

Pre-Operations Report

Operation Name: Gregorian Cant (alternate)
County: Clatsop
Management Basin: McGregor
Legal Description: Sec. 28, T04N, R06W, W.M.

Table 1. Operation Areas, Types and Acres

Area	Type of Operation	Gross Acres	Net Acres
I	Heavy Partial Cut	131	118
Total	Partial Cut Harvest	131	118

I. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF OPERATION AREA:

Slopes have a varied aspect and range from 0% to 65%. Elevations range from 1800 to 2100 feet. The major soil types are Grindstone and Humbug. The sale area occupies mainly ridges above a small tributary of South Fork Rock Creek and is in the Upper Rock Creek SAH.

The landforms are gentle to moderate rolling topography above South Bear Creek with two small steep slope areas in the headwalls of the tributary draws. The underlying rock is igneous origin rock of the Cole Mountain Basalt Formation (informal), invasive intrusive sills and dikes.

II. CURRENT STAND CONDITION:

The sale area burned in the 1933 Wolf Creek Fire and naturally regenerated. This area has had no prior stand management.

The entire sale area has been inventoried using the Stand Level Inventory (SLI) procedure and the stand has been classified as UDS.

The stand is composed of mostly Douglas-fir and hemlock with scattered noble fir, cedar, red alder and cherry throughout the sale area.

The stand contains minor amounts of *Phellinus weirii*, *Armillaria*, and bear damage and will not be treated at time of harvest.

The understory in the sale area is comprised primarily of vine maple, cherry, sword fern, salal, western hemlock, western red cedar, dwarf Oregon grape, huckleberry, bracken fern, and oxalis. Average ground cover from SLI data is 77%.

SLI data shows that there are approximately 10 snags/acre, 12" dbh+, of all decay classes including 2 hard snags/acre, 15"dbh+. The data shows total down woody debris of 8100 cu. ft./acre, including 318 cu.ft./acre of classes 1 & 2.

Table 2. Stand Inventory Information

Area	Prescription	Stand ID ¹	Species	Age	DBH	BA	TPA	SDI	Net Acres ²
I	PC-H ⁴	7200	DF,WH,RC,RA	64	16	255	179	64	118
		<i>Target</i> ³	<i>DF,WH,RC,RA</i>		21	110	46	24	118

¹ The source of stand inventory information is from SLI in 2004.

² The acres are based on GIS and exclude existing and planned roads, stream buffers, and non-thinnable areas.

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

⁴ PC-H is Heavy Partial Cut.

III. DESIRED STAND CONDITION:

The harvest operation will maintain the UDS structure of this stand and develop it into the LYR structure in the longer term (25-30 years). According to the Forest Grove District's landscape design for the McGregor basin, the desired future condition (DFC) for this stand is currently designated GEN. However, it is very close to LYR and has the overstory species diversity to allow an opportunity to manage this stand on a pathway to a complex structure. The prescription is designed for only one entry to be made to move the stand along its desired pathway. All cedar, noble fir, red alder, and cherry will be reserved from cutting during partial cutting. This, along with the hemlock in the overstory will help to maintain the species diversity and allow additional natural seeding to enhance the developing understory of shade tolerant conifers.

All existing snags and down woody debris of all decay classes shall be retained as safety allows.

Table 3. Stand Structure Information

Area	Stand ID	Current	Post Harvest ¹	Desired Future	Net Acres
I	7200	UDS	UDS	GEN	118

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:

Partial Cut - Heavy:

The target SDI is approximately 24. Douglas-fir and hemlock will be selected for harvest. All other species will be reserved. The stand will be thinned to a target

basal area of 100 to 120 square feet. The average DBH of the residual stand will be approximately 21 inches. Residual trees will be the trees that have the largest DBH and height, and are of the best form and vigor. All trees less than 8 inches, cedar, noble fir and hardwoods shall be reserved and shall not count toward the target basal area.

One tree per acre shall be topped to create hard snags. Snags shall be evenly distributed throughout the sale area and have a DBH of at least 15 inches, and be at least 80 feet in height.

No underplanting is planned because it is anticipated that natural regeneration from shade tolerant species will enhance the understory vegetation.

All existing DWD will be reserved in the sale areas. DWD recruitment is expected through mortality, windthrow of residual trees, felled snags, and logging slash.

Existing snags determined not to be a safety hazard will be retained and any felled snags will be left for down wood. Additional snags will be created over time through natural processes.

V. ESTIMATED TIMBER AND REVENUE INFORMATION:

Table 4. Timber and Revenue

Ownership		Sale Type	
BOF	CSL	Cash	Recovery
100%	%	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Planned Quarter: Alternate			

	Conifer	Hardwood	Total
Net Volume (MBF)	2,500		2,500
Stumpage Value (\$/MBF)*	\$280		
Estimated Gross Value	\$700,000		\$700,000
		Project Costs:	\$54,000
		Estimated Net Value:	\$646,000

*Combined Douglas-fir and hemlock stumpage values

VI. TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AND HARVESTING:

The sale area is accessed via the McGregor Road. This is an all-weather, crushed rock road.

Approximately 0.9 miles of road will be constructed to provide access to cable yarding or landing locations. New construction is limited to ridgetops and gentle to moderate sideslopes. Proposed roads will not cross any streams.

All haul roads will have high quality crushed rock or pit run surfacing. Roads will provide access to all timber within the sale area and allow for logging methods and hauling which will minimize impacts to soils, residual timber, streams, and riparian areas.

Following harvest, roads and skid trails within the sale areas will be evaluated for closure.

In addition, an old stream crossing and puncheon from an old skid road will be removed, and a culvert that is currently a barrier to fish passage will be replaced.

Sale related project work - estimated costs \$41,000 for road construction.
Other project work – estimated costs \$13,000

The operation will be 30% cable yarding and 70% ground yarding.

Table 5. Transportation Planning Summary (Miles).

Activity	Mainline	Collector	Rocked Spur	Dirt Spur
Construct	0	0	0.9	0
Improve	0	0	0	0
Maintain	0	1.5	0.7	0
Close/Block	0	0	0	0
Vacate	0	0	0	0.1

For determination of road class either use results of the Harvest and Habitat roads classifications, or if this information is not available then low use roads are spurs, medium use roads are collectors and high use roads are mainlines. Use these same criteria when comparing the total for all AOP sales to the IP plans.

VII. AQUATIC RESOURCES AND WATER QUALITY:

There are no Type F streams within or adjacent to the sale area.

There are 2 unnamed, small, perennial Type N streams within the sale area, which are tributary to South Fork Rock Creek. Riparian area stand types along these streams are generally a hardwood/conifer mix.

The sale area is within the Upper Rock Creek basin. This basin has been designated as a Salmon Anchor Habitat (SAH) Basin. SAH Basin Strategies will be applied during timber sale layout and contract development. Buffers along the two streams will be 50' on each side of the stream.

In order to protect water quality 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,

using sediment control devices in road ditches when necessary, and seasonal restrictions on logging and hauling operations. Culvert installment and replacement in live streams will be conducted between July 1 and Aug. 31. Operations outside of this period will be reviewed with ODFW.

VIII. T&E SPECIES CONSIDERATIONS:

The sale area has been reviewed with the ODF Northwest Oregon Area Biologist (Area Biologist).

Surveys for northern spotted owls were conducted in 2004 due to the presence of potentially suitable spotted owl habitat within and adjacent to the timber sale area. Gregorian Cant was surveyed for spotted owls three times in 2004 with no responses, and the second year of survey will be completed in 2005. All surveys were/will be conducted in accordance with USFWS protocol.

Surveys for marbled murrelets are not required, due to the absence of potentially suitable habitat within the sale area. The ODF wildlife biologist for the NW Oregon Area made the determination that the sale area is non-suitable habitat for marbled murrelets.

The sale area was 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 initial assessment from the geotechnical specialist is low. The geotechnical specialist may be consulted if concerns arise during sale layout.

The sale area is within the Upper Rock Creek SAH Basin. The most current SAH Strategies will be used at the time of timber sale preparation and contract development. See the Summary Document for more information.

X. RECREATION RESOURCES:

The sale area is designated as Non-Motorized in the Tillamook State Forest Comprehensive Recreation Plan (1993).

Recreational use common to this area includes hunting and mushroom picking. The spur roads will be blocked after sale activities are completed.

XI. CULTURAL RESOURCES:

The sale area was checked against the Tillamook State Forest Cultural Resource Inventory database. No cultural resource records were identified within the sale area. If any significant cultural resources are located during sale preparation, the

Public Use Coordinator (ODF Salem Staff) will be consulted regarding potential protection measures.

XII. SCENIC RESOURCES:

The sale area has a visual classification of Level 3, low sensitivity.

XIII. OTHER RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS:

No known. All known survey corners and witness trees shall be protected from damage during any operations.

XIV. LAND MANAGEMENT CLASSIFICATION SUMMARY:

Table 6. Land Management Classification Summary. This table summarizes the acres of Focused and Special Stewardship within the operations. Due to overlapping classifications under the Land Management Classification System, the acres summarized for each operational area in this table may exceed the net or gross acreage of the area. For example, a particular acre can be classified as Focused Stewardship for Aquatic and Riparian Habitat, Recreation, and Scenic resources.

Area	LMCS Subclass	Focused Stewardship	Special Stewardship
I	Aquatic and Riparian Habitat	14	13
	Wildlife Habitat	118	0