

Pre-Operations Report

Operation Name: Biker Baber
County: Lincoln
Management Basin: Burnt Woods Ridge

Table 1. Operation Areas, Types and Acres

Area	Type of Operation	Net Acres
	Modified Clearcut	65

I. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF OPERATION AREA:

The operation consists of one modified clear cut unit. The unit lies in the western hemlock vegetation zone. Average rainfall is 78 to 100 inches per year.

About 60% of the area is made up of Kiloam soils, which are found predominately in the draws, and the remaining 40% is Valino. The soil information is derived from a soil survey completed in 1980.

The aspect is primarily southwest with a small percentage facing south and southeast.

II. CURRENT STAND CONDITION:

The north half of the unit supports a natural Douglas-fir stand and the southern half contains a red alder stand. Both tree species are about 77 years old. There is an older Douglas-fir cohort present in the operation area mostly in the south. Big leaf maple trees are present especially in the southern portion of the area.

Snags and down wood are present although in limited numbers.

Salmonberry, vine maple, sword fern, salal, Oregon grape, and elderberry are present in the understory.

The stand structure is classified as Understory (UDS) as determined by Stand Level Inventory (SLI).

Table 2. Stand Inventory Information

Prescription	Stand ID1	Species	Age	DBH	BA	TPA	RD	Acres ²
Modified Clearcut	18085	Douglas-fir	80	22	300	115	65	34
Modified Clearcut	18088	Red Alder	74	19	146	88	34	31

1 The source of stand inventory information is SLI.

2 The acres are based on orthophotos and GIS and exclude roads, streams buffers, reserve areas, etc.

III. DESIRED STAND CONDITION:

According to the district's landscape design, the operation area is designated as desired future condition (DFC) General and is scheduled to become a UDS stand. and not a more complex stand type such as Layered (LYR) or Older Forest Structure (OFS).

Vision: When the next final harvest occurs in this operation area, the stand will be 70-80 years old and will be in the UDS condition. At that time, the stand will consist of an overstory of well stocked Douglas-fir with smaller amounts of western hemlock, western redcedar, Sitka spruce, bigleaf maple and red alder. Where there are gaps in the overstory, there will be an understory of hemlock, cedar, alder and brush (vinemaple, salmonberry, salal and Oregon grape). Legacy trees (about 4 per acre) left from the first regeneration harvest will be located in small clumps and also scattered across the area. These Douglas-fir trees will average about 40 inches DBH. Both large and small snags and down wood will be located throughout the unit.

Table 3. Stand Structure Information

Stand ID	Current	Post Harvest ¹	Desired Future	Acres
18085	UDS	REG	UDS	34
18088	UDS	REG	UDS	31

1 The stand is expected to develop into this condition in approximately 5-10 years after this operation is completed.

IV. PROPOSED MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION:

Anticipated Pathway: This harvest will be a modified clearcut prescription leaving behind about 8-10 green trees per acre, the majority of which will be greater than 20 inches DBH. Most of these reserve trees will be Douglas-fir, but some alder and bigleaf maple may also be left. Existing snags that do not pose a safety hazard and all down wood will be retained. Snags and down wood will be created from some of the reserve trees.

After harvest, a site prep herbicide treatment will be applied. Due to the extremely brushy condition of the understory, a spring broadcast burn will also be planned. Prior to planting, mountain beaver will be trapped from the area.

Following completion of site prep activities, the area will be replanted with approximately 65% Douglas-fir, 15% western hemlock, 15% western redcedar and 5% Sitka spruce at a rate of 436 trees per acre. This planting mix will help leave the option open for changing the DFC to a more complex condition if so desired. All cedar will be tubed to deter elk and deer browse. Once planting is complete, the operation area will fit the REG classification.

It is likely that at least one herbicide application will be needed within the first 3 years after planting in order to release planted conifer from competing brush. It is also likely that mountain beaver will be trapped again the first year after planting. By age 15 years the stand will have moved from REG to closed single canopy (CSC) and the area will likely need a pre-commercial thin (PCT) to reduce TPA to around 258. During PCT, the biggest and best trees will be selected to leave, also keeping roughly the same percent species mix as was planted, but allowing up to 10% of the mix to be comprised of naturally occurring hardwood.

At approximately age 30 the unit will be commercially thinned to an RD of 30-35. This thinning will capture harvest volume, maintain stand vigor, and will also move the stand on the pathway from CSC to UDS by opening the stand enough to allow vegetation to grow in the understory. Approximately 5-10 years following this thinning, the UDS condition will be achieved.

In 10-15 years, the unit will again be thinned to an RD of 30-35. This thinning will capture harvest volume and maintain stand vigor. The amount and condition of down wood and snags will be evaluated and more will be created at this time if needed.

In another 10-15 years, tree growth rates will be evaluated and a decision will be made to either conduct a third thinning or to wait until final harvest at 70-80 years old.

V. ESTIMATED TIMBER AND REVENUE INFORMATION:

Table 4. Timber and Revenue

Ownership		Sale Type	
BOF	CSL	Cash	Recovery
15%	85%		X
Planned Quarter:	1		

	Conifer	Hardwood	Total
Net Volume (MBF)	2,000	200	2,200
Stumpage Value (\$/MBF)	\$450	\$450	
Estimated Gross Value	\$900,000	\$90,000	\$990,000
		Project Costs:	\$97,000
		Estimated Net Value:	\$893,000

VI. TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AND HARVESTING:

Access to the timber sale area is the WOW road. However, if the Hwy 20 realignment project is in progress, hauling on the WOW road may not be an option. If this is the case, then the haul route will be Baber Ridge Road and Deer Creek Road. All of the haul routes are rocked and in good condition. Only routine maintenance with spot rock will be required.

A lift of rock will be added to portions of the Baber Butte Road bringing the entire road segment up to its original design standard.

Existing roads provide access to 100% of the timber sale area.

All logging will take place from an existing landing belonging to Plum Creek Timber, which will require an access permit. All other roads have access secured.

Because existing roads already access the operation area, no other harvest alternatives were considered.

About 0.2 miles of road improvement will be necessary consisting of adding additional rock to a section of road not adequately surfaced for wet weather haul.

A stream crossing culvert is planned for replacement with a fish passable structure on a tributary of Bear Creek (SE ¼ of sect. 18, T.11S., R.9W., W.M). A written plan for this crossing will be supplied by ODF. Replacement of this culvert will provide access to one half mile of fish habitat on this tributary to Bear Creek.

Harvesting timber in the operation area will require 100% cable yarding.

Table 5. Transportation Planning Summary (Miles).

Activity	Mainline	Collector	Rocked Spur	Dirt Spur
Construct				
Improve			0.2	
Maintain		3.2	0.8	
Close/Block				
Vacate				

VII. AQUATIC RESOURCES AND WATER QUALITY:

Water flowing from the operation area is part of the Yaquina River System.

Bear Creek, a medium Type F stream, is adjacent to the south boundary of the operation area. This stream lacks gravel and has a bedrock base. There is a natural barrier downstream that blocks anadromous fish passage. The Riparian Management Area (RMA) boundary will be posted 50'-250' from the stream. Where the RMA is posted close to the stream the intent will be to establish conifer trees which will provide future large woody debris. Where the RMA is posted up to 250' away from the stream the intent is to retain a variety of brush and tree species and preserve natural openings. No trees will be felled within the RMA. Some large logs will be placed in the stream as a part of cable yarding operations.

There are three type N streams flowing south from the unit into Bear Creek. The westernmost stream is perennial and the other two streams are seasonal. Buffers averaging 50-75 feet horizontal distance will be posted on either side of these streams. No trees will be felled within the buffers except to facilitate cable yarding. In the remaining portion of the RMA zones sufficient trees will be retained to comply with current standards.

Vegetation along type F and N streams consists of conifer and hardwood trees and brush species such as salmonberry, elderberry, vine maple and sword fern.

There are no domestic water intakes in the vicinity of the operation area.

Activities that will take place in proximity to the streams, listed above, include timber felling and yarding. The following measures will be employed to minimize impacts to the stream: 1) yarding equipment will not be allowed in the RMA, 2) timber above the buffer will be felled away from or parallel to the stream, 3) timber will be yarded away from the stream, where possible, 4) if it is necessary to yard logs across the stream, logs will be fully suspended above the buffer

vegetation, and 5) single end suspension of logs will be required elsewhere in the unit.

Other requirements designed to minimize impacts to streams may include seasonal restrictions for road construction and log hauling.

VIII. T&E SPECIES CONSIDERATIONS:

The operation area contains suitable habitat for northern spotted owls and marbled murrelets as determined by the area wildlife biologist. Surveys for both species were conducted in 2007 with no detections. Surveys will continue in 2008.

The operation areas were checked against district knowledge for any listed plant locations. The operation areas were also checked against the Oregon Natural Heritage Program (ONHP) database of known listed plant locations. No listed plant records were identified within the operation areas.

IX. SLOPE STABILITY AND GEOTECHNICAL ISSUES:

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

There are isolated high landslide hazard locations in the operation area. The operation area drains to Bear Creek. The risk of landslides delivering directly to Bear Creek from the operation is low to moderate.

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

X. RECREATION RESOURCES:

The roads in the general vicinity of the north part of the operation area are used by the Mt. Baber ATV club as part of their trail system. It may be necessary to close the portion of the trail in the immediate vicinity of the operation area when harvesting is occurring. The club members will be kept informed as to the status of harvest operations as they relate to trail closures.

XI. CULTURAL RESOURCES:

The operation area was checked for cultural resources with the district's GIS inventory. No cultural resources are located in the vicinity of the operation area.

XII. SCENIC RESOURCES:

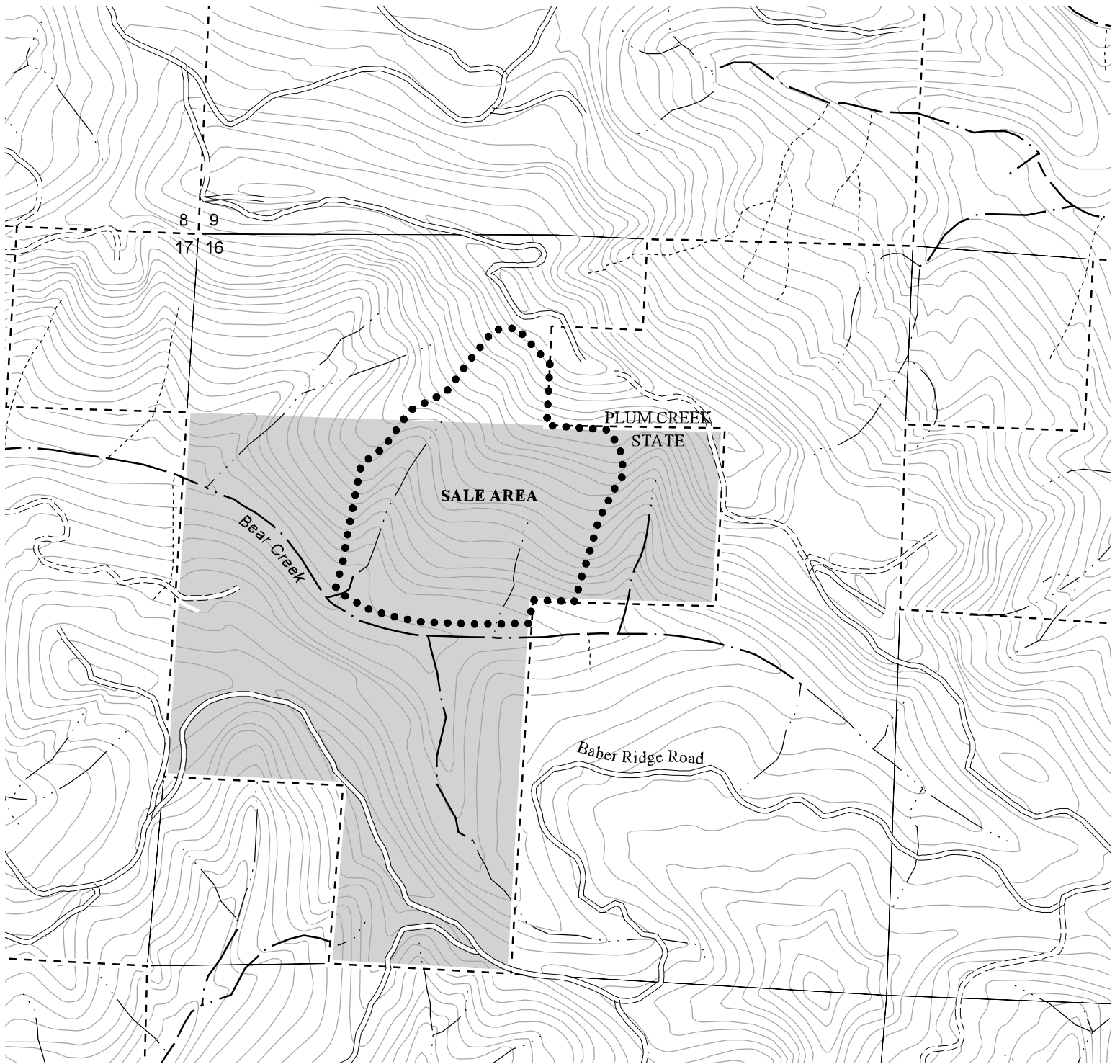
The operation area is not visible from paved roads.

XIII. OTHER RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS:

No other resource considerations have been identified.

XIV. LAND MANAGEMENT CLASSIFICATION SUMMARY:

The operation area contains 11 acres Focused Stewardship, Aquatic and Riparian Habitat along the type F and type N stream riparian areas. See Section VII, Aquatic Resources and Water Quality for the management guidelines to be utilized.



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FY 09 AOP
WEST OREGON DISTRICT
ATTACHMENT A : TOPOGRAPHY

PORTIONS OF SECTIONS 16, T11S, R9W, W.M.
 LINCOLN COUNTY, OREGON

- Legend**
- Sale Area
 - Roads**
 - ==== Surfaced Road
 - ==== Unsurfaced Road
 - Streams**
 - Fish
 - ... Nonfish
 - Unknown
 - - - State Forest Property Boundary
 - Common School Land
 - Forty Foot Contour Lines

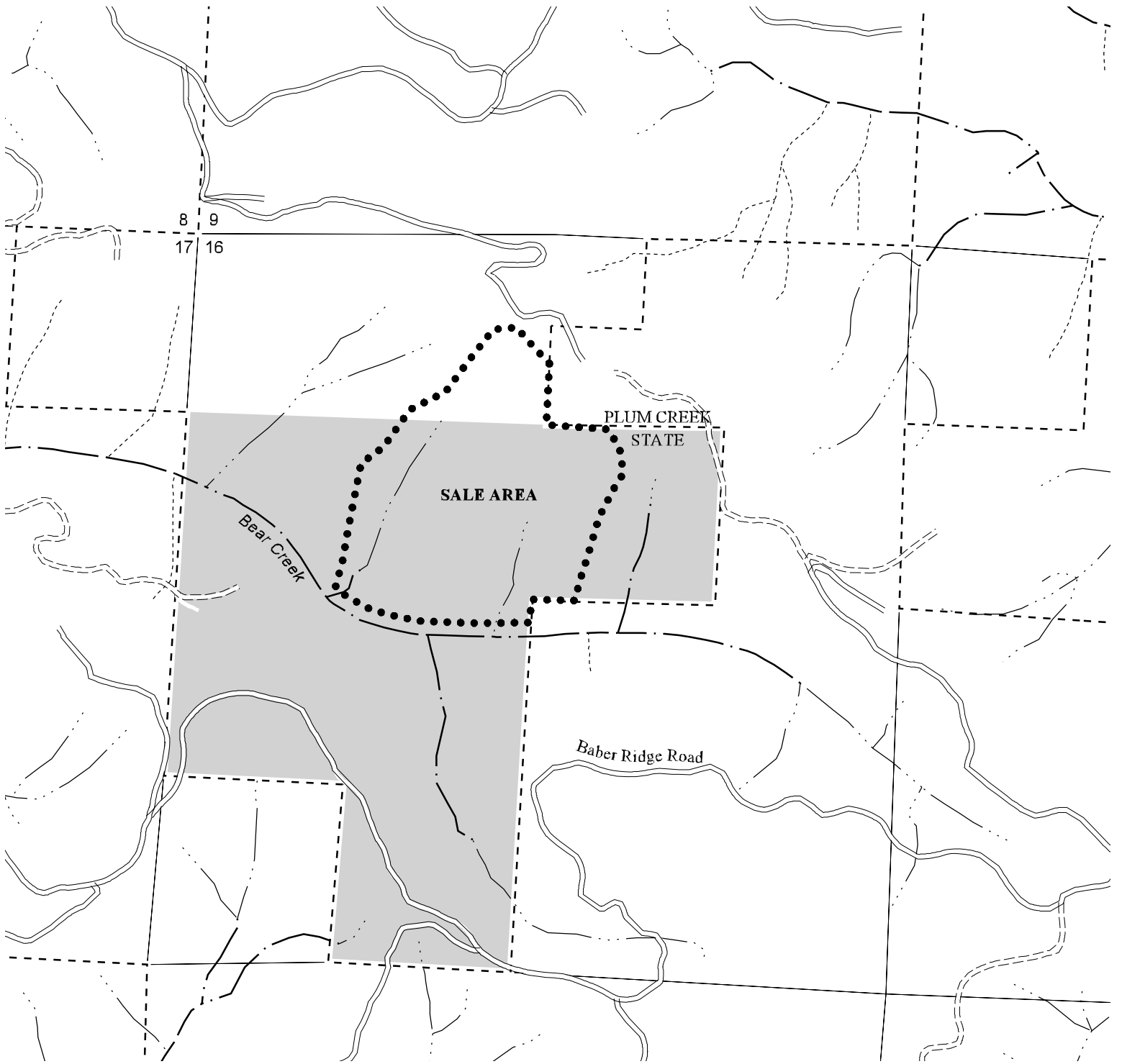
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Scale
 1 : 12,000
 1 inch = 1,000 feet

APPROXIMATE NET ACRES = 65 (MC)

1000 0 1000 2000 Feet





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 ATTACHMENT B : DESIRED FUTURE CONDITION

PORTIONS OF SECTIONS 16, T11S, R9W, W.M.
 LINCOLN COUNTY, OREGON

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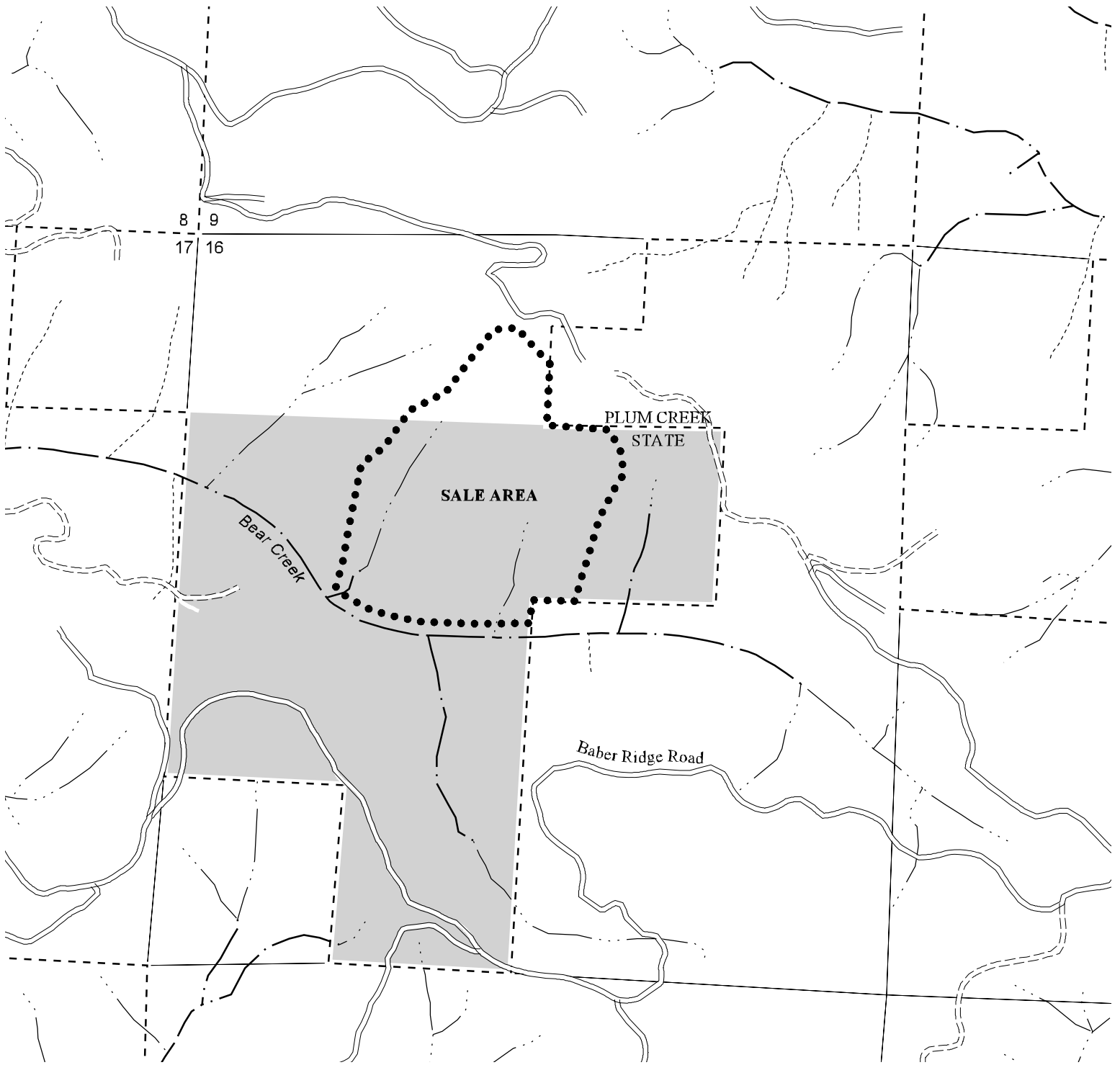
Legend

- Sale Area
- Roads
- ==== Surfaced Road
- ==== Unsurfaced Road
- Streams
- Fish
- Nonfish
- Unknown
- - - State Forest Property Boundary
- Common School Land

Scale
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1000 0 1000 2000 Feet





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ATTACHMENT C : KEY RESOURCES

PORTIONS OF SECTIONS 16, T11S, R9W, W.M.
 LINCOLN COUNTY, OREGON

- Legend**
- Sale Area
 - Roads**
 - ==== Surfaced Road
 - === Unsurfaced Road
 - Streams**
 - Fish
 - - - Nonfish
 - Unknown
 - - - State Forest Property Boundary
 - █ Common School Land

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