

Pre-Operations Report

2007

Operation Name: Galice
County: Josephine
Management Basin: Rogue

Table 1. Operation Areas, Types and Acres

Area	Type of Operation	Gross Acres	Net Acres
1	Partial Cut	23	20
Total		23	20

I. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF OPERATION AREA:

The Galice timber sale is in the upper portion of the slope on a rolling ridge facing the north and east. Elevations range from 800 – 1,240 feet. The underlying rock units are of sedimentary and volcanic origin; Jurassic period.

This area is within the Mixed Evergreen vegetation zone in the Siskiyou Mountains. Douglas-fir predominates, with pine and evergreen hardwoods such as Black Oak, Pacific Madrone, Tanoak, and Canyon Live Oak.

Soils in the sale area are primarily Josephine & Pollard loams (48F & 61D). These soil unit is moderately deep to deep and well drained, and are susceptible to slumping and erosion, especially on steeper slopes.

II. CURRENT STAND CONDITION:

Overstory: Douglas-fir predominates in the overstory, with minor amounts of pine, and hardwood species.

Understory: Oregon grape, scrub oak, and tanoak predominate in the understory.

Snags: There are approximately 5 snags per acre in this area greater than 12” DBH. They are a mixture of Black Oak, Madrone, and Douglas-fir.

Down woody debris: The amount of large down woody debris is 332 cu. ft per acre in classes 1-5.

Current Stand Structure: The sale area is 100% CSC.

Insects and disease: There are no indications of any insect or disease problems in the sale area.

Table 2. Stand Inventory Information

Area	Prescription	Stand ID ¹	Species	Age	DBH	BA	TPA	SDI	Acres ²
1	Partial Cut	5230	DF,PP,SP	127	12	181	222	39	20
1		Target ³	DF,PP,SP		13	130	180	30	20

1 The source of stand inventory information is SLI from 2002.

2 The acres are based on GIS and include roads.

3 The Target identifies expected stand characteristics (DBH, BA, TPA and SDI) after harvesting has been completed.

III. DESIRED STAND CONDITION:

The post harvest condition will be achieved by partial cutting the conifer understory to a target basal area and establishing an upper diameter limit. Over time CSC will be once again obtained.

Table 3. Stand Structure Information (Not applicable to Coos and Klamath-Lake Districts¹)

Area	Stand ID	Current	Post Harvest ²	Desired Future	Acres
1	5230	CSC	UDS	CSC	20

1 The forest management plans for these districts do not contain structure strategies.

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

Vision- The future condition of this stand was labeled closed single canopy, also the current condition. After thinning the stand, it will be UDS and will move back to closed single canopy in 10-20 years. Opening the stand for understory development is good for Western Necklace, *Sophora leachiana* which needs sunlight and soil disturbance (See section VIII). The adjacent lands owned by BLM to the east and part of stand 5320 outside the sale area will be treated for fuels management. The prescription for this stand should be consistent with fuels reduction goals of the neighboring BLM lands.

IV. PROPOSED MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION:

Desired Silvicultural Results: See Partial Cut Target Stand in Table 2. There has been no past management associated with these stands. The prescription will primarily be a basal area thinning from below to remove the suppressed, intermediate and some of the codominant trees from these overstocked stands. Healthy understory trees will be reserved to promote layering. An upper diameter limit will be established to preserve the largest and healthiest trees in the stands. Density management will increase growth and development of the overstory and understory. Thinning these stands will increase the health and vigor of the

residual conifer and hardwood trees as well as reduce the likelihood of insects, disease, wildfire, or other stand replacing event.

The trees on this site experience moisture stress. The thinning prescription will emphasize better spacing between trees. Sugar pine and ponderosa pine for example will be cleared of all other conifer and Madrone from underneath the canopy out to the dripline. The largest and healthiest trees will be left throughout the sale, as well as any trees that have the Old Growth characteristics of rough bark, large limbs and deformed tops. Hardwood trees will be thinned and basal stump treated.

Snags: Snag creation will be required. An estimated 1 to 1.5 snags per acre will occur as a result of logging and natural mortality. An additional 1 snag per 2 acres will be created in the northwest portion of the sale. Snags will not be created in visually sensitive areas or within reach of Galice Road. All pre-existing snags that are not safety or fire hazards will be retained. Any snags that are felled will be retained for down woody debris.

Down woody debris: Approximately 100 cu. ft./acre of class 1 debris will be added through normal logging operations including trees that are damaged and eventually blow down and cull log segments required to be left on the ground. Additionally any time a stand is opened up from management activities the possibility of isolated blow down or top breakage exists. No yarding of down woody debris will be permitted.

Insects and disease: The sale will focus on removing the trees that have the smaller, less developed crowns, poor vigor and thus are more susceptible to an insects and disease.

Fuels Modification: Residual slash, tree tops and limbs, will be burned if unacceptable accumulations are present after the harvest.

Regeneration: Regeneration from seed will occur naturally as a result of the thinning.

V. ESTIMATED TIMBER AND REVENUE INFORMATION:

Table 4. Timber and Revenue

Ownership		Sale Type	
BOF	CSL	Cash	Recovery
%	100%	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Planned Quarter:		3	

	Conifer	Hardwood	Total
Net Volume (MBF)	100	10	
Stumpage Value (\$/MBF)	250	10	
Estimated Gross Value	\$25,000	100	\$25,100
		Project Costs:	\$1,000
		Estimated Net Value:	\$24,100

VI. HARVESTING AND ACCESS CONSIDERATIONS:

Access: The sale is accessed by taking Galice Creek Road to Peavine Road (35-8-2).

For sale access: A small spur road will be constructed off of Peavine road to access the sale. The terrain of this area has good potential for road construction and cable yarding. The spur road will provide cable yarding distances less than 500 feet and will provide access for future stand management opportunities. The constructed road will be blocked upon the completion of the sale, natural drainage will be reestablished, waterbars installed, and the surface will be grass seeded and fertilized.

Concerns and considerations: The proposed spur road location has no unusual geological features. The spur road will be on slopes less than 30%.

Table 5. Transportation Management Summary (Miles).

Activity	High Use	Medium Use	Low Use
Construction	0	0	.2
Improvement	0	0	0
Maintenance	0	0	0
Closure	0	0	.2
Vacation	0	0	0

VII. AQUATIC RESOURCES AND WATER QUALITY:

There are no streams in the sale area.

VIII. T&E SPECIES CONSIDERATIONS:

Northern Spotted Owl: The SOA Wildlife Biologist has determined that the sale area is currently suitable for Northern Spotted Owls due to the age and size of the trees. Surveys for NSO's have been conducted from 2002 – 2005 and will continue in 2006. Surveys have determined that no NSO's are currently within 1.3 miles of the sale area.

Bald Eagle: The Maple Gulch bald eagle pair is approximately one mile to the east of the sale across the Rogue River and over a ridge. They are not within sight of the sale area.

Marbled Murrelet: This sale is outside the known inland range of the marbled murrelet and will not require surveys.

Threatened and Endangered Fish: This sale is not in proximity to streams in which listed fish are present. For additional protection measures to prevent sediment from entering perennial streams see Section VI – Harvesting and Access Considerations, Section VII – Aquatic Resources and Water Quality, and Section IX – Slope Stability and Geotechnical Issues.

Threatened and Endangered Plants: The sale area was checked against District knowledge for any listed plant location as well as the Oregon Natural Heritage Program (ONHP) database of known listed plant locations.

An old record of Western Necklace, *Sophora leachiana*, is adjacent to the sale area. This plant is not threatened or endangered, but is considered by ODF as a Species of Concern. As such, this plant is not given legal protection but ODF is documenting its' occurrence and employing management considered to be neutral or beneficial.

This plant needs sunlight to grow and soil disturbance to spread. Sale operations will expose mineral soil and sunlight will increase as a result of removing overstory trees during logging. Loggers will avoid active skidding through any identified patches of the plant when it is in flower. These planned activities should have a neutral or beneficial effect.

IX. SLOPE STABILITY AND GEOTECHNICAL ISSUES:

Consultation between district personel and a geotechnical specialist will be conducted to determine the slope stability hazard rating.

X. RECREATION RESOURCES:

There are no developed recreation resources in the immediate area of the timber sale.

XI. CULTURAL RESOURCES:

A pre-sale reconnaissance revealed no significant cultural resources in the sale area.

XII. SCENIC RESOURCES:

Approximately 15 acres of the sale is rated at Visual Classification Level III – Low Sensitivity. Five acres of the sale are “focused special”. This area will have a light thinning of the understory trees. It will be carefully hand marked to ensure adequate canopy cover after the thinning.

XIII. OTHER RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS:

There are no other resource considerations within or adjacent to the sale area.

XIV. LAND MANAGEMENT CLASSIFICATION SUMMARY:

Table 6. Land Management Classification Summary

Area	LMCS Subclass	Focused Stewardship	Special Stewardship
1	Aquatic and Riparian	4	
	Wildlife		
2	Visual	15	5

This table summarizes the acres of Focused and Special Stewardship within the operations. The acres in each operational area in this table do not necessarily add up to its gross or net acres, because of overlapping classifications under the Land Management Classification System. For example, a particular acre can be classified as Focused Stewardship for Aquatic and Riparian, Recreation, and Scenic resources.