

Pre-Operations Report

Operation Name: Marlow Bottom

County: Coos

Management Basin: 10

Table 1. Operation Areas, Types and Acres

Area	Type of Operation	Gross Acres	Net Acres
1	Clearcut	60	51

I. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF OPERATION AREA:

This operation is a one-unit timber sale totaling 51 net acres. This timber sale is located on the western slope of the Coast Range in the Marlow Creek watershed within Elliott State Forest Management Basins 10. This timber sale area is in close proximity to the Pacific Ocean, which has a dominant influence on the climate. The average annual rainfall is between 75-80 inches. Temperatures range from 20-95 degrees Fahrenheit throughout the year. This timber sale has an elevation of 200 to 900 feet above sea level with slopes ranging from 60 percent to over 80 percent. The sale area is evenly divided between north and south aspects with some westerly faces. Eocene sedimentary rocks underlie the area. Soil types consist of primarily Milbury-Bohannon-Umpcoos association with some Preacher-Bohannon loams.

II. CURRENT STAND CONDITION:

The timber sale is mostly third growth Douglas-fir that originated from logging which occurred in the 1920's. It is primarily composed of 81 to 87 year-old Douglas-fir with significant amounts of red alder and lesser amounts of bigleaf maple, western red cedar, and western 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	Veg Code ¹	Species	Age in 2007	DBH	BA	TPA	RD	Acres ²
1	CC	1794	DF, RA, RC, WH	87	14.4	262	231	69	30
1	CC	1836	DF, RA, BM, RC	82	13.8	242	233	65	21
1	Target ³	1793, 1794, 1836, 2002	DF, RA, WH, BM, RC		16	8	3	1	51

1. The source of stand inventory information is (SLIP) from 2007 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 with a smaller component of other conifer species including hemlock and red cedar. Red alder and bigleaf maple will also naturally regenerate in the stand. Green trees retained from the previous rotation will provide for multi-story stand structures valuable for wildlife. This mix of planted and natural regeneration will comprise the next planned rotation.

Table 3. Stand Structure Information (Does not apply Elliott State Forest)¹

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 about 153 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 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. Tops will be blown or sawn off green trees to leave approximately 26 topped trees in the sale area- about one tree per 2 acres harvested.

Down Log Retention - At least 153 logs (3 logs per acre harvested) will be left in or adjacent to the sale area for habitat purposes 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. Down logs shall be left in stable locations to minimize safety concerns to tree planters and other forest workers.

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
59%	41%		X
Planned Quarter:		Alternate	

	Conifer	Hardwood	Total
Net Volume (MBF)	1,453	471	1,924
Stumpage Value (\$/MBF)	400	400	
Estimated Gross Value	581,200	188,400	769,600
		Project Costs:	48,000
		Estimated Net Value:	721,600

VI. HARVESTING AND ACCESS CONSIDERATIONS:

Access to the sale area is through an existing road system on private property. A locked gate is located at the bottom of this system where it joins the Coos River Highway. Access agreements and easements will be arranged with the private property owners. Property lines between state and private in Section 33 were surveyed by ODF in 1982. Lines were posted and blazed at that time and will require minimal work to refresh. Existing spurs on private property may be used to gain proximity to the sale area and 2 new short spurs may be constructed across private property to access landings in the sale area. One landing may be partially or completely on private property due to terrain concerns. Ridge crests

will be utilized as much as possible for new road spurs. Construction technique for new road spurs on side slopes over 50 percent will be full bench with 100 percent end haul to stable locations. Final locations of new spurs and landings will be determined during the sale preparation process. Winter harvesting will require purchaser supplied rock. The lower ½ mile of the private road system is rocked and is largely in good shape except for a slide which undercut the road prism requiring reconstruction. The remainder of the private road system is dirt and will require minor improvements. All spurs and landings within/adjacent to the sale area will be examined to determine if pullback of sidecast is necessary.

The sale area will be cable yarded up hill. A 6 acre portion in the middle of the sale area may be accessed by a landing constructed on private property, or it may be accessed via intermediate supports from other landings within the sale area.

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	1.2
Maintain	0.0	0.0	0.5	1.5
Close/Block	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.5
Vacate	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

VII. AQUATIC RESOURCES AND WATER QUALITY:

The sale area is located within the Marlow Creek watershed, a large size Type F tributary of the East Fork Millicoma River. The streams within the sale area were surveyed to ODFW protocol for fish presence in 1997 and were all found to be small Type N streams. The northern most stream was field surveyed again in 2006 and found still to be a small Type N. The western boundary of the sale area borders Marlow Creek, a large Type F stream. All drainages associated with the sale area will be field surveyed during the 2008 summer low flow period to determine the stream channel extent and whether streamflow is perennial or seasonal.

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 10 - 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 1,805 acres (36%) that will be continually retained in riparian management areas, habitat conservation areas and other conservancy acres. Fifty percent of this basin (2465 acres) must provide dispersal habitat. After this sale plan, there will be about 3552 acres of dispersal habitat retained which includes 45 acres of in-growth in 2007 and 74 acres of in-growth in 2009.

Marbled Murrelet – The sale was surveyed according to protocol standards during the 2007 survey season, and will receive second year surveys in 2008. The western edge of the timber sale area is within 330 feet of the Marlow Bottom Marbled Murrelet Management Area and the northern edge is within 330 feet of the East Marlow MMMA. 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 bald eagles or other listed animal species in the vicinity of this sale.

Salmon and Steelhead – The western boundary of the sale area is within 100 feet above Marlow Creek, a Type F stream. Opportunities for placement of large wood have been identified where cable layouts cross Marlow 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. This sale may provide an opportunity to replenish the fish habitat log stockpile, dependent on the final design of the road system and ability to access logs, as well as the size and capacity of the landing after final engineering plans.

Plants - 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 (ONHP) database of known listed plant locations. No listed plant records were identified within the sale area.

Fragmentation - The sale area is located on the edge of a mature block and is adjacent to industrial plantations on the south and east, to Marbled Murrelet Management Areas to the west and to the north. The area was chosen because alternative choices in this basin had data indicating the potential presence of marbled murrelets.

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. It appears that most of the unit meets criteria

for classification as high landslide hazard locations (uniform slopes greater than 75% and/or planform concave slopes greater than 65%). It is likely that all of the type N channels are capable of delivering a channelized debris flow(s) to Type F Marlow Creek. It is likely that deposition would occur at the confluence of the tributaries with the mainstem.

To minimize yarding impacts on the slopes, single end suspension cable yarding will be required. Roads will be located on ridge-crests as much as possible and any steep sidehill portions will be constructed with full bench end-haul design and construction. Construction will be done during the dry season.

X. RECREATION RESOURCES:

This sale area is accessible only through gated private roads and is not commonly used for 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 to the north and west provide escape cover and young plantations to the south and east provide forage. 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 units are not within any scenic management areas. There are no scenic management constraints for this sale. No significant conflicts with users are anticipated.

XIII. OTHER RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS:

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

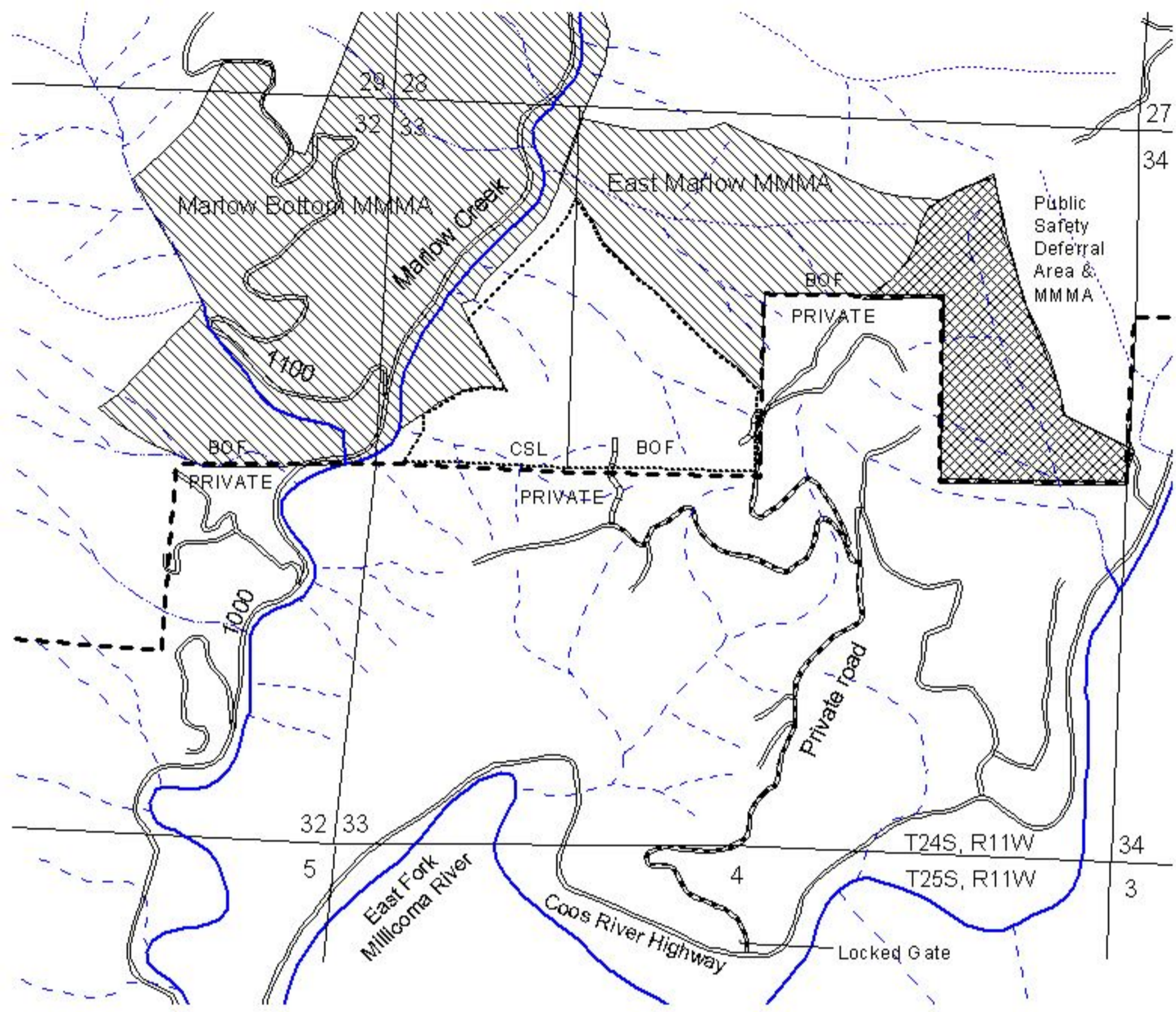
XIV. LAND MANAGEMENT CLASSIFICATION SUMMARY:

Area I contains an area classified as a rock outcrop. The size and exact location of the outcrop will be determined during sale layout. The timber located within the rock outcrops will be excluded from harvest and will not count towards net acreage.

Table 6. Land Use Classification Summary

Area	Production
1	60

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



- Timber Sale Boundary
- Type F Streams
- Type N Perennial Streams
- Type N Seasonal Streams
- Type N Unclassified Streams
- Existing Roads
- New Road Construction
- Road Improvement
- State Forest Boundary
- Section Lines
- Marbled Murrelet Management Area
- Public Safety Deferral Area

**MARLOW BOTTOM
TIMBER SALE
-- Key Resources --
FY 09 Plan
Coos District**

Portions of Section 33
T24S, R11W, W.M.
Coos County, Oregon

Sale Area	Harvest Type	Net Acres
	clearcut	51
Total		51

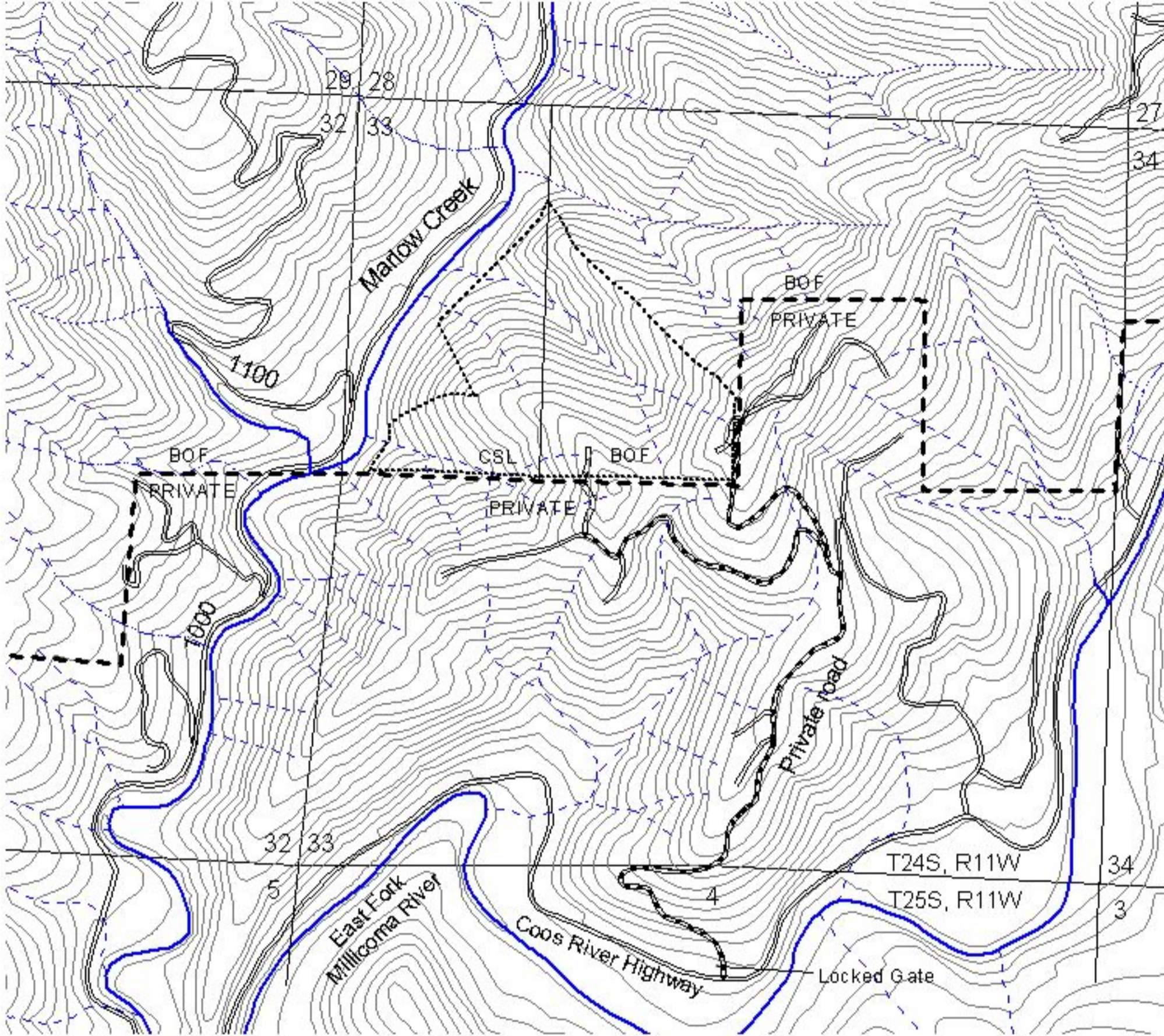
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1000 0 1000 Feet



1" = 1000'



- Timber Sale Boundary
- Type F Streams
- Type N Perennial Streams
- Type N Seasonal Streams
- Type N Unclassified Streams
- Existing Roads
- New Road Construction
- Road Improvement
- State Forest Boundary
- Section Lines
- 40 Foot Contours



**MARLOW BOTTOM
TIMBER SALE
-- Topography --
FY 09 Plan
Coos District**

Portions of Section 33
T24S, R11W, W.M.
Coos County, Oregon



1" = 1000'

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