

# Pre-Operations Report

**Operation Name: Rimrock Road**  
**County: Tillamook**  
**Management Basin: Trask**

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

Area	Type of Operation	Gross Acres	Net Acres <sup>1</sup>
1	MC	217	183
2	RC	24	24
Total		241	207

<sup>1</sup> The net acres are based on orthophotos and GIS and exclude roads, stream buffers (special stewardship), other stream buffers and reserve areas.

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

Slopes have a W, NW, N, NE and E aspect and range from 15% to 90%. Elevations range from 960 to 2120 feet. The major soil types are Rye 51% and Killam 46%, with minor soil of Watseco.

The sale is located on and just below a ridgeline divide between Elk Creek a tributary of Bark Shanty Creek and two un-named tributaries to the North Fork of the Trask River. There are bands of steep slopes near the ridgeline and through the sale area. The underlying rocks are mostly of igneous origin and divided into three units: 1) higher in the sale area are the intrusive igneous rocks that are diabase, commonly tabular sills with columnar joints cut by dike swarms fed by Tillamook Volcanics; 2) lower in the sale area are the igneous rocks of the Hembre Ridge Formation, submarine pillow basalts, sheet flows including submarine basaltic breccia and basaltic sandstone. In the extreme northeast portion of the sale area the underlying rocks are igneous origin rocks of 3) Siletz River Volcanics Formation, submarine and suaerial basalt breccia, and basaltic sandstone in the northeast portion of the sale area. In the northeast portion of the sale area between the Hembre Ridge rocks and the Siletz River Volcanics is an area underlain by sedimentary rocks known as Sandstone of Trask River (unofficial) thin-bedded fine grained turbidite sandstone and siltstone.

## II. CURRENT STAND CONDITION:

**Table 2. Stand Inventory Information<sup>4</sup>**

Area	Prescription	Stand ID <sup>1</sup>	Species	Age	DBH	BA	TPA	SDI	Net Acres <sup>2</sup>
1	MC	320	RA/DF	43	14/15	111/40	112/34	42	35
		321	DF/RA	43	15/13	118/30	97/31	41	148
2	RC	321	DF/RA	43/32	15/13	118/30	97/31	41	24
		Target <sup>3</sup>	DF		18	35	20	9	24

<sup>1</sup> The source of stand inventory information is from field reconnaissance cruise plots taken in 2004.

<sup>2</sup> The net acres are based on orthophotos and GIS and exclude roads, and stream buffers (special stewardship), other stream buffers and reserve areas. Modified clear cut acres are not contiguous and do not exceed 120 acres.

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

<sup>4</sup> These numbers are based on plot data taken to this point and final numbers may differ significantly from the actual conditions. The directive for minor and major modifications will be followed for further review.

The sale areas burned in the Tillamook and Saddle Mountain Fires and the majority of the sale area was planted in 1960, and the eastern top of the ridge planted in 1970. These areas have had no prior stand management.

The stands in the sale areas are classified as 100% CSC according to the district stand summary information (1999).

This stand is characterized by a homogenous dispersion of Douglas fir with a patch of alder near the bottom of a slope. The brush is not continuous due to the canopy being closed.

### **See Table 2 for specific stand data.**

The Douglas-fir has Swiss needle cast (SNC) symptoms and poor live crown ratios resulting in slowed diameter and/or height growth. The stands have been mapped by aerial surveys. No other significant insect or disease problems have been discovered at this time.

There is scattered hemlock, cedar and alder throughout the sale.

The brush component in all the sale areas is comprised primarily of vine maple, sword fern or salmonberry. The brush is not continuous due to the canopy being closed. Most species are concentrated in the draws and in openings.

There are some large snags in various states of decay and/or some hard snags created from (wind, snow, and/or bear damage). Down wood consists of scattered large old logs (36"+) in Class 3 and 4 stages of decay and some windthrow in decay classes 1 and 2.

### III. DESIRED STAND CONDITION:

**Table 3. Stand Structure Information**

Area	Stand ID	Current	Post Harvest <sup>1</sup>	Desired Future	Net Acres
1	320	CSC	REG	GEN	35
1	321	CSC	REG	GEN	148
2	321	CSC	REG	GEN	24

<sup>1</sup> 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.

See Section IV: Proposed Management Prescription for more information on Green Tree, Down Wood, and Snag Strategies during operation. Also refer to Landscape Design in the Summary document for more information on strategies to move the district toward Desired Future Condition goals.

#### **Regeneration Harvest:**

Area 2 serves to separate areas of clearcut harvest and create a mixture of stands in the area.

Treatment of 2 areas will create a mosaic over 241 acres of openings, gaps, variable densities and mixed species. Unmanaged hardwood and conifer mixes will be left in headwalls, and/or in riparian buffers as well as scattered in the unit.

As the future stand is established and matures the residual trees from previous stands will add to complexity of sizes, species and densities. These trees will also add to snags and down wood over time and through the life of the stand.

Stand Level Inventory (SLI) will be scheduled for clearcut and regeneration harvest units five to seven years after stand establishment. This inventory will provide more data on down wood and snags in the harvest units.

### IV. PROPOSED MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION:

**See table 2 for prescription targets**

#### **Modified Clearcut:**

In Area 1, Douglas-fir and merchantable alder will be removed. A diameter limit will be used to select an average of 3 to 5 conifer trees per acre to be left. These residual trees will provide a future down wood and/or snags. All other species will be reserved.

#### **Retention Cut:**

In Area 2, an average residual basal area will be at least 33 square feet, primarily in Douglas fir. Douglas-fir and merchantable alder will be removed. All other species will be reserved.

Understory vegetation will be enhanced by the additional growing space available in previously unthinned portions.

**Green Tree, Down Wood and Snag Strategies**

See also Section III: Desired Future Condition for long term strategies

A variety of methods will be used to achieve green tree retention requirements. These residual green trees will supplement the future stand by promoting growth of dominant/co-dominant leave trees. Small non-merchantable hardwood and conifer will also be retained where possible. These leave trees function as future source of snags and down wood recruitment across the landscape.

Existing down wood will be left in the sale areas. Down wood recruitment is expected through mortality and windthrow of residual or leave trees, felled snags and tops left during harvest. Small non-merchantable hardwood and conifer will be retained where possible in harvest units with the expectation they will become short term snags and down wood.

Existing snags not determined to be a safety hazard will be retained and any felled snags will be left for down wood. Creation of snags is expected during harvest activities (rub trees, lift trees, or tail trees) and over time by natural processes.

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

**Table 4. Timber and Revenue**

Ownership		Sale Type	
BOF	CSL	Cash	Recovery
100%	%		X
Planned Quarter:		4	

	Conifer	Hardwood	Total
Net Volume (MBF)	1974	530	2504
Stumpage Value (\$/MBF)	\$245.80	\$245.85	
Estimated Gross Value	\$485,200	\$130,300	\$615,500
		Project Costs:	\$78,000
		Estimated Net Value:	\$537,500

**VI. HARVESTING AND ACCESS CONSIDERATIONS:**

The sale areas are accessed via North Fork Trask River, Bark Shanty Creek, Township, and Rimrock Roads. These are currently all weather, crushed rock roads, or abandoned roads. See maps for specific road locations and conditions.

Approximately 1.7 miles of abandoned road will be improved which includes grading, rocking, widening, culvert replacement, spot rocking, sidecast pullback,

and adding new culverts. This work will bring all roads up to standards described in *the Forest Roads Manual*. Following harvest, roads within the sale areas will be reviewed for closure. See summary document for more information on this topic. Other project work that will be included with this sale is vacating Quarry Road the length of the sale area.

The operation will be 100% cable yarding in Area 1, and 100% ground yarding in Area 2.

**Table 5. Transportation Planning Summary (Miles)<sup>4</sup>**

Activity	Mainline	Collector	Rocked Spur <sup>1</sup>	Dirt Spur <sup>1</sup>
Construct	0	0	0	0
Improve	0	0	1.7	0.2
Maintain <sup>2</sup>	3.4	3	1.1	0.3
Close/Block <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0	0
Vacate <sup>3</sup>	0	0	0	0.8

<sup>1</sup> Additional roads may be built by the operator at the time of harvest and will be approved by the State through the Operations Plan. These will be short dead end spurs and closed or blocked after harvest

<sup>2</sup> All roads accessing the sale area will be maintained during the life of the timber sale contract.

Maintenance miles in the table are those roads not being constructed or improved.

<sup>3</sup> Roads not closed/blocked or vacated at the end of the sale will be reviewed for closure after reforestation is established.

<sup>4</sup> The numbers in this table reflect planned Project Work associated with the sale.

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

There is a medium unknown type stream adjacent to the sale area. Bark Shanty Creek and North Fork Trask River are large Type F streams that are adjacent to the haul route. There are several unnamed small perennial and/or seasonal Type N streams within the sale areas. These streams will be reviewed and protected appropriately during sale layout based on flow, topography, and terrain.

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.

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

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 monitoring

logging and hauling operations. Culvert installment and replacement in live streams will be conducted between July 1 and September 15. Operations outside of this period will be reviewed with ODFW.

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

The sale areas have been reviewed with the ODF Northwest Oregon Area Biologist. Surveys for marbled murrelets / northern spotted owls are not required for Rimrock Road, due to the absence of potentially suitable habitat.

T & E Plant species: The sale areas were checked against the Oregon Natural Heritage Program (ONHP) database of known threatened or endangered listed plant locations as well as local records in the Land Management Classification System (LMCS). No listed plants were identified within or adjacent to the sale areas.

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

The initial assessment by the geotechnical specialist is high. The geotechnical specialist will review the sale in the field. If the sale boundaries are changed prior to field review, the geotechnical specialist may be consulted and the need for field review may be reassessed.

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

The sale areas are designated as Motorized in the *Tillamook State Forest Comprehensive Recreation Plan* (1993). This sale has been reviewed by the District Recreation Coordinator.

OHV trails were identified within or adjacent to the sale areas. No designated OHV trails are planned for this area. Trails will be evaluated for closure prior to sale layout. Following harvest, roads within the sale areas will be reviewed for closure or modification to OHV trails. Recreational use common to this area includes hunting.

#### **XI. CULTURAL RESOURCES:**

The *Tillamook State Cultural Assessment* does not list any cultural sites within or adjacent to the proposed sale boundary.

#### **XII. SCENIC RESOURCES:**

The sale areas have a visual classification of Level 3, low sensitivity. No scenic impact is expected.

**XIII. OTHER RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS:**

None known.

**XIV. LAND MANAGEMENT CLASSIFICATION SUMMARY:**

**Table 6. Land Management Classification Summary**

Area	LMCS Subclass	Focused Stewardship	Special Stewardship
1	Aquatic and Riparian	80	2
	Recreation	18	0
2		0	0

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 (Feb. 2003). For example, a particular acre can be classified as Focused Stewardship for Aquatic and Riparian, Recreation, and Scenic resources.