitive plants and animals shall be managed to ensure that management activities do not contribute to these species becoming threatened or endangered.

• **Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive Species, p. 4-128:** USDI Fish and Wildlife Service will be consulted for technical information and ESA Section 7 consultation when a management activity may affect a threatened or endangered species.
• **Minerals**, p. 4-136: Provide for exploration, development, and production of mineral and energy resources while minimizing effects on the surface resources.

• **Facilities**, p. 4-140: Provide for and manage roads, facilities, and utility systems required to protect and manage the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest.

• **Facilities – Operations and Maintenance**, p. 4-140: Operate, maintain, and/or close roads to meet established road management objectives and safety.

• **Facilities – Operations and Maintenance**, p. 4-140: Develop and implement projects to correct road related water quality, anadromous fish habitat, and other resource problems.

• **Recreation – Facility and Site Management**, p. 4-161: Roads should be located generally from ¼ to 3 miles away from semi-primitive, non-motorized land management allocation areas.

• **Facilities – Transportation System Planning**, p. 4-163: Any existing roads are closed to motorized uses and access and allowed to naturally revegetate and return to a naturally appearing condition.

• **Timber – Timber Management Planning**, p. 4-174: A full range of silviculture prescriptions will be allowed. Use prescription MA 17 Timber Emphasis.

• **Timber – Timber Management Planning**, p. 4-244: The full range of timber management activities (regeneration, intermediate, commercial thinning and salvage harvest) are included which are necessary to develop and prepare the timber resource portion of the forest land and resource management plan.

• **Facilities – Transportation System Planning**, p. 4-251: Location of roads should, minimize impacts on dedicated or sensitive lands where practicable.

### 1994 Forest Plan, as Amended, Record of Decision

**Standards and Guidelines Common to all Land Allocations**

• **Survey and Manage**, p. C-4 (1): Manage known sites.

• **Survey and Manage**, p. C-5 (2): Survey prior to ground-disturbing activities.

**Key Watershed**

• **Outside Roadless Areas**, p. C-7: Reduce existing system and non-system road mileage.

**Late-Successional Reserves**

• **Timber Harvest**, p. C-12: No harvest is allowed in stands over 80 years old. Thinning may occur in stands up to 80 years old regardless of the origin of the stands. The purpose of silvicultural treatments is to benefit the creation and maintenance of late-successional forest conditions.
Road Construction and Maintenance p. C-16: Road construction in Late-Successional Reserves for silvicultural, salvage, and other activities generally not recommended unless potential benefits exceed the cost of habitat impairment. If new roads are necessary to implement a practice that is otherwise in accordance with these guidelines, they will be kept to a minimum, be routed through non-late-successional habitat where possible, and be designed to minimize adverse impacts.

Riparian Reserves:

Roads Management, RF-2, p. C-32: For each existing or planned road, meet Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives by: Minimizing road and landing locations in Riparian Reserves; preparing road design criteria, elements, and standards that govern construction and reconstruction; preparing operation and maintenance criteria that govern road operation, maintenance, and management; minimizing disruption of natural hydrologic flow paths, including diversion of stream flow and interception of surface and subsurface flow.; and restricting side casting as necessary to prevent the introduction of sediment to streams.

Roads Management, RF-3, p. C-32: Meet Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives by: Closing and stabilizing, or obliterating and stabilizing roads based on the ongoing and potential effects to Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives and considering short-term and long-term transportation needs.

Roads Management, RF-4, p. C-33: New culverts, bridges and other stream crossings shall be constructed, and existing culverts, bridges and other stream crossings determined to pose a substantial risk to riparian conditions will be improved to accommodate at least the 100-year flood, including associated bed-load and debris. Priority for upgrading will be based on the potential impact and the ecological value of the riparian resources affected. Crossings will be constructed and maintained to prevent diversion of stream-flow out of the channel and down the road in the event of crossing failure.

Roads Management, RF-5, p. C-33: Minimize sediment delivery to streams from roads. Outsloping of the roadway surface is preferred, except in cases where out-sloping would increase sediment delivery to streams or where out-sloping is unfeasible or unsafe. Route road drainage away from potentially unstable channels, fills, and hillslopes.

Roads Management, RF-6, p. C-33: Provide and maintain fish passage at all road crossings of existing and potential fish-bearing streams.

Roads Management, RM-1, p. C-34: New recreational facilities within Riparian Reserves, including trails and dispersed sites, should be designed to not prevent meeting Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives. For existing recreation facilities within Riparian Reserves, evaluate and mitigate impact to ensure that these do not prevent, and to the extent practicable contribute to, attainment of Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives.

Roads Management, RM-2, C-34: Adjust dispersed and developed recreation practices that retard or prevent attainment of Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives. Where adjustment measures such as education, use limitations, traffic control devices, increased
maintenance, relocation of facilities, and/or specific site closures are not effective, eliminate the practice or occupancy.

2001 Record of Decision and Standards and Guidelines for Amendments to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and Other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines

- **Surveys Prior to Habitat-Disturbing Activities, p. 8:** Surveys will be conducted at the project level prior to habitat-disturbing activities, and in accordance with Survey Protocols, to avoid loss of undiscovered sites by habitat-disturbing activities.

2005 Forest-wide Environmental Assessment for Invasive Plants (Forest Plan Amendment #25)

- **p. A-5:** In decommissioning projects, existing infestations should be treated before the road is made undrivable to avoid the spread of weeds during road decommissioning.
- **p. A-5:** If weeds are present in the project area, all equipment and gear should be cleaned before leaving the area to avoid spreading the infestation further.

2005 Record of Decision amending the Forest Plan

- **Standard 2:** Actions conducted or authorized by the Forest Service that will operate outside the limits of the road prism require the cleaning of all heavy equipment prior to entering National Forest system lands.
- **Standard 3:** Use weed-free straw and mulch for all projects on National Forest System lands.
- **Standard 7:** Inspect active gravel, fill, and stockpiles, quarry sites, and borrow materials for invasive plants before use and transport. Treat or require treatment of infested source before any use of pit material. Use only gravel, fill, sand, and rock this is judged to be weed free by District or Forest weed specialists.
- **Standard 13:** Native plant materials are the first choice in revegetation for restoration and rehabilitation where timely natural regeneration of the native plant community is not likely to occur.