

Pre-Operations Report

Operation Name: Sheridan Butte

County: Tillamook

Management Basin: Trask

Legal: Portions of Sections 10, 15 and 16 of T2S, R8W, W.M.

SAH Status: None

FDF: 100% CSL: 0%

Table 1. Operation Areas, Types and Acres

Area	Type of Operation	Gross Acres	Net Acres ¹
1	Modified Clearcut	120	96
2	Modified Clearcut	150	106
3	Modified Clearcut	125	116
4	Modified Clearcut	108	108
Total		503	426

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

I. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF OPERATION AREA:

Slopes have a north and south aspect. Elevations range from 880 to 2880. The major soil types are Killam and Rye.

The sale is located on both sides of Sheridan Creek from its headwaters to the confluence with Edwards Creek. The sale area is dominated by steep and very steep side-slopes, particularly along the upper reaches of Sheridan Creek and throughout the northern portion of the sale area.

II. CURRENT STAND CONDITION:

Table 2. Stand Inventory Information³

Area	Prescription	Stand ID ¹	Species	Age	DBH	BA	TPA	SDI	Net Acres ²
1	MC	307	DF, NF	49	12	167	203	47	96
2	MC	308	DF, WH, RA	49	14	108	121	32	106
3	MC	309	DF, NF, RA	49	13	164	186	46	116
4	MC	310	DF, NF, RC, SS, RA	49	14	124	109	33	108

1. The source of stand inventory information is from a 2007 timber cruise.

2. The net acres are based on orthophotos and GIS and exclude roads, and stream buffers, reserve area and non-required thinning areas. Modified clear cut acres are not contiguous and do not exceed 120 acres.

3. 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 area burned in the 1933 Tillamook Fire, the 1939 Saddle Mt. Fire, and the 1951 North Fork/Elkhorn Fire. This area was seeded with Douglas-fir in 1957 and 1958. This area has had no prior stand management. A cruise has been completed on this sale. According to Stand Level Inventory (SLI) data, this stand has been classified as 100% Understory Development (UDS). See Table 2 for specific stand data.

The sale area is primarily a Douglas-fir plantation with several large pockets of alder (5 to 20 acres) scattered through the area. The Douglas-fir in this area has moderate to severe symptoms of Swiss needle cast (SNC) and crown ratios ranging from 25-35%, resulting in slowed diameter and height growth. No other significant insect or disease problems have been discovered at this time.

The alder was aerially sprayed in the 1970's to release the planted conifer, resulting in alder trees with short boles and many tops. Due to stand age and site quality, the alder in this stand has poor height and diameter growth.

The brush component is comprised of salmonberry and huckleberry. Brush is concentrated in draws and alder patches.

Stand Level Inventory reports 11 snags per acre with none over 24" DBH. Bear damage is the main source of snags in the area. Snags also result from wind damage and snow breaks. The down wood totals 5808 cubic feet per acre. None of the down wood is in decay class 1 and 2, but is made up of large logs resulting from Tillamook Burn.

III. DESIRED STAND CONDITION AND VISION:

Table 3. Stand Structure Information

Area	Stand ID	Current	Post Harvest ¹	Desired Future	Net Acres
1	307	UDS	REG	GEN	96
2	308	UDS	REG	GEN	106
3	309	UDS	REG	GEN	116
4	310	UDS	REG	GEN	108

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.

Sub-basin

The sale is located in the Edwards Creek sub-basin of South Fork Trask. The landscape has had several regeneration harvests completed in the last five years on ODF and private land. The sub-basin has thousands of acres of Douglas-fir impacted by Swiss needle cast as well as sprayed alder. The Edwards Creek basin is also dissected by steep HLHL areas and deep inner gorges.

The designation for this stand is 100% General (GEN).

Short term vision

The short term vision is to remove slow growing Douglas-fir and alder and convert the area into a healthy mixed conifer stand. The sale areas will be reforested with mixed conifer species while alder is expected to also seed into the stand.

Long term vision

The long term vision is to grow a stand to UDS structure for production of wood volume. The new stand will have a PCT entry between ages 12 and 17. The PCT entry will focus on leaving a tree density where no further density management will be needed before final harvest, which will occur between ages 45-55 when the stand reaches 60 SDI. The stand is not available for commercial thinning because of access issues and terrain so it will be managed for timber production.

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.

IV. PROPOSED MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION AND PATHWAY:

Prescription:

MODIFIED CLEARCUT:

Areas 1 - 4

Prescription: Merchantable Douglas-fir and alder will be removed. All other species will be reserved. A Green Tree Retention Area will reserve all trees and total approximately 35 acres with stocking of about 120 trees per acre.

Green Tree: In all units, there will be scattered green trees of minor conifer species like hemlock and noble fir as well as unmerchantable conifer and hardwoods. In addition two areas of 35 acres (one on the west side and one in the northeast corner) will be designated as GreenTree Retention (GTR) area. Any additional trees needed to meet the 5 trees per acre for green trees will be reserved in the GTR and tracked for the harvest unit. A component of alder and

other conifer will also be retained in the stream buffers and high landslide hazard locations (HLHL).

Snags: Snags will not be created with this operation. Creation of snags is expected during harvest activities (rub trees, lift trees, or tail trees) and over time by natural processes. In addition, two conifer trees per acre will be reserved in the Green Tree Retention and tracked toward the harvest unit snag requirements. Existing snags determined not to be a safety hazard will be retained and any felled snags will be left for down wood.

Down Wood:

Existing down wood will be left in the sale areas. Down wood recruitment is expected from harvest activities by bucking out cull sections of logs, and also through mortality and wind throw of residual trees. Felled snags will also be left for down wood during operations. In addition, two conifer trees per acre will be tracked in the GTR toward the harvest unit requirements. Since the average DBH of the GTR is less than 15" DBH, no down wood will be created at this time.

Pathway:

The area will be reforested with a mixture of conifer species: western hemlock, SNC tolerant Douglas-fir, western red cedar and/or noble fir. A pre-commercial thinning is anticipated at 12 to 17 years when the crowns begin to close. A final harvest will then be planned at age 50 to 60 when the stand density reaches 60 SDI.

V. ESTIMATED TIMBER AND REVENUE INFORMATION:

Table 4. Timber and Revenue

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

	Conifer	Hardwood	Total
Net Volume (MBF)	4,134	928	5,062
Stumpage Value (\$/MBF) *	\$225	\$200	
Estimated Gross Value	\$930,150	\$185,600	\$1,115,750
		Project Costs:	\$365,690
		Estimated Net Value:	\$750,060

- *Douglas-fir stumpage values based on harvest type.*

VI. HARVESTING AND ACCESS CONSIDERATIONS:

The sale areas are accessed via Chance Road to Green Diamond's 2000 Road to 2400 Road. The forest roads are all weather crushed rock roads. An easement will be needed for access from Green Diamond Timber Company for these roads and Spur 1 and 1A, Spur 2, Spur 3, Spur 4 and Spur 5 and 5A. See maps for specific road locations and conditions. The Trask Road Use fee will be applied to this sale.

Approximately 0.63 miles of road improvement will be needed which includes widening, culvert replacement and side cast pullback.

Approximately 1.4 miles of road will be constructed to provide access to cable yarding areas. Following harvest these roads will be blocked with a gate across private land which will limit public access. After reforestation the roads within the sale area will be reviewed for closure. Ground yarding roads will be closed and water-barred following harvest. See summary document for more information on road closure. No other project work is currently planned with this sale.

The operation will be 100% cable yarding.

Table 5. Transportation Planning Summary (Miles)⁴

Activity	Mainline	Collector	Rocked Spur ¹	Dirt Spur ¹
Construct			1.02	0.37
Improve			0.63	
Maintain ²				
Close/Block ³			0.32	0.37
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:

A watershed analysis has been completed for the Trask basin. The sale areas do not provide opportunities to implement recommendations from the analysis. HLHL adjacent to sale boundaries have failed in the past. By excluding these

areas and retaining trees in them, future slides will deliver woody debris to the stream systems.

Edwards Creek is a Type F stream that is adjacent to the sale area. There is also an unnamed Type F stream that is adjacent to the sale area. Sheridan Creek is a Type F, a medium Type N and a small Type N stream and there are other unnamed small Type N streams within the sale area. 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 streams will be managed towards mature forest condition where possible.

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) will be requested to complete stream surveys prior to sale layout. Streams of unknown status will be treated as Type F until surveys are completed to verify fish use.

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

Refer to Aquatic Resource Protection Strategies in the Summary document for information on in the “in stream work period” road work and stream improvement projects.

VIII. T&E SPECIES CONSIDERATIONS:

The sale area has been reviewed with the ODF Northwest Oregon Area Biologist. Surveys for marbled murrelets are not required due to the absence of potentially suitable habitat. Surveys for the Northern Spotted Owl are not required by policy due to the sales location interior to the Tillamook Burn.

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. The sale drains into Sheridan Creek and Edwards Creek. The risk of landslides delivering directly from the sale to these streams is high. Portions of Area 1, 3, and 4 appear to be deep-seated landslide landforms.

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

X. RECREATION RESOURCES:

The sale area is designated as Motorized in the *Tillamook State Forest Comprehensive Recreation Plan* (1993). This sale has been reviewed by the District Recreation Coordinator. No OHV trails were identified within or adjacent to the sale areas.

XI. CULTURAL RESOURCES:

The *Tillamook State Cultural Assessment* does not list any sites within or adjacent to the proposed sale boundary.

XII. SCENIC RESOURCES:

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

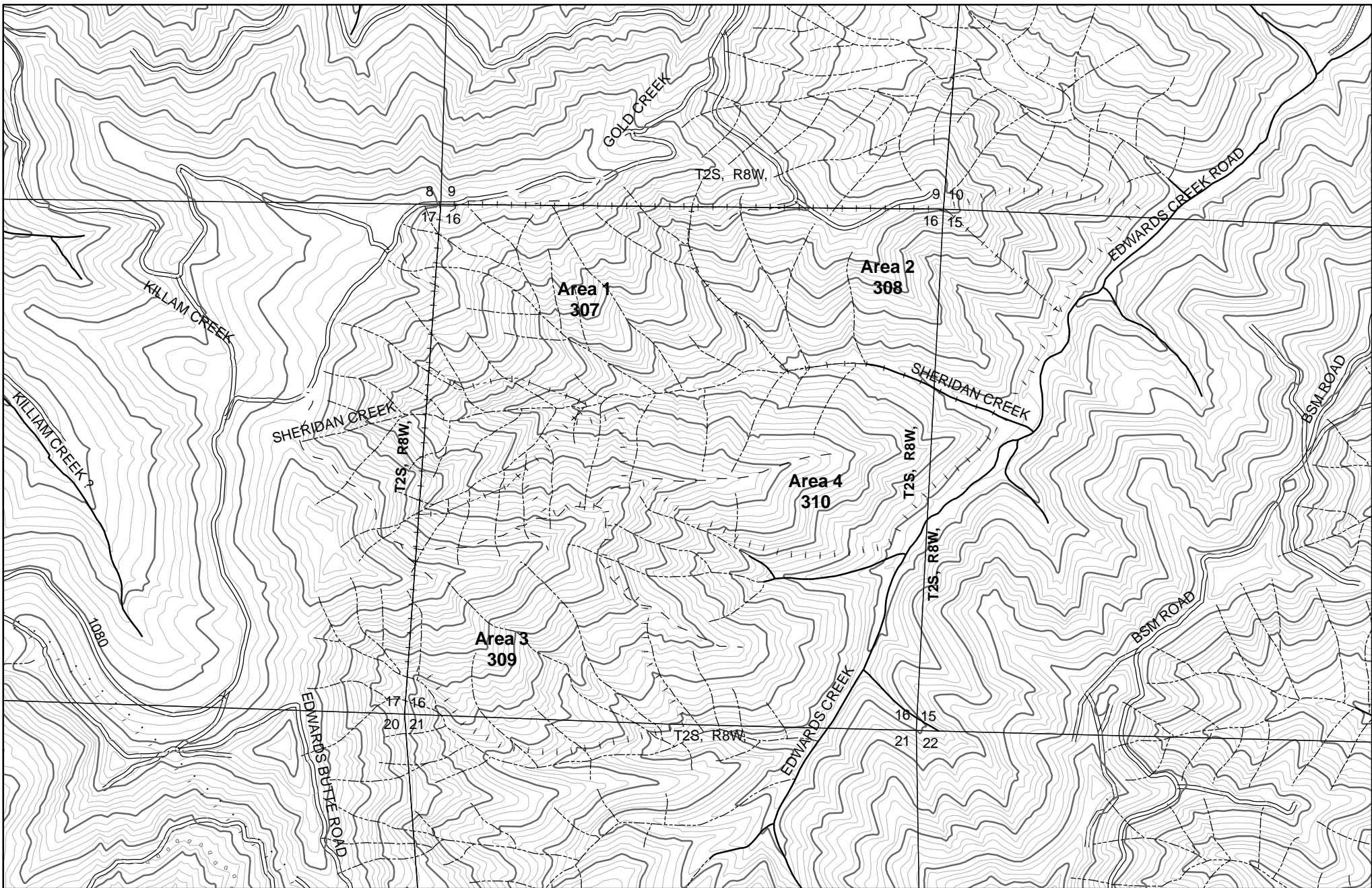
XIII. OTHER RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS:

ODF has entered into a boundary line agreement with Green Diamond Timber Company for the northern and western sale boundary. This agreement established a mutually agreed upon property line that is currently being established.

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.

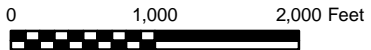
Boundary lines depicted on Attachment C are approximate; exact locations and site specific management activities will be determined during the sale preparation process.



Contour Interval 40'

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

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



3

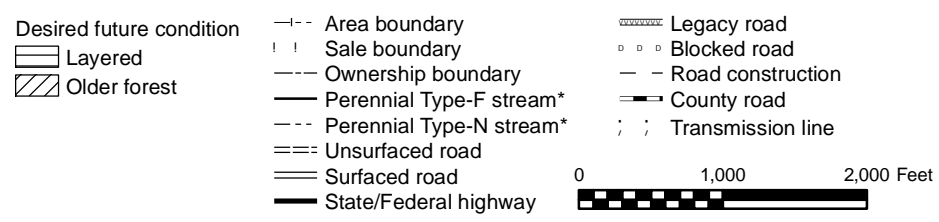
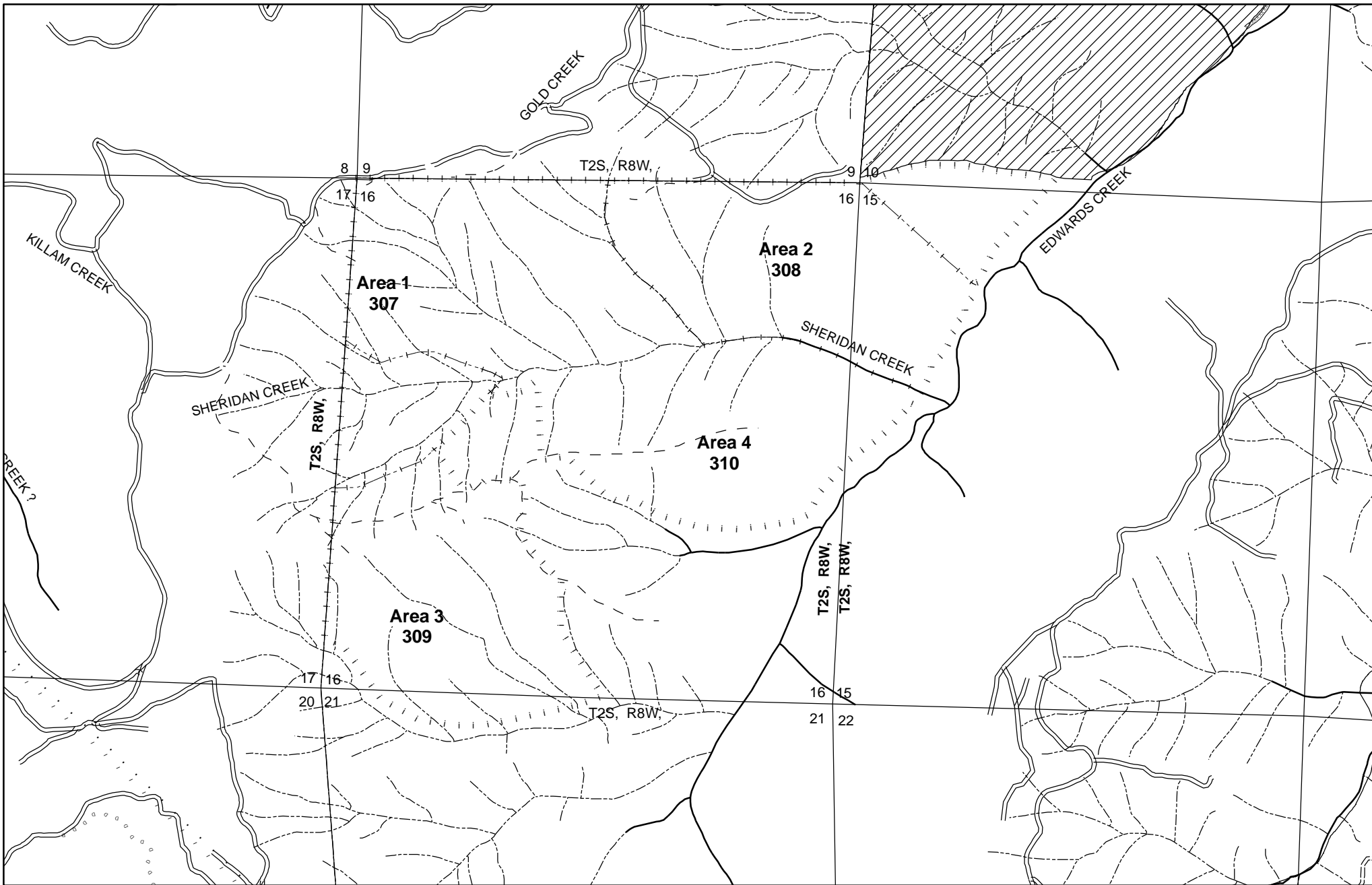
Sheridan Butte -- Topography -- 2009 SALE PLAN TILLAMOOK DISTRICT

Portions of Sections 15, 16 and 21
T2S, 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



3

Sherridan Butte
-- Current and Future Condition --
2009 SALE PLAN
TILLAMOOK DISTRICT

Portions of Sections 15,16 and 21
T2S, R8W, W.M.,
Tillamook County, Oregon

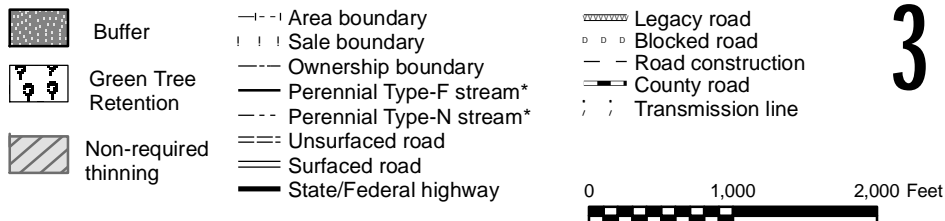
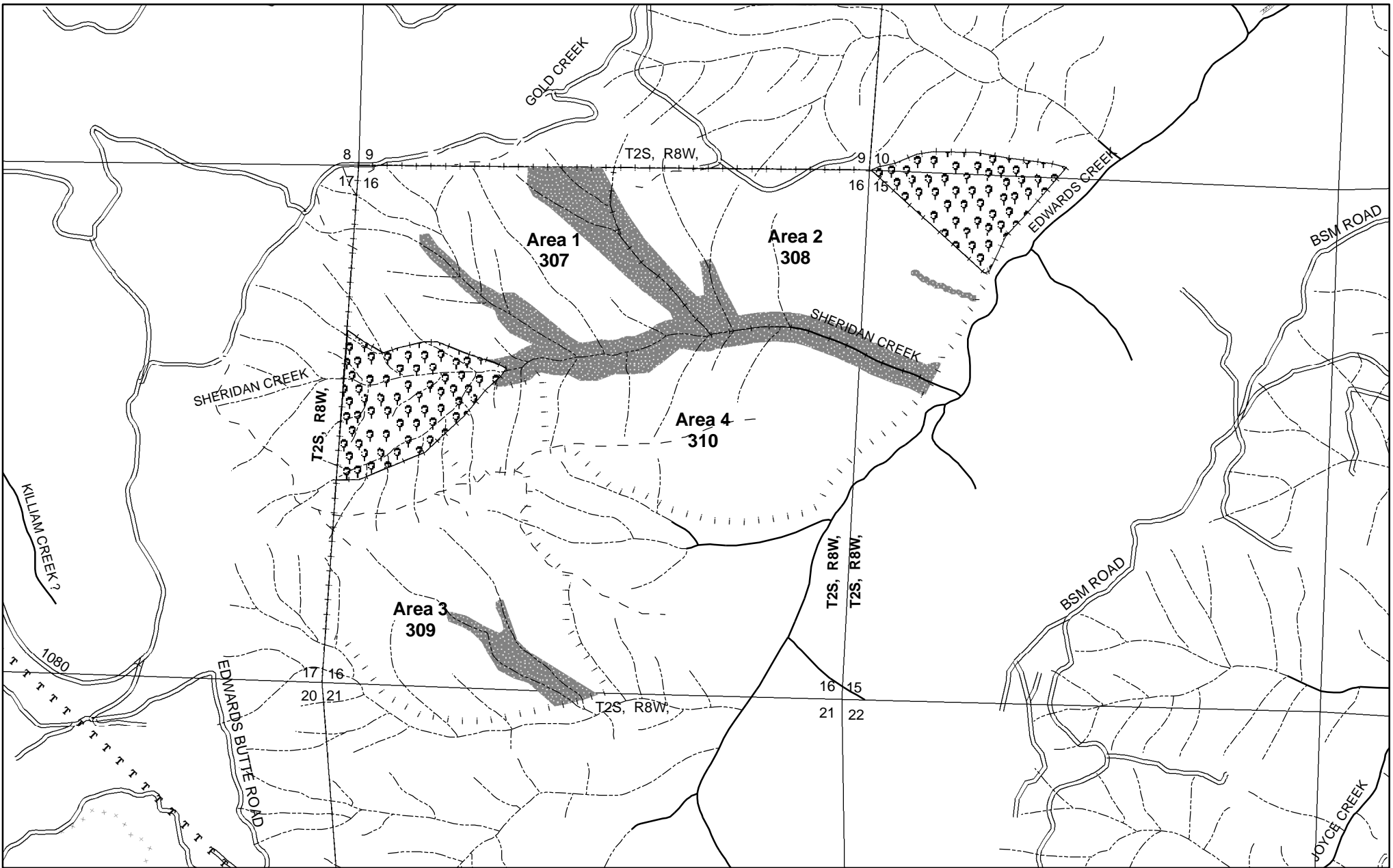
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Tillamook District GIS
01/08/2008

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

Attachment B



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**Sheridan Butte
-- Key Resources --
2009 SALE PLAN
TILLAMOOK DISTRICT**

Portions of Sections 15,16 and 21
T2S, R8W, W.M.,
Tillamook County, Oregon

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