

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Oregon State Office
P.O. Box 2965
Portland, OR 97208**

In Reply Refer to:
5400 (OR-931) P

June 13, 2003

EMS TRANSMISSION June 13, 2003
Instruction Memorandum No. OR-2003-081
Expires: 9/30/2004

To: All District Managers

From: State Director

Subject: Establishment of Log Scaler Qualifications for both Cubic and Scribner Log Scaling

Program Area: Timber Management; Log Scaling

Purpose: This Instruction Memorandum (IM) establishes four log scaler levels of competency for both Cubic and Scribner certification.

Policy/Action: The following criteria must be met for certification of log scalers at one of the four Oregon/Washington Bureau of Land Management (BLM) log scaler competency levels. Scalers wishing to attain the Woods Scaler level of certification will be required to do so utilizing the Cubic scaling rules. Scalers wishing to attain the Administrative Check Scaler level of certification will be required to be certified (in a given district or districts) in both Cubic and Eastside Scribner. Scalers wishing to attain the District/Zoned Master Scaler and State Master Scaler level of certification will be required to be certified in Cubic, Eastside Scribner, and Westside Scribner for application in any Oregon/Washington district.

1. Woods Scaler - This certification will be issued for either Cubic or Eastside Scribner (or both) scaling to qualified scalers that will be scaling in the woods while conducting sample tree cruising, such as a 3P Fall, Buck, and Scale cruise or scaling log decks for purposes of timber sale volume estimations. The following requirements must be met to obtain this certification level, with the exception ("grandfather" provision) that scalers certified prior to January 1, 1990, will have twelve (12) months from the issuance date of this policy to demonstrate their proficiency by passing a written test and field check scale of at least two hundred (200) logs:

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- a. Must satisfactorily pass three (3) consecutive check scales of at least two hundred (200) logs per check scale. "Consecutive" is defined as three successful checks out of four total checks.
 - b. To pass the aforementioned check scale, the applicant must meet the standard gross scale by not exceeding a variance of two percent (2%). The allowable net scale variance shall not exceed four percent (4%), unless total defect exceeds twenty percent (20%). In this case, two-tenths of one percent (0.2%) will be allowed for each additional percent of defect up to a total defect of twenty-five percent (25%). In no case will the net scale variance exceed five percent (5%).

- c. Must demonstrate a thorough understanding of all applicable scaling rules (either Cubic or Eastside Scribner) by successfully completing a written test with a minimum score of eighty-five percent (85%).
- d. Must have a thorough understanding and ability to run scale programs on a handheld data recorder. Must be able to use a handheld data recorder to load scaling programs from a personal computer to a handheld data recorder. Must be able to transfer scaling data to a personal computer for the purpose of interfacing with the National Cruise Program and/or to print scale tickets from input data.
- e. Upon successful completion of the above requirements for either Cubic or Eastside Scribner scaling, the District Cruiser/Appraiser (or State Cruiser/Appraiser) and State Master Scaler will forward a written recommendation to the State Office Division of Resource Planning, Use and Protection for the issuance of a Certificate of Competency for Woods Scaler to be signed by the Deputy State Director. These recommendations shall use the attached format.
- f. To maintain this level of certification, the Woods Scaler must be checked at least once per fiscal year on two hundred (200) logs or checked on at least twenty-five percent (25%) of logs scaled in the woods, successfully meeting the standards outlined above in 1b. The first priority shall be made to conduct this check scale on logs scaled in the woods. A rollout check shall only be utilized if reasonable circumstances preclude the woods check scale. A Certified Administrative Check Scaler or a Master Scaler will conduct the check scaling.
- g. Must be current on the Project Inspector (PI) training to serve as a PI for the Tree Falling contract.

2. Administrative Check Scaler - An Administrative Check Scaler must meet all the certification requirements for a Woods Scaler. This certification applies to scalers responsible for production scaling, conducting administrative check scales, and check scaling either on Woods Scalers or contract scalers. This certification must be acquired for both Cubic scaling and Eastside Scribner scaling. Under most circumstances, a western Oregon District would only have two certified Administrative Check Scalers to conduct the check scales in the district. The following requirements must be met to obtain this certification level:

- a. Must successfully complete three (3) consecutive check scales of a minimum of two hundred (200) logs. "Consecutive" is defined as three successful checks out of four total checks.

- b. To pass the aforementioned check scale, the applicant must meet the standard gross scale by not exceeding a variance of one and one half percent (1 ½ %), unless otherwise approved by the Master Scaler. The allowable variance for net scale is as follows:

<i>State Master Scaler's</i> <u>Percent Defect in Logs</u>	<i>Administrative Check Scaler's</i> <u>Allowable Variance</u>
0-10%	2%
Over 10%	0.2 times the percent defect up to a maximum of 5%

- c. Must be current on the Contracting Officers Representative (COR) training to serve as a COR for the Tree Falling contract and the Scaling contract. Scaling discrepancies and contract issues shall be brought to the attention of the Contracting Officer and District/Zoned Master Scaler or State Master Scaler, for resolution.
- d. Upon successful completion of the above requirements for both Cubic and Eastside Scribner scaling, the District Cruiser/Appraiser and State Master Scaler will forward a written recommendation to the State Office Division of Resource Planning, Use and Protection for the issuance of a Certificate of Competency for Administrative Check Scaler to be signed by the Deputy State Director. These recommendations shall use the attached format.
- e. To maintain this level of certification, at least once per fiscal year the scaler must complete a minimum of two (2) log lays consisting of two hundred (200) logs each or eight (8) loads, whichever is greater. One of these log lays must be checked by a Master Scaler and meet the above standards for Administrative Check Scaler in 2b. above.
- f. Assist the Master Scalers in training of new scalers in the principles and methodology of log scaling, and

certification.

3. Master Scaler - Will have primary responsibility for overseeing all scaling conducted by, or for, the BLM on their district, or districts covered by zoned responsibilities, and meet all certification requirements for both Woods Scaler and Administrative Check Scaler. Under most circumstances, a western Oregon district or zone would only have one Master Scaler.
 - a. Must have a minimum of two (2) consecutive years of experience as an Administrative Check Scaler.
 - b. Must demonstrate the ability to scale all types and species of timber under any scaling conditions (woods, yard, and ramp) utilizing Cubic, Eastside Scribner, and Westside Scribner. This can be demonstrated by having the check scales in a variety of locations and under a variety of scaling conditions.
 - c. Upon successful completion of the above requirements for certification as a Master Scaler, the State Master Scaler and State Cruiser/Appraiser will forward a written recommendation to the State Office Division of Resource Planning, Use and Protection for the issuance of a Certificate of Competency for Certified Master Scaler to be signed by the Deputy State Director. These recommendations shall use the attached format.

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- d. Assist the State Master Scaler in coordinating training plan development and/or providing training needed for the district measurement programs.
- e. Serve as a point of contact with local scaling bureaus and industry representatives. Be knowledgeable on the development and maintenance of scaling rules.
- f. To maintain this level of certification, at least once per fiscal year the scaler must complete a minimum of one (1) log lay per year consisting of two hundred (200) logs each or eight (8) loads. This log lay must be checked by the State Master Scaler and meet the above standards for Administrative Check Scaler in 2b., above.

4. State Master Scaler - The State Office will issue this certification to the person designated as the State Scaler with the following primary responsibilities for overseeing all log scaling conducted by, or for, the BLM in Oregon/Washington:
 - a. Scaling program lead for Oregon BLM.
 - b. Must have a minimum of three (3) consecutive years of experience as an Administrative Check Scaler, Master Scaler, or equivalent.
 - c. Represents Oregon BLM at meetings with National Cubic Committee, Scaling Bureaus, State and Federal Agencies and other measurements groups.
 - d. Coordinates the accomplishment of all quality control, certification, and maintenance checks for scaling for Oregon BLM. Provides reports to the State Office and District Cruiser/Appraisers on the results of check scales, administrative check scales, and recovery sales.
 - e. Recommends scaler qualification to the State Office for the issuance of Scaler Competency Certificates. Maintains State Office records on scaler certifications.
 - f. Must demonstrate the ability to scale all types and species of timber under any scaling conditions (woods, yard, and ramp) utilizing Cubic, Eastside Scribner and Westside Scribner.
 - g. Coordinates the development of District Scaling Training Plans to ensure that required quality control, certification, maintenance checks, and training are accomplished. This coordination will occur with the State and District Cruiser/Appraisers and all Master Scalers.
 - h. Final authority on all scaling issues and disputes for Oregon BLM.

The scheduling of log lays is dependent on cooperating mills willing to provide the time, logs, and space necessary to meet our training objectives. Locations and scheduling may vary from year to year throughout Oregon/Washington. Employees required or directed to attain certain levels of scaling certification shall be provided the necessary time and

travel funds to achieve and maintain the necessary certification levels.

Timeframe: This policy goes into effect upon issuance.

Background: Accurate log scaling is an essential component of accurate timber volume measurement of lump sum and scale timber sales in fulfillment of the Oregon/Washington timber

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sale volume performance measures. Training, qualification, certification, and quality control are necessary to ensure accurate scaling.

Manual/Handbook Sections Affected: This IM amends Chapter IV, appendix 1 of J-5310-1 – Timber Cruiser Handbook. These new scaler competency levels and qualifications will be added to the Handbook as part of the update process.

Coordination: The policy was developed collaboratively with the State Cruiser/Appraiser, State Scaler, and Westside District Cruiser/Appraisers.

Contact: Questions regarding this policy should be directed to Frank Cooper (State Scaler) at 541-683-6668 or Mike Finegan (State Cruiser/Appraiser) at 503-315-5922.

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 assistance in this matter.

Signed by
/s/ Charles E. Wassinger

Authenticated by
John Hamil
Staff Assistant

1 Attachment

1 – [Scaling Competency Certification Recommendation Format](#) (1p)

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
(District Office Address)

In Reply Refer to:

[File Code (s)] (OR-[Originating Office code (s)])

(Date)

Memorandum

To: Deputy State Director (OR-930)

From: OR/WA State Scaler

Subject: Scaling Certification Recommendation

I, _____, the (*OR/WA State Scaler*) certify that (*Scaler's Name*) has met all of the requirements as set forth in IM OR-2003-XXX for the (*Certification Level*) and I deem (him/her) to be fully competent to perform the duties for this level of certification.

I, _____, the ((*District Name*) *District Cruiser/Appraiser*) (*State Cruiser Appraiser*) certify that (*Scaler's Name*) has met all of the requirements as set forth in IM OR-2003-XXX for the (*Certification Level*) and I deem (him/her) to be fully competent to perform the duties for this level of certification.

State Scaler

(*State*) (*District*) Cruiser/Appraiser