

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF MODIFICATIONS TO SOUTH CHICKEN SINCE APPROVAL OF THE ANNUAL OPERATIONS PLAN (FY 2007 AOP)

FROM: Art McCoy

TO: Rick Rogers, Western Lane District

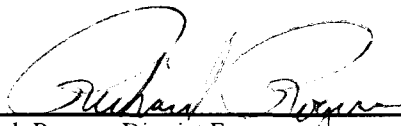
DATE: 6/19/07

CC: Operation file, South Chicken 341-08-49

The sale is quite different from the approved AOP. The AOP sale had two units. We dropped the west unit and the road needed for that unit. Instead, Area 1 was extended north to make one 106 acre unit plus a one acre thinning. The first 0.4 miles of road have already been constructed by a private landowner. We have obtained a license agreement to improve and use that road. A revised AOP has been prepared and was used by the Area Bio to prepare his Biological Assessment.

	Original AOP	Current Sale
Net Acres of Medium Density Thinning	0	1
Net Acres of Retention Cut	0	0
Net Acres of Modified Clearcut	101	106
Total Net Acres	101	107
Volume (MBF)	3900	4071
New Construction (miles)	2.7	1.5
Improvement	0	0.4
Vacation	0	0
Project Costs	\$543,000	\$311,243

The changes described above have been reviewed and approved:


Rick Rogers, District Forester

6/29/07
Date

Pre-Operations Report

Operation Name: South Chicken (Revised)
County: Lane
Management Basin: Western Lane
Legal Description: Sec 10&15, T17S, R8W

Table 1. Operation Areas, Types and Acres

Area	Type of Operation	Gross Acres	Net Acres
1	Modified Clear Cut	116	106
2	Moderate Thinning	1	1

Net acres do not include in-unit stream buffers.

I. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF OPERATION AREA:

The harvest area is split with 35% draining into Chicken Creek and 65% draining into Nelson Creek. It is approximately 23 miles from the coast and 1100 feet elevation on the top of Chicken Ridge. Slopes are steep with portions of the north half over 75%. However, 50% to 65% sideslopes are most usual in the sale area. The major soil is Valino, with small areas of Drain. Valino is a deep, well drained, moderately fine textured colluvial soil developing from Eocene age Tye sandstone. Rock volume increases from 10% in the A horizon to 80% in the C horizon.

II. CURRENT STAND CONDITION:

Table 2. Stand Inventory Information (Gross Acres)

Area	Prescription	Stand ID ¹	Species	Age	DBH	BA	TPA	SDI	Acres ²
1	MCC	15094	DF	61	15	212	176	56	41
	MCC	15102	DF	76	15	314	271	82	75
2	Moderate Thinning	15094	DF	61	15	212	176	56	1
									117

1 The source of stand inventory information is SLI. The district timber cruise shows 131 DF/ac averaging 18 inches DBH with an SDI of 52. The district cruised only trees over 8 inches DBH.

2 Gross acres are based on orthophotos and include stream buffers.

The current stands are a result of natural seeding that followed a series of fires that began in 1910 and ended about 1930. The stands are almost entirely even-aged Douglas-fir about 70 years old with scattered bigleaf maple and some alder underneath. The brush tends to be very tall, dense evergreen huckleberry and salal mixed with vine maple and other typical western Oregon species. If the stands were thinned instead of clearcut, shade tolerant conifer would not seed in (no seed source), and underplanting would not be very successful because of the combination of shade, drought, and brush competition. Clearcutting allows aerially treating the brush competition which increases available moisture for the seedlings and reduces shade.

III. DESIRED STAND CONDITION:

The entire Chicken Creek watershed has a Desired Future Condition of General. The Chicken Ridge area is planned to be managed with an emphasis on Douglas-fir commercial forest. Future stands probably will be similar to current stands, but with 10% -15% hemlock and cedar.

Table 3. Stand Structure Information (Gross Acres)

Area	Stand ID	Current	Post Harvest	Desired Future	Acres
1	All	UDS	REG	GEN	116
2	15094	UDS	UDS	GEN	1

IV. PROPOSED MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION and ANTICIPATED PATHWAY:

Prescription and Management Pathway: The operation for Area 1 begins with a modified clearcut. The harvest area will be treated with aerially applied herbicide after harvest to reduce brush competition, particularly from tall, dense evergreen huckleberry. It will be planted to 300 trees per acre, primarily Douglas-fir with up to 15% other conifer mixed in.

A couple of years later the area will be hack and squirt treated to reduce the amount of bigleaf maple resprouting from stumps.

Further treatment for brush competition is not anticipated. No precommercial thinning is planned. The area may be commercially thinned in 40 to 45 years, depending upon growth, markets, and State policies. Or the stand may be allowed to grow freely until final harvest at age 50 to 70.

Area 2 is a one acre moderate thinning in the inner and outer RMA of Chicken Creek. The thinning is intended to accelerate the development of mature forest characteristics in the zone.

Leave Trees: Approximately 10 acres of no-cut leave areas will be left as extra wide buffers on perennial streams and seeps. The north side of the sale has a wide timbered buffer along a type F stream. About 150 large Douglas-fir (30+ inches DBH) will be left scattered across the upland area. In addition, all hemlock, cedar, chinquapin, and madrone that are not safety or operational hazards will be left.

Snags: The timber cruise shows about one snag per acre averaging 34 inches DBH and over 15 feet tall. Existing snags that are not safety hazards will be left. No snags will intentionally be created, but winter storms will break the tops out of some of the leave trees. At a later date snags can be created from leave trees if the landscape is snag deficient.

Down Wood: SLI shows about 3700 cu ft/ac of down wood. Additional down wood will come from broken tops less than merchantable size, broken pieces, missed logs, and leave tree blowdown. No trees will be felled specifically to create additional down wood.

V. ESTIMATED TIMBER AND REVENUE INFORMATION:

Table 4. Timber and Revenue

Ownership		Sale Type	
BOF	CSL	Cash	Recovery
100%	%	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
Planned Auction: Oct 07			

	Conifer	Hardwood	Total
Net Volume (MBF)	3988	83	4071
Stumpage Value (\$/MBF)	\$350	\$325	
Estimated Gross Value	\$1,395,800	\$26,975	\$1,422,775
		Project Costs:	\$311,243
		Estimated Net Value:	\$1,111,532

VI. TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AND HARVESTING:

The sale will be cable yarded.

1.5 miles of new construction and 0.4 miles of improvement is required. All but 0.2 miles will be used for future sales. All roads will be rocked and left open after the sale for future management activities. The beginning of the road system

crosses private land. A road use permit will be required for Improvement, construction, and hauling and will not allow public use. The road system will be gated.

Approximately 0.4 miles of construction will be on slopes over 60%. Full bench construction will be required on these segments and excess excavation will be endhauled to stable locations.

Table 5. Transportation Planning Summary (Miles).

Activity	Mainline	Collector	Rocked Spur	Dirt Spur
Construct	0	1.3	0.2	0
Improve	0	0.4	0	0
Maintain	0	1.7	0.2	0
Close/Block	0	0	0	0
Vacate	0	0	0	0

VII. AQUATIC RESOURCES AND WATER QUALITY:

The sale area contains small, perennial non-fish streams. The southeastern stream channel disappears shortly after crossing the county road before it reaches Nelson Creek.

The southwestern stream is classed as a Type F to a point just within the sale boundary. However, it crosses the county road in a 24 inch culvert, which carries the flow except during extreme storms. The stream dries up in late summer except for isolated pools. Fish of some sort have been found in some of these pools.

The north side of the sale abuts Chicken Creek, a Type F. Several small perennial Type N streams from within the sale flow into it. The Type F is protected by a wide buffer. Portions of the buffer will be thinned to accelerate development of mature forest conditions.

Management activities within riparian areas of streams will focus on achieving properly functioning aquatic and riparian habitat conditions over time. Riparian Management Areas (RMAs) will be managed to meet or exceed The Management Standards for Aquatic and Riparian Areas found in the *NWO State Forests Management Plan* (pg. J-1 - J-16).

VIII. T&E SPECIES CONSIDERATIONS:

T&E Birds: The sale is within the McVey Creek spotted owl circle. No suitable marbled murrelet habitat is within 330 feet of the sale.

Spotted owl and marbled murrelet suitable habitat analyses have been completed by the District T&E specialist in cooperation with the Area wildlife biologist. This analysis concludes that the sale is currently consistent with ODF's policies for northern spotted owls and marbled murrelets.

A Biological Assessment has been prepared by the SOA wildlife biologist. The assessment states that the sale is expected to have a low risk of negatively affecting the occupancy and productivity of the McVey Creek northern spotted owl site.

T&E Plants: The sale area was checked against the Oregon Natural Heritage Program (OHNP) database of known listed plant locations. The sale area was also checked against district knowledge for any listed plant location. No listed plant records were identified within the sale area.

IX. SLOPE STABILITY AND GEOTECHNICAL ISSUES:

Field examination has not shown any areas with slope stability problems. 1953 aerial photos do not show any areas within the sale that failed after the fires in the early part of the 20th century.

X. RECREATION RESOURCES:

To the best of our knowledge, the sale area currently has no recreational use since it has no roads and is steep and brushy. After road construction, hunters and mushroom pickers may walk or cycle the road system to use the area.

XI. CULTURAL RESOURCES:

No cultural resources sites are known to exist in the area.

XII. SCENIC RESOURCES:

Portions of the sale area will be visible from the Nelson Mountain County Road.

XIII. OTHER RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS:

None known.

Chicken Creek

Area 2

Area 1

EXHIBIT "A"

OF TIMBER SALE CONTRACT NO.
341-08-87
SOUTH CHICKEN
PORTIONS OF SECTIONS 10 & 15, T17S, R8W, WM
LANE COUNTY OREGON

Pvt

Pvt

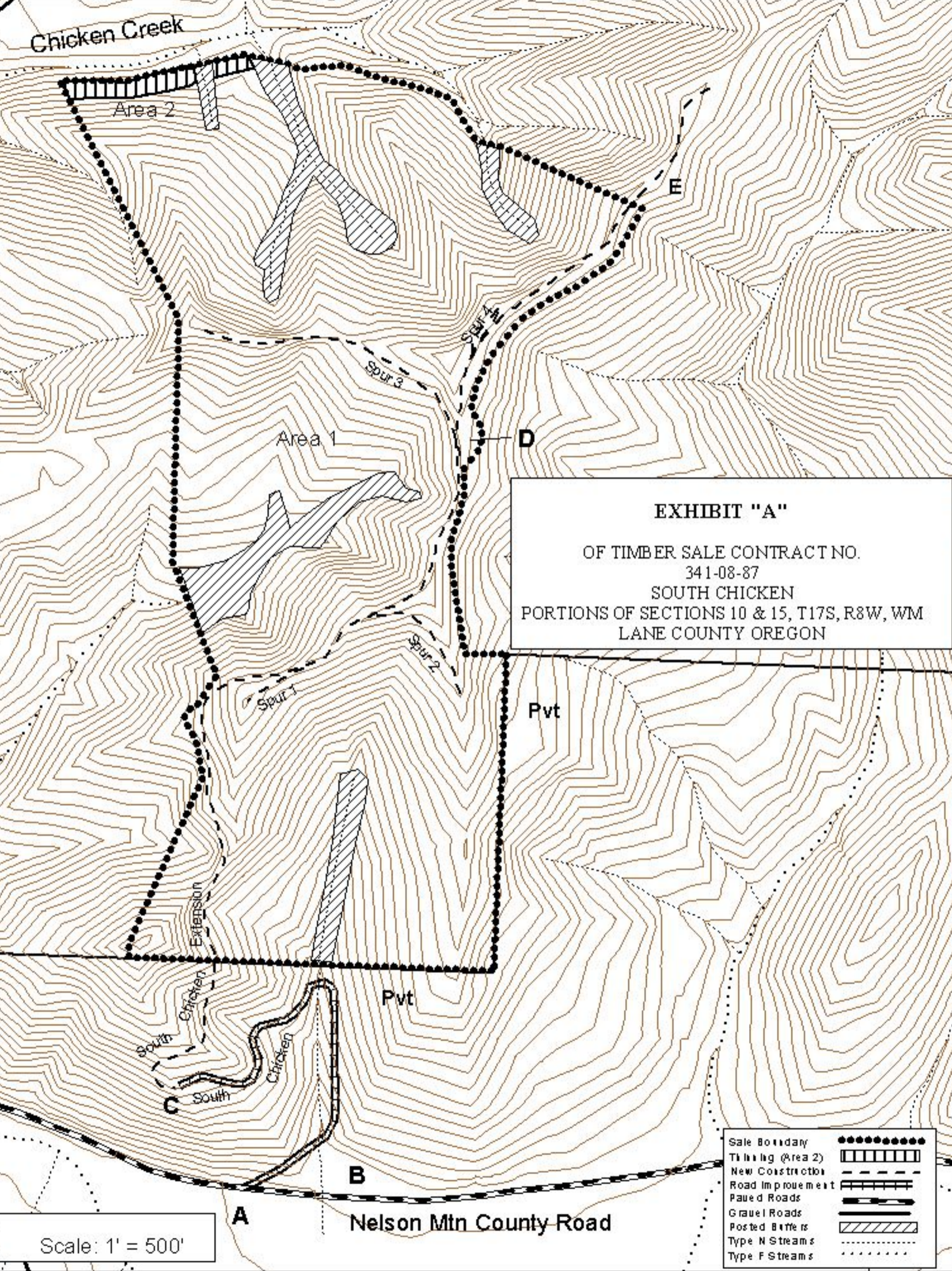
B

A

Nelson Mtn County Road

Scale: 1' = 500'

Sale Boundary	●●●●●●●●
Thinning (Area 2)	▤▤▤▤▤▤
New Construction	-----
Road Improvement	▬▬▬▬▬▬
Paved Roads	=====
Gravel Roads	▬▬▬▬▬▬
Posted Buffers	▨▨▨▨▨▨
Type N Streams
Type F Streams



Chicken Creek

Area 2

Area 1

EXHIBIT "A"

OF TIMBER SALE CONTRACT NO.
341-08-87
SOUTH CHICKEN
PORTIONS OF SECTIONS 10 & 15, T17S, R8W, WM
LANE COUNTY OREGON

Pvt

Pvt

South
Chicken
South
Chicken

B

Nelson Mtn County Road

A

Scale: 1' = 500'

Sale Boundary	●●●●●●●●
Thinning (Area 2)	▤▤▤▤▤▤▤▤
New Construction	- - - - -
Road Improvement	▬▬▬▬▬▬▬▬
Paved Roads	▬▬▬▬▬▬▬▬
Gravel Roads	▬▬▬▬▬▬▬▬
Posted Buffers	▨▨▨▨▨▨▨▨
Type N Streams
Type F Streams

