

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION.....	3
INTEGRATED FOREST MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS.....	5
Timber Harvest Operations.....	5
Overview of Timber Harvest Operations.....	5
Summary of Operations by Basin	7
Forest Roads Management.....	9
Overview.....	9
Road Construction.....	11
Road Improvement.....	12
Road Access Management.....	12
Road Maintenance	12
Land Surveying.....	12
Young Stand Management.....	13
Planting.....	14
Vegetation Management	15
Tree Protection	16
Precommercial Thinning (density management).....	16
Fertilization.....	17
Pruning.....	17
Recreation Management	18
Overview of Recreation Management	18
Facilities (Campgrounds, View Points, Trail Heads, etc.).....	18
Trails	19
Management Activities	19
Forest Land Management Classifications (FMLCs)	19
Land Exchange.....	20
Other Integrated Forest Management Operations.....	20
Habitat Improvement Projects.....	20
Planning (and Information Systems)	20
Stand Level Inventory and Other Vegetation Inventories.....	20

Fish and Wildlife Surveys	21
Watershed Assessments	21
Research and Monitoring	21
Other Planning Operations.....	22
Public Information and Education.....	22
Administration	22
APPENDICES.....	26
A. Summary Tables	26
B. Pre-Operations Reports	27
C. Public Comments.....	27

WEST OREGON DISTRICT

2009 ANNUAL OPERATIONS PLAN

INTRODUCTION

This annual operations plan (AOP) covers the State Forest lands managed by the West Oregon District for Fiscal Year 2009, which begins July 1, 2008 and ends June 30, 2009. It describes how the activities and projects undertaken by the district will achieve the goals and objectives of the West Oregon District Implementation Plan (IP) and the Northwest Oregon State Forest Management Plan (FMP).

The AOP is composed of the summary document with sections that contain information on commercial forest management operations; roads and engineering; young stand management operations; recreation management; and land exchange. In addition, the summary document provides details for planning and information systems; public information and education; and administration. The remainder of the AOP contains summary tables for operations proposed for the fiscal year and individual reports and maps for each commercial operation. A public involvement summary will be added to the final plan.

Specifics about the physical characteristics of the District may be found in the West Oregon District Implementation Plan. Details on the strategies used to manage State forests may be found in the NW Oregon Forest Management Plan.

Harvest Levels:

The district is including 11.2 MMBF of timber harvest in this Annual Operations Plan (Table A-1). This harvest level is consistent with the district's Implementation Plan. The harvest activity acreages for both clearcut and partial cut are consistent with the levels determined in the minor modification to the district's Implementation Plan in 2007.

Table 1. Annual Operations Plan objectives compared to annual objectives identified in the 2001 West Oregon District Implementation Plan and minor modification in 2007 (Table A-1). All values are acres.

Silvicultural Activity	Original IP Annual Objective		2009 AOP Objective
	Low	High	
Conifer Partial Cut	550	720	646
Conifer Clearcut	190	220	165
Hardwood Partial Cut	0	20	0
Hardwood Clearcut	10	30	69
Reforestation (Planting)	70	400	237
Precommercial Thinning	200	800	945
Fertilization	0	0	0
Pruning	0	100	35

The district has included 2 Alternate Operations in this Annual Operations Plan. These alternate operations may be used to replace regular sales that cannot be completed as planned.

The net acres listed in Table 1 and the individual Pre-Operation Reports excludes the acreage contained in roads, stream buffers and no-harvest areas within the operation areas. The net acres reflect the amount of ground that will actually be in the operations.

During fiscal year 2009, all of the young stand management operations included in the AOP will be completed. However, most of the activities associated with commercial management operations such as timber harvesting and project work will not take place during the fiscal year. The timber sale contracts will be prepared and auctioned but most of the actual work will be completed in a future fiscal year.

INTEGRATED FOREST MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS

Timber Harvest Operations

Overview of Timber Harvest Operations

The landscape design associated with the IP shows the Desired Future Condition (DFC) for state forest land in the district. Areas planned for more complex stands are indicated as either Layered (LYR) or Older Forest Structure (OFS). Stands not planned for LYR or OFS are designated as General. A stand with a DFC of General may develop into any of the five stand structures defined in the Northwest Forest Management Plan.

The regeneration harvest on the District is composed of 98 percent modified clearcut and two percent retention cut. The partial cut harvest includes 98 percent moderate thinning and 2 percent heavy thinning. For definitions of these harvest types reference the "State Forest Annual Operations Planning" web page (http://www.odf.state.or.us/DIVISIONS/management/state_forests/aop.asp).

The IP states that Regeneration harvesting will occur in Closed Single Canopy (CSC) or Understory (UDS) stands that have severe health problems or in stands that are poor candidates for developing into more complex stands (see IP for details). The 230 acres of modified clearcut harvest in this plan consists of nine units which support 50-77 year old Douglas-fir and red alder trees. There is one seven acre patch of 114 year old Douglas-fir trees included as part of a larger unit. (Many of these older trees will be retained as reserve trees.) All of the nine units are located in areas designated as DFC general. The current condition of these stands by acreage is 93% UDS and 7% LYR. They will be replaced by more diverse, complex stands because a variety of conifer species will be planted.

For these proposed modified clearcuts, approximately 8-10 trees per acre will be left standing in the units which should provide future legacy trees, down wood, and snags. Landscape design is classified as General and these areas will move to Regeneration (REG) after harvest and eventually to CSC and UDS stands.

There is one four acre stand composed of 36 year old Douglas-fir that is proposed for a retention cut. About 42 trees per acre will be retained, after harvest, and the unit will be underplanted with conifer species to produce a future layered stand.

Partial cutting in younger stands will move them relatively quickly towards structures that are more complex. In the 2009 operations plan 549 acres of the partial cutting will be in plantations that are 26 - 41 years old. The final 97 acres are made up of 57 - 107 year old Douglas-fir. These stands consist primarily of Douglas-fir but also include some western hemlock, red alder, and big leaf maple and are currently classified as CSC or UDS stand types. Partial cutting in these stands should encourage new, vigorous growth of understory brush species and move them into or keep them in the UDS stand type. Approximately 202 acres will be put on a pathway for future LYR stands by thinning to a low stand density or creating patch cuts and planting with western hemlock and/or western redcedar to enhance horizontal layering and species diversity.

Most of the stands planned for partial cutting have either been pre-commercially thinned or commercially thinned in the past.

It is estimated that about 10.4 million board feet of conifer timber and 0.8 million board feet of hardwood timber will be harvested from these timber sales. Projected gross revenue is estimated to be \$3,864,000. With approximate total project work of \$483,000 anticipated, the net revenue produced is expected to be about \$3,381,000. Of this net revenue, approximately \$2,536,000 will be generated from Board of Forestry lands and the remaining \$845,000 will come from Common School lands. (See Table A-1) In addition to revenue from timber sales, the district is anticipating selling about 30 special forest products permits resulting in an additional \$3,000.

Resource specialists that have provided input for the Pre-Operations Reports include the area Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) wildlife biologist, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) district fish and wildlife biologists, and the area ODF geotechnical specialist.

Table 2. Stand Structure Development – This table summarizes how the Timber Harvest Operations in this AOP will contribute to achieving the district’s desired future condition. All values are in acres.

Stand Structure	REG	CSC	UDS	LYR	OFS	GEN¹
Current		53	811	16		
Post Harvest²	234		646			
Desired Future				193	13	674

1. General (GEN) is not a stand structure, but identifies those stands that are not targeted for Layered or Older Forest Structure in the district landscape design. These stands may develop into any of the five stand structures.

2. The Post Harvest stand structure is an estimate of how the stands will develop in five to ten years after the operations are completed.

Summary of Operations by Basin

Table 3. Summary of Timber Harvest Operations in each basin. All values are in acres.

Basin	2009 AOP		Cumulative Operations ¹ (FY 02—09)	
	Partial Cut	Clearcut	Partial Cut	Clearcut
Burnt Woods	97	117	2363	375
Green Mountain	259	61	1699	309
Blodgett	33	56	2070	181
Scattered Coastal	0	0	668	180
Black Rock	0	0	166	0
Bonner	257	0	959	65

1. The Cumulative Operations include all Timber Harvest Operations, prepared and proposed, under the current implementation plan period (July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2011). Operations or units that were proposed, but have been subsequently dropped, are not included in the total.

Burnt Woods Ridge Basin

Biker Baber This operation consists of one modified clearcut unit totaling 65 acres in 77 year old Douglas-fir and red alder. There is an older Douglas-fir cohort present in the operation area mostly in the south. The stand type is UDS. There are no natural tree species present that could provide the layering component necessary to build more complex stands so clearcutting is the proposed management prescription. The anticipated pathway is to move from UDS to REG through clearcutting and replanting a variety of conifer seedlings, then to CSC and finally to UDS, utilizing future commercial thinning entries. Approximately 8-10 trees per acre will be retained which will provide for the future snags, legacy trees, and down wood requirements.

Strombo Combo This operation consists of a 48 acre modified clearcut unit in 57 year old Douglas-fir, one 97 acre partial cut unit in 57 year old Douglas-fir, and one 4 acre retention cut unit in 36 year old Douglas-fir timber. All three units were commercially thinned about 10 years ago and the stand types are UDS.

In Area I, there are no natural tree species present that could provide the layering component necessary to build more complex stands so clearcutting is the proposed management prescription. The anticipated pathway is to move from UDS to REG through clearcutting and replanting a variety of conifer seedlings, then to CSC and finally to UDS, utilizing future commercial thinning entries. Approximately 8-10 trees per acre will be retained which will provide for the future snags, legacy trees, and down wood requirements.

In Area II, patch cuts areas will be created on about 20% of the stand acreage. These patch cuts will be replanted with conifer seedlings and will provide a future layering component. The areas not included in patch cuts will be commercially thinned. The anticipated pathway for this unit is to eventually move from UDS to LYR or OFS.

In Area III, about 42 trees per acre will remain after a retention cut. Underplanting with shade tolerant conifer species will provide a future layering component. The anticipated pathway is to eventually move from REG to LYR.

These two operations will reduce UDS stand acreage by 1% and increase REG by 1% in this basin during the post harvest period, which is the next 5-10 years.

Green Mountain Basin

All A Board This operation consists of three modified clearcut units totaling 61 acres. Area I and II support Douglas-fir and red alder trees that are 51 to 72 years old. Douglas-fir trees in Area III are 72 to 114 years old. The stand type is UDS for Areas I-III with a small portion of LYR in Area III.

There are no natural tree species present that could provide the layering component necessary to build more complex stands so clearcutting is the proposed management prescription. The anticipated pathway for these stands is to move from UDS to REG through clearcutting and replanting with a variety of conifer seedlings, then to CSC and finally UDS utilizing future commercial thinnings.

Approximately 8-10 trees per acre will be retained which will provide for the future snags, legacy trees, and down wood requirements.

During the post harvest period, which is 5-10 years, this operation will not result in a reportable (1% or greater) net loss or gain for any stand structure type in this basin.

Green Tangle This operation consists of eight partial cut units totaling 259 acres in 26 to 35 year old Douglas-fir plantations. All of the operation areas were PCT'd 11 to 13 years ago. All operation areas are currently classified as UDS stand type.

All areas will be commercially thinned which should keep them in the UDS stand type until final harvest.

During the post harvest period, which is 5-10 years, this operation will not result in a reportable (1% or greater) net loss or gain for any stand structure type in this basin.

Blodgett Basin

Chinquapin Ridge This operation consists of four modified clear cut units totaling 56 acres which support 51-64 year old Douglas-fir and one 33 acres partial cut that contains 41 year old Douglas-fir. Area I, a portion of Area IV, and all of Area V were commercially thinned in 1996. The stand type is UDS for Areas I-V with a small portion of LYR in Area III.

In Areas I-IV, there are no natural tree species present that could provide the layering component necessary to build more complex stands so clearcutting is the proposed management prescription. The anticipated pathway for these stands is to move from UDS to REG through clearcutting and replanting with a variety of conifer

Area V will be commercially thinned which should keep it in the UDS stand type until final harvest.

During the post harvest period, which is 5-10 years, this operation will not result in a reportable (1% or greater) net loss or gain for any stand structure type in this basin.

Scattered Coastal Basin

There are no harvest operations planned in this basin for FY08.

Black Rock Basin

There are no harvest operations planned in this basin for FY08.

Bonner Ridge Basin

Easter Bonner This operation consists of six partial cut units totaling 257 acres in 26 - 36 year old Douglas-fir. Areas I, II and IV – VI were PCT'd about 11 – 13 years ago. Area III was PCT'd about 21 years ago and a small portion of it was commercially thinned 6 years ago. The stand type is CSC for Areas I and III and UDS in the other units

Areas I, II and III will be put on a pathway towards LYR stands using patch cuts or low relative density (LRD) areas. The patch cuts and LRD areas will be planted with conifer seedlings that will provide a future layering component. The portions of the stands not in patch cuts or LRD areas will be commercially thinned. The anticipated pathway is to eventually move from UDS to LYR.

Areas IV, V and VI will be commercially thinned which should keep them in the UDS stand type until final harvest.

During the post harvest period, which is 5-10 years, this operation will not result in a reportable (1% or greater) net loss or gain for any stand structure type in this basin.

Forest Roads Management

Overview

The primary transportation focus is to protect and secure access for forest management activities. This involves constructing new roads where needed and maintaining or upgrading existing roads. Other resource management and other users are also considered in the transportation planning. The transportation system provides access for timber removal, recreation, fire control and removal of other forest products. The District

transportation system is managed to provide efficient and effective access that facilitates obtaining the greatest permanent value from the forest for the people of Oregon.

Visions, guiding principles, and techniques that are the framework of the District's road management program are discussed in detail in the Implementation Plan and the Forest Roads Manual (2000), and govern the planning and implementation of the activities discussed in this section. Planning of these activities are Level III plans, as discussed in the Forest Road Manual.

The Implementation Plan (IP) anticipates that about 4-7 miles of new road will be constructed and 8-12 miles of road will be improved each year. It is estimated that 2.4 miles of new road construction and 4.0 miles of road improvement will be included with the FY 2009 operations plan. These roads will provide improved access for hauling forest products from the sale areas. Since the mainline roads are already in place on the district, these new roads will be mostly short, low use, single lane spur roads, and averaging 14 feet wide. About 4% of the new roads will be surfaced to provide all season access. Approximately 23% of the roads to be improved will be rocked, providing a seasonal traction coat or an all season surface. Natural surfacing will be the final condition of the remaining road length for new and improved roads. The natural surface roads will be waterbarred, and blocked to restrict public vehicle access after harvest and/or prior to the beginning of the wet season. Restricting access to natural surface roads will control soil erosion and ensure that the drainage systems remain intact.

Most roads will be constructed through gentle, stable topography, which will minimize slope stability concerns, soil erosion, and downstream water quality issues. However, there are a few short stretches of new road that will need to be constructed through steeper terrain. In these situations, the staff engineer and area geo-technical specialist may be contacted and requested to conduct an onsite inspection and provide input related to mitigating any negative effects of road construction.

Fiscal year budget and market conditions have had little impact on the level of activity for roads and engineering as related to the transportation plan for the FY2009 timber sales.

The district has conducted a detailed inventory of its road system, collecting information on road surfacing, condition, drainage, and stream crossings. This inventory was done in conjunction with the Oregon Salmon Plan. For the FY 2009 operations plan, existing roads and drainage systems in the vicinity of timber sales have been evaluated to determine high priority road or drainage structure maintenance, abandonment, replacement, or improvement projects.

For FY 2009, no roads have been identified for vacation. However additional ground inspection may reveal some road segments to be vacated. The guidelines for road vacating, located in Section 8 of the ODF Forest Roads Manual, will be used. The process for prioritizing the vacation of forest roads is based on an assessment of the risk to resources from information in current road inventories and additional fieldwork. Future

transportation needs and road maintenance costs will also play a factor in identifying roads for vacation. Activities under this Plan will add approximately 0.1 miles of road to the District's active road system.

Stream crossing culverts will be replaced based on information in the current forest road inventory, fish distribution surveys, and consultation with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife biologists.

District activities to control noxious weeds consist primarily of controlling Scotch Broom (and other brooms) in and around plantations. Most of these infestations start along roads and spread from there. Other species, which are occasionally targeted for control, include knotweed, false brome and Himalayan blackberry. Noxious weed control will be performed on about 10 acres during this fiscal year.

Table 4. Summary of Road Management Activities. All values are in miles.

	Mainline (High Use)		Collector (Medium Use)		Spur (Low Use)	
	AOP	IP ¹	AOP	IP ¹	AOP	IP ¹
Road Construction	0	0	0	0.2 - 0.3	2.4	4.2 - 6.6
Road Improvement	0	3.5 - 5.0	0	2.2 - 3.4	4.0	2.4 - 3.6
Road Closure/Vacation	0	0	0	0.3- 0.5	0	3.9 - 6.0
Road Maintenance – District²	0		30		25	
Road Maintenance – Active Operations³	0		20		20	

1. These are annual estimates derived from Table 6-6. Potential Road Activities FY 2001-2011 of the 2001 District Implementation Plan. The values here were derived by dividing the values in the Potential Road Activities table by 10.

2. The road maintenance estimates include only the work to be completed during Fiscal Year 2009 by the district road crew or service contract. Estimates of road maintenance were not made in the Implementation Plan.

3. This is a broad estimate of the road maintenance that may be accomplished during the fiscal year, through active commercial operations. However, the exact amount can not be predicted at this time.

Road Construction

As Table 4 indicates, all road construction is classified as spurs. Most of these roads will be built on gentle side slopes or ridge tops. There are no road construction projects that are not associated with this year's sale plan.

Road Improvement

The majority of the road improvement projects consist of re-opening old unsurfaced spurs and replacing inadequate and failing drainage structures and stream crossing structures. All of the improvement activities will be performed on low use spur road systems and are associated with the Commercial Forest Management Operations.

Road Access Management

All surfaced and newly constructed or improved unsurfaced roads are categorized as active use roads. The unsurfaced roads will be blocked and water barred in the wet season. After the wet season, these roads may be re-opened and harvest activities may resume. Once harvesting is completed, these roads will be partially vacated (blocked, water barred, deteriorated and damaged culverts removed) until the next harvest entry. Road surfaces may be grass seeded to reduce erosion and protect water quality.

Road Maintenance

District roads that are not under timber sale contracts are maintained by the District. Road maintenance tasks that may be accomplished with District personnel include road grading, culvert catch basin clean out, slough removal, roadside brush control and grass seeding. These tasks will use either ODF or rented equipment. Graded roads will have the ditches and culvert catch basins cleaned. Slough material will be removed from ditch lines or road surfaces and placed in stable waste areas. Roadside vegetation will be treated and newly constructed or improved road edges and/or surfaces will be grass seeded or re-seeded.

Road maintenance for roads being used for timber sale access become the responsibility of the timber sale purchaser once sale activity has begun. Tasks to be accomplished with timber contracts include grading and culvert catch basin clean out, removing slough material from ditch lines or road surfaces, and mechanically brushing roadside vegetation.

Roadside vegetation control operations will be conducted along roads with encroaching vegetation. The objective is to reduce vegetation along "right-of-ways" for improved maintenance and visibility.

Land Surveying

Approximately 5 miles of property line will need to be delineated. This survey work will be accomplished with district labor and equipment.

Young Stand Management

The purpose of conducting young stand management operations is to prepare for, establish, or maintain a new forest, or new forest layer, through operations such as site preparation, tree planting and protection, vegetation management, pre-commercial thinning, and pruning. Through the use of these operations many of the silvicultural goals and objectives of the FMP and IP are met.

Specific information regarding operations can be found in Tables I and A-4, and in the discussion, below.

Most young stand management operations are essential to good forest stewardship. Accordingly, these activities are readily supported within the base budget. Alternatively, non-commercial management operations such as fertilization, pruning, or low priority stocking density control may not be fully funded.

Site Preparation

The purpose of site preparation is to prepare areas for replanting after harvest operations or rehabilitation activities by removing or controlling the vegetative cover. This allows seedlings to become established while reducing the competition with other vegetation for moisture, sunlight and nutrients. Both chemical and mechanical (slash piling and burning) site preparation may be used on the same acreage. During this operations plan period, multiple site preparation activities will be conducted on approximately 233 acres. This work includes mechanical brush and slash piling on 51 acres, broadcast or pile burning on 83 acres, and chemical site preparation on 217 acres. Site preparation will be conducted in the following basins:

Scattered Coastal Basin – Approximately 53 acres of clearcuts or patchcuts on two timber sales will be treated. Of these acres, 48 were originally forecasted to have site preparation activity during the 2008 AOP period and were reported in that plan.

Green Mountain Basin – Approximately 76 acres of patchcuts or underplant areas on two timber sales will be treated. Ten of these acres were planned for and reported in the 2008 AOP.

Blodgett Basin – Approximately 46 clearcut acres on two timber sales will be treated. These 46 acres, were planned for and reported in the 2008 AOP.

Burnt Woods Ridge Basin – Approximately 58 acres of clearcuts or patchcuts on three timber sales are planned for treatment.

Planting

Tree planting operations are conducted for various reasons. These include meeting Forest Practices Laws, quickly establishing a new stand of trees after timber harvesting, and increasing species diversity in the area and across the landscape. Some planting (underplanting) is intended to create an additional tree layer in a partial cut stand for increased structure and diversity. Planting will also ensure future opportunities and options for the management of stands to produce desired structures across the landscape. The Implementation Plan (IP) indicates that annual reforestation acreage will be between 70 and 400 acres. About 237 acres will be planted (initial planting, underplanting, and interplanting) during FY 2009.

Initial Planting:

This type of planting is conducted after a timber harvest reduces the stocking level to a degree that more trees are required on the site. Approximately 158 acres will have initial planting; about 1/5th of these acres will be planted in small (< 2 acre) patchcuts. Seedlings will be planted at a rate of 436 trees per acre (TPA).

Scattered Coastal Basin – One 48 acre clearcut, in which the Douglas-fir suffered from Swiss needle cast (SNC), will be replanted to SNC-resistant Douglas-fir, western hemlock, western red cedar and Sitka spruce. This planting activity was originally forecasted to occur during the 2008 AOP period and was reported in that AOP. In addition, approximately 5 acres of patchcuts in one timber sale will be planted to western hemlock, western red cedar and Sitka spruce.

Green Mountain Basin – Two timber sales containing 17 acres of patchcuts will be planted with Douglas-fir, western hemlock and western red cedar. Some of the patchcut areas are infected with *Phellinus weirii* and will be replanted mainly with western red cedar. Ten of these acres were reported in the 2008 AOP.

Blodgett Basin – One 30 acre clearcut will be planted to Douglas-fir, western hemlock and western red cedar.

Burnt Woods Ridge Basin – Approximately 58 acres of clearcut or patchcuts, in 3 timber sales will be planted to Douglas-fir, western hemlock, western red cedar and Sitka spruce.

Underplanting:

This type of planting is conducted after a thinning in order to introduce both species diversity and an additional future layer of structure into a stand. Approximately 59 acres are designated for underplanting.

Green Mountain Basin – All underplanting activity for this AOP period will occur on one timber sale in this basin. The area will be underplanted with western hemlock and

western red cedar at a rate of about 200 TPA. This will supplement already existing western hemlock and Port Orford cedar.

Interplanting:

This type of planting will occur on areas that were initially planted one to three years ago, but for various reasons (animal damage, disease, planting quality, etc) seedlings did not survive in sufficient numbers. Approximately 20 acres of interplanting is forecast to be needed. Individual areas usually vary in size from one to five acres. A variety of tree species will be planted, depending on the site conditions.

Vegetation Management

Release operations are conducted in established plantations to control other vegetation that competes for moisture, sunlight, and nutrients. The objective is to retain preferred trees in the stand and maintain acceptable growth rates of the established stands. Release operations are also used to eradicate noxious weeds which are not actually threatening seedlings but which have the potential to spread. Vegetation management methods are either manual or chemical.

Manual Release:

All Basins - Approximately 100 acres of release work using chainsaws will be necessary. Areas of manual release are typically small areas in young plantations that are either too close to streams or private property to treat with chemicals or where target vegetation is too large to be effectively chemically treated. This type of release will keep preferred trees from being overtopped by competing vegetation.

Chemical Release:

Approximately 148 acres of chemical vegetation management is forecast for this period. These operations will vary from aerial applications targeting multiple weed species growing over entire young plantations to ground based backpack applications targeting individual undesirable plants.

Scattered Coastal Basin – Approximately 76 acres in two timber sale areas will be treated.

Green Mountain Basin – Approximately 16 acres of patchcuts in two timber sales will be treated.

Blodgett Basin – Approximately 56 acres of clearcut or patchcuts in two timber sales will be treated.

Noxious Weeds

Roughly 20 acres of chemical vegetation management targeting noxious weeds is forecast for this period. These operations are typically on small acreage and will target such noxious weeds as Scotch broom, false brome and spotted knapweed.

Tree Protection

Tree protection operations are conducted to reduce, control, or mitigate animal damage on desired trees in the stands. These operations are intended to maintain stocking and growth rates at optimum levels. The district uses three methods to provide protection to trees: installing tubes over seedlings, applying a big game repellent to the seedling, or trapping animals on site.

Tubing:

On this district, tubing has proven effective in most cases in keeping animal browse on cedar to an acceptable level. Tubing will be installed on about 237 acres of new plantings. Tubing will occur on 100% of western redcedar planted during this period. Western redcedar will be planted on portions of nearly all of the areas designated for planting during this period.

Big Game Repellent (BGR):

BGR (Plantskydd) has been applied from time to time on western redcedar in the past and more recently to western hemlock and Douglas-fir on a trial basis. It appears to have helped prevent near total removal of hemlock by big game species in problem areas. Plantskydd will likely be applied to about 30 acres Douglas-fir and hemlock in portions of units planted during this AOP period where browse is expected to be severe.

Direct Control:

Mountain beaver trapping will occur on all of the units that are planned for initial planting during this period and also on portions of some of the underplant units (approximately 158 acres). Assessments will be made after the units are harvested as to the need for control work. Maintenance trapping will also occur in portions of units that were trapped previously that show continued high levels of mountain beaver activity (approximately another 44 acres).

Precommercial Thinning (density management)

Pre-commercial thinning (PCT) operations are conducted on stands that are above a desired stocking level. The operations generally have several objectives including the following: 1) reduce stocking to levels which will maintain diameter growth, and to a lesser extent height growth; 2) provide an opportunity for selecting residual trees based on initial growth, form, and defect, and 3) favor particular species that are needed to improve

stand composition and diversity. The IP states that annual PCT acreage will be between 200 and 800 acres. However, a backlog of stands in need of density control has built-up, so approximately 945 acres are scheduled for PCT during this operations plan period.

These pre-commercial thinning units range from 15 to 17 years old and are stocked with an average of 400 trees/acre of Douglas-fir and other conifer. This operation increases the health and vigor of the stands by removing an average of 150 trees/acre of the smallest and/or most defective Douglas-fir trees. Most conifers other than Douglas-fir and most hardwoods are reserved from cutting, thus maintaining the present diversity.

Scattered Coastal Basin – Approximately 124 acres in two plantations.

Green Mountain Basin – Approximately 163 acres in three plantations.

Burnt Woods Ridge Basin – Approximately 614 acres in eight plantations.

Bonner Ridge Basin – Approximately 44 acres in one plantation.

Fertilization

No fertilization activities will occur during this period.

Pruning

The purpose of pruning is to remove limbs for the purpose of creating future high quality clear wood, or to reduce the potential for disease as described below. The district IP states that annual pruning acreage may vary between 0 and 100 acres. During this operations plan, about 35 acres are planned for pruning.

Pruning for Clear Wood:

No new pruning for clear wood will be initiated during this period.

Pruning for White Pine Blister Rust:

This operation is conducted to help prevent western white pine trees from becoming infected with the white pine blister rust canker. Without this pruning, a significant portion of white pine would die or become deformed from the disease.

Green Mountain Basin – One acre in one plantation will have a second lift of pruning.

Blodgett Basin - Approximately 7 acres in two plantations will have a second or final lift pruning.

Bonner Ridge Basin – Approximately 27 acres in three separate areas will have a second or final lift pruning.

Recreation Management

Overview of Recreation Management

Current recreational activities on the district consist mostly of dispersed camping, sightseeing, hiking, hunting, and fishing. However, there are three sites that do receive some level of consistent visitor use during certain periods of the year. They are:

1. Big Elk Creek. This area has two primitive campsites along Big Elk Creek that have all weather access. These campsites are consistently used during summer weekends and through much of the hunting seasons.
2. Baber Meadows. The Mt. Baber ATV Club uses Baber Meadows as an ATV staging/riding area. This staging area provides access to a 30.4 mile trail loop on ODF and private land. The club schedules some organized riding events but riders use the trail system at other times of the year, as well. A staging area at Salmon Creek was constructed in 2007 to provide closer access to the Mt. Baber trail system for those riders coming from the Willamette Valley.
3. Black Rock. A mountain bike club, the "Black Rock Mountain Bike Association" has created and maintains about 4.3 miles of trails in the eastern portion of ODF ownership at Black Rock.

During the spring and summer of 1999-2002, the State Forests Program Staff Public Use Coordinator monitored visitor use on the recreation sites. He developed a Recreation Resource Inventory and Assessment for the general geographic area and more specifically the three recreation sites. The District plans to develop a Recreation Plan over the course of the next 1 to 2 years. This plan will be a comprehensive look at all current and potential future recreation management needs for the district.

Planning staff from the Salem office will continue to conduct recreation use monitoring at the three sites on the district during the spring and summer of 2008. The data collected would be consistent with that for other districts in the Northwest Oregon Area and would include resource condition assessments.

There are no recreation projects proposed for FY 2009 only maintenance of the existing facilities is planned as shown on Table A-5.

Facilities (Campgrounds, View Points, Trail Heads, etc.)

Facilities at Baber Meadows include a restroom, an informational kiosk, an adjacent kid's track, all weather access roads to camping and staging areas, nine surfaced trailer sites with picnic tables and fire rings, and two primitive camp sites. The facilities at the

newly constructed Salmon Creek Staging Area consists of a surfaced parking lot and an informational kiosk.

Facilities at Black Rock include a small parking area and an informational kiosk.

Trails

The 30.4 mile ATV trail loop on ODF and private forest land will be maintained throughout the year by the Mt. Baber ATV club members. About 4.2 miles of trail system is on state land.

The 4.3 mile mountain bike trail system in the Black Rock area will be maintained throughout the year by the Black Rock Mountain Bike Association.

Management Activities

The Mt. Baber ATV club will hold a number of organized riding events during the fiscal year. Riders use the staging area and trail throughout the year unless restrictions are in place that would temporarily curtail activities (i.e. fire season restrictions, etc.).

District personnel are working with club officials and ODF's public use coordinator in the initial stages of planning for a campground at the staging area, which is on state land.

The Black Rock Mountain Bike Association may have some organized riding events along with scheduled "work party" events. The trail system is used continuously throughout the year. The district is also anticipating one organized event in the area with the Oregon Bicycle Racing Association.

Forest Land Management Classifications (FMLCs)

As required under OAR 629-035-0050, Forest Land Management Classifications (FMLCs), and for the purposes of implementing the FMP's forest resource management strategies, all forest lands have been classified within the planning area to describe the types of management activities for these areas and the forest resource or resources the classifications are intended to address. The system identifies when a particular forest resource may need a more focused approach, or possibly an exclusive priority in management. State Forest Lands are classified into one of three classifications: General Stewardship, Focused Stewardship, or Special Stewardship. Descriptions and methods of the classifications are found in the Forest Management Plan beginning on page 2-56.

Focused and Special Stewardship classifications are further classified into subclasses based upon the existence of forest resources that require some level of supplemental planning and/or modified management practices to help achieve identified goals. Several subclasses may be assigned to a parcel of land. Where this occurs, the resource requiring the highest level of protection will determine the management approach. A

complete list and specific definitions of the subclasses can be found in OAR 629-035-0055.

Total acreage for each classification and subclass can be found in the District IP on page six.

The acreage and boundary lines shown on maps for forest land management classifications are approximate. The information will be updated through watershed assessments, planning for site-specific management activities or site-specific field visits conducted over time. Management activities will be conducted based upon exact areas and locations as determined on the site and will depend upon the conditions that exist on the site.

Land Exchange

The district's land acquisition and exchange plan was approved by the Board of Forestry in November of 2007. The district has entered into preliminary negotiations with an industrial forest landowner regarding exchanges of land in Benton, Lincoln, and Polk counties. District and Salem staff have met and discussed the status of this potential land exchange. Assessment and evaluation of the potential land exchange will be on going throughout FY2009.

Other Integrated Forest Management Operations

Habitat Improvement Projects

In concert with ODF&W fish biologists' consultation, and information contained in the West Oregon road inventory, approximately 0.5 miles of known fish stream habitat will be made available by the replacement of a deteriorated crossing structure.

Planning (and Information Systems)

Stand Level Inventory and Other Vegetation Inventories

Stand Level Inventory will take place in the following timber stands: 1) stands proposed for clearcutting in the next two fiscal years, 2) stands necessary to populate all stand types, and 3) a sufficient number of stands to bring the district total up to 50% of all stands inventoried. Accomplishing this will result in SLI of 39 stands.

Stocking surveys of two, six, and fourteen/fifteen year old plantations.

Fish and Wildlife Surveys

There are numerous streams identified for fish distribution surveys within or adjacent to all operation areas.

Surveys for northern spotted owls will be conducted for four operations. Surveys for marbled murrelets will be conducted for four operations.

Table 5. Summary of status of T&E surveys.

Operation	Species (NSO/MM)	Status
Chinquapin Ridge	NSO/MM	Surveys for both species were conducted in 2007 and will be completed in 2008.
Biker Baber	NSO/MM	Surveys for both species were conducted in 2007 and will be completed in 2008.
Easter Bonner	MM	Surveys for MM were completed in 2007. Surveys for NSO were not required.
All A Board	NSO	Surveys for NSO were conducted in 2007 and will be completed in 2008. Surveys for MM have been completed.
Green Tangle	MM	Surveys for MM were conducted in 2007 and will be completed in 2008. Surveys for NSO were not required.
Strombo Combo	NSO/MM	Surveys for both species were conducted in 2007 and will be completed in 2008.

Watershed Assessments

No watershed assessments are scheduled for fiscal year 2009.

Research and Monitoring

The following research projects will continue to be monitored during this fiscal year:

1. Vegetation and wildlife response to gaps in young stands (Peuttman/OSU)
2. Growing stock study of thinned stands at Black Rock (McGuire/OSU)
3. Effects of sulfur applications on Swiss needle cast infected Douglas-fir (Kanaskie/OSU)

4. Effects of thinning in Swiss needle cast infected Douglas-fir stands (Mainwaring/OSU)
5. Effects of fertilization in Swiss needle cast infected Douglas-fir stands (Mainwaring/OSU)

Other Planning Operations

During FY 2009, the district will be involved in planning activities in addition to continued development of the Western Oregon Habitat Conservation Plan. These planning activities include:

1. FY 2009 Annual Operations Plan - This plan will cover all management operations on State Forest lands on the district for Fiscal Year 2009, which begins July 1, 2008 and ends June 30, 2009
2. FY 2010 Annual Operations Plan - This plan will cover all management operations on State Forest lands on the district for Fiscal Year 2010, which begins July 1, 2009 and ends June 30, 2010
3. Recreation use monitoring and planning for the three recreation sites on the district.
4. Collecting additional data to enhance road inventory information.

Public Information and Education

The district maintains supporting information on the Implementation Plan, Forest Land Management Classification System, and Annual Operations Plans for public review. In addition, district personnel will participate in watershed council meetings, outdoor school presentations, ATV club meetings, and other public events as the opportunity arises. The district will continue to meet with concerned citizens or groups when they have questions or as needed.

Administration

There are sixteen positions on the West Oregon District that are fully or partially funded for the management of State Forest lands. The district forester, assistant district forester, clerical support people, a seasonal reforestation technician, and the road maintenance crew are partially funded. All the other positions are fully funded. These positions are divided into three functional groups: Administration, Engineering Unit and Forest Management Unit (See Figure 1).

Administration is composed of the District Forester, Assistant District Forester, Office Manager and two Office Specialists. The District Forester and Assistant District Forester provide the following functions for the management of state forest lands on the district: policy direction; budgeting; coordination between units and programs; and oversight to the field units. The Office Specialist provides clerical support for the management of State Forest lands. This person is responsible for initial public contact, distribution and filing of documents, and providing assistance at timber sale auctions. The Office Specialist is also responsible for assisting with permits for firewood cutting and special forest products harvesting.

The Engineering Unit is composed of three fully funded positions and two partially funded positions; the Unit Supervisor (who is also a licensed land surveyor); an engineering assistant, a road specialist and two equipment operators who are shared with the North Cascade district. This unit is responsible for land surveying, and establishing and maintaining the property lines of all state forest land on the district. The unit is also responsible for securing access to all state forest lands and the design and maintenance of all roads on these forest lands.

The Forest Management Unit consists of five fully funded positions and one partially funded position. The unit is subdivided into three functional areas: young stand management; timber sale preparation and administration; forest planning, and geographic systems coordination.

The Forest Management Unit Supervisor coordinates all of the activities in the unit. His duties include employee supervision, reforestation oversight, contract review and approval, and timber sale planning. He prepares the annual operations plans for the district's state forest lands and is active in implementation of the Northwest Oregon State Forest Management Plan and the development of the Western Oregon Habitat Conservation Plan. The Unit Supervisor is also responsible for all recreation management on state forest lands.

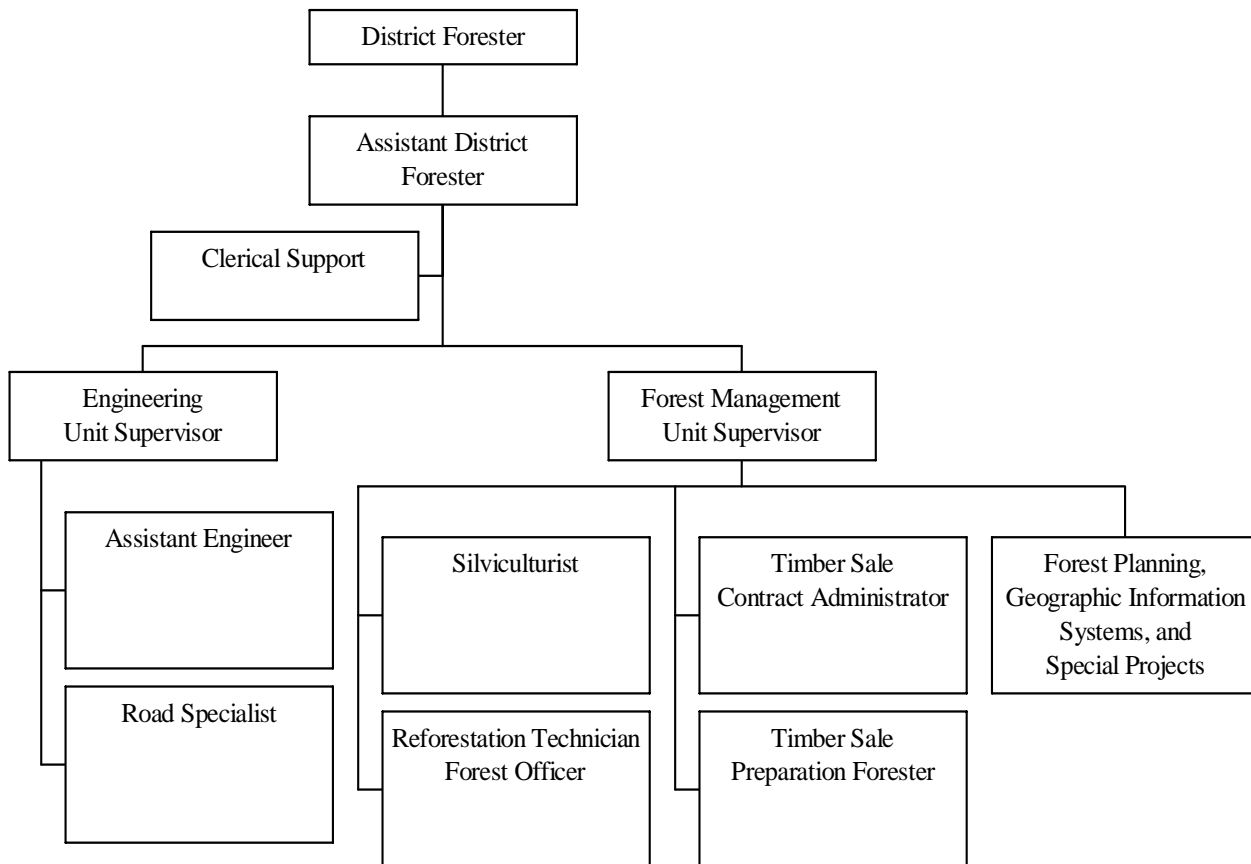
The young stand management group is responsible for all activities in forest plantations from the time harvesting is completed through reforestation and stand establishment. The activities of this group include site preparation, tree planting, vegetation management, pruning, tree improvement, and pre-commercial thinning. Within this group, the district silviculturalist is responsible for recommending pathways and prescriptions for all stands that will lead to achieving the district's desired future condition.

The timber sale preparation and administration group is responsible for all aspects of timber harvesting from unit layout through the completion of the harvest contract. The activities include unit layout, cruising, appraisal, contract preparation, and contract administration. This group also ensures that current standards for retention of snags, green trees, and down wood are met and that riparian management strategies are correctly applied to the harvest units. They also assist with the layout and design of new

roads. In addition, this group manages the cutting of firewood and sale of miscellaneous forest products, such as moss, ferns and salal.

The third part of the Forest Management Unit is the district's Forest Planning and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Coordinator. The GIS Coordination duties include: acquiring, maintaining and updating data; conducting spatial analysis for district planning; and conducting analysis and map productions for state forests personnel. This person also provides a lead role on large planning projects, such as watershed analysis, implementation plans, the Northwest Oregon State Forest Management Plan and the draft Western Oregon Habitat Conservation Plan. In addition, this position is responsible for the surveys for threatened and endangered species and helps implement the district's land exchange program.

West Oregon District
 State Forest Management Organization
 Figure 1



All personnel involved with the management of state forest lands spend some portion of their time in public information and education, generally one to three days per year. The District Forester, Assistant District Forester, Forest Management Unit Forester and the Geographic Information Systems Coordinator spend considerably more time on public information and education, because of their involvement with the Northwest Oregon State Forest Management Plan and the draft Western Oregon Habitat Conservation Plan.

APPENDICES

A. Summary Tables

TABLE A-1 TIMBER HARVEST OPERATIONS – FINANCIAL SUMMARY

TABLE A-2 TIMBER HARVEST OPERATIONS - FOREST STRUCTURE SUMMARY

TABLE A-3 FOREST ROADS SUMMARY

TABLE A-4 REFORESTATION AND YOUNG STAND MANAGEMENT REPORT

TABLE A-5 RECREATION MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

B. Pre-Operations Reports

CHINQUAPIN RIDGE

BIKER BABER

EASTER BONNER

ALL A BOARD

GREEN TANGLE

STROMBO COMBO

ALTERNATES

BURGETT KING

STEEP IN CLINE

C. Public Comments

TABLE A-1 TIMBER HARVEST OPERATIONS - FINANCIAL SUMMARY

District: West Oregon

Fiscal Year: 2009

Date: 06/24/2008

Operation	Payment Type	Fund %		County	Sale Quarter	Net Acres		Volume (MMBF)			Value		
		BOF	CSL			Partial Cut	Clear-cut	Conifer	Hardwoods	Total	Gross	Projects	Net
Chinquapin Ridge	R	100%	0%	Lincoln	1	33	56	1.9	0.1	2	\$900,000	\$30,000	\$870,000
Biker Baber	R	15%	85%	Lincoln	1		65	2	0.2	2.2	\$990,000	\$97,000	\$893,000
Easter Bonner	R	100%	0%	Benton	2	257		1.4		1.4	\$252,000	\$107,000	\$145,000
All A Board	R	100%	0%	Benton	2		61	0.8	0.5	1.3	\$455,000	\$37,000	\$418,000
Green Tangle	R	85%	15%	Linc, Polk	3	259		1.4		1.4	\$252,000	\$69,000	\$183,000
Strombo Combo	R	95%	5%	Lincoln	4	97	52	2.9		2.9	\$1,015,000	\$143,000	\$872,000

Total:	646	234	10.4	0.8	11.2	3,864,000	483,000	3,381,000
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Alternate Operations

Burgett King	R	100%	0%	Benton		279	6	2.7		2.7	\$742,000	\$58,000	\$684,000
Steep In-Cline	R	100%	0%	Lincoln			60	1.5	0.1	1.6	\$720,000	\$102,000	\$618,000

TABLE A-2 TIMBER HARVEST OPERATIONS - FOREST STRUCTURE SUMMARY

District: West Oregon

Fiscal Year 2009

Date: 06/24/2008

Operation	Area	Net Acres			Stand Structure Development Pathway			Structural Components	Comments
		Clearcut	Partial Cut	Total	Current	Post-Harvest	Desired	Green Trees	
Chinquapin Ridge/Blod	I,II,IV	43		43	UDS	REG	UDS	8-10/ac	
	III	13		13	LYR/UDS	REG	UDS	8-10/ac	
	V		33	33	UDS	UDS	UDS		
Biker Baber/BWR		65		65	UDS	REG	UDS	8-10/ac	
Easter Bonner/BR	I,II,III		105	105	CSC/UDS	UDS	LYR		
	IV,V,VI		152	152	UDS	UDS	UDS		
All A Board/GM	I, II	51		51	UDS	REG	UDS	8-10/ac	
	III	10		10	LYR/UDS	REG	UDS	8-10/ac	
Green Tangle/GM	I-VIII		259	259	UDS	UDS	UDS		
Strombo Combo/BWR	I	48		48	UDS	REG	UDS	8-10/ac	
	II		97	97	UDS	UDS	LYR/OFS		
	III	4		4	UDS	REG	LYR	42/ac	

Total	234	646	880
Annual Range	200-250	550-720	750-970

Alternate Operations

Burgett King/BR	I,IV		273	273	UDS	UDS	OFS		
	II	6		6	UDS	REG	LYR	36/ac	
	III		6	6	LYR	LYR	OFS		
Steep In Cline/BWR	I,II	60		60	UDS	REG	UDS	8-10/ac	

TABLE A-4 REFORESTATION AND YOUNG STAND MANAGEMENT REPORT

District **West Oregon**

Fiscal Year: 2009

Date: 06/24/2008

Management Activity	Board of Forestry			Common School Forest Lands			District	
	Acres Planned	Average Cost*/Acre	BOF Cost	Acres Planned	Average Cost*/Acre	CSL Cost	Total Acres	Total Cost
Initial Planting*	150	\$245.00	\$36,750.00	8	\$245.00	\$1,960.00	158	\$38,710.00
Interplanting*	15	\$175.00	\$2,625.00	5	\$175.00	\$875.00	20	\$3,500.00
Underplanting*	56	\$185.00	\$10,360.00	3	\$185.00	\$555.00	59	\$10,915.00
Tree Protection - Barriers	249	\$85.00	\$21,165.00	18	\$85.00	\$1,530.00	267	\$22,695.00
Tree Protection - Direct Control	182	\$30.00	\$5,460.00	20	\$30.00	\$600.00	202	\$6,060.00
Site Prep. - Chemical - Aerial	127	\$100.00	\$12,700.00	0	\$100.00	\$0.00	127	\$12,700.00
Site Prep. - Chemical - Hand	79	\$125.00	\$9,875.00	11	\$125.00	\$1,375.00	90	\$11,250.00
Site Prep. - Slash Burning	76	\$190.00	\$14,440.00	7	\$190.00	\$1,330.00	83	\$15,770.00
Site Prep. - Mechanical	46	\$190.00	\$8,740.00	5	\$190.00	\$950.00	51	\$9,690.00
Fertilization	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Noxious Weed Control	15	\$25.00	\$375.00	5	\$25.00	\$125.00	20	\$500.00
Release - Chemical - Aerial	50	\$85.00	\$4,250.00	58	\$85.00	\$4,930.00	108	\$9,180.00
Release - Chemical - Hand	40	\$100.00	\$4,000.00	0	\$100.00	\$0.00	40	\$4,000.00
Release - Mechanical - Hand	80	\$55.00	\$4,400.00	20	\$55.00	\$1,100.00	100	\$5,500.00
Precommercial Thinning	714	\$85.00	\$60,690.00	231	\$85.00	\$19,635.00	945	\$80,325.00
Pruning	35	\$90.00	\$3,150.00	0	\$85.00	\$0.00	35	\$3,150.00
Totals	1,914		\$198,980.00	391		\$34,965.00	2,305	\$233,945.00

*Planting costs include seedling costs

TABLE A-5 RECREATION MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

District: West Oregon

Fiscal Year: 2009

06/24/2008

Operation	Unit of Measure	Current	Construction Projects	Construction Cost (Funding)		Improvement Projects	Improvement Cost (Funding)		Total Cost	Comments
				ODF	Other		ODF	Other		
Baber Mdw/Salmon Cr.						\$3,000			\$3,000	
Black Rock						\$3,000			\$3,000	

\$6,000