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WEST OREGON DISTRICT

2010 F.Y. ANNUAL OPERATIONS PLAN

INTRODUCTION

This annual operations plan (AOP) covers the State Forest lands managed by the West Oregon District for Fiscal Year (FY) 2010, which begins July 1, 2009 and ends June 30, 2010. It describes how the activities and projects undertaken by the district will achieve the goals and objectives of the West Oregon District Implementation Plan (IP) and the Northwest Oregon State Forest Management Plan (FMP).

The AOP is composed of the summary document with sections that contain information on commercial forest management operations; roads and engineering; young stand management operations; recreation management; and land exchange. In addition, the summary document provides details for planning and information systems; public information and education; and administration. The remainder of the AOP contains summary tables for operations proposed for the fiscal year and individual reports and maps for each commercial operation. A public involvement summary will be added to the final plan.

Specifics about the physical characteristics of the District may be found in the West Oregon District IP. Details on the strategies used to manage state forests may be found in the NW Oregon State FMP.

Budget concerns: This AOP is being prepared during a time when the State of Oregon is anticipating a budget shortfall. The Department has been directed to reduce the current State Forests budget (FY 2009) by 10% and it is anticipated that more reductions may come in FY 2010. All timber harvest operations will be prepared and put up for auction as normal, however, depending on the Department's final budget for FY 2010, portions of the planned Young Stand Management and Recreation projects within this AOP may have to be deferred due to the lack of funding.

Harvest Levels:

The district is including 10.1 MMBF of timber harvest in this AOP (Table A-1). This harvest level is consistent with the district's IP. The harvest activity acreages for both clearcut and partial cut are at or below the low end of the range for the levels determined in the minor modification to the district's IP in 2007. The reason for the reduced acreage is because three northern spotted owls were detected on or adjacent to state forest land during the summer of 2008. Although the final biological assessments for the owls have not been completed, the preliminary evaluation of the effect of these owls is that district harvest acreage will need to be reduced by about 5% to preserve suitable habitat.

Table 1. AOP objectives compared to annual objectives identified in the 2001 West Oregon District IP and minor modification in 2007 (Table A-1). All values are acres.

Silvicultural Activity	Original IP Annual Objective		2010 AOP Objective
	Low	High	
Conifer Partial Cut	550	720	537
Conifer Clearcut	190	220	149
Hardwood Partial Cut	0	20	0
Hardwood Clearcut	10	30	61
Reforestation (Planting)	70	400	195
Precommercial Thinning	200	800	638
Fertilization	0	0	0
Pruning	0	100	18

The district has included 2 alternate operations in this AOP. These alternate operations may be used to replace regular operations that cannot be completed as planned.

The net acres listed in Table 1 and the individual Pre-Operation Reports excludes the acreage contained in roads, stream buffers and no-harvest areas within the operation areas. The net acres reflect the amount of ground that will actually be in the operations.

During FY 2010, all of the young stand management operations included in the AOP will be completed. However, most of the activities associated with commercial management operations such as timber harvesting and project work will not take place during the FY. The timber sale contracts will be prepared and auctioned but most of the actual work will be completed in a future FY.

INTEGRATED FOREST MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS

Timber Harvest Operations

Overview of Timber Harvest Operations

The landscape design associated with the IP shows the Desired Future Condition (DFC) for state forest land in the district. Areas planned for more complex stands are indicated as either Layered (LYR) or Older Forest Structure (OFS). Stands not planned for LYR or OFS are designated as General (GEN). A stand with a DFC of GEN may develop into any of the five stand structures defined in the Northwest Forest Management Plan.

The regeneration harvest on the District is composed of 88 percent modified clearcut and 12 percent retention cut. The partial cut harvest includes 89 percent moderate thinning, 10 percent heavy thinning and 1 percent light thinning. For definitions of these harvest types reference the "State Forest Annual Operations Planning" web page (http://www.odf.state.or.us/DIVISIONS/management/state_forests/aop.asp).

The IP states that Regeneration harvesting will occur in Closed Single Canopy (CSC) or Understory (UDS) stands that have severe health problems or in stands that are poor candidates for developing into more complex stands (see IP for details). The 184 acres of modified clearcut harvest in this plan consists of five units which support 63-78 year old Douglas-fir and red alder trees. Three units are located in areas designated as DFC GEN and the two remaining are designated as DFC Complex. The current condition of these stands by acreage is 92% UDS and 8% LYR. They will be replaced by more diverse, complex stands because a variety of conifer species will be planted.

For these proposed modified clearcuts, approximately 8-10 trees per acre will be left standing in the units which should provide future legacy trees, down wood, and snags. Landscape design is classified as GEN and these areas will move to Regeneration (REG) after harvest and eventually to CSC and UDS stands.

There are two stands that total 26 acres which are proposed for retention cuts. A retention cut will result in a stand with two distinct and well-distributed cohorts and will develop a complex stand structure more quickly than other types of regeneration harvest. One 20 acre stand supports 70 year old Douglas-fir trees. Approximately 20 trees per

acre will be retained, after harvest. The other stand contains 6 acres of 46 year old Douglas-fir trees. After harvest, about 36 trees per acre will be retained. The units will be underplanted with conifer species to produce complex, diverse stands in the future. Both of these stands are currently classified as UDS and are located in areas designated as DFC Complex.

Partial cutting in younger stands will put them on a pathway towards structures that are more complex relatively quickly. In the 2010 operations plan 413 acres of the partial cutting will be in plantations that are 26 - 46 years old. The remaining 124 acres are natural stands that are 64 - 75 year old. The stands designated for thinning consist primarily of Douglas-fir but also include some western hemlock, red alder, and big leaf maple and are currently classified as CSC or UDS stand types. Approximately 421 acres will be put on a pathway for future LYR or OFS stands by thinning to a low stand density or creating patch cuts and planting with western hemlock and/or western redcedar to enhance horizontal layering and species diversity. Partial cutting in the remaining 116 acres will encourage new, vigorous growth of understory brush species and move them into or keep them in the UDS stand type.

Most of the stands planned for partial cutting have either been pre-commercially thinned or commercially thinned in the past.

It is estimated that about 8.8 million board feet of conifer timber and 1.3 million board feet of hardwood timber will be harvested from these timber sales. Projected gross revenue is estimated to be \$3,008,000. With approximate total project work of \$584,000 anticipated, the net revenue produced is expected to be about \$2,424,000. Of this net revenue, approximately \$1,818,000 will be generated from Board of Forestry lands and the remaining \$606,000 will come from Common School lands (See Table A-1). In addition to revenue from timber sales, the district is anticipating selling about 30 special forest products permits resulting in an additional \$3,000.

Resource specialists that have provided input for the Pre-Operations Reports include the staff Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) wildlife biologist, the aquatic and riparian specialist (ODF), the state silviculturalist (ODF), the area geotechnical specialist (ODF) and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) fish and wildlife biologists.

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 acres.

Stand Structure	REG	CSC	UDS	LYR	OFS	GEN ¹
Current		53	675	19		
Post Harvest ²	210		533	4		
Desired Future				136	367	244

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 in five to ten years after the operations are completed.

Summary of Operations by Basin

Table 3. Summary of Timber Harvest Operations in each basin. All values are in acres.

Basin	2010 AOP		Cumulative Operations ¹ (FY 02—10)	
	Partial Cut	Clearcut	Partial Cut	Clearcut
Burnt Woods	209	171	2572	546
Green Mountain	0	0	1699	309
Blodgett	54	0	2124	181
Scattered Coastal	0	33	668	213
Black Rock	0	0	166	0
Bonner	274	6	1233	71

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.

Burnt Woods Ridge Basin

Buck-n-Bull This operation consists of two modified clearcut units, one retention cut unit, and two partial cut units.

Areas I and II total 49 acres and support intermixed 66-74 year old Douglas-fir and red alder stands. For these modified clearcut units, there are no natural tree species present that could provide the future layering component necessary to build more complex stands so clearcutting is the proposed management prescription. The current condition is UDS and the DFC is UDS. The anticipated pathway is to move from UDS to REG through clearcutting and replanting a variety of conifer species, then to CSC and finally to UDS, utilizing future commercial thinning entries. Approximately 8-10 trees per acre will be retained which will provide for the future snags, legacy trees, and down wood requirements.

Area III is 20 acres and contains 71 year old Douglas-fir that was commercially thinned in 1998. For this retention cut unit there are no natural tree species present that could

provide the future layering component necessary to build more complex stands. The current condition is UDS and the DFC is LYR/OFS. After harvest, about 20 trees per acre will be left which will provide for the future snags, legacy trees, and down wood requirements. The anticipated pathway is to move from UDS to REG by planting a variety of conifer species and then through the CSC and UDS stand types before developing into a LYR or OFS stand.

Areas IV and V are partial cut units. Area IV is 9 acres and supports a 38 year old Douglas-fir plantation that was thinned in 1998. Area V is 22 acres and contains a 61 year old, natural Douglas-fir stand that was thinned in 1998. Some western hemlock seedlings were underplanted in these units about 8 years ago. These seedlings will be protected during harvest. After thinning, the portions of the units that don't have a hemlock understory will be planted with western redcedar and western hemlock. The current condition is UDS and the DFC is LYR/OFS. The anticipated pathway is to move from UDS to LYR and OFS by means of another commercial thinning in the future.

Southern Exposure This operation consists of seven partial cut units. Areas IV – VII are located in the Burnt Woods Ridge Basin. (Areas I – III are located in the Blodgett Basin)

Area IV is 70 acres and contains a 64 year old natural Douglas-fir stand that was thinned in 1999. The current condition is UDS and the DFC is OFS. Patch cuts will be created on about 30% of the stand acreage. These patch cuts will be replanted with conifer seedlings and will provide a future layering component. The areas not included in patch cuts will be commercially thinned. The anticipated pathway for this unit is to eventually move from UDS to LYR and OFS.

Areas V – VII total 108 acres and support 26 – 30 year old Douglas-fir plantations that were pre-commercially thinned between 11 and 16 years ago. The operation areas are currently classified as CSC or UDS and have a DFC of UDS. All areas will be commercially thinned which should move them into or keep them at the UDS stand type.

Down Spout This operation consists of a 48 acre modified clearcut in 63 year old red alder and Douglas-fir. There are no natural tree species present that could provide the future layering component necessary to build more complex stands so clearcutting is the proposed management prescription. The current condition is UDS and the DFC is LYR/OFS. The anticipated pathway is to move from UDS to REG through clearcutting and replanting a variety of conifer species, and then through CSC and UDS stand types before developing into a LYR or OFS stand, utilizing future commercial thinning entries. Approximately 10 trees per acre will be retained which will provide for the future snags, legacy trees, and down wood requirements.

Deer Divide This operation consists of a 54 acre modified clearcut in 78 year old Douglas-fir with some red alder intermixed. This is a mature stand so clearcutting is the proposed management prescription. The current condition is UDS and the DFC is UDS. The anticipated pathway is to move from UDS to REG through clearcutting and replanting a variety of conifer species, then to CSC and finally to UDS utilizing future commercial

thinning entries. Approximately 8-10 trees per acre will be retained which will provide for the future snags, legacy trees, and down wood requirements.

Harvesting the three clearcut operations will reduce UDS stand acreage by 1% and will increase REG by 1% in this basin during the post harvest period, which is the next 5-10 years.

Green Mountain Basin

There are no harvest operations planned in this basin for FY 2010.

Blodgett Basin

Southern Exposure Areas I – III are partial cut units.

Areas I and II contain 30 year old Douglas-fir plantations that were pre-commercially thinned about 11 years ago and total 31 acres. Both units are currently classified as UDS and have a DFC of LYR. The prescription for Area I is a heavy partial cut with an underplanting of western hemlock and western redcedar, after harvest. This activity will eventually move this stand from the UDS stand type to LYR by means of an additional future thinning entry. Area II will be commercially thinned which should keep it in the UDS stand type.

Area III supports a 75 year old natural Douglas-fir stand that was thinned in 1999 and totals 23 acres. The current condition is UDS and the DFC is OFS. Patch cuts will be created on about 30% of the stand acreage. These patch cuts will be replanted with conifer seedlings and will provide a future layering component. The areas not included in patch cuts will be commercially thinned. The anticipated pathway for this unit is to eventually move from UDS to LYR and OFS.

During the post harvest period, which is 5-10 years, this operation will not result in a reportable (1% or greater) net loss or gain for any stand structure type in this basin.

Scattered Coastal Basin

Poole Haul This operation consists of a 33 acre modified clearcut in a 65 year old red alder and conifer stand. This is a mature stand so clearcutting is the proposed management prescription. The current condition is UDS and the DFC is UDS. The anticipated pathway is to move from UDS to REG through clearcutting and replanting a variety of conifer species, then to CSC and finally to UDS utilizing future commercial thinning entries. Approximately 8-10 trees per acre will be retained which will provide for the future snags, legacy trees, and down wood requirements.

This operation will reduce UDS stand acreage by 1% and increase REG by 1% in this basin during the post harvest period, which is the next 5-10 years.

Black Rock Basin

There are no harvest operations planned in this basin for FY 2010.

Bonner Ridge Basin

Burgett King This operation consists of three partial cut units and one retention cut unit.

Area I is a 249 acre partial cut unit that contains a 46 year old Douglas-fir plantation that was commercially thinned in 1993. The current condition is UDS and the DFC is OFS. Patch cuts will be created on about 10% of the stand acreage. These patch cuts will be replanted with conifer seedlings and will provide a future layering component. The areas not included in patch cuts will be commercially thinned. The anticipated pathway for this unit is to eventually move from UDS to LYR and OFS.

Area II is a 6 acre retention cut unit that supports a 46 year old Douglas-fir plantation that was lightly pre-commercially thinned about 8 years ago. The current condition is UDS and the DFC is LYR. After harvest, about 36 trees per acre will be left which will provide for the future snags, legacy trees, and down wood requirements. The anticipated pathway is to move from UDS to REG by planting a variety of conifer species and then through the CSC and UDS stand types before developing into a LYR stand.

Area III is a 4 acre partial cut unit that contains two different cohorts of Douglas-fir trees. There has been no previous thinning in the stand. Trees in the younger cohort are about 46 years old while the older cohort is made up of 73 year old trees. The current condition is LYR and the DFC is OFS. The prescription is to create gaps by removing some trees from the stand. The gaps will be planted with western hemlock and western redcedar. This activity will put the stand on a pathway from a LYR stand to OFS.

Area IV is a 21 acre partial cut of a natural stand of 78 year old Douglas-fir that has not been thinned in the past. The current condition is UDS and the DFC is OFS. This unit will be commercially thinned which should keep it in the UDS stand type.

During the post harvest period, which is 5-10 years, this operation will not result in a reportable (1% or greater) net loss or gain for any stand structure type in this basin.

Forest Roads Management

Overview

The primary transportation focus is to protect and secure access for forest management activities. This involves constructing new roads where needed and maintaining or upgrading existing roads. Other resource management activities and other users are also considered in the transportation planning. The transportation system provides access for timber removal, recreation, fire control and removal of other forest products. The District transportation system is managed to provide efficient and effective access

that facilitates obtaining the greatest permanent value from the forest for the people of Oregon.

Visions, guiding principles, and techniques that are the framework of the District's road management program are discussed in detail in the IP and the Forest Roads Manual (2000), and govern the planning and implementation of the activities discussed in this section. Planning of these activities are Level III plans, as discussed in the Forest Road Manual.

The IP anticipates that about 4-7 miles of new road will be constructed and 8-12 miles of road will be improved each year. It is estimated that 2.0 miles of new road construction and 5.0 miles of road improvement will be included with the FY 2010 operations plan. These roads will provide improved access for hauling forest products from the operation areas. Since the mainline roads are already in place on the district, these new roads will be mostly short, low use, single lane spur roads averaging 14 feet wide. About 30% of the new roads will be surfaced to provide all season access. Approximately 56% of the roads to be improved will be rocked, providing a seasonal traction coat or an all season surface. Natural surfacing will be the final condition of the remaining road length for new and improved roads. The natural surface roads will be waterbarred, and blocked to restrict public vehicle access after harvest and/or prior to the beginning of the wet season. Restricting access to natural surface roads will control soil erosion and ensure that the drainage systems remain intact.

Most roads will be constructed through gentle, stable topography, which will minimize slope stability concerns, soil erosion, and downstream water quality issues. However, there are a few short stretches of new road that will need to be constructed through steeper terrain. In these situations, the staff engineer and area geo-technical specialist may be contacted and requested to conduct an onsite inspection and provide input related to mitigating any negative effects of road construction.

Fiscal year budget and market conditions have had little impact on the level of activity for roads and engineering as related to the transportation plan for the FY 2010 timber sales.

The district has conducted a detailed inventory of its road system, collecting information on road surfacing, condition, drainage, and stream crossings. This inventory was done in conjunction with the Oregon Salmon Plan. For the FY 2010 operations plan, existing roads and drainage systems in the vicinity of timber sales have been evaluated to determine high priority road or drainage structure maintenance, abandonment, replacement, or improvement projects.

For FY 2010, no roads have been identified for vacation. However additional ground inspection may reveal some road segments to be vacated. The guidelines for road vacating, located in Section 8 of the ODF Forest Roads Manual, will be used. The process for prioritizing the vacation of forest roads is based on an assessment of the risk to resources from information in current road inventories and additional fieldwork. Future

transportation needs and road maintenance costs will also play a factor in identifying roads for vacation. Activities under this Plan will add approximately 3.4 miles of road to the District's active road system.

Stream crossing culverts will be replaced based on information in the current forest road inventory, fish distribution surveys, and consultation with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife biologists.

District activities to control noxious weeds consist primarily of controlling Scotch broom (and other brooms) in and around plantations. Most of these infestations start along roads and spread from there. Other species, which are occasionally targeted for control, include knotweed, false brome and Himalayan blackberry. Noxious weed control will be performed on about 10 acres during this fiscal year.

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	0	0.2 - 0.3	2.0	4.2 - 6.6
Road Improvement	0	3.5 - 5.0	0	2.2 - 3.4	5.0	2.4 - 3.6
Road Closure/Vacation	0	0	0	0.3- 0.5	0	3.9 - 6.0
Road Maintenance – District²	0		30		25	
Road Maintenance – Active Operations³	0		31.3		5.3	

1. These are annual estimates derived from Table 6-6. Potential Road Activities FY 2001-2011 of the 2001 District IP. The values here were derived by dividing the values in the Potential Road Activities table by 10.

2. The road maintenance estimates include only the work to be completed during FY 2010 by the district road crew or service contract. 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

As Table 4 indicates, all road construction is classified as spurs. Most of these roads will be built on gentle side slopes or ridge tops. There are no road construction projects that are not associated with this year's sale plan.

Road Improvement

The majority of the road improvement projects consist of re-opening old unsurfaced spurs and replacing inadequate and failing drainage structures and stream crossing structures. All of the improvement activities will be performed on low use spur road systems and are associated with the Commercial Forest Management Operations.

Road Access Management

All surfaced and newly constructed or improved unsurfaced roads are categorized as active use roads. The unsurfaced roads will be blocked and water barred in the wet season. After the wet season, these roads may be re-opened and harvest activities may resume. Once harvesting is completed, these roads will be partially vacated (blocked, water barred, deteriorated and damaged culverts removed) until the next harvest entry. Road surfaces may be grass seeded to reduce erosion and protect water quality.

Road Maintenance

District roads that are not under timber sale contracts are maintained by the District. Road maintenance tasks that may be accomplished with District personnel include road grading, culvert catch basin clean out, slough removal, roadside brush control and grass seeding. These tasks will use either ODF or rented equipment. Graded roads will have the ditches and culvert catch basins cleaned. Slough material will be removed from ditch lines or road surfaces and placed in stable waste areas. Roadside vegetation will be treated and newly constructed or improved road edges and/or surfaces will be grass seeded or re-seeded where needed.

Road maintenance for roads being used for timber sale access becomes the responsibility of the timber sale purchaser once sale activity has begun. Tasks to be accomplished with timber contracts include grading and culvert catch basin clean out, removing slough material from ditch lines or road surfaces, and mechanically brushing roadside vegetation.

Roadside vegetation control operations will be conducted along roads with encroaching vegetation. The objective is to reduce vegetation along "right-of-ways" for improved maintenance and visibility.

Land Surveying

Approximately 3.5 miles of property line will need to be delineated. This survey work will be accomplished with district labor and equipment.

Young Stand Management

The purpose of conducting young stand management operations is to prepare for, establish, or maintain a new forest, or new forest layer, through operations such as site preparation, tree planting and protection, vegetation management, pre-commercial thinning, and pruning. Through the use of these operations many of the silvicultural goals and objectives of the FMP and IP are met.

Specific information regarding operations can be found in Tables I and A-4, and in the discussion, below.

Most young stand management operations are essential to good forest stewardship. Accordingly, these activities are readily supported within the base budget. Alternatively, non-commercial management operations such as fertilization, pruning, or low priority stocking density control may not be fully funded.

Site Preparation

The purpose of site preparation is to prepare areas for replanting after harvest operations or rehabilitation activities by removing or controlling the vegetative cover. This allows seedlings to become established while reducing the competition with other vegetation for moisture, sunlight, and nutrients. Both chemical and mechanical (slash piling and burning) site preparation may be used on the same acreage. During this operations plan period, multiple site preparation activities will be conducted on approximately 195 acres. This work includes mechanical brush and slash piling on 20 acres, broadcast or pile burning on 80 acres, and chemical site preparation on 175 acres. Site preparation will be conducted in the following basins:

Bonner Ridge Basin – Both slash pile burning and chemical site preparation will be conducted on one 38 acre unit.

Green Mountain Basin – Approximately 20 acres in one unit will be slash piled.

Blodgett Basin – Both slash pile burning and chemical site preparation will occur on 15 acres of one unit. Additional chemical site preparation will occur on 35 acres on two other units in this basin. The pile burning and 30 acres of the chemical site prep were originally forecasted to take place during the 2009 AOP period and were reported in that plan.

Burnt Woods Ridge Basin – Approximately 23 acres in one unit will be both broadcast burned and will have a chemical site preparation application. In one other unit, 7 acres will have slash piles burned and 9 acres will receive chemical site preparation. In addition, approximately 55 acres in 3 separate units will receive chemical site preparation.

Planting

Tree planting operations are conducted for various reasons. These include meeting Forest Practices Laws, quickly establishing a new stand of trees after timber harvesting, and increasing species diversity in the area and across the landscape. Some planting (underplanting) is intended to create an additional tree layer in a partial cut stand for increased structure and diversity. Planting will also ensure future opportunities and options for the management of stands to produce desired structures across the landscape. The IP indicates that annual reforestation acreage will be between 70 and 400 acres. About 195 acres will be planted (initial planting, underplanting, and interplanting) during FY 2010.

Initial Planting:

This type of planting is conducted after a timber harvest reduces the stocking level to a degree that more trees are required on the site. Approximately 147 acres will have initial planting; about 25% of these acres will be planted in small (< 2 acre) patchcuts. Seedlings will be planted at a rate of 436 trees per acre (TPA).

Bonner Ridge Basin – One timber sale unit containing 38 acres will be planted with Douglas-fir, western hemlock, western red cedar and grand fir.

Blodgett Basin – One 30 acre timber sale area will be planted to Douglas-fir, western hemlock, western red cedar, and grand fir. This area was reported in the 2009 AOP. Another area consisting of 20 acres of patchcuts will be planted to the same species mix.

Burnt Woods Ridge Basin – Four areas (45 acres of clearcut and 14 acres of patchcuts) will be planted to Douglas-fir, western hemlock, and western red cedar.

Underplanting:

This type of planting is conducted after a thinning in order to introduce both species diversity and an additional future layer of structure into a stand. Approximately 28 acres are designated for underplanting.

Burnt Woods Basin – All underplanting activity for this AOP period will occur on one timber sale area in this basin. The area will be underplanted with western hemlock and western red cedar at a rate of about 300 TPA.

Interplanting:

This type of planting will occur on areas that were initially planted one to three years ago, but for various reasons (animal damage, disease, planting quality, etc) seedlings did not survive in sufficient numbers. Approximately 20 acres of interplanting is forecast to be needed. Individual areas usually vary in size from one to five acres. A variety of tree species will be planted, depending on the site conditions.

Vegetation Management

Release operations are conducted in established plantations to control other vegetation that competes for moisture, sunlight, and nutrients. The objective is to retain preferred trees in the stand and maintain acceptable growth rates of the established stands. Release operations are also used to eradicate noxious weeds which are not actually threatening seedlings but which have the potential to spread. Vegetation management methods are either manual or chemical.

Manual Release:

All Basins - Approximately 70 acres of release work using chainsaws will be necessary. Areas of manual release are typically small areas in young plantations that are either too close to streams or private property to treat with chemicals or where target vegetation is too large to be effectively chemically treated. This type of release will keep preferred trees from being overtopped by competing vegetation.

Chemical Release:

Approximately 88 acres of chemical vegetation management is forecast for this period. These operations will vary from aerial applications targeting multiple weed species growing over entire young plantations to ground based backpack applications targeting individual undesirable plants.

Scattered Coastal Basin – Approximately 29 acres in two timber sale areas may be treated.

Green Mountain Basin – Approximately 36 acres in two timber sale areas may require treatment.

Blodgett Basin – Approximately 23 acres of one timber sale area may be treated.

Noxious Weeds

Roughly 20 acres of chemical vegetation management targeting noxious weeds is forecast for this period. These operations are typically on small acreage and will target such noxious weeds as Scotch broom, false brome, and spotted knapweed.

Tree Protection

Tree protection operations are conducted to reduce, control, or mitigate animal damage on desired trees in the stands. These operations are intended to maintain stocking and growth rates at optimum levels. The district uses three methods to provide protection to trees: installing tubes over seedlings, applying a big game repellent to the seedling, or trapping animals on site.

Tubing:

On this district, tubing has proven effective in most cases in keeping animal browse on cedar to an acceptable level. Tubing will be installed on about 195 acres of new plantings. Tubing will occur on 100% of western redcedar planted during this period. Western redcedar will be planted on portions of nearly all of the areas designated for planting during this period.

Big Game Repellant (BGR):

BGR (Plantskydd) has been applied from time to time on western redcedar in the past and more recently to western hemlock and Douglas-fir on a trial basis. It appears to have helped prevent near total removal of western hemlock by big game species in problem areas. Plantskydd will likely be applied to about 20 acres of Douglas-fir, western redcedar and western hemlock where browse during the past year has been severe.

Direct Control:

Mountain beaver trapping will occur on all of the units that are planned for initial planting and underplanting during this period (approximately 175 acres). Assessments will be made after the units are harvested as to the need for control work. Maintenance trapping will also occur in portions of units that were trapped previously that show continued high levels of mountain beaver activity (approximately another 120 acres).

Precommercial Thinning (density management)

Pre-commercial thinning (PCT) operations are conducted on stands that are above a desired stocking level. The operations generally have several objectives including the following: 1) reduce stocking to levels which will maintain diameter growth, and to a lesser extent height growth; 2) provide an opportunity for selecting residual trees based on initial growth, form, and defect, and 3) favor particular species that are needed to improve stand composition and diversity. The IP states that annual PCT acreage will be between 200 and 800 acres. A total of approximately 638 acres of PCT are planned for the FY 2010 AOP period. However, adequate funding may not be available to provide opportunities for PCT during this time period due to budget constraints.

These pre-commercial thinning units range from 15 to 17 years old and are stocked with an average of 400 TPA of Douglas-fir and other conifer. This operation increases the health and vigor of the stands by removing an average of 150 TPA of the smallest and/or most defective Douglas-fir trees. Most conifers other than Douglas-fir and most hardwoods are reserved from cutting, thus maintaining the present diversity.

Scattered Coastal Basin – Approximately 58 acres in one plantation.

Green Mountain Basin – Approximately 157 acres in two plantations.

Burnt Woods Ridge Basin – Approximately 379 acres in six plantations.

Bonner Ridge Basin – Approximately 44 acres in one plantation.

All of these units were planned for PCT during the 2009 AOP period. However, PCT operations were cut from the budget for that period.

Fertilization

No fertilization activities will occur during this period.

Pruning

The purpose of pruning is to remove limbs in order to create future high quality clear wood, or to reduce the potential for disease as described below. The district IP states that annual pruning acreage may vary between 0 and 100 acres. During this operations plan, about 18 acres are planned for pruning.

Pruning for Clear Wood:

No new pruning for clear wood will be initiated during this period.

Pruning for White Pine Blister Rust:

This operation is conducted to help prevent western white pine trees from becoming infected with the white pine blister rust canker. Without this pruning, a significant portion of white pine would die or become deformed from the disease.

Blodgett Basin - Approximately 6 acres in two plantations will have a first, second or final lift pruning.

Bonner Ridge Basin – Approximately 12 acres in three separate areas will have a second or final lift pruning.

Recreation Management

Overview of Recreation Management

Current recreational activities on the district consist mostly of dispersed camping, sightseeing, hiking, hunting, and fishing. However, there are three sites that do receive some level of consistent visitor use during certain periods of the year. They are:

1. Big Elk Creek. This area has two primitive campsites along Big Elk Creek that have all weather access. These campsites are consistently used during summer weekends and through much of the hunting seasons.
2. Baber Meadows. The Mt. Baber ATV Club uses Baber Meadows as an ATV staging/riding area. This staging area provides access to a 32.6 mile trail loop on ODF and private land. The club schedules some organized riding events but riders use the trail system at other times of the year, as well. The other staging area at Salmon Creek provides closer access to the Mt. Baber trail system for those riders coming from the Willamette Valley.
3. Black Rock. A mountain bike club, the “Black Rock Mountain Bike Association” has created and maintains about 6.4 miles of trails in the eastern portion of ODF ownership at Black Rock.

During the spring and summer of 1999-2002, the State Forests Program Staff Public Use Coordinator monitored visitor use on the recreation sites. He developed a Recreation Resource Inventory and Assessment for the general geographic area and more specifically the three recreation sites. The District plans to develop a Recreation Plan over the course of the next 1 to 2 years depending upon budget constraints. This plan will be a comprehensive look at all current and potential future recreation management needs for the district.

Planning staff from the Salem office will continue to conduct recreation use monitoring at the three sites on the district during the spring and summer of 2009. The data collected would be consistent with that for other districts in the Northwest Oregon Area and would include resource condition assessments.

There are no new recreation projects proposed for FY 2010 only maintenance of the existing facilities is planned as shown on Table A-5.

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

The facilities at Baber Meadows include a restroom, an informational kiosk, an adjacent kid’s track, all weather access roads to camping and staging areas, nine surfaced trailer sites with picnic tables and fire rings, and two primitive camp sites. The facilities at the Salmon Creek Staging Area consist of a surfaced parking lot and an informational kiosk.

Facilities at Black Rock include a small parking area and an informational kiosk.

Trails

The 32.6 mile ATV trail loop on ODF and private forest land will be maintained throughout the year by the Mt. Baber ATV club members. About 4.2 miles of trail system is on state land.

The 6.4 mile mountain bike trail system in the Black Rock area will be maintained throughout the year by the Black Rock Mountain Bike Association.

Management Activities

The Mt. Baber ATV club will hold a number of organized riding events during the fiscal year. Riders use the staging areas and trails throughout the year unless restrictions are in place that would temporarily curtail activities (i.e. fire season restrictions, etc.).

The Black Rock Mountain Bike Association may have some organized riding events along with scheduled “work party” events. The trail system is used continuously throughout the year. The district is also anticipating one organized event in the area with the Oregon Bicycle Racing Association.

Forest Land Management Classifications (FMLCs)

As required under OAR 629-035-0050, Forest Land Management Classifications (FMLCs), and for the purposes of implementing the FMP’s forest resource management strategies, all forest lands have been classified within the planning area to describe the types of management activities for these areas and the forest resource or resources the classifications are intended to address. The system identifies when a particular forest resource may need a more focused approach, or possibly an exclusive priority in management. State Forest Lands are classified into one of three classifications: General Stewardship, Focused Stewardship, or Special Stewardship. Descriptions and methods of the classifications are found in the FMP beginning on page 2-56.

Focused and Special Stewardship classifications are further classified into subclasses based upon the existence of forest resources that require some level of supplemental planning and/or modified management practices to help achieve identified goals. Several subclasses may be assigned to a parcel of land. Where this occurs, the resource requiring the highest level of protection will determine the management approach. A complete list and specific definitions of the subclasses can be found in OAR 629-035-0055.

Total acreage for each classification and subclass can be found in the District IP on page six.

The acreage and boundary lines shown on maps for forest land management classifications are approximate. The information will be updated through watershed assessments, planning for site-specific management activities or site-specific field visits conducted over time. Management activities will be conducted based upon exact areas and locations as determined on the site and will depend upon the conditions that exist on the site.

Land Exchange

A land exchange with an industrial forest landowner for exchanges of land in Benton, Lincoln, and Polk counties is in progress. The intent is to complete this land exchange during FY 2009 but it may not be completed until FY 2010. An internal exchange of land involving a Board of Forestry parcel and a Common School Land parcel will be initiated in FY 2009 and will continue in FY 2010. Assessment and evaluation of other potential land exchanges will be on going throughout the year.

Other Integrated Forest Management Operations

Habitat Improvement Projects

The district will provide large logs to be placed in about one-half mile of Salmon creek to improve juvenile fish habitat. An ODF&W fish biologist will direct the project.

Planning (and Information Systems)

Stand Level Inventory and Other Vegetation Inventories

Stand Level Inventory (SLI) will take place in the following timber stands: 1) stands proposed for clearcutting in the next two fiscal years, 2) stands necessary to populate all stand types, and 3) a sufficient number of stands to bring the district total up to 50% of all stands inventoried. Accomplishing this will result in SLI of 37 stands.

Stocking surveys of two, six, and fourteen/fifteen year old plantations.

Fish and Wildlife Surveys

There are numerous streams identified for fish presence surveys within or adjacent to all operation areas. The ODF&W fish biologist has agreed to conduct fish presence surveys for those streams currently classified as unknown associated with the harvest operations.

Surveys for northern spotted owls will be conducted for all operations. Surveys for marbled murrelets will be conducted for five operations.

Table 5. Summary of status of T&E surveys.

Operation	Species (NSO/MM)	Status
Poole Haul	NSO/MM	Surveys for both species were conducted in 2008 and will be completed in 2009.
Burgett King	NSO	Surveys for NSO were conducted in 2007 and 2008 and will be completed in 2009. MM surveys were not required.
Buck-n-Bull	NSO/MM	Surveys for NSO and MM were conducted in 2008 and will be completed in 2009.
Southern Exposure	NSO/MM	Surveys for NSO and MM will need to be conducted in 2009 and 2010.
Down Spout	NSO/MM	Surveys for NSO and MM will need to be conducted in 2009 and 2010.
Deer Divide	NSO/MM	Surveys for NSO and MM will need to be conducted in 2009 and 2010.

Watershed Assessments

No watershed assessments are scheduled for fiscal year 2010.

Research and Monitoring

The following research projects will continue to be monitored during this fiscal year:

1. Vegetation and wildlife response to gaps in young stands (Peuttman/OSU)
2. Growing stock study of thinned stands at Black Rock (McGuire/OSU)
3. Effects of sulfur applications on Swiss needle cast infected Douglas-fir (Kanaskie/OSU)
4. Effects of thinning in Swiss needle cast infected Douglas-fir stands (Mainwaring/OSU)

Other Planning Operations

During FY 2010, the district will be involved in planning activities in addition to continued development of the Western Oregon HCP. These planning activities include:

1. FY 2010 AOP - This plan will cover all management operations on State Forest lands on the district for FY 2010, which begins July 1, 2009 and ends June 30, 2010.
2. FY 2011 AOP - This plan will cover all management operations on State Forest lands on the district for FY 2011, which begins July 1, 2010 and ends June 30, 2011.

3. Recreation use monitoring and planning for the three recreation sites on the district.
4. Collecting additional data to enhance road inventory information.
5. Revision of the district's Implementation Plan and associated landscape design.

Public Information and Education

The district maintains supporting information on the Implementation Plan, Forest Land Management Classification System, and Annual Operations Plans for public review. In addition, district personnel will participate in watershed council meetings, outdoor school presentations, ATV club meetings, and other public events as the opportunity arises. The district will continue to meet with concerned citizens or groups when they have questions or as needed.

Administration

There are sixteen positions on the West Oregon District that are fully or partially funded for the management of State Forest lands. The district forester, assistant district forester, clerical support people, a seasonal reforestation technician, and the road maintenance crew are partially funded. All the other positions are fully funded. These positions are divided into three functional groups: Administration, Engineering Unit and Forest Management Unit (See Figure 1).

Administration is composed of the District Forester, Assistant District Forester, Office Manager and two Office Specialists. The District Forester and Assistant District Forester provide the following functions for the management of state forest lands on the district: policy direction; budgeting; coordination between units and programs; and oversight to the field units. The Office Specialist provides clerical support for the management of State Forest lands. This person is responsible for initial public contact, distribution and filing of documents, and providing assistance at timber sale auctions. The Office Specialist is also responsible for assisting with permits for firewood cutting and special forest products harvesting.

The Engineering Unit is composed of three fully funded positions and two partially funded positions; the Unit Supervisor (who is also a licensed land surveyor); an engineering assistant, a road specialist and two equipment operators who are shared with the North Cascade district. This unit is responsible for land surveying, and establishing and maintaining the property lines of all state forest land on the district. The unit is also responsible for securing access to all state forest lands and the design and maintenance of all roads on these forest lands.

The Forest Management Unit consists of five fully funded positions and one partially funded position. The unit is subdivided into three functional areas: young stand management; timber sale preparation and administration; forest planning, and geographic systems coordination.

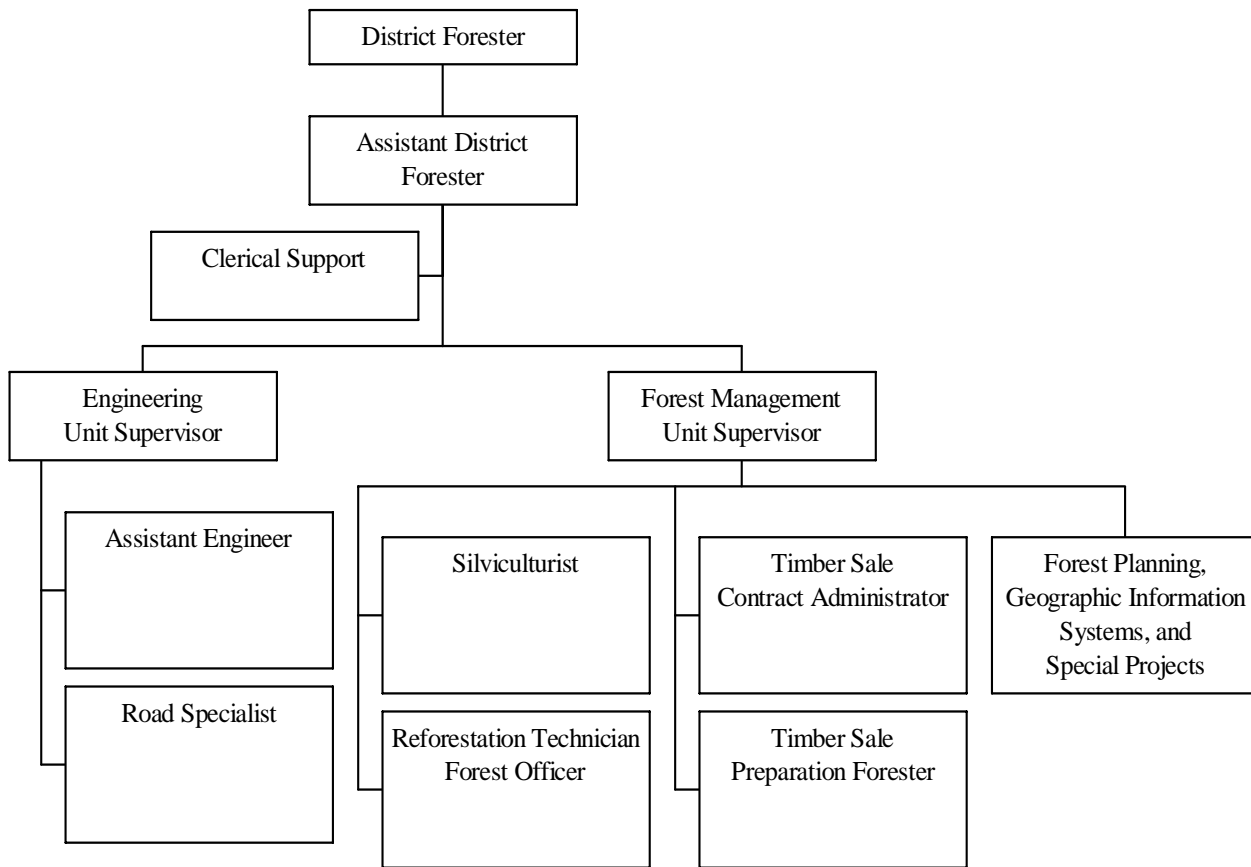
The Forest Management Unit Supervisor coordinates all of the activities in the unit. His duties include employee supervision, reforestation oversight, contract review and approval, and timber sale planning. He prepares the annual operations plans for the district's state forest lands and is active in implementation of the Northwest Oregon State FMP and the development of the Western Oregon HCP. The Unit Supervisor is also responsible for all recreation management on state forest lands.

The young stand management group is responsible for all activities in forest plantations from the time harvesting is completed through reforestation and stand establishment. The activities of this group include site preparation, tree planting, vegetation management, pruning, tree improvement, and pre-commercial thinning. Within this group, the district silviculturalist is responsible for recommending pathways and prescriptions for all stands that will lead to achieving the district's desired future condition.

The timber sale preparation and administration group is responsible for all aspects of timber harvesting from unit layout through the completion of the harvest contract. The activities include unit layout, cruising, appraisal, contract preparation, and contract administration. This group also ensures that current standards for retention of snags, green trees, and down wood are met and that riparian management strategies are correctly applied to the harvest units. They also assist with the layout and design of new roads. In addition, this group manages the cutting of firewood and sale of miscellaneous forest products, such as moss, ferns and salal.

The third part of the Forest Management Unit is the district's Forest Planning and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Coordinator. The GIS Coordination duties include: acquiring, maintaining and updating data; conducting spatial analysis for district planning; and conducting analysis and map productions for state forests personnel. This person also provides a lead role on large planning projects, such as watershed analysis, implementation plans, the Northwest Oregon State FMP and the draft Western Oregon HCP. In addition, this position is responsible for the surveys for threatened and endangered species and helps implement the district's land exchange program.

West Oregon District
 State Forest Management Organization
 Figure 1



All personnel involved with the management of state forest lands spend some portion of their time in public information and education, generally one to three days per year. The District Forester, Assistant District Forester, Forest Management Unit Forester and the Geographic Information Systems Coordinator spend considerably more time on public information and education, because of their involvement with the Northwest Oregon State FMP and the draft Western Oregon HCP.

APPENDICES

A. Summary Tables

TABLE A-1 TIMBER HARVEST OPERATIONS – FINANCIAL SUMMARY

TABLE A-2 TIMBER HARVEST OPERATIONS - FOREST STRUCTURE SUMMARY

TABLE A-3 FOREST ROADS SUMMARY

TABLE A-4 REFORESTATION AND YOUNG STAND MANAGEMENT REPORT

TABLE A-5 RECREATION MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

B. Pre-Operations Reports

Poole Haul

Burgett King

Buck-n-Bull

Southern Exposure

Down Spout

Deer Divide

ALTERNATES

Re-Cline

Last Shot

C. Public Comments

TABLE A-1 COMMERCIAL FOREST MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS - FINANCIAL SUMMARY

District: West Oregon

Fiscal Year: 2010

Date:

06/16/2009

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
Poole Haul	R	0%	100%	Lincoln	1		33	0.2	0.3	0.5	\$145,000	\$15,000	\$130,000
Burgett King	R	100%	0%	Benton	2	274	6	2.6	0	2.6	\$650,000	\$74,000	\$576,000
Buck-n-Bull	R	10%	90%	Lincoln	3	31	69	1.7	0.3	2	\$715,000	\$216,000	\$499,000
Southern Exposure	R	88%	12%	Lincoln	4	232		1.8	0	1.8	\$360,000	\$133,000	\$227,000
Down Spout	R	100%	0%	Lincoln	4		48	0.4	0.6	1	\$310,000	\$69,000	\$241,000
Deer Divide	R	100%	0%	Lincoln	4		54	2.1	0.1	2.2	\$828,000	\$77,000	\$751,000

TOTAL	537	210	8.8	1.3	10.1	\$3,008,000	\$584,000	\$2,424,000
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Alternate Operation

Re-Cline	R	100%	0%	Lincoln		330		3.1	0	3.1	\$775,000	\$97,000	\$678,000
Last Shot	R	100%	0%	Lincoln			102	3.9	0	3.9	\$1,537,000	\$24,000	\$1,513,000

TABLE A-2 COMMERCIAL FOREST MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS - INTEGRATED FOREST MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

District: West Oregon

Fiscal Year 2010

Date: 06/16/2009

Operation/Basin	Area	Net Acres			Stand Structure Development Pathway			Structural Components			Comments
		Clearcut	Partial Cut	Total	Current	Post-Harvest	Desired	Down Wood	Green Trees	Snags	
Poole Haul / Scattered Coastal		33		33	UDS	REG	UDS		8-10/ac		
Burgett King / Bonner Ridge	II	6		6	UDS	REG	LYR				
	I, IV		270	270	UDS	UDS	OFS				
	III		4	4	LYR	LYR	OFS				
Buck-n-Bull / Burnt Woods	I	27		27	UDS	REG	UDS		8-10/ac		
	II	22		22	UDS	REG	UDS, LYR		8-10/ac		
	III	20		20	UDS	REG	LYR, OFS		20/ac		
	IV, V		31	31	UDS	UDS	LYR, OFS				
Southern Exposure / Burnt Woods, Blodgett	I, II		31	31	UDS	UDS	LYR				
	III, IV		93	93	UDS	UDS	OFS				
	V		53	53	CSC	UDS	UDS				
	VI, VII		55	55	UDS	UDS	UDS				
Down Spout / Burnt Woods		48		48	UDS	REG	LYR, OFS		10/ac		
Deer Divide / Burnt Woods		39		39	UDS	REG	UDS		8-10/ac		
		15		15	LYR	REG	UDS		8-10/ac		
Total		210	537	747							

Alternate Operations

Re-Cline / Burnt Woods			322	322	UDS	UDS	LYR				
			8	8	REG	UDS	LYR				
Last Shot / Blodgett		102		102	UDS	REG	UDS		8/ac		

TABLE A-3 COMMERCIAL FOREST MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS - ROADS FINANCIAL SUMMARY

District: West Oregon

Fiscal Year: 2010

Date: 06/16/2009

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					
Poole Haul	0.3	\$4,000	0.0	\$0	\$11,000	\$15,000	\$145,000	10.3%	
Burgett King	0.2	\$2,000	0.5	\$ 10,000	\$62,000	\$74,000	\$650,000	11.4%	
Buck-n-Bull	0.7	\$16,000	2.0	\$122,000	\$78,000	\$216,000	\$715,000	30.2%	
Southern Exposure	0.5	\$11,000	2.0	\$ 21,000	\$101,000	\$133,000	\$360,000	36.9%	
Down Spout	0.3	\$25,000	0.0	\$0	\$44,000	\$69,000	\$310,000	22.3%	
Deer Divide	0.0	\$0	0.5	\$ 40,000	\$37,000	\$77,000	\$828,000	9.3%	
					Total	\$584,000	\$3,008,000	20.1%	
Alternate Operations									
Re-Cline	0.2	\$1,000	1.7	\$19,000	\$77,000	\$97,000	\$775,000	12.5%	
Last Shot	0.4	\$2,000	0.0	\$0	\$22,000	\$24,000	\$1,537,000	1.6%	

NOTE: Improvement includes move in costs

NOTE: Other Projects includes maintenance, post harvest & misc. costs

TABLE A-4 REFORESTATION AND YOUNG STAND MANAGEMENT REPORT

District **West Oregon**

Fiscal Year: 2010

Date: **06/16/2009**

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	92	\$250.00	\$23,000.00	55	\$250.00	\$13,750.00	147	\$36,750.00
Interplanting	16	\$175.00	\$2,800.00	4	\$175.00	\$700.00	20	\$3,500.00
Underplanting	22	\$195.00	\$4,290.00	6	\$195.00	\$1,170.00	28	\$5,460.00
Tree Protection-Barriers	146	\$60.00	\$8,760.00	69	\$60.00	\$4,140.00	215	\$12,900.00
Tree Protection-Direct Control	224	\$30.00	\$6,720.00	71	\$30.00	\$2,130.00	295	\$8,850.00
Site Prep-Chemical- Aerial	92	\$75.00	\$6,900.00	55	\$75.00	\$4,125.00	147	\$11,025.00
Site Prep-Chemical- Ground	22	\$210.00	\$4,620.00	6	\$210.00	\$1,260.00	28	\$5,880.00
Site Prep -Slash Burning	57	\$20.00	\$1,140.00	23	\$200.00	\$4,600.00	80	\$5,740.00
Site Prep -Mechanical	20	\$125.00	\$2,500.00	0	\$125.00	\$0.00	20	\$2,500.00
Fertilization	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Noxious weeds	16	\$25.00	\$400.00	4	\$25.00	\$100.00	20	\$500.00
Release-Chemical- Aerial	50	\$75.00	\$3,750.00	0	\$75.00	\$0.00	50	\$3,750.00
Release,-Chemical-Ground	25	\$135.00	\$3,375.00	13	\$135.00	\$1,755.00	38	\$5,130.00
Release-Mechanical-Hand	55	\$60.00	\$3,300.00	15	\$60.00	\$900.00	70	\$4,200.00
Precommercial Thinning	513	\$85.00	\$43,605.00	125	\$85.00	\$10,625.00	638	\$54,230.00
Pruning	18	\$285.00	\$5,130.00	0	\$285.00	\$0.00	18	\$5,130.00
Other								
Totals	1,368	--	\$120,290.00	446	--	\$45,255.00	1,814	\$165,545.00

*Planting costs include all costs including seedlings

Many of these activities are contingent on Budget Approval. It is anticipated that funding may be reduced postponing treatments such as PCT, noxious weeds and chemical release.

TABLE A-5 RECREATION MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS - FINANCIAL SUMMARY

District: West Oregon

Fiscal Year: 2010

06/16/2009

Operation	Unit of Measure	Current	Construction Projects	Construction Cost	Improvement Projects	Improvement Cost	Total Cost	Comments
Baber Mdw/Salmon Creek					\$2,300		\$2,300	
Black Rock					\$2,200		\$2,200	

	\$4,500
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