

Pre-Operations Report

Operation Name: Rhody Ridge
County: Lane
Management Basin: Western Lane
Legal Description: Sec 11&14, T17S, R8W

Table 1. Operation Areas, Types and Acres

Area	Type of Operation	Gross Acres	Net Acres
I	Modified Clear Cut	77	74

Net acres do not include in-unit stream buffers.

I. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF OPERATION AREA:

The harvest unit is on the rocky south slopes of Tilden Ridge approximately 21 miles from the coast and at 1900 feet elevation on the top of the ridge. Slopes average around 60%. The soils are almost all Digger, which are moderately fine-textured soils developing from Tye Sandstone of Eocene age. Rock volume increases from 50% in the A horizon to 90% in the C horizon.

II. CURRENT STAND CONDITION:

Table 2. Stand Inventory Information (Gross Acres)

Area	Prescription	Stand ID ¹	Species	Age	DBH	BA	TPA	SDI	Acres ²
I	MCC	368	DF	52	13	73	80	20	6
1	MCC	369	DF/Hdwd	47	14	273	255	73	42
1	MCC	373	Hdwd	61	12	158	28	46	3
1	MCC	403	DF	52	13	76	80	20	9
1	MCC	414	DF	62	14	275	268	74	3
1	MCC	415	DF	62	13	272	283	74	12
1	MCC	435	DF/Hdwd	99	13	268	292	74	2
									77

- 1 The source of stand inventory information is 1980 OSCUR grown forward with a growth model to 1999. Ages are updated to 2006. Winter black and white aerial photos suggest that approximately 32 acres are predominantly hardwood, a mixture of alder and maple.
- 2 Gross acres are based on orthophotos and include stream buffers.

The general area is mostly rocky south slopes that were clearcut in the late 1940's or early 1950's and left to naturally regenerate with alder, bigleaf maple, Douglas-fir, and some hemlock. It was never planted, no brush control was attempted, and no residual trees were left.

III. DESIRED STAND CONDITION and VISION:

The harvest unit has a Desired Future Condition of General.

The south slope area of Tilden Ridge is planned to be managed for Douglas-fir with 50 to 70 year rotations. Nearly all the north slope area of Tilden Ridge has a DFC of LYR and OFS and contains a large marbled murrelet management area.

Table 3. Stand Structure Information (Net Acres)

Area	Stand ID	Current	Post Harvest	Desired Future	Acres
I	All	UDS	REG	GEN	74

IV. PROPOSED MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION

Prescription and Management Pathway: The operation begins with a modified clearcut to convert brushy hardwood/conifer mixed stands containing considerable low quality bigleaf maple into more productive conifer dominated stands. The harvest area will be treated with herbicide after harvest to reduce brush competition and then planted to 300 trees per acre, primarily Douglas-fir with up to 15% other conifer mixed in.

A couple of years later the area will be hack and squirt treated to reduce the amount of bigleaf maple resprouting from stumps.

Herbicide treatment or hand slashing may be necessary a few years later to reduce alder competition to the conifer seedlings.

No precommercial thinning is planned. The area may be commercially thinned in 40 to 45 years, depending upon growth, markets, and State policies. Or the stand may be allowed to grow freely until final harvest at age 50 to 70.

Leave Trees: 630 conifer and/or bigleaf maple over 12 inches DBH will be left to furnish 5 green trees, 2 snags, and 1 future down tree per acre. Most of the trees will be left in the draws with some larger trees scattered across the upland area. Since this a wind prone area, no snags will be artificially created.

Down Wood: Some down wood already exists in the units. Additional down wood will come from broken tops less than merchantable size, broken pieces, missed logs, and leave tree blowdown. At this time we have no plans to fell trees specifically to create additional down wood. However, SLI may suggest that our goal of 600 cu feet of class 1 and 2 wood is unlikely to be met without intentionally leaving sound down wood. In that case we will contractually require a minimum number of logs to be left.

V. ESTIMATED TIMBER AND REVENUE INFORMATION:

Table 4. Timber and Revenue

Ownership		Sale Type	
BOF	CSL	Cash	Recovery
100%	%	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
Planned Quarter: 4			

	Conifer	Hardwood	Total
Net Volume (MBF)	1200	300	1500
Stumpage Value (\$/MBF)	\$325	\$250	
Estimated Gross Value	\$390,000	\$75,000	\$465,000
		Project Costs:	\$163,000
		Estimated Net Value:	\$302,000

VI. TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AND HARVESTING:

The sale will be cable yarded.

One tenth mile of new construction and 0.8 miles of reconstruction of old, overgrown roads will be required. All construction will be low use roads. All roads will be rocked and left open after the sale for recreation traffic.

A few hundred feet of new construction is on rocky slopes over 60%. Full bench construction will be required on slopes over 60% and excess excavation will be endhauled to stable locations.

1.2 miles of the Tilden Ridge Road will be improved by widening and applying crushed rock. Another 1.6 miles will be brushed. In addition, attempts will be made to improve grade and alignment on portions of the road.

The haul route is state-owned and easement roads. Some improvements may be necessary on easement road (primarily patch rocking) over private ownership.

Table 5. Transportation Planning Summary (Miles).

Activity	Mainline	Collector	Rocked Spur	Dirt Spur
Construct	0	0	0.9	0
Improve	0	2.8	0	0
Maintain	0	5.6	0.9	0
Close/Block	0	0	0	0
Vacate	0	0	0	0

VII. AQUATIC RESOURCES AND WATER QUALITY:

The sale area contains small non-fish streams. Two are probably perennial. Management activities within riparian areas of streams will focus on achieving properly functioning aquatic and riparian habitat conditions over time. Riparian Management Areas (RMAs) will be managed in accordance with The Management Standards for Aquatic and Riparian Areas found in the *NWO State Forests Management Plan* (pg. J-1 - J-16).

VIII. T&E SPECIES CONSIDERATIONS:

T&E Birds: The sale is within the Upper McVey and Pat Creek spotted owl circles. Two acres are within the North San Antone circle. No suitable marbled murrelet habitat is within 330 feet of the sale.

A preliminary biological assessment addressing spotted owls will be completed by the Area biologist prior to beginning sale preparation.

T&E Plants: The sale area was checked against the Oregon Natural Heritage Program (OHNP) database of known listed plant locations. The sale area was also checked against district knowledge for any listed plant location. No listed plant records were identified within the sale area.

IX. SLOPE STABILITY AND GEOTECHNICAL ISSUES:

The sale area is steep with some slopes over 70%. If high landslide hazard locations are identified during timber sale layout, the geotechnical specialist will be consulted.

The 1960 aerial photos show no slope failures following the early 1950's logging.

X. FOREST LAND MANAGEMENT MANAGEMENT CLASSIFICATION:

The sale area contains Focused Stewardship for northern spotted owl and aquatic and riparian habitat.

XI. RECREATION RESOURCES:

Hunters, mushroom pickers, and backroad drivers occasionally use the existing roads. New roads will increase recreational opportunity.

XII. CULTURAL RESOURCES:

No cultural resources sites are known to exist in the area.

XIII. SCENIC RESOURCES:

The area is not visible from public roads or homes.

XIV. OTHER RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS:

None known.