

# Pre-Operations Report

**Operation Name: Fall Again (Alternative)**

**Legal**

**County: Tillamook**

**Management Basin: Wilson**

**SAH Status: None**

**FDF: 100% CSL: 0%**

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

Area	Type of Operation	Gross Acres	Net Acres <sup>1</sup>
1	Modified Clearcut	178	120
Total		178	120

*1. The net acres are based on orthophotos and GIS and exclude road and stream buffers area*

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

The sale has northern aspect and 50-90% slopes. Elevations range from 600 to 1840 feet. The major soil type is Rye.

**II. CURRENT STAND CONDITION:**

**Table 2. Stand Inventory Information<sup>3</sup>**

Area	Prescription	Stand ID <sup>1</sup>	Species	Age	DBH	BA	TPA	SDI	Net Acres <sup>2</sup>
1	MC	201	RA	44	13.4	107	109		120
			DF		15.2	29	23	38	

*1. The source of stand inventory information is from Stand Level Inventory.*

*2. The net acres are based on orthophotos and GIS and exclude roads, and stream buffers.. 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 and 1939 fires. A small portion of the sale area was planted in 1961-62 but the majority of the sale area is naturally regenerated red alder.

The stands in the sale area are classified as 100% UDS according to the district Stand Level Inventory.

The stand is a single canopy dominated by red alder with Douglas-fir widely scattered throughout. Big leaf maple is also found in clumps in the western side of the sale area.

The largest concentrations of Douglas-fir are located on the ridge tops. The crowns of Douglas-fir have receded due to the lack of density management and average 20-25% of total height. The height and diameter growth has slowed in the Douglas-fir and the trees are not expected to respond to release.

Hardwoods in the stand are higher quality with straight boles and average 55 feet of merchantable height. The growth of the red alder is beginning to slow in height growth due to the age of the stand. There are also clumps of Big Leaf Maple scattered in the stand. The inventory information recorded approximately 1 maple per acre in the sale.

See Table 2 for specific stand data.

The brush component in the sale area is comprised primarily of sword fern, salmonberry, and patches of vine maple.

There are few large snags in various states of decay left from the fire history of the area. Down wood consists of scattered large old logs (36"+) in Class 3 and 4 stages of decay. The Stand Level Inventory data shows approximately 1 snag per acre greater than 24" DBH. The inventory also shows 2,682 cubic feet per acre of down wood with only 3.45 cubic feet in decay class 1 and 2.

Data collected during the timber cruise showed approximately 1 snag per acre in decay class 4 and 5.

### III. DESIRED STAND CONDITION AND VISION:

**Table 3. Stand Structure Information**

Area	Stand ID	Current	Post Harvest <sup>1</sup>	Desired Future	Net Acres
1	201	UDS	REG	OFS	2
	201	UDS	REG	LYR	102
	201	UDS	REG	GEN	16

*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.

The DFC for this stand is 85% Layered, 2% Older Forest Structure and 13% General. The stand is dominated by hardwoods in which the height growth has slowed. The conifer has small live crown ratios (less than 25% of total height). The present stand is not a good candidate to move along the pathway toward complex structure due to current stand conditions (species mix, age, and health).

### **Sub-basin**

This operation, in combination with other operations in Fox Creek and Fall Creek basins, will create openings (5-120 acres) as well as stands of differing residual densities where partial cutting has taken place. Due to the difficult terrain, regeneration harvest will occur in other areas of the basins along with the mix of Douglas-fir and red alder throughout the two sub-basins. Past management in the two sub-basins has consisted of regeneration harvest and partial cutting in the late 1990's and early 2000's. There are currently no T&E wildlife issues in the basins, they are dominated by ODF ownership and the Tillamook Burn entirely encompassed the two basins.

### **Short term vision:**

The short term objective for the planned operation is to remove alder and Douglas-fir creating large openings with one age class which will be planted with mixed conifer. The new stand will contain older legacy trees in the overstory which will provide a source of down wood and snags over time.

### **Long term vision:**

The long term vision is to establish and manage a stand dominated by conifer species with patches of hardwood along streams and headwalls as well as in Green Tree Retention areas. Due to the topography and long yarding reaches, multiple entry thinnings are not likely to occur. Reaching complex structure might be done more through planting plans and creation of gaps in the harvest unit.

## **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:**

The sale area will remove merchantable Douglas-fir and red alder

#### **Green Tree**

Minor conifer species like cedar and spruce will be reserved in the sale area as well as bigleaf maple. These minor species will be scattered across the harvest unit averaging only 6-8 trees per acre. Additional green trees will be retained in two green tree retention (GTR) areas totaling 45 acres. One GTR is located on the lower 1/3 of the harvest unit on the east side of the sale and is a blind lead. The second GTR is located on the western edge of the sale area and located upper to mid-slope. The upper to midslope GTR is made up of High Landslide Hazard Location and old slumps or slides. There will also be riparian buffers in the sale dominated by hardwoods.

### **Snags**

Spruce and Douglas-fir in the GTR's will be targeted for creation of snags. Two Douglas-fir per acre over 15" DBH will be two snags per acre through girdling. A total of 90 snags will be created in the sale.

**Down Wood**

Due to the species, terrain, and logging distances, whole tree yarding is expected on the sale leaving very little additional down wood accumulation. Therefore down wood will be created in the GTR areas by targeting conifer trees larger than 20" DBH for down wood. From current inventory data it is expected that one tree per acre will be fell for down wood.

**Pathway**

As the future stand matures the residual trees from this entry will add to complexity of sizes, species and densities. The residual trees will also add to snags and down wood over time and through the life of the next stand. Down wood and snags created and reserved in this entry will become decayed components for the future stand.

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

**Table 4. Timber and Revenue**

Ownership		Sale Type	
BOF	CSL	Cash	Recovery
100%	0%		X
Planned Quarter:		Alt	

	Conifer	Hardwood	Total
Net Volume (MBF)	336	1008	1344
Stumpage Value (\$/MBF)*	\$175	\$200	
Estimated Gross Value	\$58,800	\$201,600	\$260,400
		Project Costs:	\$26,000
		Estimated Net Value:	\$234,400

\*Additional pulp value is expected in sale (hardwood and conifer) but was not estimated as the overall value volume during recon cruise.

**VI. HARVESTING AND ACCESS CONSIDERATIONS:**

The sale areas are accessed via Fox Creek Ridge Road to Fall Creek Ridge Road. Fox Creek Ridge Road and Fall Creek Ridge Road are surfaced with crushed rock. Additional abandoned roads will be reopened and surfaced to access cable logging areas.

See maps for specific road locations and conditions.

Approximately ¼ mile of abandoned road will be improved which includes grading and rocking. This portion of the road will go through an existing clearcut unit and requires minor work. Approximately .33 miles of road will be new construction to access ridgetop landings. The new construction road has no stream crossings and portions will be closed after harvest. This work will bring all roads up to standards described in *the Forest Roads Manual*. The roads are ridgetop roads with no stream crossings.

Approximately 1 mile of road vacation is planned along Fall Creek Ridge Road. The abandoned road connected Fox Creek Ridge Road to Highway 6. Much of the road has had sidecast failures over the years. The vacating work would block access to the road from the ridgetop as well as pulling log culverts. In addition, any sidecast material will be pulled back where appropriate. Future access will be designed to come from Highway 6 into the bottom portion of Fall Creek Ridge Road.

Rock source exploration will be completed with the sale as well. The rock source is within the timber sale boundaries and has good access for exploration and potential development. Exploration may consist of drilling test holes and determining quantities of rock at the location.

The operation will be 100% cable yarding. The cable yarding areas will reach across Fox Creek. The yarding distances are long (greater than 2400 feet) on steep slopes. It is expected that much of the sale will be whole tree yarded.

**Table 5. Transportation Planning Summary (Miles)<sup>4</sup>**

Activity	Mainline	Collector	Rocked Spur <sup>1</sup>	Dirt Spur <sup>1</sup>
Construct			.33	
Improve			.20	
Maintain <sup>2</sup>		4.7	2.5	
Close/Block <sup>3</sup>			.20	
Vacate <sup>3</sup>				1

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 was recently being completed for the Wilson basin. This sale will be reviewed in more detail during sale preparation to determine if any opportunities for in-stream or riparian area management are available. Streams within the sale area have been surveyed for fish presence (see exhibits for additional information on location). There are unnamed Type N streams within the sale area. These streams will be reviewed and posted with appropriate buffers during sale layout. All stream buffers within or adjacent to harvest unit boundaries will be managed according to *Forest Management Plan* Riparian Strategies.

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

The sale has been reviewed with the ODF Northwest Oregon Area Biologist. Surveys for marbled murrelets are not required for this sale due to the absence of potentially suitable habitat. Surveys for northern spotted owls are not required as the sale is within the Tillamook Burn (see November 2002 ODF Policy Guidance: Northern Spotted Owl Surveying on State Forest Lands).

T&E Plant Species: The sale areas were checked against the Oregon National 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 1:24,000 topographic maps.

There are high landslide hazard locations scattered throughout the sale. The sale drains into Fox Creek and Fall Creek. The southwestern corner of the sale drains into an unnamed tributary of the Wilson River. The risk to landslides delivering directly from the sale to Fox Creek and Fall Creek is high and to the unnamed tributary of the Wilson River is low. Portions of the sale appear to be located on a large, deep-seated landslide landform.

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 will be reviewed by the District Recreation Coordinator before sale prep begins.

No recreation trails or sites are located within the sale boundary. Some motorcycle riding has occurred on the abandoned Fall Creek Ridge Road but is not part of the longer term trail plan for the district due to private ownership at bottom of Fall Creek.

**XI. CULTURAL RESOURCES:**

The *Tillamook State Cultural Assessment* does not list cultural sites within the proposed sale boundary.

**XII. SCENIC RESOURCES:**

From reviewing other sales in the area, no portion of the sale will be visible from any County or State roads.

**XIII. OTHER RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS:**

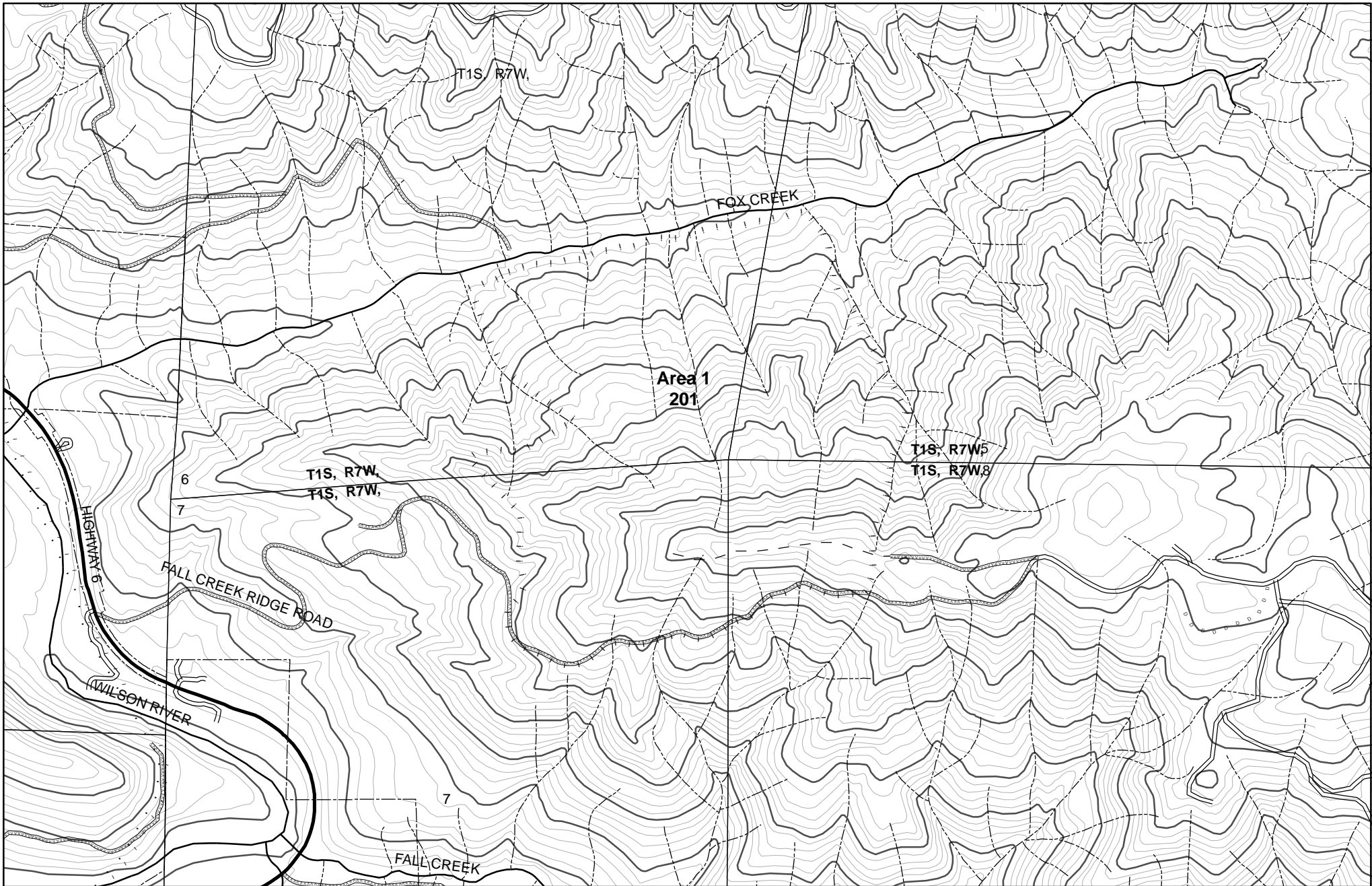
A survey corner marker is located within the sale boundary. The corner has not been found during sale recon work. A search for the corner needs to occur during sale prep to protect the corner marker and any bearing trees in the unit. Work to find the corner will be completed with the district Engineering Unit and the area protected during harvest activities.

The northwest corner of the sale contains a permanent plot established by ODF to measure stand growth and structure over time. The guidance provided from protection and reestablishment of the permanent plot will be followed during sale prep and harvest.

**XIV. LAND MANAGEMENT CLASSIFICATION SUMMARY:**

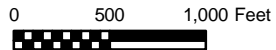
The sale area contains Focused and Special, Aquatic and Riparian Habitat designation. See Section VII, Aquatic Resources and Water Quality, for the management guidelines to be utilized.

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**

**Fall Again  
-- Topography --  
2009 SALE PLAN  
TILLAMOOK DISTRICT**

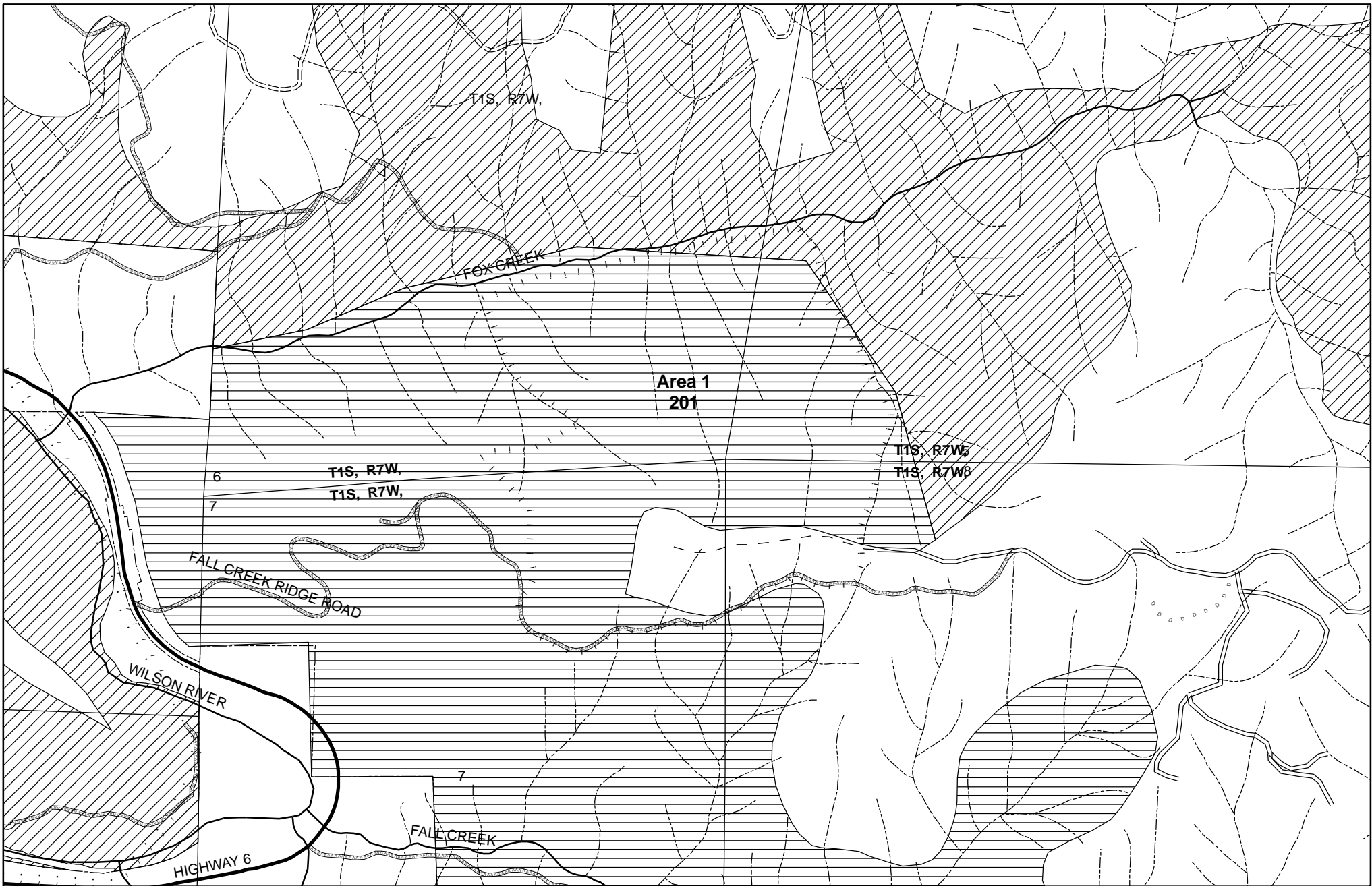
Portions of Sections 5, 6, 7 and 8  
T1S, R7W, W.M.,  
Tillamook County, Oregon

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

Type of	Area	Operation
	1	Modified Clearcut

Tillamook District GIS  
10/24/2007  
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Attachment A



- 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
- 0 500 1,000 Feet
- 

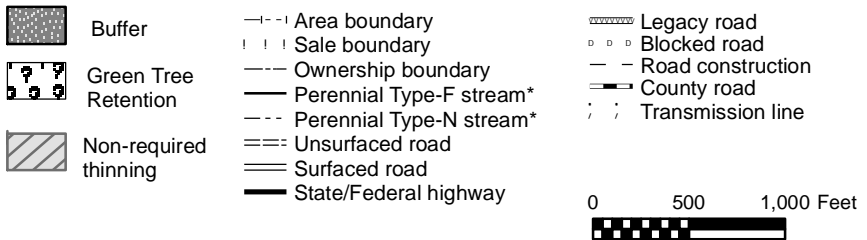
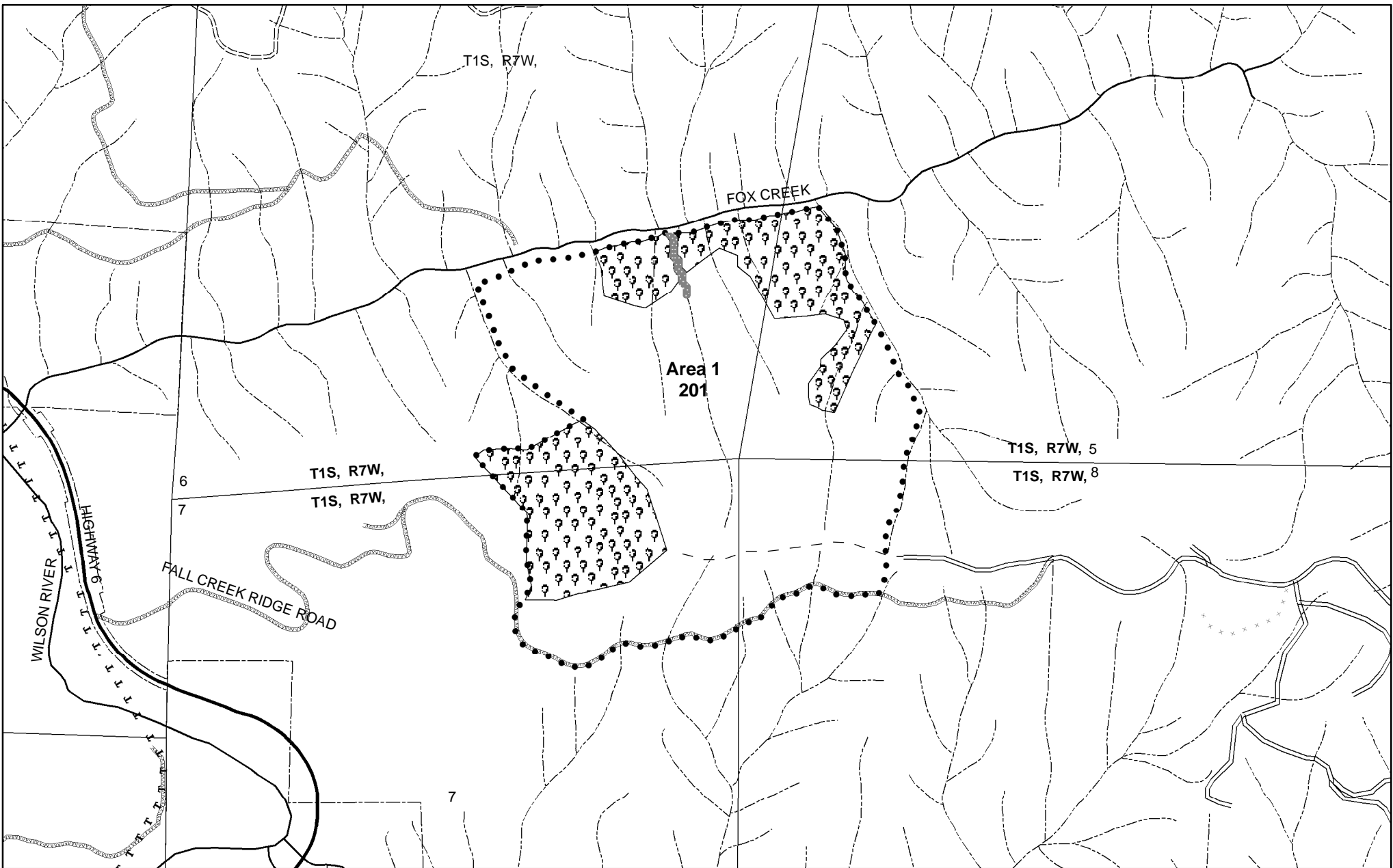
# 3

**Fall Again**  
**-- Current and Future Condition --**  
**2009 SALE PLAN**  
**TILLAMOOK DISTRICT**  
 Portions of Sections 5,6,7 and 8  
 T1S, R7W, W.M.,  
 Tillamook County, Oregon

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

Area	Type of Operation
1	Modified Clearcut

Tillamook District GIS  
 01/08/2008  
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3

**Fall Again  
-- Key Resources --  
2009 SALE PLAN  
TILLAMOOK DISTRICT**  
Portions of Sections 5,6,7 and 8  
T1S, R7W, W.M.,  
Tillamook County, Oregon

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Area	Type of Operation
1	Modified Clearcut

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