

Pre-Operations Report

Operation Name: South Chicken
County: Lane
Management Basin: Western Lane
Legal Description: Sec 15&16, T17S, R8W

Table 1. Operation Areas, Types and Acres

Area	Type of Operation	Gross Acres	Net Acres
1	Modified Clear Cut	61	55
2	Modified Clear Cut	51	46
		112	101

Net acres do not include in-unit stream buffers.

I. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF OPERATION AREA:

The harvest units are mostly on the south slopes of a long ridge that encircles Chicken Creek. It is approximately 23 miles from the coast and 1100 feet elevation on the top of Chicken Ridge. Slopes are steep with portions of the north side of Area 2 over 75%. However, 50% to 65% sideslopes are most usual in the sale area. The major soil is Valino, with small areas of Drain in Area 1, and small areas of Digger in Area 2 on the steeper south slopes. Valino is a deep, well drained, moderately fine textured colluvial soil developing from Eocene age Tye sandstone. Rock volume increases from 10% in the A horizon to 80% in the C horizon.

II. CURRENT STAND CONDITION:

Table 2. Stand Inventory Information (Gross Acres)

Area	Prescription	Stand ID ¹	Species	Age	DBH	BA	TPA	SDI	Acres ²
1	MCC	204	DF	71	18	288	161	67	61
2	MCC	15363	DF	69	16	257	180	67	24
2	MCC	204	DF	71	18	288	161	67	27
									112

1 The source of stand inventory information for 204 is 1980 OSCUR grown forward to 1999 with a growth model. Age is updated to 2006. 15363 is SLI for trees over 8" DBH.

2 Gross acres are based on orthophotos and include stream buffers.

The current stands are a result of natural seeding that followed a series of fires that began in 1910 and ended about 1930. The stands are almost entirely even-aged Douglas-fir about 70 years old with scattered bigleaf maple underneath. The brush tends to be very tall, dense evergreen huckleberry and salal mixed with vine maple and other typical western Oregon species. If the stands were thinned, shade tolerant conifer would not seed in, and underplanting would not be successful, except in small areas of the sale that have north aspects.

III. DESIRED STAND CONDITION:

The entire Chicken Creek watershed has a Desired Future Condition of General. The Chicken Ridge area is planned to be managed with an emphasis on Douglas-fir commercial forest. Future stands probably will be similar to current stands, but with 10%-15% hemlock and cedar.

Table 3. Stand Structure Information (Net Acres)

Area	Stand ID	Current	Post Harvest	Desired Future	Acres
I&2	All	UDS	REG	GEN	101

IV. PROPOSED MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION and ANTICIPATED PATHWAY:

Prescription and Management Pathway: The operation begins with a modified clearcut to produce income to the trust. The harvest area may be treated with ground applied herbicide after harvest to reduce brush competition. It will be planted to 300 trees per acre, primarily Douglas-fir with up to 15% other conifer mixed in.

A couple of years later the area will be hack and squirt treated to reduce the amount of bigleaf maple resprouting from stumps.

Further treatment for brush competition is not anticipated. No precommercial thinning is planned. The area may be commercially thinned in 40 to 45 years, depending upon growth, markets, and State policies. Or the stand may be allowed to grow freely until final harvest at age 50 to 70.

Leave Trees: Approximately 6 acres of leave areas will be left as extra wide buffers on perennial streams and seeps. Some additional larger trees will be left scattered across the upland area.

Snags: SLI for 15362 reports 3 existing snags per acre over 24" DBH and 8 snags per acre over 12" DBH. Existing snags that are not safety hazards will be left. At least one new snag per acre over 24" DBH will be created.

Down Wood: SLI for 15362 reports 2600 cu ft/ac of existing down wood with 550 cu ft/ac of class 1&2. Additional down wood will come from broken tops less than merchantable size, broken pieces, missed logs, and leave tree blowdown. No trees will be felled specifically to create additional down wood unless SLI inventory shows less currently exists than expected.

V. ESTIMATED TIMBER AND REVENUE INFORMATION:

Table 4. Timber and Revenue

Ownership		Sale Type	
BOF	CSL	Cash	Recovery
100%	%	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
Planned Quarter: 4			

	Conifer	Hardwood	Total
Net Volume (MBF)	3,900	0	3,900
Stumpage Value (\$/MBF)	\$400	\$250	
Estimated Gross Value	\$1,560,000	\$0	\$1,560,000
		Project Costs:	\$543,000
		Estimated Net Value:	\$1,017,000

VI. TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AND HARVESTING:

The sale will be cable yarded.

2.1 miles of new construction is required. All but 0.5 miles will be used for future sales. All roads will be rocked and left open after the sale for future management activities. The beginning of the road system crosses private land. A road use permit will be required for construction and hauling and will not allow public use. The road system will be gated.

Approximately 0.9 miles of construction will be on slopes over 50%. Full bench construction will be required on slopes over 60% and excess excavation will be endhailed to stable locations.

Table 5. Transportation Planning Summary (Miles).

Activity	Mainline	Collector	Rocked Spur	Dirt Spur
Construct	0	2.2	0.5	0

Improve	0	0	0	0
Maintain	0	2.2	0.5	0
Close/Block	0	0	0	0
Vacate	0	0	0	0

VII. AQUATIC RESOURCES AND WATER QUALITY:

The sale area contains small, perennial non-fish streams. The largest of these (the easternmost stream in Area 1) drains quite a large area but disappears shortly after crossing the county road before it reaches Nelson Creek.

The lower reaches (outside the sale area) of westernmost stream in Area 1 is classed as a Type F. However, it crosses the county road in a 24 inch culvert, which carries the flow except during extreme storms.

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 managed to meet or exceed The Management Standards for Aquatic and Riparian Areas found in the *NWO State Forests Management Plan* (pg. J-1 - J-16).

VIII. T&E SPECIES CONSIDERATIONS:

T&E Birds: The sale is within the McVey Creek spotted owl circle. No suitable marbled murrelet habitat is within 330 feet of the sale.

A preliminary NSO and marbled murrelet suitable habitat analysis has been completed by the District T&E specialist. This analysis concludes that the sale is currently consistent with ODF's policies for northern spotted owls and marbled murrelets.

The SOA wildlife biologist will complete a Biological Assessment prior to auctioning the sale.

T&E Plants: The sale area was checked against the Oregon Natural Heritage Program (OHNP) database of known listed plant locations. The sale area was also checked against district knowledge for any listed plant location. No listed plant records were identified within the sale area.

IX. SLOPE STABILITY AND GEOTECHNICAL ISSUES:

Field reconnaissance has not shown any areas on the south slopes that have slope stability problems. 1953 aerial photos do not show any areas within the sale that failed after the fires in the early part of the 20th century. Nevertheless,

the draw above the log house to the south of Area 2 is excluded from the sale area.

However, the north portion of Area 2 that drains into Chicken Creek is very steep and the draws may not be stable. Wide no-cut leave areas will be left along these draws.

X. FOREST LAND MANAGEMENT MANAGEMENT CLASSIFICATION:

Both Areas contain Focused Stewardship for northern spotted owl and aquatic and riparian habitat.

XI. RECREATION RESOURCES:

To the best of our knowledge, the sale area currently has no recreational use since it has no roads and is steep and brushy. After road construction, hunters and mushroom pickers may walk the road system to use the area.

XII. CULTURAL RESOURCES:

No cultural resources sites are known to exist in the area.

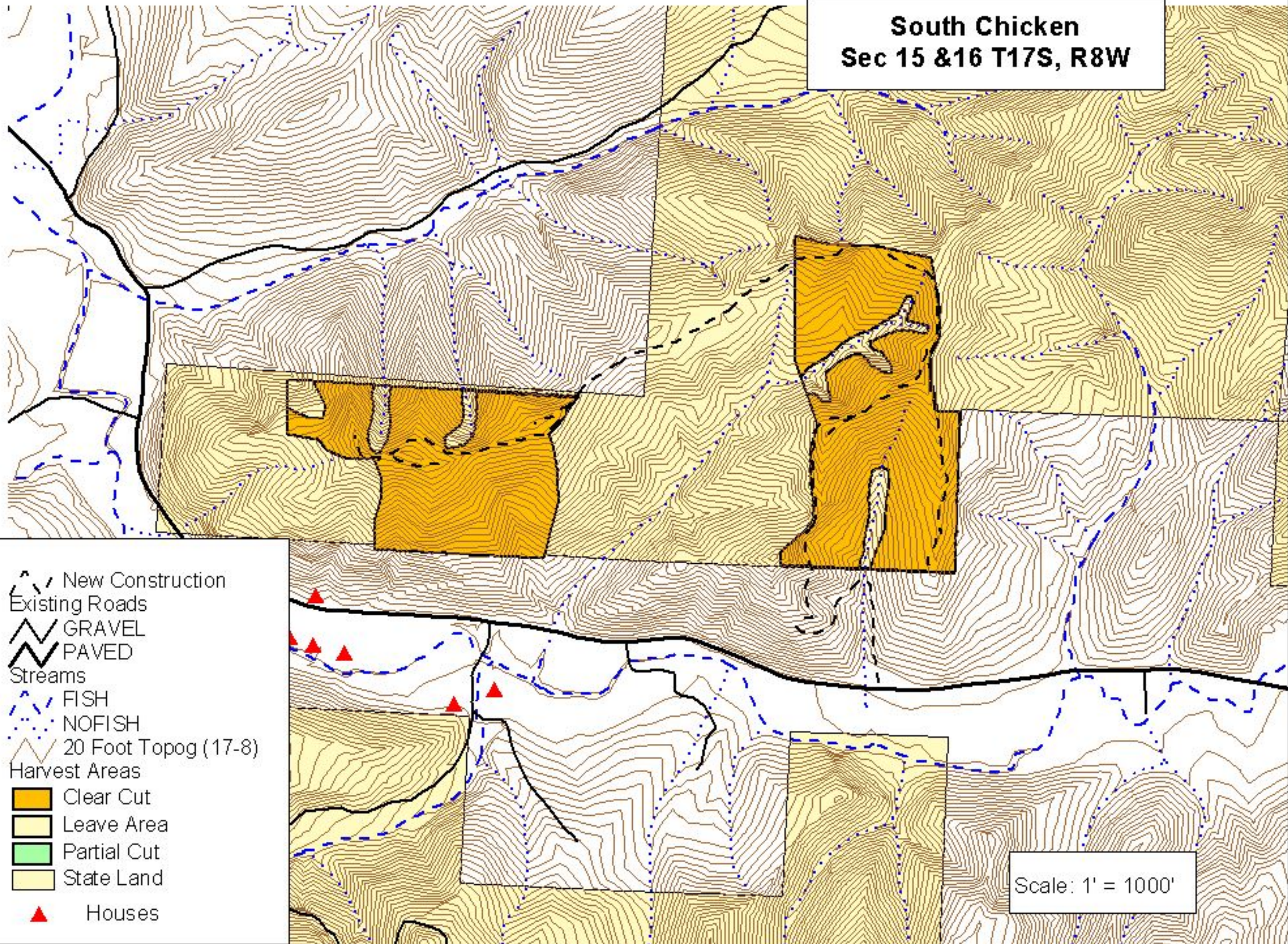
XIII. SCENIC RESOURCES:

Portions of the sale area will be visible from the Nelson Mountain County Road. Considerable harvest activity on private, State, and Federal land has been visible from the road for many years.

XIV. OTHER RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS:

None known.

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- New Construction
- Existing Roads
- GRAVEL
- PAVED
- Streams
- FISH
- NOFISH
- 20 Foot Topog (17-8)
- Harvest Areas**
- Clear Cut
- Leave Area
- Partial Cut
- State Land
- Houses

Scale: 1' = 1000'

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