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WEST OREGON DISTRICT

2007 ANNUAL OPERATIONS PLAN

INTRODUCTION

This annual operations plan (AOP) covers the State Forest lands managed by the West Oregon District for Fiscal Year 2007, which begins July 1, 2006 and ends June 30, 2007. It describes how the activities and projects undertaken by the district will achieve the goals and objectives of the West Oregon District Implementation Plan (IP), the Northwest Oregon State Forest Management Plan (FMP) and the draft Western Oregon Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP). (Implementation of the AOP may be modified in accordance with changes to the draft HCP as it proceeds through the review and approval process).

The AOP is composed of the summary document with sections that contain information on commercial forest management operations; roads and engineering; non-commercial forest management operations; recreation management; and land exchange. In addition, the summary document provides details for planning and information systems; public information and education; and administration. The remainder of the AOP contains summary tables for operations proposed for the fiscal year and individual reports and maps for each commercial operation. A public involvement summary will be added to the final plan.

Specifics about the physical characteristics of the District may be found in the West Oregon District Implementation Plan. Details on the strategies used to manage state forests may be found in the NW Oregon Forest Management Plan.

Harvest Levels: In accordance with the guidance on the 2007 harvest levels¹, the district has included 10.4 MMBF of timber harvest in this Annual Operations Plan (Table A-1). This harvest level is slightly lower with the district's intensive review² of the outputs from the Department's recently completed Harvest and Habitat Model Project. However, the volume and acre mix identified during the model review could not be fully implemented in this plan because of the two year lead time necessary for the completion of surveys for threatened and endangered species.

¹ *Establishing harvest levels in FY07 on State Forests covered by the NW and SW Oregon State Forest Management Plan*

¹ *Model Solution Review Report of the 'Forest Management Plan with Habitat Conservation Plan' Alternative*

Table 1. Annual Operations Plan objectives compared to annual objectives identified in the 2001 West Oregon District Implementation Plan (Table A-1). All values are acres.

Silvicultural Activity	IP Annual Objective		2007 AOP Objective
	Low	High	
Conifer Partial Cut	700	1,100	951
Conifer Clearcut	60	80	80
Hardwood Partial Cut	0	20	0
Hardwood Clearcut	10	30	12
Rehabilitation	0	100	0
Reforestation (Planting)	70	400	223
Precommercial Thinning	200	800	653
Fertilization	0	0	0
Pruning	0	100	30

All planned activities fall within the IP Annual Objectives. Please see the Harvest Type Definitions on the AOP web site (http://www.odf.state.or.us/DIVISIONS/management/state_forests/aop.asp)

The net acres listed in Table 1 and the individual Pre-Operation Reports excludes the acreage contained in roads, stream buffers and no-harvest areas within the operation areas. The net acres reflect the amount of ground that will actually be in the operations.

During fiscal year 2007, all of the non-commercial forest management operations included in the AOP will be completed. However, most of the activities associated with commercial management operations such as timber harvesting and project work will not take place during the fiscal year. The timber sale contracts will be prepared and auctioned but most of the actual work will be completed in a future fiscal year.

INTEGRATED FOREST MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS

Timber Harvest Operations

Overview of Timber Harvest Operations

The proposed management activities for 2001-2010 listed in West Oregon District's Implementation Plan (IP), shows that the yearly average of clearcut harvesting should be within the range of 70-110 acres. It also specifies that the yearly average of partial cutting should be between 700-1,100 acres. The FY 2007 operations plan complies with those requirements in that it includes 92 acres of clearcut harvesting and 951 acres of partial cutting. (See Table 1).

The landscape design associated with the IP shows the Desired Future Condition (DFC) for state forest land in the district. Areas planned for more complex stands are indicated as either Layered (LYR) or Older Forest Structure (OFS). Stands not planned for LYR or OFS are designated as General. A stand with a DFC of General may develop into any of the five stand structures defined in the Northwest Forest Management Plan.

The regeneration harvest on the District is composed of 100 percent modified clearcuts. The partial cut harvest includes 6 percent light thinning; 72 percent moderate thinning and 22 percent heavy thinning. For definitions of these harvest types reference the "State Forest Annual Operations Planning" web page (http://www.odf.state.or.us/DIVISIONS/management/state_forests/aop.asp).

The IP states that Regeneration harvesting will occur in Closed Single Canopy (CSC) or Understory (UDS) stands that have severe health problems or in stands that are poor candidates for developing into more complex stands (see IP for details). The 92 acres of regeneration harvest in this plan consists of three units. Two units support 62-86 year old Douglas-fir trees on 57 acres. The third unit consists of 23 acres of 64 year old Douglas-fir and 12 acres of 64 year old red alder. These three units are proposed for modified clearcut because there are no tree species present that could provide the layering component necessary for building a more complex stand. All three units are classified as UDS and will be replaced by a more diverse, complex stand because a variety of conifer species will be planted.

For these proposed modified clearcuts, approximately 10-12 trees per acre will be left standing in the units which should provide future legacy trees, down wood, and snags. Landscape design is classified as General and these areas will move to Regeneration (REG) after harvest and eventually to CSC and UDS stands.

Partial cutting in younger stands will move them relatively quickly towards structures that are more complex. In the 2007 operations plan, approximately 657 acres of partial cutting will be in plantations that are 23–35 years old. These stands consist primarily of Douglas-fir but also include some western hemlock, red alder, and big leaf maple and are currently classed as CSC. Partial cutting in these stands should encourage new, vigorous growth of understory brush species and move most of these stands into UDS. Approximately 352 acres will be put on a pathway for future LYR stands by thinning to a low stand density or creating patch cuts and planting with western hemlock and/or western redcedar to enhance horizontal layering and species diversity.

The remaining 294 acres of partial cut are in 58-75 year-old natural stands. Commercial thinning was conducted in 149 acres of these stands in 1998 or 2000. All the stands are composed primarily of Douglas-fir but also include red alder and big leaf maple. Approximately 177 acres of these stands will be put on a pathway for future OFS stands by thinning to a low stand density and underplanting, or creating patch cuts and planting with western hemlock and/or western redcedar to enhance horizontal layering and species diversity. Planting will add to the existing western hemlock, Douglas-fir, and red alder saplings already present in the understory. Stands that are snag and/or down wood deficient according to SLI will have these elements created artificially.

Approximately 794 acres of the stands planned for partial cutting have either been pre-commercial thinned or commercial thinned in the past.

It is estimated that about 10.1 million board feet of conifer timber and 0.3 million board feet of hardwood timber will be harvested from these timber sales. Projected gross revenue is estimated to be \$3,305,000. With approximate total project work of \$793,000 anticipated, the net revenue produced is expected to be about \$2,512,000. Of this net revenue, approximately \$2,009,000 will be generated from Board of Forestry lands and the remaining \$503,000 will come from Common School lands. (See Table A-1) In addition to revenue from timber sales, the district is anticipating selling about 20 special forest products permits resulting in an additional \$2,000.

Resource specialists that have provided input for the Pre-Operations Reports include the area Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) wildlife biologist, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) district fish and wildlife biologists, and the area ODF geotechnical specialist.

Table 2. Stand Structure Development – This table summarizes how the Timber Harvest Operations in this AOP will contribute to achieving the district’s desired future condition. All values are in acres.

Stand Structure	REG	CSC	UDS	LYR	OFS	GEN ¹
Current	0	657	386	0	0	
Post Harvest ²	92	0	951	0	0	
Desired Future				91	162	790

1. General (GEN) is not a stand structure, but identifies those stands that are not targeted for Layered or Older Forest Structure in the district landscape design. These stands may develop into any of the five stand structures.
2. The Post Harvest stand structure is an estimate of how the stands will develop in five to ten years after the operations are completed.

Summary of Operations by Basin

Table 3. Summary of Timber Harvest Operations in each basin. All values are in acres.

Basin	2007 AOP		Cumulative Operations ¹ (FY 02—07)	
	Partial Cut	Clearcut	Partial Cut	Clearcut
Burnt Woods	709	30	2266	143
Green Mountain	177	35	1245	203
Blodgett	0	27	1857	125
Scattered Coastal	65	0	435	180
Black Rock	0	0	166	0
Bonner	0	0	702	20

1. The Cumulative Operations include all Timber Harvest Operations, prepared and proposed, under the current implementation plan period (July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2011). Operations or units that were proposed, but have been subsequently dropped, are not included in the total.

Burnt Woods Basin

Bear Top This operation consists of a 30 acre modified clearcut in 86 year old Douglas-fir. The stand type is UDS. There are no natural tree species present that could provide the layering component necessary to build more complex stands so clearcutting is the proposed management prescription. The anticipated stand structure pathway is to move from UDS to REG through clearcutting and replanting a variety of conifer seedlings, then to CSC and finally to UDS, utilizing future commercial thinning entries. Approximately 10-12 trees per acre will be retained which will provide for the future snags, legacy trees, and down wood requirements.

Burnt Black This operation consists of eight partial cut units totaling 308 acres in 23-35 year old Douglas-fir plantations. All units except Area V were pre-commercially thinned 10-13 years ago. All eight units are classified as CSC.

Patch cuts will be created in Areas I, II, and IV, which total 157 acres. The remaining acreage will be commercially thinned. These patch cuts will be replanted with conifer

seedlings and should provide for a future layering component. The anticipated pathway is to move from CSC to UDS and finally LYR.

Areas III and V, which total 39 acres, will be commercially thinned to a low RD and underplanted with shade tolerant conifer seedlings which should put these stands on a pathway to UDS and finally LYR stands.

The remaining 112 acres will be put on a pathway to UDS stands through partial cut operations.

Miller-Deer This operation consists of nine partial cut units totaling 401 acres.

Areas I, II, III, VI, VIII, and IX total 349 acres and support 23-35 year old Douglas-fir plantations that are currently classified as CSC. These stands were pre-commercially thinned 10-19 years ago.

Patch cuts will be created in Area I which is 75 acres. The remaining acreage will be commercially thinned. These patch cuts will be replanted with conifer seedlings and should provide for a future layering component. The anticipated pathway is to move from CSC to UDS and finally LYR.

An additional 73 acres will be put on a pathway to a more complex stand by thinning to a low RD and underplanting with conifer seedlings.

The remaining 201 acres will be put on a pathway to UDS stands through partial cut operations.

Areas IV, V, and VII, which total 52 acres, contain 58-62 year old natural stands that have been previously commercially thinned and are classified as UDS. The partial cut operation will maintain these stands in the UDS category.

These three operations will reduce CSC stand acreage by 5% and increase UDS stand acreage by 5% during the post harvest period, which is the next 5-10 years.

Green Mountain Basin

ReHatch This operation consists of a 97 acre partial cut operation in a 69 year old natural Douglas-fir stand. Western hemlock and Port Orford cedar are present in the stand in small numbers. The stand is currently classified as UDS. This area was commercially thinned in 1999. Some reforested patch cuts exist from that operation.

As a result of this operation, a few additional patch cuts will be created and the rest of the area will be partial cut to a low RD. Replanting the patch cuts and underplanting the rest of the stand with a variety of conifer species should put it on a pathway to a more complex stand. The anticipated stand structure pathway is to move from UDS to LYR and finally to OFS.

Spilde Over This operation consists of one 35 acre modified clearcut unit and four partial cut units that total 80 acres.

The clearcut unit supports a 64 year old Douglas-fir/red alder stand. The stand type is UDS. There are no natural tree species present that could provide the layering component necessary to build more complex stands so clearcutting is the proposed management prescription. The anticipated stand structure pathway is to move from UDS to REG through clearcutting and replanting a variety of conifer seedlings, then to CSC and finally to UDS, utilizing future commercial thinning entries. Approximately 10-12 trees per acre will be retained which will provide for the future snags, legacy trees, and down wood requirements.

The four partial cut units contain 58-65 year old natural Douglas-fir stands. The stand type is UDS. Partial cutting will maintain these stands in the UDS category.

These two operations will not change any of the stand structure type percentages in the post harvest period, which is the next 5-10 years.

Blodgett Basin

Hymes Catch-Up This operation consists of two modified clearcut units in 63 year old Douglas-fir timber that total 27 acres. The stand type is UDS. There are no natural tree species present that could provide the layering component necessary to build more complex stands so clearcutting is the proposed management prescription. The anticipated stand structure pathway is to move from UDS to REG through clearcutting and replanting a variety of conifer seedlings, then to CSC and finally to UDS, utilizing future commercial thinning entries. Approximately 10-12 trees per acre will be retained which will provide for the future snags, legacy trees, and down wood requirements.

This operation will not change any of the stand structure type percentages in the post harvest period, which is the next 5-10 years.

Scattered Coastal Basin

Table Mountain This operation consists of two partial cut units that total 65 acres. These stands are composed of 75 year old Douglas-fir with some western hemlock, red alder, and western redcedar intermixed. The current stand type is UDS. This operation is in a spotted owl take avoidance circle.

Patch cuts will be created in Area I with some thinning around each patch cut. The remaining acreage will remain in an unharvested condition. Patch cuts will be planted with conifer species which should provide for a future layering component.

A "light" thinning will be conducted in Area II to maintain stand integrity but allow some release of understory conifer seedlings. Additional seed in of western hemlock and western redcedar may occur as a result of the operation.

Both operation areas are targeted for OFS. The anticipated stand structure pathway is to move from UDS to LYR and finally OFS.

This operation will not change any of the stand structure type percentages in the post harvest period, which is the next 5-10 years.

Black Rock Basin

There are no harvest operations planned for this basin in FY 2007

Bonner Basin

There are no harvest operations planned for this basin in FY 2007

Forest Roads Management

Overview

Visions, guiding principles, and techniques that are the framework of the District's road management program are discussed in detail in the Implementation Plan and the Forest Roads Manual (2000), and govern the planning and implementation of the activities discussed in this section. Planning of these activities are Level III plans, as discussed in the Forest Roads Manual.

The Implementation Plan (IP) anticipates that about 4-7 miles of new road will be constructed and 8-12 miles of road will be improved each year. It is estimated that 2.6 miles of new road construction and 12.6 miles of road improvement will be included with the FY 2007 operations plan. These roads will provide improved access for hauling forest products from the sale areas. Since the mainline roads are already in place on the district, these new roads will be mostly short, low use, single lane spur roads, and averaging 14 feet wide. About 31% of the new roads will be surfaced to provide all season access. Approximately 77% of the roads to be improved will be rocked, providing a seasonal traction coat or an all season surface. Natural surfacing will be the final condition of the remaining road length for new and improved roads. The natural surface roads will be waterbarred, grass seeded, and blocked to restrict public vehicle access after harvest and/or prior to the beginning of the wet season. Restricting access to natural surface roads will control soil erosion and ensure that the drainage systems remain intact.

Most roads will be constructed through gentle, stable topography, which will minimize slope stability concerns, soil erosion, and downstream water quality issues. However, there are a few short stretches of new road that will need to be constructed through steeper terrain. In these situations, the staff engineer and area geo-technical specialist may be contacted and requested to conduct an onsite inspection and provide input related to mitigating any negative effects of road construction.

Fiscal year budget and market conditions have had little impact on the level of activity for roads and engineering as related to the transportation plan for the FY2007 timber sales.

The district has conducted a detailed inventory of its road system, collecting information on road surfacing, condition, drainage, and stream crossings. This inventory was done in conjunction with the Oregon Salmon Plan. For the FY 2007 operations plan, existing roads and drainage systems in the vicinity of timber sales have been evaluated to determine high priority road or drainage structure maintenance, abandonment, replacement, or improvement projects.

For FY 2007, 0.0 miles of road have been identified for vacation. However additional ground inspection may reveal segments to be vacated. The guidelines for road vacating, located in Section 8 of the ODF Forest Roads Manual, will be used. The process for prioritizing the vacation of forest roads is based on an assessment of the risk to resources from information in current road inventories and additional fieldwork. Future transportation needs and road maintenance costs will also play a factor in identifying roads for vacation. Activities under this Plan will add approximately 2.6 miles of road to the District's active road system.

Stream crossing culverts will be replaced based on information in the current forest road inventory, fish distribution surveys and consultation with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife biologists.

District activities to control noxious weeds consist primarily of controlling Scotch Broom (and other brooms) in and around plantations. Most of these infestations start along roads and spread from there. Other species, which are occasionally targeted for control, include knotweed and Himalayan blackberry. Noxious weed control will be performed on about 30 acres during this fiscal year.

Table 4. Summary of Road Management Activities. All values are in miles.

	Mainline		Collector		Spur	
	AOP	IP ¹	AOP	IP ¹	AOP	IP ¹
Road Construction	0	0	0	0.2 - 0.3	2.6	4.2 - 6.6
Road Improvement	0	3.5 - 5.0	4.4	2.2 - 3.4	8.2	2.4 - 3.6
Road Closure/Vacation	0	0	0	0.3- 0.5	0	3.9 - 6.0
Road Maintenance – District²	0		25		20	
Road Maintenance – Active Operations³	0		12		13	

1. These are annual estimates derived from Table 6-6. Potential Road Activities FY 2001-2011 of the 2001 District Implementation Plan. The values here were derived by dividing the values in the Potential Road Activities table by 10.
2. The road maintenance estimates include only the work to be completed during Fiscal Year 2007 by the district road crew or service contract. Estimates of road maintenance were not made in the Implementation Plan.
3. This is a broad estimate of the road maintenance that may be accomplished during the fiscal year, through active commercial operations. However, the exact amount can not be predicted at this time.

Road Construction

As Table 4 indicates, all road construction will be spur classified roads. Most of these roads will be built on gentle side slopes or ridge tops. There are no road construction projects that are not associated with this year's sale plan.

Road Improvement

The majority of the road improvement projects consist of adding a lift of crushed rock to existing surfaced roads, enabling year round hauling and minimizing turbidity associated with road runoff. Other projects consist of re-opening old unsurfaced spurs and replacing inadequate and failing drainage structures and stream crossing structures. All of the activities will be performed on spur road systems and are associated with the Commercial Forest Management Operations.

Road Access Management

All surfaced and newly constructed or improved unsurfaced roads are categorized as active use roads. The unsurfaced roads are blocked and water barred in the wet season. After the wet season, which usually ends in May, the closed unsurfaced roads may be re-opened and harvest activities may resume. Once the harvesting is completed, these roads are partially vacated until the next harvest entry. The roads are blocked, water barred, all culverts are removed, and the road surface is grass seeded.

Road Maintenance

Road grading, culvert catch basin clean out, slough removal, roadside brush control and grass seeding will be accomplished with ODF personnel with either rented or ODF equipment. Approximately 20 miles of road will be graded and have the ditches and culvert catch basins cleaned. An additional 10 miles will have oblique water bars cut into their rock surface. Approximately 1,000 cubic yards of slough material will be removed from ditch lines or road surfaces and placed in stable waste areas. About 30 miles of roadside vegetation will be treated and approximately 7 miles of newly constructed or improved road edges and or surfaces will be grass seeded or re-seeded.

Road maintenance tasks to be accomplished with timber contracts shall include grading, culvert catch basin clean out on approximately 40 miles of road, removing approximately one 1,000 cubic yards of slough material from ditch lines or road surfaces and placed in stable waste areas, and mechanically brushing approximately 12 miles of roadside vegetation.

Roadside vegetation control operations are conducted along roads with encroaching vegetation. The objective is to reduce the vegetation along rights-of-way for improved road maintenance and to increase visibility for safer driving conditions.

Roadside seeding operations will reduce erosion along newly constructed roads and provide a source of big game forage to the immediate area.

Land Surveying

Approximately 8 miles of property line will need to be delineated. This survey work will be accomplished with district labor and equipment.

Young Stand Management

The purpose of conducting non-commercial forest management operations is to prepare for, establish, or maintain a new forest through operations such as rehabilitation, site preparation, tree planting and protection, vegetation management, pre-commercial thinning, and pruning. Through the use of these operations many of the silvicultural goals and objectives of the FMP and IP are met.

Specific information regarding operations can be found in Tables I and A-4, and in the discussion, below.

Most non-commercial activities are essential to good forest stewardship. Accordingly, these activities are readily supported within the base budget. Alternatively, non-commercial management operations such as fertilization, pruning, or low priority stocking density control may not be fully funded.

Rehabilitation

Rehabilitation operations are used to convert non-stocked areas or brushfields to desired species within or around planned operation areas and to add species diversity and structure through layering. These operations are specifically planned to take advantage of existing opportunities to create additional structure across the landscape. The IP states that 0-100 acres of brush fields can be rehabilitated each year. There is no acreage planned for rehabilitation during this operations plan.

Site Preparation

The purpose of site preparation is to prepare areas for replanting after harvest operations or rehabilitation activities by removing or controlling the vegetative cover. This allows seedlings to become established while reducing the competition with other vegetation for moisture, sunlight and nutrients. Chemical and mechanical (slash piling and burning) site preparation may be used on the same acreage. During this operations plan period, site preparation will be conducted on approximately 225 acres. This includes mechanical brush and slash piling on 15 acres, broadcast or pile burning on 40 acres, and chemical site preparation on 170 acres. Site preparation will be conducted in the following basins:

Scattered Coastal Basin – Approximately 113 acres of clearcuts or patchcuts on two timber sales will be treated. Twenty of these acres were originally forecast to have site preparation activity during the 2006 AOP period and were also reported in that plan.

Green Mountain Basin – Approximately 17 acres of patchcuts and 28 acres of clearcut on one timber sale will be treated.

Blodgett Basin – Approximately 51 acres of clearcut on one timber sale will be treated.

Black Rock Basin – Approximately 16 acres of underplant in one timber sale will be treated.

Planting

Tree planting operations are conducted for various reasons. These include meeting Forest Practices Laws, quickly establishing a new stand of trees after timber harvesting, and increasing species diversity in the area and across the landscape. Some planting (underplanting) is intended to create an additional tree layer in a partial cut stand for increased structure and diversity. Planting will also ensure future opportunities and options for the management of stands to produce desired structures across the landscape. The Implementation Plan (IP) indicates that annual reforestation acreage will be between 70 and 400 acres. About 223 acres will be planted (initial planting, underplanting, and interplanting) during FY 2007.

Initial Planting:

This type of planting is conducted after a timber harvest reduces the stocking level to a degree that more trees are required on the site. Approximately 154 acres will have initial planting; about 1/5th of these acres will be planted in small (< 2 acre) patchcuts. Seedlings will be planted at a rate of 436 trees per acre (TPA).

Scattered Coastal Basin – One 58 acre clearcut, in which the Douglas-fir suffered from Swiss needle cast (SNC) and a few small areas of *Phellinus weirii*, will be replanted to SNC resistant Douglas-fir, western hemlock, western redcedar, red alder and Sitka

spruce. *Phellinus* pockets will be replanted solely to alder or cedar. Approximately 15 acres of patchcuts in two timber sales will be planted to western hemlock and western redcedar. Ten of these acres were originally reported in the 2006 AOP.

Green Mountain Basin – One 28 acre clearcut and 17 acres of patchcuts in one timber sale will be planted to Douglas-fir, western hemlock, and western redcedar. Small pockets of *Phellinus weirii* exist in both the clearcut and the patchcuts. Cedar will be concentrated into these infection pockets.

Blodgett Basin – Approximately 36 acres in one clearcut timber sale will be planted to Douglas-fir, western hemlock, western redcedar, grand fir and ponderosa pine. The pine will be concentrated in a couple of small pockets of *Phellinus weirii*.

Underplanting:

This type of planting is conducted after a thinning in order to introduce both species diversity and an additional future layer of structure into a stand. Approximately 49 acres are designated for underplanting.

Green Mountain Basin – Approximately 33 acres in one timber sale will be underplanted with western red cedar at a rate of about 150 TPA. This will supplement western hemlock which is expected to seed-in naturally.

Black Rock Basin – Approximately 16 acres in one timber sale will be underplanted with both western hemlock and western red cedar at a rate of about 250 TPA.

Interplanting:

This type of planting will occur on areas that were initially planted one to three years ago, but for various reasons (animal damage, disease, planting quality, etc) seedlings did not survive in sufficient numbers. Approximately 20 acres of interplanting is forecast to be needed. Individual areas usually vary in size from one to five acres. A variety of tree species will be planted, depending on the site conditions.

Vegetation Management

Release operations are conducted in established plantations to control other vegetation that competes for moisture, sunlight, and nutrients. The objective is to retain preferred trees in the stand and maintain acceptable growth rates of the established stands. Release operations are also used to eradicate noxious weeds which are not actually threatening seedlings but which have the potential to spread. Vegetation management methods are either manual or chemical.

Manual Release:

All Basins - Approximately 50 acres of release work using chainsaws will be necessary. Areas of manual release are typically small areas in young plantations that are either too close to streams or private property to treat with chemicals or where target vegetation is too large to be effectively treated with chemical. This type of release will keep preferred trees from being overtopped by competing vegetation.

Chemical Release:

Approximately 300 acres of chemical vegetation management is forecast for this period. These operations will vary from aerial applications targeting multiple weed species growing over entire young plantations to ground based backpack applications targeting individual undesirable plants.

Scattered Coastal Basin – Approximately 79 acres in two timber sale areas will be treated.

Burnt Woods Basin – Three clearcut areas composing approximately 114 acres and three separate plantations composing about 23 acres of patchcuts will be treated.

All Basins – Roughly 84 additional acres of chemical vegetation management is forecast for this period. These operations are typically on small acreage and target areas with heavy concentrations of bigleaf or vine maple. Other operations will target such noxious weeds as Scotch broom, false brome and spotted knapweed.

Tree Protection

Tree protection operations are conducted to reduce, control, or mitigate animal damage on desired trees in the stands. These operations are intended to maintain stocking and growth rates at optimum levels. The district uses three methods to provide protection to trees: installing tubes over seedlings, applying a big game repellant to the seedling, or trapping animals on site.

Tubing:

On this district, tubing has proven effective in most cases in keeping animal browse on cedar to an acceptable level. Tubing will be installed on about 60 acres of new plantations. Tubing will occur on 100% of western redcedar planted during this period. Western redcedar will be planted on portions of nearly all of the areas designated for planting during this period.

Big Game Repellant (BGR):

BGR (Plantskydd) has been applied from time to time on western redcedar in the past and more recently to western hemlock on a trial basis. It appears to have helped prevent

near total removal of hemlock by big game species in problem areas. No BGR application is planned for this operation period.

Direct Control:

Mountain beaver trapping will occur on portions of the units that will be initial planted during this period (approximately 137 acres). Assessments will be made after the units are harvested as to the need for control work. Maintenance trapping will also occur in portions of units that were trapped previously that show continued high levels of mountain beaver activity (approximately another 63 acres).

Precommercial Thinning (density management)

Pre-commercial thinning (PCT) operations are conducted on stands that are above a desired stocking level. The operations generally have several objectives including the following: 1) reduce stocking to levels which will maintain diameter growth, and to a lesser extent height growth; 2) provide an opportunity for selecting residual trees based on initial growth, form, and defect, and 3) favor particular species that are needed to improve stand composition and diversity. The IP states that annual PCT acreage will be between 200 and 800 acres. Approximately 653 acres are scheduled for PCT during this operations plan period.

These pre-commercial thinning units range from 14 to 16 years old and are stocked with an average of 350 trees/acre of Douglas-fir. This operation increases the health and vigor of the stands by removing an average of 130 trees/acre of the smallest and/or most defective Douglas-fir trees. Most conifers other than Douglas-fir and most hardwoods are reserved from cutting, thus maintaining the present diversity.

Scattered Coastal Basin – Approximately 176 acres in two plantations.

Burnt Woods Ridge Basin – Approximately 435 acres in six plantations.

Green Mountain Basin – Approximately 42 acres in one plantation.

Fertilization

No fertilization activities will occur during this period.

Pruning

The purpose of pruning is to remove limbs for the purpose of creating future high quality clear wood, or to reduce the potential for disease as described below. The district IP states that annual pruning acreage may vary between 0 and 100 acres. During this operations plan, about 30 acres are planned for pruning.

Pruning for Clear Wood:

No new pruning for clear wood will be initiated during this period.

Pruning for White Pine Blister Rust:

This operation is conducted to help prevent western white pine trees from becoming infected with the white pine blister rust canker. Without this pruning, a significant portion of white pine would die or become deformed from the disease.

Black Rock Basin - Approximately 30 acres in three plantations will be pruned. These trees have already received one or two pruning lifts. This is the final lift needed to move these trees out of infection risk. Limbs will be removed to about 9 feet from the ground.

Recreation Management

Overview of Recreation Management

Current recreational activities on the district consist mostly of dispersed camping, sightseeing, hiking, hunting, and fishing. However, there are three sites that do receive some level of consistent visitor use during certain periods of the year. They are:

1. Big Elk Creek. This area has two primitive campsites along Big Elk Creek that have all weather access. These campsites are consistently used during summer weekends and through much of the hunting seasons.
2. Baber Meadows. The Mt. Baber ATV Club uses Baber Meadows as an ATV staging/riding area. This staging area provides access to a 26.4 mile trail loop on ODF and private land. The club schedules some organized riding events but riders use the trail system at other times of the year, as well. Resources at the meadows include a restroom, an informational kiosk, an adjacent kid's track, all weather access roads to camping and staging areas, five surfaced trailer sites with picnic tables and fire rings, and two primitive camp sites.
3. Black Rock. A mountain bike club, the "Black Rock Free Ride Association" has created and maintains about 4.3 miles of trails in the eastern portion of ODF ownership at Black Rock.

During the spring and summer of 1999-2002, the State Forests Program Staff Public Use Coordinator monitored visitor use on the recreation sites. He developed a Recreation Resource Inventory and Assessment for the general geographic area and more specifically the three recreation sites. This document in combination with the Implementation Plan comprises the Districts Recreation Plan.

Planning staff from the Salem office will continue to conduct recreation use monitoring at the three sites on the district during the spring and summer of 2007. The data collected would be consistent with that for other districts in the Northwest Oregon Area and would include resource condition assessments.

There are no recreation projects planned for FY 2007 on the district. The district has budgeted about \$2,000 for rock surfacing for the Baber Meadows staging area and the Black Rock parking area. Table A-5 shows current status of recreation resources on the district.

Facilities (Campgrounds, View Points, Trail Heads, etc.)

Facilities at Baber Meadows include a restroom, an informational kiosk, an adjacent kid's track, all weather access roads to camping and staging areas, five surfaced trailer sites with picnic tables and fire rings, and two primitive camp sites.

Facilities at Black Rock include a small parking area and an informational kiosk.

Trails

The 26.4 mile ATV trail loop on ODF and private forest land will be maintained throughout the year by the club members. About 4.2 miles of trail system is on ODF land.

The 4.3 mile mountain bike trail in the Black Rock area will be maintained throughout the year by the Black Rock Free Ride Association.

Management Activities

The Mt. Baber ATV club will hold a number of organized riding events during the fiscal year. Riders use the staging area and trail throughout the year unless restrictions are in place that would temporarily curtail activities.

District personnel are working with club officials and ODF's public use coordinator in the initial stages of planning for a campground at the staging area, which is on department land.

The Black Rock Free Ride Association has no organized riding events but the trail system is used continuously throughout the year.

Members of the Black Rock Free Ride Association have requested some additional length of trail to add to their existing system. District personnel and ODF's public use coordinator will work with the club to determine the necessity and impacts of additional trails.

Forest Land Management Classifications (FMLCs)

As required under OAR 629-035-0050, Forest Land Management Classifications (FMLCs), and for the purposes of implementing the FMP's forest resource management strategies, all forest lands have been classified within the planning area to describe the types of management activities for these areas and the forest resource or resources the classifications are intended to address. The system identifies when a particular forest resource may need a more focused approach, or possibly an exclusive priority in management. State Forest Lands are classified into one of three classifications: General Stewardship, Focused Stewardship, or Special Stewardship. Descriptions and methods of the classifications are found in the Forest Management Plan beginning on page 2-56.

Focused and Special Stewardship classifications are further classified into subclasses based upon the existence of forest resources that require some level of supplemental planning and/or modified management practices to help achieve identified goals. Several subclasses may be assigned to a parcel of land. Where this occurs, the resource requiring the highest level of protection will determine the management approach. A complete list and specific definitions of the subclasses can be found in OAR 629-035-0055.

Total acreage for each classification and subclass can be found in the District IP on page six.

The acreage and boundary lines shown on maps for forest land management classifications are approximate. The information will be updated through watershed assessments, planning for site-specific management activities or site-specific field visits conducted over time. Management activities will be conducted based upon exact areas and locations as determined on the site and will depend upon the conditions that exist on the site.

Land Exchange

There are no land exchanges in progress. Work will be completed on a draft Land Exchange Plan (if it is not completed in FY 2006). One or two land exchanges may be proposed or initiated during FY 2007.

Other Integrated Forest Management Operations

Habitat Improvement Projects

In concert with ODF&W fish biologists' consultation, and information contained in the road inventory, two inadequate and failing stream crossing structures will be replaced with fish passable structures in order to allow for fish passage. The replacement of these

structures will provide access to approximately one and one quarter miles of additional fish stream habitat.

There are two projects planned for fall, 2006 that will install large wood in both Steere creek and the Yaquina River.

Planning (and Information Systems)

Stand Level Inventory and Other Vegetation Inventories

Inventory approximately 31 forest stands, which total about 790 acres with Stand Level Inventory (SLI).

Stocking surveys of two, six, and eighteen to twenty-eight year old plantations.

Fish and Wildlife Surveys

There are numerous streams identified for fish distribution surveys within or adjacent to all operation areas.

Surveys for northern spotted owls will be conducted for six operations. Surveys for marbled murrelets will be conducted for three operations.

Table 5. Summary of status of T&E surveys.

Operation	Species (NSO/MM)	Status
Bear Top	NSO/MM	Surveys have been completed for MM. NSO surveys will continue in 2006.
Hymes Catch-Up	NSO/MM	MM surveys not required. NSO surveys will continue in 2006.
Burnt Black	NSO/MM	No surveys required for either species.
Miller-Deer	NSO/MM	Surveys for both species will be completed in 2006.
ReHatch	NSO/MM	Surveys for both species will be completed in 2006.
Spilde Over	NSO/MM	Surveys for both species will be completed in 2006.
Table Mtn.	NSO/MM	Surveys for MM were completed in 2005. Surveys for NSO will continue in 2006.

Watershed Assessments

No watershed assessments are scheduled for fiscal year 2007.

Research and Monitoring

The following research projects will continue to be monitored during this fiscal year:

1. Vegetation and wildlife response to gaps in young stands (Peuttman/OSU)
2. Growing stock study of thinned stands at Black Rock (McGuire/OSU)
3. Effects of sulfur applications on Swiss needle cast infected Douglas-fir (Kanaskie/OSU)
4. Effects of thinning in Swiss needle cast infected Douglas-fir stands (Mainwaring/OSU)

Other Planning Operations

During FY 2007, the district will be involved in planning activities in addition to continued development of the Western Oregon Habitat Conservation Plan. These planning activities include:

1. FY 2007 Annual Operations Plan – This plan will cover all management operations on State Forest lands on the district for Fiscal Year 2007, which begins July 1, 2006 and ends June 30, 2007.
2. FY 2008 Annual Operations Plan - This plan will cover all management operations on State Forest lands on the district for Fiscal Year 2008, which begins July 1, 2007 and ends June 30, 2008
3. FY 2009 Annual Operations Plan - This plan will cover all management operations on State Forest lands on the district for Fiscal Year 2009, which begins July 1, 2008 and ends June 30, 2009
4. Recreation use monitoring and planning for the three recreation sites on the district.
5. Collecting additional data to enhance road inventory information.
6. Continuing work on a new land exchange plan.

Public Information and Education

The district maintains supporting information on the Implementation Plan, Forest Land Management Classification System, and Annual Operations Plans for public review. In addition, district personnel will participate in watershed council meetings, outdoor school presentations, ATV club meetings, and other public events as the opportunity arises. The district will continue to meet with concerned citizens or groups when they have questions or as needed.

Administration

There are sixteen positions on the West Oregon District that are fully, or partially, funded for the management of State Forest lands. These positions are divided into three functional groups: Administration, Engineering Unit and Forest Management Unit (See Figure 1).

Administration is composed of the District Forester, Assistant District Forester, Office Manager and two Office Specialists. The District Forester and Assistant District Forester provide the following functions for the management of state forest lands on the district: policy direction; budgeting; coordination between units and programs; and oversight to the field units. The Office Specialist provides clerical support for the management of State Forest lands. This person is responsible for initial public contact, distribution and filing of documents, and providing assistance at timber sale auctions. The Office Specialist is also responsible for assisting with permits for firewood cutting and special forest products harvesting.

The Engineering Unit is composed of four positions; the Unit Supervisor (who is also a licensed land surveyor); an engineering assistant, a road specialist and an equipment operator who is shared with the North Cascade district. This unit is responsible for land surveying, and establishing and maintaining the property lines of all state forest land on the district. The unit is also responsible for the design and maintenance of all roads on state forest lands.

The Forest Management Unit consists of seven positions and is subdivided into three functional areas: young stand management; timber sale preparation and administration; forest planning, and geographic systems coordination.

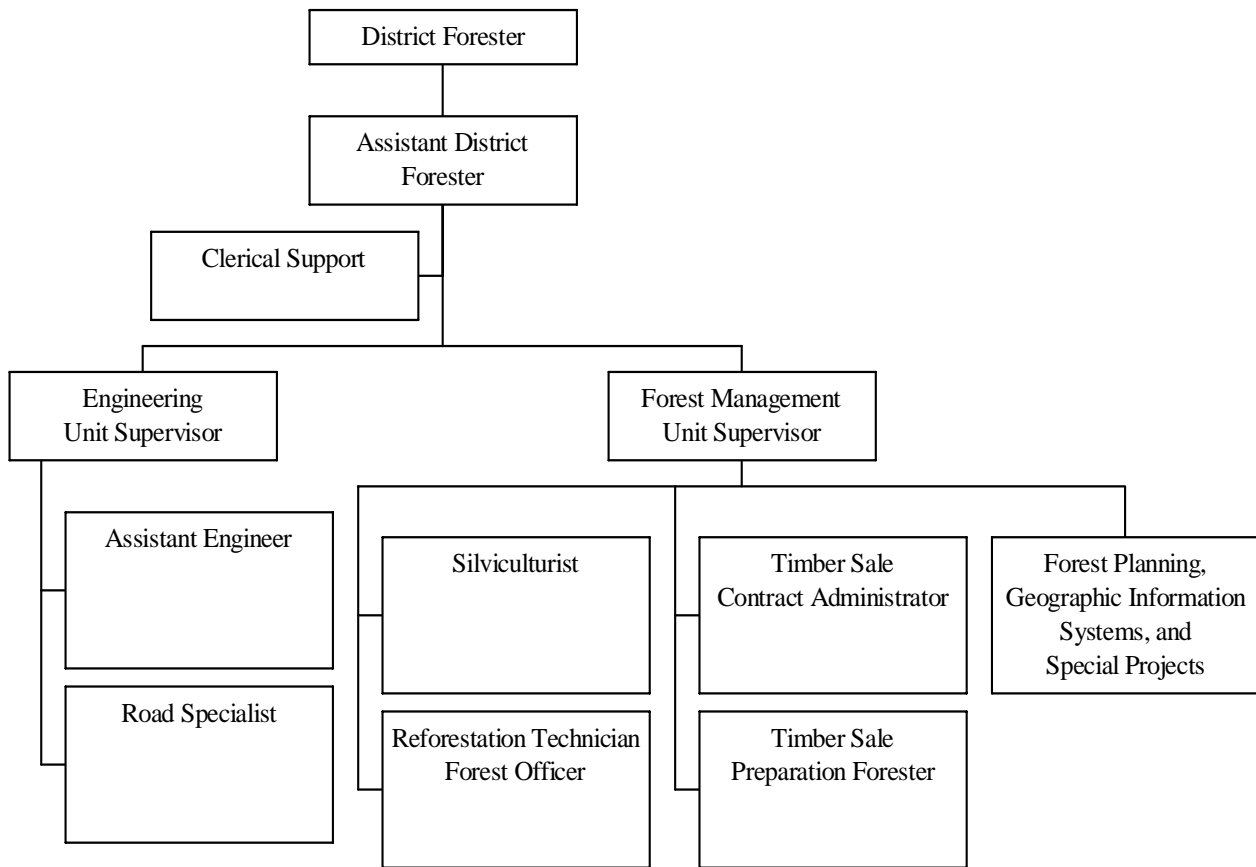
The Forest Management Unit Supervisor coordinates all of the activities in the unit. His duties include employee supervision, reforestation oversight, contract review and approval, and timber sale planning. He prepares the annual operations plans for the district's state forest lands and is active in implementation of the Northwest Oregon State Forest Management Plan and the development of the Western Oregon Habitat Conservation Plan. The Unit Supervisor is also responsible for all recreation management on state forest lands.

The young stand management group is responsible for all activities in forest plantations from the time harvesting is completed through reforestation and stand establishment. The activities of this group include site preparation, tree planting, vegetation management, pruning, tree improvement, and pre-commercial thinning. Within this group, the district silviculturalist is responsible for recommending pathways and prescriptions for all stands that will lead to achieving the district's desired future condition.

The timber sale preparation and administration group is responsible for all aspects of timber harvesting from unit layout through the completion of the harvest contract. The activities include unit layout, cruising, appraisal, contract preparation, and contract administration. This group also ensures that current standards for retention of snags, green trees, and down wood are met and that riparian management strategies are correctly applied to the harvest units. They also assist with the layout and design of new roads. In addition, this group manages the cutting of firewood and sale of miscellaneous forest products, such as moss, ferns and salal.

The third part of the Forest Management Unit is the district's Forest Planning and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Coordinator. The GIS Coordination duties include: acquiring, maintaining and updating data; conducting spatial analysis for district planning; and conducting analysis and map productions for state forests personnel. This person also provides a lead role on large planning projects, such as watershed analysis, implementation plans, the Northwest Oregon State Forest Management Plan and the draft Western Oregon Habitat Conservation Plan. In addition, this position is responsible for the surveys for threatened and endangered species and helps implement the district's land exchange program.

West Oregon District
 State Forest Management Organization
 Figure 1



All personnel involved with the management of state forest lands spend some portion of their time in public information and education, generally one to three days per year. The District Forester, Assistant District Forester, Forest Management Unit Forester and the Geographic Information Systems Coordinator spend considerably more time on public information and education, because of their involvement with the Northwest Oregon State Forest Management Plan and the draft Western Oregon Habitat Conservation Plan.

APPENDICES

A. Summary Tables

TABLE A-1 COMMERCIAL FOREST MGT. OPERATIONS – FINANCIAL SUMMARY

TABLE A-2 COMMERCIAL FOREST MGT. OPERATIONS – INTEGRATED FOREST MGT. STRATEGIES

TABLE A-3 COMMERCIAL FOREST MGT. OPERATIONS – ROADS FINANCIAL SUMMARY

TABLE A-4 NON-COMMERCIAL FORST MGT. OPERATIONS – FINANCIAL SUMMARY

TABLE A-5 RECREATION MGT. OPERATIONS – FINANCIAL SUMMARY

B. Pre-Operations Reports

BEAR TOP

HYMES CATCH-UP

BURNT BLACK

MILLER-DEER

REHATCH

SPILDE OVER

TABLE MOUNTAIN

ALTERNATES

ALL A BOARD

SCATTERED SAM