Pre-Operations Report

Operation Name: Holly Gold (Alternative)
County: Tillamook
Management Basin: Trask

Table 1. Operation Areas, Types and Acres

Area	Type of Operation	Gross Acres	Net Acres[1]
1	MC	98	97
2	RC	105	93
3	MC	90	90
Total		293	280

[1] *The net acres are based on orthophotos and GPS and exclude roads, stream buffers and reserve areas.*

I. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF OPERATION AREA:

Slopes have a NE to SE aspect and range from 5% to 85%. Elevations range from 600 to 2000 feet. The major soil types are Killam (55%) and Rye (45%).

The landforms are gentle ridgelines and steep side-slopes between three un-named tributaries of Edwards Creek. There are scattered steep slopes throughout the sale area. The underlying rocks are predominantly igneous origin of the submarine base of the Tillamook Volcanics Formation. There are two large scale landslide landforms mapped (Wells etal. OFR 94-21) within the sale.

II. CURRENT STAND CONDITION:

Table 2. Stand Inventory Information[4]

Area	Prescription	Stand ID [1]	Species	Age	DBH	BA	TPA	SDI	Net Acres [2]
1	MC	314	DF	37	12	80	103	21	97
2	RC	315	DF	37	13	111	118	28	93
		Target [3]	DF		15	38	31	9	
3	MC	316	DF	37	12	80	103	21	90

[1] *The source of stand inventory information is from field reconnaissance cruise plots taken in 2005.*
[2] *The net acres are based on orthophotos and GPS and exclude roads, and stream buffers and reserve areas. Modified clear cut acres are not contiguous and do not exceed 120 acres.*
[3] *The Target identifies expected stand characteristics (DBH, BA, TPA and SDI) after harvesting has been completed.*
[4] *These numbers are based on plot data taken to this point and final numbers may differ significantly from the actual conditions. The directive for minor and major modifications will be followed for further review.*

The sale areas burned in the 1933 (Tillamook), 1939 (Saddle Mountain) and 1951 (North Fork / Elkhorn) fires and were planted with Douglas-fir in the late 1960's. These areas were pre-commercially thinned in 1989.

The stands in the sale areas are classified as 100% CSC according to the district stand summary information (1999).

See Table 2 for specific stand data.

This stand is the typical Douglas-fir with scattered alder stand prevalent on the southern Tillamook District. The stand is single aged, single story planted Douglas-fir. The understory is dominated by vine maple and salmonberry in riparian areas or where the conifers have been thinned. Swordfern and Oregon grape is also present under the tree canopy.

The Douglas-fir has Swiss needle cast (SNC) symptoms and poor live crown ratios resulting in slowed diameter and/or height growth. The stands are within the SNC zone and have been mapped by SNC aerial surveys in each of the last three years.

There is scattered noble fir and alder throughout the sale. The alder components of these stands were aerially sprayed to release planted conifer in the 1970's resulting in alder trees with short boles and many limbs. No other significant insect or disease problems have been discovered at this time.

There are some large snags in various states of decay and/or some hard snags created from bear damage. Down wood consists of scattered large old logs (36"+) in Class 3 and 4 stages of decay and some windthrow in decay classes 1 and 2 and slash from PCT activity.

III. DESIRED STAND CONDITION and VISION:

Table 3. Stand Structure Information

Area	Stand ID	Current	Post Harvest [1]	Desired Future	Net Acres
1	314	CSC	REG	GEN/LYR	2/95
2	315	CSC	REG	LYR/OFS	36/57
3	316	CSC	REG	LYR/OFS	38/52

[1] *The stand is expected to develop into this condition after harvest.*

See Section IV: Proposed Management Prescription for more information on Green Tree, Down Wood, and Snag Strategies during operation. Also refer to Landscape Design in the Summary document for more information on strategies to move the district toward Desired Future Condition goals.

The prescriptions described below are based on the current stand condition such as overall tree and stand growth, lack of species mix, stand density, and stand health. The goal at this time is to remove off-site Douglas-fir and replace the stand with a species mix that would more typically appear in the coast range. By planting a mixture of native conifers a variety of goals will be available in the future. Hardwoods will be retained along riparian areas and along legacy roads. Other conifers are expected to be few and very scattered.

Regeneration Harvest:
Area 2 is not expected to develop into complex stand structure due to the poor growth and limited stocking. By conducting a final harvest at this time, the areas can be underplanted with a mix of native conifers under the highest canopy available. The canopy will be uneven but fairly continuous with 25-35 trees/acre. This management creates opportunities for complex structure in the short and long terms. These prescriptions will combine with the adjacent stands to create a mosaic of openings through gaps, variable density and mixed species over the landscape. Unmanaged hardwood and conifer mixes will be left in headwalls, in riparian buffers as well as scattered in the unit.

As the future stand becomes established and matures, the residual trees from this entry will add to complexity of sizes, species and densities. Due to the size of the trees in the area, it is unrealistic to expect to meet all the goals of the FMP with this one treatment. These trees can be treated to create snags and down wood larger in the future than is possible now. In the mean time the largest and healthiest trees chosen to be left will be the best to augment reforestation.

IV. PROPOSED MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION AND ANTICIPATED PATHWAY:

See table 2 for prescription targets

Modified Clearcut:
In Areas 1 and 3, a diameter limit will be used to select Douglas-fir trees to be left. Current estimates are 3-5 in the units, 9-15 overall. Merchantable alder will be removed. All other species will be reserved.

Retention Cut:
In Area 2, merchantable Douglas-fir greater than 11” dbh will be thinned to a basal area range of 33 to 40 square feet. Merchantable alder will be removed. All other species will be reserved.

Understory vegetation will be initially controlled to maximize reforestation success, and then enhanced by the additional growing space available.

Green Tree, Down Wood and Snag Strategies
See also Section III: Desired Future Condition for long term strategies

A variety of methods will be used to achieve green tree retention requirements. Residual green trees in the units will supplement the future stand by promoting growth of dominant/co-dominant leave trees. Small non-merchantable hardwood and conifer will also be retained where possible with the expectation they will become short term snags and down wood. Green trees will be left on precipitous slopes, headwalls, and those areas not reached by conventional logging methods. Stream buffers adjacent to small perennials will also contribute additional green trees. Many of these areas will be posted so they are outside of the timber sale boundary. During sale layout an estimation of trees per acre will be made in the GTR areas to ensure proper reserves are met.

Existing down wood will be left in the sale areas. Down wood recruitment is expected through mortality and windthrow of residual or leave trees, felled snags and tops left during harvest (where available). Tops resulting from ground yarding will be left in piles or dispersed throughout the unit.

Existing snags not determined to be a safety hazard will be retained and any felled snags will be left for down wood. A limited number of snags are expected to be created during harvest activities (rub trees, lift trees, or tail trees) and over time by natural processes. Residual trees in and adjacent to the units are expected to be converted to snags or downed wood if future inventories show current estimates of mortality are exaggerated.

V. ESTIMATED TIMBER AND REVENUE INFORMATION:

Table 4. Timber and Revenue

Ownership		Sale Type	
BOF	CSL	Cash	Recovery
100%	%		X
Planned Quarter:		2	

	Conifer	Hardwood	Total
Net Volume (MBF)	2169	716	2885
Stumpage Value ($/MBF)	$234.78	$233.73	
Estimated Gross Value	$509,250	$167,350	$676,600
		Project Costs:	$93,100
		Estimated Net Value:	$583,500

VI. HARVESTING AND ACCESS CONSIDERATIONS:

The sale areas are accessed via South Fork of the Trask River Road, Edwards Creek and Gold Peak Roads. These are currently all weather crushed rock roads. See maps for specific road locations and conditions.

Approximately 1.0 miles of existing unsurfaced and 0.8 miles of abandoned road will be improved which includes grading, rocking, widening, culvert replacement,

sidecast pullback and adding new culverts. This work will bring all roads up to standards described in *the Forest Roads Manual*.

Approximately 1.2 miles of road will be constructed in order to realign an abandoned road and provide access to cable yarding areas. Following harvest, roads within the sale areas will be reviewed for closure. An abandoned road along Edwards Creek was evaluated to access the sale areas, but was determined to be contrary to goals and objectives of the FMP. See summary document for more information on roads.

Other project work that will be included with this sale are dust abatement by Hollywood Camp, road closure off Gold Peak Road, stream enhancement and road vacation to be determined during sale layout.

The operation is expected to be 100% cable yarding in all areas. Ground yarding may be evaluated during sale layout and generally limited to slopes under 35%.

Table 5. Transportation Planning Summary (Miles)[4]

Activity	Mainline	Collector	Rocked Spur[1]	Dirt Spur[1]
Construct	0	0	1.2	0
Improve	0	0	1.8	0
Maintain[2]	1	0	6	0
Close/Block[3]	0	0	.5	0
Vacate[3]	0	0	0	TBD

[1] *Additional roads may be built by the operator at the time of harvest and must be approved by the State through the Operations Plan. These will be short dead end spurs and closed or blocked after harvest. Additional road vacation will be dependant on adjacent timber sale completion.*
[2] *All roads accessing the sale area will be maintained during the life of the timber sale contract. Maintenance miles in the table are those roads not being constructed or improved.*
[3] *Roads not closed/blocked or vacated at the end of the sale will be reviewed for closure after reforestation is established.*
[4] *The numbers in this table reflect planned Project Work associated with the sale.*

VII. AQUATIC RESOURCES AND WATER QUALITY:

A watershed analysis has been completed for the Trask basin. ODFW has identified a stream enhancement project based on the analysis. Rip rap at crossing of Edwards Creek shall be moved into the stream channel.

Edwards Creek is a large Type F stream that is adjacent to the sale areas and haul route. There are 2 unnamed medium Type F streams that are within or adjacent to the sale areas.

There are additional unnamed small perennial and seasonal Type N streams within the sale areas. These streams will be reviewed and protected appropriately during sale layout based on flow, topography, and terrain.

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) will be requested to complete stream surveys before sale layout begins. Streams of unknown status will be treated as Type F until surveys are completed to verify fish use.

Stream buffers within or adjacent to harvest unit boundaries will be managed according to *Forest Management Plan* Riparian Strategies. The riparian areas will be reviewed during sale layout for current stand conditions and/or operational constraints for implementing FMP strategies.

In order to protect water quality 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, using sediment control devices in road ditches when necessary, and monitoring logging and hauling operations. Culvert installment and replacement in live streams will be conducted between July 1 and September 15. Operations outside of this period will be reviewed with ODFW.

VIII. T&E SPECIES CONSIDERATIONS:

The sale areas have been reviewed with the ODF Northwest Oregon Area Biologist Clint Smith. Surveys for marbled murrelets are not required for Holly Gold, due to the absence of potentially suitable habitat.

Spotted owl surveys are not required for Holly Gold, as the sale area is within the Tillamook Burn (see November, 2002 ODF Policy Guidance: *Northern Spotted Owl Surveying on State Lands*).

T & E Fish species: See Sections VII, and IX for listed fish protection measures.

T & E Plant species: The sale areas were checked against the Oregon Natural Heritage Program (ONHP) database of known threatened or endangered listed plant locations as well as local records in the Land Management Classification System (LMCS). No listed plants were identified within or adjacent to the sale areas.

IX. SLOPE STABILITY AND GEOTECHNICAL ISSUES:

The initial assessment from the geotechnical specialists is high. The geotechnical specialist will be consulted during sale layout. The large scale landslide deposit will be evaluated at the time of sale layout as well to determine if any recent active movement has taken place, but typically there is very low concern for timber sale impacts on such deep-seated large scale landslide features.

X. RECREATION RESOURCES:

The sale areas are designated as Motorized in the *Tillamook State Forest Comprehensive Recreation Plan* (1993). This sale has been reviewed by the District Recreation Coordinator.

"Willy's Construction T-shirt" trail transects Areas 1, 2 and 3. Portions of trails will be improved for logging access. This is a valuable recreation resource and will be reestablished upon completion of the operation. The public will be advised when trails are closed due to harvest activity. The District Recreation coordinator will be consulted during sale layout and administration.

Recreational use common to this area includes hiking, hunting, camping and OHV use. Hollywood Camp is a popular OHV staging area near the sale areas. Dust abatement will be applied during summer hauling periods.

Large waste material (root wads, boulders, cull logs) will be stockpiled at the present decommission site of Edwards Creek Road for future trail projects.

XI. CULTURAL RESOURCES:

The *Tillamook State Cultural Assessment* does not list any cultural sites within or adjacent to the proposed sale boundary.

XII. SCENIC RESOURCES:

The sale areas have a visual classification of Level 2, moderate sensitivity due to the OHV staging area and dispersed campsites to the east of the sale areas. The Public Use Coordinator will be consulted during sale layout. No scenic impact is expected.

XIII. OTHER RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS:

Green Diamond Resource Company is the adjacent landowner to the west of Area 3. Property lines will need to be established and all property or corner markers protected from damage. An easement is not required.

XIV. LAND MANAGEMENT CLASSIFICATION SUMMARY:

Area 1 contains Focused and Special Stewardship, Aquatic and Riparian Habitat. See Section VII, Aquatic Resources and Water Quality, for the management guidelines that will be utilized.

Area 2 contains Focused Stewardship, Aquatic and Riparian Habitat. Area 2 also contains Special Stewardship, Aquatic and Riparian Habitat and Operationally Limited. See Sections VII, Aquatic Resources and Water Quality, and IX, Slope Stability and Geotechnical Issues for the management guidelines that will be utilized.

Area 3 contains Focused Stewardship, Aquatic and Riparian Habitat. Area 3 also contains Special Stewardship, Aquatic and Riparian Habitat and Operationally Limited. See Sections VII, Aquatic Resources and Water Quality, and IX, Slope Stability and Geotechnical Issues for the management guidelines that will be utilized.