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WESTERN LANE DISTRICT

2008 ANNUAL OPERATIONS PLAN

INTRODUCTION

This operations plan covers all state-owned forest land managed by the Oregon Department of Forestry in Lane County.

The *NW Oregon State Forests Management Plan* calls for active forest management to produce a desired array of stand structure types across the landscape. In Lane County, long-range desired future condition targets are to produce and maintain approximately 40 percent of the forest in complex layered and older forest structure stands that include large trees, a multi-layered canopy, diverse understory vegetation, snags, down wood, and other key habitat features.

The activities and projects described will be designed to achieve the goals, strategies, and objectives of the *NW Oregon State Forests Management Plan* and the *Western Lane District Implementation Plan*. This Annual Operations Plan is divided into five major categories: Integrated Forest Management, Planning Activities, Information Systems, Public Information and Education, Administration, and Appendices. A summary of the results of the public involvement process will be added to the final plan.

The management activities planned for FY 08 are based on the range of objectives established in the *Western Lane District Implementation Plan* (Table 1), as well as the assumption that budget allotments will be similar to 2007. Sale planning continues to be heavily affected by northern spotted owl and marbled murrelet habitat protection.

Harvest Levels: In accordance with the guidance on the 2008 harvest levels¹, the district has included 9.8 MMBF of timber harvest in this Annual Operations Plan (Table A-1). This harvest level is consistent with the district's intensive review² of the outputs from the Department's recently completed Harvest and Habitat Model Project.

¹ Memo RE: State Forest Harvest Levels – fiscal years 2007 and 2008 dated December 20, 2006 from the State Forester

² *Model Solution Review Report* of the 'Forest Management Plan with Habitat Conservation Plan' Alternative

Additionally, the department is continuing its Implementation Plan Revision Process following the guidance provided by the State Forester³. Phase I of this process consisted of additional model runs that help inform the 08 harvest level. Phase II of the Implementation Plan Revision Process is examining: the implementation planning framework, and associated policies and procedures; alternative strategies for the management and protection of species of concern; and upgrades to the program's model, including significant improvements to the forest inventory and yield tables. This phase is expected to be completed by the end of 2007.

At the end of Phase II, additional model runs will occur and districts will conduct an intensive review of the outputs from these model runs. The outcomes of this Implementation Plan Revision Process will help identify changes that may need to occur to the Implementation Plans. As previously noted from the Harvest and Habitat Model Project⁴ [cite study], such changes are likely to include adjustment to the mixture of regeneration and partial cut harvests needed to meet Forest Management Plan goals and objectives.

The timber sales listed will be auctioned any time between the fall of 2007 and the winter of 2008/2009. Harvest may not be completed until 2012. The other activities listed in the AOP are planned to be accomplished in FY 2007.

Table 1. Annual Operations Plan (AOP) objectives compared to annual objectives identified in the 2001 Western Lane District Implementation Plan (IP) Table A-1. IP objectives are gross acres and AOP objectives are net acres.

Silvicultural Activity	IP Annual Objective		2008 AOP Objective
	Low	High	
Conifer Partial Cut	0	500	144
Conifer Clearcut	0	280	236
Hardwood Partial Cut	0	0	0
Hardwood Clearcut	0	0	0
Rehabilitation	0	0	0
Reforestation (Initial Planting within Clearcuts)	0	350	80
Precommercial Thinning	0	300	0
Fertilization	0	2000	0
Pruning	0	0	0

³ Memo RE: State Forest Implementation Plans dated June 5, 2006 from the State Forester

⁴ Harvest & Habitat Model Project Final Report completed March 8, 2006 by the Oregon Department of Forestry

INTEGRATED FOREST MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS

Timber Harvest Operations

Overview of Timber Harvest Operations

The following planned commercial forest management activities meet the requirements of the *Western Lane District Implementation Plan*. Tabular summaries and detailed pre-sale reports for each planned timber sale are attached.

This AOP has 62% clearcut and 38% thinning. The harvest prescriptions are within the District Implementation Plan ranges for clearcut and partial cut.

At the current rate of harvest, about 14% of the State forest in the district will have had harvest activity of some sort during the July 2001 thru June 2011 ten year Implementation Plan period.

Be aware that only limited reconnaissance has been conducted on the proposed FY 2008 sales and that boundaries, volumes, and prescriptions may be modified as field work progresses. And winter storms may cause blowdown that will need to be salvaged in lieu of preparing some of the sales listed.

Table 2. Stand Structure Development – This table summarizes how the Timber Harvest Operations in this AOP will contribute to achieving the district’s desired future condition. All values are in net acres.

Stand Structure	REG	CSC	UDS	LYR	OFS	GEN¹
Current	0	0	380	0	0	
Post Harvest²	236	0	144	0	0	
Desired Future				0	0	395

Regeneration (REG) Closed Single Canopy (CSC) Understory (UDS) Layered (LYR)
Older Forest Structure (OFS) General (GEN)

1. General (GEN) is not a stand structure, but identifies those stands that are not targeted for Layered or Older Forest Structure in the district landscape design. These stands may develop into any of the five stand structures.

2. The Post Harvest stand structure is an estimate of how the stands will develop within five years after the operations are completed.

The 2008 AOP does not change the acreage of management activity on land mapped with a *desired future condition* (DFC) of Layered. Activity in LYR DFC since FY 2002 remains at 679 acres – about 26% of the acres operated on FY 2002 - FY 2008. 147 acres are being actively managed for OFS under the 2007 AOP, the only year operations

occurred in an area with a DFC of Older Forest Structure. This amounts to about 6% of the acres operated on 2002-2008.

Summary of Operations by Basin

Table 3. Summary of Timber Harvest Operations in each basin. All values are in net acres. Values do not include R/W cut within partial cuts or outside harvest units.

Basin	2008 AOP		Cumulative Operations ¹ (FY 02—08)	
	Partial Cut	Clearcut	Partial Cut	Clearcut
Lane County	144	236	1560	1055

1. The Cumulative Operations include all Timber Harvest Operations, prepared and proposed, under the current implementation plan period (July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2011). Operations or units that were proposed, but have been subsequently dropped, are not included in the total.

The harvest in future GEN areas is as follows:

- Center 8: This is a five unit sale with several prescriptions and timber types. The 71 acre unit (Area 3) is a modified clearcut in 70 year old Douglas-fir. The 40 acre unit (Area 2) is a modified clearcut in a very poorly stocked 70 year old Douglas-fir stand with a dense 20 foot tall vine maple understory mixed with cherry. Pulling up and excavator piling the brush will cost about \$400/ac (\$15,000). Area 4 is 20 acres of moderate thinning in 70 year old Douglas-fir, and Area 1 is 52 acres of moderate thinning in dense 55 year old Douglas-fir that is very nearly closed single canopy. Area 5 is 52 acres of moderate thinning on Common School land in 50 year old mixed DF and WH.

Road construction for Center 8 is 1.6 miles total with over ½ mile of endhaul construction in Area 3. Total project costs for roads will be about \$418,000 for this 5.3 MMBF sale.

- Chicken Ridge #2: The sale includes 20 net acres of moderate thinning and 85 net acres of modified clearcut, both in 70 year old Douglas-fir. Only 0.5 miles of connector and 0.2 miles of spur are required. The connector is mostly endhaul.
- Commo Tower: This is a one unit, 40 acre, modified clearcut in 70 year old Douglas-fir. In CY 2004 the February 2004 blowdown was salvaged, but the area could not be clearcut due to being in an owl circle with less than 40% habitat. Since then the circle has moved and the area is now being clearcut. The unit has many trees which had their tops broken off during the 2004 storm. No road construction is required.

Forest Roads Management

Overview

The *Forest Roads Manual 2000* describes the vision, guiding principles and practices for road construction and maintenance on ODF managed forest land. This AOP describes four categories of road management activities: Construction, improvement, closure/vacation, and maintenance.

Construction for this period will add 2.2 miles of road to the district road network. Access to most of this new road is controlled by ODF. ODF-controlled roads will be left open for public access.

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

	Mainline (High Use)		Collector (Medium Use)		Spur (Low Use)	
	AOP	IP ¹	AOP	IP ¹	AOP	IP ¹
Road Construction	0	0	1.1	0.5-1.2	1.2	1.5-2.5
Road Improvement	0	0	0.9	0.8-1.0	0	0.2-0.8
Road Closure/Vacation	0	0	0	0-0.2	0	0.2-0.4
Road Maintenance – District²	0	NA	25	NA	10	NA
Road Maintenance – Active Operations³	3	NA	10	NA	1	NA

1. These are annual estimates derived from Table 7-6 (Road Activities for the Western Lane District from FY 2002 through FY 2011) of the 2001 District Implementation Plan. The values above were derived by dividing the values in Table 7-6 by 10.

2. The road maintenance estimates include only the work to be completed during Fiscal Year 2008 by district personnel and service contracts. However, the exact amount can not be predicted at this time. Estimates of road maintenance were not made in the Implementation Plan.

3. 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.

Road Construction

The road construction shown below is discussed in greater detail in the attached Pre-Operations Reports. Refer to these reports for cost estimates and maps showing the

proposed road locations. Only limited reconnaissance has been conducted on the proposed FY 2008 sales. Locations and costs may change as field work progresses.

Approximately 2.3 miles of road will be constructed.

- Center 8: 1 mile of spurs and 0.6 miles of collector.
- Chicken Ridge #2: 0.2 miles of spurs and 0.5 miles of collector.
- Commo Tower: None

Road Improvement

Approximately 0.9 miles of connector (Nelson Divide Road) will be improved by re-building the subgrade, installing culverts, and rocking.

Road Access Management

Rocked roads are not normally vacated since we want to keep these roads open for forest management purposes and public recreation. Most ODF-controlled roads are ridgetop with little potential for sediment to enter streams.

Access to Chicken Ridge #2 is controlled by a private gate which is kept locked year around. ODF does not have permanent road access to the sale. ODF has permanent easements to the other sales, but road use permits and fees are required.

ODF controlled roads are usually kept open for public use. However, we retain the option of gating if vandalism, neighbor concerns, or excessive road damage from public use becomes a problem in particular areas.

Road Maintenance

Road maintenance is accomplished by timber sale purchasers, through R/W agreements, and by contracting road maintenance. In addition, some roadside herbicide application is often done by District personnel. The District does not own heavy equipment such as graders, dozers, or backhoes.

On roads not being actively used for timber hauling, the District practices a low level of maintenance by maintaining drainage and keeping encroaching vegetation in check. No attempt is made to maintain smooth running surfaces. In some instances, rather than incurring the expense of continuously pulling ditches, drive-thru waterbars are combined with outsloping to minimize surface erosion caused by water running down wheel tracks caused by public use.

During periodic road inspections and in the course of normal forestry work we look for areas with potential sidecast failures. If found, fixing these areas will be done as part of timber sale contracts or more immediately as separate road maintenance contracts, depending upon the recommendation of the Area geotech.

Land Surveying

Land surveying contracts will be necessary to establish property lines for Area 5 of Center 8, Area 2 of Chicken Ridge #2, and Commo Site.

Young Stand Management

Rehabilitation

Portions of Area 2 of Center 8 might be classified as rehabilitation. The stand is low stocked with big brushholes of vine maple and cherry.

Site Preparation

Site preparation is the activity to create planting spots and/or reduce brush cover to allow planted seedlings and natural seedlings to become established. Site preparation may be slash burning, slash and brush piling, or herbicide treatment. Vine maple, bigleaf maple, and salmonberry are the primary competing species in most areas.

No site preparation is planned for FY 2008. However, after logging is completed on sales this year, areas may be identified that need site prep the fall of 2007 or the spring of 2008.

Planting

The district reforestation program depends on tree planting supplemented by residual natural seedlings and saplings, hardwood stump sprouting, and natural seeding (which may continue to establish seedlings about 10 years after harvest). All clear cut units are planted with a mix of conifer with Douglas-fir the primary species. Usually 200 to 300 trees per acre are planted (14x14 to 12x12 spacing). About 80 acres of initial planting in clearcuts is anticipated. A mixture of conifer species will be used.

Vegetation Management

In some cases, a few years after plantation establishment, competing vegetation threatens the survival of future crop trees. Competing vegetation is usually salmonberry and vine maple. Excess red alder and/or bigleaf maple may also need to be controlled.

About 90 acres of plantation will be hand treated (hack and squirt) with herbicide to reduce the amount of re-sprouting bigleaf maple and vine maple

Tree Protection

Planted conifer is sometimes clipped off by mountain beavers. In other areas deer or elk may bite off the tips. Occasionally the District may encase seedlings in plastic mesh

tubes for protection. The district has not trapped mountain beavers, but may consider doing so in heavily populated areas.

No tree protection or trapping is planned. However, examination this spring may show that seedling protection is necessary in some areas.

Precommercial Thinning (density management)

Thinning stands at age 15 to 18 is a common forestry practice designed to concentrate growth on future crop trees, just like gardeners thinning young carrots. Our current tree planting density and species mix – 300 mixed conifer per acre – may allow us to forgo precommercial thinning in the future unless considerable natural seeding occurs. However, stands now over 10 years old were usually planted to pure Douglas-fir at 400 to 500 trees per acre. Some natural seeding has contributed to stand density. Precommercial thinning is desirable in many of these stands to improve crop tree vigor.

The district has no plans for precommercial thinning this fiscal year.

Fertilization

The District has no plans for fertilization in FY 2008.

Pruning

Pruning is the practice of cutting off the lower limbs of young trees to produce knot free lumber in the distant future. The District has no plans for pruning.

Recreation Management

Overview of Recreation Management

ODF-managed land in Lane County is scattered and not adjacent to areas of high recreational interest. However, State land has a low level of hunting, mushroom picking, and backroad driving. Our timber sale activities increase forage for big game and grouse, and our road building improves recreational access. Wood cutting is a popular recreational activity in this District. Whenever we have public access to newly logged units, we offer free wood cutting permits. We now limit our permits to less 200 per year.

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

No campgrounds, viewpoints, or recognized trails exist on ODF managed land in Lane County.

Trails

See above.

Land Exchange

None planned

Other Integrated Forest Management Operations

None planned

Planning (and Information Systems)

Below are the significant district-level planning projects currently scheduled for FY 2008.

Stand Level Inventory and Other Vegetation Inventories

Stand level inventory contracts are administered by the Salem staff. These contracts will continue in 2008 with the goal of completed the entire district in a few years.

H&H Project

We expect that ODF will continue to refine the Harvest and Habitat model in FY 2008.

Fish and Wildlife Surveys

Western Lane District has a very active spotted owl and marbled murrelet survey program.

We typically survey 10 to 15 current and potential sale areas each year for spotted owls under ODF contracts or in cooperation with federal agencies. In addition, owl occupancy on all activity centers that affect State land is monitored.

Marbled murrelet surveys are conducted annually on about 10 potential sale areas.

The District has no plans to conduct fish presence surveys in FY 2008. Forest Practices data and personal knowledge is used for sale planning.

Table 5. Summary of status of T&E surveys for 2008 AOP sales.

Operation	Species (NSO/MM)	Status
Center 8	NSO	One year of surveys completed. Surveys planned for CY 2007.

Center 8	MM	One year of surveys completed. Surveys planned for CY 2007.
Chicken Ridge #2	NSO	One year of surveys completed. Surveys planned for CY 2007.
Chicken Ridge #2	MM	One year of surveys completed. Surveys planned for CY 2007.
Commo Site	NSO	One year of surveys completed. Surveys planned for CY 2007.
Commo Site	MM	One year of surveys completed. Surveys planned for CY 2007.

Watershed Assessments

None planned for FY 2008.

Research and Monitoring

Stream and riparian monitoring is being conducted jointly with the State Forests and Private and Community Forests programs on a tributary of Nelson Creek and on the main stem of Knapp Creek. OSU is conducting an amphibian monitoring project on a tributary of Knapp Creek.

Other Planning Operations

None anticipated

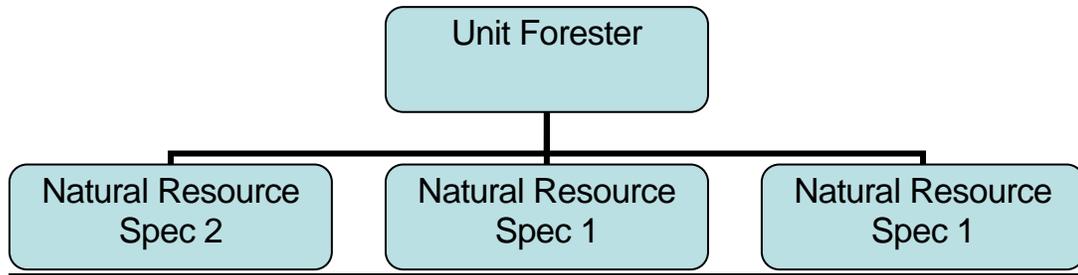
Public Information and Education

Public information and involvement will include public review and comments on the 2007 AOP. In addition, informal public review and comment on all district State Forests management activities on an ongoing basis is expected and welcomed.

Administration

There are currently four full time foresters (Management Unit Forester, Natural Resources Specialist 2, and two Natural Resource Specialist 1's) in the Western Lane District State Forests program. The NRS 2 also acts as the computer systems and GIS specialist for all District programs. The four foresters perform all the tasks normally handled by engineering, marketing, reforestation/young stand management, GIS, T&E, and planning specialists in the larger districts.

The State Forests budget partially funds the District Forester, Office Manager, and Receptionist/Dispatcher. Since there is no Assistant District Forester, the Management Unit Forester performs the State Forests portion of that position.



APPENDICES

A. Summary Tables

B. Pre-Operations Reports

C. Public Involvement

D. Additional Maps

TIMBER HARVEST OPERATIONS - FINANCIAL SUMMARY

District: Western Lane

Fiscal Year: 2008

Date: 07/03/2007

Operation	Payment Type	Fund %		County	Sale Quarter	Net Acres		Volume (MMBF)			Value		
		BOF	CSL			Partial Cut	Clear-cut	Con-ifer	Hard-woods	Total	Gross	Projects	Net
Center 8	R	85%	15%	Lane	4	124	111	5.3	0.0	5.3	\$1,747,600	\$418,000	\$1,329,600
Chicken Ridge #2	R	100%	0%	Lane	4	20	85	3.5	0.0	3.5	\$1,221,500	\$120,000	\$1,101,500
Commo Tower	R	100%	0%	Lane	4	0	40	1.0	0.0	1.0	\$400,000	\$0	\$400,000

Total:	144	236	9.8	0.0	9.8	\$3,369,100	\$538,000	\$2,831,100
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380 Total Acres

Alternate Operations NONE

TIMBER HARVEST OPERATIONS - FOREST STRUCTURE SUMMARY

District: Western Lane

Fiscal Year 2008

Date: 06/27/2007

Operation	Area	Net Acres			Stand Structure Development Pathway			Structural Components	
		Clearcut	Partial Cut	Total	Current	Post-Harvest	Desired	Green Trees/Ac	Snags/ Ac Remaining
Center 8	1	0	52	52	UDS	UDS	GEN	NA	0.5
Center 8	2	40	0	40	UDS	REG	GEN	8	2
Center 8	3	71	0	71	UDS	REG	GEN	8	2
Center 8	4	0	20	20	UDS	UDS	GEN	NA	0.5
Center 8	5	0	52	52	UDS	UDS	GEN	NA	0.5
Subtotal		111	124	235					
Chicken Ridge #2	1	0	20	20	UDS	UDS	GEN	NA	0.5
Chicken Ridge #2	2	85	0	85	UDS	REG	GEN	8	2
Subtotal		85	20	105					
Commo Tower		40	0	40	UDS	REG	GEN	8	2

Total	236	144	380
Annual Range (Gross Ac)	0-280	0-500	

Alternate Operations NONE

FOREST ROADS SUMMARY

District: Western Lane

Fiscal Year: 2008

Date: 06/27/2007

Operation	Construction		Improvement		Other Projects	Total Project Costs	Gross Value of Operation	Total Cost as a percent of Gross Value	Comments
	Miles	Cost	Miles	Cost					
Center 8	1.6	\$299,000	0.9	\$119,000	\$0	\$418,000	\$1,747,600	24%	
Chicken Ridge #2	0.7	\$170,000	0	\$0	\$0	\$170,000	\$1,221,500	14%	
Commo Tower	0.0	\$0	0.0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$400,000	0%	
2.3		0.9		Total:		\$588,000	\$3,369,100	17.5%	

Alternate Operations NONE

Road Projects Not Associated with Commercial Forest Management Operations

Roadside Spray		\$4,000
Road Brushing		\$0
Road Maint	Restore ditches and crown Tilden Ridge	\$5,000
	Waterbar Lake Cr Mtn	\$5,000

Reforestation and Young Stand Management Report

District: Western Lane

Fiscal Year: 2008

Date: 6/28/07

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	75	\$250.00	\$18,750.00	0		\$0.00	75	\$18,750.00
Interplanting (to be determined late summer)	0		\$0.00	0		\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Underplanting	0		\$0.00	0		\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Tree Protection-Barriers	0		\$0.00	0		\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Tree Protection-Direct Control	0		\$0.00	0		\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Site Prep-Chemical- Aerial	0		\$0.00	0		\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Site Prep-Chemical- Hand	0		\$0.00	0		\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Site Prep -Slash Burning	0		\$0.00	0		\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Site Prep -Mechanical	0		\$0.00	0		\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Fertilization	0		\$0.00	0		\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Noxious weeds	0		\$0.00	0		\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Release-Chemical- Aerial	0		\$0.00	0		\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Release-Chemical-Hand	90	\$75.00	\$6,750.00	0		\$0.00	90	\$6,750.00
Release-Mechanical-Hand	0		\$0.00	0		\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Precommercial Thinning	0	\$120.00	\$0.00	0	\$120.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Pruning	0		\$0.00	0		\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Other	0		\$0.00	0		\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Totals	165	--	\$25,500.00	0	--	\$0.00	165	\$25,500.00

*Planting costs include contract planting costs (excluding administration) plus seedlings. Seedling delivery and storage costs are not included. .

Costs for other activities include contracts and chemical.

RECREATION MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

District: Western Lane

Fiscal Year: 2008

Date: 11/13/2006

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	
(Other)	Sites								\$0	
Trails										
Non-Motorized	Miles								\$0	
Motorized	Miles								\$0	

Total: \$0

