

## **Twin Sisters North of Magnolia Units 52, 53**

Alex Markevich comments based on site visit on Sunday, May 31, with Teagen

### **Unit 52**

Previously treated during Winiger Ridge Project

Mostly well spaced Ponderosa

Limited number of Doug Fir, with DF increasing toward north edge of unit approaching North facing slope roll-off

A very few Lodgepole near Purple Pin TB 19

Mainly DF regen since Winiger treatment

Winiger Project created fire break clearing (~30+ yards wide) along the almost straight North edge of unit from West end of this line up to the East uncut corner (uncut corner is marked by Teagen Track), so unit is well protected from denser North slope of DF beyond it

In general, the unit is fire safe already – well spaced Ponderosa with little ladder fuel. Thinning of recent (post-Winiger) regen will maintain this condition.

Bottom Line

Very good results from Winiger treatment simply need to be maintained

**Cut most regen of 2” DBH or less – keep a few of the taller (close to 2” DBH) Doug Fir for generational diversity**

– Keep viable Ponderosa regen for generational diversity

**Rocky area near Purple Pin TB 19 has a few Lodgepole. These can be left (as part of North Slope beyond unit boundary) or removed to reduce Lodgepole encroaching**

**Do not cut areas:**

- Two rock outcropping areas at Red Pins TB28 and TB29, outlined by Teagen Tracks. These provide elevational cover for animals to hide behind / in while transiting through the more open surrounding terrain (and, in any case, have very little regen)
- North East corner of unit (marked by Red Pin TB20 and Teagen Track) that was correctly not treated in Winiger Project. This leaves dense forest to mask animal transit corridor in this area extending North East to Aqueduct. Animal transit here is known. We want the dense forest in this corner to keep humans out of this area. Any cutting here would compromise the animal corridor. Nothing to be gained by cutting here for fire safety because this is really the continuation of the dense North and North East facing slopes beyond the main flatter part of the unit.

*Area marked by Purple Pin TB 19 “Cut DF regen up to 2” DBH throughout unit. Cut few Lodgepole located near pin”*

## Unit 53

Aspen Unit in two sections (one of which is adjacent to unit 52)

Previously treated in Winiger Project

Camping area – high social value

Winiger Project opened up area to Aspen, but left behind a very pleasant mixture of Conifers well spaced out to not compromise Aspen access to sunlight. Many, but not all, of the left behind Conifers are over 14” DBH

Conifer regen since Winiger treatment is not yet a threat to Aspen, but could be in 30 – 50 years

- We will want to push this threat back by thinning regen, while leaving all the non-regen trees alone (that is, all the trees that were not cut during Winiger)

Bottom line

Retain the nature of the Winiger Treatment

Cut most Conifer regen 2” DBH or less

Retain a very few of the large Doug Fir regens (close to 2” DBH) for generational diversity

- Area around Blue Pin (shown only on the Avenza 2 map) North East of Green Pin 27 has a number of larger Doug Fir regens close to 2” DBH in an open area that do not threaten Aspen. Keep one or two of these for generational diversity

Retain some viable Ponderosa regen for generational diversity

### Do not cut

- **Two islands of very dense Doug Fir of mixed generations indicated by Teagen Tracks around Red Pins 30 and 31.** These should be left alone as they provide visual separation for humans and animal near roads or trails. Plus, they have almost no Aspen impact.
- **Strip at South edge of unit along Magnolia Road (indicated by Teagen Track, which connects at both ends to unit boundary – the strip lies between the Teagen Track and Magnolia Road).** This, similar to the two Doug Fir islands mentioned above, provides a visual barrier between Magnolia road and the more open Aspen areas. Again, little impact here on Aspen (though there are a few Aspen within this strip). Strip serves both an esthetic social value (view when driving on Magnolia, shielding of campground from Magnolia, and animal transit cover (again – shielding from Magnolia, and together with DF island at TB 31, shielding for passage near area of intersection of campground road with Magnolia).

*Area marked by Green Pin TB 27 “Cut 95% regen 2” and under”. And Green Pin TB 18  
“Cut regen”*