

Pre-Operations Report

Operation Name: Hymes Catch-up
County: Benton
Management Basin: Blodgett

Table 1. Operation Areas, Types and Acres

Area	Type of Operation	Gross Acres	Net Acres
I	Modified Clearcut	14	14
II	Modified Clearcut	14	13
Total		28	27

I. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF OPERATION AREA:

This operation consists of two modified clearcut units. The units are in the western hemlock vegetation zone. Average rainfall is between 68 and 78 inches.

The landform is gentle ridge-top and moderate side-slopes on the west flank of Shroyer Ridge above Hymes Creek. The underlying rock units are sedimentary origin, Tye Formation, sandstone and siltstone. The soil type is unknown for this area but probably consists of Valino on gentle to moderate slopes.

Aspect for both units is south.

II. CURRENT STAND CONDITION:

Both operation areas support well stocked, 63 year old Douglas-fir trees with some red alder and big leaf maple trees present, as well. Both operation areas were commercially thinned in the early 1980's.

Some snags and down wood exist in the stands.

Brush species include hazel, salal, Oregon grape, vine maple, and sword fern.

The stand type for both operation areas is Understory (UDS).

Table 2. Stand Inventory Information

Area	Prescription	Stand ID ¹	Species	Age	DBH	BA	TPA	SDI	Acres ²
I	Modified Clearcut	18515	Douglas-fir	63	16	212	150	53	14
II	Modified Clearcut	18517	Douglas-fir	63	16	257	183	65	13

1 The source of stand inventory information is OSCUR from 1999.

2 The acres are based on orthophotos and GIS and exclude roads, stream buffers, reserve areas, etc.

III. DESIRED STAND CONDITION:

According to the district's landscape design the operation areas are designated as General and are not intended to become more complex stands such as Layered (LYR) or Older Forest Structure (OFS). The anticipated pathway is to move from UDS to Regeneration (REG) through clearcutting and replanting, then to Closed Single Canopy (CSC) and finally to UDS, utilizing future commercial thinning entries.

Table 3. Stand Structure Information

Area	Stand ID	Current	Post Harvest ¹	Desired Future	Acres
I	18515	UDS	REG	UDS	14
II	18517	UDS	REG	UDS	13

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:

The operation areas will be clearcut, leaving behind about 10-12 green trees per acre that will be greater than 20" DBH. From these reserve trees, two snags per acre and about 600-900 cubic feet per acre of down wood will be derived. Existing snags and down wood will also be retained.

After harvest, a combination of site prep herbicide spray and possibly some piling of slash on gentle ground will prepare the area for replanting. Douglas-fir, western hemlock, and western red cedar seedlings will be planted.

V. ESTIMATED TIMBER AND REVENUE INFORMATION:

Table 4. Timber and Revenue

Ownership		Sale Type	
BOF	CSL	Cash	Recovery
100%	0%		X
Planned Quarter:		4	

	Conifer	Hardwood	Total
Net Volume (MBF)	1,100	0	1,100
Stumpage Value (\$/MBF)	\$350		
Estimated Gross Value	\$385,000		\$385,000
		Project Costs:	\$8,000
		Estimated Net Value:	\$377,000

VI. TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AND HARVESTING:

The operation areas will be harvested from existing unsurfaced roads. Roads accessing the timber sale area go through private timberland for which the STATE has permanent easements.

No new roads will need to be constructed. About 0.5 miles of road improvement will be needed. Because existing roads already access the sale area, no other harvest alternatives were considered.

The roads associated with the operation areas will be open to the public during fall hunting season only. Access to these roads for the rest of the year is not available to the public because the route to the operation areas is controlled by an industrial landowner who keeps the gates locked.

All unsurfaced roads will be waterbarred, blocked to vehicular traffic, and grass seeded after harvesting operations are concluded and/or at the beginning of the wet season.

Harvesting timber in the operation areas would require a combination of 50% cable yarding and 50% ground skidding.

Table 5. Transportation Planning Summary (Miles).

Activity	Mainline	Collector	Rocked Spur	Dirt Spur
Construct	0	0	0	0
Improve	0	0	0	0.5

Maintain	0	0.9	0.8	0
Close/Block	0	0	0	0.5
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:

There are no streams within the operation areas.

No registered domestic water rights exist in the vicinity of the operation areas.

The operation areas are not in proximity to streams in which listed fish are present.

VIII. T&E SPECIES CONSIDERATIONS:

A determination of habitat suitability for northern spotted owls and marbled murrelets has not yet been made by the area biologist. When the determination has been completed, the district will follow the recommendations for surveys, if needed, in 2004 and 2005.

The operation areas were checked against district knowledge for any T&E listed plant location. The operation areas were checked against the Oregon Natural Heritage Program (ONHP) database for known listed plant locations. No listed plant records were identified within the operation areas.

IX. SLOPE STABILITY AND GEOTECHNICAL ISSUES:

The initial hazard and risk assessment from the geotechnical specialists is low. If high landslide hazard locations are identified during fieldwork the geotechnical specialist will be consulted.

X. RECREATION RESOURCES:

Recreation consists mostly of hunting.

XI. CULTURAL RESOURCES:

There are no known cultural resources within or adjacent to the operation areas.

XII. SCENIC RESOURCES:

The operation is not visible from any paved roads.

XIII. OTHER RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS:

There is a permanent inventory plot located in Area I.

XIV. LAND MANAGEMENT CLASSIFICATION SUMMARY:

All acres in the operation areas are classified as General Stewardship.