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KLAMATH-LAKE DISTRICT

2008 ANNUAL OPERATIONS PLAN

INTRODUCTION

This document describes activities planned on the Eastern Region state forest lands during Fiscal Year 2008 (July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008). Since the decertification of the scattered Common School Forest tracts on the Northeast and Central Oregon Districts, all the eastern region state forest lands are on the Klamath-Lake District in Klamath County. The district manages 33,739 acres of forest land, 26,912 acres of Board of Forestry lands and 6,827 acres of Common School Forest lands. Management of these lands is guided by the Eastern Region Long-Range Forest Management Plan, which was approved in October, 1995.

This AOP describes how the Long-Range Plan will be implemented during the 2008 fiscal year. The AOP includes this summary document with sections on commercial forest management operations, roads and engineering, cultural resources surveys, wildlife surveys, etc. It also includes summary tables and pre-operations reports that describe the individual timber sales being proposed. The final plan will contain a public involvement summary that describes the results of the public involvement activities related to this AOP.

Keep in mind as you read this that the AOP describes management activities for which contracts will be prepared during the fiscal year (Commercial forest management operations and roads) as well as activities that will occur on the ground during the fiscal year (site prep, tree planting, pre-commercial thinning, fuel reduction).

Table 1. Annual Operations Plan objectives compared to annual objectives identified in the Eastern Region Long-Range Plan. All values are acres.

Silvicultural Activity	LRP Annual Objective	2008 AOP Objective
Conifer Partial Cut	1,081	1,225
Conifer Clearcut	N/A	
Hardwood Partial Cut	N/A	
Hardwood Clearcut	N/A	
Rehabilitation	N/A	
Reforestation (Initial Planting)	N/A	278
Precommercial Thinning	N/A	249
Fuel Reduction (Slashbusting)	N/A	
Pruning	N/A	

INTEGRATED FOREST MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS

Commercial Forest Management Operations

Overview of Commercial Forest Management Operations

This plan proposes three commercial operations, all in Sun Pass State Forest in the North Block for a total of 1,225 acres. Willy Nilly and Annie Haul are overstocked and have stocking reduction for forest health as one of the primary objectives. Hammerhead is in an armellaria root disease area where reduction of susceptible species and reforestation with resistant species is the primary objective. The current harvest objective calls for an average of 1,081 acres of harvest each year.

Willy Nilly This partial cut harvest operation contains 614 acres in the ponderosa pine and mixed conifer forest zone. The area is overstocked and the standard uneven-aged management prescription described in the long-range plan will be employed. The sale will focus on group selections in lodgepole pine. Thinning from below will occur throughout the stands in ponderosa pine, white fir, and sugar pine. The openings created by the group selects will be reforested with ponderosa pine, sugar pine, and incense cedar.

Hammerhead This partial cut harvest operation contains 526 acres in the mixed conifer forest zones. The sale area contains large areas of armellaria root disease. The sale will focus on removing white fir and sugar pine from the root disease areas. Ponderosa pine and lodgepole pine are the most resistant species and will be retained and planted. Stocking reduction will be the focus in the disease free areas.

Annie Haul This partial cut harvest operation contains 85 acres in the mixed conifer forest zone. This sale has experienced significant recent western pine beetle mortality and will focus on stocking reduction and group selections. The group selections will be reforested with ponderosa pine.

All three commercial operations will require cutting and skidding of the designated trees in the 5" to 8" dbh portion of the sub-merchantable trees to the landings. This process enables density reduction in all size classes while reducing the fuel hazard associated with pre-commercial thinning or slashing. These trees will be chipped or used as poles if the market allows or burned on the landing.

Roads and Engineering

Overview

Table 4. Summary of Road Management Activities. All values are in miles.

	Mainline AOP		Collector AOP		Spur AOP	
Road Construction	0		0		0	
Road Improvement	0		9		1.6	
Road Closure/Vacation	0		5.8		4.5	
Road Maintenance - District	0		0		0	
Road Maintenance - Active Operations ¹	22.1		5.6		0	

¹ This is a broad estimate of the road maintenance that may be accomplished during the fiscal year, through active commercial operations, however the exact amount can not be predicted at this time.

Mainline Roads – These are generally permanent roads that have high traffic volumes, higher speeds, movement of heavy equipment and/or a high level of public use during portions of the year. They are useable by a lowboy truck, which is a key design vehicle. May have high public and recreational use during parts of the year. They are usually important roads for administrative purposes. And, they are usually a mainline road that accesses a large geographic area.

Collector Roads – These are generally semi-permanent or permanent usage roads that may access more than one logging unit, receive moderate use by the public during portions of the year, and/or provide important access for administrative purposes. Use may be heavy during periods of log hauling and light to moderate during portions of the year. May be closed and put in an inactive status during periods of non-use. Usually primary spur roads that are more than ¼ mile in length.

Spur Roads – These are generally roads that are used for a short term, intermittently and/or have a low traffic volume. Use may be heavy during periods of log hauling but minimal at other times. May be temporary roads that closed or vacated after use. May be operator designed or “logger’s choice” spur roads that require approval by the Department of Forestry. Oftentimes they are short (less than ¼ mile) spurs that access a single logging unit. May have seasonal restrictions on their use. May be administrative roads that are not used by the public or for commercial uses.

Road Construction/Improvement

The three sales in the 2008 Operations Plan will require 10.6 miles of road construction/improvement. Construction will involve new access spurs which will be built to minimum standards. Improvement primarily means removal of vegetation and debris from an existing road surface, blading, and shaping.

Road Access Management

On the Klamath-Lake District, road closure involves restricting access during all of the year (Section 8, Forest Road Vacating, ODF Forest Roads Manual). Roads will be closed primarily by spreading root wads, slash, and other logging debris on the road surface. The District has identified roads important for the permanent transportation system. As sales are proposed, roads within the sale areas are reassessed and non-essential roads are closed as part of project work in the timber sale contract.

Approximately 10.3 miles of roads are planned for closure on the FY08 sale plan sales. Most of these roads will be re-opened at each entry, approximately every 20 years.

Road Maintenance

Road maintenance is planned on about 27.7 miles of state roads on active sales during the FY 08.

Land Surveying

None

Non-Commercial Forest Management Operations

Rehabilitation

None

Site Preparation

Slashbusting will be done on about 71.5 acres of the Siderod Timber Sale for site preparation and fuel reduction.

Planting

Planting is planned on 278 acres of the Leo's Landing, Slipshod, and Pokegama Timber Sales.

Vegetation Management

Noxious weed treatment with herbicides for a persistent musk thistle infestation is planned on about 1,000 acres in our Yainax block during 2007. This will be a spot treatment of immature seedlings and will be conducted twice during the growing season. Each treatment will be followed in several weeks by surveys to determine if follow-up treatment is necessary.

Tree Protection

None.

Precommercial Thinning (density management)

In the Eastern Region, precommercial thinning (pct) of residual understories following commercial operations is a tool for managing density as well as species composition, residual tree quality, wildlife cover and fuels (primarily through reduction of ladder fuels). In FY2008, pct is planned on about 249 acres of completed timber sales.

Fuel Reduction

Slashbusting will be done on about 71.5 acres of the Siderod Timber Sale for fuel reduction and site preparation.

Pruning

None.

Recreation Management

Overview of Recreation Management

The primary recreation strategy in the FMP is to make Klamath-Lake District state forests available for informal dispersed recreation and to not actively promote increases in recreation use. During development of the FMP, it was determined that current users value this type of opportunity because surrounding agencies and private landowners are providing a full spectrum of more developed as well as more primitive recreation opportunities.

The district will explore the possibility of developing a small horse camp facility near the KOSS site. (See **Facilities** section)

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

The Klamath Outdoor Science School (KOSS) will continue to develop facilities at the site. (See **Public Information and Education** section)

The district will explore the possibility of issuing an Adopt-a-Trail Agreement to the High Desert Trail Riders Back Country Horsemen to develop a small horse camp facility near the KOSS site. This group currently uses the site several times a year. A few minor improvements have been requested. Currently, the vision for this facility includes corrals or a highline feature and several dirt surfaced parking slots. These improvements would be open to public use.

Trails

There are no formal trails on the Eastern Region State Forests.

Land Exchange

The District has an ongoing exchange proposal with the Fremont National Forest, which has stalled for several years due to Fremont N. F. priorities. This proposal has become the Fremont's top exchange priority. ODF is working on a new exchange plan format, which needs to be approved by the Board of Forestry. When this has been completed, the District plans to complete a new exchange plan and pursue completion of the exchange.

This exchange was initially proposed by ODF in 1990. Most of the steps in the exchange process were completed in the mid to late 90's. Because there have been significant changes in ODF's exchange process since this exchange was first proposed, the district plans to start over with many of the early steps of the process. The district will consult with the Asset Management section prior to undertaking these steps.

Other Integrated Forest Management Operations

None.

Planning (and Information Systems)

Stand Level Inventory (SLI) and Other Vegetation Inventories

The district plans to contract to complete post-treatment SLI plots on 13 stands and to complete SLI plots on 2 stands with district personnel.

Fish and Wildlife Surveys

The Forest Management Plan calls for pileated woodpecker surveys every 5 years as part of the Forest Connectivity Area strategy. The last surveys were conducted in 2002. The next round of surveys will begin in Spring, 2007 and will continue into FY 2008. The contract for this round of pileated surveys will also include surveys for white-headed woodpeckers. This information will be used during the upcoming long-range lan review.

Watershed Assessments

No formal watershed assessments are planned for FY2008. Independent watershed assessment work is not prescribed in the Forest Management Plan. The FMP does prescribe participation in assessments being conducted by adjacent landowners.

The district does plan to participate with Crater Lake National Park and an adjacent private landowner in a project to restore bull trout in Sun Creek. A grant has been received from the Hatfield Restoration Program to conduct a feasibility study to develop alternatives to restore bull trout to lower Sun Creek and reconnect the population with the Wood River. The district is also budgeting \$25,000 per year to the project. A request for proposals has been developed to solicit contractor bids for this project. The contract should be completed in FY 2008.

Research and Monitoring

The FY 2008 State Forest Program Research and Monitoring budget will include funding for the pileated woodpecker surveys.

Other Planning Operations

The Eastern Region Forest Management Plan review will start in Fiscal Year 2007 and continue in FY 2008.

Public Information and Education

The District will conduct public involvement activities related to the Annual Operations Plan. In addition to a general public comment period, the district will continue to work with the Klamath-Lake Forest Health Partnership as a focus group for the AOP process. The district will also do targeted mailings related to the AOP to people known to have an interest in the district's forest management activities.

The District has begun work with the Klamath Outdoor Science School (KOSS) to establish a permanent site for a resident outdoor science school, serving primarily grade school students, in Sun Pass State Forest. The district sees this as an opportunity to provide youth, teachers, and parents with education about the working forest. ODF has issued a Special Use Permit that allows KOSS to develop a site near Kimball State Park. In Spring, 2006 KOSS completed two 30' diameter yurts to

serve as sleeping quarters for students. Over 500 students, teachers, and parent chaperones attended the first round of camps. The permit requires review and approval of annual development plans.

Administration

State Forests on the Klamath-Lake District are managed by the Management Unit under the direction of the District Forester. The unit is supervised by the Management Unit Forester. Three Marketing Foresters plan, prepare, and administer timber sales. A Post-Harvest Forester plans and carries out intensive management activities such as pre-commercial thinning, planting, and fuel management. This position is also responsible for forest inventory. A GIS/Land Exchange Forester manages the forest geographic information as well as the unit computers. This position also explores land exchange opportunities and carries out land exchanges.

APPENDIX A

SUMMARY TABLES

APPENDIX B

PRE-OPERATIONS REPORTS

APPENDIX C

OPERATION MAPS

APPENDIX D

PUBLIC COMMENT PROCESS FOR THE 2008 ANNUAL OPERATIONS PLAN

The Oregon Department of Forestry issued a Press Release on February 7, 2008, announcing a formal 45 day public comment period for the 2008 Annual Operations Plans from February 14 through March 30, 2007.

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 Klamath-Lake District received three letters or emails regarding the AOP. The district considered the questions, comments and recommendations in each letter or email. Factors that affected the districts consideration of the comments included:

- Does the comment enhance the consistency of the AOP with the FMP?
- Does the comment enhance the consistency of the AOP with the IP, for those districts with IPs?
- Does the comment improve the clarity of the AOP?
- Does the comment provide new information that will affect the AOP or an operation?
- Does the comment improve the efficiency and effectiveness (or outcome) of the AOP?

The district then prepared a response for each letter or email that attempted to resolve each question or comment by providing additional information, discussing how the recommendation incorporated into the AOP, or explaining why the recommendation was not incorporated.

Note: A complete letters of all public comments and the district responses related to the district FY08 AOP can be found on our web site:

http://egov.oregon.gov/ODF/STATE_FORESTS/2008_AOP_Approved.shtml

FY08 AOP Changes Resulting from Public Comment Process:

None

FOREST ROADS SUMMARY

District: Klamath Fiscal Year: 2008

Date: 06/13/2007

Operation	Structure		Improvement		Other Projects	Total Project Costs	Gross Value of Operation	Total Cost as a percent of Gross Value	Comments
	Mile	Cost	Miles	Cost					
(Operation Name)						\$0	\$1	0.0%	
Willy Nilly	0	0	1	1,000	33,610	\$34,610	\$643,780	5.4%	
Hammerhead	0	0	9.3	9,300	24,890	\$34,190	\$643,060	5.3%	
Annie Haul	0	0	0.3	300	5,225	\$5,525	\$178,500	3.1%	
						\$0	\$1	0.0%	
						\$0	\$1	0.0%	
						\$0	\$1	0.0%	
						\$0	\$1	0.0%	
						\$0	\$1	0.0%	
						\$0	\$1	0.0%	
						\$0	\$1	0.0%	
						\$0	\$1	0.0%	
						\$0	\$1	0.0%	
						\$0	\$1	0.0%	
						\$0	\$1	0.0%	
						\$0	\$1	0.0%	

Total:	\$74,325	\$1,465,352	5.1%
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Alternate Operations

						\$0	1	0.0%	
						\$0	1	0.0%	
						\$0	1	0.0%	

Road Projects Not Associated with Commercial Forest Management Operations

						\$0			
						\$0			
						\$0			

Reforestation and Young Stand Management Report

District Klamath-Lake

Fiscal Year: 2008

Date:06/13/2007

Management Activity	Board of Forestry			Common School Forest Lands			District	
	Acres Planned	Average Cost*/Acre	BOF Cost	Acres Planned	Average Cost*/Acre	CSL Cost	Total Acres	Total Cost
Initial Planting	278	\$106.00	\$29,468.00			\$0.00	278	\$29,468.00
Interplanting			\$0.00			\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Underplanting			\$0.00			\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Tree Protection-Barriers			\$0.00			\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Tree Protection-Direct Control			\$0.00			\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Site Prep-Chemical- Aerial			\$0.00			\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Site Prep-Chemical- Hand			\$0.00			\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Site Prep -Slash Burning			\$0.00			\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Site Prep -Mechanical			\$0.00	72	\$450.00	\$32,175.00	72	\$32,175.00
Fertilization			\$0.00			\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Noxious weeds			\$0.00	1,000	\$25.00	\$25,000.00	1,000	\$25,000.00
Release-Chemical- Aerial			\$0.00			\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Release,-Chemical-Hand			\$0.00			\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Release-Mechanical-Hand			\$0.00			\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Precommercial Thinning	77	\$96.00	\$7,392.00	172	\$96.00	\$16,512.00	249	\$23,904.00
Pruning			\$0.00			\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Other			\$0.00			\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Totals	355	--	\$36,860.00	1,244	--	\$73,687.00	1,599	\$110,547.00

*Planting costs include all costs including seedlings

RECREATION MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

District: Klamath-Lake

Fiscal Year:

2008

Date: 06/13/2007

Operation	Unit of Measure	Current	Construction Projects	Construction Cost (Funding)		Improvement Projects	Improvement Cost (Funding)		Total Cost	Comments
				ODF	Other		ODF	Other		
Facilities										
Campsites	Sites								\$0	
Day Use Areas									\$0	
Trailheads									\$0	
Interpretive Sites									\$0	
Horse camp	Sites	1							\$0	Special Use Permit
Trails										
Non-Motorized	Miles								\$0	
Motorized	Miles								\$0	

Total: \$0