



Sustainability / Local (Forest Management Unit) Scale



Sustaining Cultural Resources on the Yakama Reservation Forest	
Place-Based Example	Montreal Process Criteria & Indicators (C&I) inspired the Yakama Nation to assess policies and practices for sustaining cultural resources
Discussion	<p>Description: Managers of the Yakama Reservation Forest were inspired to more fully develop its prescription for sustainable forestry by including indicators of cultural resources pertinent to the Yakama Nation after reviewing the 2003 set of C&I that narrowly defined cultural needs and values within two indicators of Criterion 6. They embarked on a multi-year project to more broadly understand cultural resources and develop quantitative and qualitative indicators for assessing the effectiveness of Yakama Nation land management policies and practices in sustaining cultural resources. Tribal elder interviews and field assessments of cultural resources within the Yakama Reservation Forest. Results provided feedback for improving forest management planning.</p> <p>Context: Confronted with significant forest health problems, the Yakama Nation developed a short-term strategy to minimize economic losses by recovering value of dead and dying trees and to reduce hazardous fuel loads; plus a long-term strategy to promote development of a forest that is more resilient to disturbances. Protection and enhancement of cultural resources must be incorporated into the long-term strategy.</p> <p>Value Added: The project is helping preserve cultural resources and the language of the Yakama Nation. A respected tribal member was the principal investigator who learned and used the native language to capture local stories and traditional knowledge during elder interviews. Cultural resources being protected via the forest plan include native plants as well as artifacts and traditional sites. The tribe's perspective about cultural resources and use of the C&I has been shared with other tribes through the Intertribal Timber Council, with others in the United States through the Roundtable on Sustainable Forests, and internationally with indigenous peoples via a conference on Sharing Indigenous Wisdom sponsored by College of Menominee Nation in 2007.</p>
Key Resources and Web Links	<p>Petruncio, M. and R. Jacob. 2008. Yakama Nation's quest for sustainable forestry. <i>In:</i> Proceedings, Sharing indigenous wisdom: An international dialogue on sustainable development, Green Bay, WI, June 11-15, 2007.</p> <p>Petruncio, M. and E. Lewis. 2006. The Yakama's prescription for sustainable forestry. <i>In:</i> Petersen, J., editor. Forestry in Indian Country: Models of sustainability for our nation's forests? Evergreen, Winter 2005-2006.</p>
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