

Pre-Operations Report

Operation Name: West Fork Headlands

County: Coos

Management Basin: 9

Table 1. Operation Areas, Types and Acres

Area	Type of Operation	Gross Acres	Net Acres
1	Clearcut	11	10
2	Clearcut	33	30
3	Clearcut	21	20
Total		65	60

I. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF OPERATION AREA:

This operation is a three-unit timber sale totaling 60 net acres. This timber sale is located on the western slope of the Coast Range in the West Fork Millicoma River, Daggett and Larson Creek watersheds within Elliott State Forest Management Basin 9. 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 70-75 inches. Temperatures range from 32-90 degrees Fahrenheit throughout the year. This timber sale has an elevation of 660 to 1480 feet above sea level with slopes ranging from 30 percent to over 100 percent. Area 1 is dominantly a westerly aspect with some south and east faces, Area 2 has a southerly aspect with some northeast faces, and Area 3 has a southeasterly aspect with some south faces. Eocene sedimentary rocks underlie the area. Soil types consist of Preacher-Bohannon loams with some Milbury-Bohannon-Umpcoos associations. Slopes in all units are generally steep with some gentler terrain and benches in Area 1.

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 110 year-old Douglas-fir with a minor component of red alder and scattered understory hemlock trees, and approximately 10 acres of 58 year-old Douglas-fir. Table 2 contains stocking, size and age information for all the areas in this timber sale. There are a few hard snags in the stand. Stand health is satisfactory which is typical for the Elliott Forest. The sale area is located in 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	1909	DF..	58	15	230	160	61	10
1	Target ³	1909	DF..	58	14	3	3	1	10
2	CC	1866	DF, CX	110	17	265	140	60	22
2	Target ³	1866	DF, CX	110	15	3	3	1	22
2	CC	1973 ⁴	DF, RA	39	10	81	79	24	8
2	Target ³	1973	DF, RA	39	11	3	3	1	8
3	CC	1913	DF, RA	111	22	200	60	40	20
3	Target ³	1913	DF, RA	111	17	3	3	2	20

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.

4. This stand type was included with an adjacent stand that doesn't have similar characteristics; however the inventory information was documented.

III. DESIRED FUTURE CONDITION:

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 Douglas-fir other conifer species including hemlock and 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. This mix of planted and natural regeneration will comprise the next planned rotation.

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. The site will be planted with conifer seedlings at approximately 400-500 trees per acre.

Green Tree Retention - A minimum of about 180 trees (about 3 per acre) will be left in or adjacent to Areas 1, 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. Emphasis may 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 30 topped trees in Areas 1, 2 and 3 (about one tree per 2 acres harvested).

Down Log Retention - At least 180 logs (3 logs per acre harvested) will be left in or adjacent to Areas 1, 2 and 3 for habitat purposes in accordance with the Elliott State Forest Management Plan. 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
0%	100%		X
Planned Quarter:		2	

	Conifer	Hardwood	Total
Net Volume (MBF)	2,174	130	2,304
Stumpage Value (\$/MBF)	450	365	
Estimated Gross Value	978,300	47,450	1,025,750
		Project Costs:	40,000
		Estimated Net Value:	985,750

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 portions of Areas 1, 2 and 3 are from the 3000 road. Winter harvesting will require purchaser supplied rock. If new landings and short access spurs are constructed in Areas 1 and 2, final locations will be determined during the sale preparation process. The rocked collector spurs are in good shape and will require only maintenance or minor improvement. The segments of the 3000 collector spur that is within/adjacent to Areas 2 and 3 will be examined to determine if pullback of sidecast is necessary. Unnumbered dirt spurs in Area 1 will be evaluated for vacating and for the need for any sidecast pull back since all of these roads were built prior to full containment construction requirements. Project costs include the completion of a rock stockpile. Final stockpile requirements will be determined during the timber sale preparation process.

The sale areas will be cable yarded up hill. 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.

Table 5. Transportation Management Summary (Miles).

Activity	Mainline	Collector	Rocked Spur	Dirt Spur
Construct	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.15
Improve	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Maintain	0.0	0.0	0.9	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 Daggett and Larson Creeks and the West Fork Millicoma River watershed. Streams associated with these sale areas have not been surveyed for fish presence and will be done during the spring of 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 3 is adjacent to a small assumed Type F perennial stream. The remaining drainages in the sale area are classified as small unknown seasonals.

There are no known water rights within or downstream of the proposed operation.

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 road and landing construction will be grass seeded when operations are completed.

VIII. WILDLIFE AND T&E SPECIES CONSIDERATIONS:

The older 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 - There is no minimum acreage for NSO nesting, roosting, and foraging habitat in Basin 9 above the required reserve acres. Reserve acres in this basin include 1127 acres (18%) that will be continually retained in riparian management areas, habitat conservation areas and other

conservancy acres. Fifty percent of this basin (3106 acres) must provide dispersal habitat. After this sale plan, there will be about 4269 acres of dispersal habitat retained which includes 113 acres of in-growth in 2006 and 73 acres of in-growth in 2007.

Marbled Murrelet - First year protocol surveys were completed in 2005 and second year surveys will be completed again in 2006. Areas 1 and 2 are within 330 feet of two Marbled Murrelet Management Areas. 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 in the vicinity of this sale.

Salmon and Steelhead – Area 3 is within 100 feet of an assumed Type F stream. 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. 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-technical specialist. A closer examination will be made during the sale layout process to determine if other site specific protection measures will be necessary. Generally, portions of the 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: Roads are located at the base of the steep southwest and east facing slopes; in the event a small open-slope debris flow were to occur, most of the material would likely be captured by the road. A larger flow may overwhelm the

road and deliver material to downstream channels.

Area 2: There appear to be five potential debris flow tracks. Material would be likely to enter the type N portion of the West Fork Millicoma tributary. A large debris flow (or several small flows) appears capable of delivering material at least as far as the confluence with the fish-bearing reach, and possibly further.

Area 3: The 3300 road crosses Daggett Creek approximately 400 feet downstream from the lower end of the unit. It is likely that a smaller channelized debris flow would be captured by the road. A larger flow could potentially overwhelm the road fill and deliver material to Type F Daggett Creek.

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:

The units are not within any scenic management areas. There are no scenic management constraints for this sale. No significant conflicts with users are anticipated.

XIII. OTHER RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS:

There are no other known resource considerations associated with this sale.

XIV. LAND MANAGEMENT CLASSIFICATION SUMMARY:

Table 6. Land Use Classification Summary

Area	Production
1	10
2	30
3	20

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