Pre-Operations Report

Operation Name: Bowl Bound Beaver
County: Coos
Management Basin: 11

Table 1. Operation Areas, Types and Acres

Area	Type of Operation	Gross Acres	Net Acres
I	Clearcut	70	59

I. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF OPERATION AREA:

This timber sale is located on the western slope of the Coast Range in the Beaver Creek watershed and is within Elliott State Forest Management Basin 11. This timber sale area is in close proximity to the Pacific Ocean, which has a dominant influence on the climate. The average annual rainfall is between 95-105 inches. Temperatures range from 20 - 90 degrees fahrenheit throughout the year. This timber sale has an elevation of 900 to 1600 feet above sea level with slopes ranging from 40 percent to over 80 percent. Eocene age sedimentary rocks underlie the area. Soil types are Milbury-Bohannon-Umpcoos, and Preacher-Bohannon. Slopes in the sale are generally steep and dissected with a northeast aspect.

II. CURRENT STAND CONDITION:

The timber sale is second-growth Douglas-fir that originated after the Coos Bay fire of 1868. It is composed of 124 year old Douglas-fir with patches of alder and a scattered understory of hemlock. Table 2 contains stocking, size and age information for all the areas in this timber sale. There are few hard snags in the stand. Stand health is satisfactory which is typical for the Elliott Forest. The sale area is located outside of the current area of concern for Swiss needle cast.

Table 2. Stand Inventory Information

Area	Prescription	Veg Code [1]	Species	Age In 2004	DBH	BA	TPA	SDI	Acres [2]
I	CC	1997	DF	124	21	214	86	48	50
	CC	1570	DF	122	25	282	81	59	9
	Target[3]		DF	123	25	10	5	1	59

1 The source of stand inventory information is (OSCUR) from 2000 records.
2 The acres are based on GIS, and exclude interior 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:

The desired condition is a young age class stand to provide early successional habitat in accordance with the Balanced Landscape strategy of the Elliott State Forest Management Plan. It will be composed of mainly Douglas-fir with a smaller component of other conifer species including hemlock and red cedar. Red alder will also naturally regenerate in the stand. Green trees retained from the previous rotation will provide for multi-story stand structures valuable for wildlife. This mix of planted and natural regeneration will comprise the next planned rotation. This sale will be prepared under the wildlife emphasis option of the Elliott Management Plan, providing for additional green trees, down logs, and snag creation to create and maintain forest structure for wildlife habitat.

Table 3. Stand Structure Information (Does not apply to Elliott State Forest)[1]

IV. PROPOSED MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION:

The prescription for this sale is to harvest most of the overstory, leaving standing trees within buffer areas and scattered in selected locations in or along the edge of the sale unit.

Site Preparation and Planting - Site preparation will be achieved by yarding disturbance and treating residual brush with herbicide prior to planting. The site will be planted with conifer seedlings at approximately 500 trees per acre. Species mix is planned to be about 85% Douglas-fir and 15% hemlock and/or western red cedar.

Green Tree Retention - A minimum of 295 trees (about 5 per acre harvested) will be left in or adjacent to the sale area. Emphasis will be given to retention of conifer species other than Douglas-fir. Some of these trees will be topped for snag creation. Single green trees will not be left unless localized soil conditions provide for wind firmness and logging conditions are suitable. The location of retained trees will be determined during the sale prep process. Emphasis may be given to widening riparian management areas.

Snag Retention and Creation - Existing snags within the sale area will be left, with the exception of those that endanger work crews. Tops will be blown or sawn off green trees to leave approximately 118 topped trees in the sale area—about 2 tree(s) per acre harvested.

Down Log Retention - At least 295 logs (5 logs per acre harvested) will be left in or adjacent to the sale area for habitat purposes in accordance with the Elliott State Forest Management Plan. Down logs shall meet the following minimum specifications: 16 feet in length and 12 inches diameter at the large end. Down logs shall be left in stable locations to minimize safety concerns to tree planters and other forest workers.

Burning - Portions of the sale may be burned depending on the amount and distribution of the slash and timing of sale completion. The main purpose of this type of burn is to provide for biological diversity and improved big game forage rather than site preparation.

V. ESTIMATED TIMBER AND REVENUE INFORMATION:

Table 4. Timber and Revenue

Ownership		Sale Type	
BOF	CSL	Cash	Recovery
0%	100%		X
Planned Quarter:		2	

	Conifer	Hardwood	Total
Net Volume (MBF)	3,245	200	3,445
Stumpage Value ($/MBF)	450	365	
Estimated Gross Value	1,460,250	73,000	1,533,250
		Project Costs:	54,855
		Estimated Net Value:	1,478,395

VI. TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AND HARVESTING:

All legal access to the sale is obtained and there are no property lines needing to be surveyed. Short spurs and landings will be constructed to access the sale areas. Final location of spurs and landings will be determined during the sale preparation process. New spurs will be constructed to the minimum standard of 14 feet with no ditch, unless winter work is planned, in which case a ditchline, culverts and rock will be added. After log hauling each year, the spurs into the sale areas will be waterbarred and blocked off. Winter harvesting will require purchaser supplied rock. No roads associated with this sale will be decommissioned because of planned future use. Project costs include the completion of the Dry Lake rock stockpile. Final stockpile requirements will be determined during the timber sale preparation process.

Harvesting options were chosen to provide appropriate resource protection while minimizing logging costs. The sale area will be cable yarded uphill. Full suspension will be required over stream channels and single end suspension on the rest of the sale area. Trees will be felled parallel or away from the residual trees and Riparian Management Areas.

Table 5. Transportation Management Summary (Miles).

Activity	Mainline	Collector	Rocked Spur	Dirt Spur
Construct	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Improve	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0
Maintain	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.1
Close/Block	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Vacate	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

VII. AQUATIC RESOURCES AND WATER QUALITY:

Riparian areas along streams will be managed to support properly functioning aquatic habitats over time by applying the riparian management area (RMA) standards of the Northwest Oregon State Forests Management Plan. These standards are planned for adoption in the revised Elliott State Forest Management Plan. The minimum standards used for riparian buffers are those listed in the Elliott State Forest Management Plan.

The sale area is located within the Beaver Creek watershed, a medium size Type F stream. All streams associated with this sale were surveyed to ODFW protocol for fish presence in1998. All drainages associated with the sale area were field surveyed during the 2004 summer low flow period to determine the stream channel extent and whether streamflow is perennial or seasonal. The tributaries flowing from the sale area are classified as small seasonal or perennial Type N streams and potential debris flow track reaches. Beaver Creek, a medium size Type F, borders the timber sale to the north. The portion of Beaver Creek bordering the sale area is suitable for in-stream wood placement for fish habitat at cable corridor crossings.

There are no known water rights within or downstream of the proposed operation.

Cable layouts through or over buffer strips are needed to provide for adequate suspension of logs. To protect water quality, full suspension will be required over stream channels and single end suspension where feasible on the rest of the sale area. During active operations a variety of methods will be used to prevent sediment from entering live streams. These methods include (but are not limited to) maintaining culverts and other road drainage structures, and monitoring and managing logging and hauling operations during times of heavy rainfall.

All road construction and improvement will be done during the dry season and excavated material will be deposited on stable slope locations without the possibility of entering stream channels. Areas of bare soil associated with road and landing construction will be grass seeded when operations are completed.

VIII. WILDLIFE and T&E SPECIES CONSIDERATIONS:

The older habitat within this sale area may be suitable for certain T and E species. This sale is planned under the standards of the Elliott State Forest Management and Habitat Conservation Plans and other Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) policy. The specific measures are as follows:

NSO Habitat Retention – There is no minimum acreage for NSO nesting, roosting, and foraging habitat in this basin other than established reserve acres. Reserve acres in this basin include 946 acres (17%) that will be continually retained in riparian management areas, habitat conservation areas and other conservancy acres. Fifty percent of this basin's total acres (2722) must provide dispersal habitat. After this sale plan, there will be approximately 3050 acres of dispersal habitat retained which includes 82 acres of in-growth. Portions of this sale are adjacent to the Beaver Creek Habitat Conservation Area.

Marbled Murrelet - The sale area was surveyed according to protocol standards during the 2004 survey season, and will receive second year surveys in 2005. The sale is in the vicinity of the Trout Mouth marbled murrelet management area. ODF's Southern Oregon Biologist will determine the application of seasonal restrictions during sale layout to comply with ODF's policies for the Marbled Murrelet.

Bald Eagle, Other - There are no bald eagles or other listed animal species in the vicinity of this sale.

Salmon and Steelhead – Beaver Creek, a medium size Type F, borders the timber sale to the north. A written plan will be prepared in accordance with the Forest Practice Act for operations within 100 feet of a Type F stream. Cable layouts through or over buffer strips are needed to provide for adequate suspension of logs. To protect water quality, full suspension will be required over stream channels and single end suspension where feasible on the rest of the sale area. Riparian areas along streams will be managed to support properly functioning aquatic habitats over time by applying the riparian management area (RMA) standards of the Northwest Oregon State Forests Management Plan. These standards are planned for adoption in the revised Elliott State Forest Management Plan. This sale provides an opportunity for log placement, to create stream structure and enhance spawning and rearing habitat in Beaver Creek. The locations and numbers of logs will be determined for inclusion in the timber sale contract.

Plants - 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 (ONHP) database of known listed plant locations. No listed plant records were identified within the sale area.

Fragmentation - The sale areas are is located on the edge of a contiguous block of mature timber and does not increase fragmentation of interior habitat.

IX. SLOPE STABILITY AND GEOTECHNICAL ISSUES:

This sale area has had a map review by an ODF geotechnical specialist. A closer examination will be made during the sale layout process to determine if other site specific protection measures will be necessary. The lower one-half to one-third of the slopes in the sale area meet criteria for classification as high landslide hazard locations (in the Tyee Core Area uniform slopes greater than 75% and/or planform concave slopes greater than 65%). The easternmost basin does not appear to have slopes meeting HLHL criteria and in any event is unlikely to directly deliver significant debris flow material (large wood and boulders) to Beaver Creek given the channel junction angle. Slopes in the basins which drain to the north meet HLHL criteria. The three Type N streams in these basins are likely to deliver material to Type F Beaver Creek, and deposit at their confluences with the mainstem; potential debris flow track reach management standards apply. It does not appear likely that a debris flow could directly enter the West Fork Millicoma.

To minimize yarding impacts on the slopes, single end suspension cable yarding will be required. Roads will be located on ridge-crests as much as possible and any steep sidehill portions will be constructed with full bench end-haul design and construction. Construction will be done during the dry season.

X. RECREATION RESOURCES:

The most common recreation for this area is hunting and dispersed, undeveloped recreation. Harvesting this unit will provide forage area to help promote healthy deer and elk populations. In addition, areas of bare soil around road edges and landings will be grass seeded after logging to provide forage. Surrounding forest types provide escape cover. No conflict is seen with respect to the undeveloped, dispersed recreation usage of the forest.

XI. CULTURAL RESOURCES:

There are no cultural sites associated with this sale.

XII. SCENIC RESOURCES:

The units are not within any scenic management areas and there are no scenic management constraints for this sale.

XIII. OTHER RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS:

There are no other known resource considerations associated with this sale.

XIV. LAND MANAGEMENT CLASSIFICATION SUMMARY:

Table 6. Land Use Classification Summary

Area	Production
I	59

This table summarizes the acres in each land use class within the operation.