

Pre-Operations Report

Operation Name: Paradise East
County: Clatsop
Management Basin: Sager

Table 1. Operation Areas, Types and Acres

Area	Type of Operation	Gross Acres	Net Acres
1	Partial Cut-Light	57	54
2	Partial Cut-Light	144	131
3	Partial Cut-Moderate	54	50
4	Partial Cut-Moderate	27	26
5	Partial Cut-Moderate	50	46
6	Partial Cut-Light	67	61
Total	Modified Clearcut	0	0
Total	Partial Cut	399	368
Total		399	368

I. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF OPERATION AREA:

The sale is located along the gentle ridges and headwaters of Sager Creek and Deep Creek, both tributaries of the Nehalem River. The sale is underlain by sedimentary rocks of the informal Sager Creek formation. This area is dominated by moderated sized Douglas-fir.

II. CURRENT STAND CONDITION:

Area 1: The current average age of this stand is approximately 87 years old and is composed of large, well stocked Douglas-fir and small components of western hemlock with some patches of red alder in riparian areas. The average DBH for this stand is 19 inches. The stand is currently categorized as 61% Layered (LYR) and 39% Closed Single Canopy (CSC), with an average stand density of 73%. Understory development consists of sword fern, vine maple, huckleberry, salmonberry, and red alder in old skid trails.

Area 2: The current average age of this stand is approximately 80 years old and is composed of large, well stocked Douglas-fir and small components of western hemlock with some patches of red alder in riparian areas. The average DBH for this stand is 21 inches. The stand is currently categorized as 44% Layered (LYR), 40% Understory Development (UDS), and 16% Closed Single Canopy (CSC), with an average stand density of 48%. Understory development consists of sword fern, vine maple, huckleberry, salmonberry, and red alder in old skid trails.

Area 3: The current average age of this stand is approximately 84 years old and is composed of large, well stocked Douglas-fir and small components of western hemlock with some patches of red alder. The average DBH for this stand is 20 inches. The stand is currently categorized as 64% Layered (LYR), 8% Understory Development (UDS), and 28% Closed Single Canopy, with an average stand density of 58%. Understory development consists of sword fern, vine-maple, huckleberry, salmonberry, and red alder in old skid trails.

Area 4: The current average age of this stand is approximately 74 years old and is composed of large, well stocked Douglas-fir and small components of western hemlock, western red-cedar, and red alder. The average DBH for this stand is 20 inches. The stand is currently categorized as (Closed Single Canopy) with an average stand density of 70%. Understory development consists of sword fern, vine-maple, huckleberry, salmonberry, and red alder in riparian areas.

Area 5: The current average age of this stand is approximately 70 years old and is composed of large, well stocked Douglas-fir and small components of western hemlock, western red-cedar, and red alder. The average DBH for this stand is 19 inches. The stand is currently categorized as Layered (LYR) with an average stand density of 62%. Understory development consists of sword fern, vine-maple, huckleberry, salmonberry, and red alder in riparian areas.

Area 6: The current average age of this stand is approximately 78 years old and is composed of large, well stocked Douglas-fir and small components of western hemlock, western red-cedar, and red alder. The average DBH for this stand is 22 inches. The stand is currently categorized as 40% Layered (LYR), and 60% Understory Development (UDS), with an average stand density of 56%. Understory development consists of sword fern, vine-maple, huckleberry, salmonberry, and red alder in riparian areas.

Table 2. Stand Inventory Information

Area	Prescription	Stand ID ¹	Species	Age	DBH	BA	TPA	SDI	Acres ²
1	PC-L	1705	DF	91	21	323	139	74	21
	PC-L	1704	DF	77	17	315	196	77	33
		Target ³			20	170-190	80	35-45	54
2	PC-L	1771	DF	75	19	333	173	79	12
	PC-L	1737	DF	76	20	237	111	55	58
	PC-L	1712	DF	95	23	248	87	54	51
	PC-L	1702	DF	72	21	328	132	74	10
		Target ³			21	170-190	80	35-45	131
3	PC-M	1712	DF	95	23	248	87	54	2
	PC-M	1702	DF	72	21	328	132	74	15
	PC-M	1688	DF	85	19	204	104	48	2
	PC-M	23899	DF	68	19	211	102	52	31
		Target ³			20	120-140	60	25-35	50
4	PC-M	1730	DF	74	20	302	140	70	26
		Target ³			21	120-140	60	25-35	26
5	PC-M	1762	DF	70	19	259	139	62	46
		Target ³			20	120-140	60	25-35	46
6	PC-L	1744	DF	93	21	276	120	63	22
		1746	DF	90	22	231	90	52	35
		1762	DF	70	19	259	139	62	2
		1788	DF	60	24	215	66	46	2
		Target ³			22	170-190	8	35-45	61

1 The source of stand inventory information is OSCUR from 2002. Age shown as of 2005.

2 The acres are based on GIS and exclude 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/VISION:

Areas 1, 2, and 6 have been targeted for a desired future condition of Older Forest Structure (OFS), while **Areas 3, 4, and 5** have been targeted for a desired future condition of Layered (LYR).

The goal of partial cutting within these stands is to quickly promote these stands to the designated desired future condition. In most cases a light thinning with the creation of some stand structure components will accomplish this goal. By removing the co-dominant trees within these stands individual tree growth will be maintained and more understory can develop as a result of increased light to the forest floor. This will allow for development of a more complex stand structure. Snag creation and felling for down wood will take place in areas that show deficiencies. In areas where down wood and snags are close to stand target inputs, harvest activities with some minor additional input is anticipated to accomplish stand structure goals. These inputs will promote stand conditions

towards OFS and LYR. Desired future conditions are anticipated to be reached within 5-10 years following harvest. Approximately 20-25 years following harvest, the stand will be re-entered for a light maintenance thinning to facilitate continuing understory development, stand complexity, and individual tree growth.

Table 3. Stand Structure Information

Area	Stand ID	Current	Post Harvest ¹	Desired Future	Acres
1	1704	LYR	OFS	OFS	33
	1705	CSC	UDS	OFS	21
2	1702	CSC	UDS	OFS	9
	1712	UDS ²	OFS	OFS	53
	1737	LYR	OFS	OFS	58
3	1771	CSC	UDS	OFS	11
	1623	LYR	LYR	LYR	5
	1683	LYR	LYR	LYR	29
	1688	UDS ²	LYR	LYR	2
	1702	CSC	UDS	LYR	15
4	1712	UDS ²	LYR	LYR	2
	1730	CSC	UDS	LYR	20
	1762	LYR	LYR	LYR	42
	1744	LYR	OFS	OFS	23
5	1746	UDS ²	OFS	OFS	36
	1762	LYR	OFS	OFS	2
	1788	UDS	LYR	OFS	2

¹ The stand is expected to develop into this condition in the five to ten years after this operation is completed.

² As determined by Unit Forester.

IV. PROPOSED MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION:

Areas 1, 2, and 6 have a desired future condition of Older Forest Structure (OFS). To reach the OFS condition these stands will be an automark thinned with a target Stand Density Index (SDI) of 35-45. Minor species will be reserved and efforts will be made to reserve the understory. There will be a lower and upper end diameter limit set to ensure that the younger layer of timber in this area is reserved, as well as the oldest, biggest trees are reserved. The sale contract will require that a minimum of 600 cubic feet of downed woody debris be present after harvest completion. Snag creation will also occur to supplement existing snags and those expected to occur naturally after harvest in order to accelerate this stand toward an OFS condition. If pre-sale activities determine that fewer than two hard snags per acre > 24" DBH and six snags > 12" DBH exist, then opportunities for snag creation will be implemented.

Areas 3, 4, and 5 have a desired future condition of LYR. These units will be automark thinned with a target SDI of 25-35 that will maintain current growth rates and allow more understory development. All minor species and trees under

eight inches DBH will be reserved where operationally feasible. Alternative prescriptions will be implemented at the patch scale. These prescriptions could include patch cuts, heavier thinning, or no-harvest areas.

V. ESTIMATED TIMBER AND REVENUE INFORMATION:

Table 4. Timber and Revenue

Ownership		Sale Type	
BOF	CSL	Cash	Recovery
%	%	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Planned Quarter:		Alternate	

	Conifer	Hardwood	Total
Net Volume (MBF)	6,256	0	
Stumpage Value (\$/MBF)	\$350	0	
Estimated Gross Value	\$2,189,600	0	\$2,189,600
		Project Costs:	\$45,000
		Estimated Net Value:	\$2,144,600

VI. TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AND HARVESTING:

For sale access, approximately 1.5 miles of new dirt road construction, and two miles of road improvement along the haul route and within the basin will be completed to maintain the road to a standard that will allow year round hauling and provide for watershed health. New roads are minor spurs that do not cross perennial streams. They are needed to reduce skidding distance and to access sale areas separated by incised draws. Since this area has an established road network, utilizing the existing infrastructure and constructing a few minor spurs was determined the most sound access/harvest system.

Table 5. Transportation Planning Summary (Miles).

Activity	Mainline	Collector	Rocked Spur	Dirt Spur
Construct	0	0	0	1.5
Improve	0	2.0	0	0
Maintain	8	4	0	0
Close/Block	0	0	0	0
Vacate	0	0	0	1.5
Brushing	0	4.5	0	0

VII. AQUATIC RESOURCES AND WATER QUALITY:

Type F and Domestic Use Streams: **Area 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6** - A Type F fork off Deep Creek runs along the southeastern boundary of Area 1. Another Type F fork of Deep Creek runs along the south boundary of Area 2 for about 2,500 ft. A small Type F stream runs the entire eastern boundary of Area 3 and for 1,000 ft. into Area 2. Sager Creek, a medium Type F stream runs along the western boundary of Area 4, and the northwestern boundary of Area 6. There are no known Type F streams within the sale boundaries. The unknown creeks within the sale areas should be field verified. The streams will be buffered to the Northwest Forest Management Plan standards. No domestic use streams are associated with the harvest activities. **Areas 5** - No Type F streams are associated with the harvest activities.

Type N Streams: There are perennial Type N streams in all sale areas.

Aquatic Resource Protection: For all areas, full log suspension is required when cable yarding over streams. No ground-based logging equipment operation is allowed within the stream bank zone. No stream crossings are anticipated during road construction. To protect water quality during active operations, a variety of methods will be used to prevent sediment from entering live streams. These methods range from use of hay bales in road ditches, to "ditch-outs" away from streams, to complete shutdown of logging and hauling. There are no known high landslide hazard locations or debris-track Type N streams within the sale area.

All streams will be examined to determine stream type and classification during sale layout, and then the specific riparian management area strategies required in the FMP will be implemented. The FMP riparian management area strategies that will be implemented are found in the FMP, Appendix J, "Management Standards for Aquatic and Riparian Areas", pages J-1 through J-16.

ODFW Biologists have no stream enhancement projects scheduled for this area at this time.

VI. T&E SPECIES CONSIDERATIONS:

All sale areas were surveyed to protocol for northern spotted owls and marbled murrelets in 2005 with no detections. Surveys are planned for both species in 2006.

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

VII. SLOPE STABILITY AND GEOTECHNICAL ISSUES:

There are no high landslide hazard locations predicted in the timber sale. The initial hazard and risk assessment from the geotechnical specialist is low. The geotechnical specialist will only be consulted during sale layout if concerns arise.

VIII. RECREATION RESOURCES:

There are no significant recreation activities in this area other than dispersed camping and hunting.

IX. CULTURAL RESOURCES:

No known cultural resources are within or adjacent to the operation.

X. SCENIC RESOURCES:

The sale areas are in a landscape of low visual sensitivity.

XI. OTHER RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS:

Some areas within the sale area will require some property surveys or survey monument protection measures. The requirements are as follows: **Area 3** - the $\frac{1}{4}$ corner to Sections 2 and 35 along the east boundary of the sale area was reestablished in 1963 and will need to be re-witnessed and protected. The section corner common to Sections 1, 2, 35, and 36 and the $\frac{1}{4}$ corner between Sections 1 and 36 should also be re-witnessed. Areas 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6 do not need survey work.

Protection of several research and monitoring plots which are outside the sale, but in close proximity to several the harvest units should be identified and protected. Area 1 has an Oregon State University Young Plantation Gap Study taking place north and east across East Sager Creek Road. On the west side of East Sager Ridge Road across from Areas 2 and 3 are multiple active gap creation study plots related to the same project. The north portion of Area 4 is within the 200 foot buffer of a Swiss Needle Cast study plot. There are no restrictions associated within this buffer. The administrator should be aware of these study areas and not allow activities such as tail holds or the decking of logs to take place in these areas.

XII. LAND MANAGEMENT CLASSIFICATION SUMMARY:

There is a Swiss Needle Cast permanent plot located north of Area 4. Approximately one acre of Area 4 is designated as focused stewardship for research and monitoring. See Section XI, Other Resource Considerations, for the management guidelines to be utilized.

Boundary lines depicted on Attachment C are approximate; exact locations and site specific management activities will be determined during the sale preparation process.