

Astoria District 2025 ANNUAL OPERATIONS PLAN



Astoria DISTRICT

Fiscal Year 2025 ANNUAL OPERATIONS PLAN

OVERVIEW

This plan describes the activities and outcomes that Oregonians can expect to see on Astoria District for Fiscal Year 2025. The Astoria District is an actively managed forest, valued by many Oregonians for its mixture of environmental, economic, and social benefits. This plan supports this mixture and provides a balance of these benefits as required by Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR 629-035-0020). We strive to manage the forest sustainably, so that the benefits from the forest can be delivered into perpetuity. The forest harvesting is planned at a sustainable level; a level that our computer models suggest can be harvested year after year without reduction.

Forest habitat is expected to develop so the forest has a mixture of habitat types for all of Oregon's native wildlife. Recreational opportunities are diverse and high quality, allowing for off-highway vehicles, bicycling, hiking, hunting, horseback riding, and more, striving to minimize user and environmental conflicts in the context of a working forest.

Managing a public forest has its challenges. In addition to the challenges of providing the opportunities described above, the forest is expected to be financially self-supporting. About two-thirds of the revenues from state forest timber sales go to local counties and other taxing districts, including schools. Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) uses the remaining third of the revenue to manage the forests and keep them healthy, through activities including fire protection, tree planting, thinning, research and monitoring, recreation services, road maintenance and stream habitat improvement. We are striving to continue to provide the current opportunities and are considering a few opportunities for change.

Every year in the Forest, we learn new things and find new challenges and opportunities. In preparing this plan, we have consulted with ODF's wildlife biologists, aquatic specialist, archeologist, geotechnical engineer, road engineer, as well as fish and wildlife biologists from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. The plan will undergo a 45-day public comment period. The operations were shared with the nine federally recognized Tribes in Oregon.

This Annual Operations Plan will be reviewed by the State Forests Advisory Committee (composed of Oregonians representing many interests), a variety of interest groups, as well as Oregonians in general.

The activities shown in the Summary Document and appendixes are estimates based on plans, information, and conditions as known at this point in time. The type, amount, and specific activities will be further adjusted based on field work conducted and on updated assessments that occur during the 2025 fiscal year.

A short summary of activities planned for the coming year:

- Planting approximately 640,800 trees on 1,780 acres and conducting vegetation management activities on 2,650 acres and animal management activities on an additional 820 acres to ensure the survival and growth of these plantations.
- Conducting density or operational surveys for northern spotted owls and marbled murrelets covering the majority of the district and surveying approximately 9 miles of streams for the presence of fish habitat.
- Protecting streams and water resources through a series of buffers and seasonal restrictions.
- Stream improvement projects. The ODF Aquatic and Riparian Specialist will be consulted to help identify potential stream improvement candidates and will consult with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife fish biologists as needed.
- Habitat development projects such as retaining green trees in clearcut areas, and leaving down wood, all for wildlife benefits in harvest areas and future forests.
- Constructing approximately 8.0 miles of road and improving, surface rock replacement, and/or maintenance on approximately 38.6 miles of road to ensure ditch water is dispersed and filtered as much as possible, keeping runoff from entering streams. These roads provide access to timber harvest as well as various recreational opportunities.
- Proposing to harvest approximately 50.9 million board feet of timber volume, through modified clearcuts and partial cuts, generating revenue of an estimated \$20.9 (after subtracting Work Order Contract Costs) million net value.
- Operating and maintaining developed facilities in a safe, clean, and responsible manner.

- Providing a safe and clean environment for the myriad of dispersed activities that occur across the forest – hunting, camping, angling, sight-seeing, target shooting, swimming, mushroom picking, etc.
- Maintaining, managing, and patrolling the 28 miles of motorized and 21 miles of non-motorized trails, striving to protect the trail investments, provide for user safety, address developing trail issues, and protect water quality.
- Supporting the important volunteer network that assists in forest management including the following programs:
 - Camp Host Program
 - Non-profit and user group led trail maintenance and construction work parties
- Providing a firewood cutting program and miscellaneous forest products permits (salal, mushrooms, etc.) as done in 2024.
- Supporting ongoing research on the district, in partnership with research cooperatives and universities.

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INTRODUCTION

This annual operation plan outlines activities on state-owned forestland managed by the Astoria District for Fiscal Year 2025, which begins July 1, 2024 and ends June 30, 2025. This document describes how the activities and projects undertaken by the district will achieve the goals, strategies, and objectives of the *NW Oregon Forest Management Plan*, the *Draft Habitat Conservation Plan*, the, and the *Astoria District 2023 Implementation Plan*. Please refer to the district Implementation Plan's for more specific information on physical characteristics and other district resource information.

The Annual Operations Plan document is divided into five major categories: Integrated Forest Management; Planning and Information Systems; Public Information and Education; Administration, and Appendices. A short summary of proposed activities is listed within this introduction. In addition to describing forest management activities for Fiscal Year 2025, Appendix F describes any modifications to the Forest Land Management Classification System. Appendix G describes any modifications to the Astoria District Landscape Design*.

The proposed harvest operations and activities are planned to be designed, engineered, and submitted for processing during the Fiscal Year 2025 time period. Actual on-the-ground operations will likely not occur during Fiscal Year 2025 due to the time-lag associated with contract duration, which could be one to three years after auction. In contrast, reforestation, young stand management, recreation management, and planning activities will be carried out during Fiscal Year 2025.

A 45-day public comment period will be held from April 3, 2024 through May 17, 2024. The District Forester will review all comments received before approving this plan.

Accomplishments of forest management activities that occurred under previous Annual Operations Plans can be found in several reports, including the *State Forester's Annual Report for the Association of Oregon Counties* and the *Common School Forest Lands Annual Report*. These reports are available through the local district office or online.**

*Minor/major modifications and the procedures for making these changes are described in Astoria District IP.

**The State Forests' individual district annual reports are available on the Oregon Dept. of Forestry website under "Reports." You can access here: <http://www.oregon.gov/ODF/Pages/Reports.aspx>

INTEGRATED FOREST MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS

Timber Harvest Operations

Overview of Timber Harvest Operations

All of the Primary and Alternate harvest operations and many of the other forest management activities have been reviewed by ODF’s wildlife biologists, aquatic specialist, archaeologist, geotechnical engineer, road engineer, and planning manager, and were reviewed by fish and wildlife biologists from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. All of the operations have been reviewed against the State Historic Preservation Office and General Land Office databases for potential impact to cultural resources. Occasionally, operations may contain a resource or activity where review with another state agency, such as the Department of Agriculture is warranted. Written comments from the external resource specialists and the resolution of those comments can be found in Appendix C.

The Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Operations Plan is estimated to produce 50.9 million board feet in volume, generate gross revenues of approximately \$23.0 million and net revenues of \$20.9 million. The volume objective is within the 48-52 Million Board Feet range outlined in the Astoria Districts 2023 Implementation Plan. However, some events may result in an Annual Operations Plan volume that is outside the Annual Harvest Objective range. These events may consist of, but are not limited to, storm damage, insect and/or disease outbreaks, timber market conditions or other significant events. Alternate timber sales included in the Annual Operations Plan may be sold as primary operations in response to any of these circumstances. In the instance where volume targets were achieved in the previous fiscal year prior to all of the primary sales being sold one or more of those sales may move into this fiscal year. These sales would contribute to the annual volume objective.

Additional operations may produce timber volume for the district during the 2025 fiscal year but are not included in this Annual Operation Plan. These are generally small areas, produce little volume, and/or are time sensitive in nature. These sales do not require significant effort to develop and execute and will comply with all policies, the district Implementation Plan, and the Forest Management Plan. Examples of these sales include salvage, pulp sales, removal of hazard trees, pole sales, etc.

Refer to the attached Astoria District Financial Summary Table (Appendix A, Table A-1) and vicinity map (Appendix B) for more detail on expected outputs from planned timber sales.

Table 1. Accomplishment of Annual Operations Plan Harvest Volume Compared to Implementation Plan Annual Objective (Million Board Feet)

Harvest Objectives	Fiscal Year 2025 Implementation Plan Harvest Ranges		2025 Annual Operations Plan
	Low	High	
Volume (Million Board Feet)	48	52	50.9

Overview of Structural Components

The guidelines for managing structural habitat components listed under Landscape Management Strategy 3 in the NW Oregon State Forests Management Plan (pg. 4-52), will be followed for the Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Operations Plan. Structural components may be retained at higher levels in some units and at lower levels in other units. The intent is to achieve the targets outlined in the Forest Management Plan strategies in a given annual operations plan.

The green tree retention target for regeneration harvest units is an average of five trees per acre in the NW Forest Management Plan. Tree arrangements for this Annual Operations Plan may include; scattered individual trees, clumps of trees, and trees concentrated in and adjacent to riparian management areas, inner gorge areas or headwalls. The final decision on the location and arrangement of the green trees is made while the sale is being laid out to incorporate information on potential minor tree species, unique stand features, steep slopes, visual considerations, reforestation considerations, etc. To promote diversity on the landscape a variety of green tree placement strategies will be used.

The NW Forest Management Plan strategy for hard snags is to manage for at least two per acre on average across the landscape. The Forest Management Plan strategy for Down Woody Debris is to retain an average of 600 to 900 cubic feet of hard conifer logs (class 1 & 2) per acre during regeneration harvest. Strategies for retaining snags and down wood are determined using a current condition assessment from forest inventory data or timber cruising data. The need for snag creation in each unit is evaluated based on cruise or inventory information that documents snags in decay class 1 and 2 in the sale and surrounding landscape. Areas with less than 2 hard snags per acre will be evaluated and an appropriate snag prescription will be developed as needed. Down Wood will continue to be created through bucking practices, leaving felled snags in the unit and tops on ground yarding areas.

The Astoria district has experienced a number of large wind and snow break events over the last 10-15 years. This has produced a large number of residual snags and down woody components across the landscape. Due to this, snag creation is generally not pursued. If snags are found to be deficient in an area, generally additional leave trees will be retained with the assumption that wind and or ice will cause a certain percentage of these to become snags.

In addition to the leave tree strategies within the Forest Management Plan all timber sales within Fiscal Year 2025 will also abide by the green tree retention strategies of the Draft Habitat Conservation Plan. Two trees per acre will be retained within any forest stand harvested using regeneration harvest techniques. Trees selected for retention will be outside of Riparian Conservation Areas and will be assessed during each final harvest so that selected trees will not be removed in subsequent rotations and will contribute to long-term recruitment of large diameter snags and downed wood. Overlaps may occur with the green tree retention strategies of the Forest Management Plan. Leave tree configuration will be determined during sale layout to ensure compliance with Forest Management Plan and Habitat Conservation Plan strategies.

Climate Change and Carbon Storage

Climate change and carbon sequestration are generally topics related to higher-level strategies in the Forest Management Plans or Implementation Plans. While the current Forest Management Plans and Implementation Plans don't address carbon or climate change directly, the main strategies of the Climate Change and Carbon Plan are being implemented during this transition period with the implementation of the draft HCP strategies combined with the current FMP requirements and will result in a variety of forest stand conditions that maintain healthy, multi-species, vigorously growing forests, which will contribute to resilient healthy forests into the future.

Under these current plans, large portions of the landscape provide carbon storage and will continue to do so long into the future. These include areas that have a desired future condition of Layered or Older Forest Structure, draft Habitat Conservation Areas, Riparian Conservation Areas, no harvest wildlife areas, and forested areas that are inoperable, etc. In addition, existing old growth trees are also protected and are generally scattered individual trees or occasional small, isolated patches. Legacy structures retained (green trees, snags, down wood) within harvest areas will continue to store carbon while the seedlings regenerating around these structures will accumulate carbon. Carbon is also stored in harvested wood products removed during the Annual Operation Plan implementation, as trees are converted to lumber for houses or other various paper products a percentage of this carbon is stored until it decays or is replaced. Forest health strategies are addressed on a site-specific basis for areas impacted by insects and diseases such as Swiss needle cast and when reforestation plans are developed for planting and other young stand management treatments. Site specific prescriptions consider target species, aspect, elevation, soil types, Swiss needle cast risk where applicable, Phellinus weirii (laminated root rot) presence, required stocking guidelines, natural advanced regeneration, and the desired future condition of the stand. This will provide for a diverse, healthy, productive, and sustainable forest ecosystem over time that will be more resilient to change.

Harvest Operations within Habitat Conservation Areas

Habitat Conservation Areas are one of the draft Habitat Conservation Plan strategies that is being implemented with this AOP. HCAs were designed to conserve the highest quality existing covered species habitat and nearly all known occupied parts of the permit area; however, there are many areas of lower quality habitat in HCAs, given the size of HCAs and the disturbance and management history of the permit area. The overarching management objective for HCAs is to increase the quality and quantity of habitat for terrestrial covered species. Stands that provide lower quality habitat or no habitat will be managed more frequently, in order to increase the quality and quantity of habitat. Over time HCAs will become better habitat for terrestrial species as more acres of lower quality habitat grow into higher quality habitat.

The majority of stand management that will occur in HCAs will be in locations that currently provide limited habitat value for covered species. Managing stands in HCAs that are lacking habitat characteristics for covered species will help promote development of them as the forest grows. These important characteristics include large trees and snags, multistoried and multi-species canopies, and large woody material. The primary purpose of these management actions is to selectively and strategically improve and accelerate development of such habitat characteristics for terrestrial covered species that rely on late-seral forests. Management within the HCAs will primarily fall into one of four categories:

Healthy Conifer: Typically management will include a variety of density management prescriptions in young healthy conifer forests to ensure that late-seral structure develops more quickly. Many of these stands have a high original planting density intended for timber production, and will persist as simple, closed canopy stands without a reduction in density and overall uniformity. To improve covered species habitat, these stands will receive thinning and patch cuts that will increase growth of dominant trees and allow for the initiation (or re-initiation) of understory tree and shrub species that will increase both vertical and horizontal heterogeneity, as well as species diversity, within the stand.

Swiss Needle Cast: Another focus of management within HCAs will be to reset stands that are stunted, due to Swiss needle cast, and will likely not become high quality habitat for covered

species over the course of the permit term. By harvesting these stands early in the permit term, including regeneration harvests that remove significant portions of stands, ODF will be able to replant the stands with a species mix that will grow into more suitable habitat during the permit term. Swiss needle cast regeneration prescriptions will include the retention of other conifer and hardwood species that are unaffected by the disease.

Conifer Restoration in Hardwood-dominant Stands: Hardwood-dominant stands include those that have >50% hardwood species. Hardwood species have value for covered species and other wildlife; however, large expanses of red alder dominant stands with little conifer component are unlikely to develop into suitable or highly suitable habitat for marbled murrelets or red tree voles and are unlikely to support nesting northern spotted owls over the permit term. Therefore, there will be a focus on managing a portion of hardwood-dominant stands (primarily red alder) in the first 30 years of the permit term in order to reforest those stands with conifer species that will grow into higher quality habitat for covered species over time. In addition to the reforested conifer component, existing conifers will be retained where operationally feasible, and some hardwoods will also be retained in these stands during harvest.

Young Stand Management: Plantings will occur at lower densities and incorporate greater proportions of minor species (western red cedar, Sitka spruce, western white pine, hemlock, true firs). Natural regeneration will be allowed to occur in some small patch cuts, and root-rot tolerant species will be planted where patch cuts are used to address infestations. If needed, alternative management plans will be filed where restocking conditions fail to meet FPA standards. Intensity of manual release operations will be reduced to allow for some hardwood retention and development. These treatments are intended to promote complex early seral stand conditions that have greater potential to develop into high quality habitat for the covered terrestrial species than more intensive production-oriented treatments and prescriptions.

Harvest Outside of Habitat Conservation Areas

The 1,272 acres of regeneration harvest (primary sales) planned for Fiscal Year 2025 represents approximately one percent of the district. All of the regeneration harvest acres will be designed as clearcuts.

There are 611 acres of regeneration harvest (alternate sales) that are planned for Fiscal Year 2025. Alternate timber sales may be sold as primary operations if issues arise on meeting the volume targets identified within the Implementation Plans.

Harvest Inside of Habitat Conservation Areas

The 121 acres of partial cut harvest (primary sales) is designed as Healthy Conifer Thinning's with the goal to thin out the dense trees allowing more light to reach the forest floor. There are no planned Alternate operations planned for FY25 in Astoria. This will allow increased understory development and improve the layering of structure within the stand. Prescriptions may incorporate a mix of gap-cuts, areas of untreated stands, and variable density thinning prescriptions. Minor species will be evaluated to reserve based on the composition of the stand and the amount of diversity present. Residual tree selection will emphasize preserving the trees of good form and vigor with the largest diameter and height. These prescriptions will be developed in consultation with ODF biologists.

Table 2. Summary of Primary Timber Harvest Operations. All values are in net acres.

2025 Annual Operations Plan				
	Harvest Outside of Habitat Conservation Areas		Harvest Inside of Habitat Conservation Areas	
	Partial Cut Acres	Clearcut Acres	Partial Cut Acres	Clearcut Acres
Primary	0	1,272	121	0
Alternates	0	611	0	0

The anticipated harvest acres, volume, and revenue for each proposed operation in this Annual Operations Plan are listed in the “Harvest Operations – Financial Summary” Table A-1 in Appendix A.

Harvest Operations within Terrestrial Anchor Sites and Aquatic Anchors

The Astoria District’s 2023 Implementation Plan implemented the State Forests’ Species of Concern Strategies that specifically identifies fish and wildlife species of concern on the Astoria District. Two of these strategies are Terrestrial Anchor Sites and Aquatic Anchor sites.

Terrestrial Anchor Sites

Terrestrial Anchor Sites areas are intended to benefit terrestrial wildlife species of concern, especially those associated with older forest or interior habitat conditions, sensitive to forest fragmentation, or do not readily disperse across younger forest conditions. Management within Terrestrial Anchor Sites is intended to be limited, to emulate natural small-scale disturbance patterns, and to minimize short- term negative impacts to habitat. All areas that were designated as Terrestrial Anchor Sites were designated for the development of complex structure in the Landscape Design.

Since the adoption of the Terrestrial Anchor Sites in the July 2011, the district has been proceeding with operations in these areas. Great care has been given in selecting stands for harvest and developing prescriptions in these areas to ensure that these harvest activities achieve the goals of the Terrestrial Anchor Sites. These sales were reviewed with ODF and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Resource Specialists. Table 3 shows there are no harvests planned within the Terrestrial Anchor Sites proposed for primary sales in the 2025 Annual Operations Plan and also shows the cumulative operations in Terrestrial Anchor Sites since the strategy was adopted.

Table 3. Summary of Harvest Operations within Terrestrial Anchor Sites (Acres and Percent)

Acres within Terrestrial Anchor Sites	Current Annual Operations Plan (Fiscal Year 2025)		Cumulative Harvest (Since Fiscal Year 2012)	
	Clearcut	Partial Cut	Clearcut	Partial Cut
Terrestrial Anchor Site Basin				
Buster (4,599 ac)	0	0	0	0
% of Acres	0%	0%	0%	0%
Plympton (4,077 ac)	0	0	1	64
% of Acres	0%	0%	<0.1%	1.6%
Sweethome (2,282 ac)	0	0	11	68
% of Acres	0%	0%	0.5%	3.0%
All Terrestrial Anchor Sites (10,958 ac)	0	0	13	131
% of Acres	0%	0%	0.1%	1.2%

Aquatic Anchors

Aquatic Anchor Sites are geographically identified watersheds where salmon and aquatic conservation is of particular concern. In these areas, additional riparian management strategies are implemented when conducting harvest operations. These strategies do not preclude or limit harvest or road building activities, but rather supplement existing riparian buffer protections to further bolster the conservation goals in these areas. Streams will be protected by applying no harvest Riparian Conservation Areas from the draft Habitat Conservation Plan as well as extended out to 50 feet when regeneration harvesting in Aquatic Anchors near small perennial, debris flow-prone, and high-energy non-fish streams. In addition, areas designated for the development of complex structure in the Landscape Design are clustered around streams important to fish in the Aquatic Anchors.

The Aquatic Anchors became effective July 1, 2013 and replaced the Salmon Anchor Habitat Strategy that expired June 30, 2013. Table 4 shows the current harvest and the cumulative total from Fiscal year 2014.

Table 4. Summary of Harvest Operations within Aquatic Anchors (acres and percent)

Acreages	Current Annual Operations Plan (Fiscal Year 2025)		Cumulative Harvest (since Fiscal Year 2014)	
	Clearcut	Partial Cut	Clearcut	Partial Cut
Aquatic Anchor Basins				
Northrup Creek (7,027 ac)	161	87	1,525	205
% of Acres	2.0%	1.0%	21.7%	2.9%
Buster Creek (10,874 ac)	41	0	1,666	669
% of Acres	<0.1%	0%	15.3%	6.2%
Upper Rock Creek (3,498 ac)	0	0	253	65
% of Acres	0%	0%	7.2%	1.9%
Upper North Fork Nehalem (9,908 ac)	139	0	918	814
% of Acres	0.1%	0%	9.2%	8.2%
Coal Creek (183 ac)	0	0	0	0
% of Acres	0%	0%	0%	0%
All Aquatic Anchors (31,490 ac)	341	87	4,362	1,753
Total % of Acres	1.1%	<0.1%	13.9%	5.6%

Summary of Timber Harvest Operations by Basin

In the following section, the harvest operations planned for Fiscal Year 2025 will be summarized in the context of the 17 management basins on the Astoria District. Since the Forest Management Plan strategies provide standards for structural components such as green trees, snags, down wood as well as riparian protection, these are not discussed in the summary. Road strategies and standards are discussed in the Forest Roads Management section. Additional information regarding the harvest operations may be found within Table A-2, the Forest Resources Summary in Appendix A.

Table 5. Summary of Timber Harvest Operations in each basin. All values are in net acres.

Basin	2025 Annual Operations Plan	
	Partial Cut	Clearcut
Astoria	0	161
Beneke	0	0
Buster	0	149
Crawford	0	0
Davis	0	168
Fishhawk	0	0
Gnat	0	255
Hamilton	0	106
Klaskanine	0	98
Lousignot	0	0
N. Fork Nehalem	0	177
Northrup	121	158
Plympton	0	0
Quartz	0	0
Sager	0	0
Scattered	0	0
Sweethome	0	0
Totals	121	1,272

Astoria Basin

Mothball Hill: This operation consists of two clearcut units totaling 99 acres. The mixed conifer stands within this sale are between 46 and 103 years old. The stands in this timber sale have not been previously managed. The current condition is a mix of Understory and Layered with a Desired Future Condition of non-complex for the majority of the sale units. There are currently two acres shown as having a Desired Future Condition of Layered within Unit 1. This area is adjacent to stream and geotech buffers will be assessed during sale layout to determine if the Desired Future Condition should be modified in this area. Following the completion of harvest, the units will be planted with a mixture of species to be determined closer to the time of reforestation.

Approximately 1.1 (0.5 miles of rocked and 0.6 miles of unsurfaced) of spur road will be constructed to facilitate harvest. Approximately 1.6 miles of road will have improvement, surface rock replacement, or maintenance performed in conjunction with this sale. Approximately 0.36 miles of road will be blocked in conjunction with this sale.

An easement over the adjacent private landowner may be needed to access portions of Unit 1. This will be verified prior to layout with more detailed logging plans.

Portions of Unit 1 are adjacent to Highway 30 and the intent is to remove hazard trees immediately adjacent to the Highway.

Pipeline Split: This operation consists of two clearcut units totaling 62 acres. The mixed hardwood and conifer stands within this sale are between 61 and 62 years old. These stands were thinned in 2004 and salvage logged in 2009. The current condition is a mix of Understory and Closed Single Canopy. The units have a Desired Future Condition of non-complex stands. Following the completion of harvest, the units will be planted with a mixture of species to be determined closer to the time of reforestation.

Approximately 0.7 (0.4 miles of rocked and 0.3 miles of unsurfaced) of spur road will be constructed to facilitate harvest. Approximately 3.9 miles of road will have improvement, surface rock replacement, or maintenance performed in conjunction with this sale. Approximately 0.3 miles of road will be blocked in conjunction with this sale.

All sale access roads are behind locked gates. Gates are located on Williamsport, Scandinavian Cannery, and Pipeline Roads.

Slough Hill (Alternate): This operation consists of one clearcut unit totaling 120 acres. The mixed conifer stands within this sale are between 35 and 55 years old. Portions of this timber sale were thinned in 2012. The current condition is a mix of Understory and Closed Single Canopy. The units have a Desired Future Condition of non-complex stands. Following the completion of harvest, the units will be planted with a mixture of species to be determined closer to the time of reforestation.

Approximately 1.0 (0.4 miles of rocked and 0.6 miles of unsurfaced) of spur road will be constructed to facilitate harvest. Approximately 2.3 miles of road will have improvement, surface rock replacement, or maintenance performed in conjunction with this sale. Approximately 0.6 miles of road will be blocked in conjunction with this sale.

All sale access roads are behind locked gates. Gates are located on Fertile Valley Road at the Junction of Brownsmead Hill Road.

Beneke Basin

Wild Gander (Alternate): This operation consists of five clearcut units totaling 260 acres. The mixed conifer stand within the sale are between 32 and 79 years old. The 32 year old stand is being harvested to clean up a setting break. Unit 1 has not been previously managed. Units 2 and 3 were thinned in 2007. Unit 4 was thinned in 1999. Unit 5 was thinned in 2006. The current condition of the sale is a mix of Understory and Closed Single Canopy, with a Desired Future Condition of non-complex. Following the completion of harvest, the unit will be replanted with a mixture of species to be determined closer to the time of reforestation.

Approximately 1.4 miles (1.3 miles of rocked and 0.1 miles of unsurfaced) of spur road will be constructed to facilitate harvest. Approximately 10.6 miles of road will have improvement, surface rock replacement, or maintenance performed in conjunction with this sale. Approximately 0.1 miles of road will be blocked in conjunction with this sale.

There is potential for stream enhancement within Unit 5. Additional reconnaissance will be needed during sale layout to determine the best candidates and locations.

Buster Basin

Easy Wages: This operation consists of one clearcut totaling 63 acres. The Douglas-fir and western hemlock stand within this sale is 83 years old. The stands in this timber sale have not been previously managed. The current condition of the sale is Understory. The unit has a Desired Future Condition of non-complex. Following the completion of harvest, the unit will be planted with a mixture of species to be determined closer to the time of reforestation.

This operation is located within the Buster Creek Aquatic Anchor.

Approximately 0.1 miles of rocked spur road will be constructed to facilitate harvest. Approximately 1.9 miles of road will have improvement, surface rock replacement, or maintenance performed in conjunction with this sale.

Scout Walker (Alternate): This operation consists of three clearcut units totaling 151 acres. Approximately 58 acres of this sale (Unit 1) falls within the Sager Basin with the remaining 93 acres falling within the Buster Basin. The mixed conifer stands within the sale are between 39 and 88 years old. The 39 year old stand is being harvested to clean up a setting break. The stands in this timber sale have not been previously managed. The current condition of Units 1 and 2 is Understory and Unit 3 is Layered, with a Desired Future Condition of non-complex. Following the completion of harvest, the unit will be replanted with a mixture of species to be determined closer to the time of reforestation.

Approximately 0.7 miles (0.6 miles of rocked and 0.1 miles of unsurfaced) of spur road will be constructed to facilitate harvest. Approximately 10.9 miles of road will have improvement, surface rock replacement, or maintenance performed in conjunction with this sale. Approximately 0.1 miles of road will be blocked in conjunction with this sale.

There is potential for stream enhancement within Units 2 and/or 3. Additional reconnaissance will be needed during sale layout to determine the best candidates and locations.

Toto: This operation consists of two clearcut units totaling 86 acres. The mixed conifer stands within the sale are between 69 and 72 years old. Units 1 and 2 were previously thinned in 2004. The current condition of Unit 1 is Layered and Unit 2 is Understory, with a Desired Future Condition of non-complex. Following the completion of harvest, the unit will be replanted with a mixture of species to be determined closer to the time of reforestation.

Approximately 0.3 miles (0.2 miles of rocked and 0.1 miles of unsurfaced) of spur road will be constructed to facilitate harvest. Approximately 3.3 miles of road will have improvement, surface rock replacement, or maintenance performed in conjunction with this sale. Approximately 0.1 miles of road will be blocked in conjunction with this sale.

Crawford Basin

There are no harvest operations planned in this basin for Fiscal Year 2025.

Davis Basin

Davis Ridge: This operation consists of two clearcut units totaling 168 acres. The mixed conifer stands within the sale are between 35 and 83 years old. Portions of Unit 1 was previously thinned in 2014. Unit 2 has not been previously managed. The current condition of the sale is a mix of Understory, Layered, Closed Single Canopy, and a small wedge of Non-forest with a Desired Future Condition of non-complex. The small wedge of Non-forest is primarily roadside hazard trees that will be removed with the harvest. Following the completion of harvest, the unit will be replanted with a mixture of species to be determined closer to the time of reforestation.

Approximately 0.6 miles (0.4 miles of rocked and 0.2 miles of unsurfaced) of spur road will be constructed to facilitate harvest. Approximately 3.6 miles of road will have improvement, surface rock replacement, or maintenance performed in conjunction with this sale. Approximately 0.1 miles of legacy spur road will be vacated and 0.2 miles of road will be blocked with this sale.

Fishhawk Basin

There are no harvest operations planned in this basin for Fiscal Year 2025.

Gnat Basin

Gazoo Combo: This combination sale consists of four clearcut units totaling 314 acres and two partial cut units totaling 121 acres. Approximately 59 acres of clearcut and 121 acres of the partial cut (Units 1, 2, and 3) fall within the Northrup Basin with the remaining 255 acres of clearcut falling within the Gnat Basin. The mixed conifer stands within the sale are between 68 and 78 years old. The majority of Unit 1 has not been previously managed with approximately 17 acres of it being thinned in 2001 and 2008. Unit 2 was thinned in 2001 and 2008. Unit 3 has not been previously managed. Units 4, 5, and 6 were thinned in 1999. The current condition of the sale is a mix of Understory, Closed Single Canopy, and Layered with a Desired Future Condition of non-complex. Following the completion of harvest, the clearcut units will be replanted with a mixture of species to be determined closer to the time of reforestation.

Approximately 1.4 miles (0.3 miles of rocked and 1.1 miles of unsurfaced) of spur road will be constructed to facilitate harvest. Approximately 13.3 miles of road will have improvement, surface rock replacement, or maintenance performed in conjunction with this sale. Approximately 0.5 miles of legacy railroad grade will be vacated and 1.1 miles of road will be blocked in conjunction with this sale.

There is potential for stream enhancement within Units 4 and/or 5. Additional reconnaissance will be needed during sale layout to determine the best candidates and locations.

Portions of Units 1,2, 3, and 6 are within the Northrup Creek Aquatic Anchor

The partial cut units are within a Draft Habitat Conservation Area. The thinning prescription for this stand will be developed to create more complex structure and improve habitat.

East Micro (Alternate): This operation consists of one clearcut unit totaling 80 acres. The conifer stand within this sale is 55 years old. The stand in this timber sale was previously thinned in 2011. The current condition of the sale area is Understory with a Desired Future Condition of non-

complex. Following the completion of harvest, the units will be planted with a mixture of species to be determined closer to the time of reforestation.

The sale unit is in close proximity to the Nicolai Off Highway Vehicle Campground and portions of the Trunk Line Trail are within the proposed sale boundary. The Recreation Program has determined that this segment does not meet trail sustainability goals and will be vacated by timber sale. The Recreation Program will explore re-route opportunities post-harvest activity.

Approximately 0.3 miles of unsurfaced spur road will be constructed to facilitate harvest. Approximately 6.4 miles of road will have improvement, surface rock replacement and/or maintenance in conjunction with this sale. Approximately 0.3 miles of road will be blocked in conjunction with this sale.

Hamilton Basin

Tide Flats: This operation consists of two clearcut units totaling 106 acres. The mixed conifer and hardwood stands within this sale are between 73 and 75 years old. Unit 1 has not been previously managed. Unit 2 was thinned in 1997. The current condition of Unit 1 is Layered. The current condition of Unit 2 is Understory. The units have a Desired Future Condition of non-complex stands. Following the completion of harvest, the units will be planted with a mixture of species to be determined closer to the time of reforestation.

Approximately 0.9 (0.6 miles of rocked and 0.3 miles of unsurfaced) of spur road will be constructed to facilitate harvest. Approximately 3.2 miles of road will have improvement, surface rock replacement, or maintenance performed in conjunction with this sale. Approximately 0.3 miles of road will be blocked in conjunction with this sale.

An easement over the adjacent private landowner may be needed to access portions of Unit 1. This will be verified prior to layout with more detailed logging plans.

Klaskanine Basin

Simply Simmons: This operation consists of three clearcut units totaling 98 acres. The mixed conifer stands within the sale are between 78 and 79 years old. Unit 1 was thinned in 2014. Unit 2 has not been previously managed. Unit 3 was thinned in 2004. The current condition of the sale is a mix of Understory and Closed Single Canopy with a Desired Future Condition of non-complex. The small wedge of Non-forest is primarily roadside hazard trees that will be removed with the harvest. Following the completion of harvest, the unit will be replanted with a mixture of species to be determined closer to the time of reforestation.

Approximately 0.5 miles (0.3 miles of rocked and 0.2 miles of unsurfaced) of spur road will be constructed to facilitate harvest. Approximately 2.6 miles of road will have improvement, surface rock replacement, or maintenance performed in conjunction with this sale. Approximately 0.2 miles of road will be blocked in conjunction with this sale.

Louisignot Basin

There are no harvest operations planned in this basin for Fiscal Year 2025.

North Fork Nehalem Basin

Triple Divide: This operation consists of three clearcuts totaling 177 acres. The mixed conifer stands within this sale are between 47 and 63 years old. Units 1 and 2 were thinned in 2008. Unit 3 was thinned in 2014. The current condition of the sale is Understory with a Desired Future Condition of non-complex for the majority of the sale units. There are currently 7 acres shown as having a desired future condition of OFS within Unit 3. This area is adjacent to a buffer will be assessed during sale layout to determine if the DFC should be modified in this area. Following the completion of harvest, the unit will be planted with a mixture of species to be determined closer to the time of reforestation.

This operation is located within the Upper North Fork Nehalem River Aquatic Anchor

Approximately 1.4 miles (0.3 miles of rocked and 1.1 miles of unsurfaced) of spur road will be constructed to facilitate harvest. Approximately 4.0 miles of road will have improvement, surface rock replacement, or maintenance performed in conjunction with this sale. Approximately 0.1 miles of road will be evaluated for vacating and approximately 1.1 miles of road will be blocked in conjunction with this sale.

Northrup Basin

Hawkins: This operation consists of two clearcuts totaling 99 acres. The Douglas-fir and red alder stands within this sale are between 67 and 83 years old. The stands in this timber sale have not been previously managed. The current condition of the sale is Understory. The unit has a Desired Future Condition of non-complex. Following the completion of harvest, the unit will be planted with a mixture of species to be determined closer to the time of reforestation.

This operation is located within the Northrup Creek Aquatic Anchor.

Approximately 1.0 miles (0.9 miles of rocked and 0.1 miles of unsurfaced) of spur road will be constructed to facilitate harvest. Approximately 1.2 miles of road will have improvement, surface rock replacement, or maintenance performed in conjunction with this sale. Approximately 0.1 miles of road will be blocked in conjunction with this sale.

Gazoo Combo: A portion of Gazoo Combo lies within the Gnat basin. See sale description under the Gnat Basin.

Plympton Basin

There are no harvest operations planned in this basin for Fiscal Year 2025.

Quartz Basin

There are no harvest operations planned in this basin for Fiscal Year 2025.

Sager Basin

Scout Walker: A portion of Scout Walker lies within the Buster basin. See sale description under the Buster Basin.

Scattered Basin

There are no harvest operations planned in this basin for Fiscal Year 2025.

Sweethome Basin

There are no harvest operations planned in this basin for Fiscal Year 2025.

Forest Roads Management

Overview

The State Forest road network provides access for forest management activities, fire suppression, and recreation. Visions, guiding principles, and goals for managing the road network are discussed in the Northwest Oregon State Forests Management Plan (April 2010) and the State Forest Roads Manual (September 2006). The State Forest Roads Manual also provides standards and guidance for all road management activities and definitions, road classifications and other terms.

The roadwork in this Annual Operations Plan is related to constructing spur roads and for improving haul routes for the Fiscal Year 2025 timber sales. This section describes the types of road management activities that will occur in Fiscal Year 2025 and the attached Forest Roads Summary Table (Appendix A, Table A-3) describes the anticipated total amounts.

Road Construction

The District evaluates each timber sale and strives to build the minimum number of roads required, except where the District has identified road systems that can be moved away from existing streams to mitigate hydrological issues. This may result in more road miles, but relocating roads away from the stream network is beneficial for watershed processes. The District tries to limit the number of stream crossings where possible when building new roads. Where stream crossings are unavoidable, new and replacement stream crossings will be designed to meet National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries (2022) passage criteria to maintain passage for covered fish species where applicable and follow best management practices outlined in the State Forest Roads Manual. All planned road construction is reviewed by the Geotechnical specialist to ensure that new roads are located in stable locations to provide the best protection to natural resources while meeting the objective of the road. Discussions are held regarding the long-term use of the road by the District staff for reforestation and future management, and whether a road needs to be surfaced or if it can be left unsurfaced. Financial costs of the construction and long-term maintenance are considered as well as potential impact to sale operations, anticipated closures related to weather, and long-term impact to wildlife and recreation.

Minimal roads will be built within Habitat Conservation Areas and Riparian Conservation Area. The intent is to be very deliberate when building roads in these locations and ensure that other options were reviewed and that the planned road location is required and that other alternatives were not operationally or economically feasible.

Road Improvement

Road improvement projects will use ODF road inventory protocols to assess existing road drainage, stability, and vegetation conditions, and to aid in the development of transportation system improvement plans. Road Improvement activities will follow the guidance of the State Forest Roads Manual, State Forest Stewardship Agreement, and Chapter 4 of the Draft Habitat Conservation Plan. Road improvement is generally accomplished through timber sale or Work order contracts. The majority of this improvement work will be performed on collector and spur roads and will consist of installing or replacing existing culverts and bridges, ditchline or cutbank improvements, or sidecast pull back and stabilization efforts.

Road Maintenance

Roads will be maintained as necessary to minimize the impact on natural resources, protect water quality and protect the investment made to the road infrastructure. Road maintenance activities will follow the guidance of the State Forest Roads Manual, State Forest Stewardship Agreement, and Chapter 4 of the Draft Habitat Conservation Plan. Road maintenance can be accomplished through timber sale contracts, Work order contracts, or the State forests road crew. Emergency maintenance can also be accomplished by directly hiring contractors within a certain threshold. Maintenance is focused on ensuring proper drainage to prevent sediment from entering streams. Collector roads, and roads in active sale areas, need and get the most maintenance. District personnel respond to heavy storms and thaw periods by performing road inspections, additional maintenance, and where necessary, stopping heavy truck use during periods when roads cannot handle traffic without damage to the water quality or the road asset.

Surface rock replacement is also considered maintenance. It is defined as adding additional surface rock to an already surfaced road to replace the rock worn down from road use. The intent of surface rock replacement is to bring the road back up to the original design standards. Rock wear details can be found in the appendices of the State Forest Roads Manual.

Work Order Contracts

Road maintenance and improvement projects not associated with a timber sale will be primarily facilitated through Work Order Contracts. This process uses the same protocols and guidance outlined in the road improvement and maintenance sections but allows the department to be efficient in accomplishing this work and prepare for future projects. The work associated with these contracts can include bridge design, fish culvert installation, road brushing, road maintenance and repair, or repairing/replacing gates.

Other Planned Road Projects to be completed by Work Order Contract in the Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Operations Plan:

- Easy Wages Project Work
- Hunt Creek Quarry Rock Crushing and Stockpiling – Approximately 20,000cy
- Beneke Basin Roadside Brushing – Approximately 40 miles.

Road Access Management

State Forests are managed to support public access while providing for community safety, environmental benefits, protection of state and private assets, and wildfire prevention. Following

timber harvest, roads are evaluated for their public access benefits and costs. Some roads are closed and vacated to reduce the maintenance costs and to minimize impacts to the environment. These areas remain open for walk-in use. The Department retains the option of gating roads if vandalism, neighbor concerns, or excessive road damage from public use becomes a problem in particular areas. The public may still access these areas on foot, bicycle or horseback.

Hydrologic Connectivity

Hydrological connectivity surveys are performed on haul routes during sale layout. The intent of these surveys is to determine what portions of the road and ditchlines are directly connected to streams and determine if there are ways to minimize or mitigate the connection distances. ODF prioritizes road improvement projects that address hydrologic connectivity and culvert replacements that are barriers to fish migration on active or planned haul routes and sites of opportunity near active or planned haul routes. Road improvement and maintenance investments are made to support forest operations, protect existing road infrastructure and water quality, and provide for safety improvements. ODF also closely monitors road conditions on active haul routes and performs additional patrols and assessments during and after inclement weather events. The District will continue conducting hydrologic connectivity surveys and mitigating items discovered during the process.

Management of Rock Source/Supply

The District provides durable rock for in-sale spurs and haul routes, which allows for year-round harvest opportunities. Rock quarry development, rock crushing, and/or purchasing rock is necessary to provide sufficient quantities of the road rock for planned road construction, road improvement, and road maintenance activities.

Quarry developments are planned for the following operations; however, these plans are subject to change as timber sale project work is laid out:

- Knob Point – 6,000 cubic yards
- Hamilton Creek – 13,000 cubic yards
- Hunt Creek – 20,000 cubic yards

Annually, the rock that the District requires for road maintenance varies greatly depending on actual volume hauled, time of year, time of road construction, rock durability, and multiple other factors. The rock required is generally supplied from State owned stockpiles. The District will continue to explore new rock sources and further development of existing rock quarries in Fiscal Year 2025.

Land Surveying

Every year surveying needs are analyzed and planned to be kept at a minimum level while ensuring property lines and corners are clearly marked. Survey work may be accomplished through service contracts with licensed professional land surveyors, cost sharing with adjacent landowners or utilizing the licensed surveyor on staff with ODF. Land surveying may be necessary on the following sales:

- Davis Ridge (1.5 miles)
- Mothball Hill (0.5 miles)
- Pipeline Split (0.24 miles)

- Simply Simmons (0.5 miles)
- Slough Hill (1.0 miles)

Young Stand Management

The State Forest strategy is to use a range of silvicultural tools to establish and maintain diverse stands of well-adapted natural species throughout the landscape to meet the objectives and goals in the Forest Management Plan and District Implementation Plan. These tools include site preparation, planting, tree protection, vegetation management, pre-commercial thinning, early commercial thinning and interplanting or replanting. Each practice must be considered and prescribed for individual stands on a site-specific basis.

This section describes the types of reforestation and young stand management activities that will occur in Fiscal Year 2025 and the attached Young Stand Management Table (Appendix A, Table A-4) describes the anticipated total amounts. The location and amount (acres) of these activities are estimates based on plans, information and conditions as known at this point in time. The type, amount and specific stand management prescriptions will be further adjusted based on when existing harvest units are completed and on updated assessments and surveys that will occur during and after the 2024 growing season.

Reforestation activities will be completed by using experienced contractors. A portion of the activities will be completed by utilizing crews from South Fork Camp. These crews work on activities such as planting, inter-planting, tree protection, mechanical hand release, and noxious weed control.

Seedlings / Nurseries

In order to meet the goals of the Forest Management Plan, the State Forests Program requires tree seedlings that are physiologically healthy and best suited for the planting sites. A wide variety of seedlings is grown at forest nurseries throughout the Pacific Northwest to meet the reforestation needs. Seedlings are grown in three different stock types: 1) plug seedlings or one-year-old container grown seedlings, 2) plug ones which are grown one year in a container followed by a second year in a bare root bed, and 3) straight bare root seedlings grown from seed in a bare root bed and then transplanted to a lower stocking bare root bed. The budget accounts for a string of growing costs over several years rather than just those costs of the trees being grown and planted in the winter. The budget for seedlings includes portions of the costs for growing seedlings for three planting years. Additionally, there are costs associated with the seed that is used for growing the seedlings, estimated transportation costs and various costs associated with packaging and freezer and/or cooler storage. The individual species mixture and stock type used for a particular reforestation unit is determined after the final inventory from the forest nursery and varies by District.

Site Preparation

Site preparation is any planned measure to prepare a site to allow for favorable growing conditions for newly planted seedlings. More than one of these techniques may be used for any given site based on the attributes and reforestation prescription for the site. The three main site preparation techniques are mechanical, chemical and slash burning.

- 1) Slash Burning: Slash burning can be accomplished by broadcast burning the entire unit or burning piles that result from mechanical site preparation.

- 2) Mechanical: Mechanical site preparation is the use of mechanized equipment to rearrange or alter forest slash and/or disturb the forest surface layer and vegetation to create seedbeds or planting spots. Planting spots are created in a fairly even distribution. Dense slash concentrations created during timber harvest may be mechanically piled as part of the timber sale contract.
- 3) Chemical: Chemical site preparation involves the application of herbicides to control competing vegetation before planting or natural regeneration and during the early stages of seedling establishment. Applications occur by two primary methods: aerially by helicopter or ground based with the use of backpack application equipment. The objective is to control brush species to allow stand establishment and maintain 2-3 years free of significant competing vegetation. The actual site preparation plan will be prepared in late spring when harvest unit availability and brush development is better known.

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. Planting is comprised of matching the appropriate species and stock type to the planting site. Forest health strategies are addressed on a site specific basis when the planting plan is developed. Site specific prescriptions consider target species, aspect, elevation, soil types, Swiss Needle Cast risk where applicable, *Phellinus weirii* (laminated root rot) presence, required stocking guidelines, natural advanced regeneration, and the desired future condition of the stand. To accomplish this, a mixture of species is planted to provide for a healthy, productive, and sustainable forest ecosystem over time and to be more resilient to climate change. The following are different types of planting.

- 1) Initial Planting (Regeneration harvest units): Planting activities establish the desired species and stocking levels to meet the goals in the Forest Management Plan and Forest Practices Laws. Planted seedlings will be well suited and adapted to the reforestation site and where appropriate, a mixture of species may be planted to increase diversity on the landscape.
- 2) Interplanting: Interplanting may occur when stocking levels fall below or are at risk of falling below Forest Practices Act minimums. In certain instances, interplanting will occur to increase stocking on high quality sites to fully capture the site. In other areas, lower stocking will be acceptable, as it will provide high quality early seral habitat while still meeting Forest Practices Act requirements.
- 3) Underplanting: This type of planting is occasionally conducted after thinning in order to introduce both species diversity and an additional future layer of structure into a stand.
- 4) Natural Regeneration: Units or portions of units are assessed prior to planting. Natural regeneration is considered primarily in western hemlock stands that have been salvaged from wind storms, where small gaps and holes less than 2 acres have been created in partial cut units, and in unit rock outcrops or cliffs. Natural regeneration of red alder and other minor species is used to provide diversity in all harvest units.

Tree Protection

Animal damage on newly planted seedlings reduces their overall size, health and vigor. Extensive damage can lead to interplanting, may extend the time to achieve free to grow status as defined by the Forest Practices Act and prevent meeting Forest Management Plan goals. Deer and elk, as well as mountain beaver, can heavily damage young seedlings. Various tree protection strategies are applied to help re-establish trees in areas with high concentrations of these species. Most commonly, various types of physical barriers (bud caps, vexar tubes, etc.) help prevent damage from big game. Direct control includes trapping mountain beaver in highly populated areas prior to planting helps prevent damage to newly planted seedlings.

Vegetation Management – Release Treatments

Vegetation management is done to reduce light, soil moisture or nutrient competition from undesirable vegetation in a young stand of trees to improve survival and growth. It can also be used to alter tree species composition under pressure from insect and disease and favor species that are tolerant or resistant to the threat. Vegetation management may be required to meet forest practices reforestation stocking requirements, the NW Oregon State Forests Management Plan and the District Implementation Plans. There are two types of vegetation management, chemical and manual release treatments. They are described below.

Chemical Release: Chemical release treatments involve the application of herbicides to control undesirable vegetation. Typical application methods are broadcast, directed spray, and hack and squirt. Broadcast application treatments are sprayed over the top of seedlings and undesirable vegetation using either aerial or backpack methods. Directed spray applications are made with a backpack and target individual plants. This method is often used to remove invasive species such as Scotch broom from young stands. Hack and squirt involves basal or stem injection of chemicals. This method is typically applied to hardwoods to release conifers from hardwood competition.

Manual Release: Manual release can include cutting down of noxious weeds or hardwoods. Hardwood release is used when ingrowth of hardwoods, mainly red alder in the northwest and madrone and tanoak in the southwest, threaten to change the stand from conifer dominate to hardwood dominate. In this treatment, the majority of hardwoods are removed using chainsaws leaving all of the conifer trees. This differs from Pre-Commercial Thinning (described below) in the fact that conifer spacing and species are not manipulated. While hardwoods are important on the landscape and some are retained, long-term conifer production is the goal for many stands across the district.

Pre-Commercial Thinning

Pre-Commercial Thinning is a silviculture activity used to manipulate the density, structure or species composition of overstocked young forest stands. Generally, the purpose of a Pre-Commercial Thinning operation is to release the biggest and best growing trees so they can maintain their growth. Pre-Commercial Thinning is normally conducted in a stand between the ages of 10 and 20 years old. In areas of disease such as Swiss Needle Cast or *Phellinus weirii*, Pre-Commercial Thinning can be used to favor species other than impacted Douglas-fir trees in the residual stand. For FY25 the Astoria District has no planned pre-commercial thinning in order to assist the Division Young Stand Management Team in developing pre-

commercial thinning guidance to meet the draft Habitat Conservation Plan and Western Oregon State Forests Management Plan requirements and fiscal requirements.

Early Commercial Thinning

The primary objective of an Early Commercial Thin operation is to improve stand growth while capturing volume that would be lost due to natural mortality. This process could be viewed as revenue neutral or as a slight revenue generating activity based on markets at the time of the operation. Initial results have generated 45-55 tons of fiber per acre with an average return of \$85 per acre, prior to disbursement to the County. During times of a depressed timber market the operation could actually be revenue negative. However, along with improving the stocking and quality of the stand another benefit of these operations could be a reduction in the amount of pre-commercial thinning needed; which is currently a substantial cost to ODF. There is currently no Early Commercial Thinning planned for the Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Operation Plan.

Pruning

No pruning activities are planned for this Annual Operations Plan.

Stocking Surveys

The Reforestation Unit has the responsibility of ensuring that the goals of the Forest Management Plan are met. Stocking surveys is one tool to ensure the stands are on track for the desired future condition. The surveys are done in order to check initial seedling survival at a time when the seedlings are vulnerable and there is still time to remedy problems, by using interplanting and animal damage control measures as examples. In addition, stocking surveys are conducted in order to assess free-to-grow status and to get baseline data on the stand for future management planning, for example evaluating release treatments and pre-commercial thinning candidates.

Invasive Species

Most noxious weeds or invasive plants are found along roads and have spread into adjacent stands. The main sources for the weed introduction into the forest are vehicle tires, equipment moved into and out of district, and where soil disturbance occurs. 100% weed-free grass seed and certified weed-free straw used for mulch is required for project work on roads. Equipment washing is required in timber sale contracts to prevent the introduction of weed seed from other sites. It is also required that weed-free hay is used for feeding stock on State Forest Lands.

Reforestation continues to work with Marketing, Forest Roads, and Recreation personnel to identify appropriate steps each unit can take to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive plants. Knotweed, Scotch broom, orange hawkweed, yellow flag iris, garlic mustard, and false brome are the primary species known to exist in the District. Active control measures are being planned and prioritized for roadside, in-unit, and trail treatment.

Roadside Vegetation Management

Reforestation works with the Forest Roads personnel on the management of vegetation alongside forest roads. Vegetation management protects the investment by preventing damage from

unchecked vegetation growth, helps to maintain a safe driving environment by maintaining clear sight distance, controls noxious weeds, and reduces fire hazards. Roadside vegetation will be controlled manually, mechanically or chemically where necessary. The method used will depend on the characteristics of the vegetation and its location. During the spring of 2024, roadside vegetation surveys will be conducted to determine roadside chemical treatment needs for Fiscal Year 2025. The project will be done by utilizing experienced contractors.

Recreation Management

Overview of Recreation Management

Recreation use has been taking place in the Clatsop State Forest for more than 70 years and has been managed in varying degrees. Currently the direction for management of the Recreation Program flows from the Northwest Oregon State Forest Management Plan (2010).

Recreation use includes hunting, fishing, target shooting, Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) riding, mountain biking, hiking, equestrian use, mushroom picking, sight-seeing, picnicking, boating, swimming, and camping. Recreation use takes place in developed sites and in dispersed sites across state forest land. Use levels for all activities are expected to increase.

Dispersed site activities are expected to continue in Fiscal Year 2025 and will require varying degrees of Recreation Program and district staff attention. Dispersed use sites will be monitored, maintained, and improved or closed as resources allow to meet safety, sanitation, and resource protection objectives.

Due to facility and trail maintenance needs, winter weather limitations, timber sale activity, fire season restrictions, and staffing vacancies some project work from Fiscal Year 2024 will extend into Fiscal Year 2025.

The Fiscal Year 2025 plan focuses on maintaining current trails, facilities, and opportunities by maintaining the existing infrastructure, providing for public safety and sanitation, and mitigating impact to natural resources. The Recreation Program will also take a step back from trail system development and focus on internal business processes to improve internal integration with other state forest business, improve spatial data organization, standardize recreation infrastructure, improve information delivery to the public, and align operational activities with the guidelines and requirements identified in the Draft Habitat Conservation Plan.

Facilities (Campgrounds, Viewpoints, Trailheads, etc.)

The Recreation Program operates and maintains the following developed facilities on the Astoria District:

- 5 Campgrounds
- 1 OHV staging and day-use area
- 6 Designated dispersed campsites
- 2 Interpretive sites

- 7 Trailheads

Facility Maintenance

Maintenance of existing facilities remains the Recreation Programs' highest priority. Facilities will be maintained as necessary to protect investment, address developing resource and safety issues, and to protect water quality.

Facility maintenance work includes the completion of facility condition assessments on all facility infrastructure, prioritization of maintenance needs, development of maintenance plans, and completion of maintenance work identified. Standard facility maintenance work includes performing maintenance activities on restrooms, trash and garbage services, facility access roads and trails, facility infrastructure (picnic tables, fire pits, potable water wells, grey water disposal areas, tent pads, wood storage sheds, picnic shelters, parking areas...etc.), sign and information board infrastructure, and vegetation management.

Heavy facility maintenance work such as addressing landslides, sinkholes, flood damage, and downed trees which results from winter storms will be incorporated into facility maintenance plans and conducted as needed.

Facility maintenance needs vary year to year based on factors such as volume of use and seasonal weather conditions.

Motorized (OHV) Trails

The Recreation Program will continue to place emphasis on the maintenance and upgrade of existing trails. Upgrades will be focused on improving trail system connectivity and diversity, reducing user conflict, addressing user safety, natural resource protection, recreational infrastructure investment protection, improving sustainability, and reducing maintenance workload.

To support OHV Program management, ODF receives All-Terrain Vehicle Fund dollars from the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department to support personnel and associated service and supply costs.

Fiscal year 2025 Motorized trail projects on the Astoria District are identified and described in the following table (Table 7).

Table 7. Motorized Trail Projects

Project Type	Project Name	Project Status	Work Resources	Project Description
Construction	Hunt Creek Trail Re-route	FY25	OHV Program Staff	Construction- Removal of trail bridge, trail vacation, and trail re-route construction.

Non-motorized Trails

The Recreation Program will continue to place emphasis on maintenance, and upgrade of existing trails. Upgrades will be focused on improving trail system connectivity and diversity, reducing user conflict, addressing user safety, natural resource protection, recreational infrastructure investment protection, improving sustainability, and reducing maintenance workload.

Fiscal Year 2025 non-motorized trail projects on the Astoria District are identified and described in the following table (Table 8).

Table 8. Non-Motorized Trail Projects

Project Type	Project Name	Project Status	Work Resources	Project Description
Construction	Spruce Run Creek Trail (Lost Lake Connection)	Ongoing-Approved in Fiscal Year 2023	Recreation Staff, AIC Crews	Construction of trail to provide connection from Spruce Run Creek Trail to Lost Lake Loop Trail.
Construction	Soapstone Lake Trail Bridge #3 Replacement	Fiscal Year 2025	Recreation Staff, AIC Crews	Trail bridge removal and construction of a 45' long trail bridge to replace the existing trail bridge that has exceeded its lifespan and no longer meets current design standards.

Trail Maintenance (Motorized and Non-motorized)

Maintenance of existing trails remains the Recreation Programs' highest trail program priority. Trails will be maintained as necessary to protect investment, address developing resource and safety issues, and to protect water quality.

Trail maintenance work includes the completion of trail condition assessments on all trails and trail infrastructure, prioritization of maintenance needs, development of maintenance plans, and completion of maintenance work identified. Standard trail maintenance work includes activities such as cleaning water bars and rolling dips, cleaning out culverts, performing trail tread repair work, cleaning trail bridges, clearing downed trees, vegetation management, sign infrastructure maintenance, and trail infrastructure repair or replacement.

Heavy trail maintenance work such as addressing landslides, sinkholes, flood damage, and downed trees which results from winter storms will be incorporated into trail maintenance plans and conducted as needed.

Trail maintenance needs vary year to year based on factors such as volume of use and seasonal weather conditions.

Hydrologic Connectivity

Hydrological connectivity surveys will be performed on trails during trail maintenance and condition assessments. The intent of these surveys is to determine what portions of the road and

ditchlines are directly connected to streams and determine if there are ways to minimize or mitigate the connection distances. The Recreation Program prioritizes trail improvement projects that address hydrologic connectivity and culvert replacements that are barriers to fish migration. Trail maintenance investments will be made to support recreational opportunities, protect existing trail infrastructure, protect water quality, and provide for public safety improvements. The Recreation Program monitors trail conditions year-round and performs additional assessments during and after inclement weather events. The Recreation Program will incorporate items discovered during the process into annual maintenance plans to be mitigated.

Timber Sale and Recreation Resource Interactions

As a working forest it is inevitable that as we plan future timber harvests there is interaction with our growing recreational infrastructure. The Marketing, Roads, and Recreation staff collaborate when sale and recreation resource interactions occur and develop actions to minimize impact to recreational infrastructure and address natural resource impact when trails do not meet sustainability or resource protection goals.

Details have been added to Pre-Operation reports for each timber sale that has nearby recreational resources to detail what actions are planned for the recreational resource.

Timber sales may extend for several years depending on the flow of operations. The table below lists the planned 2025 Fiscal Year timber sales that will impact recreation resources.

Table 8. Timber Sale & Recreation Resource Interactions

Project Type	Timber Sale Name	Trail Name	Project Description
Planning	East Micro	Trunkline Trail	Trails impacted by timber sale activity will be temporarily closed due to public safety concerns and re-opened once harvest activity is completed and trail repairs are completed if necessary. See timber sale pre-op reports for additional information.

Volunteer Program and Partnerships

Volunteers contribute labor, supplies, and expertise to the Recreation, Education, and Interpretation Program. Volunteers have partnered with ODF to construct new trails, maintain infrastructure, and preserve natural resources.

Volunteer activities include.

- Camp Host Program at Spruce Run and Northrup Horse Camp Campgrounds
- Non-profit and user group led trail maintenance and construction work parties

In Fiscal Year 2025, activities associated with the volunteer program will include the recruitment, selection, and management of campground hosts, planning and management of volunteer trail maintenance and development work, and special volunteer projects.

The Recreation Program continues to partner with local recreation providers and volunteers to maintain working relationships and accomplish work. The program will continue to look for

opportunities to develop new partnerships and to enhance existing partnerships that will increase our collective capacity to meet program and project goals and objectives.

Grants

The program will be exploring applying for grants to support a variety of infrastructure projects across state forest land.

The Recreation Program will also be partnering with clubs and organizations that will be submitting grant applications to advance Recreation Program work in NW Oregon Area.

Other Integrated Forest Management Projects

Aquatic & Riparian Management

All fish bearing streams found in State Forests are subject to the Management Standards for Aquatic and Riparian Areas as outlined in Appendix J found in the Northwest Oregon State Forests Management Plan (2010). An objective of State Forests' aquatic resources is to maintain, enhance, and restore quality fish habitat. This is achieved primarily through riparian buffer strategies specific to the aquatic resource characteristics such as presence of fish, size, and flow duration. The goal of all riparian management prescriptions is to obtain mature forest conditions (e.g., development of the natural community appropriate for that site) as expediently as possible. Aquatic Anchors have been established on watersheds in the District in which additional aquatic conservation measures are applied when regeneration harvesting.

Several strategies, described in the Forest Management Plan, dictate protection measures designed to protect, maintain, and restore aquatic and riparian functions. These strategies are employed during harvest activities and include but are not limited to: leave trees adjacent to streams to protect stream temperature, provide nutrients, protect stream banks, and eventually provide wood to improve fish habitat. Best management practices for road construction, reconstruction, and maintenance minimize impacts to water quality.

In addition to the strategies detailed in the Forest Management Plan all goals and strategies identified within the Draft Habitat Conservation Plan will be followed for Fiscal Year 2025 timber sales. These goals and strategies at times will overlap with those within the management plan. Final stream protection configurations will be determined during sale layout to ensure compliance with Forest Management Plan and Habitat Conservation Plan strategies.

Threatened and Endangered Fish Species: Federally Threatened Salmon and Steelhead listed species with Critical Habitat Designations found within the District include Oregon Coast Coho Salmon, Lower Columbia River Coho, Columbia River Chum, and Lower Columbia River Chinook.

Fish Distribution Surveys: Streams are classified in part as supporting fish (Type F) or not supporting fish (Type N). Riparian protection measures depend in part on the presence of fish. Many streams in the past have been surveyed with electro-fishing techniques that established the upper extent of fish use. However, many small streams have not yet been surveyed for fish presence. Streams needing classification in the Annual Operations Plan will either be surveyed by a third party surveyor or will be evaluated with a Physical Habitat Survey. The physical methodology was developed in conjunction with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. The seasonal/perennial break in the streams will be evaluated during fish distribution surveys or during sale layout.

Restoration Goals and Identification Process: The overarching principles for fish habitat restoration are described in the Forest Management Plan. There are stream enhancement opportunities identified in association with the sales in this Annual Operations Plan. Before determining if these potential projects will go into a full planning process, more field review is needed. The ODF Aquatic and Riparian Specialist will be consulted to help identify these candidates and may consult with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife fish biologists as needed.

Potential Stream Projects are associated with the following Timber Sales:

- Gazoo Combo
- Triple Divide
- Scout Walker (Alternate)
- Wild Gander (Alternate)

Other Planned Projects to improve aquatic areas within the Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Operations Plan:

- Continue conducting hydrologic connectivity surveys and mitigating items discovered during this process.
- ODF will be partnering with the Upper Nehalem Watershed Council on an in-stream restoration project on Crawford Creek the summer of 2024.

Restoration accomplishments are reported to Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board using the Oregon Watershed Restoration Inventory electronic filing process and reported by ODF annually in our report to the counties, board of forestry, and Division of State Lands.

Personnel on the Astoria District actively participate on the Upper and Lower Nehalem Watershed Councils and the District Operations Coordinator is a member of the North Coast Watershed Association board of directors.

Land Exchange

The District may commence a land exchange in Fiscal Year 2025 if budget and staffing assistance is available and if willing exchange partners come forward. These would only be high priority land exchanges and will be evaluated on a case by case basis.

Law Enforcement and Public Safety

Law enforcement on the district will be budgeted for and will be provided by a seasonal law enforcement officer from Clatsop County Sherriff's Office during the heavy recreation use season if a candidate is available.

Firewood Cutting Program

The primary objective of the District Firewood Cutting Program is to provide a source of firewood from Sate Forests to the public for personal use. The permit fee for personal firewood cutting is \$20 for two cords. Permits are issued for a period of three weeks. Historically firewood cutting has only been allowed outside the months of fire season. The District typically sells 700-1000 woodcutting permits each year.

Non-Timber Forest Products

The Astoria District currently administers a Special Forest Products program which consists of issuing Commercial Use Permits to individuals who wish to collect larger quantities of various forest products with the intent for the products to be re-sold. There is a fee charged to individuals for a Commercial Use Permit, which is based on the type of forest product and quantity. Special Forest Products include: mushrooms, salal, moss, and ferns. Additionally, the public has the ability to gather smaller quantities of these forest products, free of charge, for personal use. The District typically sells 150-200 special forest products permits each year.

Planning

Below are the significant district-level planning projects currently scheduled for commencement, completion, or both in Fiscal Year 2025.

Archaeological, Historical and Cultural Resources

All of the operations have been reviewed against the State Historic Preservation Office and General Land Office databases for potential impact to cultural resources. All of the operations have been shared with the nine federally recognized tribes in Oregon.

Forest Inventory

The State Forests Division is developing a lidar-based inventory that will replace Stand Level Inventory when completed. Lidar data was collected in 2020 for most ODF lands in the Northwest Oregon Area. Contract crews collected United States Forest Service Forest Inventory Assessment plots in 2021. The State Forest Division's Inventory Program is in the process of developing a raster-based estimate of forest biometrics across most of its ownership.

Wildlife Surveys

Northern Spotted Owl Surveys

For the Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Operations Plan, the District will continue the northern spotted owl survey program, in order to comply with federal and state Endangered Species Acts and to contribute to Forest Management Plan goals. Survey requirements are determined in accordance with *ODF Northern Spotted Owl Operational Policies*, November 2017. If ODF obtains a Habitat Conservation Plan these policies will be re-evaluated.

Marbled Murrelet Surveys

In Fiscal Year 2025, the District will continue its marbled murrelet survey program in order to comply with Federal and State Endangered Species Acts and to contribute to Forest Management Plan goals. Survey requirements are determined in accordance with ODF policy, guidance, and survey protocols. If ODF obtains a Habitat Conservation Plan these policies will be re-evaluated.

Threatened and Endangered Plants

The District will continue to screen harvest operations against the Oregon Biodiversity Information Center database and other known locations on the District to identify potential conflicts with plant species listed in the District Implementation Plan.

Species of Concern Wildlife

The District will continue to screen harvest operations against several wildlife databases to identify potential conflicts with wildlife of concern listed in the District Implementation Plan.

Research and Monitoring

Districts will assist in a variety of research and monitoring projects in Fiscal Year 2025. Examples include:

The National Council for Air and Stream Improvement (NCASI) will conduct their final year of sampling to quantify bird use and impacts to avian communities from structural retention patches. The study sites are located in the Jewell Unit within past timber sale units.

ODF will support beaver activity monitoring this fall for targeted stream reaches in the District that overlap the Nehalem River Headwaters Beaver Emphasis Area. This work supports the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's 3-Year Beaver Action Plan, which will be completed in collaboration with the local watershed council and private industrial landowners.

The Astoria District will continue monitoring the western hemlock and Douglas-fir progeny sites off of Wageland road. The two sites are part of the Northwest Tree Improvement Cooperative. The main goal of this cooperative is to enhance forest productivity in developing genetically improved trees with higher yield and better wood quality. The western hemlock progeny will require tube maintenance and the Douglas-fir progeny needs some vegetation control along the fence line and needs treatment of bigleaf maple clumps inside the unit. In the spring of 2022 the district began planting some wildflower seed for pollinators in a small trial. The project was expanded slightly in 2023 and will continue last years scope in 2024 and 2025.

Recreation, Education, and Interpretation Program

In Fiscal Year 2025, Recreation, Education and Interpretation Program staff will be working on the following planning efforts.

- Support the State Forest Division's Forest Management Plan work, Habitat Conservation Plan work and District Annual Operation Plan development and implementation.
- Recreation Standards Manual Development- Recreation, Education and Interpretation to work with a consultant to develop a Recreation Program Standards Manual for recreation facility infrastructure (ex. fire pits, information boards, picnic tables, site signs,etc.). This project began in Fiscal Year 2024 and will continue in Fiscal Year 2025.
- Volunteer Program Manual- The Recreation, Education, and Interpretation Program is undergoing an extensive re-evaluation of the volunteer program including onboarding, communication, and recruitment components. The deliverable of this process will be the development of a volunteer manual that will be applied across all forests and programs. This project began in Fiscal Year 2024 and will continue in Fiscal Year 2025.

- Recreation Data Management Business Improvement- The Recreation Program is in process of updating the management of recreation trail and facility spatial data to improve internal integration, operational and maintenance efficiency, delivery of information to the public, and implement new tracking and reporting requirements.

Other Planning Operations

In conjunction with the Recreation, Education and Interpretation Team, the District will provide input and context to recreation planning. The district will also continue to participate in Forest Management Plan and Habitat Conservation Plan reviews as needed.

Public Information and Education

Public Information and Involvement

A number of district employees annually participate in the local school Career Day, Clatsop County Job and Career Fair, Sixth Grade Forestry Tour and Field Day, demonstration forest tours, Clatsop County Fair booth, State Fair booth, Society of American Forestry meetings and tours, and many public school presentations. The district has representatives who attend local watershed council meetings, including the Upper and Lower Nehalem Watershed. The District Operations Coordinator is on the Board of Directors of the North Coast Watershed Association and the District Forester is an elected officer on the Clatsop Forest Economic Development Committee.

The Recreation, Education & Interpretation Program offers various interpretation and educational programs and services on the State Forest system, with primary offerings featured at the Tillamook Forest Center (TFC), located at milepost 22 on the Wilson River Highway (Highway 6). The TFC is ODF's only visitors' center, and while located on the Tillamook District, it serves as a hub for public education on forest-related topics, active forest management, fire prevention messaging, agency wide initiatives, and general information about the variety of recreational opportunities available on state forests, while also offering meaningful interpretive programs to help promote a culture of forest stewardship. The Tillamook Forest Center continues to host many school groups, family activities, and other forest visitors, and is open March through November annually.

The REI Program is also actively engaged in additional community outreach and engagement efforts to raise awareness about the Program itself and the many benefits provided by the recreational and educational opportunities available on state forest lands. It should be noted that the REI Program staff is relatively small, and gratefully depends on the significant investments made by long-standing and committed volunteers, use-community partnerships, and generous donations to the Program's nonprofit funding partner, the State Forests Trust of Oregon, to help maintain and sustain its existing services and infrastructure to the public.

Administration

There are 21 permanent positions whose full-time function is to manage State Forest land on the District and 6 permanent positions who work part-time on management of State Forest land. In addition, the District will be supported by the NW Oregon Area Recreation, Education and Interpretation Team and the NW Oregon Area Operations Team as well as the Division Planning and Coordination Team. All are responsible for implementing the Fiscal Year 2025 Annual

Operations Plan. The district positions are divided into four functional groups: Forest Marketing, Forest Roads, Reforestation, and Administration. See the attached organizational chart.

There is a Marketing Unit which is responsible for all aspects of timber marketing. These activities include participating in the planning process, unit layout, assisting with road layout and design, timber cruising, timber sale appraisal, contract writing, contract administration, and coordinating with the Recreation, Education and Interpretation, Planning, and Operations Teams.

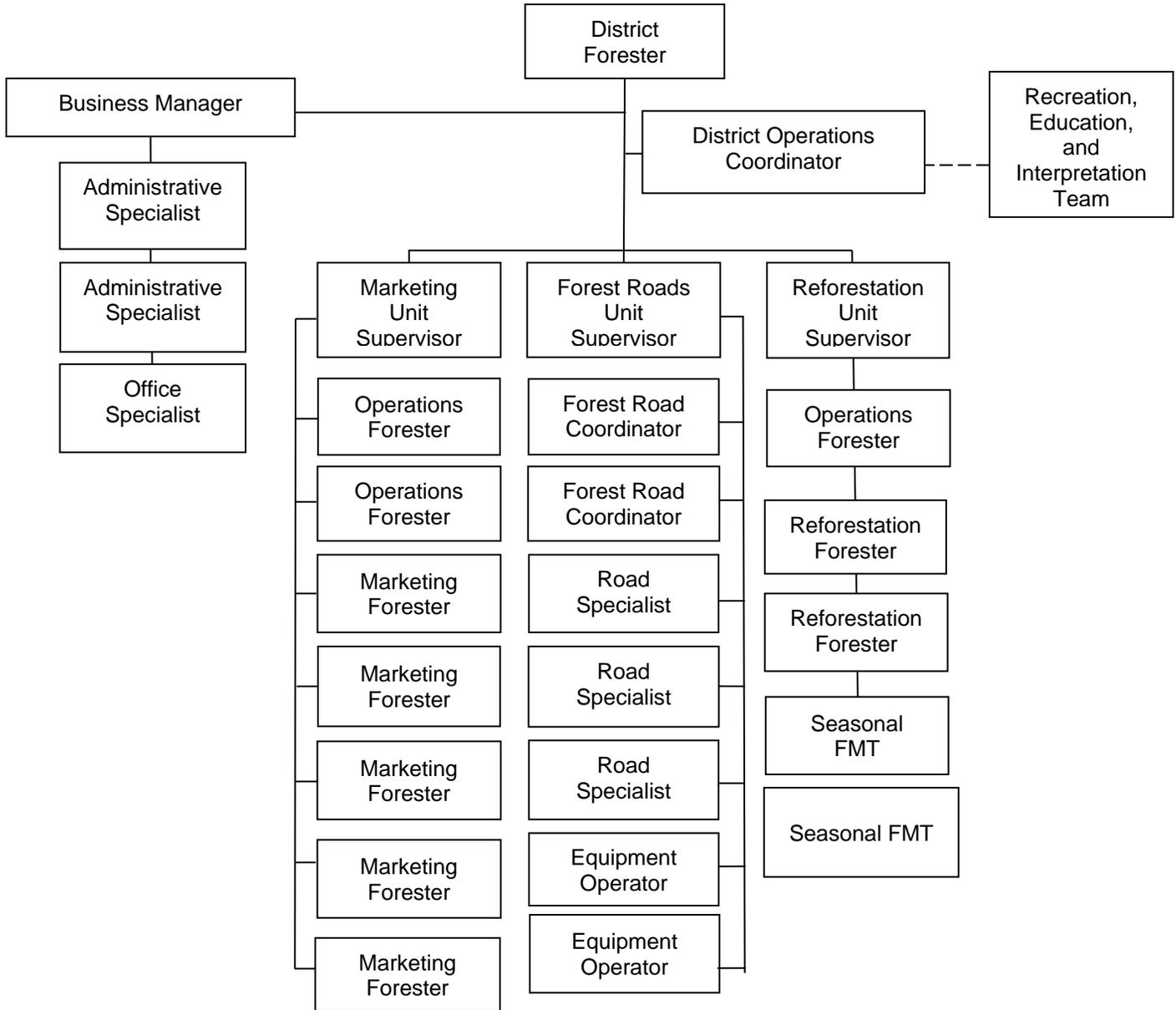
The Forest Roads unit is responsible for all aspects of road management and land surveying. These activities include road design and layout, rock pit development, road maintenance, property line location, road construction and improvement appraisals, contract preparation, and road contract administration. The Forest Roads unit works with the Operations, Recreation, Education and Interpretation, and Planning & Coordination Team in developing the Annual Operations Plan.

The Reforestation unit is responsible for all activities in forest stands from the time the harvesting is complete until the new stand produces commercial timber. The activities of this unit include site preparation, trapping, tree planting, vegetation management, tree improvement, and pre-commercial thinning. The reforestation unit also coordinates South Fork crews and administers contracts to complete these tasks.

Administration consists of the District Forester, District Operations Coordinator, Office Manager, two Administrative Specialists, and Office Specialist. The District Forester and District Operations Coordinator provide policy direction, budget development, and oversight to the field units. The Office Manager, two Administrative Specialists, and Office Specialist provide clerical support to State Forest Management. These positions are responsible for initial public contact, distribution and filing of documents, and providing assistance at timber sale auctions. The Office Specialist is also responsible for issuing permits for firewood cutting, and special forest products.

Each of these units and teams are responsible for ensuring the management approaches, activities, and projects are designed to meet the goals, strategies, and objectives of the Forest Management Plan, Implementation Plan, Annual Operations Plan, and Recreation Plan. The sales and projects are coordinated across the district and with the NW Oregon Area and Division Teams from the development of the Annual Operations Plan to the final sale administration for consistency within and between units to meet common goals.

Astoria District Organization Chart



APPENDICES

A. Summary Tables

1. Harvest Operations – Financial Summary
2. Harvest Operations – Forest Resource Summary
3. Forest Road Management Summary
4. Reforestation and Young Stand Management Summary
5. Recreation Management Summary

B. Vicinity Maps

1. Harvest Operations Vicinity Map
2. Recreational Facilities Vicinity Map
3. FY25 Recreation Project Vicinity Map

C. Consultations with Other State Agencies

This appendix summarizes the results of consultations with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Oregon Department of Transportation and other agencies as appropriate.

D. Public Comment Process

This appendix will describe the results of the public comment process of this Annual Operations Plan.

E. Pre-Operations Reports

Pre-Operations Reports are available from the district upon request.

F. Forest Land Management Classification

G. Landscape Design

Appendix A – Summary Tables

- **Table A-1: Commercial Forest Management Operations - Financial Summary**
- **Table A-2: Commercial Forest Management Operations – Forest Resource Summary**
- **Table A-3: Forest Roads Summary**
- **Table A-4: Reforestation and Young Stand Management Summary**
- **Table A-5: Recreation Management – Financial Summary**

TIMBER HARVEST OPERATIONS - FINANCIAL SUMMARY

District: Astoria

Fiscal Year: 2025

Date: 04/01/2024

AOP Sale Name	Fund %		County	Sale Quarter	Net Acres		Volume (MMBF)			Value		
	BOF	CSL			Partial Cut	Clear-cut	Conifer	Hard-woods	Total	Gross	Projects	Net
Davis Ridge	100%	0%	Clatsop	2	0	168	5.8	0	5.8	\$2,329,600	\$131,700	\$2,197,900
Easy Wages	100%	0%	Clatsop	1	0	63	3.5	0	3.5	\$2,079,000	\$36,500	\$2,042,500
Gazoo Combo	100%	0%	Clatsop	4	121	314	15.0	0	15.0	\$7,485,000	\$554,898	\$6,930,102
Hawkins	100%	0%	Clatsop	3	0	99	5.4	0	5.4	\$2,716,500	\$100,800	\$2,615,700
Mothball Hill	100%	0%	Clatsop	4	0	99	3.2	0	3.2	\$1,268,000	\$90,800	\$1,177,200
Pipeline Split	100%	0%	Clatsop	2	0	62	1.3	0	1.3	\$353,650	\$82,900	\$270,750
Simply Simmons	100%	0%	Clatsop	3	0	98	2.8	0	2.8	\$768,625	\$66,600	\$702,025
Tide Flats	100%	0%	Clatsop	4	0	106	4.6	0	4.6	\$1,723,125	\$410,900	\$1,312,225
Toto	100%	0%	Clatsop	3	0	86	4.1	0	4.1	\$2,139,375	\$82,800	\$2,056,575
Triple Divide	98%	2%	Clatsop	3	0	177	5.3	0	5.3	\$2,120,400	\$122,500	\$1,997,900

Sub-total:	121	1,272	50.9	0	50.9	\$ 22,983,275	\$ 1,680,398	\$ 21,302,877
Project WOC Sub-total:	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0		\$380,000	
Total:	121	1,272	50.9	0.0	50.9	\$ 22,983,275	\$2,060,398	\$ 20,922,877

Alternate Operations

East Micro	100%		Clatsop		0	80	2.8	0	2.8	\$910,000	\$31,600	\$878,400
Scout Walker	100%		Clatsop		0	151	7.8	0	7.8	\$4,281,200	\$189,800	\$4,091,400
Slough Hill	100%		Clatsop		0	120	4.2	0	4.2	\$1,260,000	\$99,150	\$1,160,850
Wild Gander	100%		Clatsop		0	260	11.3	0	11.3	\$4,506,000	\$502,700	\$4,003,300

Total:	0	611	26.0	0	26.0	\$10,957,200	\$823,250	\$10,133,950
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PRIMARY HARVEST OPERATIONS - FOREST RESOURCE SUMMARY

District: Astoria

Fiscal Year 2025

Date: 04/01/2024

This table lists Forest Resources and other issues addressed within Pre-Operations Report due to their presence within or near harvest operations

Primary Harvest Operations	Unit (Optional)	Forest Health Issues ¹	Invasive Species	Current LYR/OFS Structures ²	Landcape Design LYR/OFS ³	Habitat Conservation Area (HCA)	Install/Replace Culverts on Fish Bearing / Perennial Streams	Road Construction within RCA/HCA	Point of Diversion (Domestic Water)	Potential Stream Habitat Improvement ⁴	Within Aquatic Anchor	Within Terrestrial Anchor	Operating within a NSO Provincial Circle (BA Required)	Operating within a MMA (BA Required)	Murrelet Timber-Sale Screening Process Required (MM Policy 2.27)	T&E Fish Adjacent to Harvest Unit / Haul Route ⁵	T&E/SOC Species	Geotechnical - Additional Review Required	Recreation Sites	Scenic Resources	Other Resources or Issues
Davis Ridge	1,2	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	-	X	
Easy Wages	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	
Gazoo Combo	1 - 6	-	-	X	-	X	-	X	-	X	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	-	-	
Hawkins	1,2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	-	-	Unit 1 includes <1 acre of DFC Complex. Will be assesed after buffers are posted to determine if future DFC modification is warrented
Mothball Hill	1,2	-	X	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	X	-	X	Unit 1 includes 2 acres of DFC Complex. Will be assesed after buffers are posted to determine if future DFC modification is warrented
Pipeline Split	1,2,3	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	
Simply Simmons	1,2,3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	
Tide Flats	1,2	-	-	X	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	-	X	
Toto	1,2	-	-	X	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	
Triple Divide	1,2,3	-	-	-	X	-	-	X	-	X	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	-	-	Unit 3 includes 6 acres of DFC Complex. Will be assesed after buffers are posted to determine if future DFC modification is warrented

¹ A 'x' (in any column) indicates yes the resource or other issue occurs within or near the harvest operation and is addressed by the Pre-Operations Report

² A 'x' indicates the harvest operation contains stands that are currently in a Layered or Older Forest Stand Structure

³ A 'x' indicates that the operation contains areas that have been designated for the development of complex forest stands (LYR/OFS)

⁴ The final decision on these projects will occur during sale preparation and inconsultation with ODFW.

⁵ This table lists harvest operations (units or log haul routes) that are adjacent to streams that are known to contain T&E fish. The Pre-Operation Report identifies whether T&E fish are present in the basin.

ALTERNATE HARVEST OPERATIONS - FOREST RESOURCE SUMMARY

This table lists Forest Resources and other issues addressed within Pre-Operations Report due to their presence within or near harvest operations

Alternate Harvest Operations	Unit (Optional)	Forest Health Issues ¹	Invasive Species	LYR/OFS Structures ²	Landscape Design LYR/OFS ³	Habitat Conservation Area (HCA)	Install/Replace Culverts on Fish Bearing / Perennial Streams	Harvesting within 100' of Fish Bearing Stream	Domestic Water Source	Potential Stream Habitat Improvement ⁴	Within Aquatic Anchor	Within Terrestrial Anchor	Operating within a NSO Provincial Circle	Operating within a MMMA (BA Required)	Murrelet Timber Sale Screening Process Required (MM Policy 2.27)	T&E Fish Adjacent to Harvest Unit / Haul Route ⁵	T&E Plants	Geotechnical - Additional Review Required	Recreation Sites	Scenic Resources	Other Resources or Issues
East Micro	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	-	
Scout Walker	1,2,3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	-	-	
Slough Hill	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	
Wild Gander	1 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	-	-	

¹ A 'x' (in any column) indicates yes the resource or other issue occurs within or near the harvest operation and is addressed by the Pre-Operations Report

² A 'x' indicates the harvest operation contains stands that are currently in a Layered or Older Forest Stand Structure

³ A 'x' indicate that the operation contains areas that have been designated for the development of complex forest stands (LYR/OFS)

⁴ The final decision on these projects will occur during sale preparation and in consultation with ODFW.

⁵ This table lists harvest operations (units or log haul routes) that are adjacent to streams that are known to contain T&E fish. The Pre-Operation Report identifies whether T&E fish are present in the basin.

FOREST ROADS SUMMARY

District: Astoria

Fiscal Year: 2025

Date: 04/01/2024

Primary Operations	Construction		Improvement, Rock, and/or Maintenance		Other Projects	Total Project Costs	Gross Value of Operation	Total Cost as a percent of Gross Value	Comments
	Miles	Cost	Miles	Cost					
Davis Ridge	0.60	\$34,000	3.60	\$82,000	\$15,700	\$131,700	\$2,329,600	5.7%	Other: Rd vacating, rd maintenance
Easy Wages	0.10	\$7,000	1.90	\$28,500	\$1,000	\$36,500	\$2,079,000	1.8%	Other: Rd maintenance
Gazoo Combo	1.40	\$65,000	13.30	\$204,000	\$285,898	\$554,898	\$7,485,000	7.4%	Other: Rd maintenance, crushing, vacating, road use fee
Hawkins	1.00	\$66,000	1.20	\$24,000	\$10,800	\$100,800	\$2,716,500	3.7%	Other: Rd maintenance
Mothball Hill	1.10	\$53,000	1.60	\$24,000	\$13,800	\$90,800	\$1,268,000	7.2%	Other: Rd maintenance
Pipeline Split	0.70	\$37,000	3.90	\$39,000	\$6,900	\$82,900	\$353,650	23.4%	Other: Rd maintenance
Simply Simmons	0.50	\$27,000	2.60	\$39,000	\$600	\$66,600	\$768,625	8.7%	Other: Rd maintenance
Tide Flats	0.90	\$51,000	3.20	\$73,000	\$286,900	\$410,900	\$1,723,125	23.8%	Other: Rd maintenance, crushing, gate installation
Toto	0.30	\$21,000	3.30	\$49,500	\$12,300	\$82,800	\$2,139,375	3.9%	Other: Rd maintenance
Triple Divide	1.40	\$44,000	4.00	\$60,000	\$18,500	\$122,500	\$2,120,400	5.8%	Other: Rd maintenance, vacating
Sub-total	8.0	\$405,000	38.6	\$623,000	\$652,398	\$1,680,398	\$22,983,275	7.3%	
Sub-total WOC (see below)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		\$380,000			
Totals	8.0	\$405,000	38.6	\$623,000	\$652,398	\$2,060,398	\$22,983,275	9.0%	

Alternate Operations

East Micro	0.30	\$9,000	6.40	\$19,200	\$3,400	\$31,600	\$910,000	3.5%	Other: Rd maintenance
Scout Walker	0.70	\$45,000	10.90	\$134,000	\$10,800	\$189,800	\$4,281,200	4.4%	Other: Rd maintenance
Slough Hill	1.00	\$49,000	2.30	\$39,000	\$11,150	\$99,150	\$1,260,000	7.9%	Other: Rd maintenance
Wild Gander	1.40	\$94,000	10.60	\$177,500	\$231,200	\$502,700	\$4,506,000	11.2%	Other: Rd maintenance, crushing
Total	3.40	\$197,000	30.2	\$369,700	\$256,550	\$823,250	\$10,957,200	7.5%	

Projects to be Completed as a Work Order Contract

Operation	Construction		Improvement, Rock, and/or Maintenance		Other Projects	Total Project Costs	Funding Source	Comments
	Miles	Cost	Miles	Cost				
Hunt Creek Rock Crushing and Stockpiling					\$300,000	\$300,000		20,000 cubic yards of crushed rock
Beneke Basin Roadside Brushing					\$80,000	\$80,000		40 miles of brushing
Easy Wages					*	*		May be completed with WOC
Total	0.00	\$0	0.00	\$0	\$380,000	\$380,000		

REFORESTATION AND YOUNG STAND MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

District: Astoria

Fiscal Year: 2025

Date: 04/01/2024

Projects Conducted by ODF Staff or Contractors	Board of Forestry			Common School Forest Lands			District	
	Acres Planned	Average Cost*/Acre	BOF Cost	Acres Planned	Average Cost*/Acre	CSL Cost	Total Acres	Total Cost
Site Prep - Broadcast Burning	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Site Prep - Piling Burning	1,500	\$3.33	\$4,995.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	1,500	\$4,995.00
Site Prep - Mechanical	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Site Prep - Chemical - Aerial	1,400	\$88.71	\$124,195.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	1,400	\$124,195.00
Site Prep - Chemical - Ground	100	\$168.00	\$16,800.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	100	\$16,800.00
Initial Planting	1,500	\$185.00	\$277,500.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	1,500	\$277,500.00
Interplanting	200	\$150.00	\$30,000.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	200	\$30,000.00
Underplanting	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Tree Protection - Barriers	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Tree Protection - Direct Control	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Release - Chemical - Aerial	600	\$107.00	\$64,200.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	600	\$64,200.00
Release - Chemical - Ground	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Release - Manual	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Precommercial Thinning	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Pruning	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
*Stocking Surveys	3,500	\$0.86	\$3,010.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	3,500	\$3,010.00
Invasive Species	150	\$150.00	\$22,500.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	150	\$22,500.00
Roadside vegetation Mngt	300	\$233.33	\$70,000.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	300	\$70,000.00
*Other	50	\$120.00	\$6,000.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	50	\$6,000.00
Totals	9,300	--	\$619,200.00	0	--	\$0.00	9,300	\$619,200.00

* Work to be completed by ODF staff; cost are for materials only

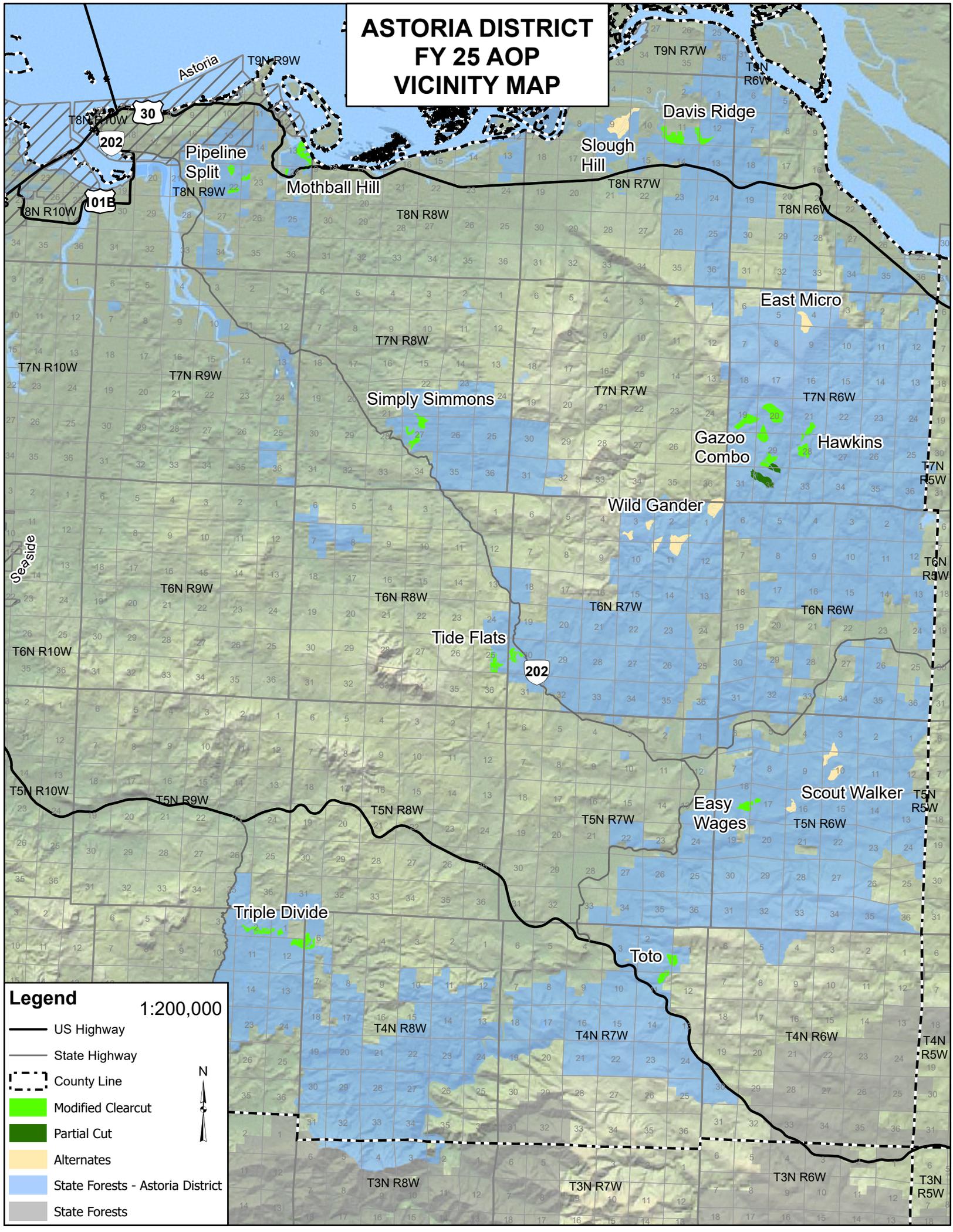
Projects Conducted by Adults in Custody <i>(costs are for materials only)</i>	Board of Forestry			Common School Forest Lands			District	
	Acres Planned	Average Cost*/Acre	BOF Cost	Acres Planned	Average Cost*/Acre	CSL Cost	Total Acres	Total Cost
Site Prep - Broadcast Burning	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Site Prep - Piling Burning	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Site Prep - Mechanical	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Initial Planting	40	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	40	\$0.00
Interplanting	40	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	40	\$0.00
Underplanting	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Tree Protection - Barriers	270	\$72.59	\$19,600.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	270	\$19,600.00
Tree Protection - Direct Control	550	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	550	\$0.00
Release - Manual	150	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	150	\$0.00
Precommercial Thinning	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Pruning	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Invasive Species	100	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	100	\$0.00
Other	40	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	40	\$0.00
Totals	1,190	--	\$19,600.00	0	--	\$0.00	1,190	\$19,600.00

Grant Funded Activities	Board of Forestry			Common School Forest Lands			District		Funding
Project	Acres Planned	Average Cost*/Acre	Cost	Acres Planned	Average Cost*/Acre	Cost	Total Acres	Total Cost	
None	0	\$0.00	\$0.00			\$0.00	0	\$0.00	

Appendix B – Vicinity Maps

- **Harvest Operations Vicinity Map**
- **Recreation Facilities Vicinity Map**
- **FY25 Recreation Project Vicinity Map**

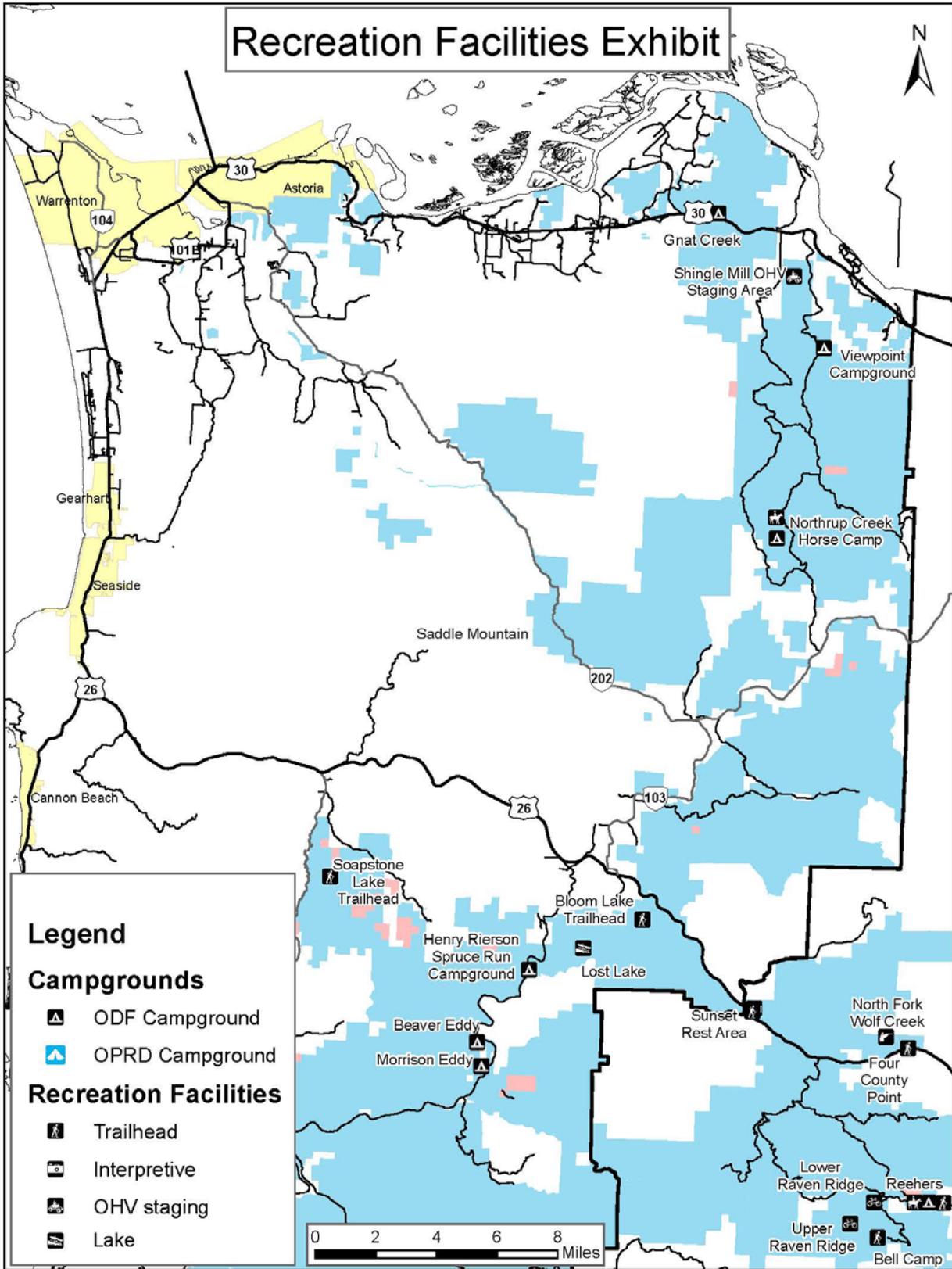
ASTORIA DISTRICT FY 25 AOP VICINITY MAP



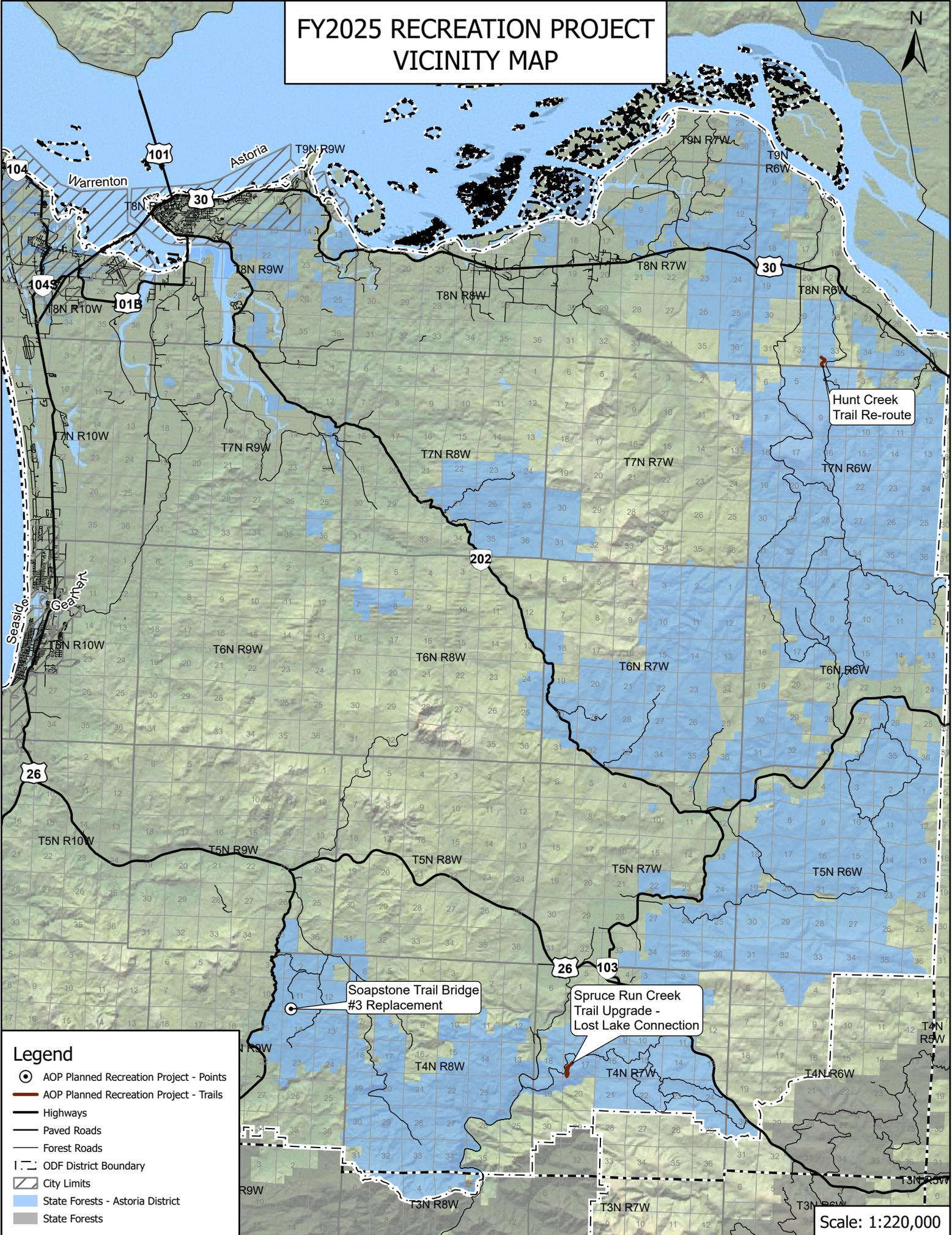
Legend 1:200,000

- US Highway
- State Highway
- County Line
- Modified Clearcut
- Partial Cut
- Alternates
- State Forests - Astoria District
- State Forests

N



FY2025 RECREATION PROJECT VICINITY MAP



Legend

- AOP Planned Recreation Project - Points
- AOP Planned Recreation Project - Trails
- Highways
- Paved Roads
- Forest Roads
- ODF District Boundary
- City Limits
- State Forests - Astoria District
- State Forests

Scale: 1:220,000

Appendix C – Consultations with Other State Agencies

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW):

ODFW biologists were provided the Summary Document and Pre-Operations Reports for review. A follow up cooperator/specialist meeting was held to address questions and concerns. ODFW expressed an interest in working with ODFs Stream Specialist on identifying potential stream enhancement projects and prescriptions throughout the coming fiscal year.

The following are paraphrased comments received from ODFW (*in bold & italics*) and the response from ODF.

Please let ODFW know when vacating roads as they have forage seed available to spread and ODFW may be able to facilitate finding volunteers to spread the seed mix.

Each district will coordinate with ODFW when vacating roads that would be a good candidate for spreading seed.

ODFW would like to include skips and gaps as part of young stand thinnings to create foraging opportunities.

ODF Biologists and district staff will reach out to ODFW Biologists to discuss the possibility of incorporating skips and gaps into young stand thinnings. Final thinning prescriptions are determined during sale layout.

Appendix D – Public Comment Process

The Oregon Department of Forestry issued a Press Release in April 2024, announcing a formal 45-day public comment period for the Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Operations Plans from April 3, 2024 through May 17, 2024.

The purpose of the Public Comment Period was to provide an opportunity for the public to review the Annual Operations Plan, ask questions, make recommendations and offer comments. As a public agency, ODF strives to operate in the best interest of Oregonians. We provide opportunities for public participation to assist us in securing the greatest permanent value from state forests for all Oregonians.

Appendix E – Pre-Operations Reports

Pre-Operations Reports are available online through a Web Application at the following link:

<https://geo.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ae569c1ff445457eb8fe1b556699bce8>

Just zoom to the District you are interested in and click on any sale. A pop-up box should show up with a link to the Pre-Operations Report for the sale.

Appendix F – Forest Land Management Classification

Modification Notice

No modifications are proposed with the Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Operations Plan.

Appendix G – Landscape Design

Implementation Plan Minor Modification Notice

No modifications are proposed with the Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Operations Plan.