



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Salem, Oregon 97306
<http://www.or.blm.gov/salem>



May 28 2014

Dear Interested Party:

The Bureau of Land Management Tillamook Resource Area is proposing the East Fork Nehalem Timber Management Project. The project would respond to the need for the Resource Area to plan and implement projects to contribute to the Salem District's Resource Management Plan (RMP) requirement (developed to meet the O&C Lands Act of 1937) to supply a source of timber to support the stability of local communities and industries in an economically feasible way; and to maintain and improve the development and function of forests within the Riparian Reserve land use allocation to meet the needs of aquatic species and terrestrial species associated with riparian forests while meeting the RMP's Aquatic Conservation Strategy Objectives.

The project would occur in the East Fork Nehalem River subwatershed in T.4 N., R. 3 W., Sections 5, 17, 19, 21, and T. 5 N., R. 3 W., Sections 31 and 33, Willamette Meridian; on Matrix (General Forest Management Area [GFMA] and Connectivity/Diversity Blocks [Conn]) and Riparian Reserve Land Use Allocations as designated in the Salem District RMP. For planning purposes the Tillamook Resource Area analyzes lands at the 6th field subwatershed level. BLM lands in the East Fork Nehalem 6th field subwatershed were selected for analysis because preliminary activity planning and stand exam data has found that:

- Many of the stands are at or above the age which produces maximum average annual growth over the lifetime of a timber stand (Matrix lands).
- Some of the stands have low stocking due to disease and are in need of management to return the land to productive capacity.
- Some stands have slowed growth but have not reached the maximum productive capacity and are in need of thinning.
- There is a lack of age class distribution on BLM lands in the subwatershed which has a negative impact on future regulated forest management.
- Many of the riparian forest stands are densely stocked with little understory development.

We are preliminarily planning both forest thinning and regeneration harvests, depending on forest condition and land use allocation, of forest ranging in age from approximately 60 to 90 years old. An Interdisciplinary Team (IDT) has reviewed over 2000 acres of BLM forest land in the East Fork Nehalem subwatershed and developed a preliminary proposal that entails timber harvest on approximately 1,647 acres. The tentative proposal is as follows:

- 281 acres – Commercial Thinning
- 888 acres – Riparian Density Management
- 478 acres – Regeneration Harvest

Regeneration harvest would only occur in the Matrix land use allocation. Regeneration harvest treatments would include provisions for managing habitat for a variety of organisms by leaving down woody debris and snags, retaining 6-8 green trees in GFMA areas and 12-18 green trees in Conn areas, as well as retaining additional green trees for woodpecker and bat needs and for future snag recruitment needs. Thinning treatments on Matrix lands would be for maximizing wood production while also considering future down wood and snag

needs. We expect that timber sales derived from this planning effort would be sold over a 5 – 10 year time frame depending on Salem District harvest scheduling and market conditions.

The acreages shown above are based on information derived from Geographical Information System (GIS) data, stand exam data, and field reconnaissance by resource specialists. We expect that as the proposal is developed more thoroughly that these acreages may change.

You have been identified as someone who might have specific knowledge or interest in this area. The purpose of this letter is to give you an opportunity to share any information or concerns you may have about this proposed project.

The enclosed maps show the location of the proposed project areas. I would appreciate your written comments by **June 30, 2014**. Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the Tillamook Resource Area Office during regular business hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.), Monday through Friday, except holidays, and may be published as part of environmental analysis documents or related correspondence.

Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

If you have any questions about this project, please contact Andy Pampush at (503) 815-1143. Written comments may be sent to Karen M. Schank, Field Manager, Tillamook Resource Area , 4610 Third Street, Tillamook, OR 97141, or by email to: blm_or_sa_tillamook_mail@blm.gov, Attn: Karen Schank.

Sincerely,

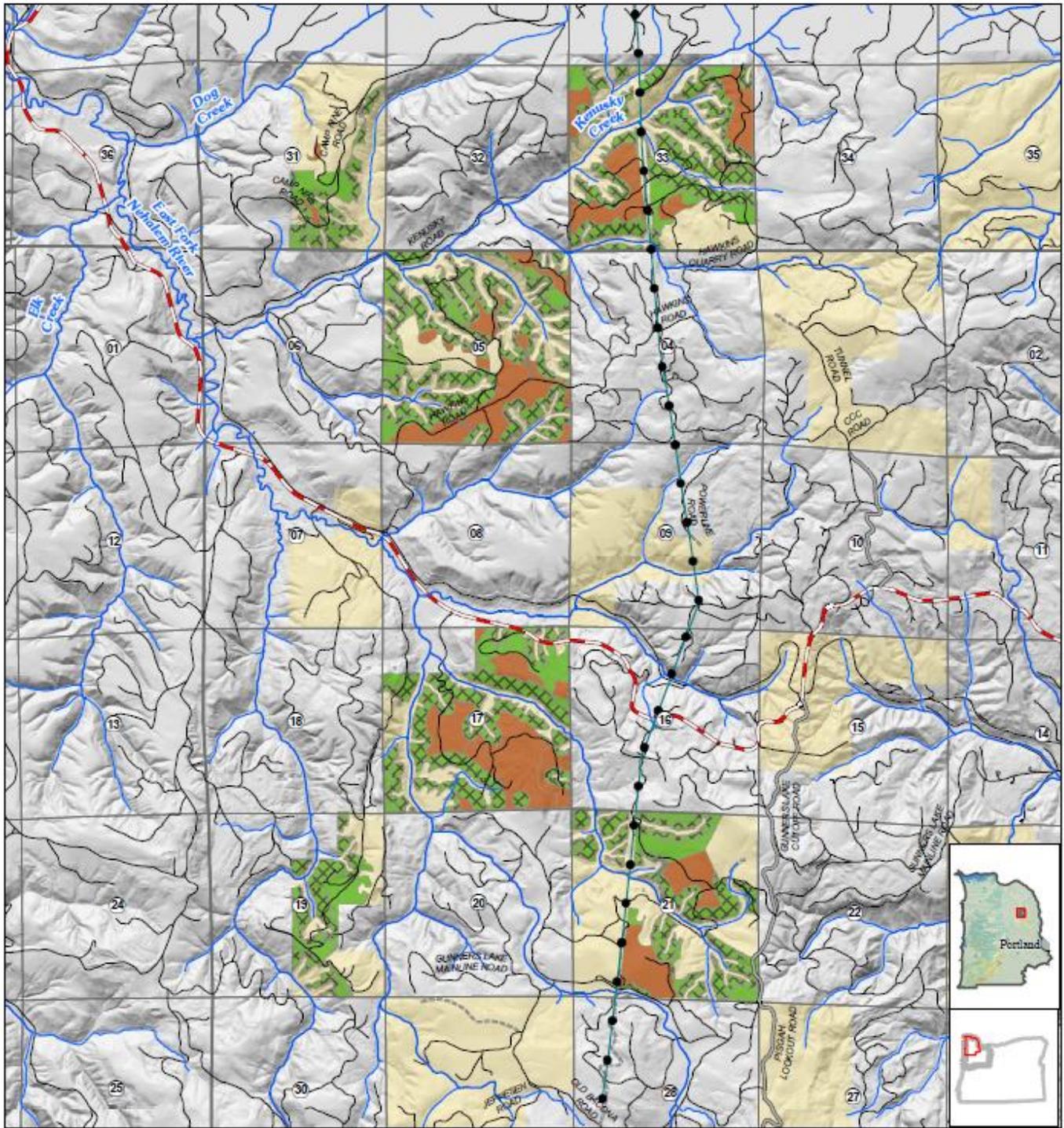


Karen M. Schank
Tillamook Resource Area Field Manager

Enclosures (7)

East Fork Nehalem Timber Management Project Scoping Map

United States Department of the Interior - BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
TILLAMOOK RESOURCE AREA - SALEM DISTRICT - BLM



0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual or aggregate use with other data. Original data were compiled from various sources and may be updated without notification.
version: 2/14/2014

Legend

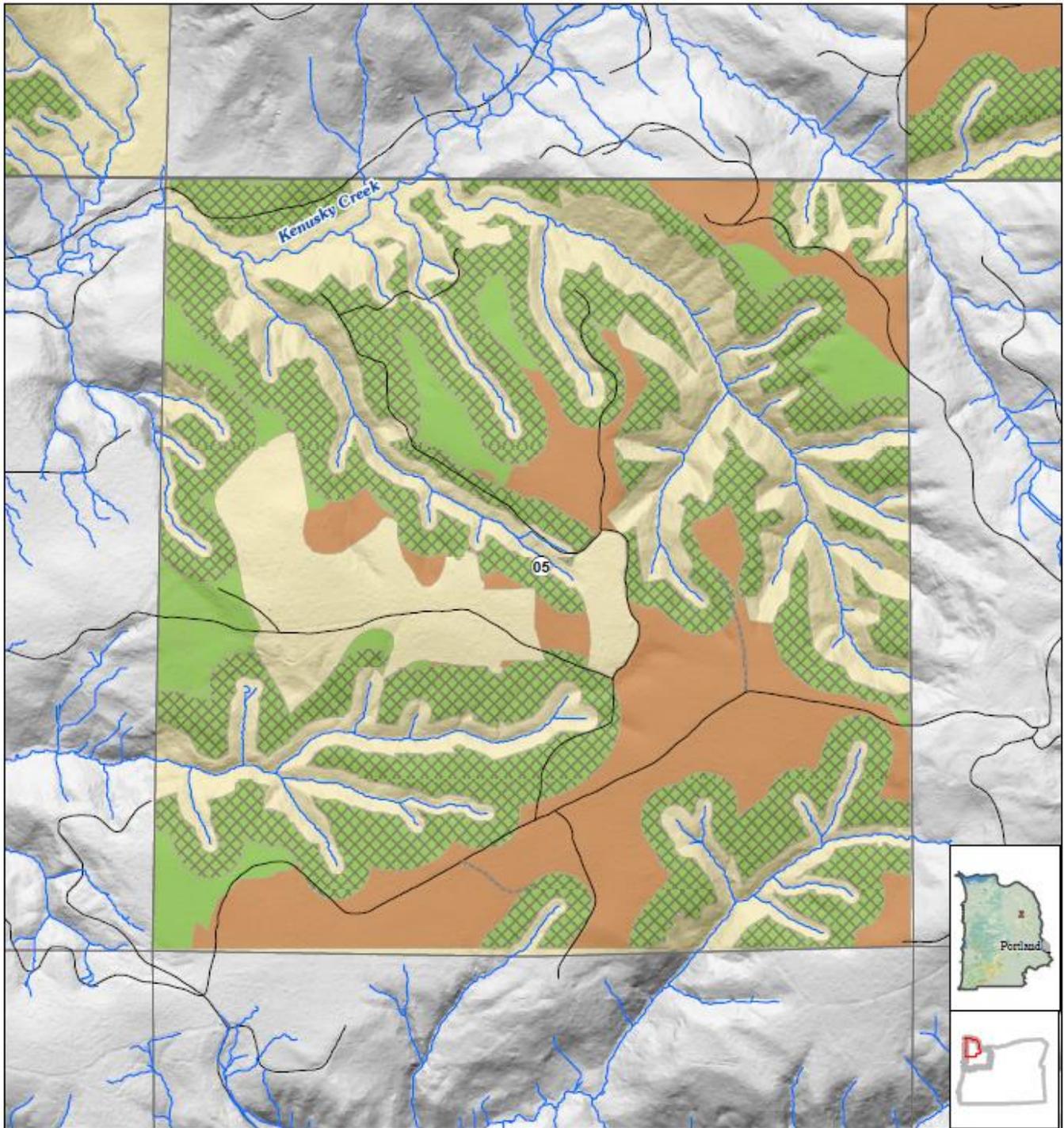
- Powerline
- Proposed Treatments**
- Commercial Thinning
- Riparian Reserve Density Management
- Regeneration Harvest
- Bureau of Land Management
- Major Access Road
- Intermediate Road
- Minor Road
- Decommissioned Road
- Streams
- minor streams



East Fork Nehalem Timber Management Project Scoping Map

United States Department of the Interior - BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
TILLAMOOK RESOURCE AREA - SALEM DISTRICT - BLM

T04N-R03W Section 05



0 0.05 0.1 0.2 Miles

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Legend

Proposed Treatments

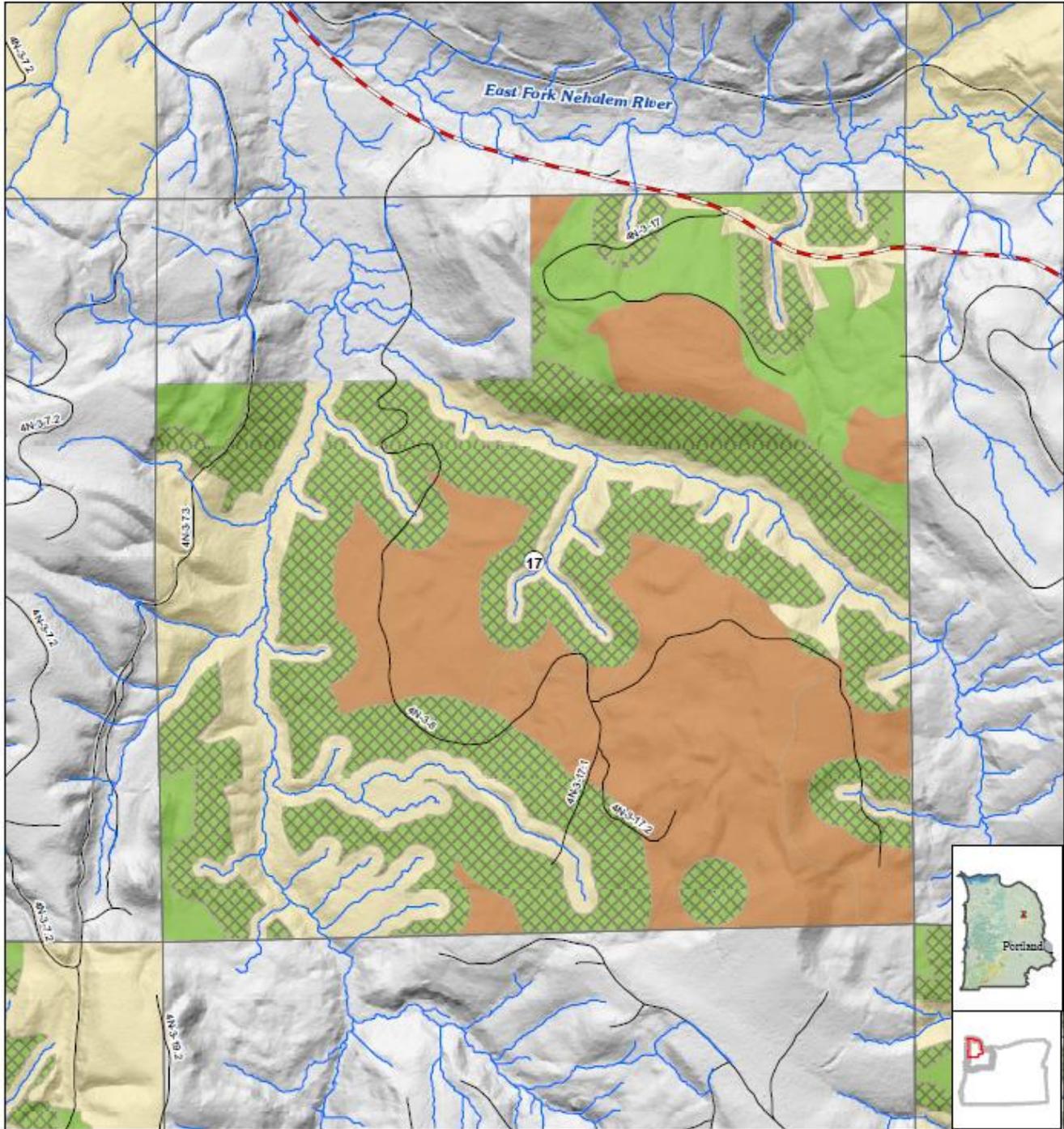
- Commercial Thinning
- Riparian Reserve Density Management
- Regeneration Harvest
- Bureau of Land Management

- Minor Road
- Decommissioned Road
- Streams

East Fork Nehalem Timber Management Project Scoping Map

United States Department of the Interior - BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
TILLAMOOK RESOURCE AREA - SALEM DISTRICT - BLM

T04N-R03W Section 17



0 0.05 0.1 0.2 Miles

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Legend

Proposed Treatments

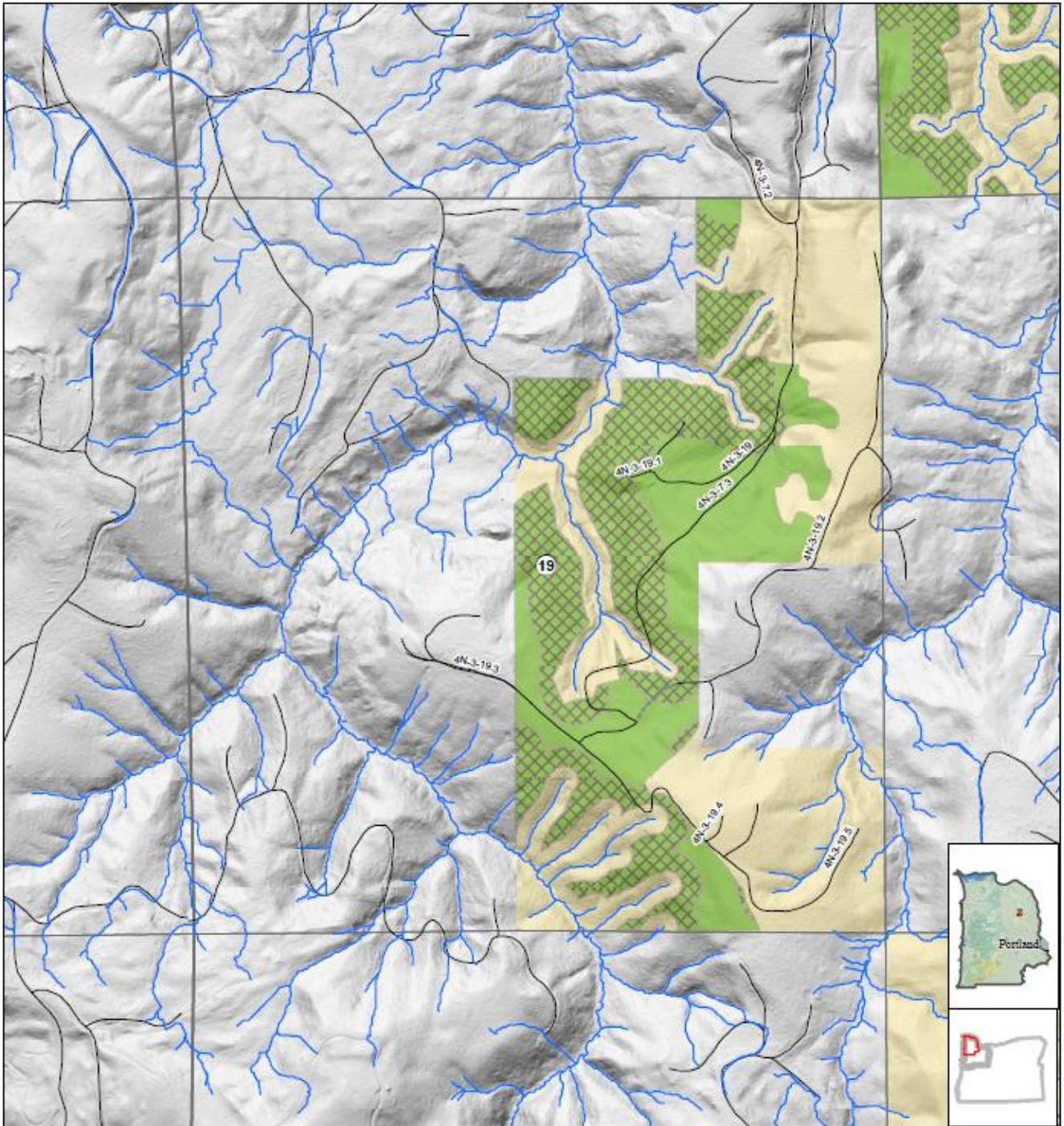
- Commercial Thinning
- Riparian Reserve Density Management
- Regeneration Harvest
- Bureau of Land Management

- Major Access Road
- Minor Road
- Streams

East Fork Nehalem Timber Management Project Scoping Map

United States Department of the Interior - BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
TILLAMOOK RESOURCE AREA - SALEM DISTRICT - BLM

T04N-R03W Section 19



0 0.05 0.1 0.2
Miles

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version: 23 May 2014

Legend

Proposed Treatments

Commercial Thinning

Riparian Reserve Density Management

Regeneration Harvest

Bureau of Land Management

Minor Road

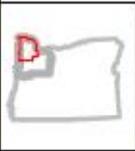
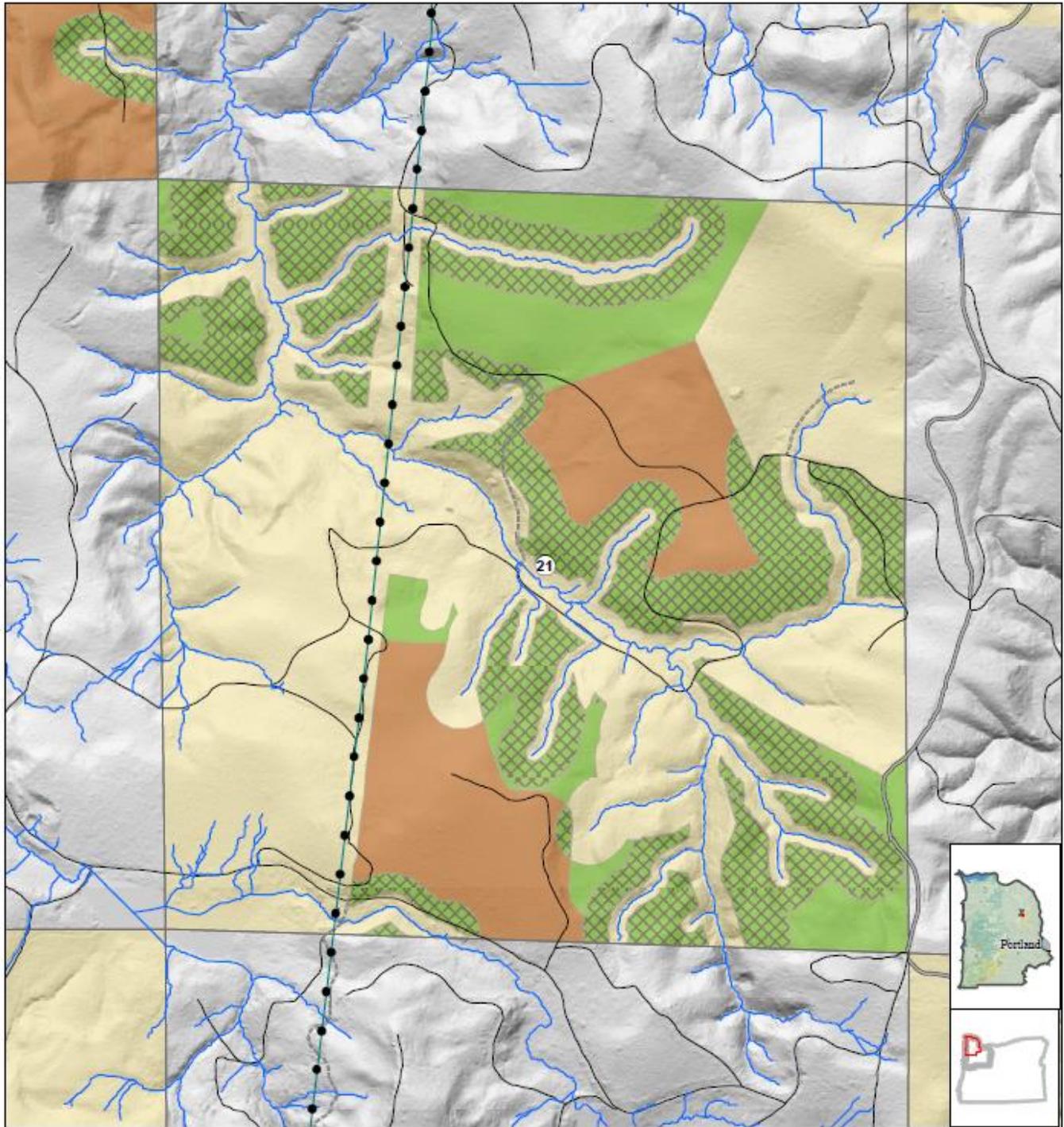
Decommissioned Road

Streams

East Fork Nehalem Timber Management Project Scoping Map

United States Department of the Interior - BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
TILLAMOOK RESOURCE AREA - SALEM DISTRICT - BLM

T04N-R03W Section 21



0 0.05 0.1 0.2
Miles



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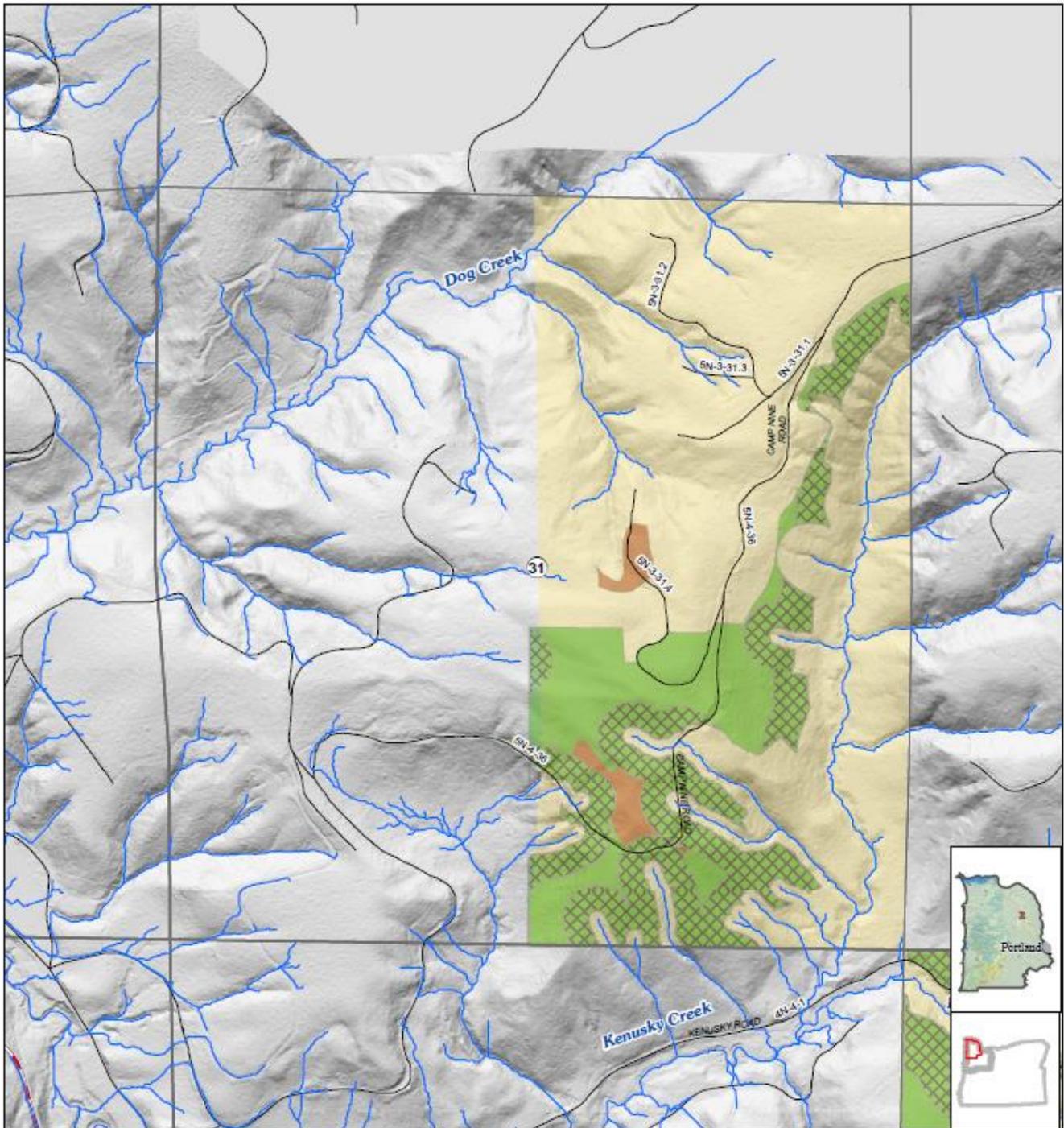
Legend

- Powerline
 - Intermediate Road
 - Minor Road
 - Decommissioned Road
 - Streams
- Proposed Treatments**
- Commercial Thinning
 - Riparian Reserve Density Management
 - Regeneration Harvest
 - Bureau of Land Management

East Fork Nehalem Timber Management Project Scoping Map

United States Department of the Interior - BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
TILLAMOOK RESOURCE AREA - SALEM DISTRICT - BLM

T05N-R03W Section 31



0 0.05 0.1 0.2
Miles

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version 23 May 2014



Legend

Proposed Treatments

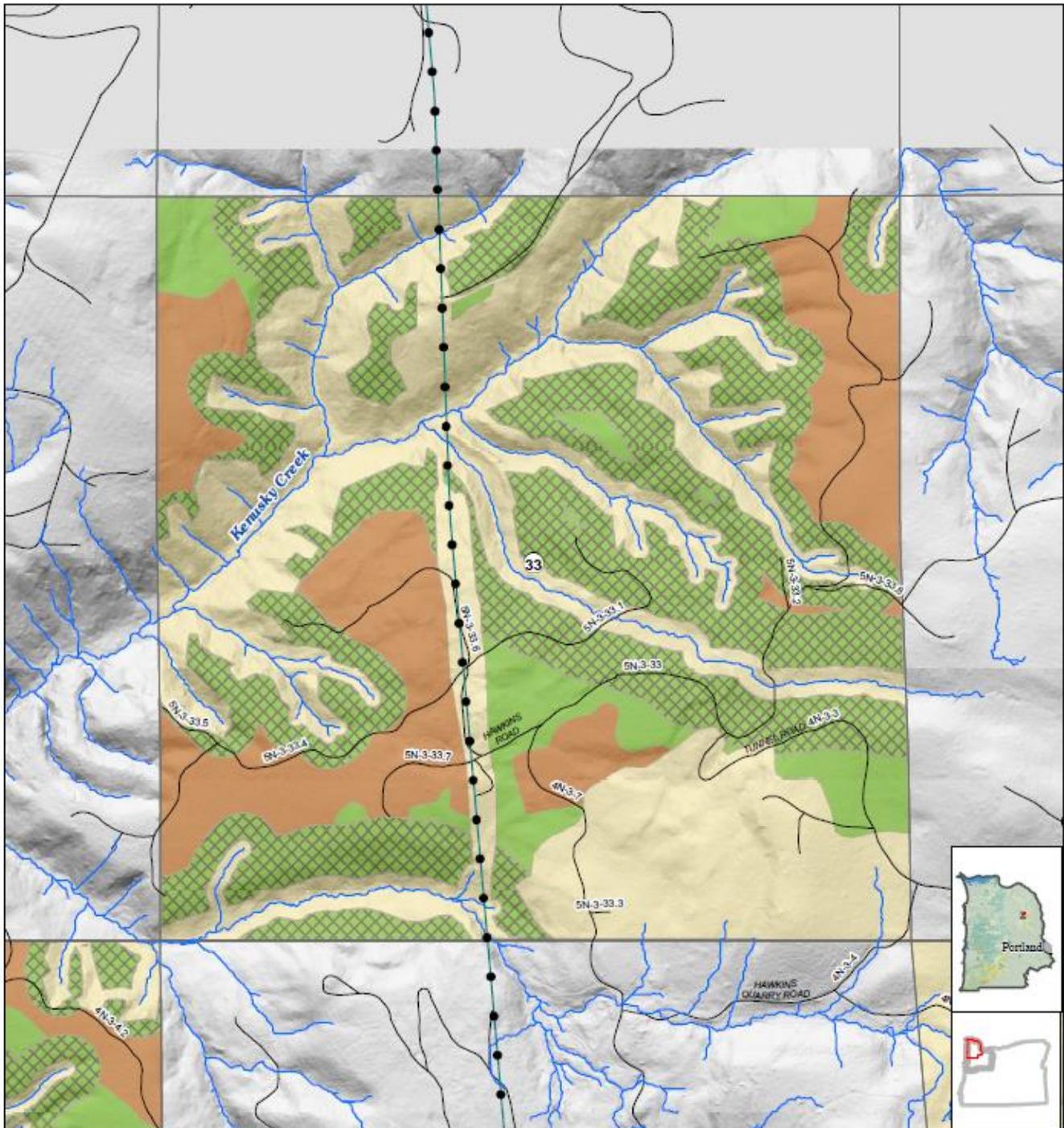
- Commercial Thinning
- Riparian Reserve Density Management
- Regeneration Harvest
- Bureau of Land Management

- Major Access Road
- Minor Road
- Streams

East Fork Nehalem Timber Management Project Scoping Map

United States Department of the Interior - BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
TILLAMOOK RESOURCE AREA - SALEM DISTRICT - BLM

T05N-R03W Section 33



0 0.05 0.1 0.2
Miles

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version: 23 May 2014



Legend

- Powerline
- Minor Road
- Streams
- Commercial Thinning
- Riparian Reserve Density Management
- Regeneration Harvest
- Bureau of Land Management