



# WORKSHEET: SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORK DESIRED CONDITIONS AND NEED FOR CHANGE

Meeting location \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting Date \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

OUTLINE FOR PLAN  PRINCIPLE ## - CRITERIA ### Indicator	PROPOSED DESIRED CONDITION	Is the proposed Desired Condition Different from the Current Situation?		IF YOU DISAGREE WITH TEAM'S JUDGMENT: HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE THE DESIRED CONDITION AND HOW WOULD YOU GET THERE ?	
		<i>What the Blue Mtn. Team Thinks</i>	<i>What do you think?</i>	IF YOU AGREE w/ team judgment: What needs to change in order to reach the desired condition? AND	What are the challenges you see to reaching the desired condition?
<b>PRINCIPLE 1: SOCIAL WELL-BEING</b>					
<b>CRITERIA 1.1: COLLABORATIVE STEWARDSHIP</b> <i>(How do we work together to achieve our shared vision?)</i>	Collaboration processes are developed and contribute to the success of achieving the vision and the desired conditions. A spirit of interdependency, cooperation, and openness exists between entities interested in and affected by the Forest Plan. The focus of working together fosters communication, cooperation, and partnerships. Collaboration allows multiple views and diverse values to be expressed and shared in an open forum and discussed by the interested parties. Working collaboratively promotes better decisions and builds greater support and public understanding of decisions. Collaborative stewardship is a fundamental base that facilitates as appropriate meeting the public's concerns and desires about management of the Blue Mountains national forests within existing authorities.	Moving toward			
<b>1.1.1 Participating and Engaging</b> <i>(Is the process fair and open to everyone?)</i>	Participation is fair, open, and accessible to anyone interested or affected by the Forest Plan. People feel respected, empowered, and that their involvement is meaningful. Diverse values and perspectives are sought and included in the process to provide opportunities for a broad spectrum of interests and values. Public participation builds on existing relationships and creates new partnerships to enhance capacity for participation. People demonstrate determination and commitment by involving themselves in collaborative efforts.	Moving toward			

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		<i>What the Blue Mtn. Team Thinks</i>	<i>What do you think?</i>	IF YOU AGREE w/ team judgment: What needs to change in order to reach the desired condition? AND	What are the challenges you see to reaching the desired condition?
1.1.2 Decision-making <i>(Did we make legitimate and supported decisions?)</i>	Blue Mountain national forests' decisions are legitimate and accountable within the authorities of laws, regulations, and other legally recognized and established responsibilities. Decisions are made in a collaborative environment as appropriate based on the consideration of context, scale, timing and other related factors. The decision-making process is credible and transparent and mutually supported by a broad range of people. Support for decisions is built along the way with a broad willingness by multiple partners to enhance a greater understanding of those decisions and to help implement the related activities. Multiple planning processes and objectives are coordinated and integrated with other entities across geographic, political, and administrative boundaries to improve integration and efficiency of accomplishing locally-identified natural resource management goals, objectives and strategies.	Moving toward			
1.1.3 Learning and Adapting <i>(What did we learn, how do we adapt to new information?)</i>	Local, cultural, traditional, and scientific knowledge and experience are incorporated into project planning and activities to expand understanding about achieving the desired conditions. Community-based groups and partnerships form to proactively address resource management issues and are committed to working together to facilitate and implement widely supported projects. Current scientific information and understanding is combined with new knowledge to generate and sustain learning. Collaborative multi-party monitoring occurs cooperatively through diverse stakeholders. Creative and flexible solutions are developed based on this understanding to make necessary changes in project design and activities.	Moving toward			
<b>CRITERIA 1.2 : INSTITUTIONAL AND COMMUNITY CAPACITY</b> <i>(How are the Blue Mountains National Forests' and communities adapting to change?)</i>	Blue Mountain national forests work with other agencies, organizations, groups and communities to support formal and informal processes and practices that collectively help people respond to changes in conditions related to the Blue Mountain national forests.	Moving in the right direction			

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**WORKSHEET: SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORK, DESIRED CONDITIONS AND THE NEED FOR CHANGE**

*If you take this with you to complete filling it out, please return to: Blue Mountains Forest Plan Revision Team P.O. Box 907 Baker City, OR 97814 by JANUARY 14<sup>th</sup> 2005*

<p><b>1.2.1 Community Resiliency</b> <i>(How adaptable are communities to change?)</i></p>	<p>The Blue Mountain national forests contribute to healthy and resilient communities (including tribal) by providing sustainable, ecological services or products, and communities contribute to the land by fostering sustainable land stewardship. Local communities that rely on the Blue Mountain national forests' resources are resilient and adapt to changing conditions. They have the capacity to collectively create and take advantage of opportunities to meet the needs of diverse perspectives while protecting the ecological integrity of the Blue Mountain national forests' ecosystems. Long-term relationships between people and the Blue Mountain national forests support self-sustaining, vital, and resilient ecosystems and communities. Policies and programs recognize the uniqueness of each community in terms of their human, social, economic, and natural resources and assets to the fullest extent possible.</p>	<p>Highly variable depending on the location</p>			
<p><b>1.2.2 Institutional Adequacy</b> <i>(How adaptable and accountable are the Blue Mountains national forests to change?)</i></p>	<p>The Blue Mountain national forests' actively work across jurisdictional and functional programs and boundaries to integrate agency functions and respond to the changing needs of ecosystem management. Formal agency processes are enhanced through responsive communication and informal networking to solve problems and meet customer needs. Information sharing and technology transfer occurs in multiple directions within the Blue Mountain national forests' organization and with partners and other entities to build the capacity and resiliency to collectively respond to change. Projects are designed to meet multiple objectives where compatible with other uses and values to assist achieving desired conditions. Management constraints are measurable, enforceable and cost effective. Cooperative management and monitoring opportunities provide public accountability and flexibility to promote effective and efficient use of resources over the long run.</p>	<p>Not close</p>			
<p><b>1.2.3 Land Ownership</b> <i>(Is the land ownership pattern efficient for the Forest Service to manage?)</i></p>	<p>Achieve the optimum land ownership pattern to provide for the protection and management of natural resource uses and meet the needs of the nation now and in the future.</p>	<p>Moving toward</p>			

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<p><b>1.2.4 Trust Responsibilities</b> <i>(Are we meeting our shared responsibilities with American Indian tribes?)</i></p>	<p>Consultation, collaboration, and communication between the Blue Mountain national forests and American Indian tribes occur early in the development of project proposals. This continues on a regular basis as defined in consultation and coordination agreements and memorandums of understanding to consider the effects of activities on the tribes and the resources connected to their reserved rights and the federal trust responsibilities. American Indian treaty rights are protected and preserved on ceded lands on the Blue Mountains national forests by virtue of the "Treaties of 1855" for the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, Nez Perce Tribe, and Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Indian Nation of the Yakama Reservation. These reserved rights include taking fish, erecting buildings for curing fish, hunting, gathering, and pasturing. Each treaty with each tribe contains language unique unto itself and is read with this knowledge to fulfill the Blue Mountain national forests' trust responsibilities. Gathering opportunities are provided for these tribes to support and respect their cultural, spiritual, and community well-being. The interests and concerns of these tribes are integrated into the planning process.</p>	<p>Close – variable depending on tribe and project</p>			
<p><b>CRITERIA 1.3: SOCIAL EQUITY</b> <i>(How do we ensure our actions are fair now and in the future?)</i></p>	<p>Public safety and assistance to Blue Mountain national forests' workers, users and visitors is provided while recognizing diverse needs. Information programs assist the public in understanding management of the various resources and assist them in their search for a variety of challenging and pleasing experiences.</p>	<p>Close</p>			
<p><b>1.3.1 Environmental Justice and Civil Rights</b> <i>(Are we impacting anyone more than everyone else?)</i></p>	<p>People are treated fair and meaningfully involved in activities that affect them regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. Groups of people, including racial, ethnic, or socioeconomic groups bear a proportionate share of the environmental benefits and consequences resulting from the Blue Mountain national forests' programs and policies.</p>	<p>Yes</p>			
<p><b>1.3.2 Public Health and Safety</b> <i>(Are the forests safe to work and recreate in?)</i></p>	<p>The public, agency employees and other workers on the Blue Mountain national forests enjoy a safe environment. Natural resources and other property under the agency's jurisdiction are protected.</p>	<p>Yes</p>			

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<p><b>1.3.3 Community and Environmental Health</b> <i>(Are health risks to people living adjacent to the Blue Mountains national forests' too high?)</i></p>	<p>Blue Mountain national forests' management activities assist protecting the physical health of individuals, adjacent landowners and communities from environmental risks and threats. People are educated and aware of the risks of living, working, and recreating in and near the Blue Mountain national forests.</p>	<p>Yes</p>			
<p><b>CRITERIA 1.4: SOCIAL AND CULTURAL VALUES</b> <i>(What do we care about and value?)</i></p>	<p>The Blue Mountain national forests fill an expanding amenity stewardship role by recognizing and managing for social and cultural values and opportunities related to hunting and gathering, scenery, interpretation, education, and research; heritage, special places, access and use, recreation, and custom and culture aspects of the Blue Mountain national forests. Diverse social values, attitudes, beliefs, and lifestyles are reflected across the Blue Mountain national forests.</p>	<p>Moving toward in most areas</p>			
<p><b>1.4.1 Hunting and Gathering</b> <i>(Can I hunt and fish and gather things on the national forests?)</i></p>	<p>Non-commercial gathering opportunities are provided to visitors. The availability of products varies across the landscape and may involve fee or free permits or use regulations. Quality hunting and fishing habitat is available.</p>	<p>Same as the desired condition</p>			
<p><b>1.4.2 Scenery</b> <i>(The way the landscape looks is important to me)</i></p>	<p>The natural and cultural features of landscapes that provide scenic integrity are intact. Landscapes possess a vegetation pattern and species mix that is natural in appearance. Built elements and landscape alterations compliment landscape characteristics.</p>	<p>80% of the landscape is High to very high quality</p>			
<p><b>1.4.3 Interpretation, Education, and Research</b> <i>(How can I learn more about the national forests?)</i></p>	<p>People connect to the land and to each other through expanded public information, interpretive services, and environmental education programs/activities, with well-supported nonprofit partners in a lead role.</p>	<p>Moving toward in most areas</p>			
<p><b>1.4.4 Heritage Resources</b> <i>(Are we taking care of important historic, prehistoric places and things?)</i></p>	<p>Significant heritage resource sites are preserved or enhanced. The past, present, and future of heritage resources' role in ecosystem management, including socio-cultural values in an environmental context, are recognized.</p>	<p>Moving towards in most areas</p>			
<p><b>1.4.5 Specially Designated Places</b> <i>(What kind of specially designated places are on the forests?)</i></p>	<p>The Special attributes for which these areas are recognized provide a wide variety of unique recreation opportunities for public use and enjoyment.</p>	<p>Moving towards in most areas</p>			
<p><b>1.4.6 Access and Use</b> <i>(How and where do I get to and use the national forests?)</i></p>	<p>An ecologically sustainable, integrated system of motorized and non-motorized use is maintained. High use areas are managed within capacities in order to maintain the quality of experiences. Conflicts are addressed and resolved in a timely manner.</p>	<p>Not close</p>			

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<p><b>1.4.7 Recreation</b> <i>(What kinds and amounts of recreation activities are available on the national forest)</i></p>	<p>Recreation activities and services contribute to visitors' satisfaction and represent a variety of skill levels, needs and desires, in partnership with permit holders, private entities, nonprofit/volunteer groups, State, federal and tribal partners.</p>	<p>Moving towards in developed sites, unknown in less developed areas.</p>			
<p><b>1.4.8 Customs and Culture</b> <i>(How do we connect to the land individually and collectively?)</i></p>	<p>The forests' policies and programs respect and recognize the customs and culture unique to the Blue Mountains and the forces, historical and current, which have shaped the people and communities of the area. Diverse traditions, practices, perspectives, lifestyles, and ways of connecting with the land are nurtured and protected. Places that provide for people's emotional connection to the Blue Mountains national forests are recognized and protected as appropriate. The attitudes, values, and beliefs associated with these customs reflect and contribute to stewardship ethics and practices that sustain the land for present and future generations.</p>	<p>Information is lacking for this indicator</p>			

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PRINCIPLE 2: ECOLOGICAL INTEGRITY					
<b>CRITERIA 2.1: ECOLOGICAL FUNCTION</b> <i>(Is the system functioning in a sustainable manner?)</i>		Natural and human influenced processes and functions will be operating within a range that will create and maintain resilient and sustainable systems. Recognition will be given to the social and economic interactions with the ecologic system. Processes will allow for appropriate wildlife population recruitment, growth and mortality.	Moving towards		
<b>2.1.1 Disturbance Processes</b> <i>(Are disturbances functioning at the appropriate extent, frequency, and magnitude?)</i>		Disturbance processes such as invasive species, insects and disease, wildland fire, wind, herbivory, floods, drought, landslides will be functioning at the appropriate magnitude, frequency and extent to create or maintain a resilient and sustainable system. Recognition will be given to differences in historic (HRV), current, and future processes based on the uniqueness of local plant/animal physiology, plant community type, and geomorphology.	Not close		
<b>2.1.2 Hydrologic Function</b> <i>(Are hydrologic process operating at the appropriate frequency, magnitude, and duration?)</i>		The rates of watershed runoff, water yield, timing, frequency, magnitude and duration of runoff, surface erosion, and nutrient cycling support healthy and diverse terrestrial, riparian, and aquatic habitats. All watersheds will exhibit high geomorphic, hydrologic, and biotic integrity relative to their natural potential condition.	Close- moving towards.		
<b>2.1.3 Productive Capacity</b> <i>(Are we maintaining the long-term productivity of the ecosystem?)</i>		Long term productivity of aquatic, riparian, and terrestrial systems is maintained; or restored if past activities have caused impairment. Nutrient cycling processes are consistent with historic regimes. Fish, animal, and plant productivity is maintained within the recognized capabilities and potential of factors such as regional climate variations, ecosystem integrity, population health, and organism capacity.	Close- but highly variable.		
<b>2.1.4 Population Sustainability</b> <i>(Are habitat conditions sufficient to maintain sustainable native populations?)</i>		Habitats for native species are maintained in sufficient quality, distribution and abundance to allow species populations to be well distributed and interactive. Populations of native species thrive in ecological partnership with natural disturbance processes.	Moving in the right direction.		
<b>CRITERIA 2.2: ECOLOGICAL STRUCTURE AND COMPOSITION</b> <i>(Does the landscape structure and composition create a resilient system?)</i>		The structure and composition of systems such as organisms, populations, ecosystems, and landscapes will maintain/re-create resilient and sustainable conditions.	Moving towards		

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<p><b>2.2.1 Landscape Diversity</b> <i>(Are we creating a diverse landscape?)</i></p>	<p>Landscapes within the Blue Mountains are sustainable considering the historic range of variability (of plant communities) and the reality that human and natural disturbances will continue into the foreseeable future. The structural, spatial, successional, and special habitat components of the landscape will provide for sustainable populations of native species at a variety of scales.</p>	<p>Not close</p>			
<p><b>2.2.2 Air, Soil and Water</b> <i>(Are we creating or maintaining high quality air, water, and soil conditions?)</i></p>	<p>Air: Air quality in the Blue Mountains will comply with Clean Air Act standards, State Air Quality Management Plans and Memorandums of Understanding between the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality and Pacific Northwest Region of the Forest Service which places annual limits on particulate emissions from prescribed fires on national forest lands in northeastern Oregon. Soils: The productivity of forest and range soils contributes to long-term sustainability. Water: The physical, chemical and biological integrity of surface and groundwater is sufficient to provide for the human uses, and the needs of terrestrial and aquatic species. Water in streams on national forest lands in the Blue Mountains will comply with state (OR, WA, ID) water quality standards.</p>	<p>Air- yes.  Soils- moving towards.  Water- moving towards.</p>			
<p><b>2.2.3 Populations of Indigenous Species</b> <i>(Does the landscape support habitat for federally-listed species, species-at-risk and species-of-concern?)</i></p>	<p>Through collaboration and use of the best available science create an ecological setting within the Blue Mountains that conserves habitat for Federally listed species, species at risk and species of concern. Through the implement of Recovery Plans federally-listed species will be down-listed or de-listed. Species Conservation Plans will have been developed and implemented for the species at risk and the species of concern.</p>	<p>Moving in the right direction.</p>			

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PRINCIPLE 3: ECONOMIC WELL-BEING					
<b>CRITERIA 3.1: CAPITAL AND WEALTH</b> <i>(How do we meet our present needs without compromising future needs?)</i>		<p>The natural, built, and human capital related to the Blue Mountain national forests is linked with sustaining ecological integrity and social and economic well-being. The Blue Mountain national forests' ecosystems function as unique, renewable natural assets (capital) that provide a sustainable flow (income) of valuable ecological and economic goods or services in perpetuity. The Blue Mountain national forests provide non-renewable goods or services while protecting ecological integrity. Diverse species, people, and communities that depend on these ecosystems benefit from this sustainable flow of natural income. Infrastructure and human capital investments maintain these assets and develop the capacity to sustain ecological integrity.</p>	Close-variable depending on scale		
<b>3.1.1 Natural Capital</b> <i>(How do we know if we are sustaining natural assets?)</i>		<p>The Blue Mountain national forests provide a healthy and productive environment and assist in supplying natural assets (capital) to contribute to local, regional, and national social and economic values and needs. They provide valuable renewable and non-renewable resources to produce ecological and economic goods or services that benefit ecosystems, people, and communities. Production of goods or services comes from the growth and investment in the natural assets and plays a fundamental role in providing sustainable flows (income) of multiple uses and values to the public in perpetuity.</p>	Moving in the right direction		
<b>3.1.2 Built Infrastructure</b> <i>(How are we maintaining our roads, trails, and facilities?)</i>		<p>Roads, trails, and facilities are high quality, well maintained, safe, accessible, and consistent with visitor expectations. The transportation system provides public access for recreation, special uses and fire protection activities and supports forest-management objectives.</p>	Moving toward, variable in some places.		
<b>3.1.3 Human Capital</b> <i>(Does the workforce match the stewardship needs to achieve desired conditions?)</i>		<p>Human capital (examples are education, skills, culture, and knowledge) is adequate to maintain natural assets and is adaptive to changes in ecological function, structure, and composition. The local workforce is engaged in prevention, protection, maintenance, and restoration activities on the Blue Mountain national forests. People who reside in the area adapt resource-related human needs for sustainable, multiple benefits and uses of these assets.</p>	Moving toward, variable in some places		

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<p><b>CRITERIA 3.2: FLOW OF PRODUCTS AND SERVICES</b> <i>(How much of the natural assets should we use?)</i></p>	<p>The Blue Mountain national forests provide a sustained flow of valuable ecological and economic products and services for multiple-uses by ecosystems, people, and communities within the regenerative capabilities of the ecosystems. These market and non-market goods and services result from stewardship of the natural assets (capital) and assist in providing desired social values or public goods.</p>	<p>Moving toward, highly variable across the Blues</p>			
<p><b>3.2.1 Production of Market Goods and Services</b> <i>(How much do we produce and how do we value it?)</i></p>	<p>The Blue Mountain national forests produce sustainable flows of market goods and services from the natural income (not the capital) within the productive capacity of the Blue Mountain national forests' ecosystems. These goods and services support commercial uses by people within and outside the area and include but are not limited to sawtimber for wood products, post and poles, fuelwood, utilization of forage for domestic livestock grazing, outfitters and guide operations, mushroom gathering, and minerals.</p>	<p>Moving toward, highly variable across the Blues</p>			
<p><b>3.2.2 Production of Non-Market Goods and Services</b> <i>(How much do we produce and how do we value it?)</i></p>	<p>The Blue Mountain national forests produce sustainable flows of non-market goods and services from the natural income (not the capital) within the productive capacity of the Blue Mountain national forests' ecosystems. These goods and services provide people with multiple on-site and off-site values or uses within and outside the area such as wildlife viewing, fishing, hunting, gathering timber and non-timber products, and participating in diverse recreation opportunities.</p>	<p>Moving toward, highly variable across the Blues</p>			
<p><b>CRITERIA 3.3: TRADE AND DISTRIBUTION EQUITY</b> <i>(How are the economic benefits from the Blue Mountains national forests shared?)</i></p>	<p>Blue Mountain national forests recognize changes in the local, regional, national, and global economy and support efforts to improve the diversity of natural resource-related economies in the Blue Mountains. Local industries use innovative technologies to maintain infrastructure, add value to ecological goods and services produced from the Blue Mountain national forests and to provide high quality local jobs.</p>	<p>Moving toward, highly variable across the Blues</p>			
<p><b>3.3.1 Trade Balance</b> <i>(Are local economies self-sustaining?)</i></p>	<p>Blue Mountain national forests provide a sustainable flow of a variety of commodity and non-commodity resources that assist in supporting economic sustainability of local communities and lifestyles. Local communities support economic sustainability through development of a diverse economic base including infrastructure and manufacturing of wood products, ranching, recreation and tourism opportunities.</p>	<p>Highly variable depending on the location</p>			

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<p><b>3.3.2 Income and Employment</b> <i>(How much does the production of goods and services on the forest affect local people?)</i></p>	<p>Employment and income opportunities related to the Blue Mountain national forests emphasize restoration and stewardship activities to achieve ecological desired conditions. Traditional income and employment opportunities related to timber harvesting and grazing continue to contribute to the custom and culture and livelihood of residents of the local area. Recreation-related income and employment opportunities contribute to local economies and opportunities are sought to enhance 'off-season' months. Employment and income opportunities are expanded within the limits of achieving ecological desired conditions to restore the health of the land.</p>	<p>Highly variable depending on the location</p>			
<p><b>3.3.3 Equity</b> <i>(How are benefits and costs distributed now and in the future?)</i></p>	<p>Investments in restoration and stewardship projects to meet ecological desired conditions contribute to local employment opportunities and support achieving resilient communities. Projects are designed to encourage and facilitate local firms to make long-term investments in infrastructure, equipment, and labor. Strategies and mechanisms for investment link ecosystem restoration and strengthening community capacity to implement stewardship activities. Investments in human capital support training, skills and knowledge and enhance the relationship between learning, adaptive management, and stewardship of the land.</p>	<p>Highly variable depending on the location</p>			
<p><b>CRITERIA 3.4: EFFICIENCY</b> <i>(Are tax dollars being used efficiently?)</i></p>	<p>The Blue Mountain national forests operate efficiently and cost-effectively in producing goods and services from the stewardship of the Blue Mountain national forests.</p>	<p>Moving in the right direction</p>			
<p><b>3.4.1 Net Rent</b> <i>(Are revenues from the Blue Mountains national forests' activities greater than costs?)</i></p>	<p>Efficiency of the allocation of costs and benefits is understood at a variety of different scales.</p>	<p>Moving in the right direction</p>			

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