









4. What types of treatments could be implemented without eliminating or substantially impacting the important elements of spotted owl habitat and forest health?

5. How effective would the treatments be in meeting your objective?

6. What would be potential barriers to effective treatments?



## **FIELD STOP C (Spots 1, 2 &3): TREATMENT AREAS**

These spots are intended to expose you to using the Checklists to assess stand condition with emphasis on identifying northern spotted owl habitat and fire habitat characteristics. Specifically, we are asking you to use the Checklists to assess and critique two different levels of treatment in the same habitat. In do this, we are hoping to accomplish the following: identifying terms or attributes not provided on the Checklists, identify items to add to the Checklists, and helping to define the terms utilized on the Checklists. We will utilize these discussions to revise the Checklists on Day 3 of this workshop and post-workshop.

### **Spot 1**

**Here's what you are looking at:** A mixed conifer with some hardwood stand that we consider representative of spotted owl habitat in this area. It is also a riparian area.

**Objective/Assignment:** Compare the structure and characteristics of this stand against the Checklists for spotted owl habitat, fire hazard characteristics and silvicultural condition. Discuss the elements or characteristics that might influence the ability of spotted owls to use the area, forest health and the way fire might move through the stand given different fire starts and weather condition scenarios. You are encouraged to make assumptions to facilitate working through the exercise. Please record your assumptions when responding to the questions that follow.

**Questions:** Any suggestions for the Checklists?



## Spot 2

**Here's what you are looking at:** This is a stand where the treatment was a “light” thinning. Local experts will describe pre and post-thinning stand characteristics. For this exercise, we assume that treatment objectives were met; that is the stand continues to function as spotted owl habitat and fire risk is reduced. The workshop organizers believe that these mutual objectives were met here.

**Objective/Assignment:** Compare this stand to the stand at Spot 1 and note the characteristics of spotted owl habitat that are reduced or missing. Also discuss the changes in silvicultural and fuels characteristics. Utilize your Checklist(s) in framing this discussion. You are encouraged to make assumptions to facilitate working through the exercise. Please record your assumptions when responding to the questions that follow.

### Questions:

1. Do you agree that this stand is spotted owl habitat?
2. Do you agree that fire risk has been reduced?
3. How have the stand structural changes likely impacted spotted owls?
4. How have the stand structural changes likely changed fire behavior and forest health?
5. Are there other ways to conduct the treatments having the same successful results?



