

# Pre-Operations Report

**Operation Name: Lower Jones**  
**County: Tillamook**  
**Management Basin: Wilson**

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

Area	Type of Operation	Gross Acres	Net Acres <sup>1</sup>
1	Partial Cut-Moderate	284	252
2	Retention Cut	49	24
Total		333	276

*1. The net acres are based on orthophotos and GIS and exclude roads, stream buffers, reserve areas and non-required thinning areas.*

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

Slopes have an overall southwest or northeast aspect and range from 10% to over 90%, averaging 65%. Elevations range from 600 to 1,450 feet. The major soil types are Rye (on the southwest aspects) and Enright (on the northeast aspects).

The sale is located on the moderate to very steep slopes below the narrow divide between Jones Creek and Cedar Creek. There are steep to very steep side slopes in all of the areas of the sale except for the eastern-most portion of Area 2. The sale is underlain by sedimentary origin rocks, basaltic mudstones at the base of the Tillamook Volcanics Formation. Refer to the Overview of Harvest Operations in the Summary document for information.

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

**Table 2. Stand Inventory Information<sup>4</sup>**

Area	Prescription	Stand ID <sup>1</sup>	Species	Age	DBH	BA	TPA	SDI	Net Acres <sup>2</sup>
1	PC	106	DF/RA	50	15	195	159	51	252
		Target <sup>3</sup>	DF/RA	50	17	120	76	30	252
2	RC	107	RA/DF	50	15	175	159	51	24
		Target <sup>3</sup>	DF/RA	50	17	69	41	13	24

*1. The source of stand inventory information is from field reconnaissance cruise plots taken in 2006 and previous sales in general area.*

*2. The net acres are based on orthophotos and GIS and exclude roads, and stream buffers, reserve areas and non-required thinning areas. Modified clear cut acres are not contiguous and do not exceed 120 acres.*

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

4. These numbers are based on plot data taken to this point and final numbers may differ significantly. The directive for minor and major modifications will be followed for further review.

The sale areas burned in the 1933 (Tillamook) and the 1939 (Saddle Mountain) fires. The areas were planted from 1955-1957. The portion of Area 1 above Cedar Creek Road was commercially thinned by helicopter in 1994. The remainder of the sale area has had no prior stand management.

There is no Stand Level Inventory (SLI) available for Areas 1 or 2. Area 1 is classified as 22% Closed Single Canopy (CSC) and 78% Understory (UDS) and Area 2 as 100% UDS according to the district stand summary information (1999). Area 2 will be further evaluated (as defined by the July 2004 guidance, “Planned Sale Inventory Requirements – Alternative to Full Stand Level Inventory”). See Table 2 for specific stand data.

Area 1 is a Douglas-fir plantation that has alder dominated draws and small pockets of alder (less than 1 acre) scattered throughout.

Area 2 is a mixed alder and Douglas-fir stand. There are two pockets of predominately alder (approx. 4 acres each).

The Douglas-fir in both areas show symptoms of Swiss needle cast but have good live crown ratios (greater than 40%). The Douglas-fir is becoming overstocked resulting in the loss of live crown ratios and slowed diameter growth. Due to stand age, the alder in this stand has poor height and diameter growth. No other significant insect or disease problems have been discovered at this time. The brush component is comprised primarily of swordfern, huckleberry, and vine maple.

There are some large snags in various states of decay and some hard snags created from wind and snow damage. Down wood consists of scattered large old logs (36”+) in Class 3 and 4 stages of decay. Down wood from windthrow and slash from the previous commercial thinning is in decay classes 1 and 2.

**III. DESIRED STAND CONDITION AND VISION:**

**Table 3. Stand Structure Information**

Area	Stand ID	Current	Post Harvest <sup>1</sup>	Desired Future	Net Acres
1	106	CSC	UDS	GEN	6
1	106	CSC	UDS	LYR	49
1	106	UDS	UDS	GEN	100
1	106	UDS	UDS	LYR	97
2	107	CSC	REG	LYR	24

1. 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.

See Section IV: Proposed Management Prescription for more information on Green Tree, Down Wood, and Snag Strategies during operation. Also refer to Landscape Design in the Summary document for more information on strategies to move the district toward Desired Future Condition (DFC) goals.

Area 1: The DFC for this stand is Layered (LYR). The vision for this stand is to have a mixed species stand, including Douglas-fir, western hemlock, and hardwoods. The stand after harvesting will be a Douglas-fir stand that averages approximately 76 trees per acre and be about 17 inches in DBH. In about 10-15 years after this entry the stand will have a diameter of approximately 20 inches in diameter, and will have an SDI of approximately 40%. At this time a prescription will be developed to stimulate understory growth. Other conifer species may need to be introduced into the stand at this time in order to increase species diversity.

Area 2: The DFC for this area is LYR. The vision is for a stand comprised of large Douglas-fir trees in the overstory and a second cohort of hemlock, Douglas-fir, spruce hardwood, and brush species. The stand will be composed of a mixture of species, size classes, and densities. A new cohort of western hemlock in the alder clearcut areas and larger gaps will provide both horizontal and vertical diversity. After thinning in approximately 20 years the stand will have a mixture of sizes, species and densities and likely be in a Layered condition.

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

The prescriptions described below are based on the current stand condition such as overall tree and stand growth, species mix, stand density, and stand health. **See Table 2 for prescription targets.**

**Area 1:** Merchantable Douglas-fir will be thinned to a basal area range of 110-130 square feet. All other species will be reserved.

This partial cut prescription will reduce the amount of overstocking. The resulting stand will have a stand density index of 25-30% which will maintain the crown ratios, stand vigor, and develop healthier and larger trees in the residual stand. The majority of Area 1 is a second entry thinning. This thinning will continue to move the stand along the pathway to more complex structure. Openings and gaps will allow for understory reinitiation of shrubs and tree species creating increased horizontal and vertical diversity. Another thinning will likely be needed in 10 to 15 years to keep this stand on a trajectory to complex stand structure. At this time managers will review density stand health, and landscape goals to decide future management prescriptions

**Area 2:** Merchantable alder will be harvested. Merchantable Douglas-fir will be thinned to a basal area range of 110-130 square feet. All other species will be reserved.

This retention cut prescription will remove the slow growing alder and reduce the Douglas-fir stocking to 25-30% which will maintain the crown ratios, stand vigor, and develop healthier and larger Douglas-fir in the residual stand. The overall stand SDI will be approximately 13%. The harvest prescription is designed to achieve variable densities throughout the area. There will be 2 small alder clearcuts (less than 4 acres). The resulting stand will have Douglas-fir thinning pockets of various sizes and large residual Douglas-fir scattered along the edges of the alder clearcuts. This is a first entry harvest that will begin to move the stand along the pathway to a more complex structure. The openings and gaps will allow for understory reinitiation of shrubs and tree species creating horizontal and vertical diversity. Another thinning will likely be needed in 20 years to keep this stand on a trajectory to complex stand structure. At this time managers will review density stand health, and landscape goals to decide future management prescriptions

#### **Down Wood and Snag Strategies**

Existing down wood will be left in the sale areas. Down wood recruitment is expected through mortality and windthrow of residual or leave trees, felled snags and tops left during harvest. Obvious defect in conifer logs will be bucked out in all harvest areas to enhance down wood levels. Small non-merchantable hardwood and conifer will be retained where possible in harvest units with the expectation they will become short term snags and down wood. Tops resulting from ground yarding will also be left in the unit.

Existing snags not determined to be a safety hazard will be retained and any felled snags will be left for down wood. Creation of snags is expected during harvest activities (rub trees, lift trees, or tail trees) and over time by natural processes. Snags will be created in Areas 1 and 2. A prescription will be developed after the cruise has been completed.

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

**Table 4. Timber and Revenue**

Ownership		Sale Type	
BOF	CSL	Cash	Recovery
100%	0%	<input type="checkbox"/>	x
Planned Quarter:		4	

	Conifer	Hardwood	Total
Net Volume (MBF)	2288	55	2343
Stumpage Value (\$/MBF)*	\$187.50	\$250	
Estimated Gross Value	\$429,000	\$13,750	\$442,750
		Project Costs:	\$149,083
		Estimated Net Value:	\$293,667

**VI. HARVESTING AND ACCESS CONSIDERATIONS:**

The sale areas are accessed via the North Fork Wilson River, Cedar Creek and Jones Creek roads. The North Fork Wilson River and Cedar Creek roads are currently all weather, crushed rock roads. Jones Creek Road is currently being used as a quad trail. The spur road off Jones Creek Road is currently being used as a motorcycle trail. See maps for specific road locations and conditions.

Approximately 1.5 miles of existing closed and legacy road will be improved which may include grading, rocking, widening, culvert replacement, spot rocking, sidecast pullback, and/or adding new culverts. This work will bring all roads up to standards described in *the Forest Roads Manual*.

Approximately 0.15 miles of Jones Creek road will be relocated to move the road further away from the Type F stream. 1.0 miles of road will be constructed in order to provide access to cable yarding areas.

Approximately 0.15 miles of Jones Creek Road will be vacated where the current road is within 100 feet of Jones Creek. Following harvest, roads within the sale areas will be reviewed for closure. It is anticipated that Jones Creek Road will be closed near the junction of Cedar Creek Road. See summary document for more information on road closure. No other project work is planned to be included with this sale. The operation will be 100% cable yarded.

**Table 5. Transportation Planning Summary (Miles)<sup>4</sup>**

Activity	Mainline	Collector	Rocked Spur <sup>1</sup>	Dirt Spur <sup>1</sup>
Construct		0.15	1.0	
Improve		0.7	0.77	
Maintain <sup>2</sup>		0.6		

Close/Block <sup>3</sup>			1.0	
Vacate <sup>3</sup>		0.15		

1. *Additional roads may be built by the operator at the time of harvest and will be approved by the State through the Operations Plan. These will be short dead end spurs and closed or blocked after harvest*
2. *All roads accessing the sale area will be maintained during the life of the timber sale contract. Maintenance miles in the table are those roads not being constructed or improved.*
3. *Roads not closed/blocked or vacated at the end of the sale will be reviewed for closure after reforestation is established.*
4. *The numbers in this table reflect planned Project Work associated with the sale.*

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

A watershed analysis is being conducted for the Wilson River basin at this time. Recommendations from this assessment will be incorporated into the sale where feasible.

Jones Creek and Cedar Creek, two large Type F streams, are adjacent to the sale areas. An unnamed tributary of Jones Creek, a medium Type F stream, is within the sale boundary and an unnamed tributary of Cedar Creek, a medium Type F stream, is adjacent to Area 2. There are additional unnamed small perennial and seasonal Type N streams within the sale areas. These streams will be reviewed and protected appropriately during sale layout based on flow, topography, and terrain. The inner and outer riparian zones of these Type N streams will be managed towards mature forest condition.

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) will be requested to complete stream surveys prior to sale layout. Streams of unknown status will be treated as Type F until surveys are completed to verify fish use.

Stream buffers within or adjacent to harvest unit boundaries will be managed according to *Forest Management Plan* Riparian Strategies. The riparian areas will be reviewed during sale layout for current stand conditions and/or operational constraints for implementing FMP strategies.

The entire sale area is within the Cedar Creek sub-basin. This sub-basin has been identified as a Salmon Anchor Habitat (SAH) Basin. The SAH Basin Strategies will be used in addition to the FMP Riparian Strategies at the time of sale layout and contract development. See the Salmon Anchor Summary Table for tracking of acres managed in each basin.

The ODFW fish biologist will work with ODF to identify possible stream enhancement project areas in Jones Creek.

Refer to Aquatic Resource Protection Strategies in the Summary document for information on in the “in stream work period’ road work and stream improvement projects.

### **VIII. T&E SPECIES CONSIDERATIONS:**

The sale areas have been reviewed with the ODF Northwest Oregon Area Biologist. Surveys for marbled murrelets are not required, due to the absence of potentially suitable habitat. Spotted owl surveys are not required as the sale is within the Tillamook burn (see November 2002 ODF Policy Guidance: *Northern Spotted Owl Surveying on State Forest Lands*).

T & E Plant species: The sale areas were checked against the Oregon Natural Heritage Program (ONHP) database of known threatened or endangered listed plant locations as well as local records in the Land Management Classification System (LMCS). No listed plants were identified within or adjacent to the sale areas.

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

There are steep and very steep side slopes in all areas except the eastern most portion of Area 2. The initial risk assessment by the geotechnical specialist for the sale is high. The geotechnical specialist will be consulted during sale layout field work.

The sale areas have been identified as being within a SAH Basin and the most current slope stability SAH Strategies will be used at the time of contract development. See the Summary Document for more information.

### **X. RECREATION RESOURCES:**

The sale areas are designated as Motorized in the *Tillamook State Forest Comprehensive Recreation Plan* (1993). This sale has been reviewed by the District Recreation Coordinator.

Knobs Knob, Powerline 2, and Jones Creek OHV Trail are OHV trails which go through the sale areas. Short term closure of these trails will occur to facilitate logging and public safety. Portions of these trails will be improved for logging access. A plan will be developed in conjunction with the District Recreation Coordinator to address these situations. Slash will be removed from the trails upon completion of the operation.

Coordination with the Tillamook Recreation Coordinator, Tillamook Forest Center (TFC), and interpretive staff will be utilized to develop a public safety plan to be implemented during the harvest operations. Seasonal and daily operating restrictions may be utilized to minimize disturbance to the public. Opportunities for harvest and reforestation prescriptions which would enhance interpretive education opportunities will be evaluated during sale preparation. The District

Recreation Coordinator will be consulted throughout the sale preparation and administration processes.

Recreational use common to this area includes hiking, hunting, camping, fishing, and OHV use.

**XI. CULTURAL RESOURCES:**

The *Tillamook State Cultural Assessment* does not list any cultural sites within or adjacent to the proposed sale boundary. If a site is identified, the Public Use Coordinator will be contacted for appropriate protection measures and tracking.

**XII. SCENIC RESOURCES:**

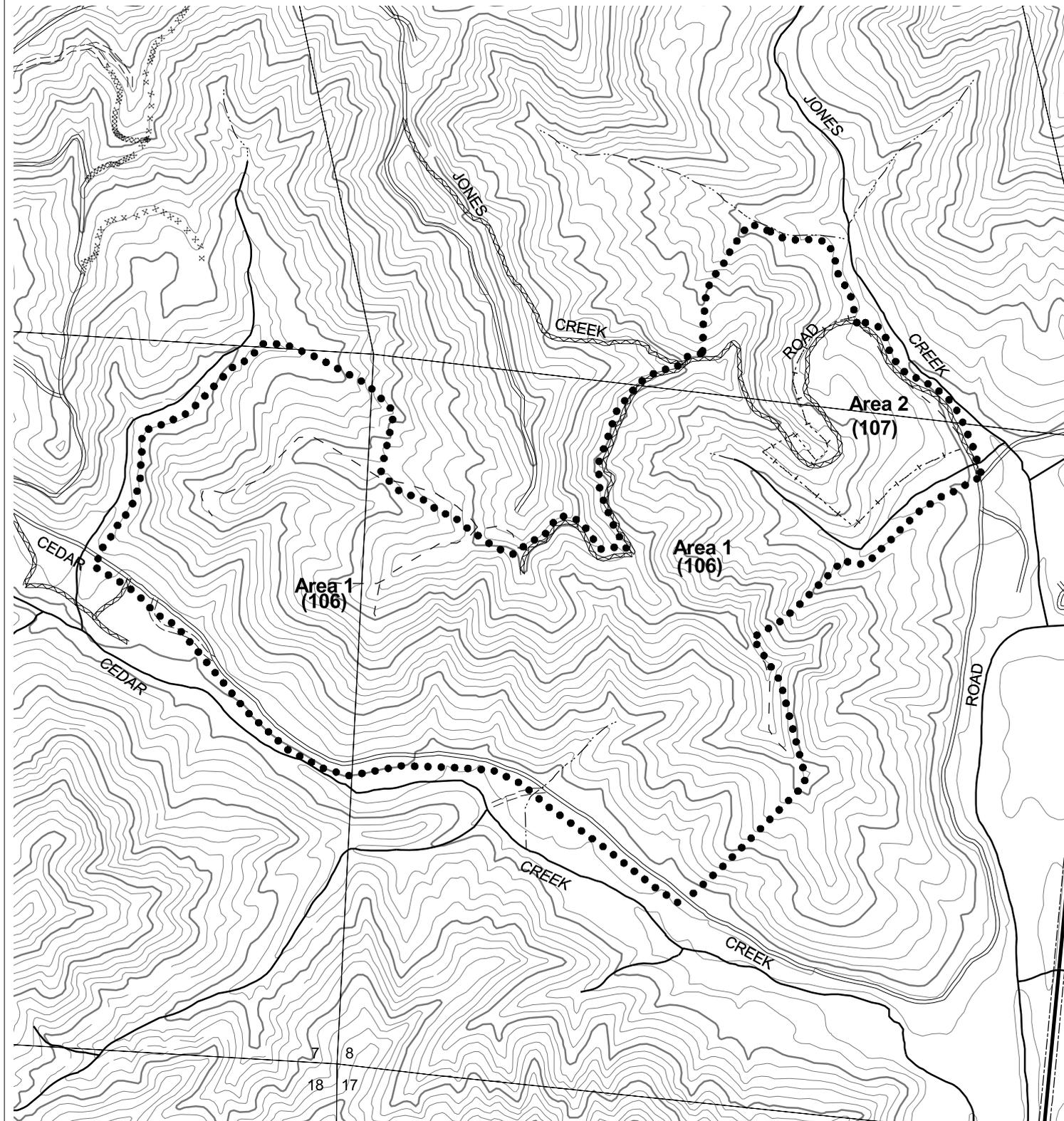
Area 2 and portions of Area 1 have a visual classification of Level 1, high sensitivity. The remainder of Area 1 has a visual classification of Level 2, moderate sensitivity. Visual impact in Area 1 will be minimal due to the thinning prescription. The impact of Area 2 should also be minimal due to the small size of the clearcut and the stream buffers adjacent to the area. The sale will be reviewed by the Public Use Coordinator to determine methods to minimize visual impact.

**XIII. OTHER RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS:**

None known.

**XIV. LAND MANAGEMENT CLASSIFICATION SUMMARY:**

The sale areas contain Focused and Special Stewardship, Aquatic and Riparian Habitat. See Section VII, Aquatic Resources and Water Quality, for the management guidelines to be utilized. The sale areas contain Focused Recreation. See Section X, Recreation Resources. The sale areas also contain Focused Visual. See Section XIII, Scenic Resources. Boundary lines depicted on Attachment C are approximate; exact locations and site specific management activities will be determined during the sale preparation process.



Contour Interval 40'

- +--- Area boundary
- Sale boundary
- Ownership boundary
- Perennial Type-F stream \*
- Perennial Type-N stream \*
- ==== Unsurfaced road
- ===== Surfaced road
- State/Federal highway
- ==== Legacy road
- xxxxxx Blocked road
- - - Road construction
- County road
- T T Transmission line

**Lower Jones**  
**-- Topography --**  
**2008 SALE PLAN**  
**TILLAMOOK DISTRICT**

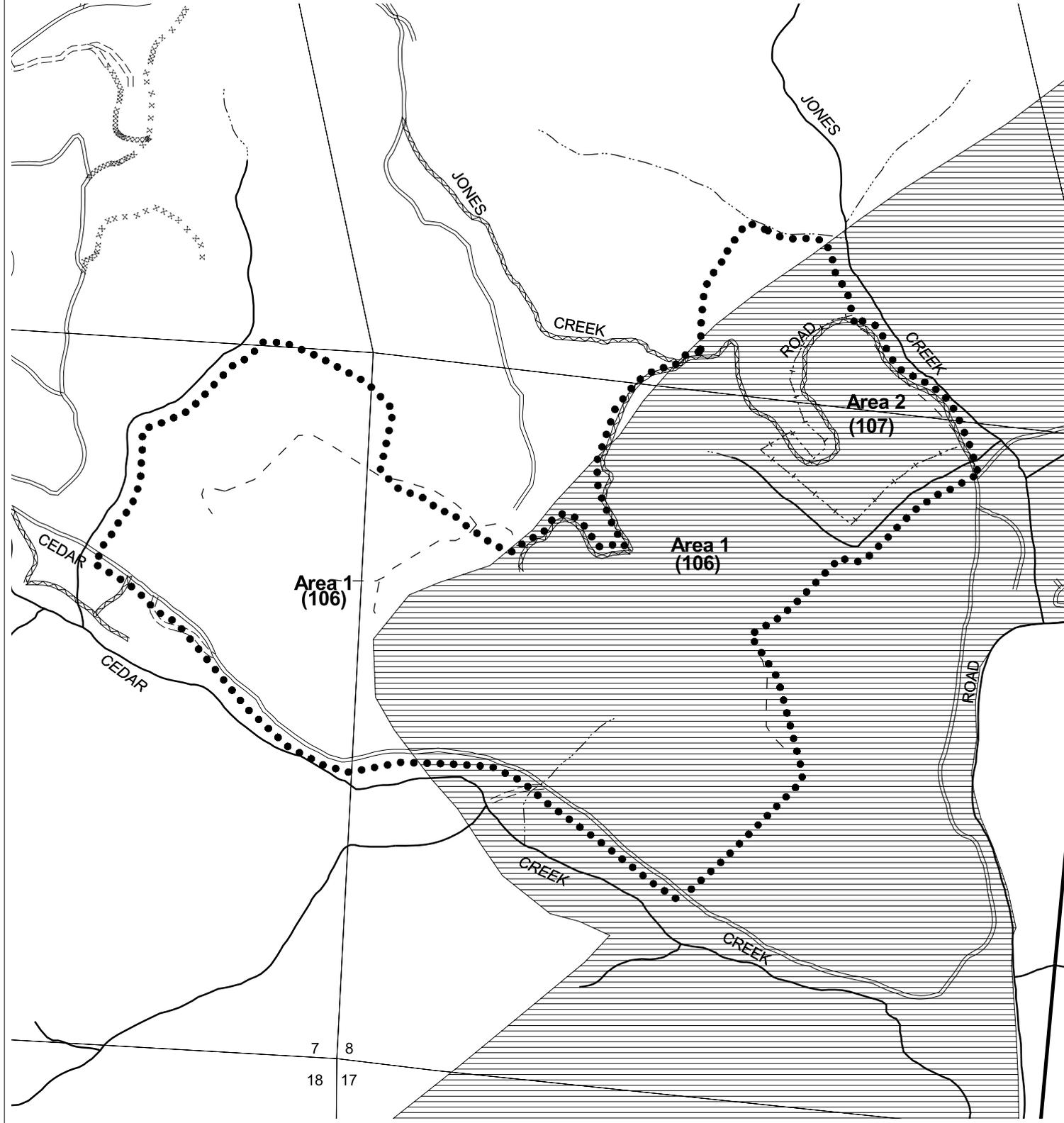
Portions of Sections 5, 7, and 8,  
 T1N, R7W, W. M.  
 Tillamook County, Oregon

Area	Type of Operation
1	Partial cut
2	Modified clearcut



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 may not have been prepared for, or suitable  
 for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes.

\* Streams of unknown fish presence are not shown but will be surveyed prior to the sale



7 8  
18 17

- |                          |                           |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Desired future condition | +-+-- Area boundary       |
| Layered                  | Sale boundary             |
| Older forest             | Ownership boundary        |
|                          | Perennial Type-F stream * |
|                          | Perennial Type-N stream * |
|                          | Unsurfaced road           |
|                          | Surfaced road             |
|                          | State/Federal highway     |
|                          | Legacy road               |
|                          | Blocked road              |
|                          | Road construction         |
|                          | County road               |
|                          | Transmission line         |

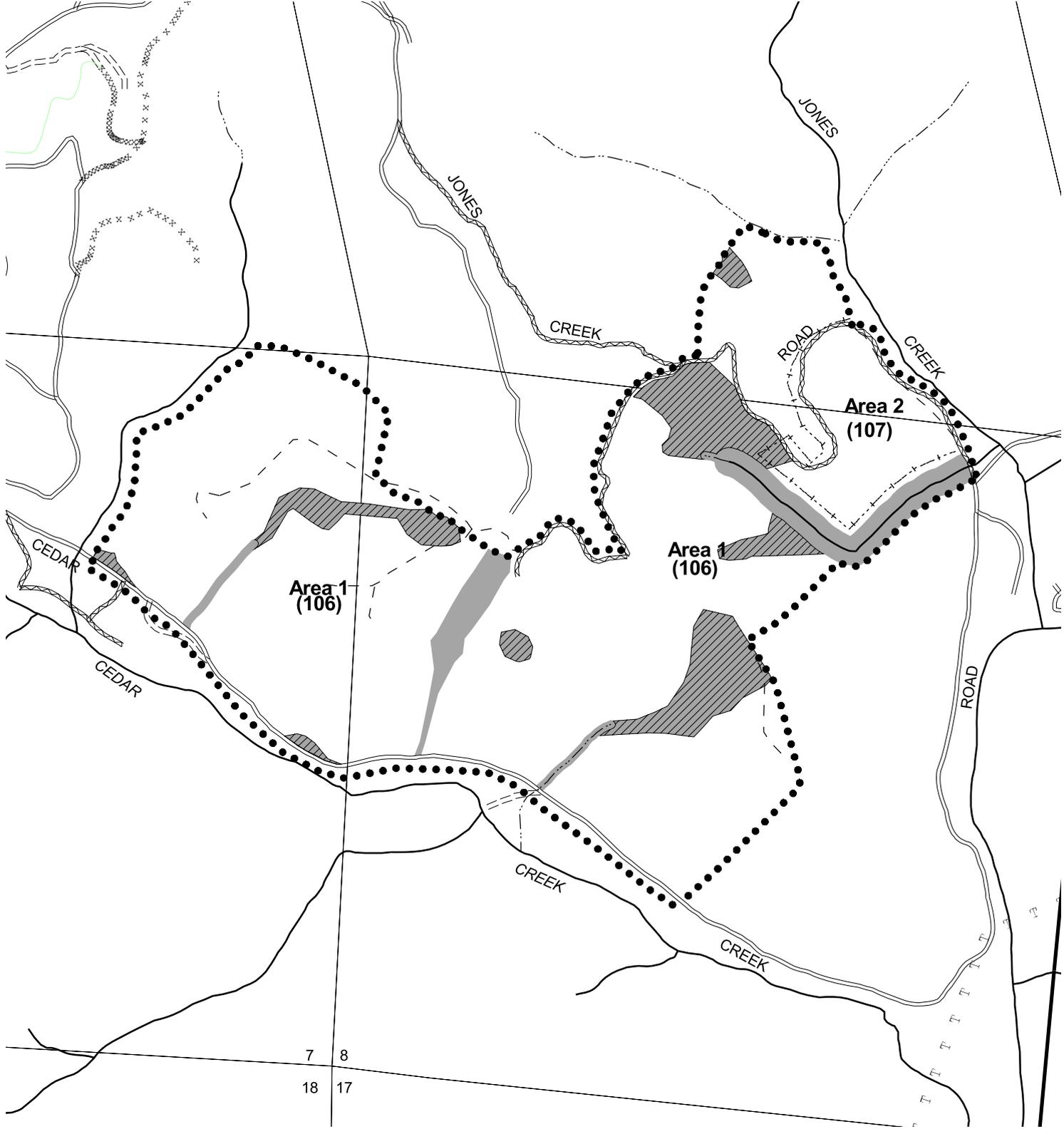
**Lower Jones**  
**-- Current and Future Condition --**  
**2008 SALE PLAN**  
**TILLAMOOK DISTRICT**  
 Portions of Sections 5, 7, and 8,  
 T1N, R7W, W. M.  
 Tillamook County, Oregon



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Area	Type of Operation
1	Partial cut
2	Modified clearcut

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- Buffer
- Non-required thinning
- Area boundary
- Sale boundary
- Ownership boundary
- Perennial Type-F stream \*
- Perennial Type-N stream \*
- Unsurfaced road
- Surfaced road
- State/Federal highway
- Legacy road
- Blocked road
- Road construction
- County road
- Transmission line

**Lower Jones**  
**-- Key Resources --**  
**2008 SALE PLAN**  
**TILLAMOOK DISTRICT**

Portions of Sections 5, 7, and 8,  
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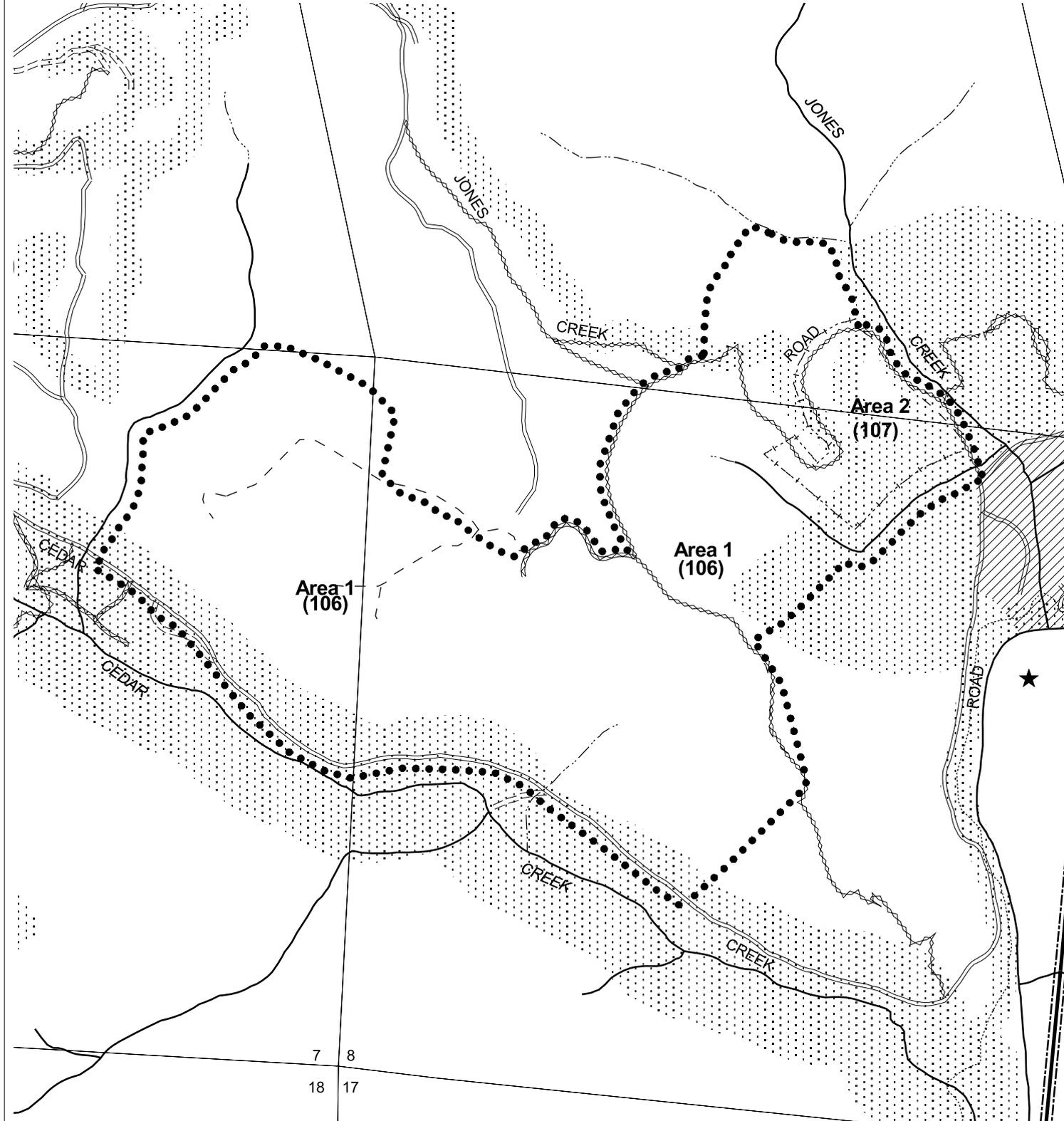


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- Campground
- Day Use Site
- OHV Staging Area
- Trail Head
- Boat Launch
- Interpretive or Administrative Site
- Stewardship
- Focused
- Special
- OHV trail
- Non-motorized trail
- Area boundary
- Sale boundary
- Ownership boundary
- Perennial Type-F stream \*
- Perennial Type-N stream \*
- Unsurfaced road
- Surfaced road
- State/Federal highway
- Legacy road
- Blocked road
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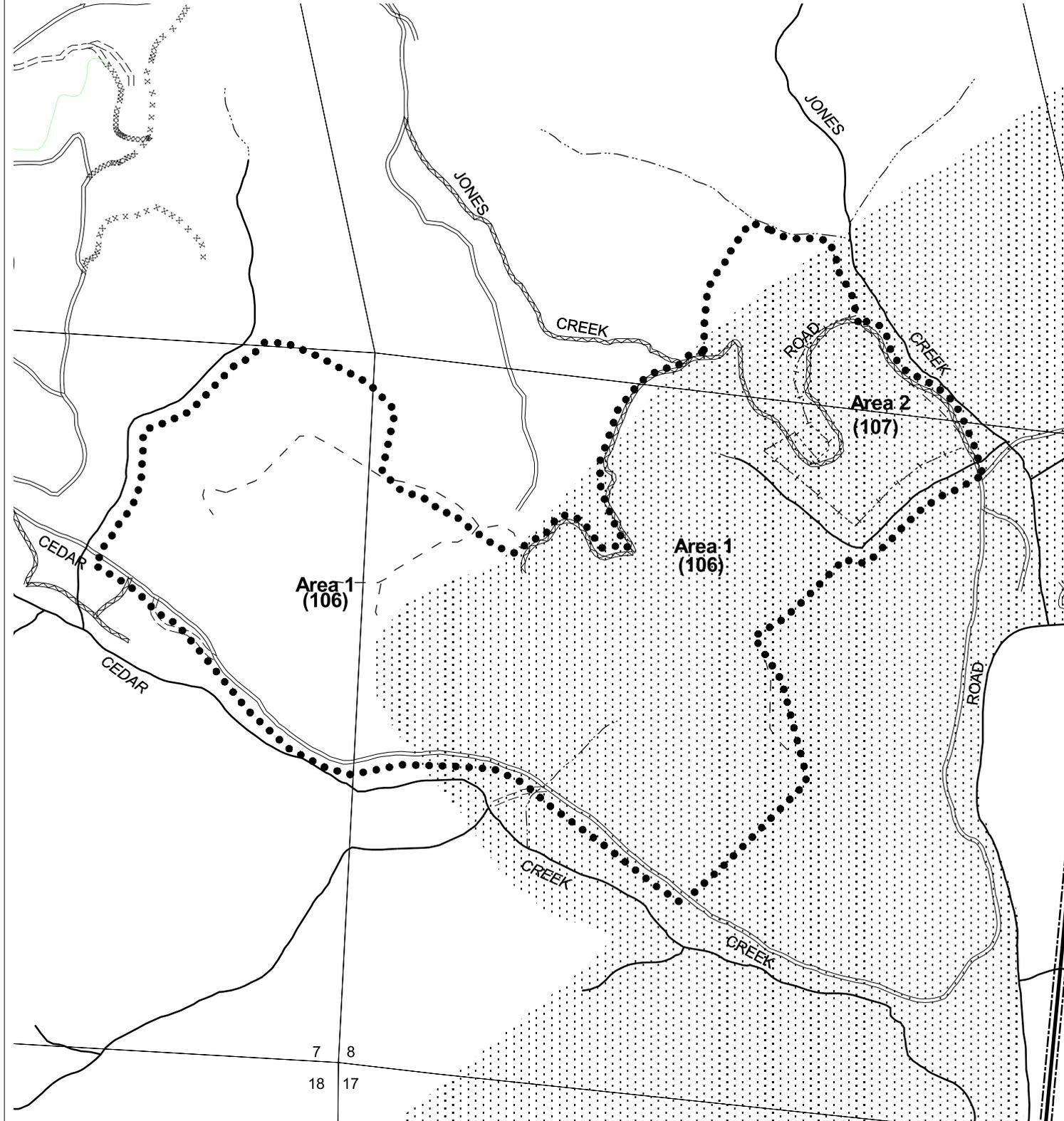
**Lower Jones**  
**--Key Resources/Recreation --**  
**2008 SALE PLAN**  
**TILLAMOOK DISTRICT**  
 Portions of Sections 5, 7, and 8,  
 T1N, R7W, W. M.  
 Tillamook County, Oregon

Area	Type of Operation
1	Partial cut
2	Modified clearcut



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- |  |             |  |                           |
|--|-------------|--|---------------------------|
|  | Stewardship |  | Area boundary             |
|  | Focused     |  | Sale boundary             |
|  | Special     |  | Ownership boundary        |
|  |             |  | Perennial Type-F stream * |
|  |             |  | Perennial Type-N stream * |
|  |             |  | Unsurfaced road           |
|  |             |  | Surfaced road             |
|  |             |  | State/Federal highway     |
|  |             |  | Legacy road               |
|  |             |  | Blocked road              |
|  |             |  | Road construction         |
|  |             |  | County road               |
|  |             |  | Transmission line         |

**Lower Jones**  
**-- Key Resources/Visual --**  
**2008 SALE PLAN**  
**TILLAMOOK DISTRICT**  
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