

# Pre-Operations Report

**Operation Name: Lower Deer**

**County: Coos**

**Management Basin: 13**

**Table 1. Operation Areas, Types and Acres**

Area	Type of Operation	Gross Acres	Net Acres
1	CC	63	55
Total		63	55

## **I. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF OPERATION AREA:**

This operation is a one-unit timber sale totaling 55 net acres. This timber sale is located on the western slope of the Coast Range. The timber sale is located in the West Fork Millicoma and Deer Creek watersheds within the Elliott State Forest Management Basin 13. This timber sale is in close proximity to the Pacific Ocean, which has a dominant influence on the climate. The average annual rainfall is between 80 - 85 inches. Temperatures range from 32-76 degrees throughout the year. This timber sale has an elevation of 800 to 1440 feet above sea level with slopes ranging from 25 percent to 85 percent. The timber sale has west and south facing slopes. Eocene age sedimentary rocks underlie the area. Soil types consist of 60% Preacher-Bohannon loams with 33% Milbury-Bohannon-Umpcoos association throughout. There is a minor amount of Kirkendall silt loam (7%) in the southern part of the sale, above the West Fork Millicoma. Slopes in this timber sale are generally steep.

## **II. CURRENT STAND CONDITION:**

The timber sale is mostly second growth Douglas-fir that originated after the Coos Bay fire of 1868. It is composed of 79 to 126 year-old Douglas-fir with a minor component of red alder and scattered understory hemlock. Table 2 contains stocking, size and age information for all the areas in this timber sale. There are few hard snags in the stand. Stand health is satisfactory which is typical for the Elliott Forest. The sale area is located outside of the current area of concern for Swiss needle cast.

**Table 2. Stand Inventory Information**

Area	Prescription	Stand ID <sup>1</sup>	Species	Age in 2007	DBH	BA	TPA	RD	Acres <sup>2</sup>
1	CC	1429	DF,WH	95	18	221	128	54	49
1	CC	1163	DF,RA	84	24	162	50	35	3
1	CC	1165	DF,WH	126	19	152	77	36	1
1	CC	1151	CX,DF	79	17	258	173	65	2
	Target <sup>3</sup>		DF,WH, WRC		20	8	3	1	55

1. The Stand ID data source is (SLI) from current records.

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

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

### **III. DESIRED FUTURE CONDITION:**

The desired condition is a young age class stand to provide early successional habitat in accordance with the Balanced Landscape strategy of the Elliott State Forest Management Plan. It will be composed of mainly Douglas-fir and may have a smaller component of other conifer species including hemlock and/or red cedar. Red alder will also naturally regenerate in the stand. Green trees retained during this operation will provide for multi-story stand structures valuable for wildlife.

**Table 3. Stand Structure Information (Does not apply Elliott State Forest)<sup>1</sup>**

### **IV. PROPOSED MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION:**

The prescription for this sale is to harvest most of the overstory, leaving standing trees within buffer areas and scattered in selected locations in or along the edge of the sale unit.

Site Preparation and Planting - Site preparation will be achieved by yarding disturbance and treating residual brush with herbicide prior to planting. The site will be planted with conifer seedlings at approximately 400-500 trees per acre.

Green Tree Retention - A minimum of 165 trees (about 3 per acre) will be left in or adjacent to the sale area. Emphasis will be given to retention of conifer species other than Douglas-fir. Some of these trees will be topped and/or girdled for snag creation. Single green trees will not be left unless localized soil conditions provide for wind firmness and logging conditions are suitable. The

location of retained trees will be determined during the sale prep process. Emphasis may be given to widening riparian management areas.

Snag Retention and Creation - Existing snags within the sale area will be left, with the exception of those that endanger work crews. Green trees may be girdled or topped to leave approximately 28 topped trees in the sale area (about one tree per 2 acres harvested). Specific instructions for selecting, girdling, and topping trees will be provided by the Southern Oregon Area Biologist during the timber sale layout process.

Down Log Retention – A minimum of 165 logs (3 logs per acre harvested) will be left in or adjacent to Area 1 in accordance with the Elliott State Forest Management Plan. Down logs shall meet the following minimum specifications: 16 feet in length and 12 inches diameter at the large end.

Burning - Portions of the sale may be burned depending on the amount and distribution of the slash and timing of sale completion. The main purpose of this type of burn is to provide for biological diversity and improved big game forage rather than site preparation. However, portions of the sale may be burned, if planting spots are too few to attain adequate stocking.

**V. ESTIMATED TIMBER AND REVENUE OUTPUTS:**

**Table 4. Timber and Revenue**

Ownership		Sale Type	
BOF	CSL	Cash	Recovery
0%	100%		X
Planned Quarter:		4	

	Conifer	Hardwood	Total
Net Volume (MBF)	3,023	50	3073
Stumpage Value (\$/MBF)	400	400	
Estimated Gross Value	1,209,200	20,000	1,229,200
		Project Costs:	69,170
		Estimated Net Value:	1,160,030

**VI. HARVESTING AND ACCESS CONSIDERATONS:**

All legal access to the sale is obtained and there are no property lines needing to be surveyed. Access to the timber sale will be from the 7100 road. The 7100 road is a collector road which is in good shape and will require only maintenance. Winter harvesting will require purchaser supplied rock. New landings and short access spurs will need to be constructed. Final locations will be determined during the timber sale preparation process. Final stockpile requirements will be

determined during the timber sale preparation process.

The sale areas will be cable yarded uphill.

**Table 5. Transportation Management Summary (Miles).**

Activity	Mainline	Collector	Rocked Spur	Dirt Spur
Construct	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3
Improve	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Maintain	0.0	0.5	0.5	0.3
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:**

The western part of this timber sale is located in the Deer Creek watershed, a large Type F tributary of the West Fork Millicoma River. The southeast part of the sale drains directly to the West Fork Millicoma River, a large Type F stream. Streams associated with this sale were surveyed to ODFW protocol for fish presence in 1997 and 2006. All drainages associated with the sale area were field surveyed during the 2006 summer low flow period to determine the stream channel extent and whether streamflow is perennial or seasonal. Opportunities for in-stream large wood placement exist in Deer Creek during harvest operations. Four perennial streams and several seasonal streams drain the timber harvest area.

There are no known water rights within or downstream of the proposed operation.

**VIII. WILDLIFE AND T&E SPECIES CONSIDERATIONS:**

The older habitat within this sale area may be suitable for certain T and E species. This sale is planned under the standards of the Elliott State Forest Management and Habitat Conservation Plans and other Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) policy. The specific measures are as follows:

NSO Habitat Retention:

Basin 13 - There is no minimum acreage for NSO nesting, roosting, and foraging habitat in this basin above the required reserve acres. Reserve acres in this basin include 2192 acres (37%) that are being retained in riparian management areas, habitat conservation areas and other conservancy acres. Fifty percent of this basin (2984 acres) must provide dispersal habitat. After this sale plan, there will be about 3890 acres of dispersal habitat retained, including 278 acres of in-growth in 2007 and 220 acres of in-growth in 2008.

Marbled Murrelet - The sale area was surveyed according to protocol standards during the 2006 survey season. Murrelets were found to the west of Deer Creek and the Joe Buck MMMA was enlarged by 90 acres. In 2007 the sites were reconfigured and occupancy was found along the West Fork Millicoma River, creating the 34 acre Millicoma Connect MMMA. The remaining three sites will be surveyed again in 2008. The sale is within 330' of the Fish Knife, Millicoma Connect, and Joe Buck Marbled Murrelet Management Areas. Oregon Department of Forestry's Southern Oregon Area Biologist will determine the application of seasonal restrictions during the sale layout to comply with ODF's policies for the Marbled Murrelet.

Bald Eagle, Other - There are no known bald eagle nest sites or other listed animal species in the vicinity of this sale.

Salmon and Steelhead – This timber sale is within 100 feet of Deer Creek, a Type F stream. Opportunities for placement of large wood have been identified where cable layouts cross Deer Creek. These placed log structures will create gravel beds and pools improving spawning and wintering habitat. Locations and quantities of large wood placement will be identified during the sale preparation process with the Area Biologist.

Plants – No listed plant records were identified within the sale area.

Fragmentation – This timber sale bisects contiguous timber that is adjacent to the timber sale on the southern, eastern and western boundary. This area was chosen because suitable substitutes were not available; alternative choices within this basin would violate FPA green-up or increase fragmentation of interior habitat. The sale is adjacent to a recent timber harvest to the north.

#### **IX. SLOPE STABILITY AND GEOTECHNICAL ISSUES:**

This sale has had a map review by an ODF geotechnical specialist. A closer examination will be made during the sale layout process to determine if additional geotechnical review is needed. Portions of the unit appear to meet criteria for classification high landslide hazard locations (uniform slopes greater than 75% and/or planform concave slopes greater than 65%). An area of HLHL is located above the 8000 road and it is likely that a debris flow would be captured by the road and gentle ground in the valley bottom and not enter the WF. There are areas of HLHL on the west aspect slope above Deer Creek, delivery of material is likely in this case to the fish bearing reach, where deposition will occur.

#### **X. RECREATION RESOURCES:**

The most common recreation for this area is hunting and dispersed undeveloped recreation. Harvesting of these units will provide forage area to help promote

healthy deer and elk populations. In addition, areas of bare soil around road edges and landings will be grass seeded after logging to provide forage. Surrounding forest types provide escape cover. No conflict is seen with respect to the undeveloped, dispersed recreation usage of the forest.

**XI. CULTURAL RESOURCES:**

There are no cultural sites associated with this sale.

**XII. SCENIC RESOURCES:**

The southern part of the unit is classified as scenic production. Retention trees will be placed as to minimize scenic disturbance. No significant conflicts with users are anticipated.

**XIII. OTHER RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS:**

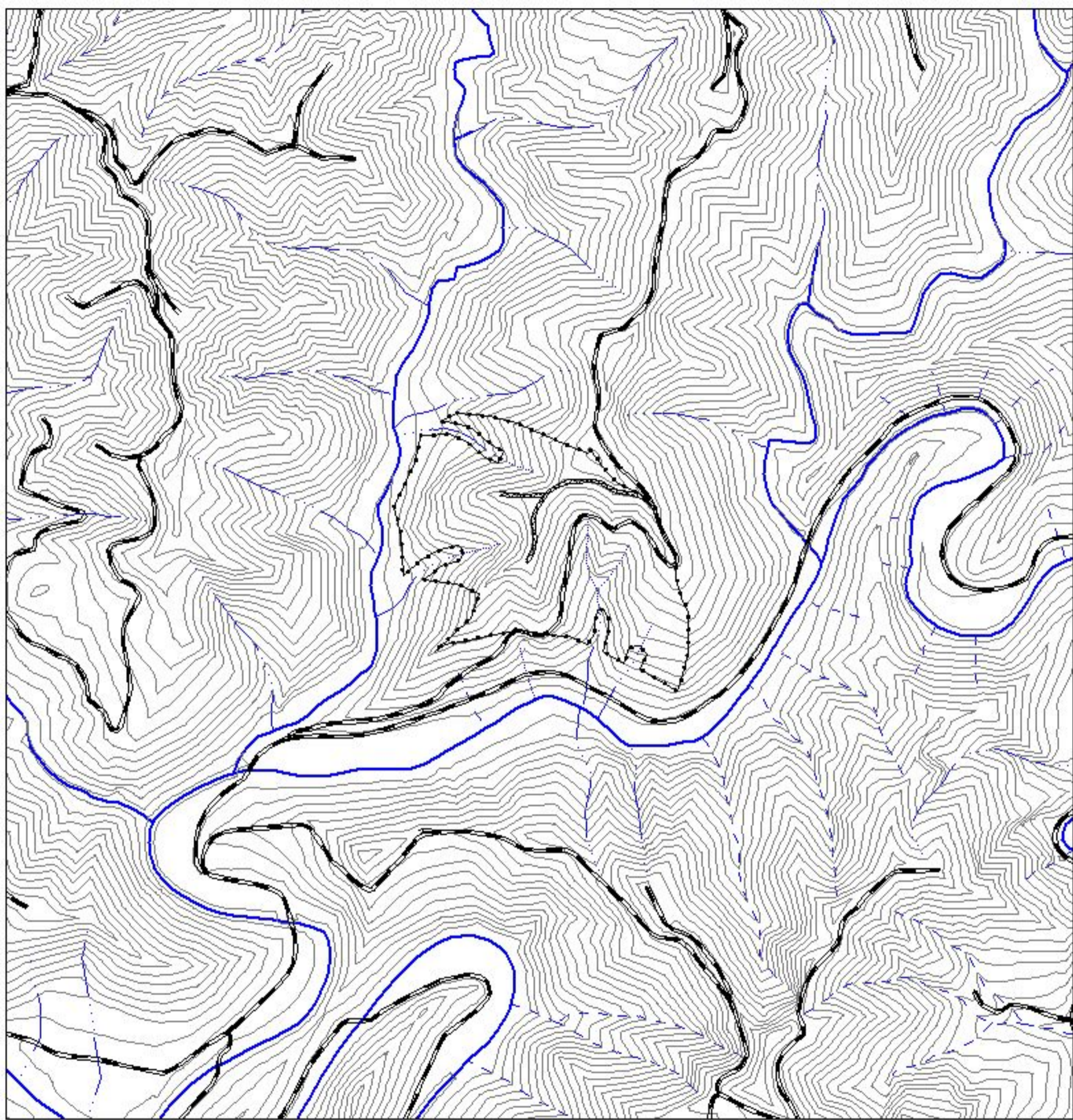
There are no other known resource considerations associated with this sale.

**XIV. LAND MANAGEMENT CLASSIFICATION SUMMARY:**

**Table 6. Land Use Classification Summary**

Area	Production	Scenic Production
1	42	13

This table summarizes the acres in each land use class within the operation.



-  Timber Sale Boundary
-  Existing Roads
-  Road construction
-  40' Contours
-  Streams
-  Type F
-  Type N
-  Type N Seasonal
-  Unclassified

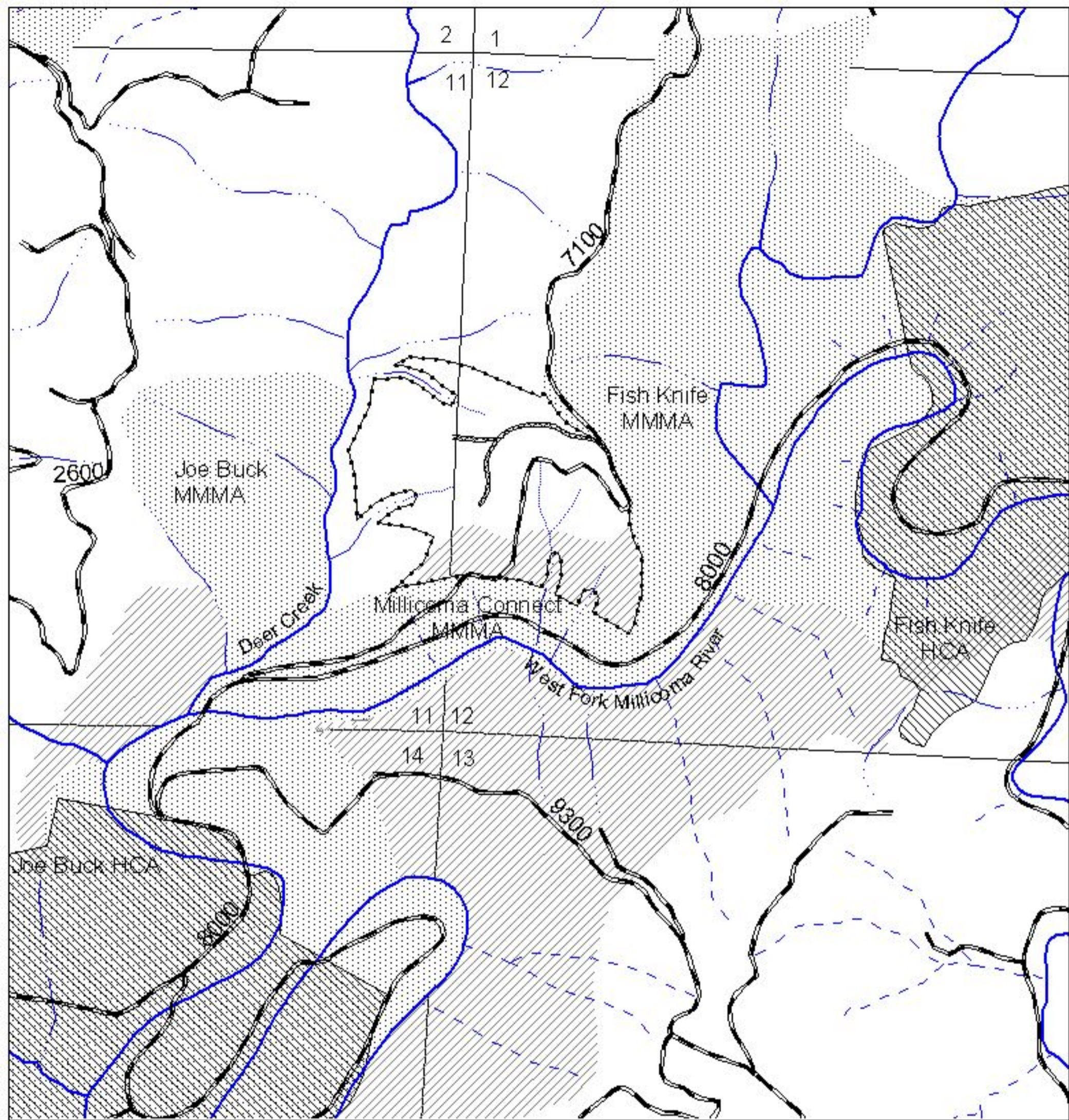


Lower Deer Timber Sale  
 -- Topography --  
 FY 09 Sale Plan  
 Coos District  
 Portions of Sections 11 and 12  
 T23S, R11W, W.M.  
 Coos County, Oregon



Sale Area	Harvest Type	Net Acres
1	Clearcut	55
Total		55

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Lower Deer Timber Sale  
 -- Key Resources --  
 FY 09 Sale Plan  
 Coos District

Portions of Sections 11 and 12  
 T23S, R11W, W.M.  
 Coos County, Oregon

Sale Area	Harvest Type	Net Acres
1	Clearcut	55
<b>Total</b>		<b>55</b>



1" = 1000'



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