

Pre-Operations Report

Operation Name: Little Salander
County: Douglas
Management Basin: 15

Table 1. Operation Areas, Types and Acres

Area	Type of Operation	Gross Acres	Net Acres
1	Clearcut	51	46
2	Clearcut	20	17
3	Clearcut	2	1
Total		73	64

I. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF OPERATION AREA:

This operation is a three-unit timber sale totaling 64 net acres. This timber sale is located on the western slope of the Coast Range in the Little Salander Creek watershed within Elliott State Forest Management Basin 15. This timber sale area is in close proximity to the Pacific Ocean, which has a dominant influence on the climate. The average annual rainfall is between 80-85 inches. Temperatures range from 32-76 degrees fahrenheit throughout the year. This timber sale has an elevation of 880 to 1880 feet above sea level with slopes ranging from 10 percent to over 80 percent. Area 1 has an easterly aspect with relatively gentle slopes, Area 2 has a southerly and easterly aspect with generally relatively gentle slopes. Area 3 is located in the headwaters of the Little Salander Creek, the unit has an easterly aspect with some southern faces, slopes are very steep. Eocene age sedimentary rocks underlie the timber sale area. All areas contain Millicoma soils; Area 1 consists of Ork and minor areas of Flournoy and Forna, Areas 2 and 3 are predominately Jerden.

II. CURRENT STAND CONDITION:

The timber sale is second growth Douglas-fir that originated after the Coos Bay fire of 1868. It is composed of 104 to 124 year-old Douglas-fir with a minor component of red alder and scattered understory western red cedar and hemlock trees. Table 2 contains stocking, size and age information for all the areas in this timber sale. There are few hard snags in the stand. Stand health is satisfactory which is typical for the Elliott Forest. The sale area is located outside of the current area of concern for Swiss needle cast.

Table 2. Stand Inventory Information

Area	Prescription	Veg Code ¹	Species	Age in 2004	DBH	BA	TPA	SDI	Acres ²
1	CC	733	DF, WH	119	23	190	66	42	46
	Target ³	-	DF, WH		23	10	3	1	46
3	CC	734	DF, WH	116	28	232	56	47	17
4	CC	734	DF, WH	116	28	232	56	47	1
	Target ³	-	DF, WH		28	17	5	2	18

1. The source of stand inventory information is (OSCUR) from 2000 records.

2. The acres are based on GIS, and exclude interior 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 FUTURE CONDITION:

Area 1 will be prepared under the wildlife emphasis option of the Elliott management plan, providing for additional green trees, down logs, and snag creation to create and maintain forest structure for wildlife habitat. The desired condition is a young age class stand to provide early successional habitat in accordance with the Balanced Landscape strategy of the Elliott State Forest Management Plan. It will be composed of mainly Douglas-fir and may have a smaller component of other conifer species including hemlock and/or red cedar. Red alder will also naturally regenerate in the stand. Green trees retained during this operation will provide for multi-story stand structures valuable for wildlife.

Table 3. Stand Structure Information (Does not apply Elliott State Forest)¹

IV. PROPOSED MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION:

The prescription for this sale is to harvest most of the overstory, leaving standing trees within buffer areas and scattered in selected locations in or along the edge of the sale unit.

Site Preparation and Planting - Site preparation will be achieved by yarding disturbance and treating residual brush with herbicide prior to planting. Area 1, the wildlife emphasis unit, may require more labor intensive herbicide treatments in areas of scattered green trees. The site will be planted with conifer seedlings at approximately 400-500 trees per acre, reduced planting densities may occur under concentrations of scattered green trees.

Green Tree Retention - At least 255 (about 5 per acre harvested) will be left in or adjacent to Area 1. At least 57 trees (about 3 per acre harvested) will be left in or adjacent to Areas 2 and 3. Emphasis will be given to retention of conifer species other than Douglas-fir. Some of these trees will be topped for snag creation. Single green trees will not be left unless localized soil conditions provide for wind firmness and logging conditions are suitable. The location of retained trees will be determined during the sale prep process. In Area 1, the wildlife emphasis unit, green trees may be clumped and/or scattered as allowed by topography and determined by the Southern Oregon Biologist. Emphasis may also be given to widening riparian management areas.

Snag Retention and Creation - Existing snags within the sale area will be left, with the exception of those that endanger work crews. Tops will be blown or sawn off green trees to leave approximately 102 topped trees in Areas 1 (about 2 trees per acre harvested), and 10 topped trees in Areas 2 and 3 (about one tree per 2 acres harvested).

Down Log Retention - At least 255 logs (5 logs per acre harvested) will be left in Areas 1 for habitat purposes in accordance with the Elliott State Forest Management Plan. At least 57 logs (3 logs per acre harvested) will be left in or adjacent to Areas 2 and 3. Down logs shall meet the following minimum specifications: 16 feet in length and 12 inches diameter at the large end.

Burning - Portions of the sale may be burned depending on the amount and distribution of the slash and timing of sale completion. The main purpose of this type of burn is to provide for biological diversity and improved big game forage rather than site preparation. However, portions of the sale may be burned, if planting spots are too few to attain adequate stocking.

V. ESTIMATED TIMBER AND REVENUE OUTPUTS:

Table 4. Timber and Revenue

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

	Conifer	Hardwood	Total
Net Volume (MBF)	3,520	39	3,559
Stumpage Value (\$/MBF)	450	365	
Estimated Gross Value	1,584,000	14,235	1,598,235
		Project Costs:	\$80,000
		Estimated Net Value:	\$1,518,235

VI. HARVESTING AND ACCESS CONSIDERATONS:

All legal access to the sale is obtained and there are no property lines needing to be surveyed. Access to all sale areas is from the 7800 road, a rocked collector road. The 7800 road is in good shape and will require only maintenance or minor improvement, including the replacement of a culvert to improve fish passage. Existing spurs accessing the timber sale area will be evaluated to determine if pullback of sidecast is necessary. Winter harvesting will require purchaser supplied rock. Existing roads and landings in some locations will be improved to allow operations. Additional landings and short access spurs will be constructed. Final locations will be determined during the sale preparation process. Final stockpile requirements will be determined during the timber sale preparation process.

The sale areas will be cable yarded uphill with portions of the sale accommodating ground-based equipment in Areas 1. Full suspension will be required over stream channels and single end suspension on the remainder of the sale area. Trees will be felled parallel or away from the residual trees and Riparian Management Areas. Area 3 will be cable yarded from landings in Area 2.

Table 5. Transportation Management Summary (Miles).

Activity	Mainline	Collector	Rocked Spur	Dirt Spur
Construct	0.0	0.0	0.0	.33
Improve	0.0	0.0	.32	0.0
Maintain	0.0	4.5	0.0	0.0
Close/Block	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Vacate	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

VII. AQUATIC RESOURCES AND WATER QUALITY:

Riparian areas along streams will be managed to support properly functioning aquatic habitats over time by applying the riparian management area (RMA) standards of the Northwest Oregon State Forests Management Plan. These standards are planned for adoption in the revised Elliott State Forest Management Plan. The minimum standards used for riparian buffers are those listed in the Elliott State Forest Management Plan.

The sale area is located within the Little Salander Creek watershed, which flows directly into Loon Lake. Little Salander Creek is a medium unknown stream and is scheduled to be surveyed in 2006. All drainages associated with the sale area were field surveyed during the 2005 summer low flow period to determine the stream channel extent and whether streamflow is perennial or seasonal. Area 1 has one small unknown perennial stream flowing from it. Area 3 is located in the headwaters of Little Salander Creek; there are likely potential debris flow tracks. There are no known water rights within or downstream of the proposed operation.

If fish presence is found, a written plan will be prepared in accordance with the Forest Practice Act for operations within 100 feet of a Type F stream. Cable layouts through or over buffer strips are needed to provide for adequate suspension of logs. To protect water quality, full suspension will be required over stream channels and single end suspension where feasible on the rest of the sale area. 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, and monitoring and managing logging and hauling operations during times of heavy rainfall.

All road construction and improvement will be done during the dry season and excavated material will be deposited on stable slope locations without the possibility of entering stream channels. Areas of bare soil associated with truck roads and landing construction will be grass seeded when operations are completed.

VIII. WILDLIFE AND T&E SPECIES CONSIDERATIONS:

The habitat within this sale area may be suitable for certain T and E species. This sale is planned under the standards of the Elliott State Forest Management and Habitat Conservation Plans and other Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) policy. The specific measures are as follows:

NSO Habitat Retention:

Basin 15 - Basin 15 has an 80 year target harvest age. There is no minimum acreage for NSO nesting, roosting, and foraging habitat in this basin above the required reserve acres. Reserve acres in this basin include 2064 acres (44%) that will be continually retained in habitat conservation areas, riparian management areas, and other reserve areas. Fifty percent of the basin (2328 acres) must provide dispersal habitat. After this sale plan, there will be about 2647 acres of dispersal habitat retained which includes 3 acres of in-growth in 2006.

Marbled Murrelet - The sale areas were surveyed according to protocol standards during the 2005 survey season and will be surveyed again during the 2006 survey season. The sale is a quarter mile of the South Umpcoos Marbled Murrelet Management Area. ODF's Southern Oregon Area Biologist will determine the application of seasonal restrictions during sale layout to comply with ODF's policies for the Marbled Murrelet.

Bald Eagle, Other - There are no bald eagles or other listed animal species within this sale.

Salmon and Steelhead – There are no salmon or steelhead located in the stream reaches associated with this sale area due to natural barriers below Loon Lake. A written plan will be prepared in accordance with the Forest Practice Act for operations within 100 feet of a Type F stream if surveys scheduled in 2006 determine fish presence. Cable layouts through or over buffer strips need to provide for adequate suspension of logs. To protect water quality, full suspension will be required over stream channels and single end suspension where feasible on the rest of the sale area. Riparian areas along streams will be managed to support properly functioning aquatic habitats over time by applying the riparian management area (RMA) standards of the Northwest Oregon State Forests Management Plan. These standards are planned for adoption in the revised Elliott State Forest Management Plan.

Plants - The sale area was checked against district knowledge for any listed plant location. The sale 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 sale area.

Fragmentation - The sale areas are isolated residual stands or are located on the edge of a contiguous block of mature timber and does not increase fragmentation of interior habitat.

IX. SLOPE STABILITY AND GEOTECHNICAL ISSUES:

This sale area has had an office review by an ODF geo-tech specialist. A closer examination will be made during the sale layout process to determine if other site

specific protection measures will be necessary. Generally, in Area 3, slopes appear to meet criteria for classification as high landslide hazard locations (in the Tyee Core Area uniform slopes greater than 75% and/or planform concave slopes greater than 65%).

Area 1: One stream drains this unit. The channel is relatively flat and drains into a fire control pond after crossing the 7800 road.

Area 2: No streams drain this area.

Area 3: The steep slopes above the Little Salander Creek tributary appear likely to deliver a channelized debris flow to the stream. Vegetation retention practices for potential debris flow track reaches as prescribed in the Management Standards for Aquatic and Riparian Areas (Appendix J, Table J-2) will be applied. There is an area of historic slope instability below the fire control pond. The area has been delineated on the ground and removed from the unit, and will not be harvested.

To minimize yarding impacts on the slopes, single end suspension cable yarding will be required. Roads will be located on ridge-crests as much as possible and any steep sidehill portions will be constructed with full bench end-haul design and construction. Construction will be done during the dry season.

X. RECREATION RESOURCES:

The most common recreation for this area is hunting and dispersed undeveloped recreation. Harvesting of these units will provide forage area to help promote healthy deer and elk populations. In addition, areas of bare soil around road edges and landings will be grass seeded after logging to provide forage. Surrounding forest types provide escape cover. No conflict is seen with respect to the undeveloped, dispersed recreation usage of the forest.

XI. CULTURAL RESOURCES:

There are no cultural sites associated with this sale.

XII. SCENIC RESOURCES:

Area 1, and the majority of Area 2 and 3 are classified as scenic production land. Retention trees will be placed to minimize visual impacts to the BLM's Loon Lake Recreation Area.

XIII. OTHER RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS:

An earthen reservoir between Areas 1 and 2 is land classified as service use. Precautions to prevent disturbance to this reservoir will be taken.

XIV. LAND MANAGEMENT CLASSIFICATION SUMMARY:

Table 6. Land Use Classification Summary

This table summarizes the acres in each land use class within the operation.

Area	Production	Scenic Production
1	0	46
2	1	17
3	1	0