

Pre-Operations Report

Operation Name: Bear Top
County: Lincoln
Management Basin: Burnt Woods Ridge

Table 1. Operation Areas, Types and Acres

Area	Type of Operation	Gross Acres	Net Acres
	Modified Clearcut	30	30

I. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF OPERATION AREA:

This operation consists of a modified clearcut. The unit is in the western hemlock zone. The average annual rainfall is 78" – 100". The soils are all Valino.

The operation area is located in the headwaters of an unnamed tributary to Bear Creek at the divide with Trapp Creek. The slopes are gentle to moderate near the ridge top and in the center of the sale area but steep along the south boundary of the sale area and steep to very steep along the west boundary of the operation area. The underlying rock is sedimentary origin rocks of the Tye Formation with very thick sequence of rhythmically bedded, medium- to fine-grained marine sandstone and siltstone

Aspect for the unit is generally south.

II. CURRENT STAND CONDITION:

This operation area supports 85 year old Douglas-fir trees with a few red alder and big leaf maple trees intermixed. Snags and down wood are present although in limited numbers. Brush species such as salal, vine maple, salmonberry, hazel, Oregon grape, and sword fern are present.

The stand type is Understory (UDS).

Table 2. Stand Inventory Information

Area	Prescription	Stand ID ¹	Species	Age	DBH	BA	TPA	SDI	Acres ²
	Modified Clearcut	18800	DF	85	21	273	110	61	30

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 area is designated as DFC General and is not scheduled to become a more complex stand 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
	18800	UDS	REG	UDS	30

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 will be a modified clearcut prescription leaving behind about 10-12 green trees per acre that will be greater than 20" DBH. Snags and down wood will be created naturally from these reserve trees over time as nature takes its course. Some red alder and big leaf maple will be retained but the majority of the reserve trees will be Douglas-fir.

Existing snags that do not pose a safety hazard and all down wood will be retained.

After harvest, a site prep herbicide spray will be applied to the unit. Due to the extremely brushy condition of the understory, a spring broadcast burn will be scheduled. The area will be trapped for mountain beaver. The operation area will be planted with approximately 70% Douglas-fir, 20% western hemlock, and 10% western red cedar at a rate of about 400 trees per acre. Cedar will be tubed to deter elk and deer browse.

V. ESTIMATED TIMBER AND REVENUE INFORMATION:

Table 4. Timber and Revenue

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

	Conifer	Hardwood	Total
Net Volume (MBF)	1,500	0	1,500
Stumpage Value (\$/MBF)	\$350	0	
Estimated Gross Value	\$525,000	0	\$525,000
		Project Costs:	\$89,000
		Estimated Net Value:	\$436,000

VI. TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AND HARVESTING:

Access to the operation area is from the WOW and Bear Divide roads. The WOW road is rocked and in good condition but may need some spot rock and maintenance grading during hauling. The Bear Divide road will have a lift of rock added, bringing it back to its original design standard.

The Bear Divide road provides access for harvesting about 20% of the operation area. The only option for conventional cable yarding of the remainder of the unit is to construct 0.1 miles of spur road on top of the gentle ridge in the north portion of the unit.

Approximately 1.4 miles of road improvement will be required with this operation.

Harvesting timber in the unit would be a combination of 90% cable yarding and 10% ground skidding.

A stream crossing culvert will be replaced with a fish passable structure on a tributary of Bear Creek.

Table 5. Transportation Planning Summary (Miles).

Activity	Mainline	Collector	Rocked Spur	Dirt Spur
Construct	0	0	0.1	0
Improve	0	1.4	0	0
Maintain	0	2.4	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:

Waters that flow from this unit are part of the Yaquina River system.

There are no type F streams in the operation area.

Type N streams do not exist in the unit but are located on the east and west sides outside the boundary. Timber sale boundary will be posted 50'-75' horizontal distance from these streams. In the remaining portion of the riparian management area (RMA) zone, sufficient numbers of trees will be reserved to comply with current standards.

Vegetation along type N streams includes Douglas-fir and hardwood trees, and brush such as vine maple, salal, and sword fern.

There are no domestic water rights associated with this operation.

Activities that will take place in proximity to the streams, listed above, include timber felling and yarding. The following measures will be employed to minimize impacts to the stream: 1) no timber will be felled within the buffer except to facilitate cable yarding, 2) timber above the buffer will be felled away from or parallel to the stream, 3) timber will be yarded away from the stream, where possible, 4) if it is necessary to yard across the stream, logs will be fully suspended above the buffer vegetation, and 5) single end suspension of logs will be required elsewhere in the unit.

The Land Management Classification System for the Aquatic and Riparian category determined 2 acres of Focused Stewardship. Focused Stewardship acres are distributed along type N stream RMA's.

VIII. T&E SPECIES CONSIDERATIONS:

The operation area contains suitable habitat for northern spotted owls and marbled murrelets according to the area wildlife biologist. Surveys for both species were conducted in 2004 with no detections and will continue in 2005.

The operation area was checked against district knowledge for any listed plant location. The operation area was also checked against the Oregon Natural Heritage Program (ONHP) database of known listed plant locations. No listed plant records were identified within the operation area.

IX. SLOPE STABILITY AND GEOTECHNICAL ISSUES:

The initial assessment by the geotechnical specialist is high. The geotechnical specialist will review the operation in the field. If the 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:

A portion of the Mt. Baber ATV trail system is located within the northern portion of the operation area. The club will be kept continuously informed of activities involved with this proposed operation. LMCS for the Recreation category determined 6 acres are included in the ATV trail.

XI. CULTURAL RESOURCES:

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

XII. SCENIC RESOURCES:

None of the operation area can be seen from paved roads.

XIII. OTHER RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS:

No other resource considerations have been identified.

XIV. LAND MANAGEMENT CLASSIFICATION SUMMARY:

Table 6. Land Management Classification Summary

Area	LMCS Subclass	Focused Stewardship	Special Stewardship
	Aquatic and Riparian Habitat	2	0
	Recreation	6	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. For example, a particular acre can be classified as Focused Stewardship for Aquatic and Riparian, Recreation, and Scenic resources.