

# Pre-Operations Report

**Operation Name: Rip Tide**

**County: Clatsop**

**Management Basin: Hamilton and Beneke**

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

Area	Type of Operation	Gross Acres	Net Acres
1	Partial Cut	61	51
2	Partial Cut	177	156
3	Partial Cut	58	55
Total		296	262

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

Sale areas 1 and 2 are located in the Hamilton Basin and are located on a gentle ridgetop with gentle to moderate sideslopes above the South Fork of the Klaskanine River and a tributary to the South Fork of the Klaskanine River. Area 3 is located in the Beneke Basin and is located on gentle to moderate sideslopes above Music Creek.

All three sale areas are within the western hemlock vegetation zone. Elevations range from 1000 to 1800 feet above sea level. The soil types present throughout the three areas are Fishhawk (Fh), Killiam (Km), and Bradwood (Bq). These soils are moderately deep, well drained, moderately fine to medium textured soils. The sale is underlain by sedimentary rocks of the informal Northrup Creek formation and the Pittsburg Bluff Formation, mudstone and sandstone. Site indices are 120-130 ft. for Douglas-fir and 110 ft. for western hemlock. Timber is generally windfirm on the Fishhawk, Killiam, and Bradwood soils.

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

**Area 1:** This area consists of 69 year old hemlock and Douglas-fir with a minor component of mixed conifers (cedar, Pacific silver fir, and spruce) and red alder. The stand is classified as Closed Single Canopy (UDS). The understory consists primarily of sword fern, hemlock, and salmonberry .

**Area 2:** This area consists of 69 to 90 year old hemlock and Douglas-fir with a minor component of mixed spruce, cedar, and red alder. The stand is classified as Closed Single Canopy (CSC), and Understory Development (UDS). The understory consists primarily of sword fern, hemlock, and salmonberry .

**Area 3:** This area consists of 70 year old hemlock, Douglas-fir, and red alder with a minor component of spruce and cedar. The stand is classified as UDS. The understory consists of sword fern, vine maple, hemlock, and salmonberry.

**Table 2. Stand Inventory Information**

Area	Prescription	Stand ID <sup>1</sup>	Species	Age	DBH	BA	TPA	SDI	Acres <sup>2</sup>
1	PC	23744	WH, DF	69	15	273	212	72	51
		Target <sup>3</sup>	WH, DF		22	160-180	79	35-40	51
2	PC	23744	WH, DF	69	15	273	212	72	37
		23731	WH, DF	76	18	335	195	83	37
		23727	WH, DF	90	18	280	144	72	82
		Target <sup>3</sup>	WH, DF		23	160-180	74	35-40	156
3	PC	23705	WH, DF, RA	70	16	307	212	77	55
		Target <sup>3</sup>	WH, DF		21	140-160	64	30-35	55

1 The source of stand inventory information is SLI from 2005.

2 The acres are based on GIS and exclude roads, streams buffers, reserve areas, etc.

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

### III. DESIRED STAND CONDITION:

Areas 1 and 2, and about 80% of Area 3 are targeted for the desired future condition of Older Forest Structure (OFS). The remaining 20% of Area 3 is targeted for a desired future condition of Layered (LYR). It is anticipated that these prescriptions will allow greater development of the understory and some natural regeneration to occur. Along with understory development, an increase in average stand diameter is also expected.

**Table 3. Stand Structure Information**

Area	Stand ID	Current	Post Harvest <sup>1</sup>	Desired Future	Acres
1	23744	UDS	LYR	OFS	51
2	23744	UDS	LYR	OFS	37
	23731	UDS	LYR	OFS	37
	23727	CSC	UDS	OFS	82
3	23705	UDS	LYR	OFS/LYR	55

1 The stand is expected to develop into this condition in the five to ten years after this operation is completed.

### IV. PROPOSED MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION:

**Areas 1 and 2:** These stands will be thinned to a basal area range of 160 –180. SDI 35 - 40%. This prescription will promote growth towards the desired future condition of layered, and eventually on to older forest structure. The large dominant trees and trees with mistletoe and limbs greater than 5” in diameter will be retained. Alternative thinning prescriptions will be applied at a “patch” scale to create variability in the stand and promote habitat for marbled murrelets in Areas

1 and 2. Patches of developing habitat will be determined with assistance of the NW Area Biologist and will be posted as marked thinning areas in order to promote growth, and further enhance their habitat characteristics. Pockets of existing marbled murrelet habitat will be buffered and excluded.

**Area 3:** This stand will be thinned to a basal area range of 140 –160. SDI 30 - 35%. This prescription will promote accelerated growth towards the desired future condition of layered, and eventually on to older forest structure. The thinning is intended to open up the canopy to allow one or more canopy layers to grow in order to move from UDS to LYR stand. Minor species and hardwoods will be reserved to promote diversity.

During harvesting activities in Areas 1, 2, and 3, existing snags will be retained unless deemed to be safety hazards. In Areas 1 and 2, where fewer than two hard snags per acre are found to exist during sale layout, opportunities for snags may be implemented to supplement landscape snag levels (FMP, “Landscape Management Strategy 3c. Snags”, pages 4-53 and 4-54). In Area 3, snag creation will occur.

For harvesting activities in Areas 1, 2, and 3, all existing down woody debris will be retained. It is also anticipated that natural snag and down wood recruitment will occur post harvest over time due to natural occurrences.

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

**Table 4. Timber and Revenue**

Ownership		Sale Type	
BOF	CSL	Cash	Recovery
100%	0%	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Planned Quarter:		3rd	
		Conifer	Hardwood
Net Volume (MBF)		3,945	0
Stumpage Value (\$/MBF)		\$200	\$250
Estimated Gross Value		\$789,800	0
		Project Costs:	\$90,000
		Estimated Net Value:	\$699,000

**VI. HARVESTING AND ACCESS CONSIDERATIONS:**

Access to Area 1 will be from the West Tidewater Road, and access to Area 2 will be from the Tidewater Road and the West Tidewater Road. Access to Area 3 will be from the Tidewater Road and Tidewater 130 Spur. An old landslide which occurred in 1995 blocked the West Tidewater Road just past the ½ mile marker. An alternate route is planned to be constructed off the Tidewater Mainline which will connect to the upper West Tidewater Road and stockpile site. The haul route will be out the Tidewater Road and Tidewater 130 Spur to Highway 202 for Areas

2 and 3, and from the West Tidewater Road out to Highway 202 for Area 1. Approximately one mile of new road will be constructed for harvesting purposes. The west boundary of Area 3 is an old vacated road which has had the fills removed. This old road is not needed for harvesting.

The sale will have cable-yarding settings as well as ground-yarding areas. These areas were determined from analysis of the terrain and landing locations. Existing roads will be utilized as much as possible when constructing the logging plan. New roads will be located so disturbance of current marbled murrelet habitat will be minimized.

Project work associated with this sale will be new road construction, road improvement, rock development, and roadside brushing.

**Table 5. Transportation Management Summary (Miles).**

Activity	Mainline	Collector	Rocked Spur	Dirt Spur
Construct	0	0.5	0.5	0
Improve	0	1.2	1	0
Maintain	0	5	3	0
Close/Block	0	0	0	0
Vacate	0	0	0	0

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

*Type F and Domestic Use Streams:* A Type F stream (South Fork of the Klaskanine River) flows under the West Tidewater Road near the south end of Area 1. Approximately 1,800 feet of Type F stream (Music Creek) is adjacent to the north and east boundaries of Area 3. The stream will be buffered to the Northwest Forest Management Plan standards. No domestic use streams are associated with the harvest activities.

*Type N Streams:* There are perennial Type N streams located within all three sale areas.

*Aquatic Resource Protection:* For all areas, full log suspension is required when cable yarding over streams. No ground-based logging equipment operation is allowed within the stream bank zone. No stream crossings are anticipated during road construction. To protect water quality during active operations, a variety of methods will be used to prevent sediment from entering live streams. These methods range from use of hay bales in road ditches, to “ditch-outs” away from streams, to complete shutdown of logging and hauling. There are no known high hazard sites or debris-track Type N streams within the sale area.

All streams will be examined to determine stream type and classification during sale layout, and then the specific riparian management area strategies required in the FMP will be implemented. The FMP riparian management area strategies that will be implemented are found in the FMP, Appendix J, "Management Standards for Aquatic and Riparian Areas", pages J-1 through J-16.

ODFW Biologists have no stream enhancement projects scheduled for this area at this time.

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

Areas 1-3 of this sale were surveyed to protocol for the Northern Spotted Owl in 2004. A single female response was observed within 1.5 miles of Area 3 off Music Road. No detections were observed on follow up surveys. Additional surveys will be conducted in 2005.

Areas 1 and 2 of this sale are within the West Tidewater Marbled Murrelet Management Area. Suitable habitat within these areas was surveyed for Marbled Murrelets in 2001, 2002, 2003, and 2004 with no responses. Surveys will also be conducted in 2005 and in 2006.

Logging will be restricted on this sale between April 1 and September 15, annually, unless completed surveys indicate there is no occupied behavior within or adjacent to the sale areas.

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

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

The topographic map indicates that there are no high landslide hazard locations within Areas 2, and 3 with the southeastern edge of Area 3 skirting some steep slopes above Music Creek. The map also indicates that there may be one isolated high landslide hazard location along the western edge of Area 1. The risk to the South Fork of the Klaskanine River, its tributary, and Music Creek is low. The geotechnical specialist may be consulted if concerns arise during sale layout.

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

There are no significant recreation activities in this area other than dispersed camping and hunting.

**XI. CULTURAL RESOURCES:**

No known cultural resources are within or adjacent to the operation.

**XII. SCENIC RESOURCES:**

All sale areas are of low visual sensitivity (level 3), except for 32 acres in the southern part of Area 1 which is classified as Focused Stewardship.

**XIII. OTHER RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS:**

All section corners and bearing trees will be protected during harvest. The north property line to Section 13, T6N, R8W in Area 2 will need to be field verified to find out if surveys are needed. All other property lines have been surveyed and/or survey corners reestablished between 1971 and 1995.

Access Easements - Existing: Tidewater Road. Easement (#311.04352)  
- Temporary Easement: Tidewater 130 Spur. Easement (#314.04814) Expires on December 31, 2005.

**XIV. LAND MANAGEMENT CLASSIFICATION SUMMARY:**

A total of 230 acres in Areas 1 and 2 and are classified as Wildlife Habitat. Of this, 32 acres in Area 1 are also classified as Visual. They will be managed to meet ODF's wildlife and visual management guidelines in the Forest Management Plan.

**Table 6. Land Management Classification Summary**

Area	LMCS Subclass	Focused Stewardship	Special Stewardship
1	Aquatic & Riparian	16	5
1	Visual	32	0
1	Wildlife Habitat	4	57
2	Aquatic & Riparian	51	1
2	Wildlife Habitat	4	173
3	Aquatic & Riparian	18	3

This table summarizes the acres of Focused and Special Stewardship within the operations. The acres in each operational area in this table do not necessarily add up to its gross or net acres, because of overlapping classifications under the Land Management Classification System. For example, a particular acre can be classified as Focused Stewardship for Aquatic and Riparian, Recreation, and Scenic resources.