

Pre-Operations Report

Operation Name: Fitch Creek

County: Tillamook

Management Basin: Kilchis and Wilson (Little North Fork, 7 Acres)

Legal: Portions of Sections 7, 8, 9, 10, 16 and 17 of T1N, R8W, W.M.

SAH Status: None

Table 1. Operation Areas, Types and Acres

Area	Type of Operation	Gross Acres	Net Acres ¹
1	Modified Clearcut	133	113
2	Modified Clearcut	91	85
3	Modified Clearcut	38	38
4	Modified Clearcut	98	97
5	Modified Clearcut	69	68
6	Modified Clearcut	133	111
7	Modified Clearcut	22	22
Total		584	534

1. The net acres are based on orthophotos and GIS and exclude all roads and stream buffers.

I. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF OPERATION AREA:

Slopes overall have north, northwest and northeast aspects and range from 20% to over 90%. Elevations range from 800 to 2,360 feet. The major soil types are Killam, Humbug, and Nedonna.

II. CURRENT STAND CONDITION:

Table 2. Stand Inventory Information⁴

Area	Prescription	Stand ID ¹	Species	Age	DBH	BA	TPA	SDI	Net Acres ²
1	MC	207	DF, RA, SS	44	12	168	202	47	113
2	MC	208	DF, RA, WH	44	13	136	148	37	85
3	MC	209	DF, RA	44	12	144	196	41	38
4	MC	210	DF, RA, WH, SS	44	13	125	137	35	97
5	MC	211	DF, RA, SS	44	11	164	241	48	68
6	MC	212	DF, RA	44	12	128	166	36	111
7	MC	213	DF, RA	44	13	140	154	39	22

1. The source of stand information is from a timber cruise.

2. The net acres are based on orthophotos and GIS and exclude roads, and stream buffers.

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

4. These numbers are based on plot data taken to this point and final numbers may differ significantly. The directive for minor and major modifications will be followed for further review.

The sale areas burned in the 1933 Tillamook Fire and the 1939 Saddle Mountain Fire. Areas 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7 were seeded in 1962-63. Area 6 was planted in 1962-63. A small portion of Area 4 and 5 was replanted in 1968-69. No other management has occurred in the sale areas.

All sale areas are comprised of Douglas-fir and alder in various arrangements and densities. Minor conifer species of hemlock and spruce are scattered in the stands averaging 5 trees per acre.

Stand Level Inventory has been completed on a portion of the sale areas. The inventory data classifies the majority of the sale as CSC with small stand types classified as UDS.

A timber cruise recorded 12 snags per acre in the sale areas. 67% were legacy snags from the Tillamook Burn and 33% are likely from bear kill and wind damage. Stand Level Inventory completed in portions of each sale area recorded between 20-55 cubic feet of down wood in decay class 1 and 2. The inventory also recorded 5000 to 6000 cubic feet of down wood in all decay classes.

III. DESIRED STAND CONDITION AND VISION:

Table 3. Stand Structure Information

Area	Stand ID	Current	Post Harvest ¹	Desired Future	Net Acres
1	207	CSC	REG	UDS	109
				OFS	4
2	208	CSC	REG	UDS	84
				OFS	1
3	209	CSC	REG	UDS	33
				OFS	5
4	210	CSC	REG	UDS	96
				LYR	1
5	211	CSC	REG	UDS	60
				LYR	8
6	212	CSC	REG	UDS	110
				LYR	1
7	213	CSC	REG	UDS	22

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.

See Section IV: Proposed Management Prescription for more information on Green Tree, Down Wood, and Snag Strategies during operation. Also refer to Landscape Design in the Summary document for more information on strategies to move the district toward Desired Future Condition (DFC) goals.

Sub-Basin

Fitch Creek sale is located in the Fitch Creek sub-basin a tributary to the Kilchis River basin. In the last five years, two timber sales have been completed in the area and focused on regeneration harvests. The overall basin is made up of steep terrain with many HLHL sites and deeply incised high energy stream systems. Other areas of the basin are low stocked, low site stands which will not be harvested due to the site sensitivity. The sub-basin does have additional management opportunities after Fitch Creek timber sale. Future sales will also focus on regeneration harvest activities.

The sale areas are designated 100% General. Inconsistencies in the mapping of the DFC along ridge and creeks have caused incidental acreage of adjacent DFC complex to be included in the sale area.

Short Term Vision:

The short term vision is harvest merchantable alder and Douglas-fir in all sale areas and to replant a new mixed conifer stand for timber production.

Long Term Vision:

The long term vision of the stands and sale is to establish a productive mixed conifer stand. Due to the terrain and long yarding reaches these stands will remain in GEN designation and managed by regeneration harvest and shorter rotations.

IV. PROPOSED MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION AND PATHWAY:

The prescriptions described below are based on the current stand condition such as overall tree and stand growth, species mix, stand density, and stand health.

See Table 2 for prescription targets.

Prescription

Modified Clearcut: All Areas

All merchantable Douglas-fir and alder will be harvested. All other species will be reserved.

Green Tree

In all units, there will be scattered green trees of unmerchantable conifer and hardwoods as well as minor conifer species like hemlock and noble fir. The 5 trees per acre will be made up of a combination of Douglas-fir trees 25" and greater and the minor conifer species. The amount of Douglas-fir 25" and greater vary from 0 to 2 per acre. In addition, a Green Tree Retention Areas adjacent to

the sale areas will supplement the harvest unit requirements. A component of conifer and alder will be retained in the stream buffers and high landslide hazard locations (HLHL).

Snags

Existing snags not determined to be a safety hazard will be retained and any felled snags will be left for down wood. In addition, two conifer trees per acre in the Green Tree Retention (GTR) Areas will be tracked toward the harvest unit snag requirements. Since the average DBH of the GTR is less than 15” no snags will be created with this harvest operation.

Down Wood

Existing down wood will be left in the sale areas. Down wood recruitment is expected through mortality and windthrow of residual or leave trees. Felled snags will also be left as down wood during operations. Since the average DBH of the GTR is less than 15”, no down wood will be felled at this time. In addition, four conifer trees per acre will be tracked in the GTR toward the harvest unit requirements.

Pathway

Due to the difficult access and steep terrain of these sales, the stands are managed as General DFC for timber production. The sales will be reforested with mixed conifer species averaging 200 tree per acre. It is anticipated that precommercial thinning will take place in the stands between ages 12 and 17. The precommercial thinning operation will likely remove enough trees to set the stand on a trajectory toward a final harvest at age 45-55 years of age.

V. ESTIMATED TIMBER AND REVENUE INFORMATION:

Table 4. Timber and Revenue

Ownership		Sale Type	
BOF	CSL	Cash	Recovery
100%	0%		x
Planned Quarter:		3	

	Conifer	Hardwood	Total
Net Volume (MBF)	5,426	1,644	7,070
Stumpage Value (\$/MBF)*	\$225	\$200	
Estimated Gross Value	\$1,220,850	\$328,800	\$1,549,650
		Project Costs:	\$688,900
		Estimated Net Value:	\$860,750

VI. HARVESTING AND ACCESS CONSIDERATIONS:

The sale areas are accessed from three different directions. The first is via Wilson River Highway to Cedar Butte Road and then to FB11. The second access route is Wilson River Highway to Cedar Butte Road to Muesial Creek Road and then to the Kilchis Lookout Road. The third is via Highway 101, the Kilchis River Road, the Sam Downs Road and then the Kilchis Lookout Road. The forest roads are surfaced all weather roads and were recently improved with timber sales in the area over the last five years.

Approximately 1.43 miles of existing surfaced road will be improved which includes grading, rocking, widening, culvert replacement, spot rocking, side cast pullback, and/or adding new culverts. This work will bring all roads up to standards described in *the Forest Roads Manual*.

2.02 miles of road will be reconstructed and 3.38 miles will be new construction to provide access to cable and ground yarding areas. It is anticipated that 1.29 miles of the new construction will be closed after harvest. Following reforestation the remaining roads within the sale areas will be reviewed for closure. Ground yarding roads will be closed and water-barred following harvest.

The haul route also requires improvement by completing some surfacing and road widening.

The sale is 95% cable logging and 5% ground yarding.

Table 5. Transportation Planning Summary (Miles)⁴

Activity	Mainline	Collector	Rocked Spur ¹	Dirt Spur ¹
Construct			2.02 Reconstruct 3.38 New Constr	1.29
Improve			1.43	
Maintain ²		12.2		
Close/Block ³				1.29
Vacate ³				

1. Additional roads may be built by the operator at the time of harvest and will be approved by the State through the Operations Plan. These will be short dead end spurs and closed or blocked after harvest
2. All roads accessing the sale area will be maintained during the life of the timber sale contract. Maintenance miles in the table are those roads not being constructed or improved.
3. Roads not closed/blocked or vacated at the end of the sale will be reviewed for closure after reforestation is established.
4. The numbers in this table reflect planned Project Work associated with the sale.

VII. AQUATIC RESOURCES AND WATER QUALITY:

South Fork Kilchis River, Fitch Creek, and D-8 Creek are all fish bearing streams adjacent to the sale boundary. Due to the topography of the sale areas, boundaries will be at least 100 feet from these streams and more in some areas. The riparian areas are dominated by hardwoods at this time. Opportunities will be reviewed during sale prep to determine if any type of density management (snag creation, down wood creation, conifer release) could occur during harvest activities.

Additional Type N perennial and seasonal streams are located adjacent and within the sale areas. These streams will be reviewed and protected appropriately during sale layout based on flow, topography, and terrain. The inner and outer riparian zones of these Type N streams will be managed towards mature forest condition.

VIII. T&E SPECIES CONSIDERATIONS:

The sale was reviewed by the Northwest Area Biologist and does not require surveys for marbled murrelets or northern spotted owls. The sale areas lack habitat for marbled murrelets. The sale is located within the Tillamook Burn and by policy surveys are not required for northern spotted owls.

T & E Plant species: The sale areas were checked against the Oregon Natural Heritage Program (ONHP) database of known threatened or endangered listed plant locations as well as local records in the Land Management Classification System (LMCS). No listed plants 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 high landslide hazard locations scattered throughout the sale. Area 1 drains into the South Fork of the Kilchis River. Areas 2 and 3 and the eastern portion of Area 4 drain into Fitch Creek. The western portion of Area 4 and the eastern portion of Area 5 drain into the South Fork of the Kilchis River. The western portion of Area 5 drains into Mutt Creek. The risk of landslides delivering directly from the sale to all of the streams is high.

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

X. RECREATION RESOURCES:

The sale areas are designated as Non-Motorized in the *Tillamook State Forest Comprehensive Recreation Plan* (1993). This sale has been reviewed by the

District Recreation Coordinator. No recreation sites or trails were observed during field reconnaissance. .

XI. CULTURAL RESOURCES:

The *Tillamook State Cultural Assessment* does not list any cultural sites within the proposed sale boundary. If any sites are identified, the Public Use Coordinator will be contacted.

XII. SCENIC RESOURCES:

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

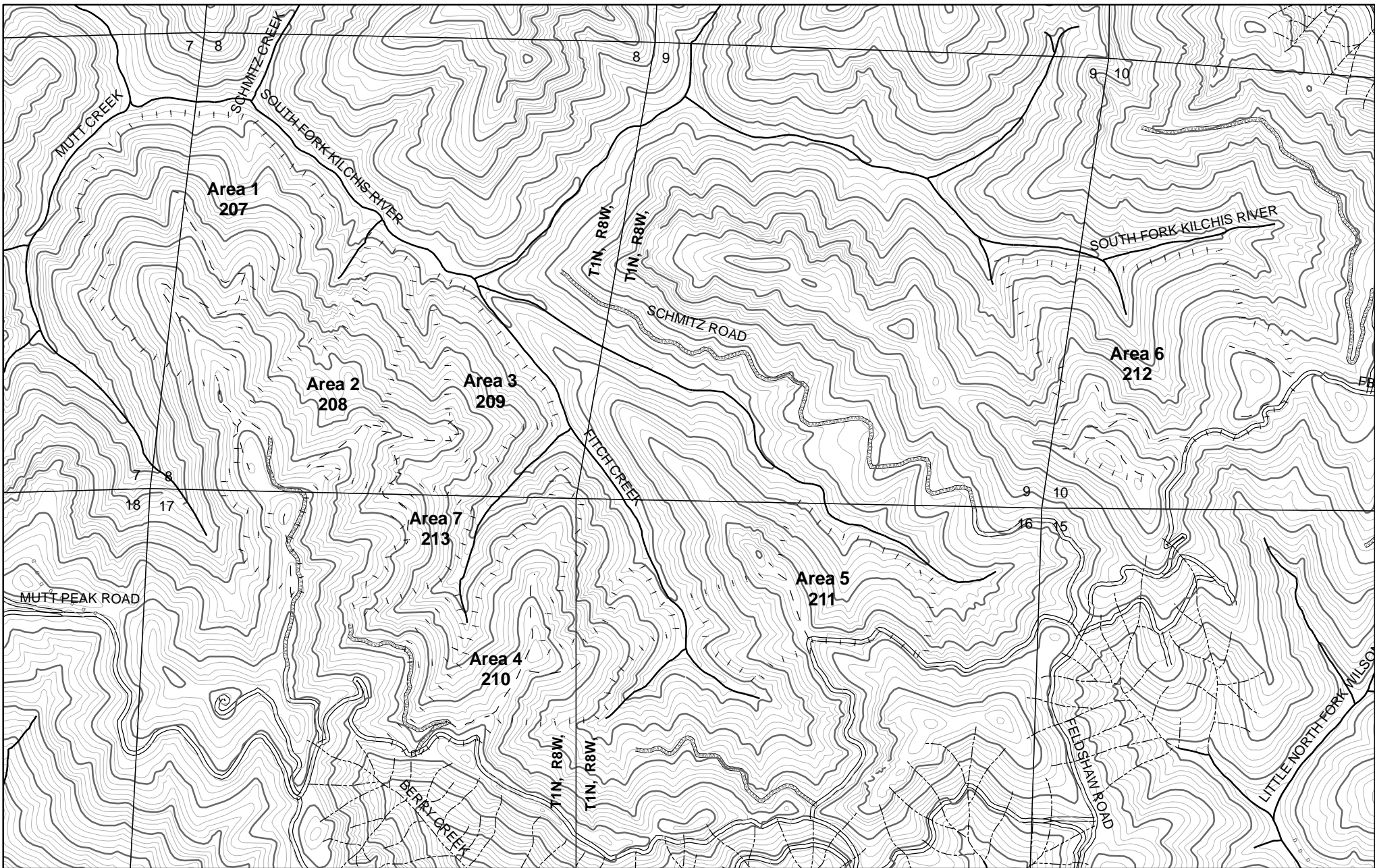
XIII. OTHER RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS:

A permanent plot is located on the western boundary of Area 4. The plot was not located during planning reconnaissance but will be located during sale prep and protected appropriately.

XIV. LAND MANAGEMENT CLASSIFICATION SUMMARY:

The sale areas contain Focused and Special, Aquatic and Riparian Habitat and Special, Operationally Limited. See Section VII, Aquatic Resources and Water Quality, and IX, Slope Stability and Geotechnical Issues for the management guidelines that will be utilized.

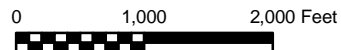
Boundary lines depicted on Attachment C are approximate; exact locations and site specific management activities will be determined during the sale preparation process.



Contour Interval 40'

- Area boundary
- ! ! Sale boundary
- Ownership boundary
- Perennial Type-F stream*
- Perennial Type-N stream*
- == Unsurfaced road
- == Surfed road
- State/Federal highway

- Legacy road
- o o o Blocked road
- Road construction
- County road
- ;; Transmission line



3

**Fitch Creek
-- Topography --
2009 SALE PLAN
TILLAMOOK DISTRICT**

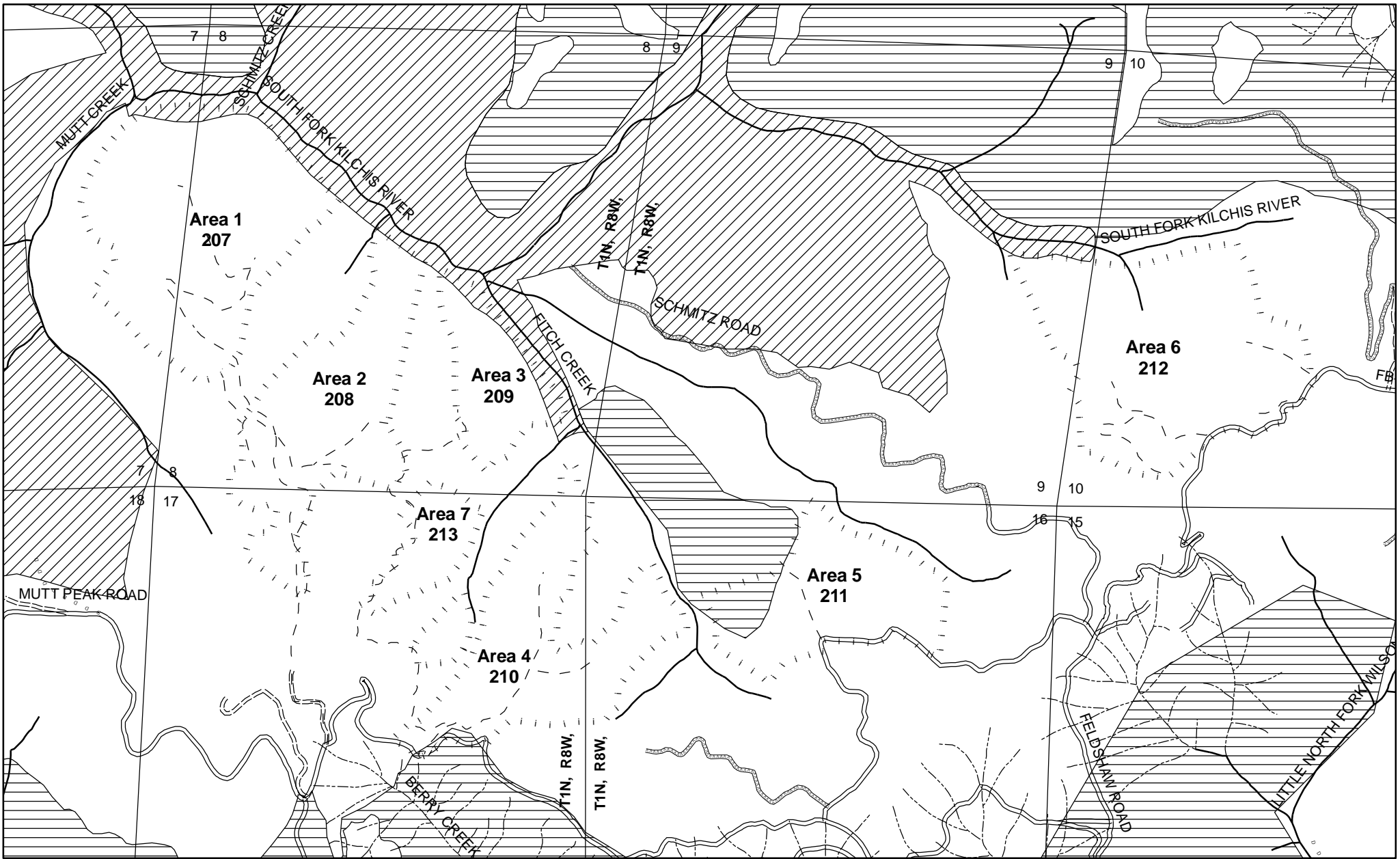
Portions of Sections 7, 8, 9, 10, 16 and 17
T1N, R8W, W.M.,
Tillamook County, Oregon

*Streams of unknown fish presence are not shown but will be surveyed prior to the sale

Tillamook District GIS
10/24/2007

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

Area	Type of Operation
1	Modified Clearcut
2	Modified Clearcut
3	Modified Clearcut
4	Modified Clearcut
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6	Modified Clearcut
7	Modified Clearcut

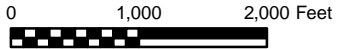


Desired future condition

- Layered
- Older forest

- Area boundary
- Sale boundary
- Ownership boundary
- Perennial Type-F stream*
- Perennial Type-N stream*
- Unsurfaced road
- Surfaced road
- State/Federal highway

- Legacy road
- Blocked road
- Road construction
- County road
- Transmission line



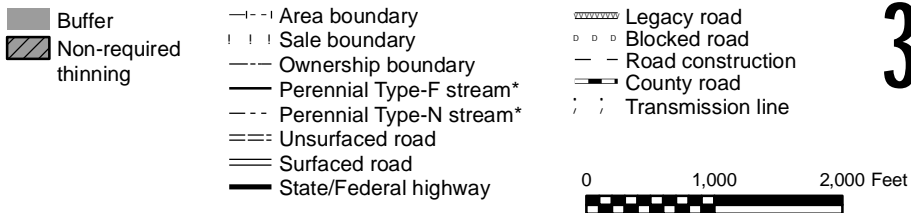
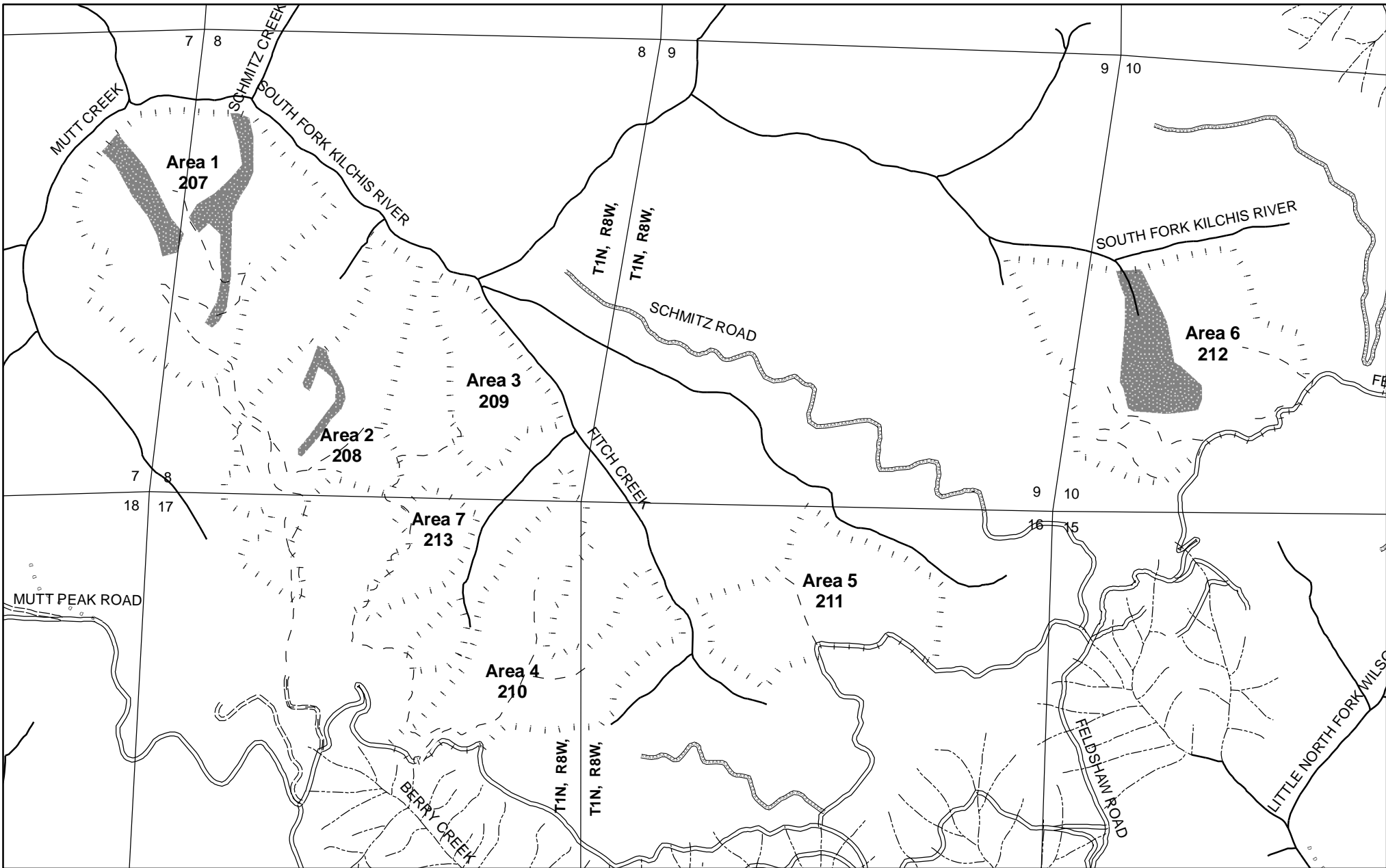
3

Fitch Creek
-- Current and Future Condition --
2009 SALE PLAN
TILLAMOOK DISTRICT
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3

**Fitch Creek
-- Key Resources --
2009 SALE PLAN
TILLAMOOK DISTRICT**

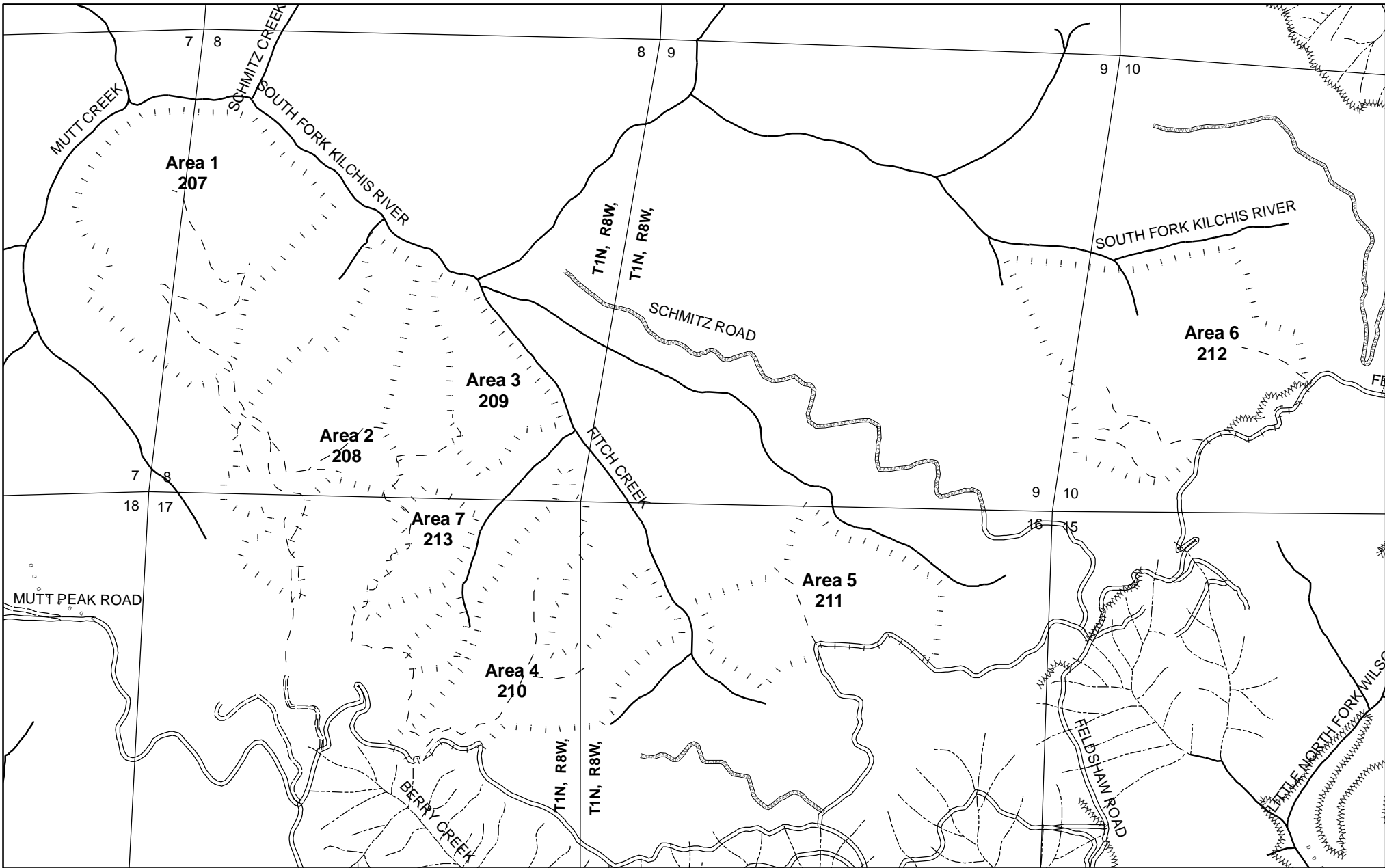
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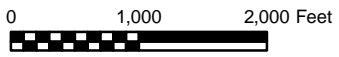
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- | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------|--|--------------------------|--|-------------------|
| | Administrative | | Area boundary | | Legacy road |
| | Boat Launch | | Sale boundary | | Blocked road |
| | Campground | | Ownership boundary | | Road construction |
| | Day Use | | Perennial Type-F stream* | | County road |
| | Interpretive Site | | Perennial Type-N stream* | | Transmission line |
| | OHV Staging Area | | Unsurfaced road | | |
| | Trail Head | | Surfaced road | | |
| | Motorized Trail | | State/Federal highway | | |



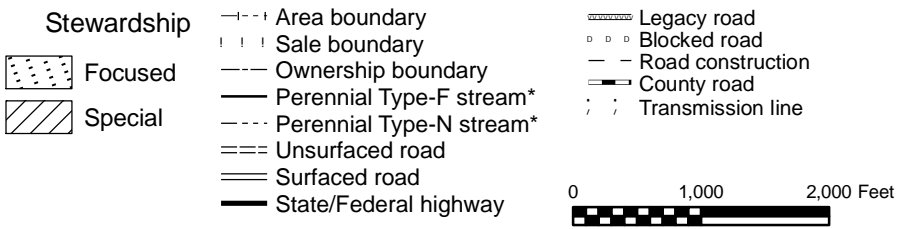
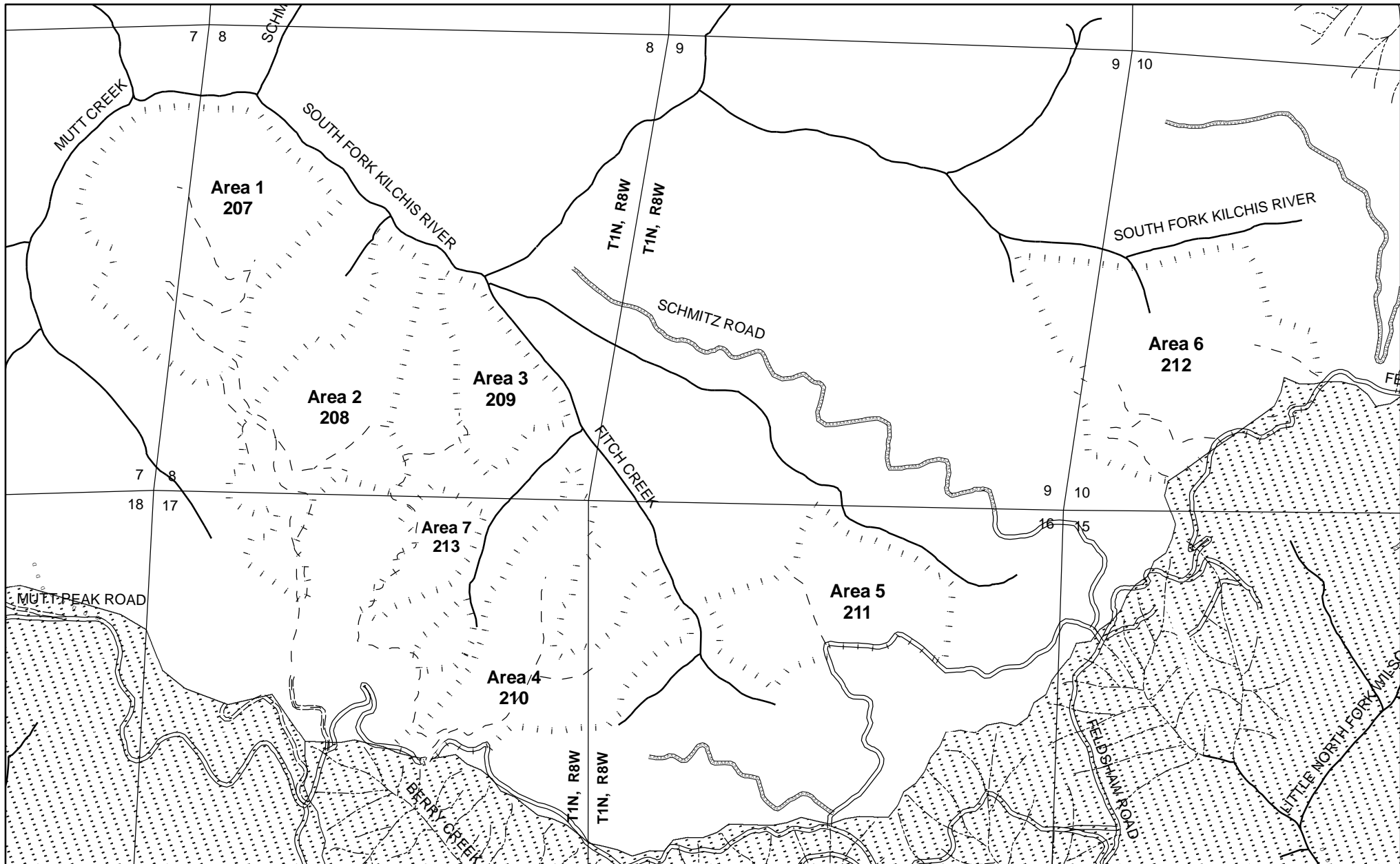
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Fitch Creek
-- Key Resources / Recreation--
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TILLAMOOK DISTRICT
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3

Fitch Creek
-- Key Resources/Wildlife Habitat--
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TILLAMOOK DISTRICT

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