

City of Priest River - Forest Management Plan
Management Recommendations Executive Summary

Parcel no: RPR00000250501A Total Acres: 38.420 Forested Acres: 28.5

Legal Description: 25-56N-5W GOV LOT 4, NENE LYING S OF GNRR, GOV LOT 5 S OF GNRR LESS PT TAX 89

Overview:

A forest management plan has been written to detail current forest conditions and inform management activities going forward, in alignment with City of Priest River objectives for managing the future Two Rivers Park property.

Objectives:

Primary objectives informing management recommendations include:

- Improving safety and accessibility to the parcel so that it can be opened to public recreation as soon as possible, including removal of hazard trees and reduction of wildfire hazard.
- Managing the forested acres in alignment with the future vision for Two Rivers Park.
- Demonstrate sustainable forest management, optimize long-term forest health, reduce sediment and soil erosion, and improve wildlife habitat.

Recommendations:

1. Remove hazard trees across the entirety of the property to increase the safety of contractors, land managers and the public while on the property.
2. Practice sanitation cutting to stop or reduce the spread of insects and disease to other trees. Primary insect and disease concerns currently include fir engraver, pine engraver, white pine blister rust, and root disease.
3. Reduce potential for catastrophic wildfire by conducting Hazardous Fuel Treatments (HFT). Focus these efforts throughout the east half of the parcel and along railroad tracks to the north. HFT treatments should address overstocking in the sapling and pole sized trees (less than seven inches DBH), as well as reduce ladder fuel and ground fuel loading. Activities will likely include mowing and pruning to achieve this objective. Include variable density clumps of trees to preserve wildlife habitat and maintain a natural feel for the forest user.
4. Explore opportunities at every stage of management to reduce overall out-of-pocket cost and increase financial sustainability of management projects into the future. Options include commercial thinning, donation-based firewood exchange for the community, utilization of grant funding available for certain forest management activities, and donation-based recreational opportunities such as disc golf.

Management Plan and Executive Summary prepared by:



Elynn Reiersen, Consulting Forester
Inland Forest Management, Inc.

Definitions and Technical Specifications

DBH (diameter at breast height) - Outside diameter of the tree stem at a point four and one-half feet above average ground level.

Hazard Tree - Tree that has a structural defect that makes it likely to fail in whole or in part; is threatening the safety of persons or property.

Ladder fuel - Live or dead vegetation that allows a fire to climb up from the ground into the tree canopy. Common fuel ladders include tall grasses, shrubs, and tree branches, both living and dead.

Mowing - Mechanically cutting, chopping, grinding, masticating or otherwise reducing the height of small diameter (generally 4 inches or less) wildland fuels.

Pruning - Cutting limbs from leave trees according to specifications.

Sanitation Cutting - The removal of trees that are damaged, dead, or susceptible to disease or pests.

Slash - All vegetative material including cull logs, blasted or pushed out stumps, chunks, broken tops, limbs, branches, rotten wood, damaged brush, damaged or destroyed reproduction, saplings or poles which were created or disturbed by any type of vegetative cutting, clearing, construction, or cultural treatment. Any portions of trees or snags that were previously felled are considered to be part of the slash.

Thinning - The cutting of trees in excess of those to be left for future management.

City of Priest River - Two Rivers Forestland

