

Pre-Operations Report

Operation Name: North Silver Creek Thin

County: Marion

Management Basin: Cedar Creek Basin

Table 1. Operation Areas, Types and Acres

Area	Type of Operation	Gross Acres	Net Acres
I	Partial Cut	61	57
II	Partial Cut	66	60
III	Partial Cut	17	16
Total		148	132

I. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF OPERATION AREA:

The operation is located within a temperate climate area. Typically the fall and winter seasons are wet. This area receives approximately 89 inches of rainfall per year. The operation is located within the *Tsuga heterophylla* Zone (Natural Vegetation of Oregon and Washington, Franklin & Dyrness, 1973).

The landforms are gentle to moderate slopes in the headwaters of Silver Creek, the sale is below the spur-ridge dividing Little North Fork Silver Creek and North Fork Silver Creek with Area III and a small portion of Area II in the confluence of the North Fork and the main stem of Silver Creek. The underlying rock is about half igneous origin rocks, lava flows and flow breccia, andesite, basaltic andesite and basalt, includes interbedded volcanoclastics.

The majority of the slopes in the operation are below 35%. The soils within the operation are 95% Akerson and 5% Pechuck. Both Akerson and Pechuck are well-drained, fine textured colluvial soils. The 50 year site index for Douglas-fir is 130 feet. The elevation of the operation ranges from 1,700 feet to 1,940 feet.

II. CURRENT STAND CONDITION:

Area I consists of a 60-year-old stand. This area is currently classified as Understory. The overstory consists of a mixture of Douglas-fir, western hemlock, and red alder. The understory consists of vine maple, salal, ferns and salmonberry. There are approximately 5 snags per acre and 240 cubic feet of

sound down wood per acre; there is a total of 2,500 cubic feet of down wood per acre in all decay classes (SLI 2004).

Area II consists of 50 to 60-year-old stands currently classified as Understory. The overstory consists of Douglas-fir, western hemlock, red alder and big leaf maple. The understory consists of vine maple, salmonberry and salal. There are approximately 2 snags per acre and 50 cubic feet of sound down wood per acre; there is a total of 2,000 cubic feet of down wood per acre in all decay classes (SLI 2004).

Area III is made up of a 62-year-old Closed Single Canopy stand. The overstory consists of a mixture of western hemlock, Douglas-fir, and alder. The understory consists of salal, ferns and vine maple. There is approximately 1 snag per acre; there is a total of approximately 3,100 cubic feet of down wood per acre in all decay classes and no sound down wood per acre within Area III (SLI 2004).

Table 2. Stand Inventory Information

Area	Prescription	Stand ID ¹	Species	Age	DBH	BA	TPA	SDI	Acres ²
I	PC-M	Target ³			18	147	77	30	
		12218	WHDF	59	16	203	151	52	61
		12089	DFCX	49	12	167	231	48	49
II	PC-L	Target ³			14	166	150	40	
		12218	WHDF	59	16	203	151	52	17
		12090	CXDF	62	11	233	333	68	17
III	PC-L	Target ³			12.5	158	170	40	
		12090	CXDF	62	11	233	333	68	17

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

2 The acres are based on orthophotos and include 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 future condition for all areas in this operation is in a general stand category as shown on Map B.

The anticipated pathway for Area I is as follows:

- this area will receive a moderate partial cut as part of this operation which will improve the growing condition of the residual trees,
- in approximately 15 years, this area may be evaluated as a candidate for final harvest.

The anticipated pathway for Areas II & III is as follows:

- these areas will receive a light partial cut as part of this operation which will improve the growing condition of the residual trees,

- in approximately 15 years, this area may be evaluated as a candidate for another partial cut or final harvest.

Table 3. Stand Structure Information

Area	Stand ID	Current	Post Harvest ¹	Desired Future	Acres
I	12218	UDS	UDS	GEN	61
II	12218	UDS	UDS	GEN	17
	12089	UDS	UDS	GEN	49
III	12090	CSC	CSC	GEN	17

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:

Area I will receive a moderate partial cut to a residual SDI of 30%. A 2 acre patch of old growth trees will be posted as a no harvest area. Western red cedar and noble fir trees will be reserved from harvest.

Areas II & III will receive a light partial cut to a residual SDI of 40%. Western red cedar and noble fir trees will be reserved from harvest.

In all areas, existing down wood will be retained. Snags will be retained that do not pose a safety hazard, but some snags will be felled during the operation. The objective is to have at least 2 snags per acre within the stands at the completion of the operation. No down wood will be added to the stands at this entry due to the total amount of down wood present in the stands currently.

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:		1	

	Conifer	Hardwood	Total
Net Volume (MBF)	664	0	664
Stumpage Value (\$/MBF)	\$300	150	
Estimated Gross Value	\$199,200	0	\$199,200
		Project Costs:	\$14,250
		Estimated Net Value:	\$184,950

VI. TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AND HARVESTING:

Access to the operation is achieved via County Road #889 and the S203, S204, and S205 roads. These are surfaced spur roads and provide good access to the ownership block. The roads are in good condition and will require brushing and grading. Approximately 4,000 feet of dirt spur roads will need to be constructed to access areas in the unit between the creeks. These spurs would be vacated after use. They could be Purchaser Select construction. An existing railroad car bridge on the S204 road will require replacement of the running planks. Two log fills that are located on spur roads within the unit will be removed.

Ground slopes are gentle and range from 0 – 35% which allows for ground logging of the entire area.

Required Project Work:

- Construct 4000 feet of un-surfaced spur road.
- Vacate 4,000 feet of un-surfaced spur road.
- Maintain 1.43 miles of spur road.
- Replace the running planks on an existing bridge.
- Remove two log fills.

Table 5. Transportation Planning Summary (Miles).

Activity	Mainline	Collector	Rocked Spur	Dirt Spur
Construct	0	0	0	0.76
Improve	0	0	0	0
Maintain	0	0	1.43	0
Close/Block	0	0	0	0
Vacate	0	0	0	0.76

* 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:

This operation is not in proximity to any streams where listed fish are present.

The North Fork of Silver Creek runs through Area II of the operation. This is a large fish bearing stream. There is a small fish bearing stream located in the northeast. There is also a small seasonal stream located within the operation. The riparian vegetation along these streams consists of Douglas-fir and western

hemlock in the overstory. Vine maple, Oregon grape, and ferns can be found in the understory.

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 established immediately adjacent to streams for the purpose of protecting aquatic and riparian resources and maintaining the functions and ecological processes of the streams. The Management Standards for Aquatic and Riparian Areas found in the *NWO State Forests Management Plan* (pg. J-1 – J-16) will be followed within these RMAs.

The following measures will be used to minimize impacts to streams: 1. No ground based equipment will be allowed within 50 feet of the fish streams and 25 feet of the non-fish streams, 2. There will be seasonal restrictions as to when ground yarding and road construction will be allowed (i.e. during dry seasons), 3. Erosion control measures will be used on areas of soils exposed during road construction or improvement, 4. Road ditches will be disconnected from streams, 5. Road maintenance will be required during log hauling.

VIII. T&E SPECIES CONSIDERATIONS:

This operation was surveyed for Northern Spotted Owls with no response during the 2004 survey season. The operation will be surveyed again during the 2005 survey season.

The operation was checked against the Oregon Natural Heritage Program's database of known plant locations. The operation was also checked against district knowledge for any listed plant location. No records of threatened, endangered, rare or candidate plant species were found within the operation.

IX. SLOPE STABILITY AND GEOTECHNICAL ISSUES:

The initial assessment from the geotechnical specialist is low. There are no steep slopes in the sale area. The geotechnical specialist may be consulted if concerns arise during sale layout.

X. RECREATION RESOURCES:

This operation is located behind a locked gate. Hiking and sight seeing occur in the area. Bike riders have erected some structures within the stand to use as jumps for an "extreme" biking experience. These structures were placed on ODF land without the District's knowledge. The District Recreation Specialist has been in contact with these riders. Together they will form a plan for this type of recreation in the area including design, location and maintenance of the

structures and maintenance of the bike trails. The current structures within the unit will be removed prior to the start of the operation while the recreation plan is being developed. These riders will be temporarily displaced while the operation is active.

XI. CULTURAL RESOURCES:

There are no known cultural resources located within the operation.

XII. SCENIC RESOURCES:

There are no scenic resources within the operation.

XIII. OTHER RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS:

There are no other resource considerations.

XIV. LAND MANAGEMENT CLASSIFICATION SUMMARY:

Table 6. Land Management Classification Summary

Area	LMCS Subclass	Focused Stewardship	Special Stewardship
I	Aquatic and Riparian Habitat	4	0
II	Aquatic and Riparian Habitat	12	13

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.