

WHEN RECORDED RETURN TO:

Brad Herman
31 Paula Dr.
Underwood, Wa. 98651

DOCUMENT TITLE(S)

Amendment to: wildlife Management Plan # NSA-97-40
AS Amended

REFERENCE NUMBER(S) of Documents assigned or released:

NSA-97-40 190/637

☐ Additional numbers on page ____ of document.

GRANTOR(S):

Brad Herman

☐ Additional names on page ____ of document.

GRANTEE(S):

Skamania County

☐ Additional names on page ____ of document.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION (Abbreviated: i.e. Lot, Block, Plat or Section, Township, Range, Quarter):

Section 22 of township 3 N, Range 10 E, W.M.

☐ Complete legal on page ____ of document.

TAX PARCEL NUMBER(S):

03-10-22-1-0198-00

☐ Additional parcel numbers on page ____ of document.

The Auditor/Recorder will rely on the information provided on this form. The staff will not read the document to verify the accuracy or completeness of the indexing information.



Title: Amendment to: Wildlife Management Plan #NSA-97-40 (as Amended)
Project: Herman Wildlife Management Plan Amendment
NAI Project #: 21618.000
Applicant: Brad Herman
Legal Description: Section 22 of Township 3N, Range 10E, W.M.
Tax Lot#: 03-10-22-1-1-0198-00
Zoning: General Management Area – Residential (R-5)
Site Visit: May 7, 2009
Report Date: July 1, 2009

Prepared by: Normandeau Associates, Inc.
Melanie Sharp



Melanie Sharp

Amendment to: Wildlife Management Plan #NSA-97-40 (as Amended)

Applicant: Brad Herman
31 Paula Drive
Underwood, Washington 98651

Prepared by: Normandeau Associates, Inc.
PO Box 1159
40 SE Cascade Avenue, Suite 40
Stevenson, Washington 98648

Date: July 1, 2009

The following management plan conditions reflect the requested changes by Mr. Brad Herman (Applicant) and Jessica Davenport (Skamania County Associate Planner) in regards to after-the-fact permitting of fencing within the core habitat area. Currently the Amended Wildlife Management Plan (July 17, 1998) does not allow fencing within the western gray squirrel (*Sciurus griseus*) core habitat area. The current western gray squirrel recovery plan guidance by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (Linders and Stinson. 2007. Washington State Recovery Plan for the Western Gray Squirrel. Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Olympia. 128+ viii pp.) does not address the use of fencing in western gray squirrel habitat. Therefore, this amendment discusses the impact of fencing within core habitat areas and specifies under what conditions fencing would be allowed.

Temporary noise and visual impacts during fence construction would cause minor temporary disturbance to western gray squirrel in the area, but would not affect breeding, feeding, or survival. The habitat within the parcel is contiguous with neighboring parcels and would allow squirrels near the construction site to quickly access areas away from the disturbance. Construction of fencing, by hand tools or small machinery (e.g. electric post hole digger), in a way that does not significantly disturb the surrounding vegetation, would not significantly affect the availability of food or effect the habitat required for arboreal travel, resting, breeding, or feeding. The use of smooth wire fencing with a between wire distance or mesh size that squirrels can easily pass through would not reduce a squirrel's effectiveness at avoiding predators or limit ground travel within the area (Photograph 1). Therefore, fencing installed under the Management Plan Conditions specified below, would not significantly impact western gray squirrels or the core habitat area; thus no mitigation measures are recommended.

This amendment to the wildlife management plan adds Condition 10, which specifies allowed fencing within core habitat areas. A reference to this condition has also been added to Condition 8; the rest of the items remain the same.

Management Plan Conditions:

1. Residential development in lot 2 (including road construction, clearing, vegetation removal, and other land disturbing activities) is limited to the building site in fig. 1, amended 4-28-98. Note that the area south of the existing driveway is excluded from the building site. This area is designated core habitat.
2. New road construction on lot 2 is limited to an access road to a building site (see fig. 1.). This road must stay within the boundaries of the building site in fig. 1. Any other road construction will require a separate review (see #3 below). All road routes will follow a 'best path', minimizing the number of trees removed. Extreme effort will be made to keep any tree above a DBH of 10".
3. A separate wildlife management plan is required for the proposed access road up the south border of the property. This road will allow access to adjacent properties (these actions are desired by the owners).
4. Residential development in lot 1 is limited to grassland/pasture habitat, at least 50 feet away from oak woodland habitat, except as described below.
5. The existing road on lot one is 'removed' and a new road put along the northern border of the property. (see fig. 1) The new road will meet up with the existing road on lot 2. The existing road on lot 2 will be left in place.
6. Building sites and road routes will be chosen to minimize impact on the transition zone between oak and conifer areas of lot 2. Trees above a DBH of 10 inches will be retained if at all possible and canopy closure maintained at a level of 75% or more when possible.
7. Areas outside of those indicated in the items above (1-6) are designated core habitat areas and shall be depicted on the final subdivision map. Core habitat areas shall be protected in perpetuity through deed restrictions.
8. Core habitat areas as described above shall be left in a natural state. Unless otherwise authorized through a plan amendment as provided below, the following activities shall not occur within designated habitat areas: construction of any structure, removal, excavation, grading, or dredging of soil, sand, gravel, or other materials; dumping discharging, or fill with any material; or the destruction or alteration of vegetation through clearing, harvesting, or intentional burning; EXCEPT as provided in #9 and #11 below.¹
9. Removal of downed woody material and limited tree limbing (lower 1/3 of tree) may occur as minimally necessary to abate fire hazard, upon the written recommendation of the Skamania County Fire Marshal.

¹ Italicized text are new conditions.

10. Tree removal is limited to the area in the indicated building site (amended 4-24-98). Tree removal will be carried out in consultation with a professional wildlife biologist.

11. *The existing fence along the property boundary, within and adjacent to the core habitat area (Figure 1), present as of June 23, 2009, is authorized with the following conditions. Acceptable fencing shall include smooth single-strand wire fencing with at least 4 inches between wires or woven wire fencing with a mesh size of at least 4 inches wide by 4 inches high. Disturbance to the ground during installation of fence posts should be minimized and must follow the conditions listed above. Fence posts may be of any size, shape, or material. If the existing fencing does not currently meet these conditions, it must be altered to meet these conditions within 2 months of approval of this plan or be removed. Replacement fencing would be allowed in the future so long as it is within five feet of the original alignment and the fencing to be replaced is completely removed so there are not multiple layers of fencing. Existing or replacement fencing shall not be altered over time to add finer mesh or other ground-level facing materials that impedes small mammal movements across the site.*

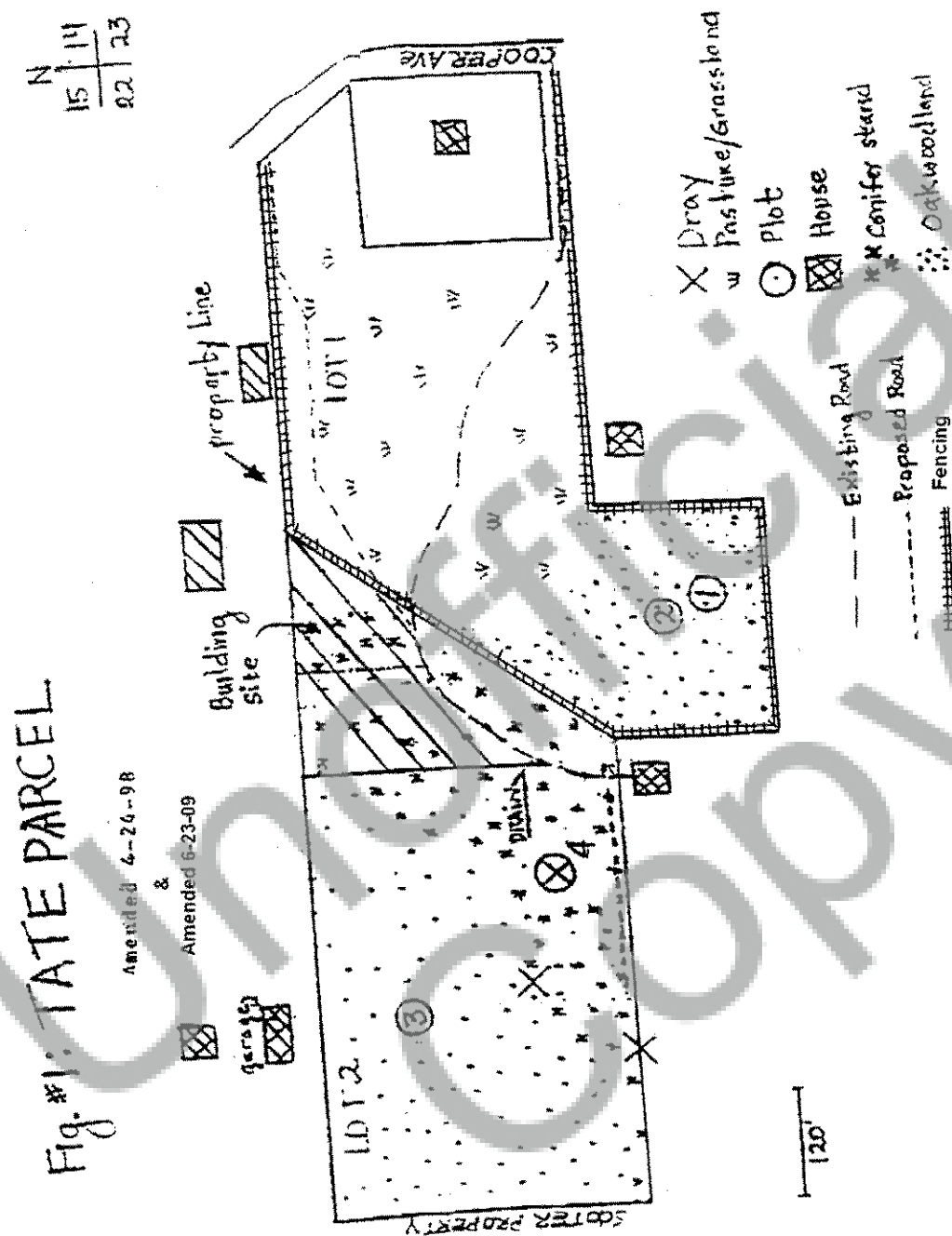


Figure 1. Site map showing allowed fencing area within and adjacent to the core habitat area.



Photograph 1. Example of acceptable fencing within core habitat areas using wood and metal posts and woven wire fencing with a 6-inch by 7-inch mesh size.