

Pre-Operations Report

Operation Name: Haggis Hunt
County: Clatsop
Management Basin: Plympton

Table 1. Operation Areas, Types and Acres

Area	Type of Operation	Gross Acres	Net Acres
1	MC	27	24
2	MC	32	29
Total	Modified Clearcut	59	53

I. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF OPERATION AREA:

Both sale areas are located in the western center of the Plympton Basin. The two areas are located near the Clatsop and Columbia County line, approximately five miles south of the Columbia River and Hwy 30. The sale areas were last thinned in 1990 as a shelterwood type harvest. Currently the areas have an overstory composed of predominately Douglas-fir, with some western hemlock scattered throughout. The understory vegetation consists of very dense western hemlock and some red alder, mostly along skid roads. Well maintained mainline roads and secondary rocked roads on ODF property will provide adequate access to all of the sale areas.

Soil type in these sale areas are mostly Gnat, and are rocky, moderately deep, colluvial soils, moderately fine textures, and are developing from Miocene basalt. Conditions will provide good roadability if needed. Average site indices are 120 feet for Douglas-fir, and 110 feet for western hemlock.

The landforms in the two areas are gentle to moderate slopes (5% to 35%). Both areas have a north aspect. Elevations range from 1,400 to 1,800 feet.

The sale is located on gentle to moderate slopes in the headwaters of Hunt Creek below Nicolai Ridge. The sale is underlain by igneous origin rocks of the Frenchmen Springs Member of the Columbia River Basalt Group.

II. CURRENT STAND CONDITION:

Areas 1 and 2 — The current stands are between 58 and 74 years old, and are composed of mixed Douglas-fir and western hemlock, with a small amount of younger cedar in the draws. These stands were partial cut in the early 1990's as a "shelterwood" to naturally develop a hemlock and Douglas-fir understory. Salvage operations from blowdown in these areas has been extensive, particularly in Area 1. These salvage activities have created several significant sized patches. The stand density within these stands is uneven, as there are patches of smaller trees scattered amongst the larger trees. The understory vegetation is comprised almost entirely of western hemlock, with very little Douglas-fir regeneration. SLI indicates that snags in Area 1 average about one per acre greater than 24 inches in DBH, and down wood in decay classes 1 and 2 average about 300 cubic feet per acre. Area 2 contains approximately three snags per acre and about 290 cubic feet of down wood in decay classes 1 and 2.

Table 2. Stand Inventory Information

Area	Prescription	Stand ID ¹	Species	Age	DBH	BA	TPA	SDI	Acres ²
1	MC	23336	WH,DF	55	22	114	39	30	24
1	MC	Target ³	DF, WH, WRC, NF				5-8		24
2	MC	23347	DF,WH	71	17	187	90	54	29
2	MC	Target ³	DF, WH, WRC, NF				5-8		29

1 The source of stand inventory information is SLI from 2002. Stand ages shown are as of 2006.

2 The acres are based on (orthophotos, traverse, GIS, GPS, etc) and exclude roads, streams buffers, reserve areas, etc.

3 The Target identifies expected stand characteristics (DBH, BA, TPA and SDI) after harvesting has been completed.

III. DESIRED STAND CONDITION:

The desired future stand condition for Area 1 and 2 is General. The expected post operation result is regeneration.

Table 3.

Area	Stand ID	Current	Post Harvest ¹	Desired Future	Acres
1	23336	UDS	REG	General	24
2	23347	UDS	REG	General	29

1 The stand is expected to develop into this condition in the five to ten years after this operation is completed.

IV. PROPOSED MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION/VISION:

Areas 1 and 2 - are planned for modified clearcut. The sale areas will be replanted with some other conifer species to help maintain the general species composition of this part of the forest, which will include Douglas-fir, some western red cedar, and possibly a minor amount of true firs (noble fir and/or Pacific silver fir). The planted trees will supplement the anticipated abundance of understory hemlock. In addition, red alder may naturally seed in portions of exposed to mineral soil. It is anticipated that the combination of the existing hemlock understory, replanted species, and the retention of five to eight larger trees per acre will accelerate the development of a complex stand in the future. Any clumps of naturally regenerated hemlock will have to be precommercially thinned to manage stand density.

Snags: In all areas, all existing snags will be retained unless deemed to be safety hazards. If pre-sale activities determine that fewer than two hard snags per acre exist, opportunities for snag creation or leaving additional live green trees will be implemented to supplement landscape snag levels as defined by the Forest Management Plan.

Green Trees: In MC Areas 1 and 2, an average of five to eight green trees per acre will be scattered and/or clumped throughout the areas, and not solely located in riparian areas. Non-merchantable understory trees will be retained when possible. In all sale areas minor species such as red cedar and some true fir may be reserved from cutting, and any existing larger remnant trees will also be reserved from cutting. In Area 1, where there are places with only advanced reproduction and no merchantable timber, green trees may be placed in a circular arrangement to preserve the existing condition.

Downed Wood: For all harvesting activities, all existing downed woody debris will be retained. SLI indicates that down wood levels in both areas one and two are approximately 300 cubic feet per acre. Additional conifer trees and/or conifer logs will be retained to meet the landscape targets of 600 cubic feet for down wood as prescribed in the FMP and Implementation Plan. Obvious defect in conifer logs will be bucked out in the unit to enhance down wood levels.

Site Preparation: Treatments options for Areas 1 and 2 will be further evaluated with the reforestation forester during sale layout. Site preparation will be accomplished in part through ground based harvesting, and mechanical manipulation of slash concentrations. These sale areas will be replanted with Douglas-fir, true fir, and western red cedar. Animal damage through big game browse is anticipated to be high. Mountain beaver trapping will focus on draw areas and sword fern and alder type within the stand. Tree protection will be prescribed for newly planted conifer species, Douglas-fir will receive paper bud caps, cedar will receive tubes at initial planting.

V. ESTIMATED TIMBER AND REVENUE INFORMATION:

Table 4. Timber and Revenue

Ownership		Sale Type	
BOF	CSL	Cash	Recovery
100%	0%		✓
Planned Quarter:		Alternate	

	Conifer	Hardwood	Total
Net Volume (MBF)	1,500	0	1,500
Stumpage Value (\$/MBF)	\$400	N/A	
Estimated Gross Value	\$600,000	\$0	\$600,000
		Project Costs:	\$32,000
		Estimated Net Value:	\$568,000

VI. HARVESTING AND ACCESS CONSIDERATIONS:

There are good quality, rocked forest roads that access the sale areas, so other access options for these areas were not considered. The sale areas can be accessed through three existing spur roads off the Nicolai Mainline approximately four miles south of Highway 30. Both areas are tractor ground and are not expected to need any further road construction.

Some improvement may be needed on about two miles of rocked spurs, and this work is anticipated to be limited to patch and leveling rock. These spur roads will be needed for planting access and young stand management, and will remain open upon completion of harvesting activities.

The road rock needed for road improvement will be obtained from existing stockpiles at the Viewpoint Stockpile Site.

The project work for this sale is estimated to cost approximately \$32,000.

Ground based harvesting systems will be utilized on the more gentle slopes present in the area. Tractor logging can be done with shovel loggers, track or wheel skidders. Pre-existing skid trails will be reused whenever possible to minimize impact.

Table 5. Transportation Planning Summary (Miles).

Activity	Mainline	Collector	Rocked Spur	Dirt Spur
Construct	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Improve	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.0
Maintain	4.0	0.0	2.0	0.0
Close/Block	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Vacate	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

VII. AQUATIC RESOURCES AND WATER QUALITY:

Type F Streams: There are no Type F streams within or adjacent to Areas 1 or 2.

Type N Streams: There are small perennial and seasonal Type N streams in both sale areas. NW Oregon Forest Plan stream riparian strategies will be employed along these streams. The current riparian vegetation is composed of mostly conifer. The understory riparian vegetation is mostly smaller alder with some swordfern and salmonberry.

All streams will be examined during sale layout to determine stream type and classification. Then, the specific RMA strategies required in the FMP will be implemented. These strategies are found in Appendix J, pages J-1 through J-16.

The sale areas are not within proximity of streams in which listed fish are present.

Stream Enhancement Opportunities: There are no known opportunities for stream enhancement with this sale.

Aquatic Resource Protection: No ground-based logging equipment operation is allowed within the stream bank zone. Adequate RMA buffers will be left where required on all streams per the FMP standards. To protect water quality during active operations, a variety of methods will be used to prevent sediment from entering live streams. These methods range from use of hay bales in road ditches, to “ditch-outs” away from streams, to complete shutdown of logging and hauling operations during times of heavy rainfall. There are no known high risk sites within the sale area.

VIII. T&E SPECIES CONSIDERATIONS:

The sale areas were surveyed for Northern Spotted Owls (NSO) in 2006, with no responses, and are scheduled to be surveyed again in 2007.

Areas 1 and 2 were determined by the Area Wildlife Biologist, on February 27, 2006, not to have any suitable habitat for marbled murrelets.

The sale area was checked against the Oregon Natural Heritage Program database of known listed plant locations. The sale area was also checked against district knowledge for any listed plant location. No listed plant records were identified within the sale area.

IX. SLOPE STABILITY AND GEOTECHNICAL ISSUES:

There are no steep slopes shown on the topographic map in the sale area. The initial risk assessment by the geotechnical specialist is low. A field visit by the geotechnical specialist is not expected to be needed, but the geotechnical specialist will be consulted during sale layout if slope stability concerns are encountered.

X. RECREATION RESOURCES:

This area receives dispersed recreation, which includes hunting, camping, target shooting, and driving forest roads. This sale is located in the motorized recreation portion of the Clatsop State Forest; however inventories of existing trails show no trails in the sale area.

XI. CULTURAL RESOURCES:

Area 2 is in close proximity to the Oregon Timber & Lumber Side Camp #2 site, which was a railroad logging camp. This information is based upon map data with no field evidence found. Previous activities and presale reconnaissance in the vicinity have not discovered any evidence of logging artifacts. During actual sale layout, if any of these resources are found, they will be protected.

XII. SCENIC RESOURCES:

The sale areas are not visible from any county or state highway. All forest roads accessing the sale areas are Level 3 classification.

XIII. OTHER RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS:

Property Lines and Corners.

XIV. LAND MANAGEMENT CLASSIFICATION SUMMARY:

The lands in this timber sale are all classified "general" management.

LEGEND

-  Timber Sale Boundary
-  Ownership Boundary
- Roads
-  Dirt
-  Gravel
- Streams
-  Fish
-  Nonfish
-  Unknown

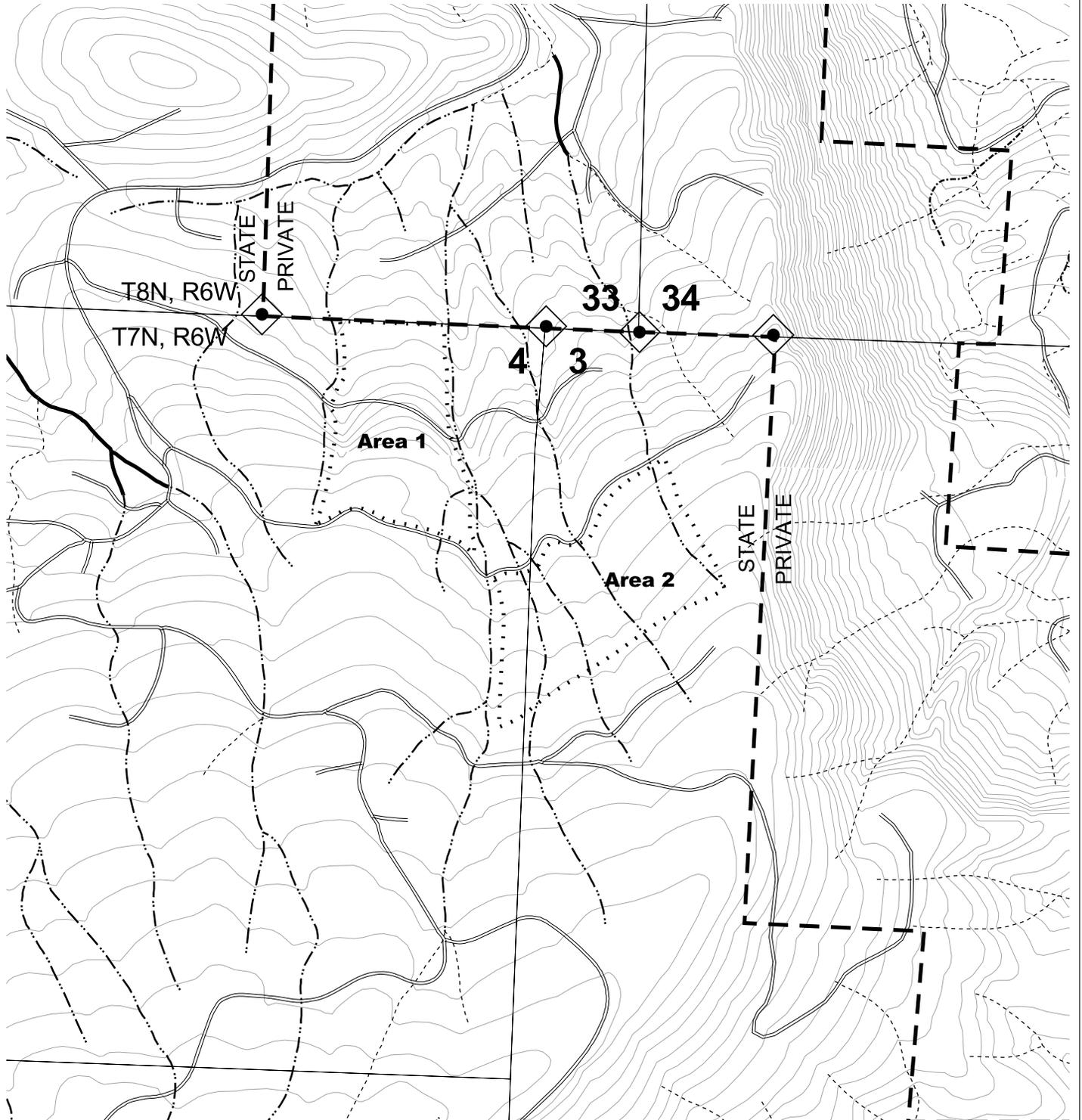
FY2008
 Haggis Hunt
 Portions of Sections 3 and 4,
 T7N, R6W, W.M.,
 Clatsop County, Oregon.

Map A - Topography
 1:12000

APPROXIMATE NET ACREAGE:	
MC Acres	
Area 1	24
Area 2	29
Total	53



600 0 600 1200 Feet



LEGEND

- Timber Sale Boundary
- Ownership Boundary
- Roads**
- Dirt
- Gravel
- Streams**
- Fish
- Nonfish
- Unknown
- DFC**
- LYR
- OFS

FY2008
 Haggis Hunt
 Portions of Sections 3 and 4,
 T7N, R6W, W.M.,
 Clatsop County, Oregon.

Map B - Desired Future Condition

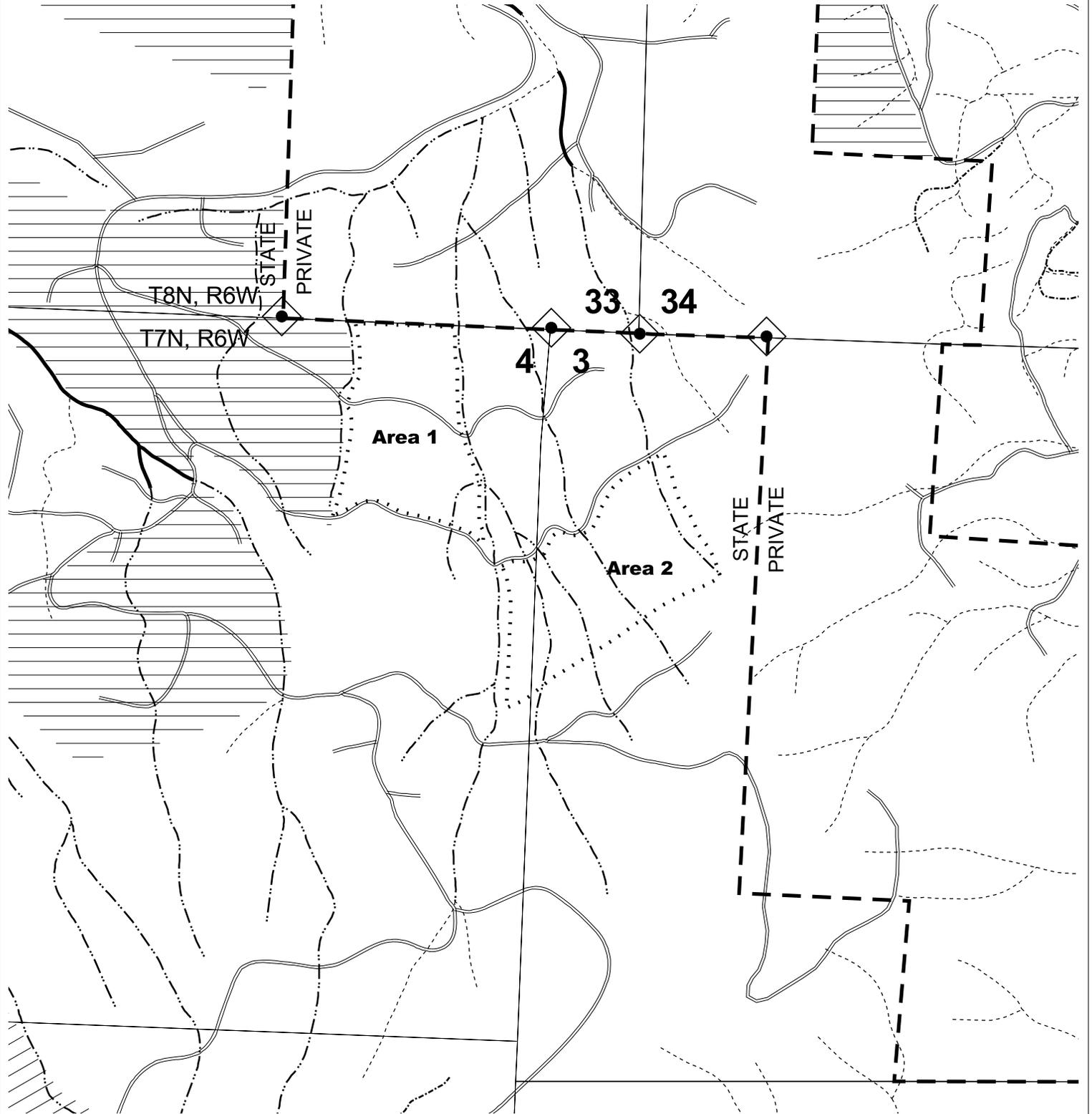
1:12000

600 0 600 1200 Feet



APPROXIMATE
NET ACREAGE:

	MC Acres
Area 1	24
Area 2	29
Total	53



LEGEND

-  Timber Sale Boundary
-  Ownership Boundary
- Roads**
-  Dirt
-  Gravel
- Streams**
-  Fish
-  Nonfish
-  Unknown

FY2008
 Haggis Hunt
 Portions of Sections 3 and 4,
 T7N, R6W, W.M.,
 Clatsop County, Oregon.

Map C - Key Resources

1:12000

APPROXIMATE
NET ACREAGE:

	MC Acres
Area 1	24
Area 2	29
Total	53



600 0 600 1200 Feet

