

# Memo

**To:** Ole Buch, Acting Western Lane District Forester

**From:** Jason Hayzlett, Acting Management Unit Forester

**CC:** Dave Lorenz, Southern Oregon Area Director  
Brian Pew, Deputy Chief, State Forests Division

**Date:** June 28, 2016

**Re:** Information Item - Approved Annual Operations Plan for 2017

The 2017 State Forests Annual Operations Plan for the Western Lane District is attached for your review and approval. During my review of this plan, I have found that it is consistent with the *Northwest Oregon State Forests Management Plan*, the 2003 Western Lane District Implementation Plan, and the 2017 Annual Operations Planning Standards and Guidance memorandum.

This annual operations plan covers proposed forest management activities for fiscal year 2017.

During its preparation, this plan was reviewed by technical specialists from within the department and biologists from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and US FWS and archeologists from the Oregon Department of Transportation. Their comments were received verbally and in writing (written comments are on file in the district office). The draft annual operations plan also underwent a 45-day public comment period. No public comments were received specific to this Annual Operations Plan.

Approval of this plan does not constitute final approval of individual project details. Individual timber sales are subject to additional review processes at the district and program staff level before approval for auction. The operations described in this plan may be modified during the final preparation and/or implementation. Modifications to these operations will conform to the process included in the Annual Operations Planning policy.

The official copy of this Annual Operations Plan will be on file at the district office. Additional copies are available at the State Forests Division office in Salem.

The plan is also available on the ODF web site at:

<http://www.oregon.gov/ODF/Working/Pages/StateForests.aspx>

APPROVED:

Ole Buch, Acting Western Lane District Forester

Date

6/28/16

# WESTERN LANE DISTRICT

## 2017 ANNUAL OPERATIONS PLAN

### OVERVIEW

This overview describes the planned activities that Oregonians can expect to see on Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) managed land located in Lane County, Oregon. The ODF managed land in Lane County differs from other state forest districts in that it is smaller (25,500 acres) and the ownership pattern is fragmented into numerous small blocks. This ‘fragmented’ ownership pattern is common to all landowner types in Western Lane county – both public and private. Managing forestland on smaller fragmented parcels can offer unique challenges, however there is still ample opportunity to provide a mixture of environmental, economic and social benefits to the citizens of Oregon.

The Western Lane Annual Operations Plan (AOP) is divided into five major categories: Integrated Forest Management, Planning Activities, Information Systems, Public Information and Education, Administration, and Appendices. Specific details for items in each of these categories are described using a combination of tables and written narratives. The intent of this overview is to briefly summarize some of the items identified in the five categories so that the reader can more efficiently review the proposed activities in the 2017 AOP.

Over the next two months, ODF will request review and comments on our plan from others, including the Forest Trust Land Advisory Committee (representing the counties that deeded land to ODF), the State Forests Advisory Committee (SFAC - composed of Oregonians representing many interests), Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, motorized and non-motorized recreation users, hunters, fishermen, and wildlife advocates, as well as Oregonians in general.

During this time, we want to hear your feedback and suggested revisions. In addition, any *thank you* messages to staff and volunteers are welcomed and appreciated. Thanks in advance for your review and engagement.

#### A short summary of activities planned for the coming year:

- Conducting vegetation management activities on approximately 68 acres.
- Planting 65,000 seedlings on approximately 157 acres.
- Continuing ‘early detection, rapid response’ strategy for invasive species control.
- Proposing to harvest 7.3 MMBF on 208 acres with an estimated net revenue of \$2,400,000.
- Constructing 0.7 miles of new roads.
- Improving 3.1 miles of existing roads.
- Continuing to improve or maintain haul routes to ensure ditch water is dispersed and filtered as much as possible, keeping runoff from entering streams.
- Providing personal firewood cutting opportunities to the members of the surrounding community.
- Conducting approximately 120 marbled murrelet survey visits.
- Conducting monitoring surveys on 9 northern spotted owl sites.
- Conducting operational and/or spot check spotted owl surveys on approximately 21 timber sales.
- Protecting and improving stream habitat through the application of FMP riparian strategies and potential placement of in-stream large woody debris.
- Improving or developing wildlife habitat by creating snags, retaining green trees in clearcut areas, and leaving down wood.
- Planning for and preparing for the 2018 AOP.
- Potentially conducting a revision to the 2003 Implementation Plan.



**WESTERN LANE  
DISTRICT**

**2017 ANNUAL  
OPERATIONS PLAN**

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# WESTERN LANE DISTRICT

## 2017 ANNUAL OPERATIONS PLAN

### INTRODUCTION

This annual operations plan (AOP) covers the State Forest Land managed by the Western Lane District for Fiscal Year 2017 (FY17), which begins July 1, 2016 and ends June 30, 2017. This document describes how the activities and projects undertaken by the district will achieve the goals, strategies, and objectives of the NW Oregon Forest Management Plan (FMP) and the Western Lane District Implementation Plan (IP). Refer to the district IP for more specific information on the history, physical characteristics, and other resource information on the district.

This AOP is divided into five major categories: Integrated Forest Management, Planning and Information Systems, Public Information and Education, Administration, and Appendices.

The proposed harvest operations are planned to be auctioned for sale during the FY17 time period. The actual on-the-ground operations will likely not occur during FY17 due to the time lag associated with contract duration, which could be one to three years after auction. In contrast, reforestation, young stand management, recreation management, and planning activities will be carried out during the FY17 time period.

Included in this AOP is a minor modification to the landscape design. The details associated with this minor modification can be reviewed in Appendix F. This AOP is aligned with the proposed IP modifications and the modifications will be finalized and approved prior to the approval of this AOP.

A 45-day public comment period started on April 4, 2016 and will end on May 18, 2016. The District Forester will consider the comments received during this period and will send back responses as appropriate.

The accomplishments of forest management activities that occurred under previous AOPs can be found in several reports, including the "State Forester's Annual Report for the Association of Oregon Counties, the "Common School Forest Lands Annual Report", and the individual district annual reports (these reports also cover the accomplishments of the Fire Protection and Private Forests Programs). These reports are available through the local district office or through the internet at: <http://www.oregon.gov/ODF/Pages/Reports.aspx>

# INTEGRATED FOREST MANAGEMENT

## OPERATIONS

### Timber Harvest Operations

#### **Overview of Timber Harvest Operations**

The planned timber harvest operations are within the total acres objective in the Western Lane District IP. Activities in the AOP will allow for stands to be moved toward complex structure and contribute revenue to the counties with the overall objective of 4 - 8 MMBF.

The FY17 harvest operations are estimated to generate gross revenues of approximately \$2,783,000 and net revenues of \$2,403,000. It is estimated that active management will result in producing approximately 7.3 million board feet of volume. In addition to the above revenue and volume, some sales are expected to have pulp removed from sale areas. The amount and value of pulp is difficult to predict during the planning process but will likely occur in areas of regeneration harvest on steep slopes and whole tree yarding systems. This material also has potential for use in biomass operations.

Table 1 compares the proposed acres by harvest type<sup>1</sup> in this AOP to the harvest acre ranges specified in the IP. Total planned acres in this AOP are 164 net acres (approximately 0.6% of the district's total acreage) which achieves the annual volume objective. Harvest activities in this AOP consist of regeneration harvest only. The anticipated harvest acres, volume, and revenue for each proposed operation in this AOP are listed in the "Harvest Operations – Financial Summary" table in Appendix B, while a vicinity map of these harvest operations can be found in Appendix C.

Table 1. Annual Operations Plan objectives compared to annual objectives identified in the Western Lane District Implementation Plan. All values are in net acres.

Silvicultural Activity	IP Annual Objective		2017 AOP Objective
	Low	High	
Partial Cut Harvest	0	500	0
Regeneration Harvest	0	280	208

<sup>1</sup> The definitions of the harvest types used to describe timber harvesting on State Forests are available upon request. Briefly, a Modified Clearcut is the most common of three type of Regeneration Harvest (or clearcut) that may occur on State Forests. The defining characteristics of Modified Clearcuts are that they meet the structural component standards of the FMP (green tree, snag, and down wood).

All of the Primary and Alternate harvest operations and many of the other forest management activities have been reviewed by ODF's wildlife biologists, aquatic specialist, geotechnical engineers, road engineer, and operations coordinator, as well as fish and wildlife biologists from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. Information on operations that occur within the provincial circle of northern spotted owl has been provided to the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Occasionally, operations may contain a resource or activity where review with another state agency, such as the Department of Agriculture or the Department of State Lands, is warranted. Written comments from the external resource specialists and the resolution of those comments can be found in Appendix D.

Some smaller additional operations targeting infrastructure maintenance will also produce timber volume during the 2017 fiscal year. These small operations are not included as part of the AOP because they affect a very small area, produce little volume or revenue, and do not require significant effort to develop and execute. For example, in the past we have auctioned salvage sales for small quantities of blown down timber located in an area with reasonable operational access. Other examples may include small low value areas where an opportunity to harvest presents itself due to active adjacent harvest, or the removal of hazard trees next to neighboring residences or public roads. These sales will be less than \$100,000 in value and comply with all policies and plans.

Be aware that only limited reconnaissance has been conducted on the proposed FY 2017 sales and that boundaries, volumes, and prescriptions may be modified as field work progresses. Plus, winter storms may cause blowdown that will need to be salvaged in lieu of preparing some of the operations listed.

Structural habitat components such as green trees, snags and down woody debris (DWD) are described in Chapter 4 of the NW FMP and may be considered for all harvest prescriptions; however, the emphasis will be placed on regeneration harvest.

The green tree retention target for regeneration harvest units is five trees per acre. Green tree arrangements for this AOP include; scattered individual trees, clumps of trees, and trees concentrated in and adjacent to riparian management areas.

The FMP strategy for hard snags is to manage for at least two per acre on average across the landscape. The need for snag creation for regeneration sales is evaluated on a sale by sale basis.

The FMP strategy for Down Woody Debris is to retain an average of 600 to 900 cubic feet of hard conifer logs (class 1 & 2) per acre during regeneration harvest.

Opportunities for natural recruitment of snags and DWD is created by laminated root rot disease (*Phellinus weiri*). In severe cases of root rot, we attempt to retard the spread of the disease by cutting out the infected trees. In other cases we do not cut out the infected trees. This allows the disease to spread at a rate of approximately one foot per year, slowly adding snags and DWD to the stand. Whether laminated root rot is treated or untreated, we know from experience that additional trees will be infected by the disease, creating snags and eventually DWD.

Within a given annual operations plan, snags and DWD may be retained at higher levels in some units and at lower levels in other units, with the intent of achieving the landscape targets outlined in the Forest Management Plan strategies. Post-harvest DWD results can be attributed to natural recruitment from green tree retention, residual logging slash, and tree topping.

In order to protect water quality during active operations, a variety of methods will be used to prevent sediment from entering live streams. These methods include (but are not limited to) maintaining culverts and other road drainage structures, using sediment control devices in road ditches when necessary, and seasonal restrictions on logging and hauling operations. Culvert installment and replacement in live streams will be conducted between July 1 and Aug. 31. Operations outside of this period will be

reviewed by ODF staff specialists and/or ODFW. Riparian management areas result in leave trees adjacent to the stream which protect stream temperature, provide nutrients, protect stream banks, and eventually provide wood to improve fish habitat.

## Summary of Timber Harvest Operations

Please note that the Western Lane district is considered one basin.

Table 2. Summary of Timber Harvest Operations. All values are in net acres.

District	2017 AOP	
	Partial Cut	Regeneration
Western Lane (all land managed by the Western Lane district is considered one basin)	0	208

- Barber North: One unit totaling 98 net acres of modified clearcut in 75 year old Douglas-fir. Six trees per acre will be retained to provide future snags, downed wood, and structure. Trees will be left in and/or adjacent to riparian areas, in green tree retention areas, and/or scattered in the unit. About 0.4 miles of rocked spur will be constructed and 0.6 miles improved to better access the sale area. The entire sale will be designated as desired future condition 'General' after the approval of the minor landscape design modification referenced above.
- Tilden Beach: One unit totaling 110 net acres of modified clearcut in a 71 year old stand of Douglas-fir and red alder. Six trees per acre will be retained to provide future snags, downed wood, and structure. Trees will be left in green tree retention areas, adjacent to riparian areas and scattered in the unit. 0.25 miles of rocked spur will be constructed and 2.5 miles will require significant improvement to access the sale area. The road improvement will occur on a legacy road that was constructed in approximately the 1950's. Improvement will consist of culvert replacement and installation, drainage improvement, occasional subgrade reconstruction, sidecast pullback, and surfacing. The entire sale is designated as desired future condition 'General'.
- Bear Post (Alternate Sale): Three units totaling 105 net acres. One of the three units (14 acres) are proposed modified clearcuts located in 79 year old timber. The other two units (91 acres) are moderate thinnings located in 42 year old timber. In the modified clearcut unit, six trees per acre will be retained to provide for future snags and structure. Said trees will be left scattered across the unit and/or left in green tree retention areas. In the moderate thinning, trees will be thinned from below with an objective to capture mortality and increase future stand growth. Approximately 0.1 miles of road will be constructed and 1.7 miles of road will be improved to access the sale area.
- By Gally (Alternate Sale): One unit totaling 89 net acres of modified clearcut in 75 year old Douglas-fir stand that was partial cut approximately 20 years ago. Six trees per acre will be retained to provide future snags, downed wood, and structure. Trees will be left in the riparian areas and scattered in clumps or individually within the unit. About 0.2 miles of rocked spur will be improved to provide better all-weather access the sale area. The

entire sale will be designated as desired future condition ‘General’ after the approval of the minor landscape design modification referenced above.

- East Chicken (Alternate Sale): One unit totaling 81 net acres of modified clearcut in 80 year old Douglas-fir stand. Six trees per acre will be retained to provide future snags, downed wood, and structure. Trees will be left in the riparian areas and scattered in the unit. About 1.7 miles of rocked spur will be constructed to better access the sale area. Entire sale is designated as desired future condition ‘General’.
- GM Thin (Alternate Sale): One unit totaling 142 net acres of a moderate thinning in 44 year old Douglas-fir. Thinning will be “from below” where the objective is to capture mortality and improve future stand growth. Approximately 0.4 miles of road will be constructed and 0.3 miles will be improved to better access the sale area.
- Speed Walker (Alternate Sale): One unit totaling 41 net acres of modified clearcut in 76 year old conifer stand. Six trees per acre will be retained to provide future snags, downwood, and structure. Majority of leave trees will be left in, or adjacent to, the riparian areas and in a green tree retention area. 0.2 miles rocked spur will be constructed and 0.2 miles of existing road will be improved to access the sale area. The new construction will connect the Walker Point road system with the Tilden Ridge road system. Connecting these road systems will create a more efficient transportation network. All areas are in locations designated as desired future condition ‘General’.
- Tilden Two (Alternate Sale): One unit totaling 72 net acres of modified clearcut in 64 year old mixed conifer and hardwood stand. Seven trees per acre will be retained to provide future snags, downed wood, and structure. Trees will be left in retention areas, in or adjacent to the riparian areas, and scattered in the unit. About 0.04 miles of rocked spur will be constructed to better access the sale area. Entire sale is designated as desired future condition ‘General’.

## Forest Roads Management

### **Overview**

The *Forest Roads Manual 2000* describes the vision, guiding principles and practices for road construction and maintenance on ODF managed forest land. This AOP describes five categories of road management activities: Construction, improvement, closure/vacation, maintenance, and rock pit development.

Western Lane roads are designed and used to conduct forest management activities. The public should exercise care when driving these roads for other purposes.

Refer to Summary Table A – 4 for the Forest Roads Summary for the 2017 AOP.

## Road Construction

Only limited reconnaissance has been conducted on the proposed FY 2017 sales. Locations and costs may change as field work progresses.

Approximately 0.7 miles of road will be constructed. The estimated cost for the newly constructed roads for each sale is shown in Appendix A. These spurs will be located primarily on ridge tops in stable locations away from streams.

- Barber North: 0.4 miles
- Tilden Beach: 0.3 miles

## Road Improvement

This AOP proposed to improve approximately 3.1 miles of road. The estimated costs associated with the proposed improvement activities are shown in Appendix A. Improvement activities will usually consists mostly of re-surfacing and drainage improvement. However, the 2.5 miles of improvement for the Tilden Beach timber sale will consist of culvert replacement and installation, drainage improvement, occasional subgrade reconstruction, sidecast pullback, and surfacing.

- Barber North: 0.6 miles
- Tilden Beach: 2.5 miles

## Road Access Management

Rocked roads are not normally vacated since we want to keep these roads open for forest management purposes, fire protection, and public recreation. Most ODF-controlled roads are ridgeline with little potential for sediment to enter streams.

ODF possesses permanent easements or reciprocal road use agreements on the access routes for the Barber North timber sale. In addition, the Barber North timber sale will require temporary road use agreements for the use of an existing road and for the construction of a short ridge top spur. The Tilden Beach timber sale access route is entirely on county roads and/or ODF controlled roads. Some permanent easements or reciprocal agreements may require separate License Agreements that identify maintenance responsibilities and their associated costs.

ODF controlled roads are usually kept open for public use. However, we retain the option of gating if vandalism, neighbor concerns, or excessive road damage from public use becomes a problem in particular areas.

## Road Maintenance

Roads will be maintained as necessary to protect water quality and the road system asset value. Road maintenance is accomplished by timber sale purchasers, through R/W agreements, and by contracting road maintenance. In addition, small amounts of roadside herbicide applications are done by District personnel or private contractors. The District does not own heavy equipment such as graders, dozers, or backhoes.

On roads not being actively used for timber hauling, the District practices a low level of maintenance by maintaining drainage and keeping encroaching vegetation in check. This keeps roads open in order to conduct forest management activities and maintains access for fire protection. No attempt is made to maintain smooth running surfaces. In some instances, rather than incurring the expense of continuously pulling ditches, drive-thru waterbars are combined with outsloping to minimize surface erosion caused by water running down wheel tracks caused by public use.

During periodic road inspections and in the course of normal forestry work we look for areas with potential sidecast failures. If found, fixing these areas will be done as part of timber sale contracts or more immediately as separate road maintenance contracts, depending upon the recommendation of the Area geotechnical engineer.

## **Land Surveying**

No property line surveys are anticipated during this planning cycle.

## Young Stand Management

Refer to Summary Table A – 5 to review the Reforestation and Young Stand Management Summary for the 2017 AOP.

## **Site Preparation**

Site preparation is the activity to create planting spots and/or reduce brush cover to allow planted seedlings and natural seedlings to become established. Site preparation may include slash burning, slash and brush piling, or herbicide treatment. Vine maple, bigleaf maple, salal, and salmonberry are the primary competing species in most areas. Each completed unit will be evaluated for site preparation needs. At this time we are proposing the following site preparation activities:

Approximately 68 acres may be ground sprayed for site preparation purposes. These acres are located in the Barber timber sale. Slash burning or piling may also occur in areas where feasible. Estimated costs associated with site preparations are shown in Appendix A.

## **Planting**

Tree planting operations are conducted for various reasons. These include meeting Forest Practices Laws and quickly establishing a new stand of trees after timber harvesting. Units are planted primarily with Douglas-fir, which is the dominant naturally occurring species in the area. However, other conifer species are planted in order to provide diversity in the unit and across the landscape. Minor species planted usually consists of western hemlock and western red cedar. Approximately 415 trees per acre will be planted. About 157 acres of initial planting is anticipated. Estimated costs associated with initial planting are shown in Appendix A.

Interplanting is used to raise stocking in young plantations that are below acceptable levels, to a minimum of 300 trees per acre. Surveys are conducted one and two years after initial planting to determine interplanting needs. Where necessary, interplanting is done the following winter. During the spring and fall of 2016 surveys will be conducted to determine interplanting needs for the 2017 planting season. There are no acres currently planned for interplanting, but it is likely that we will conduct interplant operations based on stocking survey results.

## **Vegetation Management**

In some cases, a few years after plantation establishment, competing vegetation threatens the survival of planted seedlings. Competing vegetation is usually salmonberry and vine maple. Excess red alder and/or bigleaf maple may also need to be controlled.

About 89 acres of modified clearcuts in western Lane County may be release sprayed in order to reduce the amount of competition between the existing brush and the seedlings. An evaluation for hack and spray treatment will occur during the summer of 2016. This evaluation may lead to some units receiving a hack and spray treatment in order to control competing vine maple and big leaf maple. Estimated costs associated with vegetation management (i.e. release treatments) are shown in Appendix A.

## **Tree Protection**

Planted conifer is sometimes clipped off by mountain beavers. In other areas deer or elk may bite off the tips. Occasionally the District may encase seedlings in plastic mesh tubes for protection. The district has not trapped mountain beavers, but may consider doing so in heavily populated areas.

No tree protection or trapping is planned. However, examination this summer may show that seedling protection is necessary in some areas.

## **Pre-commercial Thinning**

The district is not planning to precommercially thin (PCT) this fiscal year. There may be limited opportunities for PCT operations if funding became available through increased revenue or grant funds. A detailed review of PCT candidates will take place if funding becomes available. It is estimated that even if there was adequate funding, the Western Lane District would PCT less than 100 acres.

## **Fertilization**

No fertilization activities are planned for this AOP.

## Recreation Management

### **Overview of Recreation Management**

ODF-managed land in Lane County is scattered and not adjacent to areas of high recreational interest. However, State land has a low level of hunting and backroad driving. Our timber sale activities increase forage for big game and grouse, and our road building improves recreational access.

### **Facilities (Campgrounds, View Points, Trail Heads, etc.)**

No recreation facilities exist on ODF managed land in Lane County.

### **Trails**

No recognized trails exist on ODF managed land in Lane County.

### Land Exchange

There are no land exchanges planned at this time. In addition, there are no known Department of State Lands (aka Common School Land) parcel sales or desertification of lands managed in the Western Lane District. It should be known though, that DSL land sales are decisions made by DSL, not ODF and said parcel sales may occur within the planning timeline of this AOP. Therefore, a DSL parcel sale may occur within FY 2017 without being identified in this AOP.

At this time the district does not have an approved land exchange plan. District personnel may commence the preparation of a land exchange plan should time allow.

## Other Integrated Forest Management Operations

### ***District Firewood Cutting Program***

#### Purpose:

The primary objective of the District Firewood Cutting Program is to provide a source of firewood from State Forests to the public for personal use and secondarily to reduce fuel hazards, protect crop trees, improve visibility along roads, and provide a recreational opportunity. The District's Firewood Cutting Program is tied to the completion of timber sales. Timber sale contracts require any non-merchantable wood or cull material that has been yarded to the landing and is suitable for firewood to be placed in a pile. Purchasers of BOF lands timber sales are using more of the branches and materials left after trees are harvested, so opportunities for personal firewood cutting may be limited. In addition, many of the completed timber sales are located in areas that do not have public access, which also reduces firewood availability.

State Forests are managed for multiple benefits; snags, downed wood and stumps are important habitat components under our Forest Management Plan. Any individual gathering firewood on State Forests land should follow the permit instructions, consult the permit maps and personnel at their local ODF office to ensure they remain on State Forests land. Property lines are frequently unmarked and any permission obtained from ODF to gather firewood is only valid on State Forests land. Harvesting firewood without the landowner's permission is trespass.

Firewood is a high-risk vector for wood-boring insects, such as emerald ash borer and Asian longhorned beetle, two species responsible for widespread defoliation of forests in Midwest and Eastern states. The Oregon Invasive Weed Council and ODF encourage people to obtain their firewood in a place as close as possible to the place where it will be burned. Recreationists have a role in protecting the forests by not moving firewood great distances.

The district rules for firewood cutting and the process for obtaining firewood cutting permits is described below.

When:

The public will be notified of firewood cutting permits by posting notices at the district office, in the field and/or at nearby public areas such as bulletin boards at local markets. Notices may also be posted on the ODF's external website (<http://www.oregon.gov/ODF/Working/Pages/Firewood.aspx>). Permits will only be issued during the months outside the fire season. Fire season is generally from July 1<sup>st</sup> through October 15th. The availability and duration of each permit will be determined by the State Forest Unit Manager on a case by case basis. Items considered may include, but are not limited to: access, quantity of firewood, management goals, resource and infrastructure protection, and workload management.

Who:

A limited number of personal firewood cutting permits will be issued to the public, on a first come-first served basis. The permit is valid for two cords and shall not be transferred to another party and shall not be used to sell firewood to another party. Oregon Department of Forestry does not guarantee the quality or availability of wood when issuing firewood cutting permits. Exceptions to the two cord limit may be made for non-profit organizations, with prior district authorization.

Where:

Designated firewood cutting areas will be marked on the permit map, which excludes active and sold timber sales, recreation sites, and planned operations. There is no guarantee that units or travel routes will be posted in the field.

How:

Enforcement of firewood cutting permits will be accomplished by law enforcement officers and following the Firewood Cutting Guidance described in 12.2.G1.2.2. Additional firewood cutting permit requirements and guidelines may be provided with the permit.

## Planning (and Information Systems)

Below are the significant district-level planning projects currently scheduled for FY 2017.

## **Implementation Plan Revision**

The Western Lane District Implementation Plan (IP) under the *Northwest Oregon State Forests Management Plan* was approved in March 2003. The original 2003 IP was intended to be a 10 year planning document that would be revised sometime around the 2013 calendar year. The revision did not occur in 2013 and was deferred until other districts under the Northwest Oregon State Forests Management Plan completed their revisions. Resources may now be available for Western Lane to revise their IP, therefore it is anticipated that the revision could occur during FY2017. The new IP may result in different harvest levels. If the levels increase, one or more of the alternate operations identified in this AOP may be moved to primary status.

## **Stand Level Inventory and Other Vegetation Inventories**

Stand level inventory (SLI) efforts may take place on the district during the 2017 fiscal year. These efforts may be accomplished using the combined efforts of contracts administered by Salem staff and in-house work conducted by district personnel.

## **Fish and Wildlife Surveys**

Western Lane District has a very active spotted owl and marbled murrelet survey program. All survey results are reviewed by an ODFW representative.

We typically survey 5 to 10 current and potential sale areas each year for spotted owls under ODF contracts or in cooperation with federal agencies. In addition, Northern Spotted Owl activity centers that affect State land are monitored.

Marbled murrelet surveys are conducted annually on about 5 potential sale areas.

The District will conduct physical surveys for unknown streams. Forest Practices data and personal knowledge are also used for sale planning.

**Table 3. Summary of Threatened and Endangered Species Surveys for Timber Sales Identified in the 2017 AOP.**

Operation	Species <sup>1</sup> (NSO/MM)	Survey Years <sup>2</sup>	BA <sup>3</sup> Required	Special Considerations
Barber North	NSO	13 - 16	Yes	
Barber North	MM	12, 13, 15 & 16	No	
Tilden Beach	NSO	13 - 16	No	
Tilden Beach	MM	14 - 15	No	
By Gally	NSO	14 - 16	Yes	
By Gally	MM	N/A	No	None required
East Chicken	NSO	15 - 16	No	
East Chicken	MM	15 & 16	No	
GM Thin	NSO	13 - 16	No	
GM Thin	MM	14 & 15	No	

Bear Post	NSO	13 - 15	No	
Bear Post	MM	11 & 12	No	
Speed Walker	NSO	13 - 15	Yes	
Speed Walker	MM	N/A	No	None required
Tilden Two	NSO	13 - 16	Yes	
Tilden Two	MM	N/A	No	None required

<sup>1</sup> Surveys are conducted according to accepted protocols when habitat for the specific species is determined to be present. NSO – northern spotted owl, MM – marbled murrelet.

<sup>2</sup> Years that surveys have been completed or are planned.

<sup>3</sup> A Biologic Assessment is required for this operation due to the presence of NSO or MM in the vicinity of the operation.

## **Other Planning Operations**

Preparing the 2017 Annual Operations Plan. Preparation efforts include reconnoitering operations, developing pre-operation reports, and preparing T&E surveys.

The district may commence the preparation of a land exchange plan. The development of a land exchange plan will be determined by the availability of staff.

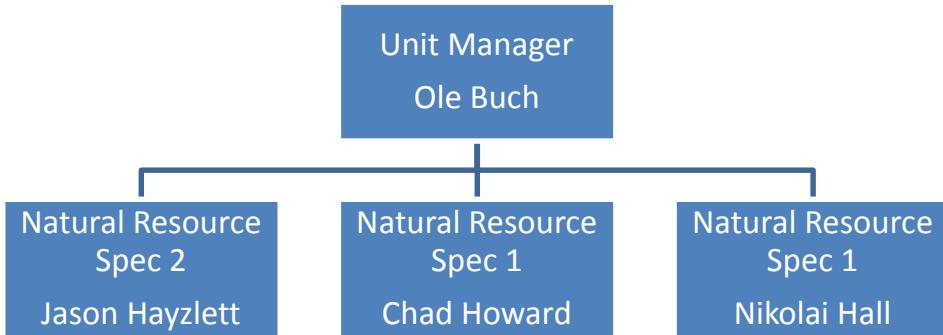
## **Public Information and Education**

Public information and involvement will include public review and comments on the 2017 AOP. In addition, informal public review and comment on all district State Forests management activities on an ongoing basis is expected and welcomed.

## **Administration**

There are currently four full time foresters (State Forests Unit Manager, Natural Resources Specialist 2, and two Natural Resource Specialist 1's) in the Western Lane District State Forests program. The NRS 2 also acts as the computer systems and GIS specialist for all District programs. The four foresters perform all the tasks normally handled by engineering, marketing, reforestation/young stand management, GIS, T&E, and planning specialists in the larger districts.

The State Forests budget partially funds the District Forester, Office Manager and Receptionist/Dispatcher. Since there is no Assistant District Forester, the State Forests Unit Manager is responsible for the State Forests portion of that position.



## APPENDIXES

### A. Summary Tables

- a. Harvest Operations – Financial Summary
- b. Harvest Operations – Forest Resource Summary
- c. Harvest Operations – Stand Structure Summary
- d. Forest Road Management Summary
- e. Reforestation and Young Stand Management Summary
- f. Recreation Management Summary

### B. Maps

- a. Harvest Operations Vicinity Map

### C. Consultations with Other State Agencies

This appendix summarizes the results of consultations with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and other agencies, as appropriate. This appendix contains any written comments that we received from state agencies.

### D. Public Involvement

This appendix describes the results of the public involvement process of this AOP and will be added prior to its approval.

### E. Pre-Operations Reports

Pre-Operations Reports are available from the district upon request.

### F. Landscape Design Minor Modifications

## TIMBER HARVEST OPERATIONS - FINANCIAL SUMMARY

District: Western Lane

Fiscal Year: 2017

Date: 12/14/2015

Primary Operation	Fund %		County	Sale Quarter	Net Acres		Volume (MMBF)			Value		
	BOF	CSL			Partial Cut	Clear-cut	Conifer	Hard-woods	Total	Gross	Projects	Net
Barber North	100%	0%	Lane	3	0	98	2.7	0.2	2.9	\$1,029,000	\$180,000	\$849,000
Tilden Beach	100%	0%	Lane	2	0	110	4.1	0.3	4.4	\$1,754,000	\$200,000	\$1,554,000
				Total:	0	208	6.8	0.5	7.3	\$ 2,783,000	\$ 380,000	\$ 2,403,000

### Alternate Operations

By Gally	100%	0%	Lane		0	89	3.1	0	3.1	\$1,250,000	\$30,000	\$1,220,000
East Chicken	100%	0%	Lane		0	81	3.8	0	3.8	\$1,536,000	\$305,000	\$1,231,000
GM Thin	100%	0%	Lane		142	0	1.7	0	1.7	\$512,000	\$55,000	\$457,000
Bear Post	100%	0%	Lane		91	14	1.0	0	1.0	\$314,000	\$91,000	\$223,000
Speed Walker	100%	0%	Lane		0	40	1.3	0.0	1.3	\$553,000	\$77,000	\$476,000
Tilden Two	100%	0%	Lane		0	71	1.0	0.2	1.2	\$386,000	\$41,000	\$345,000

## **PRIMARY HARVEST OPERATIONS - FOREST RESOURCE SUMMARY**

**District:**

**Western Lane**

Fiscal Year 2017

**Date:** 12/15/2015

This table lists Forest Resources and other issues addressed within Pre-Operations Report due to their presence within or near harvest operations

<sup>1</sup> A 'x' (in any column) indicates yes the resource or other issue occurs within or near the harvest operation and is addressed by the Pre-Operations Report

<sup>2</sup> A 'x' indicates the harvest operation contains stands that are currently in a Layered or Older Forest Stand Structure.

<sup>3</sup> A 'x' indicate that the operation contains areas that have been designated for the development of complex forest stands.

<sup>4</sup> The final decision on these projects will occur during sale preparation and in consultation with ODFW.

<sup>5</sup> This table lists harvest operations (units or log haul routes) that are adjacent to streams that are known to contain T&E fish. The Pre-Operation Report identifies whether T&E fish are present in the basin.

## **ALTERNATE HARVEST OPERATIONS - FOREST RESOURCE SUMMARY**

This table lists Forest Resources and other issues addressed within Pre-Operations Report due to their presence within or near harvest operations

<sup>1</sup> A 'x' (in any column) indicates yes the resource or other issue occurs within or near the harvest operation and is addressed by the Pre-Operations Report

<sup>2</sup> A 'x' indicates the harvest operation contains stands that are currently in a Layered or Older Forest Stand Structure.

<sup>3</sup> A 'x' indicate that the operation contains areas that have been designated for the development of complex forest stands.

<sup>4</sup> The final decision on these projects will occur during sale preparation and in consultation with ODFW.

<sup>5</sup> This table lists harvest operations (units or log haul routes) that are adjacent to streams that are known to contain T&E fish. The Pre-Operation Report identifies whether T&E fish are present in the basin.

## TIMBER HARVEST OPERATIONS - FOREST STRUCTURE SUMMARY

District: Western Lane

Fiscal Year 2017

Date: 12/14/2015

Current Structure	
	Total
REG	
CSC	
UDS	208
LYR	
OFS	
Total	208

Post Harvest Structure				
REG	CSC	UDS	LYR	OFS
208				
208	0	0	0	0

Desired Future Condition		
GEN	LYR	OFS
157		51
157	0	0

The 51 acres of OFS will be reclassified as GEN before sale is sold.

## FOREST ROADS SUMMARY

District: Western Lane

2017

Date:

12/15/2015

Operation	Construction		Improvement		Other Projects	Total Project Costs	Gross Value of Operation	Total Cost as a percent of Gross Value	Comments
	Miles	Cost	Miles	Cost					
Barber North	0.4	\$120,000	0.6	\$50,000	\$10,000	\$180,000	\$1,029,000	17.5%	
Tilden Beach	0.3	\$20,000	2.5	\$170,000	\$10,000	\$200,000	\$1,754,000	11.4%	
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>\$140,000</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>\$220,000</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>	<b>\$380,000</b>	<b>\$2,783,000</b>	<b>13.7%</b>	

### Alternate Operations

By Gally	0.0	\$0	0.2	\$30,000	\$0	\$30,000	\$1,250,000	2.4%	
East Chicken	1.7	\$298,000	0.0	\$0	\$7,000	\$305,000	\$1,536,000	19.9%	
GM Thin	0.9	\$44,000	0.3	\$9,000	\$2,000	\$55,000	\$512,000	10.7%	
Bear Post	0.1	\$8,000	2	\$82,000	\$1,000	\$91,000	\$455,000	20.0%	
Speed Walker	0.2	\$58,000	0.2	\$8,000	\$11,000	\$77,000	\$553,000	13.9%	
Tilden Two	0.1	\$8,000	3.5	\$28,000	\$11,000	\$47,000	\$386,000	12.2%	

Operation	Construction		Improvement		Other Projects	Total Project Costs	Funding	Comments
	Miles	Cost	Miles	Cost				
Road Maintenance						\$10,000	FDF	
						\$0		
						\$0		
						\$0		
						\$0		
						\$0		

## REFORESTATION AND YOUNG STAND MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

District: Western Lane

Fiscal Year: 2016

Date: 12/15/2015

ODF Funded Activities		Board of Forestry			Common School Forest Lands			District	
Management Activity		Acres Planned	Average Cost*/Acre	BOF Cost	Acres Planned	Average Cost*/Acre	CSL Cost	Total Acres	Total Cost
Initial Planting		68	\$280.00	\$19,040.00	89	\$280.00	\$24,920.00	157	\$43,960.00
Interplanting		0	\$0.00	\$0.00			\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Underplanting		0	\$0.00	\$0.00			\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Tree Protection-Barriers		0	\$0.00	\$0.00			\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Tree Protection-Direct Control		0	\$0.00	\$0.00			\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Site Prep-Chemical- Aerial		0	\$0.00	\$0.00			\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Site Prep-Chemical- Hand		68	\$100.00	\$6,800.00			\$0.00	68	\$6,800.00
Site Prep -Slash Burning		0	\$0.00	\$0.00			\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Site Prep -Mechanical		0	\$0.00	\$0.00			\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Fertilization		0	\$0.00	\$0.00			\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Noxious weeds		0	\$0.00	\$0.00			\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Release-Chemical- Aerial		0	\$0.00	\$0.00			\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Release,-Chemical-Hand		0	\$0.00	\$0.00	89	\$75.00	\$6,675.00	89	\$6,675.00
Release-Mechanical-Hand		0	\$0.00	\$0.00			\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Precommercial Thinning		0	\$0.00	\$0.00			\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Pruning		0	\$0.00	\$0.00			\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Other				\$0.00			\$0.00	0	\$0.00
<b>Totals</b>		<b>136</b>	--	<b>\$25,840.00</b>	<b>178</b>	--	<b>\$31,595.00</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>\$57,435.00</b>

\*Planting costs include all costs including seedlings

Grant Funded Activities		Board of Forestry			Common School Forest Lands			District		Funding
Management Activity		Acres Planned	Average Cost*/Acre	Cost	Acres Planned	Average Cost*/Acre	Cost	Total Acres	Total Cost	
				\$0.00			\$0.00	0	\$0.00	
				\$0.00			\$0.00	0	\$0.00	
				\$0.00			\$0.00	0	\$0.00	
				\$0.00			\$0.00	0	\$0.00	

## RECREATION MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

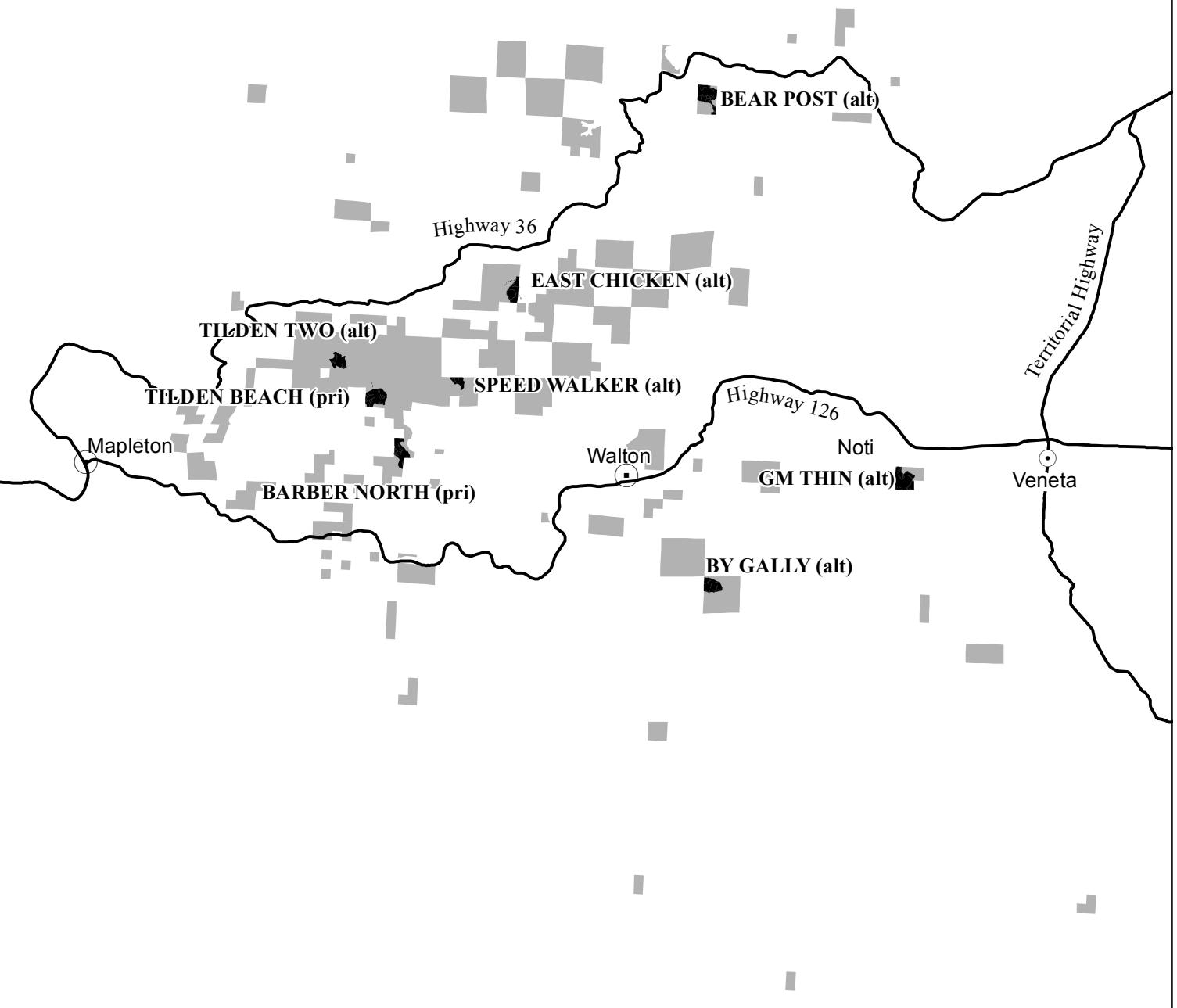
District: Western Lane

Fiscal Year: 2017

12/15/2015

Operation	Unit of Measure	Current	Construction Project	Construction Cost (Funding)		Improvement Projects	Improvement Cost (Funding)		Total Cost	Comments
				ODF	Other		ODF	Other		
<b>Facilities</b>										
Campsites	Sites								\$0	None on District
Day Use Areas									\$0	
Trailheads									\$0	
Interpretive Sites									\$0	
(Other)	Sites								\$0	
<b>Trails</b>										
Non-Motorized	Miles								\$0	
Motorized	Miles								\$0	

Total: **\$0**



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## Legend

- Towns
- Highways
- 2017 Sales
- ODF Ownership

**Appendix B  
VICINITY MAP  
FY 2017 AOP  
WESTERN LANE DISTRICT**

Approximate Scale  
1 inch = 4 miles

0 1 2 4 6 8 Miles



# **Appendix C**

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## **Consultations with Other State Agencies**

This appendix summarizes the results of consultations with the Oregon Department Of Fish and Wildlife and the Oregon Department of Transportation.

- Biologists from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) have reviewed the proposed timber harvest and road construction projects for potential impacts to fish and wildlife. The district received one e-mail of comment specific to Tilden Beach, Bear Post and East Chicken Timbers Sales in the Draft FY2017 AOP. ODFW recommended the addition of fish logs into the fish streams adjacent or within the timber sales listed above.
- Archaeologists from the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) have reviewed the proposed timber harvests and road construction projects to review potential impacts to cultural resources. No known historical or archaeological sites were found during this review. The FY2016 AOP's were sent to the Coos, Grande Ronde, Lower Umpqua, Siletz, and Siuslaw Tribes for review. When comments are received the District will discuss and resolve any concerns raised by the Tribes regarding these operations prior to the auction of these operations.
- The FY2017 AOP was sent to the Coos, Grande Ronde, Lower Umpqua, Siletz, and Siuslaw Tribes for review. When/if comments are received the District will discuss and resolve any concerns raised by the Tribes regarding these operations prior to the auction of these operations.
- The AOP was reviewed by the US FWS. ODF received comments from US FWS on seven of the sales in this plan (Speed Walker, Barber North, Aha Pataha, Bulmer 16, Tilden Two, and Wildcat Overlook). ODF biologists rated these timber sales as low risk to northern spotted owls and US FWS concurred. In a report dated April 21, 2014, US FWS commented on their review of sales Statewide and concluded that the sales in the Western Lane District were low risk to owls in the area.

### **Western Lane FY2016 AOP Changes from Draft Review AOP**

Based on ODFW comment we have changed table 13, column "Potential Stream Habitat Project" from None to TBD and added a comment below the table stating "Log placement in fish stream will be further assessed during sale layout" for timber sales Tilden Beach, Bear Post, and East Chicken. Assessment will include consultation with our Area Biologist, State Aquatic and Riparian Specialist, and our Area Geo Tech.

**- Appendix D -**

**PUBLIC COMMENT AND SUMMARY OF CHANGES FOR  
THE 2017 ANNUAL OPERATIONS PLAN**

The Oregon Department of Forestry issued a Press Release on April 5, 2015, announcing a formal public comment period for the 2017 Annual Operations Plans from April 5 through May 20, 2016.

The purpose of the Public Comment Period was to provide an opportunity for the public to review the AOPs, ask questions, make recommendations, and offer comments. As a public agency, ODF operates in the best interest of Oregonians, conducting business in an open way with opportunities for scrutiny to foster and maintain public confidence that ODF operations are benefiting Oregonians.

Past experience has shown that public comments have the potential to improve plans, so the objective was not only to inform the public, but to receive feedback that would help to clarify the AOPs, improve their consistency with the long range FMPs and IPs, and to become aware of any new information that could affect a planned operation or improve its efficiency or effectiveness.

At the end of the public comment period, the Western Lane District received no comments regarding the FY2017 AOP.

# Appendix E

## **Pre-Operations Reports**

Pre-Operations Reports are available from the district upon request.

# **Appendix F**

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## **Landscape Design Minor Modification**

The Western Lane District Implementation Plan under the *Northwest Oregon State Forests Management Plan* was approved in March 2003. The approved plan provides for minor modifications as approved by the District Forester. The proposed modification affects less than 240 acres of the landscape design, so it meets the Division's stand of a minor modification to the landscape design.

The following minor modifications to the Western Lane District Implementation Plan are related to the Western Lane District FY17 AOP:

### Change DFC complex to DFC general

- Change 144 acres from desired future condition complex to general. These acres are located in the By Gally and Barber North timber sales.

### Change DFC general to DFC complex

- Change 89 acres from desired future condition general to complex. These acres are located in the Walker marbled murrelet management area (MMMA).

The reasons for these changes are twofold: First, there are currently 89 acres in the Walker marbled murrelet management area (MMMA) that are classified as a DFC general. The stands within this MMMA is either currently in a complex condition or will be managed towards a complex condition. Therefore, assigning a DFC of complex to the stands within the MMMA is logical and is in alignment with the *Northwest Oregon State Forests Management Plan*.

Second, approximately 839 acres of Common School Land (CSL) within the Western Lane District were sold between Fall '09 and Spring '10. This land sale created a net increase in the percent of DFC complex structure across the district (i.e. from 42.3% to 43.0%). In 2010, a minor modification to the IP was approved that reduced the percent of DFC complex from 43.0% to 42.5%. Making the above changes will complete the re-alignment of the district complex structure percent to the original target (i.e. 42.3%).

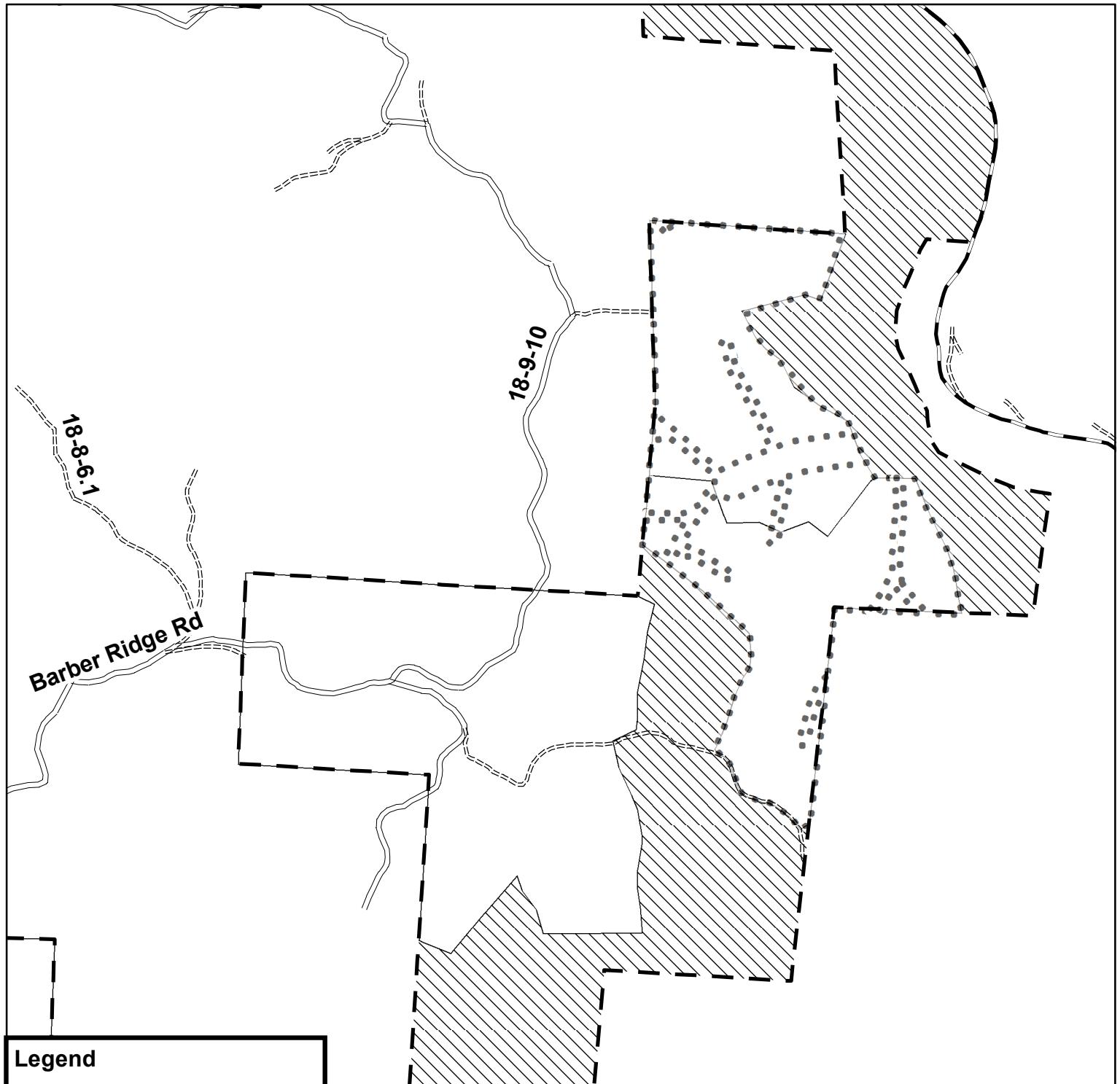
These changes to the DFC landscape design will result in no net increase or decrease in the percent of desired future condition general or complex when compared to the original IP established in 2003.

<b>DFC Totals Prior to Minor Modification</b>		
DFC	Acres*	%
Complex	10,733	42.5%
General	14,487	57.3%
Non-Forest	39	0.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>25,259</b>	

\* - All acres are based on GIS measurements

<b><u>DFC Totals After Minor Modification</u></b>		
DFC	Acres*	%
Complex	10,678	42.3%
General	14,542	57.5%
Non-Forest	39	0.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>25,259</b>	

\* - All acres are based on GIS measurements



#### Legend

[Dashed Line] ODF Ownership

#### Roads

— Federal & State Highway

— Paved road

— Surfaced road

— Dirt/Primitive Road - driveable

[Dotted Line] Timber Sale Boundary

#### Desired Future Condition

[White Box] General

[Diagonal Hatching] Older Forest Structure

#### Appendix F: Map 1 Barber North Timber Sale Landscape Design Minor Modification

FY 2017 AOP

WESTERN LANE DISTRICT

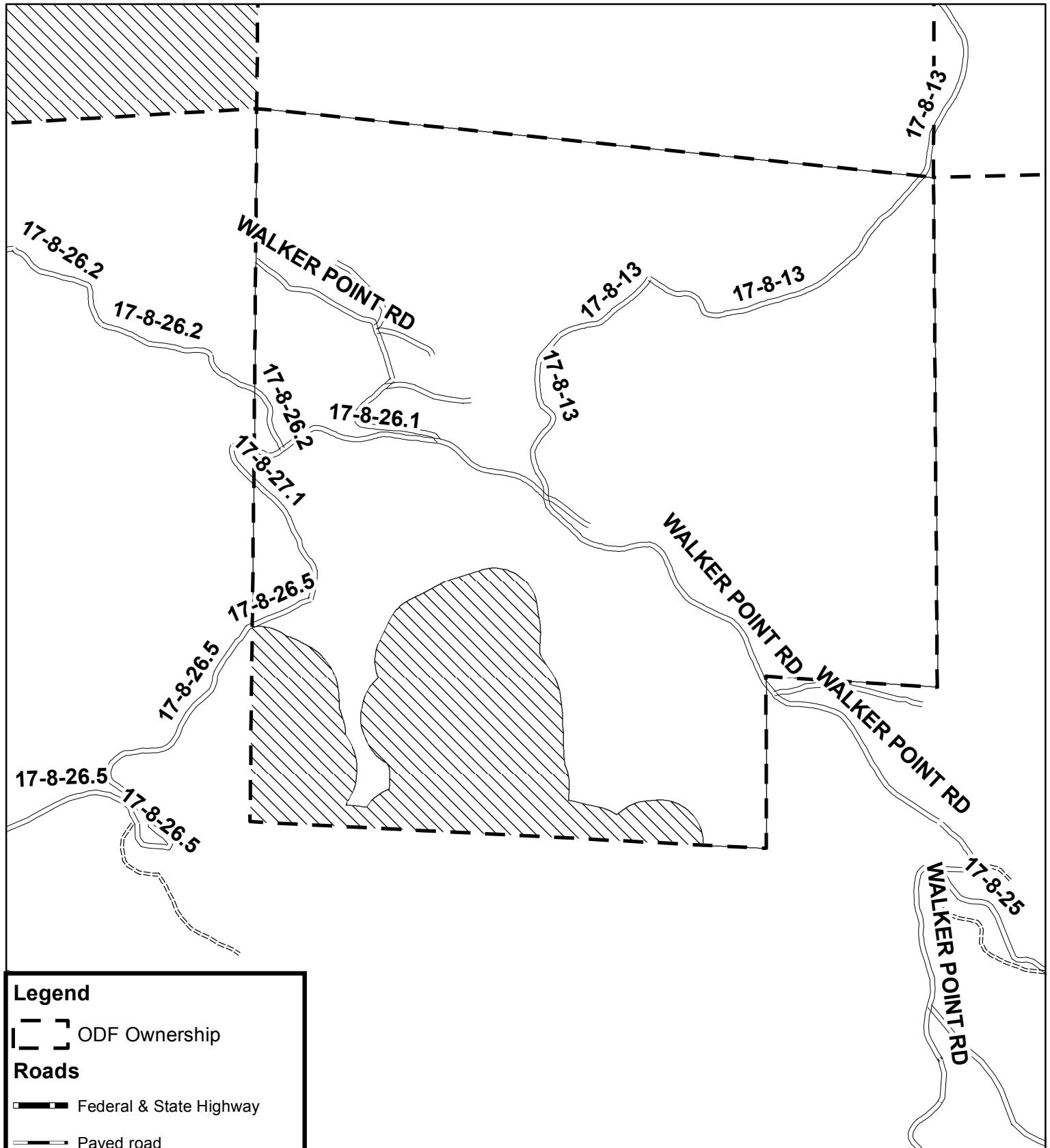
0 500 1,000 2,000 Feet

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"STEWARDSHIP IN FORESTRY"





#### Legend

ODF Ownership

#### Roads

Federal & State Highway

Paved road

Surfaced road

Dirt/Primitive Road - driveable

Timber Sale Boundary

#### Desired Future Condition

General

Older Forest Structure

#### Appendix F: Map 2 Walker Murrelet Management Area Landscape Design Minor Modification

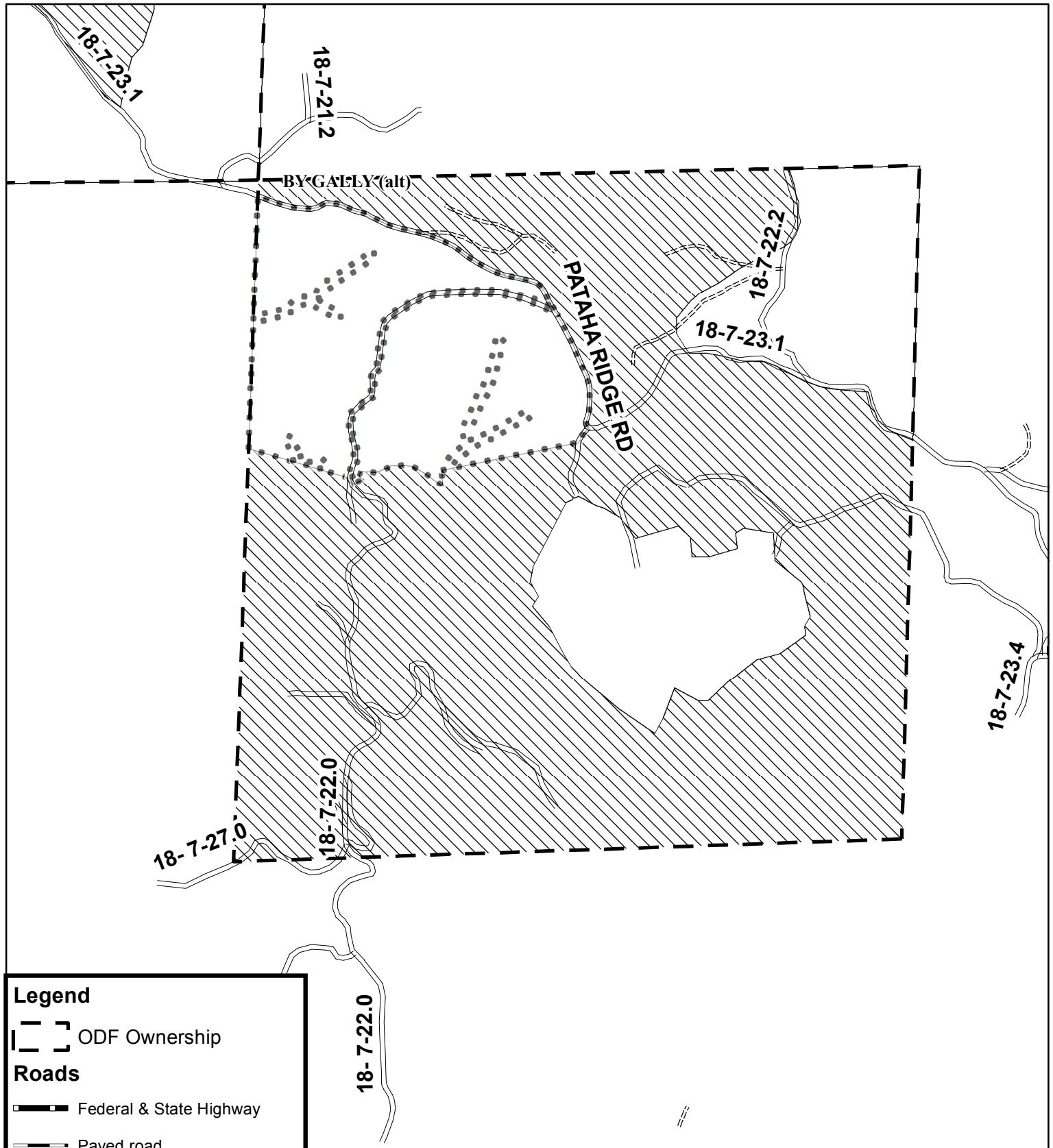
FY 2017 AOP

WESTERN LANE DISTRICT

0 500 1,000 2,000 Feet

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**Appendix F: Map 3  
By Gally Timber Sale  
Landscape Design Minor Modification**

FY 2017 AOP

WESTERN LANE DISTRICT

0 500 1,000 2,000 Feet

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