

Pre-Operations Report

Operation Name: Courthouse
County: Clatsop
Management Basin: Quartz

Table 1. Operation Areas, Types and Acres

Area	Type of Operation	Gross Acres	Net Acres
1	MC	51	43
2	MC	15	12
Total	Modified Clearcut	66	55

I. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF OPERATION AREA:

The sale is located on the gentle upper slopes of two tributaries of the South Fork of Quartz Creek east of Flat Iron Mountain. The sale is underlain by sedimentary rocks of the informal Hamlet Formation (Area 1) and the informal Cole Mountain Basalt (Area 2).

II. CURRENT STAND CONDITION:

Area 1 - This area consists of 57 to 60 year old Douglas-fir, western hemlock, few scattered noble fir, and approximately 50 year old red alder. This stand is classified as a Understory Development (UDS) with a Site Index of 55 to 75.

Area 2 - Consists of 57 year old Douglas-fir, western hemlock, few scattered noble fir and red alder. This stand is classified as UDS with a Site Index of 50 to 60.

Understory development consists primarily of sword fern, vinemapple, huckleberry, and salmonberry and scattered pockets of advanced western hemlock regeneration.

Table 2. Stand Inventory Information

Area	Prescription	Stand ID ¹	Species	Age	DBH	BA	TPA	SDI	Acres ²
1	MC	24292	DF	60	19	316	161	75	43
		Target ³					5		43
2	MC	24292	DF	60	19	316	161	75	12
		Target ³					5		12

¹ The source of stand inventory information is SLI. Age shown is as of 2007.

² The acres are based on GIS and exclude roads, streams buffers, reserve areas, etc.

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

III. DESIRED FUTURE CONDITION/VISION:

Both sale areas have been placed into the General category for their desired future condition to be managed for healthy vigorous stands of mixed conifer.

These areas will be regeneration harvested and planted with a mixture of conifer species. Five to seven conifer trees per acre will be left to provide a source for natural regeneration and future downed wood and snags. A pre-commercial thinning is anticipated at 12 to 17 years when crowns close followed by a commercial thinning at 30 to 40 years of age to ensure continued growth. At age 45 to 50 the stand will be evaluated for either additional thinning or regeneration harvest.

Table 3. Stand Structure Information

Area	Stand ID	Current	Post Harvest ¹	Desired Future	Acres
1	24292	UDS	REGEN	GENERAL	43
2	24292	UDS	REGEN	GENERAL	12

¹ The stand is expected to develop into this condition in the five to ten years after this operation is completed.

IV. PROPOSED MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION:

Area 1 and 2 - These areas are both modified clearcuts that will be replanted with a mixture of conifer species. Minor species found will be reserved from cutting.

Snags: During all harvesting activities, all existing snags will be retained unless deemed to be safety hazards. Where fewer than two hard snags per acre are found to exist during sale layout, opportunities for snag creation or leaving additional live green trees will be implemented to supplement landscape snag levels (FMP, "Landscape Management Strategy 3c. Snags", pages 4-53 and 4-54).

Green Trees: A combination of methods will be implemented to achieve the green tree retention requirements such as green tree retention areas, stream buffers, and trees scattered across the sale areas (FMP, page 4-53, Paragraph 2). Minor species found may be reserved from cutting; further consideration of those species will be taken during sale layout.

Down Wood: For all harvesting activities, all existing down woody debris will be retained. Down woody debris levels will be assessed and if deficiencies are found to exist on an individual unit, then additional conifer trees and/or conifer logs will be retained to meet the landscape targets for down woody debris as prescribed in the FMP (FMP, "Landscape Management Strategy 3d. Down Wood." pages 4-54 and 4-55)."

Site preparation on gentle slopes will be done by mechanical slash manipulation. On steeper slopes the site preparation will be accomplished through cable

harvesting activities. Planting will be at 300-350 trees per acre with the following species: 75% Douglas-fir, 15% western hemlock, 20% true-firs. Mountain beaver trapping will focus on the sword fern/alder type areas. Animal damage through big game browse to conifer seedlings is anticipated to be high in both sale areas. Tree protection will be prescribed to the newly planted conifer species; Douglas-fir will receive paper bud caps at initial planting.

V. ESTIMATED TIMBER AND REVENUE OUTPUTS:

Table 4. Timber and Revenue

Ownership		Sale Type	
BOF	CSL	Cash	Recovery
100%	0%	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
Planned Quarter:		Alternate	

	Conifer	Hardwood	Total
Net Volume (MBF)	2,200	0	2,200
Stumpage Value (\$/MBF)	\$275	\$400	
Estimated Gross Value	\$605,000	\$0	\$605,000
		Project Costs:	\$130,500
		Estimated Net Value:	\$474,500

VI. HARVESTING AND ACCESS CONSIDERATIONS:

Access to the harvest sites will be from State owned land to the east of the sale. The haul route will be from the sale areas on Quartz Creek spurs to Quartz Creek Road and out to Highway 26. Approximately 1.0 miles of existing spur roads will receive a surface lift to improve conditions.

Rock crushing at the Sterling Ridge Quarry will be conducted to provide 4,200 cy of rock for in-sale projects and produce 10,000 cy for the Flat Iron and Quartz Creek stockpiles.

The sale will have a mixture of cable and ground yarding opportunities with a logger's choice spur in Area 2. This spur would be utilized to maximize the ground yarding area while still accessing the small portion of cable ground.

Table 5. Transportation Management Summary (Miles).

Activity	Mainline	Collector	Rocked Spur	Dirt Spur
Construct	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Improve	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0
Maintain	0.0	1.8	0.0	0.0
Close/Block	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Vacate	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

VII. AQUATIC RESOURCES AND WATER QUALITY:

Type F and Domestic Use Streams: No Type F streams or domestic use streams are associated with the harvest activities.

Type N Streams: There are perennial Type N streams located within the sale areas.

The operation is not in proximity to streams in which federally listed fish are present.

Aquatic Resource Protection: For all areas, full log suspension is required when cable yarding over streams. No ground-based logging equipment operation is allowed within the stream bank zone. No stream crossings are anticipated during road construction. To protect water quality during active operations, a variety of methods will be used to prevent sediment from entering live streams. These methods range from use of hay bales in road ditches, to “ditch-outs” away from streams, to complete shutdown of logging and hauling.

All streams will be examined to determine stream type and classification during sale layout, and then the specific riparian management area strategies required in the FMP will be implemented. The FMP riparian management area strategies that will be implemented are found in the FMP, Appendix J, “Management Standards for Aquatic and Riparian Areas”, pages J-1 through J-16.

If any in-stream work is done with this sale, it will all be conducted during in-stream work periods established by ODFW.

VIII. WILDLIFE AND T&E SPECIES CONSIDERATIONS:

All sale areas were surveyed to protocol for northern spotted owls in 2006 and 2007 with no responses.

The ODF Northwest Area Biologist determined that none of the sale areas contained suitable habitat for Marbled Murrelets.

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

IX. SLOPE STABILITY AND GEOTECHNICAL ISSUES:

The initial risk assessment by the geotechnical specialist for the sale is low. A field visit by the geotechnical specialist is not expected to be needed, but will be consulted during sale layout if slope stability concerns are encountered.

X. RECREATION RESOURCES:

This area receives little use, most likely hunting and dispersed camping. The Clatsop State Forest Recreation Plan does not list any specific activities for this portion of the basin.

XI. CULTURAL RESOURCES:

No known cultural resources are within or adjacent to the operation.

XII. SCENIC RESOURCES:

The sale area is not in a landscape of visual sensitivity.

XIII. OTHER RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS:

No private property lines are within the sale areas. No land surveying will be needed.

XIV. LAND MANAGEMENT CLASSIFICATION SUMMARY:

This sale is fully within the General Stewardship land management classification.

Salmon Anchor Boundary lines depicted on Attachment C are approximate; exact locations and site specific management activities will be determined during the sale preparation process.

FY 2009 Courtside

Portions of Sections 14, 23 & 24,
T4N, R7W, W.M., Clatsop County, OR

Approximate Net Acreage	
MC Acres	PC Acres
Area 1 (MC) -	43
Area 2 (MC) -	12
Total by Prescription =	55
Total Sale Acres =	55



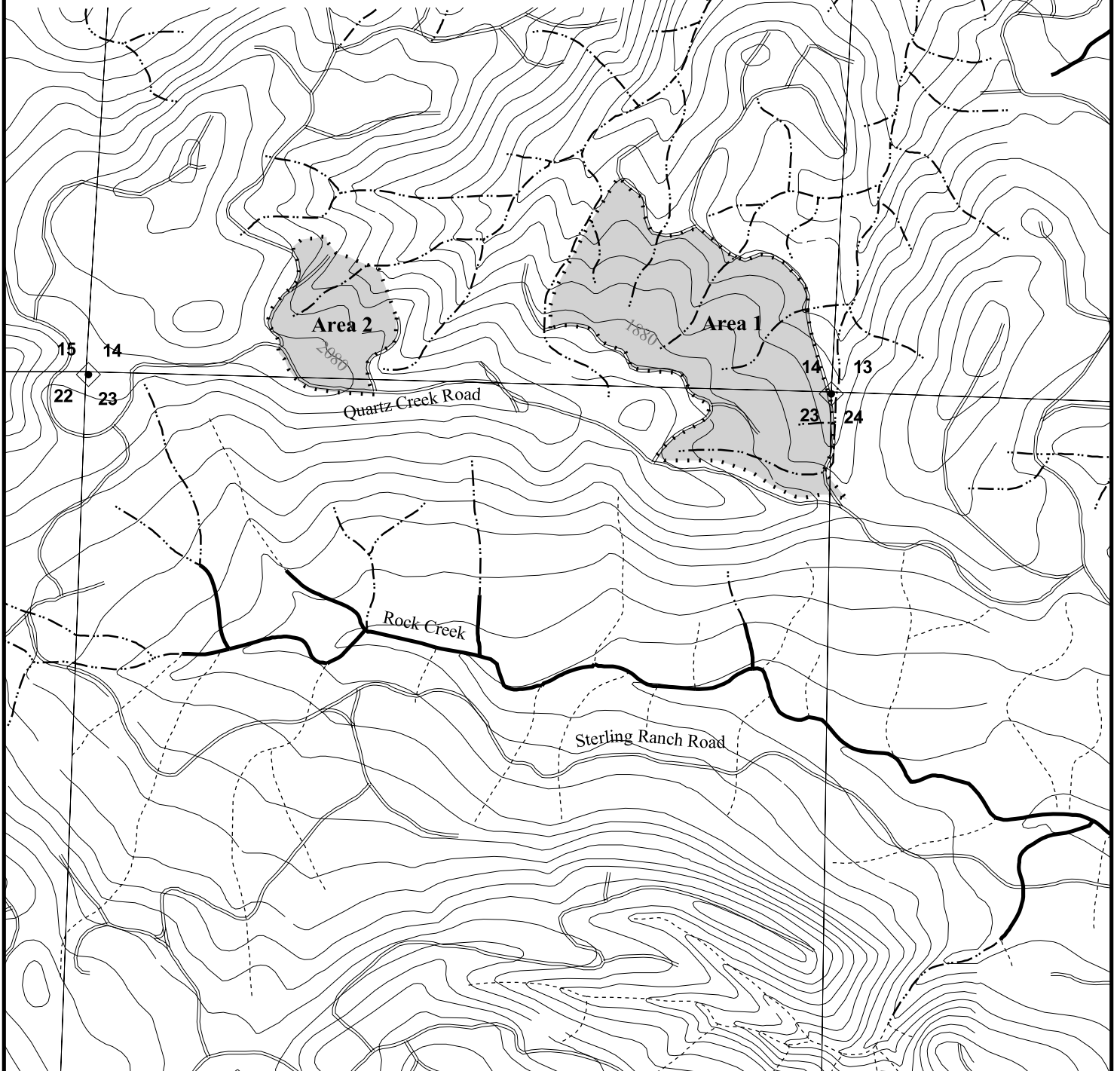
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500 0 500 1000 Feet

LEGEND

- Fish Stream
- Non-fish Stream
- Unknown Stream
- Ownership Boundary
- Timber Sale Boundary
- Roads**
- Paved Road
- Existing Rocked Road

Map A: Topography



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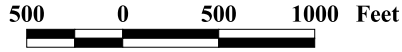
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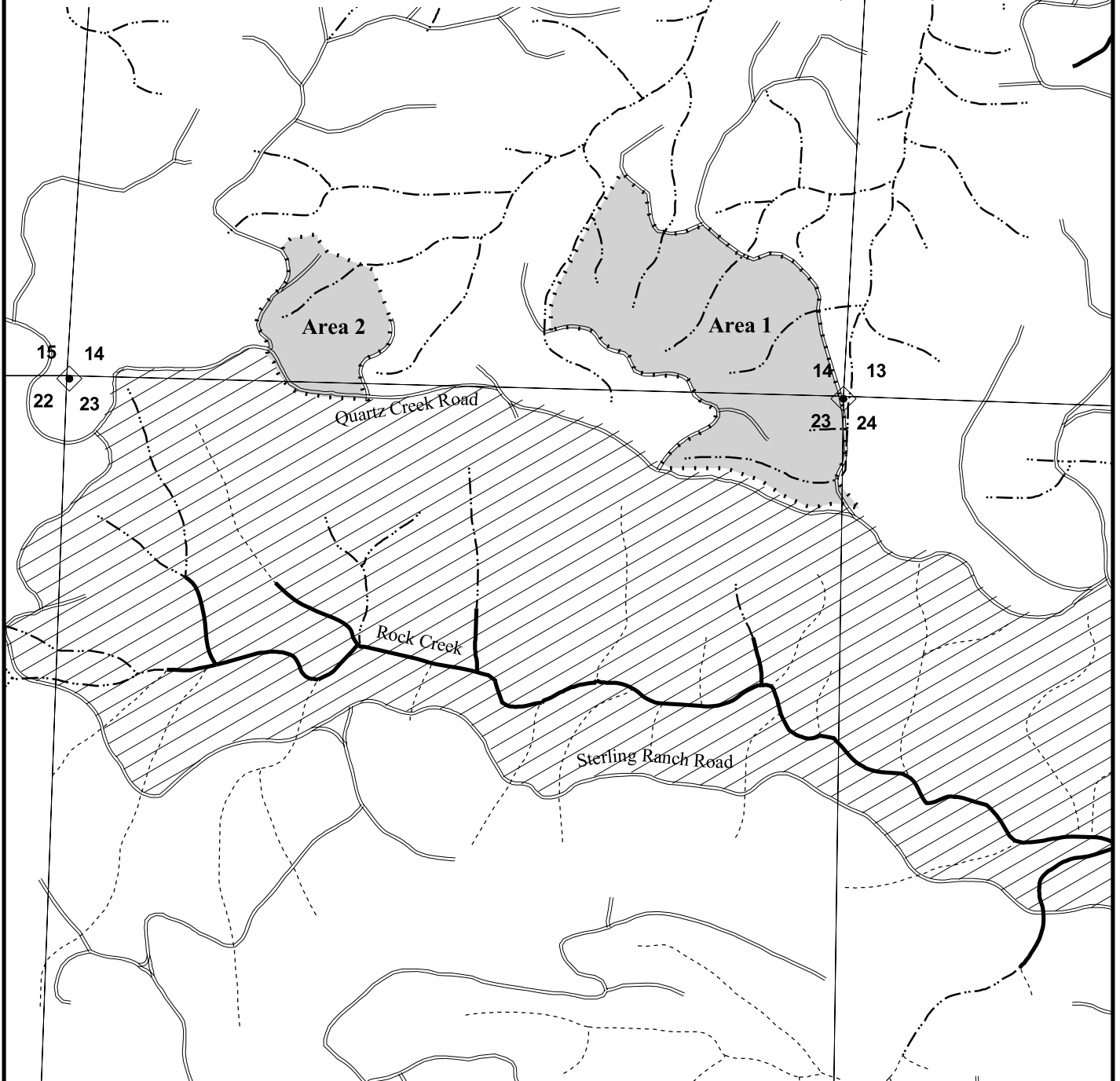
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LEGEND

- Fish Stream
- Non-fish Stream
- Unknown Stream
- Ownership Boundary
- Roads**
- Paved Road
- Existing Rocked Road
- Timber Sale Boundary
- Desired Future Condition**
- Layered
- Older Forest Structure

Map B: Desired Future Conditions



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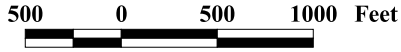
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1:12,000



LEGEND

- Fish Stream
- Non-fish Stream
- Unknown Stream
- Ownership Boundary
- Roads**
- Paved Road
- Existing Rocked Road
- Timber Sale Boundary
- Salmon Anchor Habitat

Map C: Key Resources

