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46411 Timine Way  
Pendleton, OR 97801

## Exhibit Schedule

**File No.:** CU-26-001

**To:** Land Protection Planning Commission

**Public Hearing:** July 28, 2026 (rescheduled from June 23, 2026 & July 14, 2026)

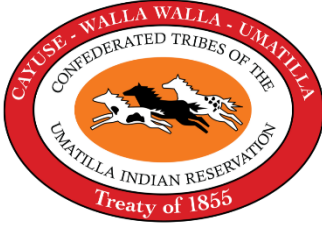
**Subject:** Conditional Use – Timber Harvest

**Applicant:** The CTUIR Department of Natural Resources –  
46411 Timine Way, Pendleton, OR 97801

**Owner:** The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation –  
46411 Timine Way, Pendleton, OR 97801

### Exhibits

<b><i>Exhibit</i></b>	<b><i>Nature of Exhibit</i></b>
1	Sixteen (16) page Staff Report
2	Seven (7) page Conditional Use Application & Supplement
3	Thirteen (13) page Project Narrative
4	Thirty (30) page Dissemination Record



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## STAFF REPORT TRIBAL PLANNING OFFICE

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**Subject:** Conditional Use – Timber Harvest

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**Owner:** The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation –  
46411 Timine Way, Pendleton, OR 97801

### Nature of the Request:

The applicant seeks approval to conduct a timber harvest on 341 acres within the Tátwin Wildlife Area site (formerly Rainwater Wildlife Area). This site is outside the boundaries of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, located in Columbia County, WA. The planned activities include a commercial and pre-commercial harvest followed by prescribed broadcast burning.

### Basic Facts:

#### *Subject Property/Ownership*

According to the CTUIR Economic and Community Development Realty Program/Bureau of Indian Affairs property records, the subject property is owned by the U.S. Government in trust for the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. The land is identified as parcel T5600, located within Columbia County, WA Tax Map 8N39E Sections 5, 7-9, 17-21, 28-34; and 7N39E, Sections 4-9.

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## ***Zoning***

The subject property does not contain a zoning designation. The CTUIR Land Development Code section 1.035 subjects the property to CTUIR land use jurisdiction as Off-Reservation Trust Land.

## ***Legal Access***

The proposed project site can be accessed by South Touchet Road and Robinette Mountain Road. South Touchet Road is under the jurisdiction and maintained by Columbia County, WA through milepost eight, and is paved before transitioning to gravel. Robinette Mountain Road is also under the jurisdiction and maintained by Columbia County, WA through milepost nine, and is graveled.

## ***Utilities***

There are no utilities in the area of the proposed timber harvest.

## ***Rivers***

The site contains approximately 1.7 miles of unnamed first-order streams and 0.81 miles of unnamed second-order streams within the proposed project area. First-order streams are the most upstream segments of a river network that have no tributaries feeding into them. First-order streams feed into second-order streams.

## ***Surrounding Land Uses***

The surrounding properties contain both privately-owned and publicly owned lands that are used for ranching, logging, hobby farms, recreation, conservation and residential purposes. The CTUIR maintains ownership of lands to the north and northwest of the subject parcel, which are also part of the Tátwin Wildlife Area site. The subject property also abuts land under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Bureau of Land Management to the south, as well as the Umatilla National Forest to the southeast.

## ***Previous Permitting Activity***

- **FP-25-001:** a Forest Practice Permit for pre-commercial thinning to approximately 45 acres of land alongside Robinette Mountain Road, which did not exceed 5,000 board feet of timber.

## ***Environmental Review***

Applicant has submitted the proposed project to the U.S. BIA for NEPA review.

## ***Current Land Use***

The proposed project site is currently undeveloped forest land managed primarily for wildlife habitat and limited personal recreation. Management of the property is guided by

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the 2017 Rainwater Wildlife Area Conservation Easement between the CTUIR and the Bonneville Power Administration, as well as the Rainwater Area Management Plan.

### ***Current Stand Conditions***

The Applicant describes a history of extensive clearcutting across much of the property through the 1930s. Areas near the proposed harvest site were treated through pre-commercial and commercial thinning operations, followed by prescribed burning. Current forest conditions vary among the 24 identified stands. Most stands are overstocked as a result of past management practices, contributing to reduced tree growth rates. Other areas are understocked with live trees due to widespread late-stage forest health issues, including dwarf mistletoe, bark beetle infestations, and Armillaria root disease.

### ***Planned Forest Practices***

*(Summarized from the project narrative provided by the Applicant, Exhibit 3.)*

Proposed activities include commercial thinning, pre-commercial thinning, prescribed broadcast burning with limited underburning, sanitation harvesting to diseased stands, Timber Stand Improvement treatments, and replanting.

As part of the proposed forest practices, two spur roads with a combined length of approximately 1,100 feet would be constructed. Upon completion of timber harvest activities, both roads would be decommissioned and restored to a natural condition.

The proposal also includes five new stream crossings of first- and second-order intermittent streams. Riparian Management Zones would be excluded from harvest activities.

Project activities would be limited to periods when soils are sufficiently dry to avoid damage to roadbeds and minimize soil disturbance. Harvest operations would also be restricted between December 1 and June 15 to minimize disturbance to wintering big game and to reduce impacts to calving elk.

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# Location: Tátwin Wildlife Area - Parcel T5600

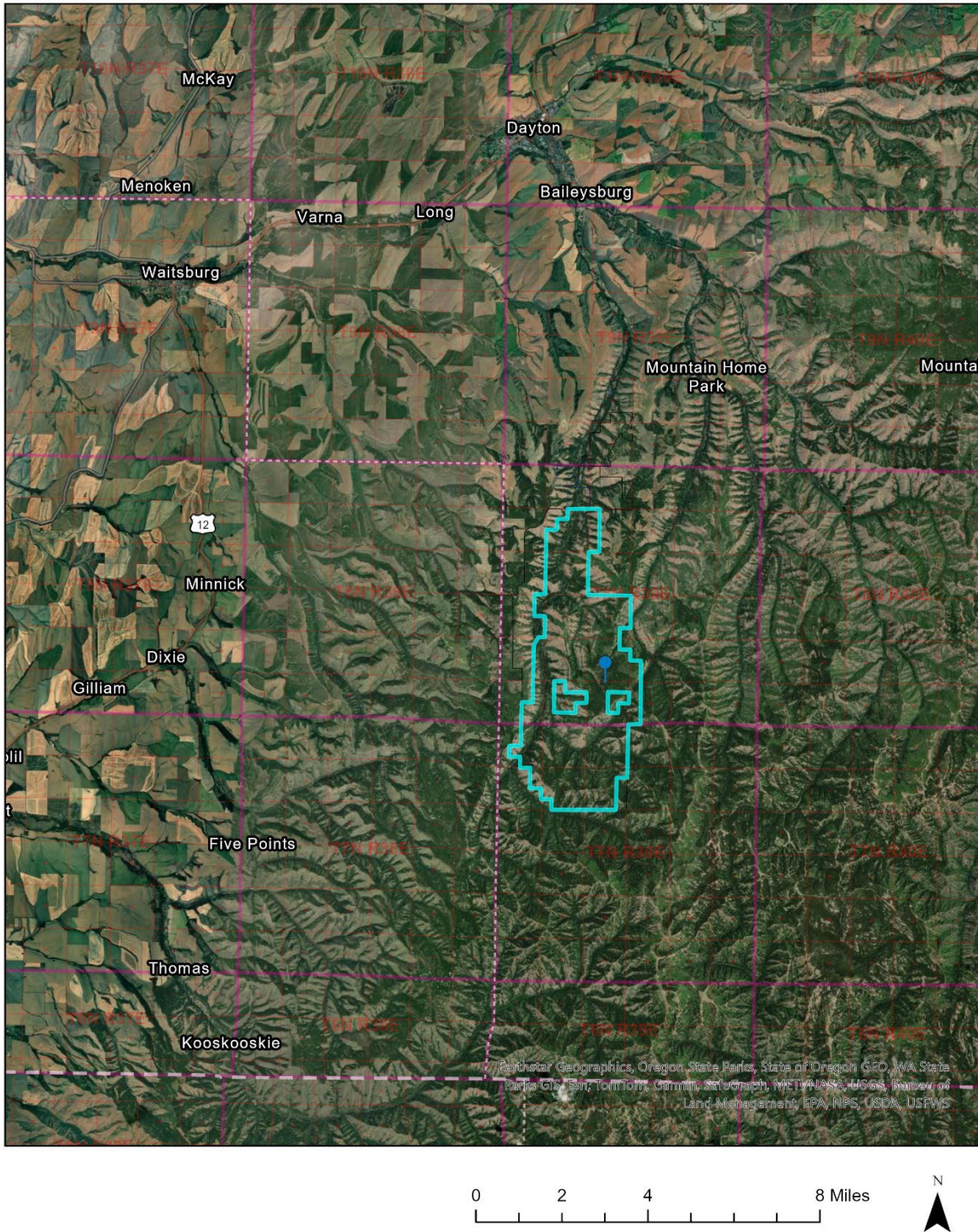


Figure 1. Location of Tátwin Wildlife Area, located in Columbia County, WA

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## Location: Tátwin Wildlife Area - Parcel T5600

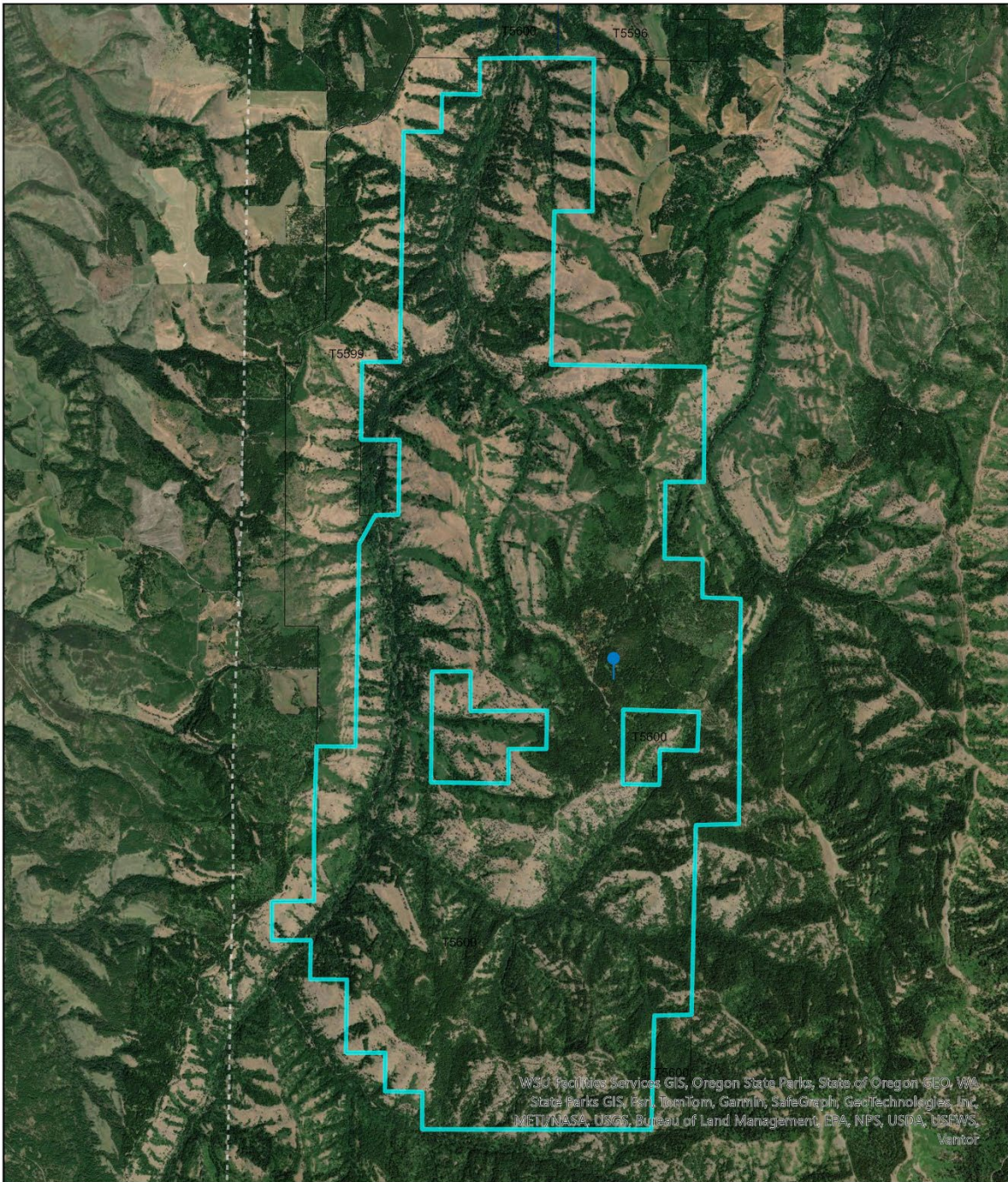


Figure 2. Location of proposed timber harvest within Tátwin Wildlife Area, parcel T5600

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# Tátwin Timber Sale Logging Plan

Center: 117.94102°W 46.13421°N

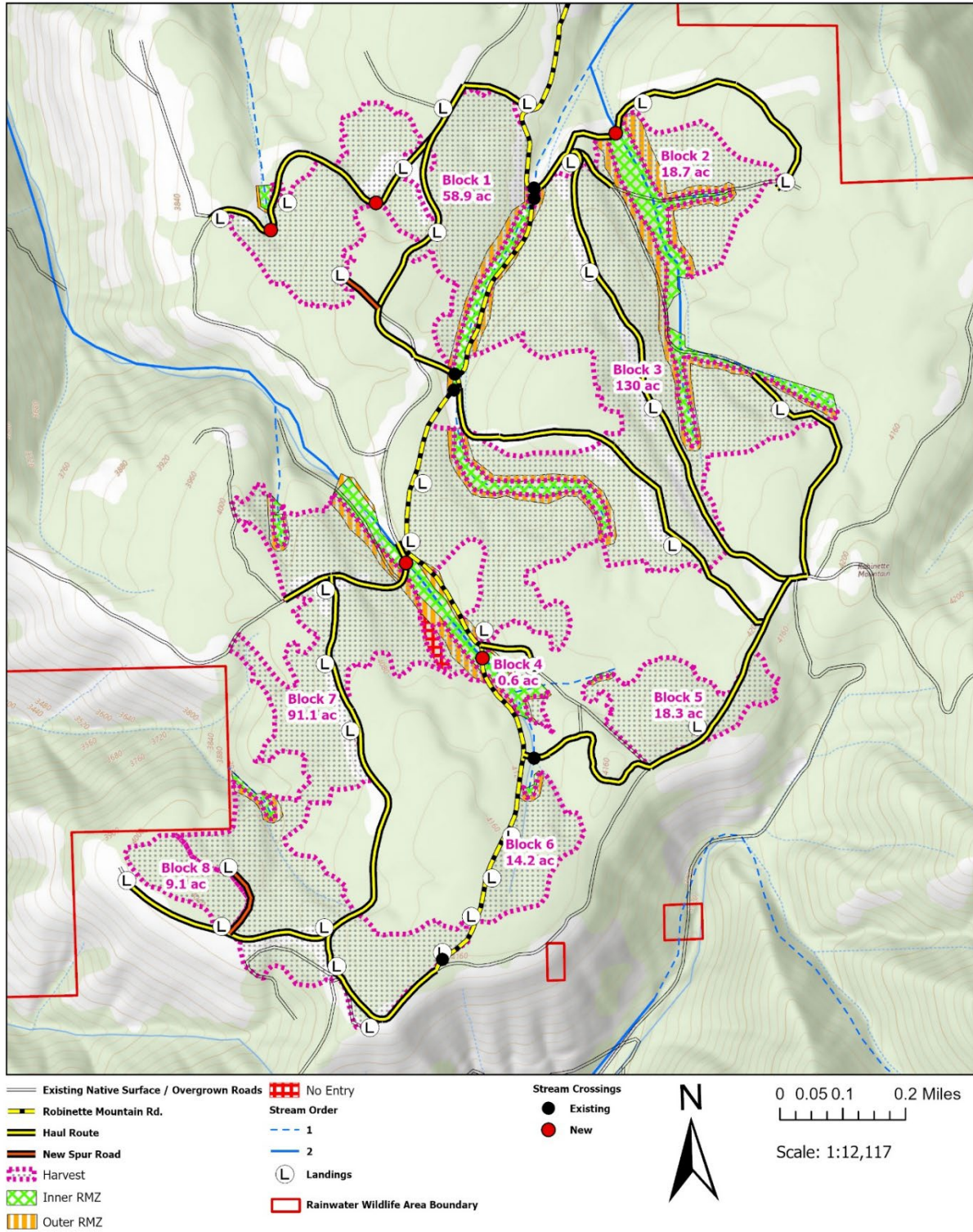


Figure 3. Logging plan map for the Tátwin Timber Sale. Showing harvest blocks, landings and riparian No Entry buffers. Taken from Exhibit 3, Project Narrative.

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# Tatwin Timber Sale Stand ID and Location

Center: 117°56'9"W 46°8'6"N

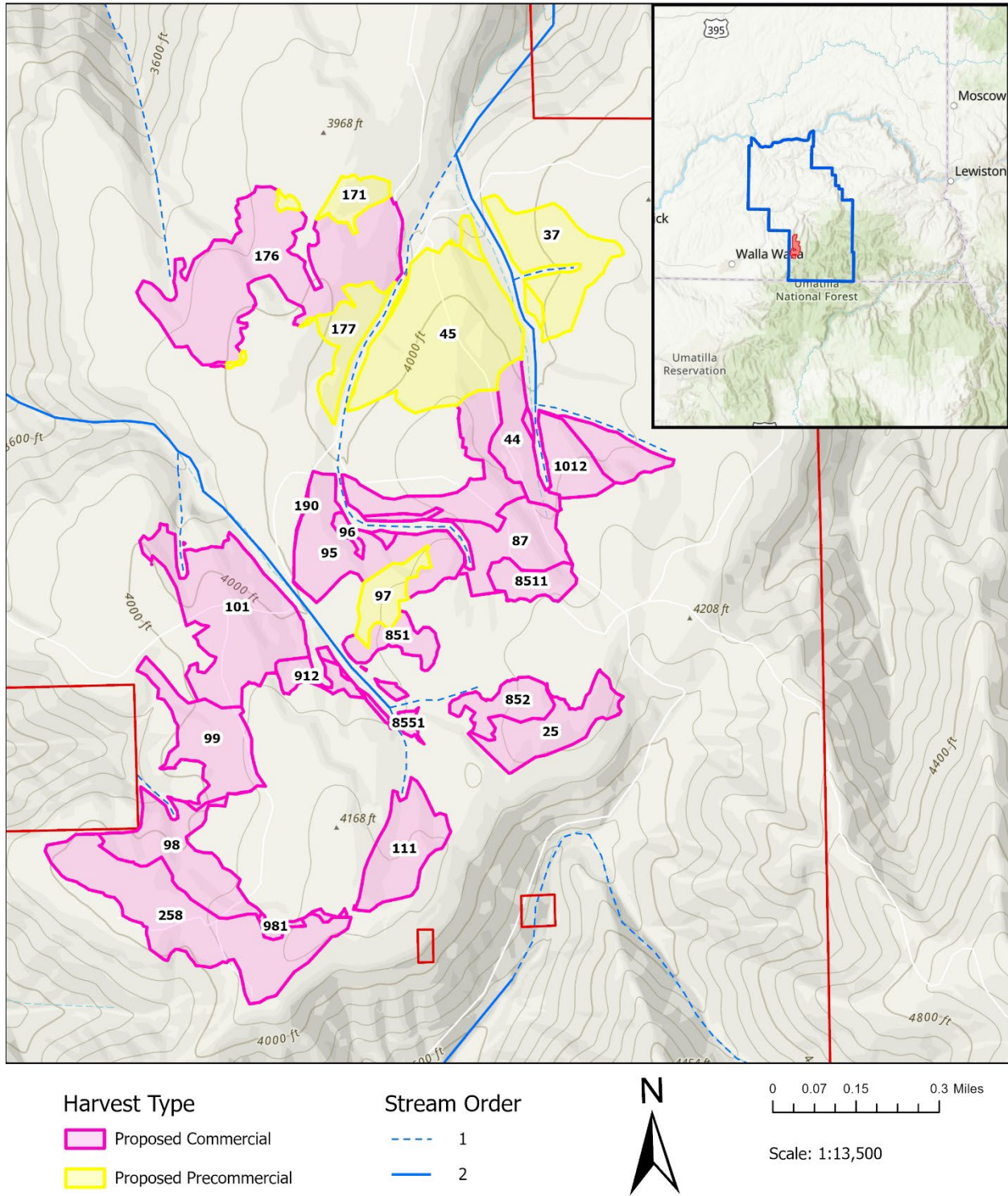


Figure 4. Project Stand ID. See Table 1 for additional information by stand. Taken from Exhibit 3, Project Narrative.

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Stand ID	Acres	Plant Association*	Potential Vegetation Group (PVG)	QMD** (inches)	Pre Harvest BA (ft2/acre)	Expected Post-Harvest BA (ft2/acre)
25	11.6	PSME/HODI	Moist	11.7	155	31-36
37	19.1	ABGR/ACGL	Moist	9.7	270	174-179
44	15.4	ABGR/ARCO	Dry	10.7	203	80-85
45	39.5	ABGR/ACGL	Moist	10.2	261	138-143
87	12.4	PICO(ABGR) VAME/PTAQ	Moist	10.4	115	0-5
95	34.7	ABGR/CLUN	Dry	9.8	216	93-98
96	2.5	ABGR/CARU	Dry	11.6	158	35-39
97	6.2	ABGR/LIBO2	Moist	7.3	135	12-17
98	16.2	ABGR/CLUN	Dry	10.1	256	132-137
99	14.7	PSME/HODI	Moist	10.4	125	2-7
101	31.3	ABGR/CARU	Dry	10.3	166	43-48
111	13.0	ABGR/TABR/ CLUN	Dry	9.9	161	38-43
171	5.3	ABGR/ACGL	Moist	9.3	165	42-47
176	44.8	ABGR/ACGL	Moist	11.1	258	135-140
177	8.9	ABGR/ACGL	Moist	9.8	163	40-45
190	0.3	PSME/HODI	Moist	8.5	93	0-5
258	33.0	PSME/HODI	Moist	10.5	155	47-52
851	5.3	ABGR/CLUN	Dry	10.5	260	137-142
852	6.7	ABGR/ACGL	Moist	12.3	286	163-168
912	3.6	ABGR/CLUN	Dry	9.4	185	62-67
981	1.4	ABGR/CLUN	Dry	11.6	220	97-102
1012	7.9	ABGR/ARCO	Dry	10.7	234	111-116
8511	5.3	ABGR/CLUN	Dry	12.3	344	221-226
8551	1.9	ABGR/LIBO2	Moist	13.5	326	203-208

\* PSME (Douglas-fir), HODI (creambush ocean-spray), ABGR (grand fir), ACGL (Rocky Mountain maple), ARCO (heart-leaf arnica), PICO (lodgepole pine), VAME (big huckleberry), PTAQ (bracken fern), CLUN (queencup beadlily), CARU (pinegrass), LIBO2 (twinflower), TABR (Pacific yew).

\*\* Quadratic mean diameter

Table 1. Current and residual BA (basal area) stocking estimates for the proposed project. Taken from Exhibit 3, Project Narrative.

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## Applicable Statutes, Policies and Approval Criteria:

### ***I. CTUIR Comprehensive Plan***

Adopted by CTUIR Board of Trustees Resolution No. 18-098 approved November 26, 2018.

#### A. Chapter 5; Plan Elements: Goals & Objectives

##### 5.3 Land Base Restoration

Objective 3: Regulate lands to achieve long-term tribal land use goals consistent with Tribal member needs.

##### 5.6 Natural Resources

Objective 1: To ensure that ground and surface waters are available to satisfy CTUIR treaty rights, the needs of CTUIR members, and the citizens of the Umatilla Indian Reservation.

Objective 4: To provide sustainable harvest opportunities for big game species of the First Food order by protecting, conserving, and restoring game populations and their habitats.

Objective 6: To protect, preserve, and perpetuate the CTUIR's culturally significant places and resources for the benefit of current and future generations.

##### 5.7 Cultural Heritage

Objective 1: Protect and preserve culturally significant places and resources including the graves and sacred items of the CTUIR members and ancestors, on the Umatilla Indian Reservation and within the CTUIR's ceded lands and traditional use areas.

### ***II. CTUIR Land Development Code***

Adopted by CTUIR Board of Trustees Resolution No. 83-74 approved August 24, 1983; and as amended through Resolution No. 25-040 approved June 2, 2025.

- A. Chapter 1, Section 1.020 – Purpose;
- B. Chapter 2, Section 2.020 – Definitions; (36) – Conditional Uses;
- C. Chapter 4, Section 4.025 – Forest Practices;
- D. Chapter 6, Conditional Uses;
- E. Chapter 10, Site Plan Review;
- F. Chapter 13, Hearings;

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### ***III. CTUIR Historic Preservation Code***

Adopted by the CTUIR Board of Trustees Resolution 16-003 approved January 25, 2016.

### ***IV. Rainwater Wildlife Area Land and Watershed Management Plan (2015)***

- A. Management Objectives and Actions – Desired Future Conditions (DFC)

### ***V. CTUIR Climate Adaptation Plan***

Adopted by the CTUIR Board of Trustees Resolution No. 22-103 approved December 19, 2022.

- A. Chapter 3, Section B(C) – Proactively Address Wildfire Risk
- B. Chapter 3, Section D(E) – Continue to Revitalize Cultural First Foods Harvest, Processing and Connection

### ***VI. CTUIR First Foods Management Policy***

Adopted by the CTUIR Board of Trustees Resolution No. 25-090 approved November 24, 2025.

- A. Section IX – Areas of Applicability
- B. Section XI – First Food Policy Statements: First Foods Geographic Distribution, Climate Change, Mitigation

### ***VII. Upland River Vision***

### ***VIII. Umatilla River Vision***

## **Staff Findings:**

### ***Timber Inter-Disciplinary Team (TIDT) & Tribal Staff Review Committee (TSRC)***

Members of the Timber Inter-Disciplinary Team and the Tribal Staff Review Committee received a copy of the application packet for CU-26-001 on May 8, 2026. A joint meeting of the TSRC & TIDT was held May 13, 2026 to review the application. The following comments were received:

- *Department of Natural Resources, Range, Agriculture, & Forestry Program Manager* – Submitted comments regarding the requirements for a timber harvest under BIA regulations, including a reminder that the Applicant will need to complete a stumpage appraisal, Forest Officer's Report, prospectus, advertisement, and BOT Resolution. He also expressed concern that the proposed timber harvest may not meet the stocking guidelines established in the CTUIR Forest Management Plan.

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Additionally, he noted concerns regarding the environmental documentation associated with the project.

- *Department of Natural Resources, Water Code Program Manager* – Submitted comments stating that all proposed road crossings of first- and second-order intermittent streams should be equipped with properly sized culverts. He further commented that these crossings should be designed to maintain natural drainage patterns and avoid concentrating flow, causing road prism failures, increasing erosion, or delivering sediment downstream. He also supported the proposal to limit harvest and hauling operations to dry soil conditions and to prohibit hauling and skidding when moisture conditions could result in excessive damage to roadbeds or soil profiles. Finally, he agreed that any spur roads created for the timber harvest should be decommissioned and restored to their previous condition following completion of the project.
- *Department of Economic & Community Development, Land Manager* – Submitted several questions regarding the project, including which agencies must be notified of the proposed timber harvest, whether the project is supported by the Rainwater Management Plan, and whether any haul roads created for the project should remain in place after completion for potential wildfire response purposes.
- *Public Works Department, Administrative Manager* – Submitted comments stating that the Public Works Department has no concerns regarding the proposed project due to its location, as it is not situated near any Public Works Department infrastructure.

### ***Review of Conditional Use Approval Criteria***

The CTUIR Land Development Code (LDC) section 6.015 lists four Circumstances for Granting a Conditional Use. The applicant has provided statements to demonstrate how the proposed use meets the criteria:

#### **Criteria 1**

**LDC section 6.015(1):** *That the locations, size, design, and operational characteristics of the proposed use are such that it will have minimal adverse impact on the property value, livability, and permissible development of the surrounding area. Consideration shall be given to compatibility in terms of scale, coverage, and density, to the alteration of traffic patterns and the capacity of surrounding streets and roads, and to any other relevant impact of the proposed use.*

#### **Applicant Statement:**

*"The project area is ~400 acres. The wildlife area is 11,000 acres. Therefore, the overall impact to the property is negligible. Furthermore, there will be no adverse effect to traffic. Log trucks will haul for only a couple of months a year, and the main road will not be*

## **EXHIBIT #1**

*impacted adversely. Signs will be posted along the main road alerting drivers to the presence of log truck traffic.*

*By reducing fire hazard and improving wildlife habitat, the proposed activity is expected to improve livability and property values while having no adverse impact on development of the surrounding area. Logging traffic will increase in and around Tátwin for 2-4 months each year for two years. Signs will be posted along the main road alerting drivers to the presence of log truck traffic. Contracts will require that road surface impacts be ameliorated by the log buyer."*

**Discussion:**

The proposed timber harvest will decrease forest density to improve the health of the forest, reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire, and support wildlife habitat. It will not change the current use of the property and should reduce fire risk to surrounding properties. Traffic related to the timber harvest should also have a minimal impact on surrounding properties and safety hazards can be mitigated through signage and notice.

**Finding:**

The proposed use would have no negative impact on permissible development and the property value of surrounding lands, and would contribute to increased fire safety of the area.

**Criteria 2**

**LDC section 6.015(2):** *That the site planning of the proposed use will, as far as reasonably possible, provide an aesthetically pleasing and functional environment to the highest degree consistent with the nature of the use and the given setting.*

**Applicant Statement:**

*"The proposed work area is forested and will remain so. Thinning will produce more open forest stands and reduce the potential for disease and insect outbreaks. After thinning and prescribed burning of post-thinning slash, some leave trees will be killed, and the area will appear burned. A rapid and significant green-up will follow burning. The resulting forest will be more structurally diverse, more resistant to high severity wildfire, and will better support deer, elk, and moose through enhanced understory forage."*

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**Discussion:**

The proposed timber harvest may have a short-term negative impact on the aesthetic appearance of the site, though the improvements to forest conditions should deliver long-term benefits that will support wildlife and complement the intended use of the Tátwin Wildlife Area.

**Finding:**

The proposed timber harvest would improve long-term forest conditions and create a more functional environment while maintaining aesthetic values consistent with the intended use of the property.

**Criteria 3**

**LDC section 6.015(3):** *If the use is permitted outright in another zone, that there is substantial reason for locating the use in an area where it is only conditionally allowed, as opposed to an area where it is permitted outright.*

**Applicant Statement:**

*"This may not apply."*

**Discussion:**

The CTUIR has not assigned a zoning designation to the subject property. However, each zoning designation within the CTUIR Land Development Code and adopted Master Zoning Map that includes forested lands requires conditional use approval for forest practices involving the removal of more than 5,000 gross board feet of timber. These comparable zoning designations include Ag-1, Exclusive Farm Use; Ag-2, Farm Pasture; F-2, Restricted Indian Forests; and G-1, Big Game Winter Grazing.

A timber harvest of the scale proposed by the Applicant is not permitted outright within any of these zoning districts. Accordingly, processing the proposal through the Conditional Use Permit process is consistent with the treatment of similar forest management activities elsewhere under the CTUIR Land Development Code.

Furthermore, timber harvest activities are inherently location-dependent and may serve as an appropriate forest management tool to improve forest health, reduce hazardous fuel loads, and mitigate wildfire risk where site conditions warrant such treatment.

**Finding:**

On lands with similar characteristics that are subject to the CTUIR Land Development Code, commercial timber harvests involving the removal of more than 5,000 gross board feet of timber are permitted only through conditional use approval.

**Criteria 4**

**LDC section 6.015(4):** *That the proposed use will be consistent with the purposes of this Code, the Comprehensive Plan, and any other statutes, codes or policies that may be*

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*applicable, and will support rather than interfere with the uses permitted outright in the zone in which is it located.*

**Applicant Statement:**

*“The proposed use is consistent with the Tátwin Land Management Plan. This is considered forest land and the proposed activity is consistent with activities that would normally occur on forest lands. The proposed forest management activities are solely intended to improve habitat for wildlife and culturally important plant species.”*

**Discussion:**

The subject property is principally guided by the Rainwater Land Management Plan (also referred to as the Tátwin Land Management Plan). In addition to goals related to First Foods enhancement, support of the Umatilla River Vision, and wildlife management, the plan establishes Desired Future Forest Conditions for the property. These desired conditions include managing forest stands to promote a greater proportion of older and larger-diameter trees. According to the Applicant's project summary (Exhibit 3), the proposed harvest would further these objectives by “spacing out trees, improving species composition, and leaving large, vigorous, healthy trees,” which is anticipated to increase resistance to insects and disease while reducing the risk of stand-replacement wildfire.

Although the subject property has not been assigned a zoning designation, the CTUIR Land Development Code (LDC) applies broadly to Off-Reservation Trust Lands, including the proposed timber harvest site. Section 1.020 of the LDC states that its purpose is to “conserve and enhance vegetation, soils, air, water, fish, wildlife, and other natural and cultural resources” within its jurisdiction.

The CTUIR Forest Management Plan does not apply to forest practices on lands located outside the Umatilla Indian Reservation pursuant to Section 4.025 of the LDC. Materials submitted by the Applicant and comments from the CTUIR Department of Natural Resources Range, Agriculture, and Forestry Program Manager indicate that the proposed timber harvest may not meet the 1999 Powell stocking guidelines incorporated into the current Forest Management Plan. However, those guidelines do not apply to the subject property.

Similarly, the CTUIR Water Code applies only to “all lands within the diminished boundary of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and all Tribally owned lands and Trust lands located outside the diminished boundary but within the original treaty boundary,” as provided in Section 1.07(A)(61) of the Code. Because the Tátwin Wildlife Area is located outside this jurisdictional area, the Water Code does not apply to the proposed forest practices.

Both the CTUIR Forest Management Plan and the CTUIR Water Code are currently under review, and future amendments may expand the geographic areas to which these regulations apply. Depending on the timing of the proposed project and the adoption of

**EXHIBIT #1**

any amendments, regulatory requirements applicable to future forest practices on the property may differ from those currently in effect.

Finally, it should be noted that this project is subject to the federal National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) process because the proposed project area is on lands held in trust.

**Finding:**

The proposed timber harvest is consistent with the applicable land management objectives for the subject property based on the codes and plans that apply to it. The Applicant will need to ensure the project is reviewed under NEPA and must provide documentation of approval prior to the issuance of any future Forest Practice Permits.

**Conclusions:**

The criteria for the Conditional Use could be met for the proposed commercial timber harvest presented and explained by the applicant including:

1. Compatibility with surrounding area and minimal impacts;
2. An aesthetically pleasing and functional site;
3. Substantial reason for locating the use in its current location;
4. Conformance with the Comprehensive Plan, Land Development Code and other applicable Statutes.

***Decision Options:***

In acting on this request, the Land Protection Planning Commission must choose one of the following decision options:

1. **Approve** the Conditional Use request without **conditions**;
2. **Approve** the Conditional Use request **with conditions**;
3. **Deny** the Conditional Use request;
4. **Recess the hearing** until a specified time, date, and place; pending further testimony or information;
5. **Table** the decision until a subsequent Land Protection Planning Commission meeting.

**EXHIBIT #1**

***Staff Recommendations:***

Based on the preceding facts, findings and conclusions, staff recommends approval of the Conditional Use with the following conditions:

1. A Forest Practices Permit shall be obtained from the Tribal Planning Office prior to the commencement of timber harvest activities. The Tribal Planning Office may place conditions on the Forest Practices Permit to the extent necessary to protect the natural resources impacted by the harvest operation. Prior to issuance of this permit, the Applicant should plan to submit:
  - a. Burn Plan
  - b. Traffic Safety Plan
  - c. Documentation demonstrating completion of the applicable NEPA review process.
2. Prior to issuance of a Forest Practices Permit, the applicant must obtain cultural resources clearance under Section 5.01 of the CTUIR Historic Preservation Code and shall maintain compliance with the clearance.

**CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE UMATILLA INDIAN RESERVATION**  
*Tribal Planning Office*

**CONDITIONAL USE / VARIANCE APPLICATION  
SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET**

DEAR APPLICANT:

Please fill out this APPLICATION completely and as accurately as possible. If a block does not apply, write "N/A" in the space provided. An incomplete application cannot be processed.

- 1) Please fill out your full name, current address and phone number.
- 2) Please fill out the full name, current address and phone number of the legal property owner (s) of the site your are requesting a permit for. If you are the sole property owner, simply write "same" on the first line.
- 3) This is the location of the site as described by section, township and range. If you are not familiar with this method or you do not have access to this information, we can assist in determining the location upon request.
- 4) Indicate whether the property is fee land (tax lot) or trust land (allotment) and the parcel number. Also specify the parcel acreage.
- 5) Indicate the right of way or easement road that allows legal access to the property (e.g., county, road, street, or access road).
- 6) Indicate the current use or uses of the subject property.
- 7) Indicate the specific use or uses for which you are requesting this conditional use/variance.
- 8) Explain in details on a separate sheet how the proposed use conforms to the conditional use/variance decision criteria (see attached page) and present a detailed site plan of the proposed use.
- 9) Read the statement carefully. Sign and date the application only after the application has been completely filled out.

**NOTE:** If the information presented is unclear or questionable, you may be required to provide further information such as lease agreements, evidence of legal access, legal ownership, etc.

\*\*\*\*\*  
IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE APPLICATION PROCESS  
OR CODE REQUIREMENTS, FEEL FREE TO EITHER STOP BY THE PLANNING  
OFFICE OR CONTACT THE OFFICE AT 429-7523  
\*\*\*\*\*

**CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE UMATILLA INDIAN RESERVATION**

Tribal Planning Office

46411 Timine Way, Pendleton, Oregon, 97801

**CONDITIONAL USE APPLICATION**

Fee: \$100.00 Please Print

Applicant's Name: Gerald Middel

Address: 813 South Touchet Road, Dayton WA 99328 Phone: 541-740-1022

Lot Owner's Name: CTUIR

Address: 46411 Timine Way, Pendleton, OR 97801 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Property Description: Tátwin Wildlife Area Section 28,32,3 Township 08N Range 39E

Tax Lot ( ) Allotment ( ): 265414, 265419, 265420 Present Zone: Forest Total Acreage: ~400

Legal Access: Through County Road (Robinette Mountain) to Tribal Road (Robinette Mountain)

Present Use of Property (Description, including any existing structures and the current use): The property is used exclusively as wildlife habitat. The project area is primarily composed of dense moist mixed conifer forest.

Proposed Use: (Explain in detail on a separate sheet)

Decision Criteria: (Explain in detail on a separate sheet)

- A response shall be submitted with this application explaining how this request relates to the applicable decision criteria (see Attached).
- Also submit a statement explaining any other evidence you plan to present and a **detailed site plan** of the proposed use.

I understand that any false statements made on this application may cause subsequent approval by the Natural Resources Commission to be null and void.

I hereby certify that I understand that by signing this permit application, I am giving the CTUIR Tribal Planning Office the authorization to conduct any site inspections necessary in reviewing this application.

**INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED!**

Date: 04/28/26

Applicant: Gerald Middel

Agent: \_\_\_\_\_

I am the (Circle One): Owner/owner's authorized representative (If authorized representative, attach letter signed by owner)

**TRIBAL PLANNING OFFICE USE ONLY**

File #: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Proposed Use**

The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR), in cooperation with the BIA, is proposing to conduct a commercial timber sale on approximately 341 acres on the Tátwin Wildlife Area in Columbia County, WA. The Tátwin Timber Sale will occur on a single property, located on tribal trust in the southeast portion of Washington State (Figure 1). The purpose of the proposed project activities is to achieve the forest management goals and objectives in adherence to the standards and guidelines specified in the CTUIR Forest Management Plan (FMP). The FMP was developed by a CTUIR and BIA Interdisciplinary Team and approved by CTUIR's Board of Trustees (Resolution No. 10-022) in 2010. The proposed action is also consistent with the CTUIR First Foods Management Policy and Upland and River Vision guiding documents.

The proposed project activities consist of commercial and pre-commercial thinning to promote forest health through tree stocking control, removal of diseased trees, and improved wildlife habitat. Past management of this area is believed to have involved clearcutting in the 1930s across most of the Tátwin Wildlife Area, except for areas that were difficult to access. Most of the forested areas directly adjacent to the timber sale have previously been treated with pre-commercial or commercial thinning, followed by prescribed burning and/or mastication to reduce surface and ladder fuels. At the current high levels of stocking, tree growth is slow due to competition with other trees. Favorable habitat for fungal pathogens is found in the project area and includes dwarf mistletoe, bark beetles, and/or root disease (mainly armillaria root disease). Reducing tree density, improving species composition, and leaving large, vigorous, healthy trees will increase insect and disease resistance and reduce the risk of stand-replacing wildfire.

## **Decision Criteria**

The proposed use will increase the value of the property by reducing the threat of catastrophic wildfire, promoting shrub forage for wild ungulates, and promoting growth of understory cultural plant species. This proposed use will have no effect on livability or traffic patterns. The proposed action will provide a pleasing aesthetic value, as the plan calls for retaining the largest and healthiest trees. The proposed action occurs in a forest zone and is consistent with the Land Management Plan for the Tátwin Wildlife Area.

## **Additional Evidence**

Please refer to the attachment submitted with the Forest Practices Permit application for detailed maps and current stocking level information, which justifies the need for a conditional use permit.

## SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION PROVIDED 6/4/2026

1. Does this harvest plan coincide with the Rainwater Management Plan ? **Yes, it is consistent (with some modifications) with the CTUIR Forest Management Plan.**
2. Does BPA with their CE need to be notified and is BPA in agreement with this type of harvest? **BPA is aware of this proposed action, as it is detailed in CTUIR's current and future contracts, which were reviewed and approved by BPA. BPA Work Element 199 contains the project description. For reference:**

[Work Element Usage Report](#)

**Title:**

I: 199 - Forest Treatment Units (Ongoing): Thin to Reduce Stand-Density for Habitat Value and Forest Health

**Description:**

Background: A history of high-grade logging and fire suppression has left forests vulnerable to high-severity, uncharacteristic wildfire and insect and disease outbreak – a condition common in eastern Washington forests. As upland habitats are closely linked to aquatic ecosystems, large-scale forest disturbance also threatens fish habitat and water quality in the Touchet River Watershed, a priority area for recovering habitat to support and continue rebuilding depressed mid-Columbia steelhead and threatened bull trout. Climate change is expected to increase drought stress and fire season length, further exacerbating ecosystem health challenges.

Summary: This contract supports stand identification and preparation by CTUIR program staff for planned forest thinning treatment actions in the current and subsequent contract periods. We plan to thin 50-300 acres yearly, in up to 12 overstocked stands throughout the wildlife area. The stands require thinning because they are overstocked and susceptible to insect infestation and catastrophic wildfire. Density in these stands ranges from 373 to 2015 trees/acre. We expect that trees of commercial value will be removed from some stands during understory thinning, generating revenue; thinning other stands will have a net cost.

Mechanical tree removal and other forest treatment actions such as controlled burning will occur outside of this ongoing (annual) BPA contract support, through grant funds provided by the BIA and the Washington Department of Natural Resources (administered by the CTUIR) for work managed under the supervision of the Tribes' Forest Resources Program. The deliverable from this work element encompasses planning, accomplishment reporting, managing subcontractor site-access, and monitoring performance: (a) forest treatment units marked with flagging; (b) each of the forest treatment units mapped using survey grade GPS; and (c) the GPS data files then converted into a spatial feature class to be uploaded to a geo-database for presentation and planning of treatment units to be thinned in 2024-2025.

3. How will the sales funds be accounted for does this go back into the forest management of Rainwater? How much will be distributed back to the BIA? **As per the BPA Conservation Easement, all funds generated at the wildlife area will go back to the wildlife area Operations and Maintenance budget. I am unaware of any potential funds going to BIA. Below is language directly from the Conservation Easement.**

#### **I. RECITALS**

**R. Proceeds from Activities on the Protected Property.** The Grantor shall use any proceeds generated from activities on the Protected Property (e.g., leases and activities described in Section L, above) towards the operations, maintenance and restoration of the Protected Property. [f proceeds exceed the operations, maintenance and restoration needs of the Protected Property, the Grantor may use the proceeds on other BPA-funded properties owned by Grantor, or the Grantor may place the proceeds in its operations and maintenance account for the property and roll the funds over to the next fiscal year until an operations or maintenance need arises. The Grantor shall include information about revenue and expenses under this paragraph in its annual report to BPA, Section I.

4. Does Columbia County or Washington DNR or forestry need to be notified of this activity? **Yes. Both are aware and support this forest health plan.**
5. Are there any roads which will be opened for logging which maybe should remain after the harvest for possible future fire suppression activities? **If a road needs brush clearing to get machinery down it, we anticipate the road would be passable for the foreseeable future. The roads will be closed to all unauthorized vehicles. We propose creating two new spur roads with a combined length of 1100'. Upon completion of timber harvest activities, these roads will be decommissioned and restored to a natural state.**

Gordy:

1. Final before and after conditions need outlined in terms of BA retention and/or SDI. **Need waiver on stocking guidelines**
2. Must reforest the clear cuts (or blocks that are cut well below recommended stocking densities). **Understood. We will work to ensure that we do not cut below the recommended stocking densities.**

3. We are currently using the 1999 Powell stocking guidelines, not the new climate resilient stocking guides. I don't disagree with the lower stocking guides but it's not what's in the current management plan. **Need waiver on stocking guidelines**
1. It's not clear rather the proposed TS will leave the Tátwin Forest within 1999 stocking guidelines. **Same as above**
2. They still need a stumpage appraisal (confidential), Forest Officers Report, Prospectus, Advertisement (need to schedule bid opening date and time) and BOT Resolution (outlining all of this work). **Understood and we will comply with this.**
3. If the stumpage appraisal has gross proceeds above \$250K the sale must be advertised for 60 days, less must be advertised for 30 days. **Copy and understood**
4. Environmental documents have been uploaded to BIA NEPA tracker. But there are issues with tiering off of the current management plan for reasons outlined in number 3 and 4. **To be addressed**

#### **Conditional Use Decision Criteria (Land Development Code Section 6.015)**

A Conditional use may be granted if, on the basis of the application, investigation and evidence submitted findings are made based on the criteria below. A Conditional Use may be granted unqualifiedly or may be granted subject to prescribed conditions.

- (1) That the locations, size, design, and operations characteristics of the proposed use are such that it will have minimal adverse impact on the property value, livability, and permissible development of the surrounding area. Consideration shall be given to compatibility in terms of scale, coverage, and density, to the alteration of traffic patterns and the capacity of surrounding streets and roads, and to any other relevant impact of the proposed use. **The project area is ~400 acres. The wildlife area is 11,000 acres. Therefore, the overall impact to the property is negligible. Furthermore, there will be no adverse effect to traffic. Log trucks will haul for only a couple of months a year, and the main road will not be impacted adversely. Signs will be posted along the main road alerting drivers to the presence of log truck traffic.**

**By reducing fire hazard and improving wildlife habitat, the proposed activity is expected to improve livability and property values while having no adverse impact on development of the surrounding area. Logging traffic will increase in and around Tátwin for 2-4 months each year for two years. Signs will be posted along the main road alerting drivers to the presence of log truck traffic.**

**Contracts will require that road surface impacts be ameliorated by the log buyer.**

- (2)** That the site planning of the proposed use will, as far as reasonably possible, provide an aesthetically pleasing and functional environment to the highest degree consistent with the nature of the use and the given setting. **The proposed work area is forested and will remain so. Thinning will produce more open forest stands and reduce the potential for disease and insect outbreaks. After thinning and prescribed burning of post-thinning slash, some leave trees will be killed, and the area will appear burned. A rapid and significant green-up will follow burning. The resulting forest will be more structurally diverse, more resistant to high severity wildfire, and will better support deer, elk, and moose through enhanced understory forage.**
- (3)** If the use is permitted outright in another zone, that there is substantial reason for locating the use in an area where it is only conditionally allowed, as opposed to an area where it is permitted outright. **This may not apply. Please clarify.**
- (4)** That the proposed use will be consistent with the purposes of this Code, the Comprehensive Plan, and any other statutes, ordinances or policies that may be applicable, and will support rather than interfere with the uses permitted outright in the zone in which it is located. **The proposed use is consistent with the Tátwin Land Management Plan. This is considered forest land and the proposed activity is consistent with activities that would normally occur on forest lands. The proposed forest management activities are solely intended to improve habitat for wildlife and culturally important plant species.**

## **Tátwin Forest Practices Permit Application Attachment**

4. PURPOSE OF FOREST PRACTICE (describe ultimate effect of proposed practice; such as, reduce fire danger, remove insect infestation, remove wind blow, commercial sale, improve wildlife habitat, etc.)

The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR), in cooperation with the BIA, is proposing to conduct a commercial timber sale on approximately 341 acres on the Tátwin Wildlife Area in Columbia County WA. The Tátwin Timber Sale consists of 1 property, located on tribal trust in the southeast portion of Washington State (Figure 1). The purpose of the proposed project is to achieve the forest management goals and objectives in adherence to the standards and guidelines specified in the CTUIR Forest Management Plan (FMP). The FMP was developed by a CTUIR and BIA Interdisciplinary Team and approved by CTUIR's Board of Trustees (Resolution No. 10-022) in 2010. The proposed action is also consistent with the CTUIR First Foods Management Policy and Upland and River Vision guiding documents.

The proposed project activities consist of commercial and pre-commercial thinning to promote forest health, mainly through tree stocking control, removal of diseased trees, and improved wildlife habitat. Past management of this area is believed to have involved clearcutting in the 1930s across most of the Tátwin Wildlife Area, except for areas that were difficult to access. Most of the forested areas surrounding the timber sale has previously been treated with pre-commercial or commercial thinning, followed by prescribed burning and/or mastication to reduce surface and ladder fuels. At the current high levels of stocking, tree growth is slow due to competition with other trees. Favorable habitat for fungal pathogens is found in the project area and includes dwarf mistletoe, bark beetles, and/or root disease (mainly armillaria root disease). Spacing out trees, improving species composition, and leaving large, vigorous, healthy trees will increase insect and disease resistance and reduce the risk of stand-replacing wildfire.

## 5. NARRATIVE

A variable retention ground-based harvest will be used to retain stand structure and achieve FMP goals and objectives. Stand density will be managed to maintain high stand vigor and uneven-aged structure. Trees in all age classes will be harvested with the objective of reducing the stand density index to the values established for the upper and lower limits of the management zone as defined in the FMP. Current and predicted post-harvest outcomes are shown in Table 1.

A mosaic of structural and successional stands will be maintained over the landscape which will result in the appearance of an uneven-aged forest. In order to promote disease and fire-resilient stands, early seral tree species such as ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*), western larch (*Larix occidentalis*), and Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) are favored for retention. Late seral species, notably grand fir (*Abies grandis*), are favored for harvest. Grand fir is a more disease-prone species and can contribute a dense understory of regenerating trees that makes a high-intensity canopy fire more likely during a fire event. Pacific yew (*Taxus brevifolia*) is prevalent through parts of the sale

and will not be harvested as it is not a commercially viable species and is an important browse for many ungulates.

The FMP suggests deferring the harvest of trees greater than 21 inches diameter. However, the retention of greater quantities of trees with diameters over 21 inches may result in a more even or dual cohort structure. Some large trees, particularly grand fir, will be removed in order to accomplish the primary objective of creating and maintaining healthy conditions and resistance to mortality and to limit the regeneration of grand fir in treated stands.

Table 1 Current and residual BA (basal area) stocking estimates for the proposed project.

Stand ID	Acres	Plant Association*	Potential Vegetation Group (PVG)	QMD* (inches)	Pre Harvest BA (ft2/acre)	Expected Post-Harvest BA (ft2/acre)
25	11.6	PSME/HODI	Moist	11.7	155	31-36
37	19.1	ABGR/ACGL	Moist	9.7	270	174-179
44	15.4	ABGR/ARCO	Dry	10.7	203	80-85
45	39.5	ABGR/ACGL	Moist	10.2	261	138-143
87	12.4	PICO(ABGR) VAME/PTAQ	Moist	10.4	115	0-5
95	34.7	ABGR/CLUN	Dry	9.8	216	93-98
96	2.5	ABGR/CARU	Dry	11.6	158	35-39
97	6.2	ABGR/LIBO2	Moist	7.3	135	12-17
98	16.2	ABGR/CLUN	Dry	10.1	256	132-137
99	14.7	PSME/HODI	Moist	10.4	125	2-7
101	31.3	ABGR/CARU	Dry	10.3	166	43-48
111	13.0	ABGR/TABR/ CLUN	Dry	9.9	161	38-43
171	5.3	ABGR/ACGL	Moist	9.3	165	42-47
176	44.8	ABGR/ACGL	Moist	11.1	258	135-140
177	8.9	ABGR/ACGL	Moist	9.8	163	40-45
190	0.3	PSME/HODI	Moist	8.5	93	0-5
258	33.0	PSME/HODI	Moist	10.5	155	47-52
851	5.3	ABGR/CLUN	Dry	10.5	260	137-142
852	6.7	ABGR/ACGL	Moist	12.3	286	163-168
912	3.6	ABGR/CLUN	Dry	9.4	185	62-67
981	1.4	ABGR/CLUN	Dry	11.6	220	97-102
1012	7.9	ABGR/ARCO	Dry	10.7	234	111-116
8511	5.3	ABGR/CLUN	Dry	12.3	344	221-226
8551	1.9	ABGR/LIBO2	Moist	13.5	326	203-208

\* PSME (Douglas-fir), HODI (creambush ocean-spray), ABGR (grand fir), ACGL (Rocky Mountain maple), ARCO (heart-leaf arnica), PICO (lodgepole pine), VAME (big huckleberry), PTAQ (bracken fern), CLUN (queencup beadlily), CARU (pinegrass), LIBO2 (twinlineflower), TABR (Pacific yew).

\* Quadratic mean diameter

Dead and or dying trees will be retained to achieve snag and log levels within the historic range of variability where stand composition and structure allow. Where possible, snags will be grouped in clumps. Up to 50 percent of the desired number of snags may be located within the riparian management buffers. Down woody debris will increase in both density and frequency.

***Current Condition of Stands at the Tátwin Timber Sale.***

Many stands in the wildlife area are experiencing late-stage disease such as dwarf mistletoe, bark beetles, and/or root disease (mainly armillaria root disease.) In addition, current stocking levels and stand structure are such that a large stand-replacing wildfire is likely to carry throughout much of the area if an ignition occurred during dry summer months.

Stocking levels vary between stands. Most stands are overstocked mainly due to a lack of native disturbance and past management. Some areas are understocked due to disease.

***Goals and Objectives of this Restoration Activity***

**Goal 1- Sustain and promote First Foods:** Create a vegetation structure which will protect water resources, provide quality habitat for elk, deer, and other wildlife species, and improve environmental conditions for huckleberry, Indian carrot, and other medicinal plants which respond positively to some removal of overstory canopy.

*Objectives for Goal 1:*

- A. Water quality will be protected by not harvesting any commercial trees from within floodplains of any creeks in the proposed project area. Stream buffers will be applied using the modified Strahler stream classification method. A minimum of 80 ft<sup>2</sup> of basal area in dry environments will also be retained in all riparian zones in the project area and a minimum of 140 ft<sup>2</sup> of basal area in moist environments.
- B. The vegetation structure following this operation will provide adequate cover for elk and deer and will provide intermediate canopy cover which enhances late summer forage.
- C. Overstory canopy reduction will increase light levels in the understory, promoting berry-producing shrub species. Post-harvest burning will stimulate shrub and forb regeneration.

**Goal 2- Improve general forest health:** Most of the forested stands in the Tátwin project area are highly susceptible to and already experiencing insect and disease outbreaks (mainly bark beetle, dwarf mistletoe, and armillaria root disease).

*Objectives for Goal 2:*

- A. Basal area will be reduced by approximately 37 percent across the project area to achieve management objectives.
- B. The vegetation structure following this operation will provide appropriate cover for elk and deer and will provide intermediate canopy cover which will provide a greater amount of late summer forage.
- C. Areas with current armillaria root disease centers will be cleared of the most susceptible conifer species (grand fir and Douglas-fir) and will be planted with more tolerant species (western larch and ponderosa pine).

**Goal 3- Reduce wildfire danger:** Create a vegetation structure which lessens the probability of stand replacing wildfire and provides conditions for hand crews to safely carry out wildfire suppression activities.

*Objectives for Goal 3:*

- A. Shift species composition toward fire resilient species (ponderosa pine, western larch, and Douglas-fir)
- B. Create a vegetation structure which is less likely to support torching and crown fires.

**Goal 4- Improve wildlife habitat:** Create patchy vegetation structure to allow for browse and shelter for wildlife, especially elk.

*Objectives for Goal 4:*

- A. Create a clumpy-gappy vegetation structure to promote browse for ungulates.
- B. Wildlife habitat structures including large snags and woody debris should be maintained where they exist as well as snag recruitment trees to create future habitat structures.
- C. Following the timber harvest, stands will be either masticated or treated with prescribed burning to stimulate browse.

**Silvicultural Method**

The objective of the proposed timber harvest is to improve overall stand health and fire resistance, while enhancing habitat for Tribal First Foods. These objectives will be achieved by reducing tree density, removing diseased trees, and creating patchy stand conditions that support wildlife habitat and more closely resemble historical forest conditions.

The stands included in the harvest area are, on average, in moderate health and are currently overstocked in the overstory. Species composition is dominated by grand fir and Douglas-fir, with ponderosa pine, western larch, and Engelmann spruce also present across the landscape. Pacific yew is also found in areas of the sale. Pockets of root disease, pine beetle and varying levels of mistletoe infection were observed throughout the stands.

Root disease will be managed by removing all trees exhibiting symptoms of infection, as well as trees immediately adjacent to symptomatic trees, even if those neighboring trees appear healthy. Trees showing signs of mistletoe infection will also be removed, with particular attention given to nearby overstory and understory trees that may already be infected or are vulnerable to infection.

In places where no disease issues are present, the overstory should be spaced out using a group selection prescription in conjunction with creating a clumpy-gappy leave tree distribution, mimicking historical conditions in a fire adapted forest. This creates small openings in the canopy which encourages the propagation of more favorable, shade-intolerant species such as ponderosa pine and western larch. Varying amounts of western larch and Douglas-fir mistletoes were observed in the stands as well. Areas of extensive disease and poor health will benefit from a sanitation cut to remove dying and diseased trees.

Wildlife habitat structures including large snags and woody debris should be maintained where they exist as well as snag recruitment trees to create future habitat structures. Per the FMP, in the Dry Forest Potential Vegetation Group (PVG), at least 6 live trees per acre, and in the Moist Forest PVG at least 12 live trees per acre, greater than 21" DBH will be retained when available for snag recruitment trees. See Table 1. for PVG by stand. Priority tree species for snag habitat are

ponderosa pine, western larch, grand fir, and Douglas-fir, but size requirements for snags are more important than species.

### ***Slash and fuel treatments***

Broadcast burns may be utilized on this sale to reduce fuel loads and to act as site preparation. A detailed burn plan is required which specifies the conditions under which the burn may occur and the objectives of the burn. A cut-to-length (CTL) method will be utilized for the timber harvest. With this method, the harvester will fall, limb, and buck trees into logs at the point of origin (at the stump) which will reduce the need for landings, minimize soil disturbance, and leaves behind a continuous fuel bed for a broadcast burn. Units are burned under specific conditions, as described in the burn plan, to accomplish stated objectives. Use of underburning, or underburning with other slash control techniques, may occur on harvest units with higher residual stocking levels to further reduce fuel loads and re-introduce fire into the ecosystem.

In areas where broadcast burning is impractical, pile burning may be used to treat residual fuel. For *lps* beetle mitigation, all pine slash greater than 6" in diameter at landings shall be piled by the purchaser for burning by the CTUIR/BIA as part of the cleanup/rehab operations. Machine piling will only be allowed on landings and other compact locations approved by a CTUIR forester. Grapple equipment (loader, excavator, etc. with a bucket and thumb) will be used for piling compact piles, keeping all burnable material separate from non-burnable material. No piles shall be constructed using a bulldozer. Cull sections and other large segments of (non-pine) slash shall be placed in yarding corridors to prevent further unauthorized access. All non-burnable material shall be smoothed to the original land contours. Slash treatments will be accomplished concurrently with other phases of the logging operation and must be approved prior to moving equipment to the next cutting block.

### ***Timber stand improvement (TSI) and reforestation***

TSI will be conducted in all commercial and precommercial harvested cutting blocks to guide the succession of the stands toward desired future conditions. TSI work will include thinning of damaged trees and the removal of non-commercial late-successional species. Precommercial thinning will be implemented in Units 37, 45, 97, 171, and 177 to promote stand development toward desired future conditions. A sanitation cut will be utilized in 9.1 acres of Unit 258 where there is advanced disease and mortality.

CTUIR Forestry staff anticipate some artificial regeneration following the commercial harvest operations. Areas that require a sanitation harvest have been identified and will require reforestation. These patches will be planted with western larch and ponderosa pine and will be monitored for 5 years to ensure full stocking. Site preparation for reforestation efforts will depend on the regeneration method and plant association, but will likely include prescribed fire, mechanical slash removal, and spot spraying of chemical herbicides.

### **Harvest operations**

All harvest operations and the hauling of logs will be limited to dry soils. No hauling activities will be allowed during spring break-up or when moisture conditions are such that excessive damage occurs to roadbeds or soil profiles. No skidding operations will be allowed when soil moisture conditions are such that excessive damage will occur. Units within the sale area are to be harvested with ground-based skidding/forwarding machinery. Yarding corridors and skid trails will be authorized by the officer-in-charge prior to yarding trees/logs. Logs will be decked by the forwarder at landings.

No timber harvest will occur within any floodplain or wetland. In all logging units, Riparian Management Zones equal to 75 feet horizontal width times the stream order (modified Strahler) plus the floodplain will be established on each side of all streams, ponds and springs where equipment restrictions apply. The intent is to maintain potential shade for the site, wood recruitment to the floodplain and stream channels, and high-quality cover for wildlife. See Figure 2 for stream order distribution and riparian buffers in the sale area. Streams included within the project area include approximately 1.70 miles of unnamed first order streams and 0.81 miles of unnamed second order streams.

Logging operations and road construction/reconstruction will be avoided during the period December 1 through March 31 to minimize disturbance to wintering big game. Due to the possibility of elk using the sale area for calving, no mechanized operations are planned between March 31<sup>st</sup> and June 15<sup>th</sup>.

All activities associated with the proposed action will be conducted in accordance with applicable BIA Timber Sale standards.

### **6. QUESTIONNAIRE TO DETERMINE APPLICABLE STANDARDS**

A) Does any area of the proposed Forest Practice include land with >40% slopes?

No

B) Does any area of the proposed Forest Practice include a stream or wetland? If yes, identify the stream name and/or location.

No. There are only non-fish bearing intermittent streams that are unnamed in the project area.

All harvest operations and the hauling of logs will be limited to dry soils. No hauling activities will be allowed during spring break-up or when moisture conditions are such that excessive damage occurs to roadbeds or soil profiles. No skidding operations will be allowed when soil moisture conditions are such that excessive damage will occur. Units within the sale area are to be harvested with ground-based skidding/forwarding machinery. Yarding corridors and skid trails will be authorized by the officer-in-charge prior to yarding trees/logs. Logs will be decked by the forwarder at landings.

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recruitment to the floodplain and stream channels, and high-quality cover for wildlife. See Figure 2 for stream order distribution and riparian buffers in the sale area. Streams included within the project area include approximately 1.70 miles of unnamed first order streams and 0.81 miles of unnamed second order streams.

E) Will new roads be constructed to provide access to the proposed Forest Practice? If so, describe and provide map of haul route.

Several spur roads and landings may be constructed as part of this timber sale to reduce skidding distances and associated ground disturbance (Figure 3). These roads will be native-surfaced and will terminate at landings located at the end of each road segment. A CTUIR cultural observer will be present during any stump removal associated with road construction to avoid or minimize potential effects to cultural resources. Upon completion of timber harvest activities, these roads will be decommissioned and restored to a natural state.

H) What silvicultural method will be used to accomplish the proposed Forest Practice?

The objective of the proposed timber harvest is to improve overall stand health and fire resistance, while enhancing habitat for Tribal First Foods. These objectives will be achieved by reducing tree density, removing diseased trees, and creating patchy stand conditions that support wildlife habitat and more closely resemble historical forest conditions.

The stands included in the harvest area are, on average, in moderate health and are currently overstocked in the overstory. Species composition is dominated by grand fir and Douglas-fir, with ponderosa pine, western larch, and Engelmann spruce also present across the landscape. Pacific yew is also found in areas of the sale. Pockets of root disease, pine beetle and varying levels of mistletoe infection were observed throughout the stands.

Root disease will be managed by removing all trees exhibiting symptoms of infection, as well as trees immediately adjacent to symptomatic trees, even if those neighboring trees appear healthy. Trees showing signs of mistletoe infection will also be removed, with particular attention given to nearby overstory and understory trees that may already be infected or are vulnerable to infection.

In places where no disease issues are present, the overstory should be spaced out using a group selection prescription in conjunction with creating a clumpy-gappy leave tree distribution, mimicking historical conditions in a fire adapted forest. This creates small openings in the canopy which encourages the propagation of more favorable, shade-intolerant species such as ponderosa pine and western larch. Varying amounts of western larch and Douglas-fir mistletoes were observed in the stands as well. Areas of extensive disease and poor health will benefit from a sanitation cut to remove dying and diseased trees.

Wildlife habitat structures including large snags and woody debris should be maintained where they exist as well as snag recruitment trees to create future habitat structures. Per the FMP, in the Dry Forest Potential Vegetation Group (PVG), at least 6 live trees per acre, and in the Moist Forest PVG at least 12 live trees per acre, greater than 21" DBH will be retained when available for snag recruitment trees. See Table 1. for PVG by stand. Priority tree species for snag habitat are ponderosa pine, western larch, grand fir, and Douglas-fir, but size requirements for snags are more important than species.

### ***Slash and fuel treatments***

Broadcast burns may be utilized on this sale to reduce fuel loads and to act as site preparation. A detailed burn plan is required which specifies the conditions under which the burn may occur and the objectives of the burn. A cut-to-length (CTL) method will be utilized for the timber harvest. With this method, the harvester will fall, limb, and buck trees into logs at the point of origin (at the stump) which will reduce the need for landings, minimize soil disturbance, and leaves behind a continuous fuel bed for a broadcast burn. Units are burned under specific conditions, as described in the burn plan, to accomplish stated objectives. Use of underburning, or underburning with other slash control techniques, may occur on harvest units with higher residual stocking levels to further reduce fuel loads and re-introduce fire into the ecosystem.

In areas where broadcast burning is impractical, pile burning may be used to treat residual fuel. For *lps* beetle mitigation, all pine slash greater than 6" in diameter at landings shall be piled by the purchaser for burning by the CTUIR/BIA as part of the cleanup/rehab operations. Machine piling will only be allowed on landings and other compact locations approved by a CTUIR forester. Grapple equipment (loader, excavator, etc. with a bucket and thumb) will be used for piling compact piles, keeping all burnable material separate from non-burnable material. No piles shall be constructed using a bulldozer. Cull sections and other large segments of (non-pine) slash shall be placed in yarding corridors to prevent further unauthorized access. All non-burnable material shall be smoothed to the original land contours. Slash treatments will be accomplished concurrently with other phases of the logging operation and must be approved prior to moving equipment to the next cutting block.

- I) Describe the reforestation plan, if applicable:

Timber stand improvement (TSI) and reforestation

TSI will be conducted in all commercial and precommercial harvested cutting blocks to guide the succession of the stands toward desired future conditions. TSI work will include thinning of damaged trees and the removal of non-commercial late-successional species. Precommercial thinning will be implemented in Units 37, 45, 97, 171, and 177 to promote stand development toward desired future conditions. A sanitation cut will be utilized in 9.1 acres of Unit 258 where there is advanced disease and mortality.

CTUIR Forestry staff anticipate some artificial regeneration following the commercial harvest operations. Areas that require a sanitation harvest have been identified and will require reforestation. These patches will be planted with western larch and ponderosa pine and will be monitored for 5 years to ensure full stocking. Site preparation for reforestation efforts will depend on the regeneration method and plant association, but will likely include prescribed fire, mechanical slash removal, and spot spraying of chemical herbicides.



# Tátwin Timber Sale Stream and No Entry Buffers

Center: 117.94102°W 46.13421°N

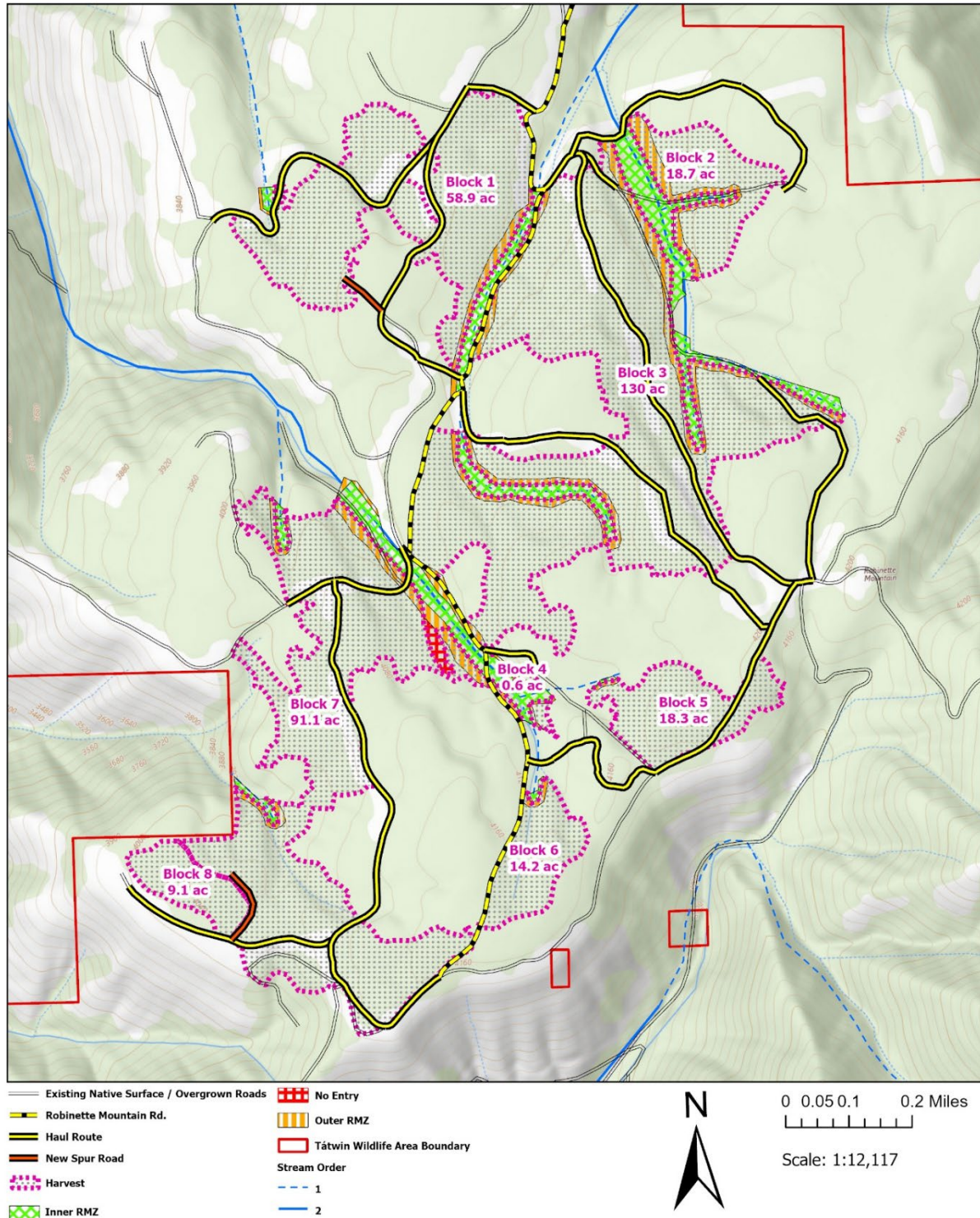


Figure 2. Riparian management zones and stream order in the Tátwin Timber Sale.

# Tátwin Timber Sale Logging Plan

Center: 117.94102°W 46.13421°N

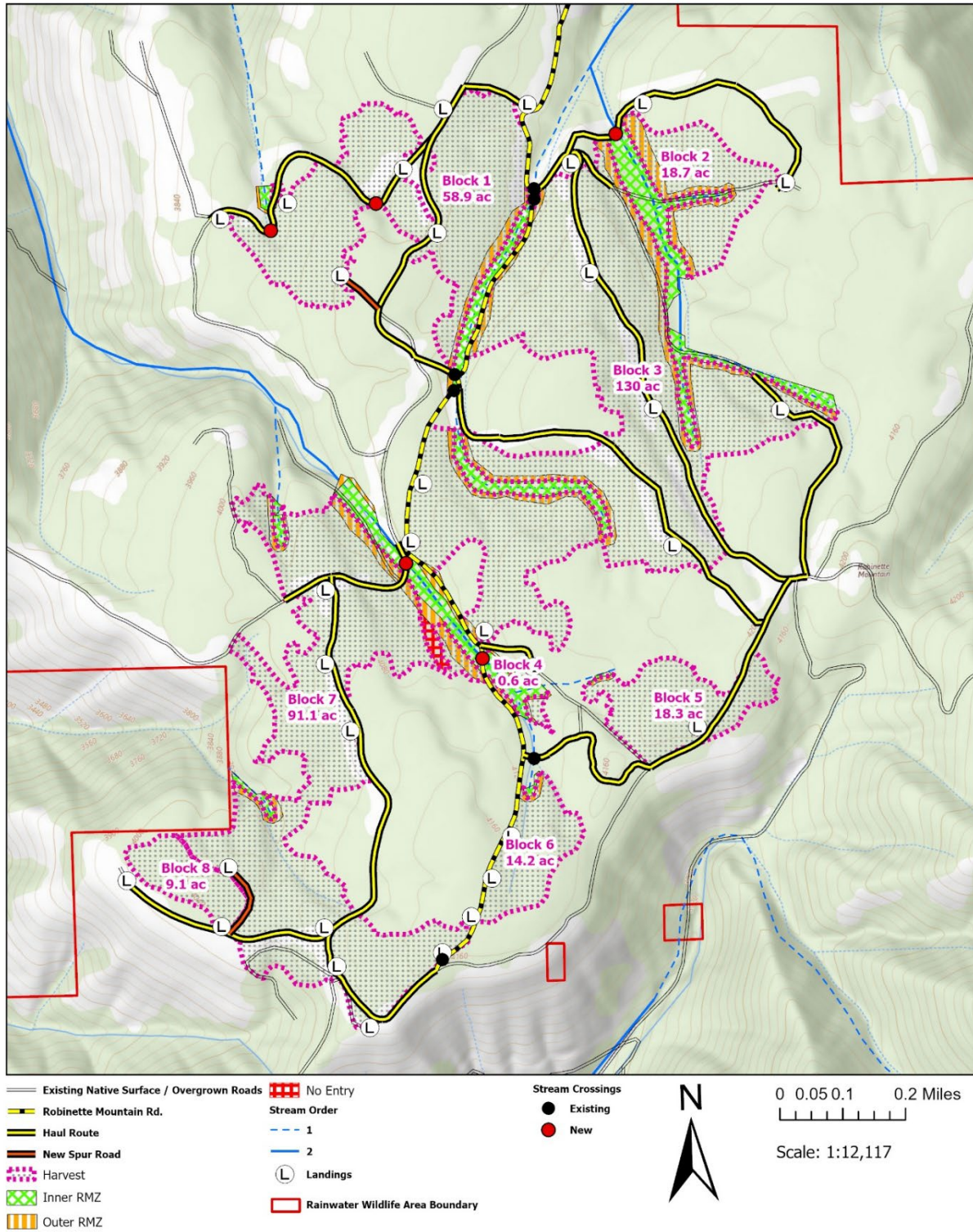
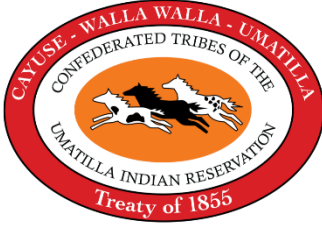



Figure 3. Logging plan map for the Tátwin Timber Sale. Showing harvest blocks, landings and riparian and No Entry buffers.



 (541)276-3099  
 tpo@ctuir.org  
 https://ctuir.org  
 46411 Timine Way  
 Pendleton, OR 97801

## PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE DISSEMINATION RECORD

**File No.:** CU-26-001  
**To:** Land Protection Planning Commission  
**Public Hearing:** June 23, 2026 – **RESCHEDULED FOR JULY 28, 2026**  
**Subject:** Conditional Use – Timber Harvest  
**Applicant:** The CTUIR Department of Natural Resources –  
 46411 Timine Way, Pendleton, OR 97801  
**Owner:** The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation –  
 46411 Timine Way, Pendleton, OR 97801

### Newspaper and Date Published

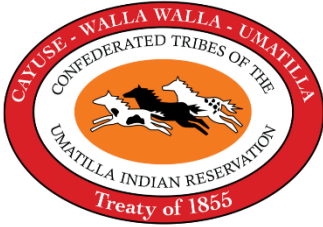
Confederated Umatilla Journal (CUJ)	June 6, 2026
East Oregonian	June 17, 2026
Dayton Chronicle	June 18, 2026
Confederated Umatilla Journal (CUJ) – reschedule notice	July 2, 2026
East Oregonian – reschedule notice	July 1, 2026
Dayton Chronicle – reschedule notice	July 2, 2026
East Oregonian – reschedule notice	July 15, 2026
Dayton Chronicle – reschedule notice	July 16, 2026

### Public Postings

1. Mission Market	June 12, 2026
2. Yellowhawk Tribal Health Clinic	June 12, 2026
3. BIA Umatilla Agency	June 12, 2026
4. CTUIR Housing Department	June 12, 2026
5. Nixyáawii Governance Center	June 12, 2026
6. Mission Market – reschedule	June 23, 2026

7. Yellowhawk Tribal Health Clinic – reschedule	June 23, 2026
8. BIA Umatilla Agency – reschedule	June 23, 2026
9. CTUIR Housing Department – reschedule	June 23, 2026
10. Nixyáawii Governance Center – reschedule	June 23, 2026
11. Mission Market – reschedule	July 10, 2026
12. Yellowhawk Tribal Health Clinic – reschedule	July 10, 2026
13. BIA Umatilla Agency – reschedule	July 10, 2026
14. CTUIR Housing Department – reschedule	July 10, 2026
15. Nixyáawii Governance Center – reschedule	July 10, 2026

*Attached are copies of the public hearing notices that were posted, published and mailed to all interested parties, subject property owners and adjacent property owners, as required by the CTUIR Land Development Code section 13.020.*



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Pendleton, OR 97801

## PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

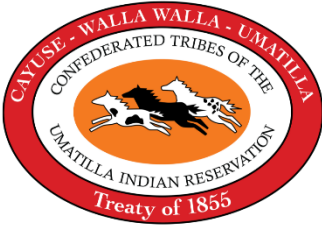
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Land Protection Planning Commission (LPPC) of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation will hold the following public hearing:

**Conditional Use File #CU-26-001** – Applicant, CTUIR Department of Natural Resources, seeks approval from the Land Protection Planning Commission to conduct a timber harvest on 341 acres the site referred to as Tátwin (formerly Rainwater). The subject property is held in trust for the CTUIR and is identified as trust parcel T5600. Located outside the external boundary of the Umatilla Indian Reservation in Columbia County, Washington, the proposed timber harvest would remove timber through mechanical and hand thinning methods to reduce fire danger and improve forest health. Chapter 3 of the LDC lists timber harvests removing more than 5,000 gross board feet as a Conditional Use. Conditional Use approvals are subject to Chapters 6 and 13 of the CTUIR Land Development Code.

The hearing will be held on **Tuesday, June 23, 2026 beginning at 9:00 a.m.** Individuals may attend the meeting in the Walúula and Wanaqit conference rooms at the Nixyáawii Governance Center. There are also options to attend the meeting virtually or by phone. Information on joining the meeting online is available at <https://www.ctuir.org>. Participation by phone will be available by calling 872-242-7793 starting at 9:00 a.m. on the day of the hearing. The meeting ID will be 447 606 598#.

Staff reports and other materials related to the hearing will be available at least ten days in advance of the hearing. They will be posted online at the link above or may be requested from the Tribal Planning Office by calling 541-276-3099.

Additionally, the public is entitled and encouraged to participate in the hearing and submit testimony regarding the request. Written comments may be sent to [tpo@ctuir.org](mailto:tpo@ctuir.org) or to the Tribal Planning Office at 46411 Timíne Way Pendleton, OR 97801 for receipt by 4:00 p.m. June 22, 2026.



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## PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE - RESCHEDULED

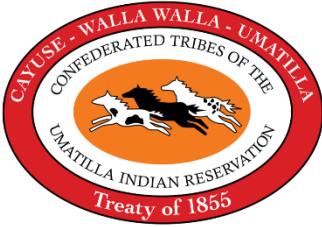
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This hearing has been rescheduled from June 23, 2026. The hearing will now be held on **Tuesday, July 14, 2026 beginning at 9:00 a.m.** Individuals may attend the meeting in the Walúula and Wanaqit conference rooms at the Nixyáawii Governance Center. There are also options to attend the meeting virtually or by phone. Information on joining the meeting online is available at <https://www.ctuir.org>. Participation by phone will be available by calling 872-242-7793 starting at 9:00 a.m. on the day of the hearing. The meeting ID will be 399 309 222#.

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## PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

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## LOCAL NEWSPAPER NOTICE - June 23, 2026 HEARING

### PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Land Protection Planning Commission (LPPC) of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) will hold the following public hearings:

**Conditional Use File #CU-26-001** – Applicant, CTUIR Department of Natural Resources, seeks approval from the Land Protection Planning Commission to conduct a timber harvest on 341 acres of the site referred to as Tátwin Wildlife Area (formerly Rainwater Wildlife Area). The subject property is held in trust for the CTUIR and is identified as trust parcel T5600. Located outside the external boundary of the Umatilla Indian Reservation in Columbia County, Washington, the proposed timber harvest would remove timber through mechanical and hand thinning methods to reduce fire danger and improve forest health. Chapter 3 of the CTUIR Land Development Code (LDC) lists timber harvests of this size as a Conditional Use. Conditional Use approvals are subject to Chapters 6 and 13 of the LDC.

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## LOCAL NEWSPAPER NOTICE - July 14, 2026 RESCHEDULED HEARING

### PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

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## LOCAL NEWSPAPER NOTICE - July 28, 2026 RESCHEDULED HEARING

### PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

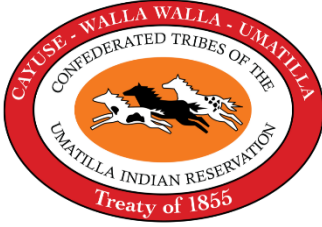
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June 12, 2026



## PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Dear Property Owner:

On June 23, 2026 the Land Protection Planning Commission of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) will hold a public hearing concerning a Conditional Use request as described below. You are receiving this notice because you are an owner of property located within 250 feet of the subject property (see map enclosed). According to Section 13.020 of the CTUIR Land Development Code (LDC), all owners of property located within 250 feet of the property which is the subject of a public hearing shall be given written notice by mail at least ten days prior to a public hearing.

**Conditional Use File #CU-26-001** – Applicant, CTUIR Department of Natural Resources, seeks approval from the Land Protection Planning Commission to conduct a timber harvest on 341 acres the site referred to as Tátwin (formerly Rainwater). The subject property is held in trust for the CTUIR and is identified as trust parcel T5600. Located outside the external boundary of the Umatilla Indian Reservation in Columbia County, Washington, the proposed timber harvest would remove timber through mechanical and hand thinning methods to reduce fire danger and improve forest health. Chapter 3 of the LDC lists timber harvests removing more than 5,000 gross board feet as a Conditional Use. Conditional Use approvals are subject to Chapters 6 and 13 of the CTUIR Land Development Code.

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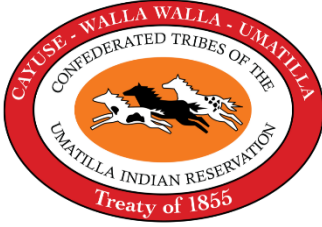
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lora Elliott". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lora Elliott  
Assistant Planner



-  (541) 276-3099
-  tpo@ctuir.org
-  <https://ctuir.org>
-  46411 Timíne Way  
Pendleton, OR 97801

June 26, 2026

## PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE - RESCHEDULED

Dear Property Owner:

On July 14, 2026, the Land Protection Planning Commission of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) will hold a public hearing concerning a Conditional Use request as described below. This hearing was rescheduled from its original date on June 23, 2026. You are receiving this notice because you are an owner of property located within 250 feet of the subject property (see map enclosed). According to Section 13.020 of the CTUIR Land Development Code (LDC), all owners of property located within 250 feet of the property which is the subject of a public hearing shall be given written notice by mail at least ten days prior to a public hearing.

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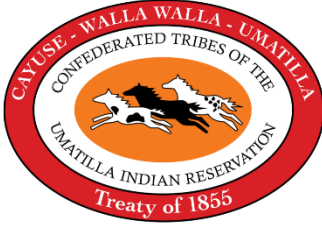
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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lora Elliott". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lora Elliott  
Assistant Planner



-  (541) 276-3099
-  tpo@ctuir.org
-  <https://ctuir.org>
-  46411 Timíne Way  
Pendleton, OR 97801

July 10, 2026

## PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE - RESCHEDULED

Dear Property Owner:

The Land Protection Planning Commission of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) was scheduled to hold a public hearing concerning a Conditional Use request as described below. This hearing has been rescheduled from its original date to July 28, 2026. You are receiving this notice because you are an owner of property located within 250 feet of the subject property (see map enclosed). According to Section 13.020 of the CTUIR Land Development Code (LDC), all owners of property located within 250 feet of the property which is the subject of a public hearing shall be given written notice by mail at least ten days prior to a public hearing.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lora Elliott". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lora Elliott  
Assistant Planner

# CU-26-001 Public Notice Recipients

## Trust & Allotment Recipients

Ownership	Parcel ID
Fee	T5599
Fee	T5596

## Taxlot Recipients

Ownership	Property ID	Geo ID	Owner
Fee	265346	2008390164000	Bennett Lumber Products, Inc.
Fee	265347	2008390166000	Bennett Lumber Products, Inc.
Fee	265341	2008390153700	Broughton Land Company
Fee	265367	2008390220000	Broughton Land Company
Fee	265383	2008390272000	Broughton Land Company
Fee	265422	2008390342100	Broughton Land Company
Fee	265358	2008390194000	Carolyn Sue Hooper Revocable Living Trust
Fee	265222	2007390076050	Craig Hall Revocable Living Trust
Tribal Fee	265402	2008390311600	CTUIR
Tribal Fee	265284	2008390054000	CTUIR
Tribal Fee	265273	2008390042200	CTUIR
Fee	265200	2007390062500	Donald Underhill & Vicki Underhill
Fee	265404	2008390321700	Eric Zitterkopf, Et. Al.
Fee	265418	2008390334248	George Touchette
Fee	265417	2008390334247	George Touchette
Fee	265416	2008390334244	George Touchette
Fee	265415	2008390334236	George Touchette
Fee	265214	200739007600	Gerald Kolke, Jr.
Fee	265206	2007390063700	Gerald Kolke, Jr. & Karen Kolke
Fee	265205	2007390063200	Guy McCaw, Et. Al.
Fee	274682	2008390053010	Hartmut Stecher
Fee	275805	2008390272010	Jay Hanger
Fee	265384	2008390273400	Jay Hanger
Fee	273718	2007390076060	Jeffery Winter
Fee	265223	2007390083300	Jeremy Winter & Kimberly Winter
Fee	265218	2007390076020	Kent Rhoten & Connie Rhoten
Fee	265403	2008390316000	Lavonne Hamilton & Robin Hamilton
Fee	265202	2007390062550	Randy Mullen
Fee	265309	2008390096500	Richard Rubenser
Fee	276074	2008390316010	Sandra McCaw & JE McCaw
Fee	265216	2007390076010	Thomas Peterson & Janet Peterson
Fee	265362	2008390214400	U.S. Government
Fee	265386	2008390281100	U.S. Government
Fee	265424	2008390343500	U.S. Government

Fee	275444	2007390160000	WA Dept. of Natural Resources
Fee	265199	2007390062300	Warren Land Co., LLC
Fee	265221	2007390076040	William Long & Dianne Long

## Agency Recipients

Contact	Agency	Address
Environmental Planner	Washington Department of Natural Resources	via e-mail
Superintendent	BIA	via e-mail
County Commissioner	Columbia County	via e-mail
Planning Director & Senior Planner	Columbia County Planning Department	via e-mail
EWU-4	Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)	via e-mail
Manager	Umatilla National Forest	72510 Coyote Road Pendleton, OR 97801  and via e-mail

# Map of Subject Property

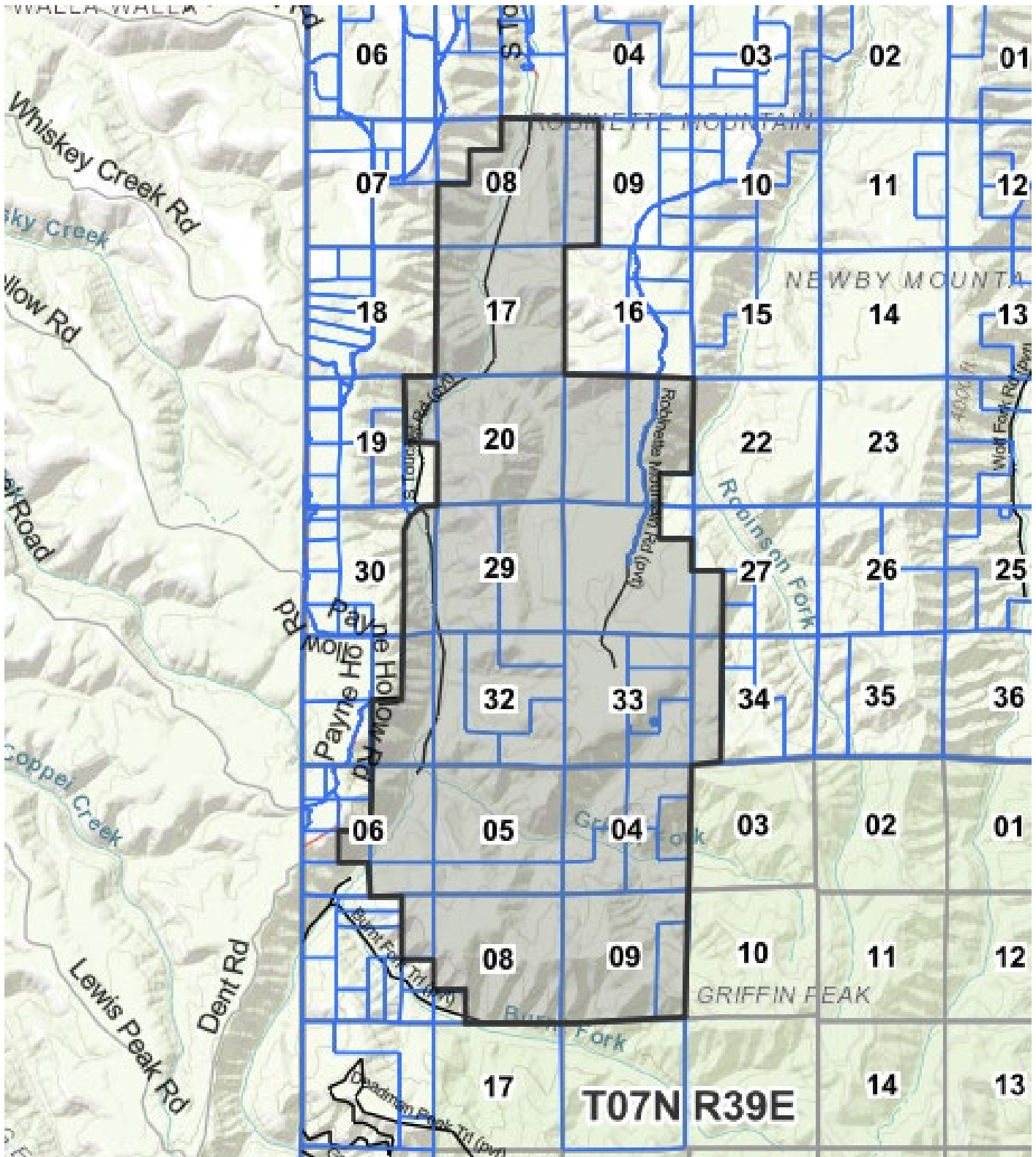


Figure 1. Full Site outlined in black, source: [Columbia County, WA Online Web Map](#)



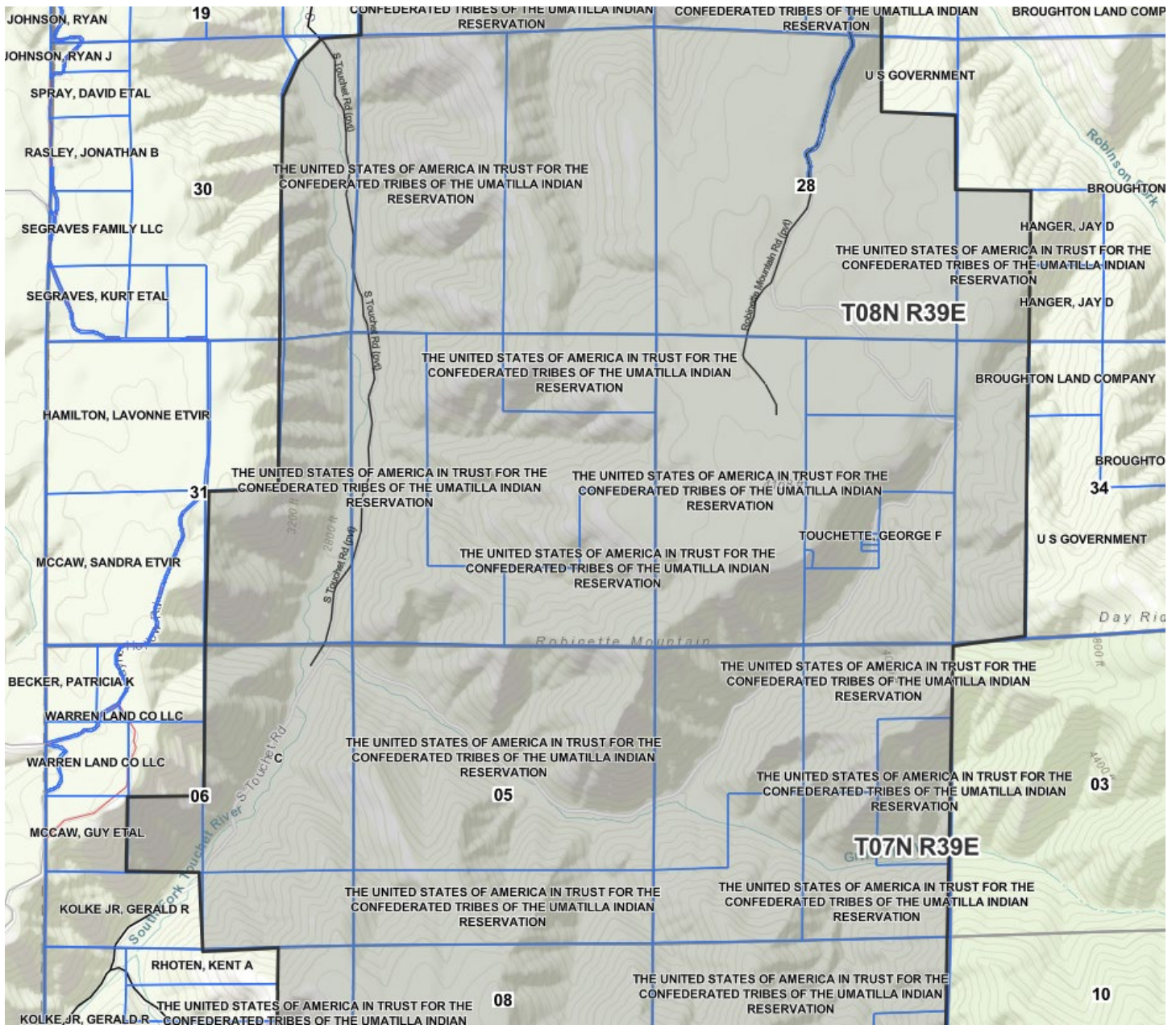


Figure 2. Central Section of Site, source: [Columbia County, WA Online Web Map](http://www.columbia.wa.gov/online-web-map)

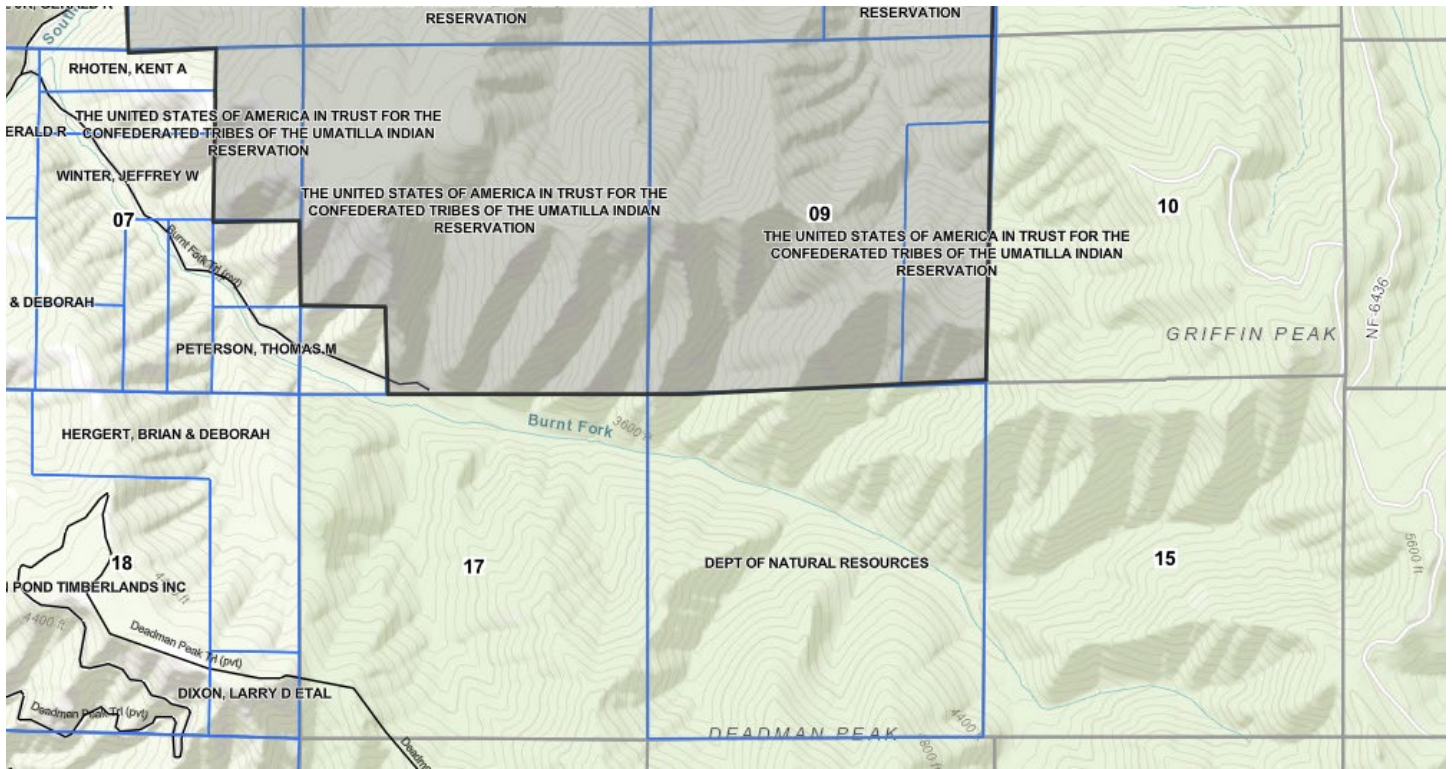
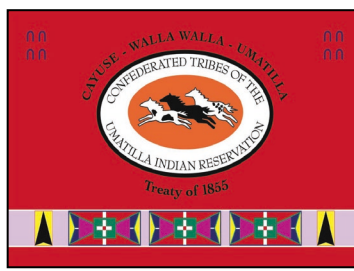


Figure 3. Southern Section of Site, source: [Columbia County, WA Online Web Map](#)



## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** May 8, 2026  
**TO:** Tribal Staff Review Committee & Forest Practices Tribal Interdisciplinary Team  
**FROM:** Lora Elliott, Assistant Planner, Tribal Planning Office  
**REGARDING:** Meeting Thursday, May 14, 2026, 11:00 am, in the Waluula and Wanaquit Conference Rooms at the Nixyáawii Governance Center or via Microsoft Teams

The Tribal Staff Review Committee will meet on Thursday, May 14, 2026 at 11:00 am to review the following application:

**Conditional Use File #CU-26-001 – Applicant, CTUIR Department of Natural Resources** seeks approval from the Land Protection Planning Commission to complete a commercial and pre-commercial timber harvest on property referred to as Tátwin, which is identified as CTUIR trust parcel T5600. The parcel is located outside the external boundary of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, within Columbia County, Washington. The proposed harvest would be a timber harvest within the to reduce fire danger and improve forest health. The subject property has not been assigned a zoning designation by the CTUIR, though timber harvests to remove more than 5,000 board foot gross are consistently listed as a Conditional Use throughout zoning designations within the Land Development Code. Conditional Use approvals are subject to the CTUIR Land Development Code Chapters 6 and 13.

You may attend this combined TSRC & TIDT meeting in person or through Microsoft Teams Video Conference:

### Microsoft Teams meeting

**Join:** <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/262922164734328?p=tfGNiZKMYhLPHEBbk6>

Meeting ID: 262 922 164 734 328

Passcode: f5Di22KC

[Need help?](#) | [System reference](#)

### Dial in by phone

[+1 872-242-7793,720680415#](tel:+18722427793720680415) United States, Chicago

[Find a local number](#)

Phone conference ID: 720 680 415#

The application and supporting materials for this request are posted on the **Free4all shared Drive** in the **TPO** folder. If you have questions or need further information, please contact Lora Elliott at 541-429-7524.

Each committee member should review the proposals:

- To determine its compatibility with the Tribes' Comprehensive Plan, Land Development Code, and other Tribal Statutes, Resolutions, and Policies;
- To determine the overall impacts this request may impose on Tribal services and utilities, the environment, wildlife, and on the Reservation

Please see application materials on the Z:/drive. Written comments will be accepted until the end of the day on Thursday, May 28, 2026.

A public hearing with the Land Planning Protection Commission is proposed to be scheduled for June 9, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

**From:** [Gordy Schumacher](#)  
**To:** [Brette Graham](#)  
**Cc:** [Lora Elliott](#)  
**Subject:** TIDT  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 13, 2026 1:01:32 PM

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I will be out of the office tomorrow and Friday.

At TIDT Gerry and Lindsay might need to be reminded that they need:

1. Final before and after conditions need outlined in terms of BA retention and/or SDI.
2. Must reforest the clear cuts (or blocks that are cut well below recommended stocking densities).
3. We are currently using the 1999 Powell stocking guidelines, not the new climate resilient stocking guides. I don't disagree with the lower stocking guides but it's not what's in the current management plan.
4. Its not clear rather the proposed TS will leave the Tatwin Forest within 1999 stocking guidelines.
5. They still need a stumpage appraisal (confidential), Forest Officers Report, Prospectus, Advertisement (need to schedule bid opening date and time) and BOT Resolution (outlining all of this work).
6. If the stumpage appraisal has gross proceeds above \$250K the sale must be advertised for 60 days, less must be advertised for 30 days.
7. Environmental documents have been uploaded to BIA NEPA tracker. But there are issues with tiering off of the current management plan for reasons outlined in number 3 and 4.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Gordy

CTUIR Logo



Gordy Schumacher, SRM CPRM CP02-534  
Range, Ag. & Forestry Program Manager  
Natural Resources, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

541-429-7238 (office)  
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The opinions expressed by the author are his or her own and are not necessarily those of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. The information, contents and attachments in this email are Confidential and Private.

**From:** [Troy Baker](#)  
**To:** [Lora Elliott](#)  
**Cc:** [Patricia J. Berry](#); [Devan Noblit](#)  
**Subject:** Comments from the TIDT Meeting  
**Date:** Friday, May 15, 2026 11:09:05 AM  
**Attachments:** [Tatwin Timber Harvest - CU-26-001 FP-26-002 WRP Comments.pdf](#)

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Good morning Lora,

I've attached a memo detailing WRP's comments regarding the proposal that was discussed at the TIDT meeting yesterday. Please let me know if you have any questions.

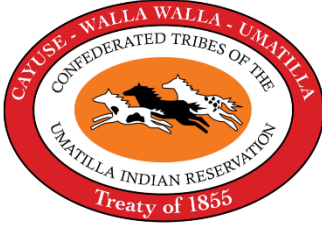
Thank you and have a wonderful weekend!

CTUIR Logo



Troy Baker  
Water Resources Program Manager  
Natural Resources, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation  
541-429-7288  
46411 Timine Way, Pendleton, Oregon, 97801  
[TroyBaker@ctuir.org](mailto:TroyBaker@ctuir.org)

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Pendleton, Oregon 97801

**To:** Tribal Staff Review Committee / Forest Practices Tribal Interdisciplinary Team  
**CC:** Devan Noblit, Water Code Administrator, Department of Natural Resources

**From:** Troy Baker, Water Resources Program Manager, Department of Natural Resources

**Date:** May 15, 2026

**Subject:** Water Resources Program Comments – Tátwin Timber Harvest CU-26-001 / FP-26-002

## Background

The Water Resources Program reviewed the materials for the proposed Tátwin Timber Harvest, including the Conditional Use and Forest Practices permit materials. The project proposes commercial and pre-commercial timber harvest on approximately 341 acres of the Tátwin Wildlife Area in Columbia County, Washington, on CTUIR trust property outside the external boundary of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. The stated purpose of the project is to improve forest health, reduce wildfire risk, remove diseased trees, and improve wildlife habitat in a manner consistent with the CTUIR Forest Management Plan, First Foods Management Policy, and Upland and River Vision guiding documents.

The project materials identify approximately 1.70 miles of unnamed first-order streams and 0.81 miles of unnamed second-order streams within the project area. The materials also state that no timber harvest will occur within any floodplain or wetland and that Riparian Management Zones will be established along streams and springs.

## Water Resources Comments

During the TIDT/TSRC meeting, discussion focused in part on the proposed road crossings of first- and second-order intermittent streams. There was a question regarding whether culverts were necessary at the proposed crossing locations. I asked what level of flow may be expected at these intermittent stream crossings during the wet or runoff season. The response provided during the meeting was that flows may be approximately 1–2 cfs during runoff conditions.

Based on that anticipated seasonal runoff, the Water Resources Program recommends that properly sized culverts be installed where proposed roads cross first- and second-order intermittent stream channels. Even though these streams are intermittent and non-fish bearing, they still convey seasonal runoff, sediment, organic material, and water through the drainage network. Road crossings should be designed to maintain natural drainage patterns and avoid

concentrating flow, creating road prism failure, increasing erosion, or causing sediment delivery downstream.

The project narrative states that harvest operations and hauling will be limited to dry soils and that hauling and skidding will not occur when moisture conditions could cause excessive damage to roadbeds or soil profiles. The Water Resources Program supports this limitation and recommends that it be carried forward as a clear condition of approval.

### **Recommended Conditions or Clarifications**

The Water Resources Program recommends the following conditions or clarifications be included in the permit record:

1. Any road crossing of an intermittent stream channel should include an appropriately sized culvert or other approved drainage structure capable of passing expected seasonal runoff.
2. Culverts should be installed to maintain the natural channel grade and alignment to the extent practicable and should not perch, constrict, or divert flow.
3. Road construction, reconstruction, hauling, and skidding should occur only under dry soil conditions and should avoid periods when runoff or saturated soils could result in rutting, sediment delivery, or road damage.
4. Erosion and sediment control measures should be used at stream crossings, landings, and road approaches where runoff could deliver sediment to a channel.
5. Temporary spur roads and crossings should be decommissioned and restored following harvest activities to reduce long-term hydrologic and sediment impacts. The application materials state that several spur roads and landings may be constructed to reduce skidding distances and associated ground disturbance, and that these roads will be decommissioned and restored to a natural state after timber harvest activities are completed.
6. The final plan should clearly identify each proposed stream crossing location, whether the crossing is existing or new, and the proposed treatment at each crossing. The logging plan map identifies existing and new stream crossings, along with new spur roads and landings, so a brief crossing table or note would help clarify the permit record.
7. If site conditions change, or if flowing water is present during road construction or crossing installation, the Water Resources Program should be contacted before work proceeds at the affected crossing. (see Water Code Coordination Note)

### **Water Code Coordination Note**

The Water Resources Program is currently working on updates to the CTUIR Water Code that would clarify applicability to certain Tribal trust and Tribal-owned areas outside the Reservation boundary. Once those updates are approved, activities that alter, cross, or otherwise interact with stream channels in those areas may require review under the Water Code, including potential stream zone alteration permitting

For this project, the Water Resources Program recommends that the permit record acknowledge that future Water Code applicability may need to be considered for similar activities on off-Reservation trust lands.

## **Conclusion**

The Water Resources Program does not object to the proposed Tátwin Timber Harvest, provided that stream crossings are properly designed, installed, stabilized, and decommissioned where appropriate, and that intermittent stream channels and riparian management areas are protected during road construction, harvest operations, and road decommissioning.

## Lora Elliott

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**From:** Alaina Mildenberger  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 13, 2026 4:01 PM  
**To:** Lora Elliott  
**Cc:** Justin Northern  
**Subject:** Fw: TIDT/TSRC Meeting Announcement: Tátwin Timber Harvest (CU-26-001/FP-26-002)  
**Attachments:** CU-26-001 TSRC-TIDT Meeting Announcement.pdf

Based on the project location Public Works has no issue with the project as presented as it is not near any of Public Works Department infrastructure.

The project narrative document that was submitted with the application answered any questions that came up in reading the application. I am copying Justin so he is aware a comment was sent in for PWD.



Alaina Mildenberger  
Administrative Manager  
Public Works, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

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wk. 541-429-7500  
c. 541-969-3159  
46411 Timíne Way, Pendleton, OR, 97801  
[AlainaMildenberger@ctuir.org](mailto:AlainaMildenberger@ctuir.org)

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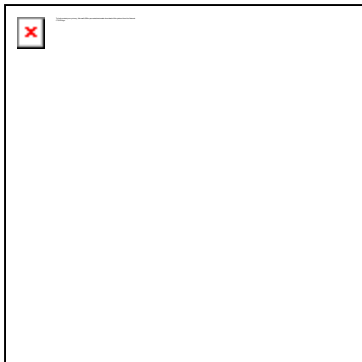
**From:** Lora Elliott <LoraElliott@ctuir.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 8, 2026 2:37 PM  
**To:** Andrew Wildbill <AndrewWildbill@ctuir.org>; Bill Tovey <BillTovey@ctuir.org>; Carey Miller <CareyMiller@ctuir.org>; Gordy Schumacher <GordySchumacher@ctuir.org>; Jude Love <JudeLove@ctuir.org>; Koko Hufford <KokoHufford@ctuir.org>; Marty King <MartyKing@ctuir.org>; Sandra Alexander <SandraAlexander@ctuir.org>; Brette Graham <BretteGraham@ctuir.org>; Devan Noblit <DevanNoblit@ctuir.org>; Lindsay Chiono <LindsayChiono@ctuir.org>; Gerald Middel <GeraldMiddel@ctuir.org>; Holly Anderson <HollyAnderson@ctuir.org>; Dani Schulte <DaniSchulte@ctuir.org>; Patricia T. Perry <PattyPerry@ctuir.org>; Paul Rabb <PaulRabb@ctuir.org>; Alaina Mildenberger <AlainaMildenberger@ctuir.org>  
**Subject:** TIDT/TSRC Meeting Announcement: Tátwin Timber Harvest (CU-26-001/FP-26-002)

Good afternoon everyone,

We have received an application from DNR for a timber harvest to take place on the Tátwin property. Please see the attached memo for meeting information, and you can review the full application materials on the Z:\ drive (<Z:\TPO\CU-26-001 FP-26-002 Tatwin Timber Harvest>).

Let me know if you have any questions, and I hope you have a great weekend!

All best,



Lora Elliott  
Assistant Planner  
Planning, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

---

541-429-7524  
46411 Timíne Way, Pendleton, Oregon, 97801  
[LoraElliott@ctuir.org](mailto:LoraElliott@ctuir.org)

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**From:** [Koko Hufford](#)  
**To:** [Lora Elliott](#)  
**Cc:** [Bill Tovey](#); [Bruce Zimmerman](#)  
**Subject:** RE: TIDT/TSRC Meeting Announcement: Tátwin Timber Harvest (CU-26-001/FP-26-002)  
**Date:** Friday, May 8, 2026 2:51:22 PM

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Does this harvest plan coincide with the Rainwater Management Plan ?

Does BPA with their CE need to be notified and is BPA in agreement with this type of harvest?

How will the sales funds be accounted for does this go back into the forest management of Rainwater? How much will be distributed back to the BIA?

Does Columbia County or Washington DNR or forestry need to be notified of this activity?

Are there any roads which be opened for logging which maybe should remain after the harvest for possible future fire suppression activities?

**Mae “Koko” Hufford**

Land Project Manager  
Department of Economic & Community Development  
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation  
46411 Timine Way  
Pendleton, OR 97801  
Phone/Fax: (541) 429-7476

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**From:** Lora Elliott <LoraElliott@ctuir.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 8, 2026 2:37 PM  
**To:** Andrew Wildbill <AndrewWildbill@ctuir.org>; Bill Tovey <BillTovey@ctuir.org>; Carey Miller <CareyMiller@ctuir.org>; Gordy Schumacher <GordySchumacher@ctuir.org>; Jude Love <JudeLove@ctuir.org>; Koko Hufford <KokoHufford@ctuir.org>; Marty King <MartyKing@ctuir.org>; Sandra Alexander <SandraAlexander@ctuir.org>; Brette Graham <BretteGraham@ctuir.org>; Devan Noblit <DevanNoblit@ctuir.org>; Lindsay Chiono <LindsayChiono@ctuir.org>; Gerald Middel <GeraldMiddel@ctuir.org>; Holly Anderson <HollyAnderson@ctuir.org>; Dani Schulte <DaniSchulte@ctuir.org>; Patricia T. Perry <PattyPerry@ctuir.org>; Paul Rabb <PaulRabb@ctuir.org>; Alaina Mildenerberger <AlainaMildenerberger@ctuir.org>  
**Subject:** TIDT/TSRC Meeting Announcement: Tátwin Timber Harvest (CU-26-001/FP-26-002)

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Let me know if you have any questions, and I hope you have a great weekend!

All best,

CTUIR Logo



Lora Elliott  
Assistant Planner  
Planning, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

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