

Pre-Operations Report

Operation Name: SoMoNoFo

County: 50% Clatsop / 50% Colombia

Management Basin: McGregor

Legal Description: Sec. 30, T04N, R05W, W.M.
Sec. 25, T04N, R06W, W.M.

Table 1. Operation Areas, Types and Acres

Area	Type of Operation	Gross Acres	Net Acres
I	Modified Clearcut	149	115
Total	Regeneration Harvest	149	115

I. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF OPERATION AREA:

Slopes have a varied aspect and generally range from 15% to 55%. Elevations range from 1650 to 1050 feet. The major soil types are Pinochle and unknown soil types. The sale areas occupy the middle to lower slopes.

The landforms are gentle to moderate, rolling topography, on and below the divide of Wolf Creek and Clear Creek along the headwater of South Fork of Clear Creek. The underlying rock is sedimentary origin Cowlitz Formation, basaltic, marine sandstone.

II. CURRENT STAND CONDITION:

The stands in the sale areas have been inventoried using the SLI procedure. The stands are all classified as UDS.

The stands are composed almost entirely of Douglas-fir which have had no prior management. There are minor amounts of hemlock, cedar, and alder scattered throughout the sale area.

The stands contain significant amounts of *Phellinus weirii*. No other significant insect or disease problems have been discovered at this time.

The understory in all the sale areas is comprised primarily of vine maple, sword fern, salal, dwarf Oregon grape, and huckleberry.

There is a moderate amount of snags and DWD in various states of decay throughout the sale area. Some of the existing snags are in decay classes 1 and 2. There is a moderate amount of large (36"+) snags and DWD in decay classes

3 and 4 throughout the sale area. Estimates are based on SLI data and visual observation during field reconnaissance.

Table 2. Stand Inventory Information

Area	Prescription	Stand ID ¹	Species	Age	DBH	BA	TPA	SDI	Net Acres ²
I	MC ³	7191	DF	48	17	114	71	28	17
		7199	DF	56	17	229	149	56	20
		7201	DF	64	19	218	109	50	71
		7204	DF	53	15	179	148	46	7

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 green tree retention areas.

³ MC is Modified Clearcut.

III. DESIRED STAND CONDITION:

The harvest operation will develop these stands into REG structure in the short term. According to the Forest Grove District's landscape design for the McGregor basin, the desired future condition (DFC) for these stands is GEN.

The anticipated management pathway for the sale areas is to conduct a Modified Clearcut. The regeneration will be composed of a mix of Douglas-fir, other conifer species which are resilient to *Phellinus weiri*, or alder.

Table 3. Stand Structure Information

Area	Stand ID	Current	Post Harvest ¹	Desired Future	Net Acres
I	7191	UDS	REG	GEN	17
	7199	UDS	REG	GEN	20
	7201	UDS	REG	GEN	71
	7204	UDS	REG	GEN	7

¹ The stand is expected to develop into this condition in the five to ten years after this operation is completed, except in REG stands which occur after harvest.

IV. PROPOSED MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION:

Modified Clearcut:

In Area I only Douglas-fir will be harvested. All other species will be reserved.

A variety of methods will be used to achieve green tree retention requirements, which may include green tree retention areas, stream buffers, protection of precipitous slopes, and trees scattered across the sale areas. These methods will be used in combination to meet the green tree requirements of (5 to 9 trees per acre) provided in the Forest Management Plan (FMP).

Green tree retention for this sale is expected to exceed the target objective. From the residual green trees, 2 trees per acre shall be topped to create hard snags. Snags shall have a DBH of at least 18 inches, and be at least 60 feet in height.

After snag creation is completed, it is expected that enough green trees will be reserved to still meet the target objective. These trees will be a source for snags and DWD, which are expected to develop over time through natural processes.

All existing DWD will be reserved in the sale area. 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.

The site will be planted with Douglas-fir and other conifer species which are resistant to *Phellinus weirii*. Following harvest, the sale areas will be reviewed to determine if site preparation is needed.

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:		2	

	Conifer	Hardwood	Total
Net Volume (MBF)	5,000		5,000
Stumpage Value (\$/MBF)*	\$450		
Estimated Gross Value	\$2,250,000		\$2,250,000
		Project Costs:	\$77,000
		Estimated Net Value:	\$2,173,000

VI. TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AND HARVESTING:

The sale areas are accessed via North Fork Wolf Creek Road and the NoFo road. These are currently all weather, crushed rock roads. A small portion (0.4 miles) of the NoFo Road is located through private ownership (Longview Fibre). The remaining portion is through ODF ownership. ODF has a reciprocal road use agreement and no road use fees will apply.

Approximately 0.7 miles of existing unsurfaced road will be improved. This may include grading, rocking, widening, culvert replacement, or adding new culverts.

Approximately 0.8 miles of road will be constructed in order to provide access to critical landing locations. New construction is limited to gentle to moderate sideslopes. Proposed roads will cross 1 small Type F, perennial stream. This crossing will provide access to portions of the sale, which are otherwise only accessible via private ownership.

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 completion of each setting during the logging operation, roads and skid trails within the sale areas will be evaluated for closure.

Rock for the proposed road construction and improvement will likely come from the Homeless Pit, located in Sec 28, T04N, R06W, WM. The pit is approximately 6 miles from the sale area. An estimated 3,000 cubic yards of rock will be necessary.

Sale related project work - estimated costs: Road improvement and surfacing; 0.7 miles at \$29,000; Road construction and surfacing; 0.8 miles at \$48,000. The total for all project work is \$77,000.

The operation will be roughly 55% cable yarding, 45% ground based yarding.

Table 5. Transportation Planning Summary (Miles).

Activity	Mainline	Collector	Rocked Spur	Dirt Spur
Construct	0	0	0.8	0
Improve	0	0	0.7	0
Maintain	0	5	0	0
Close/Block	0	0	0	0
Vacate	0	0	0	0

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:

The South Fork of Clear Creek is a small Type F stream that is within the sale area. 1 perennial Type N stream and several unnamed seasonal Type N streams are within the sale area. All streams are tributary to Clear Creek, which is a direct tributary to the Nehalem River.

During sale layout, all streams will be field verified as to size, type, locations, and/or source.

Riparian area stand types along these streams are hardwood/conifer mixed.

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) will be requested to complete stream surveys before sale layout begins. Streams of unknown status will be treated as Type F until surveys are completed to verify fish use.

The haul route is in proximity to a Large, Type F, stream (North Fork of Wolf Creek), in which listed fish (Coho salmon) are present. The North Fork Wolf Creek Road is adjacent to, and in close proximity to portions of this stream. The road also crosses 3 small Type F streams in which the confluence to the N.F.W.C. is within 500 feet. Seasonal hauling restrictions will be applied in order to protect the said resources. Restrictions may include limiting the number of loads hauled per day, not hauling during periods of heavy rain, or having an alternate haul route.

The harvest operation is also in proximity to a stream (South Fork of Clear Creek) in which listed fish (Coho) may be present. Appropriate measures will be taken to protect these resources.

Stream buffers within harvest unit boundaries will be managed according to FMP Riparian Strategies. The riparian areas will be reviewed during sale layout for current stand conditions and/or operational constraints for implementing FMP strategies.

ODFW fish biologists will work with ODF to identify possible stream enhancement project areas in the South Fork of Clear Creek. Projects may incorporate wood placement into streams concurrent with harvest activities.

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 September 30. 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 2003 and 2004 due to the presence of potentially suitable spotted owl habitat within and adjacent to the timber sale area. SoMoNoFo was surveyed for spotted owls three times in 2003 and three times 2004 with no responses. A third 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.

This operation involves an activity that is listed in the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) adopted rules under Section 4(d) of the Endangered Species Act. The sale area is in close proximity to a stream with listed fish. See Section VII and IX of this report for a discussion of protective measures.

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. There are no steep slopes noted within the sale area. The geotechnical specialist may be consulted if concerns arise during sale layout.

X. RECREATION RESOURCES:

The sale area is designated as Non-Motorized in the Tillamook State Forest Comprehensive Recreation Plan (1993). The District Recreation Coordinator has no comments for this sale.

Recreational use common to this area includes hunting.

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:

Property lines have been true blazed and posted.

All known survey corners and witness trees shall be protected from damage during any operations.

An extra wide buffer along the South Fork of Clear Creek is necessary to prevent this modified clearcut and an already harvested adjacent Modified Clearcut from exceeding the 120 acres maximum allowed by the FPA.

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	31	1