

Pre-Operations Report

Operation Name: Young Howell
County: Coos/Douglas
Management Basin: 16

Table 1. Operation Areas, Types and Acres

Area	Type of Operation	Gross Acres	Net Acres
1	Clearcut	24	22
2	Clearcut	2	2
3	Clearcut	22	18
4	Clearcut	33	29
Total		81	71

I. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF OPERATION AREA:

This operation is a four-unit timber sale totaling 71 net acres. This timber sale is located on the western slope of the Coast Range in the Glenn Creek watershed within Elliott State Forest Management Basin 16. 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 75 and 80 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 60 percent. Areas 1 and 4 have a southerly aspect, area 2 has a northerly aspect, and area 3 has a southwest aspect. The area is categorized as Preacher-Bohannon loams with some Preacher-Blanchly loams in area 4. Slopes in all units are generally steep with some gentler ground in area 4.

II. CURRENT STAND CONDITION:

The units are young third growth Douglas-fir planted after a 1964 clearcut harvest. They are composed of 36 to 38 year-old Douglas-fir with scattered naturalized western red cedar, hemlock and alder trees. Table 2 contains stocking, size and age information for all the areas in this timber sale. There are few 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	Inventory Year	Age in 2004	DBH	BA	TPA	SDI	Acres ²
1	CC	892	DF, RA	1998	36	12	135	168	38	22
2	CC	892	DF, RA	1998	36	12	135	168	38	2
4	CC	935	DF, WH	1984	38	6	17	89	6	18
5	CC	936	DF, WH	2002	37	11	154	226	45	29
	Target ³	-	DF, WH			13	10	3	1	71

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:

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

Green Tree Retention - At least 249 (about 3.5 per acre, including snag recruitment) will be left in or adjacent to the timber sale areas. Emphasis will be given to retention of conifer species other than Douglas-fir. 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. In addition, 1 green tree per 2 acres will be left for future snag recruitment, this is accounted for in the 249 trees discussed in the previous section.

Down Log Retention - At least 213 logs (3 logs per acre harvested) will be left in or adjacent to the timber sale areas. Down logs shall meet the following minimum specifications: 16 feet in length and 12 inches diameter at the large end. Down logs shall be left in stable locations to minimize safety concerns to tree planters and other forest workers.

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.

V. ESTIMATED TIMBER AND REVENUE OUTPUTS:

Table 4. Timber and Revenue

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

	Conifer	Hardwood	Total
Net Volume (MBF)	1,150	80	3,210
Stumpage Value (\$/MBF)	275	150	
Estimated Gross Value	\$316,250	\$12,000	\$328,250
		Project Costs:	\$27,000
		Estimated Net Value:	\$301,250

VI. HARVESTING AND ACCESS CONSIDERATONS:

All legal access to the sale is obtained and there are property lines needing to be surveyed prior to sale layout. The western and southern property boundary of Area 4 and a portion of the southern boundary of Area 3 will need to be marked on the ground by the District Engineering Team prior to posting the sale boundary. Access to Areas 3 and 4 will be from the 1700 road, a dirt spur requiring improvement. Areas 1 and 2 are accessed from the Douglas County Road #3, a rocked collector road in good shape. Winter harvesting will require purchaser supplied rock. Existing roads and landings in some locations will be improved to allow operations and will be evaluated to determine if pullback of sidecast is necessary. Additional landings and short access spurs will be constructed. Final locations will be determined during the sale preparation process.

The sale areas will be cable yarded uphill with the exception of Area 4, which may be harvested with ground based equipment. 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 2 will be cable yarded from landings in Area 1.

Table 5. Transportation Management Summary (Miles).

Activity	Mainline	Collector	Rocked Spur	Dirt Spur
Construct	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.07
Improve	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.66
Maintain	0.0	0.72	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 Glenn Creek watershed, including the sub watersheds of Howell and Cedar Creeks. Howell Creek is a large type F stream, Cedar Creek is a medium type F stream, and Glenn Creek above the Howell Creek confluence is a small type F stream. Howell Creek was surveyed to ODFW protocol in 1997 and 1998 to determine fish presence. Glenn and Cedar Creeks were surveyed in 1997 to protocol. All drainages associated with the sale area will be field surveyed during the 2006 summer low flow period to determine the stream channel extent and whether streamflow is perennial or seasonal. Areas 1 and 2 are bisected by Glenn Creek.

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 habitat within this sale area was determined to be non-suitable for certain threatened and endangered 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: - This timber sale does not involve the harvest of NSO nesting, roosting, and foraging habitat. Fifty percent of this basin's total acres (2222) must provide dispersal habitat. After this sale plan, there will be approximately 2291 acres of dispersal habitat retained.

Marbled Murrelet – This sale area does not contain marbled murrelet habitat. ODF's Southern Oregon Area Biologist will prepare a murrelet survey waiver and 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 the natural barrier at Gold and Silver Falls. 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:

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.

Area 1 does not appear to have significant areas of high landslide hazards acres. The lower $\frac{1}{4}$ of the slope may meet criteria, however a potential open-slope failure is unlikely to reach Glenn Creek due to the presence of a road at the base of the slope.

Area 2 is steep and dissected. There appear to be two potential debris flow tracks likely to deliver minor amounts (slopes are relatively short in the unit) of material to Glenn Creek.

Area 3 has steep slopes and two (possibly three) potential debris flow tracks which appear conducive to debris flow delivery to Howell Creek.

Area 4 does not appear to meet criteria for classification as high landslide hazard.

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. 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 and there are no scenic management constraints for this sale.

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

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

Area	Production
1	22
2	2
3	18
4	29