

Pre-Operations Report

Operation Name: Polecat
County: Washington
Management Basin: Gales Creek

Table 1. Operation Areas, Types and Acres

Area	Type of Operation	Gross Acres	Net Acres
1	Moderate Partial Cut	263	242
2	Moderate Partial Cut	80	70
Total	Partial Cut Harvest	343	312

I. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF OPERATION AREA:

The sale straddles a low ridge that divides Gales Creek and Little Beaver Creek. The sale is located on a gentle ridgetop and moderate side-slopes.

Slopes have a varied aspect and range from 0% to 50%. Elevations range from 440 to 880 feet. The major soil type is Tillamook.

II. CURRENT STAND CONDITION:

Approximately 302 acres (97%) of the sale has been inventoried using the Stand Level Inventory (SLI) procedure. Those stands are classified as UDS. One stand has not been inventoried and is estimated as CSC by SLI expanded data; field recon confirms the stand structure as CSC.

The stand is composed of well stocked Douglas-fir and other species scattered through the sale. *Phellinus weirii* is present but will not be treated. No other significant insect or disease problems have been discovered at this time.

The understory in all the sale areas is comprised primarily of vine maple, salal, sword fern and dwarf Oregon grape.

SLI data shows a range of 8 to 13 snags per acre in decay classes 1 to 2 and 6 to 20 snags per acre in decay classes 3 to 5. There is approximately 100 to 400 cubic feet of down woody debris (DWD) per acre in decay classes 1 to 2 and 1200 to 5200 cubic feet of DWD per acre in decay classes 3 to 5.

Table 2. Stand Inventory Information

Area	Prescription	Stand ID ¹	Species	Age	DBH	BA	TPA	SDI	Net Acres ²
1	PC-M ³	7631	DF	65-75	17	284	179	70	232
		7684*	DF	65-75	16	203	146	51	10
		<i>Target⁵</i>	<i>DF</i>		<i>17</i>	<i>140</i>	<i>89</i>	<i>35</i>	<i>242</i>
2	PC-M ³	7706	DF	65-75	16	255	184	65	70
		<i>Target⁵</i>	<i>DF</i>		<i>16</i>	<i>140</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>35</i>	<i>70</i>

¹ The source of stand inventory information is from SLI inventory grown forward to 2007. Stand ID's shown with a (*) are unmeasured stands, and the source of inventory information for these stands is expanded SLI data.

² The acres are based on GIS and exclude existing and planned roads, stream buffers, and non-thinnable areas.

³ PC-M is Moderate Partial Cut.

⁴ The Target row for partial cut areas identifies expected stand characteristics (DBH, BA, TPA and SDI) after harvesting has been completed.

III. DESIRED FUTURE CONDITION/VISION:

According to the Forest Grove District's landscape design, the desired future condition (DFC) for Areas 1 and 2 is 100% OFS.

The vision for this stand is to maintain an open overstory canopy encouraging the development of stand complexity over time. The harvest operation will continue the development of UDS structure in the short term. As the understory develops, second and third entry partial cut operations at approximately 20 year intervals will remove more of the overstory. This will provide more light and nutrients to the understory. In time, a second and third layer of trees and other vegetation will develop the complex structure needed to meet the requirements of the DFC.

Table 3. Stand Structure Information

Area	Prescription	Stand ID	Current	Post Harvest ¹	Desired Future	Net Acres
1	PC-M	7631	UDS	UDS	OFS	232
		7684	CSC ²	UDS	OFS	10
2	PC-M	7706	UDS	UDS	OFS	70

¹ The stand is expected to develop into this condition in the five to ten years after this operation is completed, except in REG stands which occur after harvest.

² Current stand condition is based on expanded data; see discussion above.

IV. PROPOSED MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION AND PATHWAY:

Partial Cut- Moderate:

The sale is PC- M. The target SDI is approximately 35 for both areas. Douglas-fir will be selected for harvest. All other species will be reserved. The stands will be thinned to a target basal area of 130 to 150 square feet. The average DBH of the residual stand will be approximately 16 inches. Residual trees will have the

largest DBH, height, and the best form and vigor. All trees less than 8 inches shall not count toward the target basal area.

The first entry thinning will enhance the understory vegetation already present. Subsequent partial cut entries will maintain understory development, promote multiple stand layers and increase biological diversity. Post harvest, underplanting and control of competing brush manually or chemically may be necessary to ensure a healthy, vigorous understory. Active management will move this stand to the OFS condition within 30 to 50 years from the initial harvest.

All existing DWD will be reserved in the sale areas. DWD recruitment is expected through mortality, windthrow of residual trees, felled snags, and logging slash. Additionally, cull log segments and bucked log ends will help to meet the Class 1 DWD requirements set in the Forest Management Plan.

Existing snags determined not to be a safety hazard will be retained and any felled snags will be left for down wood. One tree per acre shall be topped to create hard snags. Snags shall be evenly distributed throughout sale, and have a DBH of at least 18 inches, and be at least 60 feet in height. All of these components combined will maintain and promote biodiversity within the future stand.

V. ESTIMATED TIMBER AND REVENUE INFORMATION:

Table 4. Timber and Revenue

Ownership		Sale Type	
BOF	CSL	Cash	Recovery
100%	%		X
Planned Quarter:		3	

	Conifer	Hardwood	Total
Net Volume (MBF)	6,200		6,200
Stumpage Value (\$/MBF)*	350		
Estimated Gross Value			\$2,480,000
		Project Costs:	\$165,000
		Estimated Net Value:	\$2,315,000

*Combined Douglas-fir and hemlock stumpage values

VI. HARVESTING AND ACCESS CONSIDERATIONS:

The sale areas are accessed via the Timber Road, a paved county road, Parsons Road, a paved county road, and the Wildcat Road, a crushed rock road.

Approximately 1.5 miles of road will be constructed to provide access to landing locations costing approximately \$105,000. New construction is predominantly

on ridgetops. Some construction on gentle to moderate sideslopes will be required. There will be no new roads constructed over any fish or nonfish streams.

Approximately 1.2 miles of road will be improved with the timber sale for better access and to improve sustainability. Estimated cost for improvement is \$60,000. Improvement will likely consist of brushing, spot rocking, and culvert installation/replacement.

The rock source will be the stockpile at the Wildcat Mountain Pit.

All haul roads will have high quality crushed rock or pit run surfacing. Roads will provide access to all timber within the sale area and allow for logging methods and hauling which will minimize impacts to soils, residual timber, streams, and riparian areas. Following harvest, roads and skid trails within the sale areas will be evaluated for closure.

Estimated cost of project work is \$165,000.

The sale area will be approximately 55% cable and 45% ground based yarding.

Table 5. Transportation Management Summary (Miles)

Activity	Mainline	Collector	Rocked Spur	Dirt Spur
Construction	0	0	1.5	0
Improvement	0	0	1.2	0
Maintenance	0	7.5	2.7	0
Closure/Vacation	0	0	0	0

VII. AQUATIC RESOURCES AND WATER QUALITY:

Gales Creek flows directly to the west of both sale areas, and Beaver Creek is located just west of Area 1. A small Tributary of Beaver Creek flows adjacent to the northwest portion of Area 1. Little Beaver Creek flows outside of the southeast corner of Area 2.

During sale layout, all streams will be field verified as to size, type, locations, and/or source.

Riparian area stand types along these streams are a mix of conifer and hardwood.

Stream buffers within harvest unit boundaries will be managed according to FMP Riparian Strategies. The riparian areas will be reviewed during sale layout for current stand conditions and/or operational constraints for implementing FMP strategies.

This operation involves an activity that is listed in the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) adopted rules under Section 4(d) of the Endangered Species Act. The haul route crosses or is in close proximity to a stream with listed fish.

In order to protect water quality during active operations, a variety of methods will be used to prevent sediment from entering live streams. These methods include (but are not limited to) maintaining culverts and other road drainage structures, and using sediment control devices in road ditches when necessary.

High quality crushed rock road surfaces will be maintained and log hauling will be restricted between November 1st and March 31st of each year. Restrictions may include limiting the number of loads hauled per day, not hauling during periods of heavy moisture, or having an alternate haul route. Culvert installment and replacement in live streams will be conducted between July 1 and September 15. Operations outside of this period will be reviewed with ODFW.

VIII. WILDLIFE AND T&E SPECIES CONSIDERATIONS:

The sale areas have been reviewed with the ODF Northwest Oregon Area Biologist.

Surveys for northern spotted owls were conducted in 2007 due to the presence of potentially suitable spotted owl habitat within and adjacent to the timber sale area. Polecat was surveyed for spotted owls three times in 2007 with no responses, and the second year of survey will be completed in 2008. All surveys were/will be conducted in accordance with USFWS protocol.

Potentially suitable marbled murrelet habitat (three survey sites) within and adjacent to Areas 1 and 2 was surveyed for murrelets in 2007. The presence of murrelets was not detected during the 2007 surveys. The second year of survey will be completed in 2008. All surveys were/will be completed in accordance with PSG protocol.

The sale areas were checked against the Oregon Natural Heritage Program (ONHP) database of known listed plant locations, as well as against local records in the Land Management Classification System (LMCS). No listed plant records were identified within or adjacent to the sale areas.

IX. SLOPE STABILITY AND GEOTECHNICAL ISSUES:

This assessment is based on analysis of USGS 1:24,000 topographic maps.

There are isolated high landslide hazard locations within the sale. Area I drains into unnamed tributaries of Gales Creek and Little Beaver Creek. Area II drains into Beaver Creek. The risk of landslides delivering directly to unnamed tributaries of Gales Creek and Little Beaver Creek from the sale is low (*per Northwest Oregon Area Geotechnical Specialist*).

The geotechnical specialist will be consulted if evidence of recent landslide activity is identified during sale layout.

X. RECREATION RESOURCES:

The sale is designated as Non-Motorized in the Tillamook State Forest Comprehensive Recreation Plan (1993). The District Recreation Coordinator will review this sale and provide comments on the planned operation if concerns are identified.

Restricted access prevents recreational use in this area.

XI. CULTURAL RESOURCES:

The sale area and proposed road construction right-of-way were checked against the Tillamook State Forest Cultural Resource Inventory Database (GIS format). No cultural resource records were identified within or adjacent* to the operation areas. If any significant cultural resources are located during sale preparation, the Public Use Coordinator (ODF Salem Staff) will be consulted regarding potential protection measures.

**Adjacent refers to approximately one tree length from an operation area. For the purpose of this screen, a 200 foot buffer around the sale boundary and proposed road construction right-of-way was assessed for cultural resource locations.*

XII. SCENIC RESOURCES:

The sale has a visual classification of Level 3, low sensitivity. No scenic impact is expected.

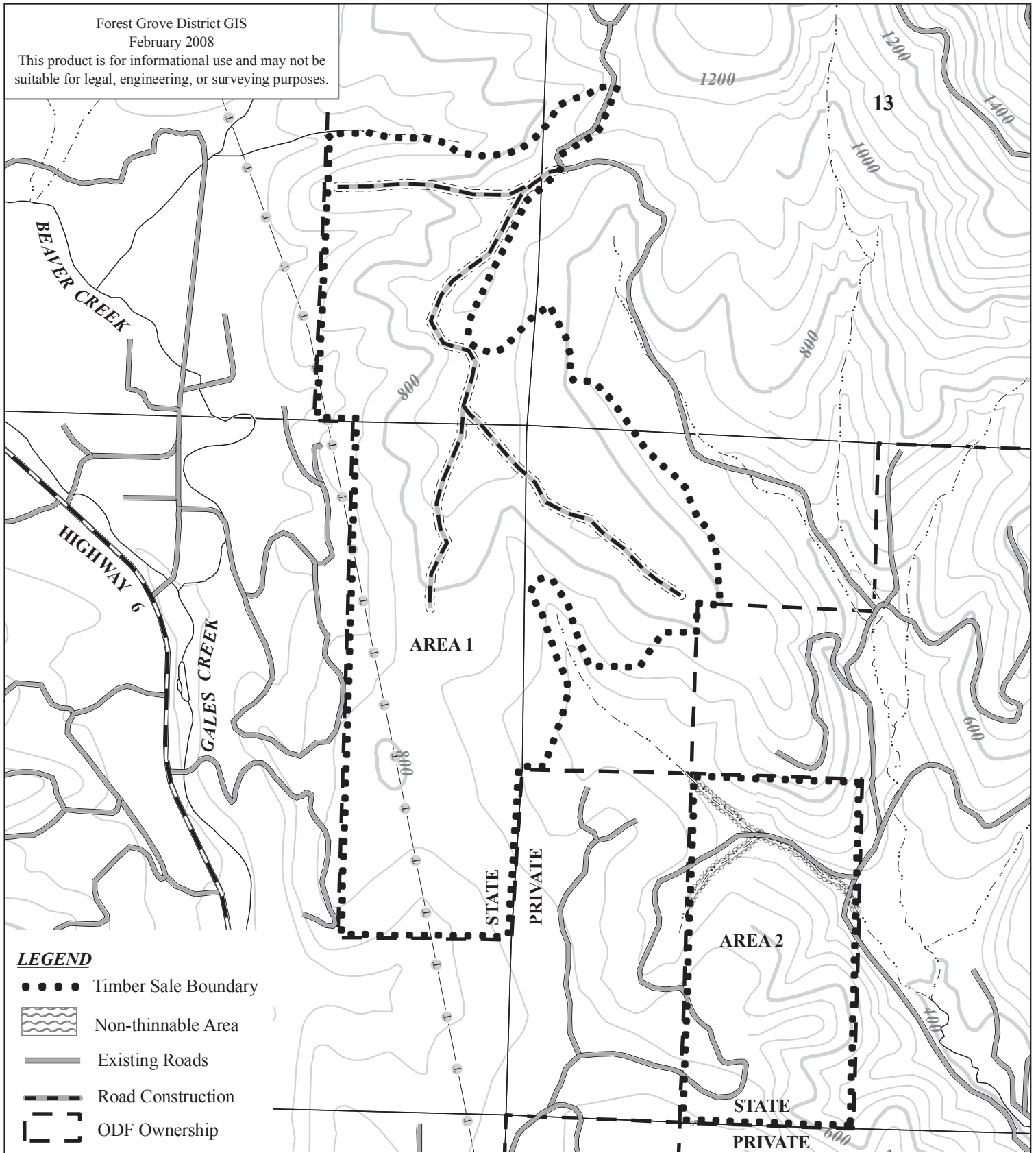
XIII. OTHER RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS:

All known survey corners and witness trees shall be protected from damage during any operations.












XIV. LAND MANAGEMENT CLASSIFICATION SUMMARY:

Areas 1 and 2 contain Focused Stewardship and Special Stewardship, Aquatic and Riparian Habitat Subclass. See Section VII, Aquatic Resources and Water Quality, for the management guidelines to be utilized.

This product is for informational use and may not be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes.



LEGEND

- ● ● Timber Sale Boundary
-  Non-thinnable Area
-  Existing Roads
-  Road Construction
-  ODF Ownership
-  Road Construction Right-of-Way
-  Transmission Lines
-  Perennial Type F Stream
-  Perennial Type N Stream
-  Stream Buffer
-  400' Contour Intervals
-  80' Contour Lines

FY 2009
POLECAT
PORTIONS OF SECTION 13, 14, 23, & 24, T02N, R05W, W.M.
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OREGON

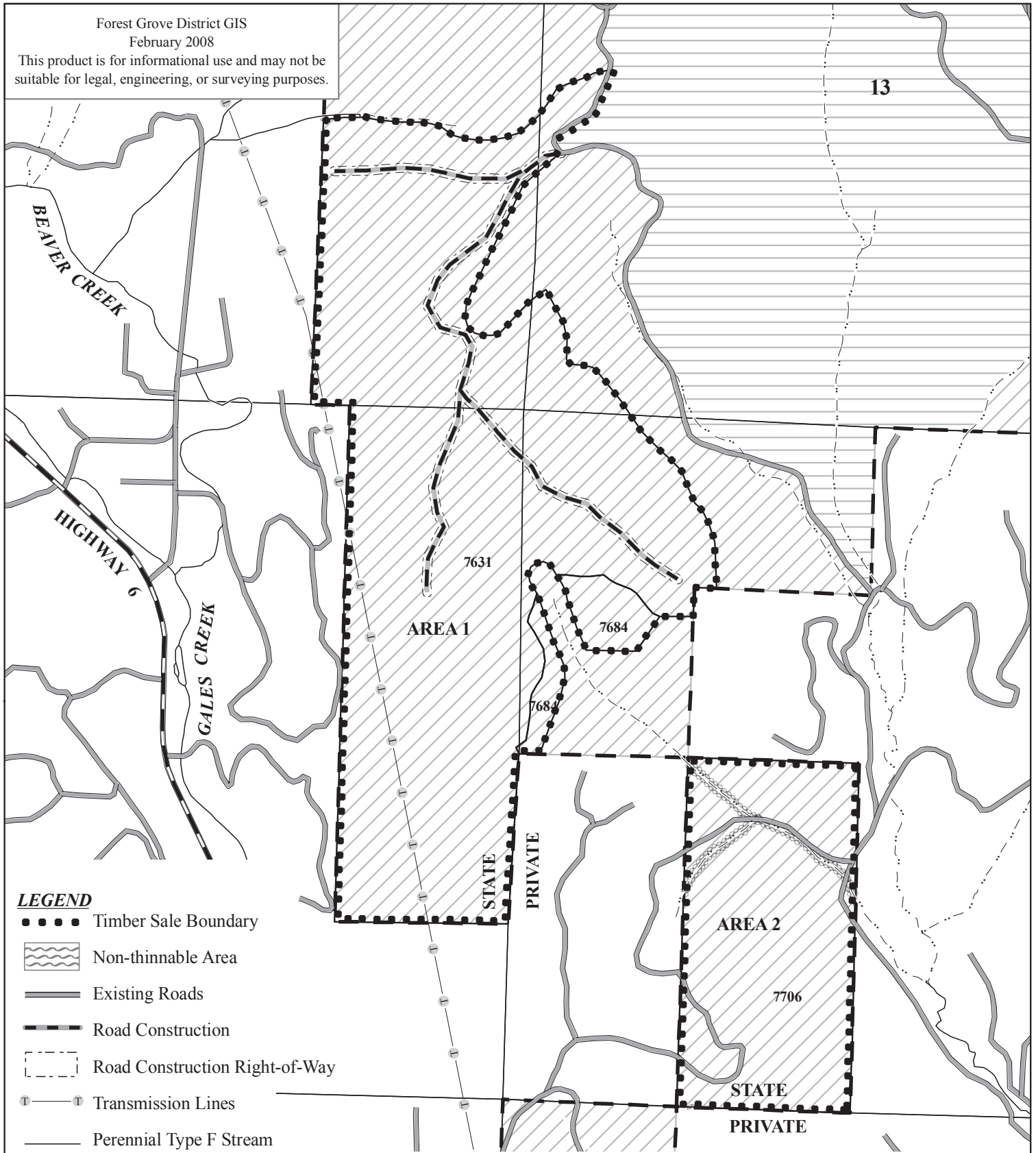
Attachment A: Topography

Scale
1:12000
1 inch = 1000 feet



APPROXIMATE NET ACREAGE	
AREA 1	242 ACRES (PC-M)
AREA 2	70 ACRES (PC-M)
TOTAL	312 ACRES

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LEGEND

- Timber Sale Boundary
- Non-thinnable Area
- Existing Roads
- Road Construction
- Road Construction Right-of-Way
- Transmission Lines
- Perennial Type F Stream
- Perennial Type N Stream
- Stream Buffer
- SLI Polygons (Stand ID#)
- ODF Ownership
- DFC Stand Type
 - Layered
 - Older Forest Structure

FY 2009
POLECAT
PORTIONS OF SECTION 13, 14, 23, & 24, T02N, R05W, W.M.
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OREGON
Attachment B: Desired Future Condition

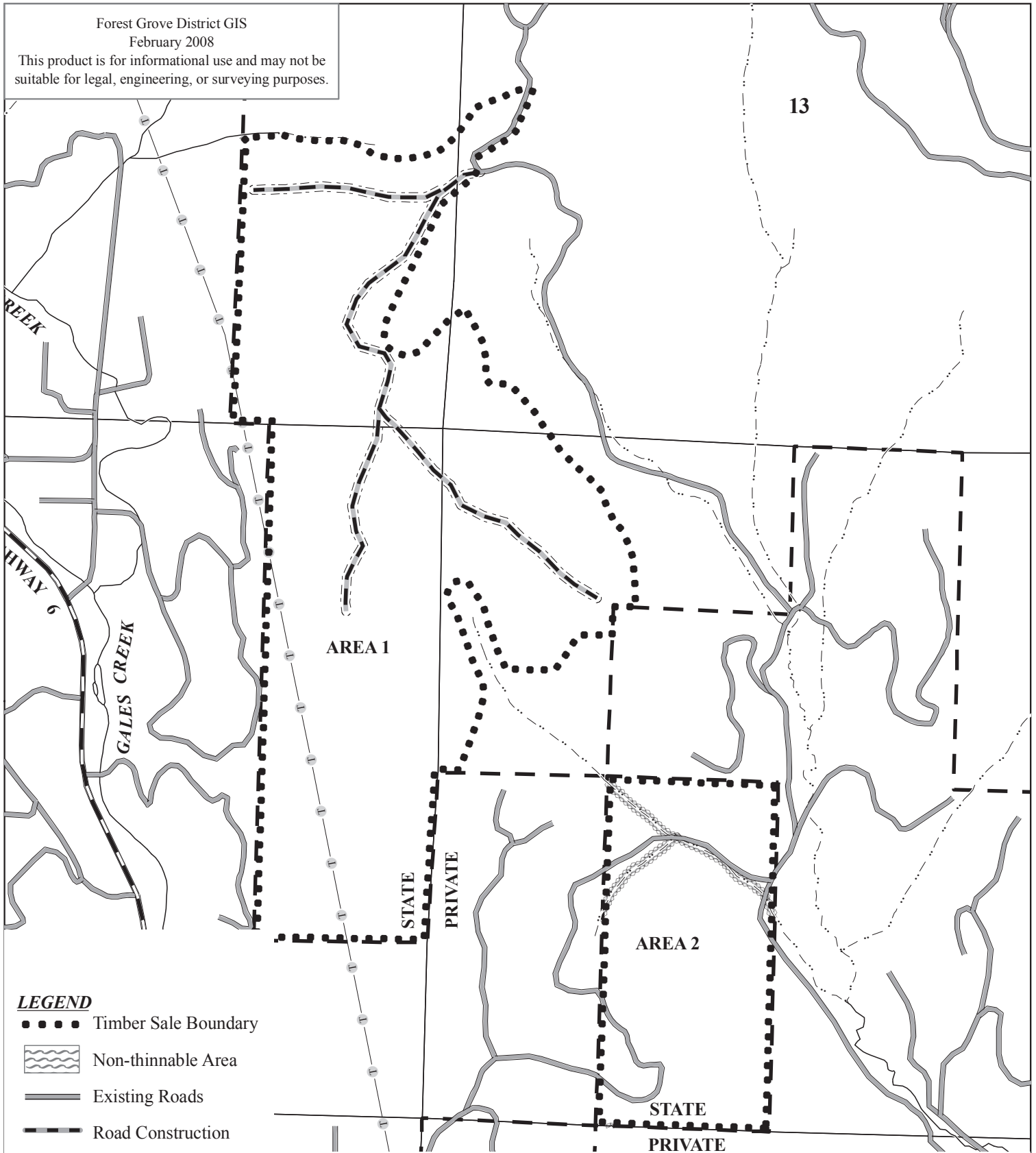


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TOTAL	312 ACRES

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AREA 1

AREA 2

STATE
PRIVATE

STATE
PRIVATE

LEGEND

- Timber Sale Boundary
- ▤ Non-thinnable Area
- Existing Roads
- - - Road Construction
- - - - Road Construction Right-of-Way
- ⊕—⊕ Transmission Lines
- Perennial Type F Stream
- - - Perennial Type N Stream
- ▨ Stream Buffer
- - - - ODF Ownership

FY 2009
POLECAT
PORTIONS OF SECTION 13, 14, 23, & 24, T02N, R05W, W.M.
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OREGON

Attachment C: Key Resources

Scale
1:12000
1 inch = 1000 feet



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