

# Pre-Operations Report

**Operation Name: Ocean View Thin**  
**County: Coos/Douglas**  
**Management Basins: 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8**

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

Area	Type of Operation	Gross Acres	Net Acres
1	Moderate Thinning	47	41
2	Moderate Thinning	62	41
3	Moderate Thinning	61	50
4	Moderate Thinning	26	10
5	Moderate Thinning	50	20
6	Moderate Thinning	104	83
7	Moderate Thinning	41	32
8	Moderate Thinning	21	16
9	Moderate Thinning	43	34
10	Moderate Thinning	68	47
11	Moderate Thinning	48	19
Total		571	393

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

This operation is a 11 unit timber sale totaling 393 net acres of partial cut. The timber sale is located on the western slope of the Coast Range in the Ten Mile Lake and Umpqua River watersheds predominately within the Elliott State Forest Management Basins 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8. 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 and 85. Temperatures range from 32-90 degrees Fahrenheit throughout the year. This timber sale has elevations from 180 to 1520 feet above sea level with slopes ranging from 20 percent to over 90 percent. Areas 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 and 11 have a northerly aspect, Area 9 and 11 have an easterly aspect, and Area 4, 7, and 8 has a southerly aspect. Areas 1 and 2 have soils that are categorized as Millicoma-Reedsport Complex; Areas 3 and 5 have soils that are Damewood-Bohannon-Umpcoos Complex; Areas 5, 6 and 9 have soils that are Preacher-Bohannon loams; Areas 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11 have soils that are Milbury-Bohannon-Umpcoos Association; Areas 4 and 5 have soils that are Bohannon-Preacher-Damewood Complex and Preacher loams.

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

The units are young third growth Douglas-fir planted after clearcut harvest

activities in the 1960's and 1970's. They are composed of 27 to 42 year-old Douglas-fir with scattered volunteer western red cedar and hemlock, and scattered clumps and stringers of red alder trees. Table 2 contains stocking, size and age information for all the areas in this timber sale. Some of the inventory information is based on measurements taken 14 years ago or longer and may not reflect actual stand level conditions. All of the sale areas have been site examined for stocking levels and suitability for thinning treatments. Stand densities are at or rapidly approaching the stem exclusion stage where little understory development occurs. There are a few snags in the stands.

**Table 2. Stand Inventory Information**

Area	Prescription	Stand ID <sup>1</sup>	Species	Inventory Year	Age in 2007	DBH	BA	TPA	SDI	Acres <sup>2</sup>
1	Moderate Thinning	617	DFRA	2005	28	13.4	279	282	75	41
	Target	617	DFRA			15.0	110	110	30	41
2	Moderate Thinning	389	DFCX	2005	27	10.6	122	198	37	29
	Moderate Thinning	555	DFCX	2003	31	10.3	182	318	56	12
	Target	389 & 555	DFCX			12.0	100	100	28	41
3	Moderate Thinning	417	DFRA	2002	36	9.5	145	296	47	50
	Target	417	DFRA			12.0	110	110	30	50
4	Moderate Thinning	532	DF..	2004	34	11.7	169	227	49	10
	Target	532	DF..			14.0	105	90	30	10
5	Moderate Thinning	305	DFRA	2004	31	14.4	125	110	32	20
	Target	305	DFRA			15.0	90	90	25	20
6	Moderate Thinning	1143	DF, RA	2004	42	13.6	165	164	44	78
	Moderate Thinning	1094	DF..	2002	27	12.2	138	170	39	5
	Target	1094 & 1143	DF..			14.0	105	90	28	83
7	Moderate Thinning	1301	DF..	2005	40	12.8	97	108	26	32
	Target	1301	DF..			14.0	90	90	25	32
8	Moderate Thinning	1303	DF..	1998	38	10.7	163	261	48	16
	Target	1303	DF..			12.0	110	110	28	16
9	Moderate Thinning	1820	DFWH	1993	29	9.7	93	163	26	34
	Target	1820	DFWH			12.0	90	90	25	34

10	Moderate Thinning	1587	DFRA	2002	38	10.6	183	200	51	47
	Target	1587	DFRA			12.0	100	90	28	47
11	Moderate Thinning	1956	DFRA	2005	37	10.6	127	209	38	19
	Target	1956	DFRA			12.0	90	90	28	19

1. The source of stand inventory information is SLIP from 2007 grown forward 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 SDI) after harvesting has been completed.

### III. DESIRED FUTURE CONDITION:

Areas 1-11: The desired condition for the partial cut units are accelerated tree growth, expansion of tree canopies and increase in radial increment, and understory reinitiation as a result of increased light to the forest floor. Thinning will allow for development of a more complex stand structure over time, and will provide an earlier economic return on investments in site preparation, tree planting, and brush control.

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

### IV. PROPOSED MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION:

Areas 1-11: The prescription for the partial cut units is to thin using an Automark system in which cutters select trees in accordance with unit specifications for residual stocking and average diameter. Thinning will target the portions of the stands with dense stocking. In general, stand densities will be reduced to relative densities between 25 and 30 by prescribing a moderate thin for all stands. Residual stocking is expected to range from 80 to 120 trees per acre and a residual basal area from 90 to 110 square feet per acre. Final thinning prescriptions will be determined during the sale preparation process.

Snag Retention and Creation - Existing snags within the units will be left, with the exception of those that endanger work crews. There are very few snags within the sale units and most are too small to have much value to wildlife. Trees that become damaged during the yarding process may be left as snags.

Down Log Retention – Existing down wood within the units will be left, with the exception of those that endanger work crews.

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

**Table 4. Timber and Revenue**

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

	Conifer	Hardwood	Total
Net Volume (MBF)	1,600	30	1,630
Stumpage Value (\$/MBF)	200	150	
Estimated Gross Value	\$320,000	\$4,500	\$324,500
		Project Costs:	\$35,000
		Estimated Net Value:	\$289,500

**VI. HARVESTING AND ACCESS CONSIDERATONS:**

All legal access to the sale is obtained and there are property lines needing to be surveyed prior to sale layout. The following boundaries will need to be marked on the ground by the District Engineering Team prior to posting the sale boundaries: Area 1 northeastern line and Area 3 western line. Access into the sale areas are from existing roads summarized below:

Area 1: 5600 road (dirt spur, re-open and improve)

Area 2: 5000 road (rocked collector mainline, good shape) and 5600 road (re-open and improve)

Areas 3: 2000 road (rocked collector mainline, good shape)

Area 4: 5000 road (rocked collector mainline, good shape)

Area 5: 2000 (rocked collector mainline, good shape) and 2620 road (dirt spur, re-open and improve)

Area 6: 4000 road (rocked collector mainline, good shape) and 4800 road (dirt spur, re-open and improve)

Area 7: 2200 road (rocked collector spur)

Area 8: 2200 road (rocked collector spur)

Area 9: 3500 road (rocked collector spur) and 3520 road (dirt spur, re-open and improve)

Area 10: 2100 road (rocked collector spur) and 2150 road (dirt spur, re-open and improve)

Area 11: 3500 road (rocked collector spur) and dirt spur (re-open and improve)

Winter harvesting will require purchaser supplied rock. Existing roads and landings in some locations will be improved to allow operations and will be evaluated to determine if pullback of side cast is necessary. Additional landings and short access spurs may be constructed. Final locations will be determined

during the sale preparation process.

The majority of the sale areas will be cable yarded uphill using medium sized yarders.

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	0.0	3.9
Maintain	1.7	1.7	0.0	3.9
Close/Block	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.9
Vacate	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

## **VII. AQUATIC RESOURCES AND WATER QUALITY:**

The sale areas are located within the Ten Mile Lake and Umpqua River watersheds, including the sub watersheds of Dean, Scholfield, Dry, Big, Johnson and South Fork Johnson Creeks.

Type F and Domestic Use Streams: Dry Creek is a medium type F along the northern line of Area 1, tributary of Dean Creek is a small type F along the northeastern side of Area 3, Johnson Creek is a medium type F along the south and southeastern side of Area 7, South Fork Johnson is a medium type F along the north side of Area 10, Hatchery Creek is a small type F along the northeastern side of Area 11. Portions of streams in and along Areas 1, 3, 7 and 10 have not had fish presence surveys completed and will be assessed for further survey needs by the southern Oregon biologist.

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

Type N Streams: 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 stream flow is perennial or seasonal.

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

The habitat within this sale area was determined to be non-suitable for certain threatened and endangered 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: - This timber sale does not involve the harvest of NSO

nesting, roosting, and foraging habitat. After completion of the thinning units of this sale plan there should be an increase in dispersal habitat as more acres move into diameter classes of 11 inches or larger.

*Area 1:* The southern boundary of Area 1 is adjacent to the Scholfield Complex Habitat Conservation Area.

Marbled Murrelet – The sale areas do not contain marbled murrelet habitat but portions of the sale areas are within 330 feet or/and ¼ mile of suitable habitat as described below:

*Area 4:* Northern portion is within ¼ mile of Goody Ridge Marbled Murrelet Management Area (MMMA).

*Area 6:* Southern portion is within ¼ mile of the Benson Headwaters MMMA and the eastern portion is ¼ mile of the Big Deer MMMA.

*Area 10:* Most of this area is within ¼ mile of the Right Fork MMMA and the eastern portion is within 330 feet of Right Fork MMMA.

Oregon Department of Forestry's Southern Oregon Area Biologist will prepare a murrelet survey waiver and 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 within this sale.

Salmon and Steelhead – *Areas 1, 2, 4-6, 8, 9 and 10:* There are no salmon or steelhead located in the stream reaches associated with these sale areas except;

*Area 3:* This partial cut area contains approximately 380 feet of the upper reaches of Dean Creek, a small Type F.

*Area 7:* This partial cut area contains approximately 1,300 feet of the upper reaches of Johnson Creek, a medium Type F.

*Area 10:* This partial cut area contains approximately 700 feet of the upper reaches of South Fork Johnson Creek, a medium Type F.

*Area 11:* This partial cut area contains approximately 1000 feet of the upper reaches of Hatchery Creek, a small Type F.

Tributaries to Dry Creek, Big Creek, Hatchery, Johnson and South Fork Johnson Creeks will be assessed by the Southern Oregon Biologist to determine further fish presence survey needs.

Plants - No listed plant records were identified within the sale areas.

Fragmentation – This is a thinning sale of young timber and will not increase fragmentation of interior mature forest habitat.

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

All Areas: To minimize yarding impacts on the slopes, single end suspension cable yarding will be required. All units will be accessed by existing roads that are located on ridge-crests. Any additional road construction will be done during the dry season.

Vegetation retention practices for potential debris flow track reaches as prescribed in the Management Standards for Aquatic and Riparian Areas (Appendix J, Table J-2) will be applied where appropriate.

The sale units have 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. The effects of thinning on debris flow initiation is poorly understood. Irrespective of the trigger for debris flow initiation, a source of large wood is desirable for a properly functioning stream system. A review of the potential for debris flow delivery of large wood to fish-bearing reaches is discussed below.

Areas 1 and 2 (Dry Creek basin): Most of the area in the units likely meet criterion for classification as high landslide hazard locations (uniform slopes greater than 75% and/or planform concave slopes greater than 65%). Both units appear to have direct delivery of large wood to Dry Creek via debris torrents. The upstream extent of fish-use past Area 1 is unknown. Likelihood of delivery of large wood from Area 2 to a fish-bearing reach is therefore also unknown.

Area 3 (Dean Creek basin): Most of the area in the unit likely meets criterion for classification as high landslide hazard locations (uniform slopes greater than 75% and/or planform concave slopes greater than 65%). Two fish-bearing reaches of the unnamed Dean Ck tributary drain the unit. Delivery of large wood via debris torrents is likely to those reaches.

Areas 4 and 5 (Big Creek basin): Portions of the areas likely meet criterion for classification as high landslide hazard locations (uniform slopes greater than 75% and/or planform concave slopes greater than 65%). Area 5 appears to have six tributaries capable of delivering large wood via debris torrents to the unnamed Big Creek tributary, Area 4 appears to have one or possibly two. Initial deposition would likely occur where the unit tributaries enter the Big Creek tributary. Wood may be mobilized during high flows and delivered to the type F reach of Big Creek.

Area 6 (Big Creek basin): Portions of the area likely meet criteria for classification as high landslide hazard locations (uniform slopes greater than 75% and/or planform concave slopes greater than 65%). Slopes within the unit on both sides of the 4800 road appear to be capable of delivering large wood via debris slides-debris torrents to the Big Creek

tributaries. Wood may be mobilized during high flows and delivered to the type F reaches of Big Creek.

Areas 7 and 8 (Johnson Creek basin): Portions of the areas likely meet criteria for classification as high landslide hazard locations (uniform slopes greater than 75% and/or planform concave slopes greater than 65%). Slopes within the unit appear capable of delivering large wood via debris slides-debris torrents to Type F Johnson Creek. Deposition will likely occur at the junctions with Johnson Creek, although high stream flows may mobilize floating material and transport it down the mainstem.

Areas 9 and 10 (S Fork Johnson Creek basin): Portions of the areas likely meet criteria for classification as high landslide hazard locations (uniform slopes greater than 75% and/or planform concave slopes greater than 65%). Area 9 has slopes which appear capable to deliver large wood via debris torrents to the unnamed non-fish bearing tributaries to SF Johnson Creek. It is possible that subsequent high stream flow or dam-break flood may be able to mobilize wood and carry it to the downstream fish-bearing reach. Area 10 appears to have the potential for direct delivery of large wood via debris torrent to the Type F reach below the unit.

Area 11 (Hatchery Creek sub-basin of Johnson Creek): Portions of the areas likely meet criteria for classification as high landslide hazard locations (uniform slopes greater than 75% and/or planform concave slopes greater than 65%). The north and north-east aspect slopes appear to have the potential for direct delivery of large wood via debris torrent to the fish bearing portion of Hatchery Creek. The east aspect slopes will deliver to the Type N reach of Hatchery Creek, although subsequent high stream flows may mobilize wood and deliver it to the fish bearing reach.

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

The most common recreation for these areas is hunting and dispersed undeveloped recreation. 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 known cultural sites associated with this sale.

#### **XII. SCENIC RESOURCES:**

The units are not within any scenic management area.

**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**

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

Area	Production
1	41
2	41
3	50
4	10
5	20
6	83
7	32
8	16
9	34
10	47
11	19