

# Pre-Operations Report

**Operation Name:** Blind Faith (alternate)  
**County:** Washington County  
**Management Basin:** Sunday Creek

**Table 1. Operation Areas, Types and Acres**

| Area         | Type of Operation           | Gross Acres | Net Acres  |
|--------------|-----------------------------|-------------|------------|
| 1            | Modified Clearcut           | 130         | 112        |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>Regeneration Harvest</b> | <b>130</b>  | <b>112</b> |

## **I. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF OPERATION AREA:**

Slopes have a north aspect and range from 10% to 60%. Elevation of the sale area ranges from 1680 to 2320 feet. Grindstone and Killam are the major soil types.

The sale is located on moderate to steep slopes below Blind Cabin Ridge above the Tualatin River to the North. The sale is underlain by igneous origin rock of intrusive Diabase (*per Dave Michael, Northwest Oregon Area Geotechnical Specialist*).

## **II. CURRENT STAND CONDITION:**

The sale area burned in the 1933 and 1939 Tillamook Burns. It was then seeded in the mid 1950's and again in the mid 1970's. There has not been any other stand management.

The entire sale area has been inventoried using the Stand Level Inventory (SLI) procedure, and these stands have been classified as UDS.

The stands are comprised almost entirely of moderately stocked Douglas-fir. No significant insect or disease problems have been discovered at this time. Due to numerous gaps in the overstory, there is a heavy brush component throughout the entire sale area.

The understory is comprised primarily of vine maple, sword fern, and salal. SLI data indicates an average of approximately 80% cover.

There are few snags in the stand (approximately 2 per acre > 12" DBH). Those that exist are mostly of decay classes 3 and 4. There is little down woody debris in decay class 0-2 (approximately 100 cubic feet per acre or less).

**Table 2. Stand Inventory Information**

| Area | Prescription    | Stand ID <sup>1</sup>      | Species    | Age <sup>2</sup> | DBH | BA  | TPA | SDI | Net Acres <sup>3</sup> |
|------|-----------------|----------------------------|------------|------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------------------------|
| 1    | MC <sup>4</sup> | 8183                       | DF         | 25-34,<br>45-57  | 18  | 183 | 110 | 45  | 30                     |
|      |                 | 8186                       | DF, RA     | 32-36            | 18  | 182 | 107 | 44  | 7                      |
|      |                 | 8187                       | DF         | 30-36            | 17  | 173 | 105 | 43  | 37                     |
|      |                 | 8193                       | DF         | 30-38            | 14  | 144 | 130 | 38  | 38                     |
|      |                 | <i>Target</i> <sup>5</sup> | <i>REG</i> |                  |     |     |     |     | 112                    |

<sup>1</sup> The source of stand inventory information is from SLI grown forward to 2006.

<sup>2</sup> Actual measured breast height ages are shown unless labeled "est."

<sup>3</sup> The acres are based on GIS and exclude existing and planned roads, stream buffers, and green tree retention areas.

<sup>4</sup> MC is Modified Clearcut.

<sup>5</sup> The Target identifies expected stand characteristics (DBH, BA, TPA and SDI) after harvesting has been completed.

### III. DESIRED FUTURE CONDITION/VISION:

According to the Forest Grove District's landscape design for the Sunday Creek basin, the desired future condition (DFC) for Area 1 is 92% General and 8% OFS. The 8% (9 acres) of OFS were included within this clearcut harvest based on field verified topographical features and operational considerations.

After harvest the area will be planted and managed to develop into a vigorously growing stand that will move quickly through the early seral stages.

When the next modified clearcut harvest occurs in this area, the stand will be 60-70 years old and will be in the UDS condition. The area will consist of Douglas-fir with a few isolated pockets of alder, hemlock, and cedar. Where there are gaps in the overstory, there may be an understory of hemlock, cedar and brush (vinemaple, huckleberry, sword fern, Oregon grape, others). Legacy trees left from the first regeneration harvest will mostly be located along the seasonal streams. Snags will be dispersed relatively evenly throughout the area.

**Table 3. Stand Structure Information**

| Area | Prescription | Stand ID | Current | Post Harvest <sup>1</sup> | Desired Future | Net Acres |
|------|--------------|----------|---------|---------------------------|----------------|-----------|
| 1    | MC           | 8183     | UDS     | REG                       | GEN            | 30        |
|      |              | 8186     | UDS     | REG                       | GEN            | 7         |
|      |              | 8187     | UDS     | REG                       | GEN            | 37        |
|      |              | 8193     | UDS     | REG                       | GEN            | 29        |
|      |              |          |         |                           | OFS            | 9         |

<sup>1</sup> The stand is expected to develop into this condition in the five to ten years after this operation is completed, except in REG stands which occur after harvest.

#### **IV. PROPOSED MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION AND PATHWAY:**

This harvest will be a modified clearcut.

A variety of methods will be used to achieve green tree retention requirements, which include green tree retention areas, seasonal stream buffers and scattered green tree retention. Scattered GTR will generally be to preserve any minor conifer species in the sale. These methods will be used in combination to meet the green tree requirement in the Forest Management Plan (FMP).

All existing DWD will be reserved in the sale areas. DWD recruitment is expected through mortality, windthrow of residual trees, felled snags, and logging slash.

Existing snags determined not to be a safety hazard will be retained and any felled snags will be left for down wood. Additional snags will be created during harvest activities and will develop over time through natural processes.

Initially this site will need a post harvest application of herbicide to reduce the abundant brush and ground cover.

Following completion of site prep activities, the areas will be replanted with approximately 85% Douglas-fir and 15% other species including western hemlock and western red cedar at a density between 430 and 550 trees per acre. All cedar will be tubed to deter elk and deer browse. Once planting is complete, the operation area will fit the REG classification.

It is likely that another herbicide application will be needed within the first 3 years after planting in order to release planted conifer from competing brush. By age 12, the stand will have moved from REG to CSC.

It is anticipated that when the stand reaches age 12-15, PCT will be used to reduce total trees to between 200 and 250 trees per acre. This will create an even-aged and sized stand that maximizes timber growth. We would expect to leave the biggest and best trees, while also trying to maintain the existing species diversity.

At approximately age 35 the area will be capable of supporting a commercial thin. Contingent on goals in the year 2040, this area could be thinned to an RD of 30-35, capturing volume that would be lost due to competition mortality. This thinning would also move the stands on the pathway from CSC to UDS by opening the stands enough to allow vegetation to grow in the understory. Approximately 5-10 years following this thinning, the UDS condition will be achieved.

Beyond this, the stand could be thinned to further develop the stand toward a complex structure or be a good candidate for modified clearcut.

**V. ESTIMATED TIMBER AND REVENUE INFORMATION:**

**Table 4. Timber and Revenue**

| Ownership        |     | Sale Type |          |
|------------------|-----|-----------|----------|
| BOF              | CSL | Cash      | Recovery |
| 100%             | %   |           | X        |
| Planned Quarter: |     |           |          |

|                         | Conifer   | Hardwood             | Total       |
|-------------------------|-----------|----------------------|-------------|
| Net Volume (MBF)        | 4,200     |                      |             |
| Stumpage Value (\$/MBF) | 400       |                      |             |
| Estimated Gross Value   | 1,680,000 |                      | \$1,680,000 |
|                         |           | Project Costs:       | \$60,000    |
|                         |           | Estimated Net Value: | \$1,620,000 |

**VI. HARVESTING AND ACCESS CONSIDERATIONS:**

The sale areas are accessed via Turner Creek mainline and North Fork Trask River Road. These are currently all-weather, crushed rock roads. Access is through Weyerhaeuser and BLM owned land. Two gates are along the haul route. ODF has an easement for all non ODF managed roads. Road use fees will not apply.

Approximately 1.0 mile of road will be constructed to provide access to cable yarding or landing locations. New construction is limited to ridgetops and gentle to moderate sideslopes. Proposed roads will not cross any perennial streams.

All haul roads will have high quality crushed rock or pit run surfacing. Roads will provide access to all timber within the sale area and allow for logging methods and hauling which will minimize impacts to soils, residual timber, streams, and riparian areas.

All skid trails within the sale areas will be blocked and closed upon completion of use.

Project work – estimated cost is \$60,000 for 1.0 miles of road construction.

The operation will be 75% cable yarding and 25% ground yarding.

**Table 5. Transportation Management Summary (Miles).**

| Activity         | Mainline         | Collector | Rocked Spur | Dirt Spur |
|------------------|------------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| Construction     | 0                | 0         | 1.0         | 0         |
| Improvement      | 0                | 0         | 0           | 0         |
| Maintenance      | 4.5 <sup>1</sup> | 6.0       | 1.0         | 0         |
| Closure/Vacation | 0                | 0         | 0           | 0         |

<sup>1</sup>Includes third party roads

**VII. AQUATIC RESOURCES AND WATER QUALITY:**

There are approximately 8 seasonal streams within or adjacent to the sale area. All streams are direct tributaries of the Tualatin River.

Streams will be buffered according to FMP strategies. All streams will be evaluated more closely during sale layout. Portions of the largest seasonal streams will be buffered for green tree retention areas.

The Tualatin River is a municipal water source.

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.

**VIII. WILDLIFE AND T&E SPECIES CONSIDERATIONS:**

The sale areas have been reviewed with the ODF Northwest Oregon Area Biologist (Area Biologist).

Surveys for northern spotted owls were conducted in 2006 due to the presence of potentially suitable spotted owl habitat within and adjacent to the timber sale area. Blind Faith was surveyed for spotted owls three times in 2006 with no responses, and the second year of survey will be completed in 2007. All surveys were/will be conducted in accordance with USFWS protocol.

Surveys for marbled murrelets are not required, due to the absence of potentially suitable habitat within the sale area. The District T&E Coordinator made the determination that the sale area is non-suitable habitat for marbled murrelets. The ODF wildlife biologist for the NW Oregon Area reviewed and approved this determination.

This operation involves an activity that is listed in the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) adopted rules under Section 4(d) of the Endangered Species Act. The haul route crosses or is in close proximity to a stream with listed fish. See Section VII and IX of this report for a discussion of protective measures.

The sale areas were checked against the Oregon Natural Heritage Program (ONHP) database of known listed plant locations, as well as against local records in the Land Management Classification System (LMCS). No listed plant records were identified within or adjacent to the sale areas.

**IX. SLOPE STABILITY AND GEOTECHNICAL ISSUES:**

There is a band of steep slopes near the east boundary of the sale area with very few small scattered areas of steep slopes in the rest of the sale. The initial risk assessment by the geotechnical specialist for the sale is low except for the slopes along the boundary. If these steep slopes remain within the sale areas as the sale layout proceeds, the geotechnical specialist will be consulted to determine if a field visit is needed (*per Dave Michael, Northwest Oregon Area Geotechnical Specialist*).

**X. RECREATION RESOURCES:**

The sale is in the area of the forest designated as Non-Motorized in the Tillamook State Forest Comprehensive Recreation Plan (1993). There are no recreation facilities in or adjacent to the sale area.

Some dispersed camping and hunting occur in the area, however this sale is not expected to greatly impact these activities.

**XI. CULTURAL RESOURCES:**

The sale area and proposed road construction right-of-way were checked against the Tillamook State Forest Cultural Resource Inventory Database (GIS format). No cultural resource records were identified within or adjacent\* to the operation areas. If any significant cultural resources are located during sale preparation, the Public Use Coordinator (ODF Salem Staff) will be consulted regarding potential protection measures.

*\*Adjacent refers to approximately one tree length from an operation area. For the purpose of this screen, a 200 foot buffer around the sale boundary and proposed road construction right-of-way was assessed for cultural resource locations.*

**XII. SCENIC RESOURCES:**

The sale has a visual classification of Level 3, low sensitivity. No scenic impact is expected.

**XIII. OTHER RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS:**

No property survey is needed.

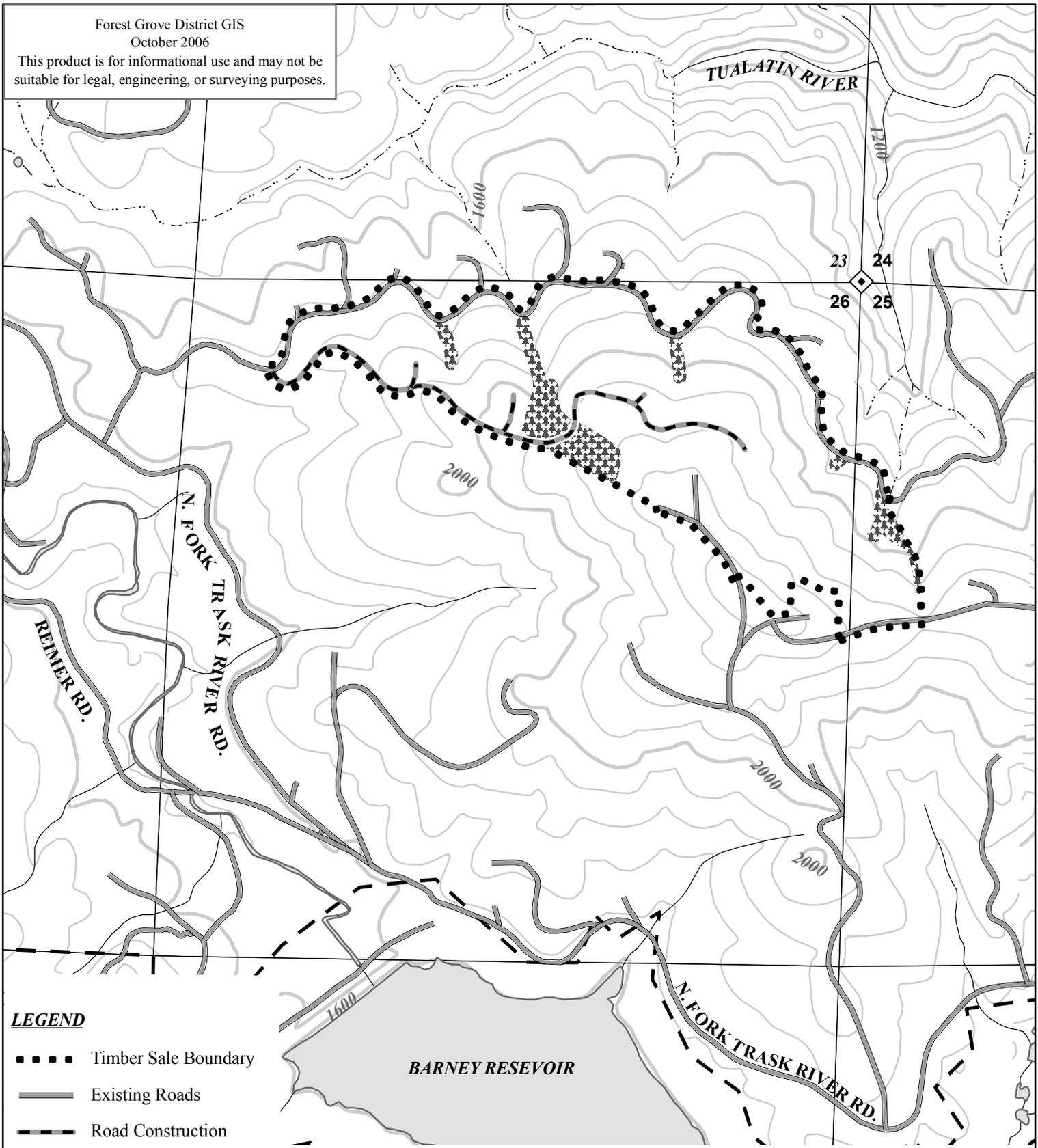
Any survey corners and witness trees shall be protected from damage during any operations.

There is a permanent plot located in the eastern portion of the timber sale.

**XIV. LAND MANAGEMENT CLASSIFICATION SUMMARY:**

Forest Grove District's LMCS does not identify any Special or Focused Stewardship within the sale area.

This product is for informational use and may not be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes.



**LEGEND**

- ● ● Timber Sale Boundary
- Existing Roads
- - - Road Construction
- Perennial Type F Stream
- - - Perennial Type N Stream
- ▨ Green Tree Retention Area
- ▬ ODF Ownership
- 400' Contour Intervals
- 80' Contour Lines

FY 2008  
BLIND FAITH  
PORTIONS OF SECTIONS 25 & 26, T01S, R06W, W.M.  
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OREGON

Attachment A: Topography

Scale

1:12000

1 inch = 1000 feet



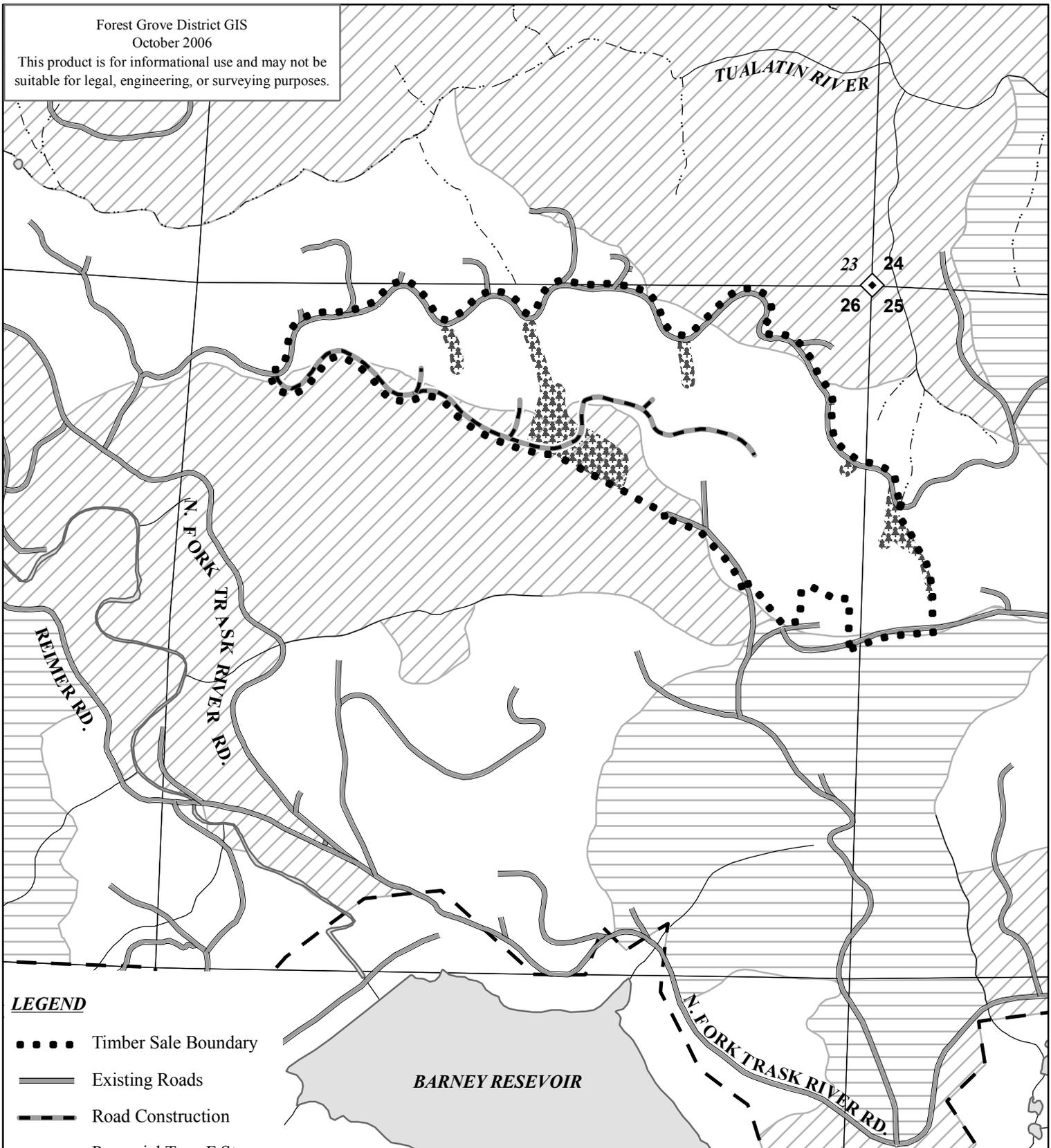
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**APPROXIMATE NET ACREAGE**

|              |                  |
|--------------|------------------|
| AREA 1       | 112 ACRES (MC)   |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>112 ACRES</b> |

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**LEGEND**

- Timber Sale Boundary
- Existing Roads
- - - Road Construction
- Perennial Type F Stream
- - - Perennial Type N Stream
- Green Tree Retention Area
- | - | ODF Ownership

**DFC Stand Type**

- Layered
- Older Forest Structure

FY 2008  
BLIND FAITH  
PORTIONS OF SECTIONS 25 & 26, T01S, R06W, W.M.  
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OREGON

Attachment B: Desired Future Condition

Scale

1:12000

1 inch = 1000 feet



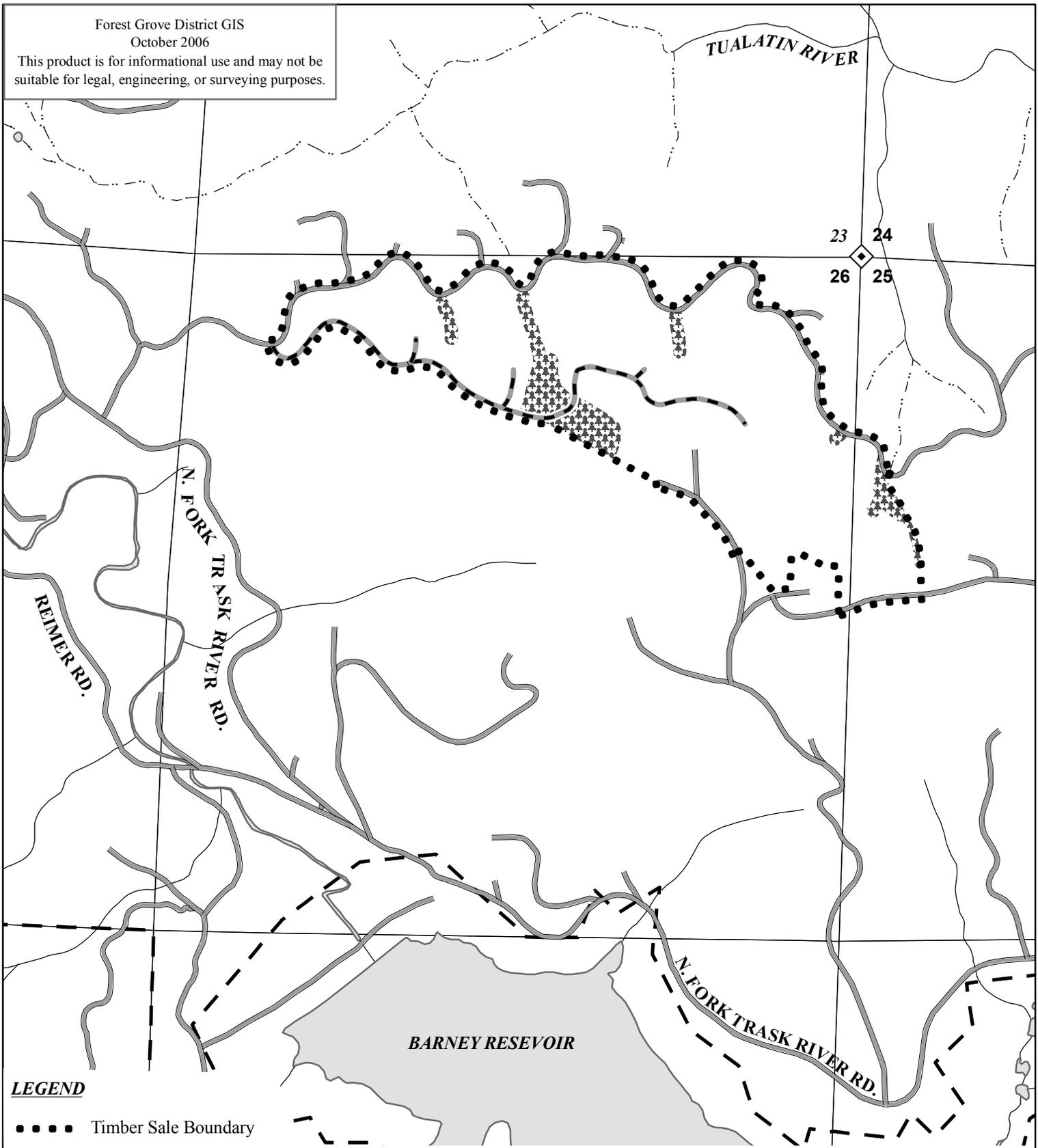
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**APPROXIMATE NET ACREAGE**

|              |                  |
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**LEGEND**

- Timber Sale Boundary
- Existing Roads
- - - Road Construction
- Perennial Type F Stream
- - - Perennial Type N Stream
- ■ ■ ■ Green Tree Retention Area
- | - | ODF Ownership

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WASHINGTON COUNTY, OREGON

Attachment C: Key Resources

Scale

1:12000

1 inch = 1000 feet



| APPROXIMATE NET ACREAGE |                |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| AREA 1                  | 112 ACRES (MC) |
| TOTAL                   | 112 ACRES      |