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EMS TRANSMISSION 06/09/2011
Instruction Memorandum No. OR-2011-049
Expires: 09/30/2012

To: All District Managers

From: State Director, Oregon/Washington

Subject: Partial Delegation of Authority to District Managers to Approve Certain Scaling Methods for the Measurement of Forest Products

Program Area: Measurement of Forest Products

Purpose: This Instruction Memorandum (IM) grants partial delegation of authority to district managers to approve certain scaling methods for the measurement of forest products for disposal.

Policy/Action:

A. Regulatory Direction
   1. All timber or other vegetative resources to be sold shall be appraised and in no case shall be sold at less than appraised value. Measurement shall be by tree cruise, log scale, weight, or such other form of measurement as may be determined to be in the public interest (43 CFR §5420.0-6).
   2. As the general practice, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will sell timber on a tree cruise [lump sum tree measurement] basis (43 CFR §5422.1).

B. Partial Delegation of Authority
   1. District managers are delegated the authority to approve scale for payment measurement of forest products for Designation by Description (DxD) and Designation by Prescription (DxP) thinning or density management sales, fiber/biomass sales, salvage sales, and when use of scale for payment serves the best interest of the public.
   2. All other applications of scale for payment (e.g., regeneration harvest advertised timber sales, green tree marked advertised timber sales) remain subject to the approval of the Oregon State Director (OR910).

If the district manager anticipates that scale volume will be delivered to a processing center in another district, the offering district shall coordinate with the receiving district to ensure that the receiving district can handle the scaling workload.

Timeframe: This direction becomes effective immediately.

Budget Impact: Scale for payment sales may offer savings in timber sale preparation costs.
Background: On November 21, 2007, the Oregon State Director issued IM 2008-020, “Partial Delegation of Authority to Conduct Scale Sales and Associated Direction for Conduct of Scale Timber Sales,” which has expired. This IM restores and broadens that partial authority.

The State Director encourages the use of DxD and Dxp instead of tree marking, when it serves the best interest of the public.

Manual/Handbook Sections Affected: The Timber Sale Procedure Handbook Series, Volume 1, Preparation for Sale 5420-1, Chapters III (Sale Layout) and IV (Forest Products Measurement).

Coordination: Production of this IM was coordinated with the State Scaler, State Cruiser/Appraiser, District Cruiser/Appraisers, and District Forestry Leads.

Contact: For additional information, contact David Roché, Forester, at (503)808-6020, for policy questions; and Steve Hagen, State Scaler, at (503)315-5982, regarding scale sale methodology, forms, or procedures.

Districts with Unions are reminded to notify their unions of this IM and satisfy any bargaining obligations before implementation. Your servicing Human Resources Office or Labor Relations Specialist can provide you with assistance in this matter.

Signed by
Michael J. Haske
Acting Associate State Director

Authenticated by
Paj Shua Cha
Records Section

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