

Pre-Operations Report

Operation Name: North Buck
County: Coos
Management Basin: 12

Table 1. Operation Areas, Types and Acres

Area	Type of Operation	Gross Acres	Net Acres
1	CC	63	57
Total		63	57

I. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF OPERATION AREA:

This operation is a one-unit timber sale totaling 57 net acres. This timber sale is located on the western slope of the Coast Range. Area 1 is located in the Buck Creek watershed within the Elliott State Forest Management Basin 12. This timber sale is in close proximity to the Pacific Ocean, which has a dominant influence on the climate. The average annual rainfall is between 80-85 inches. Temperatures range from 32-80 degrees Fahrenheit throughout the year. This timber sale has an elevation of 900 to 1480 feet above sea level with slopes ranging from 25 percent to over 90 percent. The timber sale has a variety of aspects including east, west and south facing slopes. Soil types consist of 58% Preacher-Bohannon loams with 42% Milbury-Bohannon-Umpcoos.

II. CURRENT STAND CONDITION:

The timber sale is second growth Douglas-fir that originated after the Coos Bay fire of 1868. It is composed of 119 to 126 year-old Douglas-fir with a minor component of red alder and scattered understory hemlock. Table 2 contains stocking, size and age information for all the areas in this timber sale. There are few hard snags in the stand.

Table 2. Stand Inventory Information

Area	Prescription	Stand ID ¹	Species	Age in 2005	DBH	BA	TPA	SDI	Acres ²
1	CC	1442	DF, WH	125	24	346	112	75	31
1	CC	1443	DF, WH	119	24	284	87	61	19
1	CC	1446	DF,WH	126	27	182	45	37	7
	Target ³	1442, 1443, 1446	DF,WH		24	8	5	1	57

1. The Stand ID data source is (SLI) from current records.

2. The acres are based on GIS, and exclude interior 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 FUTURE CONDITION:

This timber sale will be prepared under the wildlife emphasis option of the Elliott State management plan, providing for additional green trees, down logs, and snag creation to create and maintain forest structure for wildlife habitat. The desired condition is a young age class stand to provide early successional habitat in accordance with the Balanced Landscape strategy of the Elliott State Forest Management Plan. It will be composed of mainly Douglas-fir and may have a smaller component of other conifer species including hemlock and/or red cedar. Red alder will also naturally regenerate in the stand. Green trees retained during this operation will provide for multi-story stand structures valuable for wildlife.

Table 3. Stand Structure Information (Does not apply Elliott State Forest)¹

IV. PROPOSED MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION:

The prescription for this sale is to harvest most of the overstory, leaving standing trees within buffer areas and scattered in selected locations in or along the edge of the sale unit.

Site Preparation and Planting - Site preparation will be achieved by yarding disturbance and treating residual brush with herbicide prior to planting. This wildlife emphasis sale may have small locations of green tree retention not conducive to aerial herbicide treatment. Ground based application may be necessary. The site will be planted with conifer seedlings at approximately 400-500 trees per acre.

Green Tree Retention – At least 285 trees (about 5 per acre) will be left in or adjacent to the timber sale. Emphasis will be given to retention of conifer species other than Douglas-fir. Some of these trees will be topped and/or girdled for snag creation. Single green trees will not be left unless localized soil conditions provide for wind firmness and logging conditions are suitable. The location of retained trees will be determined during the sale prep process. Green trees may be clumped and/or scattered as allowed by topography and operational concerns and will be determined in collaboration with the Southern Oregon Area Biologist and District Silviculturist. Emphasis may be given to widening riparian management areas.

Snag Retention and Creation - Existing snags within the sale area will be left, with the exception of those that endanger work crews. Green trees will receive a combination of topping and/or girdling to leave at least 114 topped/girdled trees within the sale area (about two trees per acre harvested). Specific instructions for girdling and topping trees will be provided by the Southern Oregon Area Biologist during the timber sale layout process.

Down Log Retention - At least 285 logs (5 logs per acre harvested) will be left for wildlife emphasis in or adjacent to the timber sale area in accordance with the Elliott State Forest Management Plan. Down logs shall meet the following minimum specifications: 16 feet in length and 12 inches diameter at the large end.

Burning - Portions of the sale may be burned depending on the amount and distribution of the slash and timing of sale completion. The main purpose of this type of burn is to provide for biological diversity and improved big game forage rather than site preparation. However, portions of the sale may be burned, if planting spots are too few to attain adequate stocking.

V. ESTIMATED TIMBER AND REVENUE OUTPUTS:

Table 4. Timber and Revenue

Ownership		Sale Type	
BOF	CSL	Cash	Recovery
0%	100%		X
Planned Quarter:		2	

	Conifer	Hardwood	Total
Net Volume (MBF)	3,135	38	3,173
Stumpage Value (\$/MBF)	450	360	
Estimated Gross Value	1,410,750	13,608	1,424,358
		Project Costs:	15,000
		Estimated Net Value:	1,409,358

VI. HARVESTING AND ACCESS CONSIDERATONS:

All legal access to the sale is obtained and there are no property lines needing to be surveyed. Access to the timber sale area will be from the 2470 road, a recently rocked spur. The 2000 road will be used for haul and is a collector road which is in good shape and will require only maintenance. Winter harvesting will require purchaser supplied rock, though the 2470 was used winter 05/06 and will require minimal improvements. New landings and short access spurs may be constructed as well as improving an existing road and existing landings. Final locations will be determined during the timber sale preparation process. Final stockpile requirements will be determined during the timber sale preparation process.

The sale areas will be cable yarded uphill, with the possibility of some downhill yarding. Full suspension will be required over stream channels and single end suspension on the remainder of the sale area. Trees will be felled parallel or away from the residual trees and Riparian Management Areas.

Table 5. Transportation Management Summary (Miles).

Activity	Mainline	Collector	Rocked Spur	Dirt Spur
Construct	0.0	0.0	0.0	.1
Improve	0.0	0.0	0.0	.53
Maintain	0.0	0.0	.45	0.0
Close/Block	0.0	0.0	0.0	.53
Vacate	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

VII. AQUATIC RESOURCES AND WATER QUALITY:

This timber sale is located within the Buck Creek watershed, a small Type F tributary of the West Fork Millicoma River. Streams associated with this sale were surveyed to ODFW protocol for fish presence in 1997 and in 2006. All drainages associated with the sale area were field surveyed during the 2006 summer low flow period to determine the stream channel extent and whether streamflow is perennial or seasonal. The timber sale has two Type N perennial streams flowing from it into Buck Creek, a third type N perennial is located directly to the west adjacent to the timber sale. Buck Creek is a Type F for 275' of its adjacency to the unit. Above this point, Buck Creek is a small Type N perennial. The remaining streams in the sale areas are classified as small seasonal Type N potential debris flow track reaches.

There are no known water rights within or downstream of the proposed operation.

VIII. WILDLIFE AND T&E SPECIES CONSIDERATIONS:

The older habitat within this sale area may be suitable for certain T and E species. This sale is planned under the standards of the Elliott State Forest Management and Habitat Conservation Plans and other Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) policy. The specific measures are as follows:

NSO Habitat Retention:

Basin 12 - There is no minimum acreage for NSO nesting, roosting, and foraging habitat in this basin above the required reserve acres. Reserve acres in this basin include 1410 acres (28%) that are being retained in riparian management areas, habitat conservation areas and other conservancy acres. Fifty-percent of this basin (2484 acres) must provide dispersal habitat. There will be about 2950 acres of dispersal habitat retained after harvest, including 126 acres of in-growth in 2007 and 66 acres of in-growth in 2008.

Marbled Murrelet – First year protocol surveys were completed in 2006 and second year surveys will be completed in 2007. The sale is within 330 feet of the Joe Buck Marbled Murrelet Management area. Oregon Department of Forestry's Southern Oregon Area Biologist will determine the application of seasonal restrictions during the sale layout to comply with ODF's policies for the Marbled Murrelet.

Bald Eagle, Other - There are no known bald eagle nest sites or other listed animal species in the vicinity of this sale.

Salmon and Steelhead – The sale area is within 100 feet of a Type F stream.

Plants - The sale area was checked against district knowledge for any listed plant

location. The sale area was also checked against the Oregon Natural Heritage Program (ONHP) database of known listed plant locations. No listed plant records were identified within the sale area.

Fragmentation – This timber sale is located on the edge of a contiguous block of mature timber and does not increase fragmentation of interior habitat.

IX. SLOPE STABILITY AND GEOTECHNICAL ISSUES:

This sale area has had a map review by an ODF geo-tech specialist. A closer examination will be made during the sale layout process to determine if other site specific protection measures will be necessary. The lower 1/3rd of the slopes appear to meet classification as HLHL. An open-slope debris flow is likely to enter the Type N section of Buck Creek, a debris torrent is likely to enter either tributary to Buck Creek and deliver large wood to the Type F portion of Buck Creek.

To minimize yarding impacts on the slopes, single end suspension cable yarding will be required. Roads will be located on ridge-crests as much as possible and any steep sidehill portions will be constructed with full bench end-haul design and construction. Construction will be done during the dry season.

X. RECREATION RESOURCES:

The most common recreation for this area is hunting and dispersed undeveloped recreation. Harvesting of these units will provide forage area to help promote healthy deer and elk populations. In addition, areas of bare soil around road edges and landings will be grass seeded after logging to provide forage. Surrounding forest types provide escape cover. No conflict is seen with respect to the undeveloped, dispersed recreation usage of the forest.

XI. CULTURAL RESOURCES:

There are no cultural sites associated with this sale.

XII. SCENIC RESOURCES:

The units are not within any scenic management areas.

XIII. OTHER RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS:

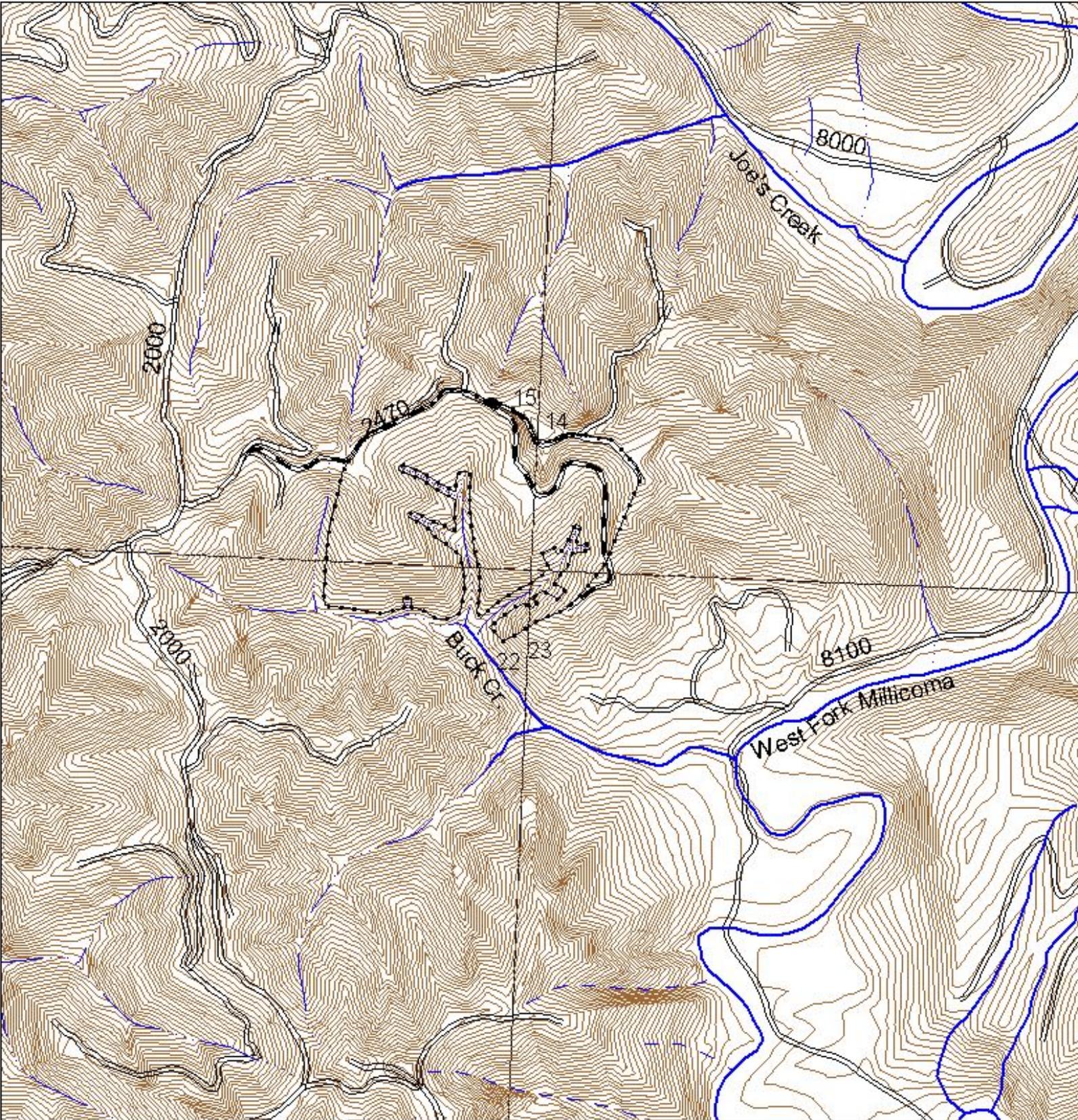
There are no other known resource considerations associated with this sale.

XIV. LAND MANAGEMENT CLASSIFICATION SUMMARY:

Table 6. Land Use Classification Summary

This table summarizes the acres in each land use class within the operation.

Area	Production
1	57

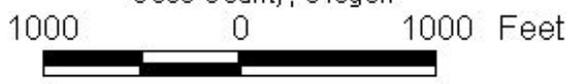


-  Sale Boundary
-  Streams
-  Type F
-  Type N Perennial
-  Type N Seasonal
-  Unclassified
-  Road improvement
-  Existing Roads
-  20' Contour Lines
-  Section Lines

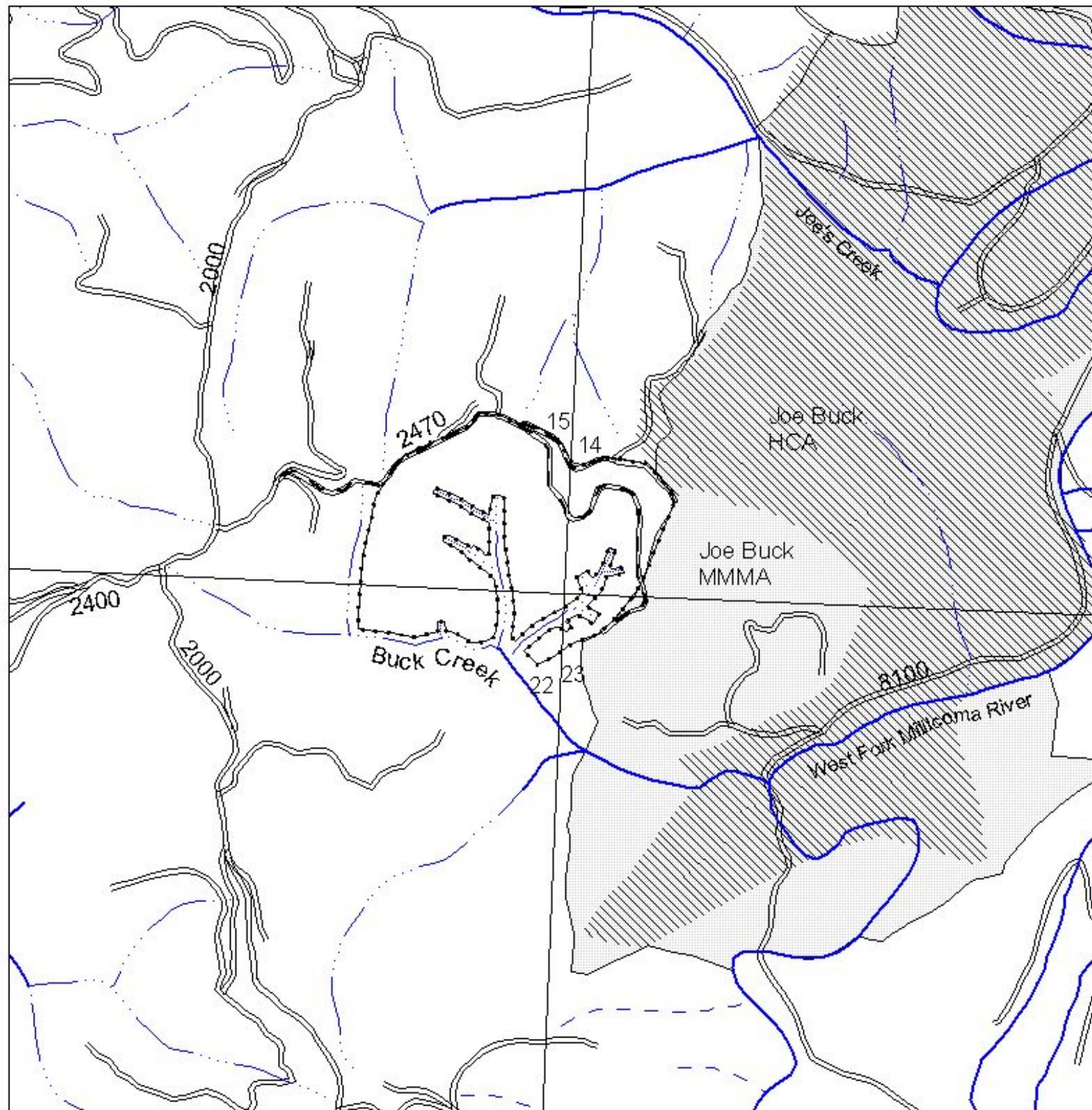


North Buck Timber Sale
 --Topography--
 FY 08 Sale Plan
 Coos District
 1" = 1000'
 Portions of Sections 14, 15, 22, and 23
 T23S, R11W, W.M.
 Coos County, Oregon

Approx. 57 net acres



Coos District GIS
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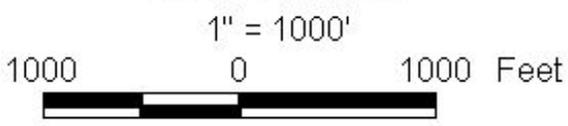


- Sale Boundary
- Streams
- Type F
- Type N Perennial
- Type N Seasonal
- Unclassified
- Road Improvement
- Existing Roads
- Habitat Conservation Area
- MMMA
- Section Lines



North Buck Timber Sale
 –Key Resources–
 FY 08 Sale Plan
 Coos District
 Portions of Sections 14, 15, 22, and 23
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