

## IDAPA 20 – IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF LANDS

### Forestry Assistance Bureau

#### 20.02.01 – Rules Pertaining to the Idaho Forest Practices Act

##### **Who does this rule apply to?**

*Any person who conducts a forest practice on forest land in Idaho.*

##### **What is the purpose of this rule?**

*This rule sets forth the minimum standards for conducting forest practices on forest land to assure the continuous growing and harvesting of forest tree species and to protect and maintain the forest soil, water resources, wildlife and aquatic habitat. This rule sets standards for:*

- Timber harvesting and streamside buffers
- Road construction and maintenance
- Residual stocking and reforestation
- Use of chemicals and petroleum products
- Slash management
- Prescribed fire

##### **What is the legal authority for the agency to promulgate this rule?**

*This rule implements the following statute passed by the Idaho Legislature:*

Forestry, Forest Products and Stumpage Districts:

Forest Practices Act:

- [Section 38-1304, Idaho Code](#) – Duties of the Board

##### **Who do I contact for more information on this rule?**

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## 20.02.01 – RULES PERTAINING TO THE IDAHO FOREST PRACTICES ACT

### 000. LEGAL AUTHORITY.

In accordance with Section 38-1304, Idaho Code, the Idaho Board of Land Commissioners has authority to adopt rules establishing minimum standards for the conduct of forest practices on forest land. (7-1-21)T

### 001. TITLE AND SCOPE.

01. **Title.** These rules are titled IDAPA 20.02.01, “Rules Pertaining to the Idaho Forest Practices Act.” (7-1-21)T

02. **Scope.** These rules constitute the minimum standards for the conduct of forest practices on forest land and describe administrative procedures necessary to implement those standards. (7-1-21)T

### 002. -- 009. (RESERVED)

### 010. DEFINITIONS.

Unless otherwise required by context as used in these rules: (7-1-21)T

01. **Act.** The Idaho Forest Practices Act, Title 38, Chapter 13, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

02. **Acceptable Tree Species.** Any of the tree species normally marketable in the region, which are suitable to meet stocking requirements. Acceptable trees must be of sufficient health and vigor to assure growth and harvest. (7-1-21)T

03. **Additional Hazard.** The debris, slashings, and forest fuel resulting from a forest practice. (7-1-21)T

04. **Average DBH.** Average diameter in inches of trees cut or to be cut, measured at four and one-half (4.5) feet above mean ground level on standing trees. All trees to be cut that do not have a measurable DBH will fall in the one inch (1”) class. (7-1-21)T

05. **Best Management Practice (BMP).** A practice or combination of practices determined by the board, in consultation with the department and the forest practices advisory committee, to be the most effective and practicable means of preventing or reducing the amount of nonpoint pollution generated by forest practices. BMPs shall include, but not be limited to, those management practices included in these rules. (7-1-21)T

06. **Board.** The Idaho State Board of Land Commissioners or its designee. (7-1-21)T

07. **Buffer Strip.** A protective area adjacent to an area requiring special attention or protection. (7-1-21)T

08. **Chemicals.** Substances applied to forest lands or timber to accomplish specific purposes and includes pesticides, as defined in the Idaho Pesticide Law, Title 22, Chapter 34, Idaho Code, fertilizers, soil amendments, road dust abatement products and other materials that may present hazards to the environment. (7-1-21)T

09. **Constructed Skid Trail.** A skid trail created by the deliberate cut and fill action of a dozer or skidder blade resulting in a road-type configuration. (7-1-21)T

10. **Commercial Products.** Saleable forest products of sufficient value to cover cost of harvest and transportation to available markets. (7-1-21)T

11. **Condition of Adjoining Area.** Those fuel conditions in adjoining areas that relate to spread of fire and to economic values of the adjoining area. (7-1-21)T

12. **Contaminate.** To introduce into the atmosphere, soil, or water sufficient quantities of substances that are injurious to public health, safety, or welfare or to domestic, commercial, industrial, agricultural or recreational uses or to livestock, wildlife, fish or other aquatic life. (7-1-21)T

13. **Cross-Ditch.** A diversion ditch and/or hump in a trail or road for the purpose of carrying surface water runoff into the vegetation, duff, ditch, or other dispersion area so that it does not gain the volume and velocity which causes soil movement and erosion. (7-1-21)T

14. **Cull.** Nonmerchantable, alive, standing trees of greater height than twenty (20) feet. (7-1-21)T
15. **Department.** The Idaho Department of Lands. (7-1-21)T
16. **Deterioration Rate.** Rate of natural decomposition and compaction of fuel debris which decreases the hazard and varies by site. (7-1-21)T
17. **Director.** The Director of the Idaho Department of Lands or his designee. (7-1-21)T
18. **Emergency Forest Practice.** A forest practice initiated during or immediately after a fire, flood, windthrow, earthquake, or other catastrophic event to minimize damage to forest lands, timber, or public resources. (7-1-21)T
19. **Fertilizers.** Any substance or any combination or mixture of substances used principally as a source of plant food or soil amendment. (7-1-21)T
20. **Fire Trail.** Access routes that are located and constructed in a manner to be either useful in fire control efforts or deterring the fire spread in the hazard area. (7-1-21)T
21. **Forest Land.** Federal, state and private land growing forest tree species which are, or could be at maturity, capable of furnishing raw material used in the manufacture of lumber or other forest products. The term includes federal, state and private land from which forest tree species have been removed but have not yet been restocked. It does not include land affirmatively converted to uses other than the growing of forest tree species. (7-1-21)T
22. **Forest Practice.** (7-1-21)T
- a. The harvesting of forest tree species including felling, bucking, yarding, decking, loading and hauling; road construction, improvement or maintenance including installation or improvement of bridges, culverts or structures which convey stream flows within the operating area; also including the clearing of forest land for conversion to non-forest use when harvest occurs; (7-1-21)T
- b. Road construction, reconstruction or maintenance of existing roads including installation or improvement of bridges, culverts or structures which convey streams not within the operating area associated with harvesting of forest tree species; (7-1-21)T
- c. Reforestation; (7-1-21)T
- d. Use of chemicals for the purpose of managing forest tree species or forest land; (7-1-21)T
- e. The management of slash resulting from harvest, management or improvement of forest tree species or the use of prescribed fire on forest land. (7-1-21)T
- f. “Forest Practice” shall not include preparatory work such as tree marking, surveying, and road flagging or removal or harvesting of incidental vegetation from forest lands; such as berries, ferns, greenery, mistletoe, herbs, mushrooms, or other products which cannot normally be expected to result in damage to forest soils, timber, or public resources. (7-1-21)T
23. **Forest Regions.** Two (2) regions of forest land: one (1) being north of the Salmon River and one (1) being south of the Salmon River. (7-1-21)T
24. **Forest Type.** Five forest types in Idaho are defined as follows: (7-1-21)T
- a. North Idaho grand fir/western red cedar (NIGF): moist to wet interior forests with western red cedar, western hemlock, and grand fir being primary climax species, found in forests north of the Clearwater/ and Lochsa Rivers. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Central Idaho grand fir/western red cedar (CIGF): productive conifer forests found in forests between the Lochsa River Basin and the Salmon River, characterized by stands having western red cedar and grand fir as climax species, with a mixed-conifer overstory increasingly comprised of ponderosa pine, Douglas-fir, and larch in the river breaks canyon-lands. Stocking levels are generally lower than that of the NIGF stands. (7-1-21)T

**c.** South Idaho grand fir (SIGF): mixed-conifer forests, dominated by ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir, found south of the Salmon River with grand fir and occasionally western red cedar being the stand climax species. (7-1-21)T

**d.** Western hemlock-subalpine fir (WH): higher-elevation, moist, cool interior forests dominated by western hemlock, mountain hemlock, and/or subalpine fir. (7-1-21)T

**e.** Douglas-fir-ponderosa pine (PP): drier forests dominated by ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir, generally found in lower-elevation, dry sites. (7-1-21)T

**25. Fuel Quantity.** The diameter, the number of stems and the predominate species to be cut or already cut, and the size of the continuous thinning block all of which determine quantity of fuel per unit of area. (7-1-21)T

**26. Ground Based Equipment.** Mobile equipment such as tractors, dozers, skidders, excavators, loaders, mechanized harvesters and forwarders used for harvesting, site preparation or hazard reduction. This does not include cable systems associated with stationary yarding equipment. (7-1-21)T

**27. Habitat Types.** Forest land capable of producing similar plant communities at climax. (7-1-21)T

**28. Harvesting.** A commercial activity related to the cutting or removal of forest tree species to be used as a forest product. A commercial activity does not include the cutting or removal of forest tree species by a person for his own personal use. (7-1-21)T

**29. Hazard.** Any vegetative residue resulting from a forest practice which constitutes fuel. (7-1-21)T

**30. Hazard Offset.** Improvements or a combination of practices which reduces the spread of fire and increases the ability to control fires. (7-1-21)T

**31. Hazard Points.** The number of points assigned to certain hazardous conditions on an operating area, to actions designed to modify conditions on the same area or to actions by the operator, timber owner or landowner to offset the hazardous conditions on the same area. (7-1-21)T

**32. Hazard Reduction.** The burning or physical reduction of slash by treatment in some manner which will reduce the risk from fire after treatment. (7-1-21)T

**33. Lake.** A body of perennial standing open water, natural or human-made, larger than one (1) acre in size. Lakes include the beds, banks or wetlands below the ordinary high water mark. Lakes do not include drainage or irrigation ditches, farm or stock ponds, settling or gravel ponds. Any reference in these rules to Class I streams shall also apply to lakes. (7-1-21)T

**34. Landowner.** A person, partnership, corporation, or association of whatever nature that holds an ownership interest in forest lands, including the state. (7-1-21)T

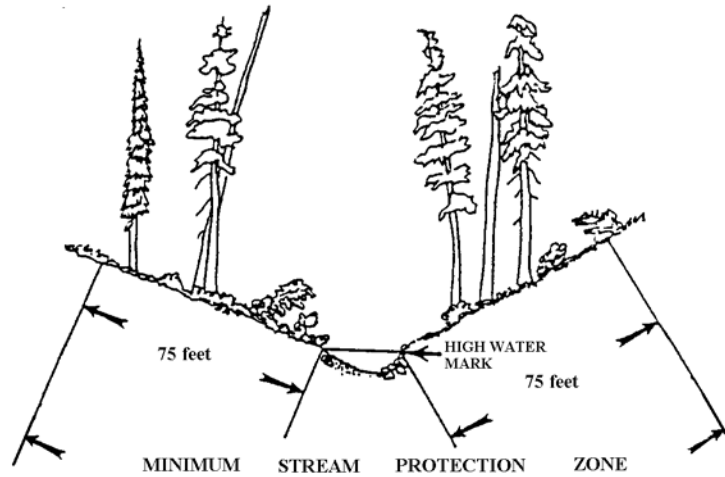
**35. Large Organic Debris (LOD).** Live or dead trees and parts or pieces of trees that are large enough or long enough or sufficiently buried in the stream bank or bed to be stable during high flows. Pieces longer than the channel width or longer than twenty (20) feet are considered stable. LOD creates diverse fish habitat and stable stream channels by reducing water velocity, trapping stream gravel and allowing scour pools and side channels to form. (7-1-21)T

**36. Merchantable Material.** That portion of forest tree species suitable for the manufacture of commercial products which can be merchandised under normal market conditions. (7-1-21)T

37. **Merchantable Stand of Timber.** A stand of trees that will yield logs or fiber: (7-1-21)T
- a. Suitable in size and quality for the production of lumber, plywood, pulp, or other forest products; (7-1-21)T
- b. Of sufficient value at least to cover all costs of harvest and transportation to available markets. (7-1-21)T
38. **Noncommercial Forest Land.** Habitat types not capable of producing twenty (20) cubic feet per acre per year. (7-1-21)T
39. **Operator.** A person who conducts or is required to conduct a forest practice. (7-1-21)T
40. **Operating Area.** That area where a forest practice is taking place or will take place. (7-1-21)T
41. **Ordinary High Water Mark.** That mark on all water courses, which will be found by examining the beds and banks and ascertaining where the presence and action of waters are so common and usual, and so long continued in all ordinary years as to mark upon the soil a character distinct from that of the abutting upland, in respect to vegetation, as that condition exists on the effective date of this chapter, or as it may naturally change thereafter. (7-1-21)T
42. **Outstanding Resource Water.** A high quality water, such as water of national and state parks and wildlife refuges and water of exceptional recreational or ecological significance, which has been so designated by the legislature. ORW constitutes as outstanding national or state resource that requires protection from nonpoint activities, including forest practices, that may lower water quality. (7-1-21)T
43. **Partial Cutting.** The well distributed removal of a portion of the merchantable volume in a stand of timber. This includes seed tree, shelterwood, or individual tree selection harvesting techniques. (7-1-21)T
44. **Prescribed Fire.** The controlled application of fire to wildland fuels in either their natural or modified state, under such conditions of weather, fuel moisture and soil moisture, to allow the fire to be confined to a predetermined area and at the same time to produce the intensity of heat and rate of spread required to meet planned objectives. (7-1-21)T
45. **Present Condition of Area.** The amount or degree of hazard present before a thinning operation commences. (7-1-21)T
46. **Public Resource.** Water, fish, and wildlife, and in addition means capital improvements of the State or its political subdivisions. (7-1-21)T
47. **Reforestation.** The establishment of an adequately stocked stand of trees of species acceptable to the department to replace the ones removed by a harvesting or a catastrophic event on commercial forest land. (7-1-21)T
48. **Relative Stocking.** A measure of site occupancy calculated as a ratio comparison of actual stand density to the biological maximum density for a given forest type. This ratio, expressed as a percentage, shows the extent to which trees utilize a plot of forestland. (7-1-21)T
49. **Relief Culvert.** A structure to relieve surface runoff from roadside ditches to prevent excessive buildup in volume and velocity. (7-1-21)T
50. **Rules.** Rules adopted by the Board pursuant to Section 38-1304, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T
51. **Slash.** Any vegetative residue three inches (3") and under in diameter resulting from a forest practice or the clearing of land. (7-1-21)T

- 52. Site.** An area considered as to its ecological factors with reference to capacity to produce forest vegetation; the combination of biotic, climatic, and soil conditions of an area. (7-1-21)T
- 53. Site Factor.** A combination of percent of average ground slope and predominate aspect of the forest practice area which relate to rate of fire spread. (7-1-21)T
- 54. Site Specific Best Management Practice.** A BMP that is adapted to and takes account of the specific factors influencing water quality, water quality objectives, on-site conditions, and other factors applicable to the site where a forest practice occurs, and which has been approved by the Department, or by the Board in consultation with the Department and the Forest Practices Advisory Committee. (7-1-21)T
- 55. Size of Thinning Block.** Acres of continuous fuel creating an additional hazard within a forest practice area. Distance between the perimeter of thinning blocks containing continuous fuel must be a minimum of six (6) chains apart to qualify as more than one (1) block. (7-1-21)T
- 56. Snags.** Dead, standing trees twenty (20) feet and greater in height. (7-1-21)T
- 57. Soil Erosion.** Movement of soils resulting from forest practices. (7-1-21)T
- 58. Soil Stabilization.** The minimizing of soil movement. (7-1-21)T
- 59. State.** The state of Idaho or other political subdivision thereof. (7-1-21)T
- 60. Stream.** A natural water course of perceptible extent with definite beds and banks which confines and conducts continuously or intermittently flowing water. Definite beds are defined as having a sandy or rocky bottom which results from the scouring action of water flow. Any reference in these rules to Class I streams shall also apply to lakes. (7-1-21)T
- a.** Class I streams are used for domestic water supply or are important for the spawning, rearing or migration of fish. Such waters shall be considered to be Class I upstream from the point of domestic diversion for a minimum of one thousand three hundred and twenty (1,320) feet. (7-1-21)T
- b.** Class II streams are usually headwater streams or minor drainages that are used by only a few, if any, fish for spawning or rearing. Where fish use is unknown, consider streams as Class II where the total upstream watershed is less than two hundred and forty (240) acres in the north forest region and four hundred and sixty (460) acres in the south forest region. Their principle value lies in their influence on water quality or quantity downstream in Class I streams. (7-1-21)T
- c.** Class I Stream Protection Zone means the area encompassed by a slope distance of seventy-five (75) feet on each side of the ordinary high water marks. (Figure 1.)

FIGURE 1  
CLASS 1 STREAM PROTECTION ZONE

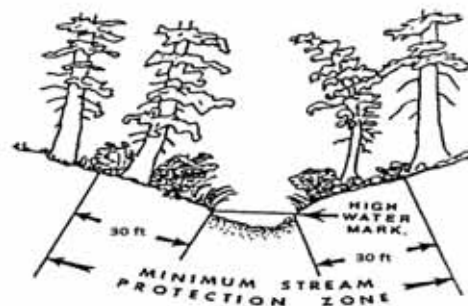


(7-1-21)T

d. Class II Stream Protection Zone means the area encompassed by a minimum slope distance of thirty (30) feet on each side of the ordinary high water marks. (Figure 2.) For Class II streams that do not contribute surface flow into Class I streams, provide soil stabilization and water filtering effects by leaving undisturbed soils in widths sufficient to prevent washing of sediment. In no case shall this width be less than five (5) feet slope distance on each side of the ordinary high water marks.

FIGURE 2  
CLASS II STREAM PROTECTION ZONE

CLASS II STREAM PROTECTION ZONE



(7-1-21)T

61. **Timber Owner.** A person, partnership, corporation, or association of whatever nature, other than



the landowner, that holds an ownership interest in forest tree species on forest land. (7-1-21)T

**62. Time of Year of Forest Practice.** Those combinations of months during which time the forest practice is taking place. Points assigned are: October through December - two (2) points; August through September - four (4) points; January through April - seven (7) points; May through July - ten (10) points. (7-1-21)T

**011. -- 019. (RESERVED)**

**020. GENERAL RULES.**

**01. Compliance.** Practices contained within a rule shall be complied with to accomplish the purpose to which the rule is related. (7-1-21)T

**a.** If conditions of sites or activities require the application of practices which differ from those prescribed by the rules, the operator shall obtain a variance according to the following procedure: (7-1-21)T

**i.** The operator shall submit a request for variance to the department in writing. The request shall include a description of the site and particular conditions which necessitate a variance, and a description of proposed practices which, if applied, will result in a violation of the rules. (7-1-21)T

**ii.** Within fourteen (14) calendar days the department shall evaluate the request and notify the operator in writing of the determination to allow or disallow the variance request. (7-1-21)T

**iii.** All practices authorized under this procedure shall provide for equivalent or better results over the long term than the rules which are superseded to insure site productivity, water quality and fish and wildlife habitat. A variance can be applied only at approved sites. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Practices shall also be in compliance with the Stream Channel Alteration Act (Title 42, Chapter 38, Idaho Code), Idaho Water Quality Standards and Waste Water Treatment Requirements (Title 39, Chapter 1, Idaho Code), the Idaho Pesticide Law (Title 22, Chapter 34, Idaho Code), and the Hazardous Waste Management Act of 1983 (Title 39, Chapter 44, Idaho Code), and rules and regulations pursuant thereto. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Water may be diverted from a stream and used at any time to carry out Idaho forest practices and for forest road dust abatement, provided that: 1) The total daily volume diverted is no greater than two-tenths (0.2) acre-feet (65,170 gallons) from a single stream; and 2) The rate of diversion shall never exceed twenty-five (25) percent of the rate of flow then available in the stream at the point of diversion for these purposes. (7-1-21)T

**i.** No person shall, under this Section 020, divert water from an irrigation canal, irrigation reservoir, or other irrigation facility while water is lawfully diverted, stored, captured, conveyed, used or otherwise physically controlled by an irrigator, irrigation district or canal company. (7-1-21)T

**ii.** If water is to be diverted from a stream within a water district, or from a stream from which an irrigation delivery entity diverts water, a person diverting water shall give notice to the watermaster of the intent to divert water for the purposes as authorized herein. (7-1-21)T

**iii.** Water diversion intakes used for diversions under Subsection 020.01 shall be screened with a maximum screen mesh size as follows: 1) fish-bearing Class I streams: 3/32 inch, and 2) all other streams: 1/4 inch. (7-1-21)T

**d.** Any alternative conservation measure having received a favorable Biological Opinion or Incidental Take Permit from the National Marine Fisheries Service or US Fish and Wildlife Service will be considered as complying with these rules. (7-1-21)T

**02. Conversion of Forest Lands.** Conversions require a notification be filed, and compliance with all rules except those relating to reforestation. On converted parcels larger than one (1) acre, plant acceptable vegetative cover sufficient to maintain soil productivity and minimize erosion. Cover shall be established within one (1) year of completion of the forest practice except that the director may grant an extension of time if weather or other conditions

interfere. Within three (3) years of completion of the forest practice, the director shall determine if the conversion has been accomplished by: (7-1-21)T

- a.** The presence or absence of improvements necessary for use of land for its intended purpose; (7-1-21)T
- b.** Evidence of actual use of the land for the intended purpose. (7-1-21)T
- c.** If the conversion has not been accomplished within three (3) years of the completion of harvest, supplemental reforestation Subsection 050.06 applies. (7-1-21)T

**03. Annual Review and Consultation.** The director shall, at least once each year, meet with other state agencies and the Forest Practices Advisory Committee and review recommendations for amendments to rules, new rules, or repeal of rules. He shall then report to the board a summary of such meeting or meetings, together with recommendations for amendments to rules, new rules, or repeal of rules. (7-1-21)T

**04. Consultation.** The director shall consult with other state agencies and departments concerned with the management of forest environment where expertise from such agencies or departments is desirable or necessary. (7-1-21)T

**a.** The Idaho Water Quality Standards and Wastewater Treatment Requirements, IDAPA 58.01.02, (Title 39, Chapter 1, Idaho Code) reference the Forest Practice Rules as approved best management practices and describe a procedure of modifying the practices based on monitoring and surveillance. The director shall review petitions from Idaho Department of Environmental Quality for changes or additions to the rules according to Administrative Procedures Act (Title 67, Chapter 52, Idaho Code) and make recommendations for modification to the Board of Land Commissioners. (7-1-21)T

**05. Notification of Forest Practice.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Before commencing a forest practice or a conversion of forest lands the department shall be notified as required in Paragraph 020.05.b. The notice shall be given by the operator. However, the timber owner or landowner satisfies the responsibility of the operator under this Subsection. When more than one forest practice is to be conducted in relation to harvesting of forest tree species, one notice including each forest practice to be conducted shall be filed with the department. (7-1-21)T

**b.** The notification required by Paragraph 020.05.a. shall be on forms prescribed and provided by the department and shall include the name and address of the operator, timber owner, and landowner; the legal description of the area in which the forest practice is to be conducted; whether the forest practice borders an outstanding resource water and other information the department considers necessary for the administration of the rules adopted by the board under Section 38-1304, Idaho Code. All notifications must be formally accepted by the department before any forest practice may begin. Promptly upon formal acceptance of the notice but not more than fourteen (14) calendar days from formal acceptance of the notice, the department shall mail a copy of the notice to whichever of the operator, timber owner, or landowner that did not submit the notification. The department shall make available to the operator, timber owner, and landowner a copy of the rules. (7-1-21)T

**c.** An operator, timber owner, or landowner, whichever filed the original notification, shall notify the department of any subsequent change in the information contained in the notice within thirty (30) calendar days of the change. Promptly upon receipt of notice of change, but not to exceed fourteen (14) calendar days from receipt of notice, the department shall mail a copy of the notice to whichever of the operator, timber owner, or landowner that did not submit the notice of change. (7-1-21)T

**d.** The notification is valid for the same period as set forth in the certificate of compliance under Section 38-122, Idaho Code. At the expiration of the notification, if the forest practice is continuing, the notification shall be renewed using the same procedures provided for in this section. (7-1-21)T

**e.** If the notification required by Paragraph 020.05.a. of this section indicates that at the expiration of the notification that the forest practice will be continuing, the operator, timber owner, or landowner, at least thirty (30)

calendar days prior to the expiration of the notification, shall notify the department and obtain a renewal of the notification. Promptly upon receipt of the request for renewal, but not to exceed fourteen (14) calendar days from receipt of the request, the department shall mail a copy of the renewed notification to whichever of the operator, timber owner, or landowner that did not submit the request for renewal. (7-1-21)T

**06. Notification Exception.** A notification of Forest Practice is required except for: (7-1-21)T

**a.** Routine road maintenance, recreational uses, grazing by domestic livestock, cone picking, culture and harvest of Christmas trees on lands used solely for the production of Christmas trees, or harvesting of other minor forest products. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Non-commercial cutting and removal of forest tree species by a person for his own personal use. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Clearing forest land for conversion to surface mining or dredge and placer mining operations under a reclamation plan or dredge mining permit. (7-1-21)T

**07. Emergency Forest Practices.** No prior notification shall be required for emergency forest practices necessitated by and commenced during or immediately after a fire, flood, windthrow, earthquake, or other catastrophic event. Within forty-eight (48) hours after commencement of such practice, the operator, timber owner, or landowner shall notify the director with an explanation of why emergency action was necessary. Such emergency forest practices are subject to the rules herein, except that the operator, timber owner, or landowner may take any reasonable action to minimize damage to forest lands, timber, or public resource from the direct or indirect effects of the catastrophic event. (7-1-21)T

**08. Duty of Purchaser.** The initial purchaser of forest tree species which have been harvested from forest lands shall, before making such purchase or contract to purchase or accepting delivery of the same, receive and keep on file a copy of the notice required by Section 38-1306, Idaho Code relating to the harvesting practice for which the forest tree species are being acquired by the initial purchaser. Such notice shall be available for inspection upon request by the department at all reasonable times. (7-1-21)T

**09. State Divided into Regions.** For the purpose of administering this Act, the State is divided into two (2) forest regions: one (1) north of the Salmon River and one (1) south of the Salmon River. (7-1-21)T

**10. Regions Divided into Forest Habitat Types.** For the purpose of further refining the on-the-ground administration of the Act, the forest regions can be divided into Habitat Types. (7-1-21)T

**021. -- 029. (RESERVED)**

**030. TIMBER HARVESTING.**

**01. Purpose.** Harvesting of forest tree species is a part of forest management by which wood for human use is obtained and by which forests are established and tended. It is recognized that during harvesting operations there will be a temporary disturbance to the forest environment. It is the purpose of these rules to establish minimum standards for forest practices that will maintain the productivity of the forest land and minimize soil and debris entering streams and protect wildlife and fish habitat. (7-1-21)T

**02. Quality of Residual Stocking.** Reforestation is required if harvesting reduces stocking of acceptable trees below minimums of Subsection 050.04. (7-1-21)T

**03. Soil Protection.** Select for each harvesting operation the logging method and type of equipment adapted to the given slope, landscape and soil properties in order to minimize soil erosion. (7-1-21)T

**a.** An operation that uses ground-based equipment shall not be conducted if it will cause rutting, deep soil disturbance, or accelerated erosion. On slopes exceeding forty-five percent (45%) gradient and which are immediately adjacent to a Class I or II stream, ground-based equipment shall not be used except with an approved variance. Where slopes in the area to be logged exceed forty-five percent (45%) gradient the operator, landowner or

timber owner shall notify the department of these steep slopes upon filing the notification as provided for in Subsection 020.05. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Limit the grade of constructed skid trails on geologically unstable, saturated, or highly erodible or easily compacted soils to a maximum of thirty percent (30%). (7-1-21)T

**c.** In accordance with appropriate silvicultural prescriptions, skid trails shall be kept to the minimum feasible width and number. Tractors used for skidding shall be limited to the size appropriate for the job. (7-1-21)T

**d.** Uphill cable yarding is preferred. Where downhill yarding is used, reasonable care shall be taken to lift the leading end of the log to minimize downhill movement of slash and soils. (7-1-21)T

**04. Location of Landings, Skid Trails, and Fire Trails.** Locate landings, skid trails, and fire trails on stable areas to prevent the risk of material entering streams. (7-1-21)T

**a.** All new or reconstructed landings, skid trails, and fire trails shall be located on stable areas outside the appropriate stream protection zones. Locate fire and skid trails where sidecasting is held to a minimum. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Minimize the size of a landing to that necessary for safe economical operation. (7-1-21)T

**c.** To prevent landslides, fill material used in landing construction shall be free of loose stumps and excessive accumulations of slash. On slopes where sidecasting is necessary, landings shall be stabilized by use of seeding, compaction, riprapping, benching, mulching or other suitable means. (7-1-21)T

**05. Drainage Systems.** For each landing, skid trail or fire trail a drainage system shall be provided and maintained that will control the dispersal of surface water to minimize erosion. (7-1-21)T

**a.** Stabilize skid trails and fire trails whenever they are subject to erosion, by water barring, cross draining, outloping, scarifying, seeding or other suitable means. This work shall be kept current to prevent erosion prior to fall and spring runoff. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Reshape landings as needed to facilitate drainage prior to fall and spring runoff. Stabilize all landings by establishing ground cover or by some other means within one (1) year after harvesting is completed. (7-1-21)T

**06. Treatment of Waste Materials.** All debris, overburden, and other waste material associated with harvesting shall be left or placed in such a manner as to prevent their entry by erosion, high water, or other means into streams. (7-1-21)T

**a.** Wherever possible trees shall be felled, bucked, and limbed in such a manner that the tree or any part thereof will fall away from any Class I streams. Continuously remove slash that enters Class I streams as a result of harvesting operations. Continuously remove other debris that enters Class I streams as a result of harvesting operations whenever there is a potential for stream blockage or if the stream has the ability for transporting such debris. Place removed material five (5) feet slope distance above the ordinary high water mark. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Remove slash and other debris that enters Class II streams whenever there is a potential for stream blockage or if the stream has the ability for transporting the debris immediately following skidding and place removed material above the ordinary high water mark or otherwise treat as prescribed by the department. No formal variance is required. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Deposit waste material from construction or maintenance of landings and skid and fire trails in geologically stable locations outside of the appropriate Stream Protection Zone. (7-1-21)T

**07. Stream Protection.** During and after forest practice operations, stream beds and streamside vegetation shall be protected to leave them in the most natural condition as possible to maintain water quality and aquatic habitat. (7-1-21)T

**a.** Lakes require an approved site specific riparian management prescription prior to conducting forest practices within the stream protection zone. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Operations that utilize ground-based equipment that result in logs being skidded or forwarded in or through streams shall not be permitted. When streams must be crossed, adequate temporary structures to carry stream flow shall be installed. Cross the stream at right angles to its channel if at all possible. (Construction of hydraulic structures in stream channels is regulated by the Stream Channel Protection Act - Title 42, Chapter 38, Idaho Code). Remove all temporary crossings immediately after use and, where applicable, water bar the ends of the skid trails. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Operation of ground based equipment shall not be allowed within the Stream Protection Zone except at approaches to stream crossings. (7-1-21)T

**d.** When cable yarding is necessary, across or inside the Stream Protection Zones it shall be done in such a manner as to minimize stream bank vegetation and channel disturbance. (7-1-21)T

**e.** Provide for large organic debris (LOD), shading, soil stabilization, wildlife cover and water filtering effects of vegetation along streams. (7-1-21)T

**i.** Leave shrubs, grasses, and rocks wherever they afford shade over a stream or maintain the integrity of the soil near a stream. (7-1-21)T

**ii.** Adjacent to all Class I streams, to maintain and enhance shade and large woody debris recruitment, landowners must comply with one of the two following options defining tree retention. The Relative Stocking per acre (RS) referenced in the options is calculated according to the relative-stocking-contribution table in Subparagraph 030.07.e.ii. (7-1-21)T

(1) Option 1: Within twenty-five (25) feet from the ordinary high water mark on each side of the stream, live conifers and hardwoods will be retained to maintain a minimum relative stocking per acre of sixty (60). A relative stocking per acre of thirty (30) must be retained in the stream protection zone between twenty-five (25) feet and seventy-five (75) feet from the ordinary high water mark on both sides of the stream. (7-1-21)T

(2) Option 2: Within fifty (50) feet from the ordinary high water mark on each side of a stream, live conifers and hardwoods will be retained to maintain a minimum relative stocking per acre of sixty (60). A relative stocking per acre of ten (10) must be retained in the stream protection zone between fifty (50) feet and seventy-five (75) feet from the ordinary high water mark on both sides of the stream. (7-1-21)T

(3) Only one (1) option may be implemented within the stream protection zones of a harvesting unit covered by a single notification. Landowners are strongly encouraged to retain all trees immediately adjacent to the stream. (7-1-21)T

Forest Type	Per Tree Contribution to Relative Stocking by Diameter Class						
	Diameter Class (DBH in inches)						
	4-7.9"	8-11.9"	12-15.9"	16-19.9"	20-23.9"	24-27.9"	28-31.9"
NIGF (North Idaho Grand Fir)	0.097	0.209	0.347	0.506	0.683	0.878	1.088
CIGF (Central Idaho Grand Fir)	0.113	0.244	0.405	0.59	0.797	1.024	1.27
SIGF (Southern Idaho Grand Fir)	0.136	0.293	0.486	0.708	0.957	1.229	1.524
WHSF (Western Hemlock-Subalpine Fir)	0.123	0.267	0.442	0.644	0.87	1.117	1.385
DFPP (Douglas-fir-Ponderosa Pine)	0.151	0.326	0.54	0.787	1.063	1.366	1.693

(7-1-21)T

iii. To protect filtering and shade effects of streamside vegetation adjacent to all Class II streams following harvesting and hazard management activities, live trees will be retained or new trees established within thirty (30) feet on each side of the streams ordinary high water mark to comply with the minimum stocking standards expressed in Subsection 050.04. (7-1-21)T

iv. During harvesting, carefully remove timber from the Stream Protection Zone in such a way that large organic debris, shading and filtering effects are maintained and protected. When portions of felled trees fall into or over a Class I stream, leave the portion consistent with the LOD definition of Subsection 010.35. (7-1-21)T

v. When harvesting portions of trees that have fallen naturally into or over a Class I stream, leave the portion(s) over the stream consistent with the LOD definition of Subsection 010.35. Leaving the section with the root ball attached is preferred. (7-1-21)T

vi. During harvesting operations, portions of felled or bucked trees not meeting the LOD definition shall be removed, consistent with the slash removal requirements of Subsection 030.06. (7-1-21)T

vii. To obtain a variance from the standing tree and shade requirements, the operator must develop a site specific riparian management prescription and submit it to the department for approval. The prescription should consider stream characteristics and the need for large organic debris, stream shading and wildlife cover which will achieve the objective of these rules. (7-1-21)T

viii. Stream width shall be measured as average between ordinary high water marks. (7-1-21)T

**f.** Direct ignition of prescribed burns will be limited to hand piles within stream protection zones (SPZ), all other direct ignitions shall occur outside of SPZs, so a backing (cooler) fire will more likely occur within the SPZ. (7-1-21)T

i. Hand piles shall be at least five (5) feet from the ordinary high water-mark of streams. (7-1-21)T

ii. No mechanical piling of slash or natural forest fuels is allowed in a SPZ (an exception is filter windrows for erosion control which shall not be ignited). (7-1-21)T

**08. Maintenance of Productivity and Related Values.** Harvesting practices will first be designed to assure the continuous growing and harvesting of forest tree species by suitable economic means and also to protect soil, air, water, and wildlife resources. (7-1-21)T

**a.** Where major scenic attractions, highways, recreation areas or other high-use areas are located within or traverse forest land, give special consideration to scenic values by prompt cleanup and regeneration. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Give special consideration to preserving any critical aquatic or wildlife habitat, including snags, especially within stream protection zones. Wherever practical, preserve fruit, nut, and berry producing trees and shrubs. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Avoid conducting operations along or through bogs, swamps, wet meadows, springs, seeps, wet draws or other locations where the presence of water is indicated by associated vegetation; temporary crossings can be used as referred to in Paragraph 030.07.b. Protect soil and vegetation from disturbance which would cause adverse affects on water quality, quantity and wildlife and aquatic habitat. (7-1-21)T

**d.** Harvesting operations within a single ownership, in which essentially all trees have been removed in one operation, shall be planned so that adequate wildlife escape cover (e.g. topography, vegetation, stream protection zones, etc.) is available within one-quarter (¼) mile. (7-1-21)T

### **031. CUMULATIVE WATERSHED EFFECTS.**

**01. Purpose.** In accordance with Section 38-1305(8), Idaho Code, the department has developed methods for controlling cumulative watershed effects (CWE). The methods and procedures are described in the

department manual entitled “Forest Practices Cumulative Watershed Effects Process for Idaho.” Proper application of this process will help ensure watersheds are managed to protect water quality so that beneficial uses are supported. This rule describes how the process is to be implemented on forest land. (7-1-21)T

**02. Process Application.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Application of the CWE process and any resulting site-specific BMPs are encouraged but not mandatory. (7-1-21)T

**b.** The process may be initiated by either the department, a watershed advisory group (WAG), or an individual landowner or group of landowners that collectively own at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the forested land in a watershed. In any case, a reasonable effort will be made to notify forest landowners within the watershed, and the landowners will be given the opportunity to participate in the process. (7-1-21)T

**c.** The department shall be notified prior to the initiation of the CWE process. (7-1-21)T

**d.** The department will review and approve the watershed assessment and CWE site-specific BMPs for compliance with the Forest Practices Act. (7-1-21)T

**03. Site-Specific BMP Implementation.** Approved CWE site-specific BMPs are encouraged and applied on a voluntary basis. (7-1-21)T

**04. Site-Specific BMPs on Former Stream Segments of Concern.** Practices approved by the department from 1989 through 1995 under former stream segments of concern rules remain in effect until revised by a CWE analysis, at which point the CWE site-specific BMPs would be mandatory. (7-1-21)T

**032. -- 039. (RESERVED)**

**040. ROAD CONSTRUCTION, RECONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE.**

**01. Purpose.** Provide standards and guidelines for road construction, reconstruction, and maintenance that will maintain forest productivity, water quality, and fish and wildlife habitat. (7-1-21)T

**02. Road Specifications and Plans.** Road specifications and plans shall be consistent with good safety practices. Plan each road to the minimum use standards adapted to the terrain and soil materials to minimize disturbances and damage to forest productivity, water quality, fish, and wildlife habitat. (7-1-21)T

**a.** Plan transportation networks to avoid road construction within stream protection zones, except at approaches to stream crossings. Leave or reestablish areas of vegetation between roads and streams. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Roads shall be no wider than necessary to safely accommodate the anticipated use. Minimize cut and fill volumes by aligning the road to fit the natural terrain features as closely as possible. Adequately compact fill material. Dispose of excess material on geologically stable sites. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Plan roads to drain naturally by out-sloping or in-sloping with cross-drainage and by grade changes where possible. Plan dips, water bars, cross-drainage, or subsurface drainage on roads when necessary. (7-1-21)T

**d.** Relief culverts and roadside ditches shall be planned whenever reliance upon natural drainage would not protect the running surface, cut slopes or fill slopes. Plan culvert installations to prevent erosion of the fill by properly sizing, bedding and compacting. Plan drainage structures to achieve minimum direct discharge of sediment into streams. (7-1-21)T

**e.** The following rule applies to installations of new culverts and re-installations during road reconstructions or re-installations caused by flood or other catastrophic events. Culverts used for temporary crossings are exempt from the fifty (50) year design requirement, but they must be removed immediately after they are no longer needed and before the spring run-off period. (7-1-21)T

i. Culvert installations on fish bearing streams must provide for fish passage. (7-1-21)T

ii. Design culverts for stream crossings to carry the fifty (50) year peak flow using engineering methods acceptable to the department or determine culvert size by using the culvert sizing tables below. The minimum size culvert required for stream crossings shall not be less than eighteen (18) inches in diameter, with the exception of that area of the Snake River drainage upstream from the mouth of the Malad River, including the Bear River basin, where the minimum size shall be fifteen (15) inches.

**CULVERT SIZING TABLE - I  
USE FOR NORTH IDAHO AND THE SALMON RIVER DRAINAGE**

This culvert sizing table is used for the area of the state north of the Salmon River and within the South Fork Salmon River drainage. It was developed to carry the fifty (50) year peak flow at a headwater-to-diameter ratio of one (1).

<b>Watershed Area (acres)</b>	<b>Required Culvert Diameter (inches)</b>	<b>Culvert Capacity (in cubic feet/sec)</b>
less than 32	18	6
33 - 74	24	12
75 - 141	30	20
142 - 240	36	32
241 - 366	42	46
367 - 546	48	65
547 - 787	54	89
788 - 1027	60	112

Strongly consider having culverts larger than sixty (60) inches designed, or consider alternative structures, such as bridges, mitered culverts, arches, etc.

<b>Watershed Area (acres)</b>	<b>Required Culvert Diameter (inches)</b>	<b>Culvert Capacity (in cubic feet/sec)</b>
1028 - 1354	66	142
1355 - 1736	72	176
1737 - 2731	84	260
2732 - 4111	96	370
4112 - 5830	108	500
5831 - 8256	120	675

Culverts larger than one hundred twenty (120) inches must be designed; consider alternative structures.

**CULVERT SIZING TABLE - II  
USE FOR SOUTH IDAHO**

This culvert sizing table is used for the area of the state south of the Salmon River and outside the South Fork Salmon River drainage. It was developed to carry the fifty (50) year peak flow at a headwater-to-diameter ratio of one (1).



<b>Watershed Area (acres)</b>	<b>Required Culvert Diameter (inches)</b>	<b>Culvert Capacity (in cubic feet/sec)</b>
less than 72	18#	6
73 - 150	24	12
151 - 270	30	20
271 - 460	36	32
461 - 720	42	46
721 - 1025	48	65
1026 - 1450	54	89
1451 - 1870	60	112

Strongly consider having culverts larger than sixty (60) inches designed, or consider alternative structures, such as bridges, mitered culverts, arches, etc.

<b>Watershed Area (acres)</b>	<b>Required Culvert Diameter (inches)</b>	<b>Culvert Capacity (in cubic feet/sec)</b>
1871 - 2415	66	142
2416 - 3355	72	176
3356 - 5335	84	260
5336 - 7410	96	370
7411 - 9565	108	500
9566 - 11780	120	675

Culverts larger than one hundred twenty (120) inches must be designed; consider alternative structures.

# See exception for southeast Idaho in Subparagraph 040.02.a.ii. of this rule. (7-1-21)T

iii. Relief culverts, and those used for seeps, springs, wet areas, and draws shall not be less than twelve (12) inches in diameter for permanent installations. (7-1-21)T

f. On existing roads that are not reconstructed or damaged by catastrophic events, landowners or operators are encouraged, but not required, to replace or provide mitigation for culverts that do not provide for fish passage in accordance with Subparagraph 040.02.e.i. or cannot carry the fifty (50) year peak flow of Subparagraph 040.02.e.ii. (7-1-21)T

g. Stream crossings, including fords, shall be minimum in number and planned and installed in compliance with the Stream Channel Protection Act, Title 42, Chapter 38, Idaho Code, and with culvert sizing requirements of Paragraph 040.02.e. Fords are an acceptable stream crossing structure on small, shallow streams, with flat, less than four percent (4%) gradients. Fords should cross the stream at right angles. Approaches shall be adequately cross-drained and rockered for at least seventy-five (75) feet. During times of salmonid spawning and egg incubation or to protect active domestic water diversions, use shall be limited to low water, dry, or frozen conditions and hauling or equipment crossing trips limited to minimize sediment delivery to streams. (7-1-21)T

h. Avoid reconstruction of existing roads located in stream protection zones, except for approaches to

stream crossings, unless it will result in the least long-term impact on site productivity, water quality, and fish and wildlife habitat. Reconstruction of existing roads in stream protection zones will require a variance. Reusing existing roads in stream protection zones for skidding or landing logs shall require a variance. Reusing existing roads in stream protection zones for hauling fully suspended logs only, where no reconstruction will occur, does not require a variance. (7-1-21)T

**03. Road Construction.** Construct or reconstruct roads in a manner to prevent debris, overburden, and other material from entering streams. (7-1-21)T

**a.** Roads shall be constructed in compliance with the planning guidelines of Subsection 040.02. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Clear all debris generated during construction or maintenance which potentially interferes with drainage or water quality. Deposit excess material and slash on geologically stable sites outside the stream protection zones. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Where exposed material (road surface, cut slopes or fill slopes, borrow pits, waste piles, etc.) is potentially erodible, and where sediments would enter streams, stabilize prior to fall or spring runoff by seeding, compacting, rocking, riprapping, benching, mulching or other suitable means. (7-1-21)T

**d.** In the construction of road fills, compact the material to reduce the entry of water, minimize erosion, and settling of fill material. Minimize the amount of snow, ice, or frozen soil buried in embankments. No significant amount of woody material shall be incorporated into fills. Available slash and debris may be utilized as a filter windrow along the toe of the fill, but must meet the requirements of the Idaho Forestry Act and Fire Hazard Reduction Laws, Title 38, Chapters 1 and 4, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**e.** During and following operations on out-sloped roads, retain out-slope drainage and remove berms on the outside edge except those intentionally constructed for protection of road grade fills. (7-1-21)T

**f.** Provide for drainage of quarries to prevent sediment from entering streams. (7-1-21)T

**g.** Construct cross drains and relief culverts to minimize erosion of embankments. Installation of erosion control devices should be concurrent with road construction. Use riprap, vegetative matter, downspouts and similar devices to minimize erosion of the fill. Install drainage structures or cross drain incompleated roads which are subject to erosion prior to fall or spring runoff. Install relief culverts with a minimum grade of one percent (1%). (7-1-21)T

**h.** Earthwork or material hauling shall be postponed during wet periods if, as a result, erodible material would enter streams. (7-1-21)T

**i.** Cut slopes shall be reconstructed to minimize sloughing of material into road surfaces or ditchlines. Remove or stabilize material subject to sloughing concurrent with the construction operation. (7-1-21)T

**j.** Roads constructed on slopes greater than sixty percent (60%) in unstable or erodible soils shall be full benched without fill slope disposal. At stream and draw crossings keep fills to a minimum. A variance is required if a full bench is not used. (7-1-21)T

**04. Road Maintenance.** Conduct regular preventive maintenance operations to minimize disturbance and damage to forest productivity, water quality, and fish and wildlife habitat. (7-1-21)T

**a.** Place all debris or slide material associated with road maintenance in a manner to prevent their entry into streams. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Repair slumps, slides, and other erosion sources causing stream sedimentation to minimize sediment delivery. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Active roads. An active road is a forest road being used for hauling forest products, rock and other

- road building materials. The following maintenance shall be conducted on such roads. (7-1-21)T
- i. Culverts and ditches shall be kept functional. (7-1-21)T
  - ii. During and upon completion of seasonal operations, the road surface shall be crowned, out-sloped, in-sloped or cross-ditched, and berms removed from the outside edge except those intentionally constructed for protection of fills. (7-1-21)T
  - iii. The road surface shall be maintained as necessary to minimize erosion of the subgrade and to provide proper drainage. (7-1-21)T
  - iv. Hauling shall be postponed during wet periods if necessary to minimize sediment delivery to streams. (7-1-21)T
  - v. If road surface stabilizing materials are used, apply them in such a manner as to prevent their entry into streams. (7-1-21)T
- d.** Incidental Haul Road. An incidental haul road is a multi-use road (residential traffic; its primary purpose is other than forest practices) that has log haul during active harvest activities. Active road maintenance requirements apply. Once active road maintenance is completed, no other maintenance is required under the Forest Practices Act (FPA). (7-1-21)T
- e.** Inactive roads. An inactive road is a forest road (primary purpose is for forest practices) no longer used for commercial hauling but maintained for access (e.g., for fire control, forest management activities, recreational use, and occasional or incidental use for minor forest products harvesting). The following maintenance shall be conducted on inactive roads. (7-1-21)T
- i. Following termination of active use, ditches and culverts shall be cleared and the road surface shall be crowned, out-sloped or in-sloped, water barred or otherwise left in a condition to minimize erosion. Drainage structures shall be maintained thereafter as needed. (7-1-21)T
  - ii. The roads may be permanently or seasonally blocked to vehicular traffic. (7-1-21)T
- f.** Long-term Inactive Roads. A long-term inactive road is not intended to be used again in the near future but will likely be used again at some point in the future. No subsequent maintenance of a long-term inactive road is required after the following procedures are completed: (7-1-21)T
- i. The road is left in a condition suitable to control erosion by out-sloping, water barring, seeding, or other suitable methods. (7-1-21)T
  - ii. The road is blocked to vehicular traffic. (7-1-21)T
  - iii. The department may require the removal of bridges, culverts, ditches and unstable fills. Any bridges or culverts left in place shall be maintained by the landowner. (7-1-21)T
- g.** Permanently Abandoned Roads. Permanently abandoned roads are not intended to be used again. All drainage structures must be removed and roadway sections treated so that erosion and landsliding are minimized. (7-1-21)T
- i. Drainage structures shall be removed and stream gradients restored to their natural slope. (7-1-21)T
  - ii. The road prism shall be treated to break up compacted areas. (7-1-21)T
  - iii. Fill slopes of roads within stream protection zones shall be pulled back to a stable configuration unless long-term stability has already been achieved. (7-1-21)T
  - iv. Unstable sidehill fills shall be pulled back to a stable configuration. (7-1-21)T

v. Ditch line erosion shall be controlled by cross-ditching, outsloping, or regrading to eliminate ditches. (7-1-21)T

vi. All bare earth areas created by regrading, ripping, and drainage removal shall be stabilized by seeding, mulching, armoring, or other suitable means. (7-1-21)T

**05. Winter Operations.** Due to risk of erosion and damage from roads and constructed skid trails inherent in winter logging, at minimum the following shall apply: (7-1-21)T

a. Roads to be used for winter operations must have adequate surface and cross drainage installed prior to winter operations. Drain winter roads by installing rolling dips, driveable cross ditches, open top culverts, outsloping, or by other suitable means. (7-1-21)T

b. During winter operations, roads will be maintained as needed to keep the road surface drained during thaws or break up. This may include active maintenance of existing drainage structures, opening of drainage holes in snow berms and installation of additional cross drainage on road surfaces by ripping, placement of native material or other suitable means. (7-1-21)T

**041. -- 049. (RESERVED)**

**050. RESIDUAL STOCKING AND REFORESTATION.**

**01. Purpose.** The purpose of these rules is to provide for residual stocking and reforestation that will maintain a continuous growing and harvesting of forest tree species by describing the conditions under which reforestation will be required, specifying the minimum number of acceptable trees per acre, the maximum period of time allowed after harvesting for establishment of forest tree species, and for sites not requiring reforestation, to maintain soil productivity and minimize erosion. (7-1-21)T

**02. Quality of Residual Stocking.** On any operation, trees left for future harvest shall be of acceptable species and adequately protected from harvest damage to enhance their survival and growth. This may be accomplished by locating roads and landings and by conducting felling, bucking, skidding, yarding, and decking operations so as to minimize damage to residual trees. Acceptable residual trees should have a minimum live crown ratio of thirty percent (30%), minimum basal scarring, and should not have dead or broken tops. When stands have a high percentage of unacceptable trees, consider stand replacement rather than intermediate cuttings. (7-1-21)T

**03. Sites Unpractical to Reforest.** Sites unpractical to reforest, generally ponderosa pine and drier Douglas-fir habitat types, shall not be harvested below minimum stocking, unless the site is converted to some other use, or in instances of wildfire, insects, disease or other natural causes where salvage of the damaged timber is planned. (7-1-21)T

a. When harvesting timber on these sites, one (1) of the following actions must be taken: (7-1-21)T

i. Establish a new stand by leaving seed trees on the site and inter-planting at least once within five (5) years of completing the harvest, if needed to meet minimum stocking. (7-1-21)T

ii. Establish a new stand of timber by planting the site with an acceptable tree species, and inter-planting at least once within five (5) years of the original planting, if needed to meet minimum stocking. (7-1-21)T

b. If the efforts listed in Subparagraphs 050.03.a.i. and 03.a.ii. fall short of meeting the minimum stocking level, the landowner will be encouraged, but not required, to meet the minimum stocking level through additional reforestation efforts. (7-1-21)T

**04. Stocking.** Stocking will be deemed adequate immediately following harvest if the following number of acceptable trees per acre, within each specified region, for at least one (1) size class, are reasonably well distributed over the area affected by forest harvesting. (NOTE: (1) DBH = Average Diameter (outside of the bark) of a tree four and one half (4.5) feet above mean ground level):

**MINIMUM STOCKING - ACCEPTABLE TREES**

Idaho Region	Size Class DBH (inches)	Average Number of Retained Trees Per Acre	Average Spacing (feet)
North	0" – 2.9"	170	16 x 16
South	0" – 2.9"	125	18 x 18
North	3.0" – 10.9"	110	19 x 19
South	3.0" – 10.9"	75	24 x 24
North	11.0" and greater	20	46 x 46
South	11.0" and greater	15	53 x 53

If immediately following harvest, the stand consists of retained trees of mixed size classes that are reasonably well distributed over the harvested area, and none of the size classes individually equal or exceed the minimum trees per acre shown above, stocking will also be deemed adequate if the weighted total of all of the size classes of the retained trees exceeds a value of one hundred seventy (170) for a stand in the North Region and one hundred twenty-five (125) in the South Region. The weighted total is calculated by multiplying the number of retained trees per acre in each size class by the weighting factors below, and adding all of these size class totals together.

Size Class	Weight
0" – 2.9"	1
3.0" – 10.9"	1.6
11.0" and greater	8.4

Harvested stands which are not adequately stocked, as defined above, will be subject to supplemental reforestation requirements specified in Subsection 050.06. Minimum stocking requirements for Class I stream protection zones are specified in Subparagraphs 030.07.e.ii. and 07.e.vi. (7-1-21)T

**05. Reforestation Exemptions.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Reforestation is not required for: (7-1-21)T

i. Noncommercial forest land; (7-1-21)T

ii. Land converted to another use. This may include land converted to roads used in a forest practice; (7-1-21)T

iii. A forest practice which will result in ten (10) acres or less below minimum stocking levels. (7-1-21)T

**b.** On lands exempted under Subsection 050.03, where reforestation is not being planned, some form of grass or planted cover shall be established within one (1) year in order to maintain soil productivity and minimize erosion. (7-1-21)T

**06. Supplemental Reforestation.** Seeding and/or planting may be required if after three (3) growing seasons from the date of harvest, stocking levels do not meet the standards in Subsection 050.04. Required seeding and/or planting shall be completed before the end of the fifth growing season following the time of harvest, except that the director shall grant an extension of time if suitable seeds or seedlings are not available or if weather or other conditions interfere. (7-1-21)T

**a.** Reforestation practices must ensure seedlings become established. This can be accomplished by adequate site preparation, utilizing acceptable seed or seedlings, following accepted planting or sowing practices, or by other suitable means. (7-1-21)T

**b.** The party responsible for reforestation is the landowner during the harvest which reduced stand stocking below the minimum levels stated in Subsection 050.04. (7-1-21)T

**051. -- 059. (RESERVED)**

**060. USE OF CHEMICALS AND PETROLEUM PRODUCTS.**

**01. Purpose.** Chemicals perform an important function in the growing and harvesting of forest tree species. The purpose of these rules is to regulate handling, storage and application of chemicals in such a way that the public health and aquatic and terrestrial habitats will not be endangered by contamination of streams or other bodies of water. In addition, the application of chemicals are regulated by the Commercial Fertilizer Law, Title 22, Chapter 6; the Soil and Plant Amendment Law, Title 22, Chapter 22, and the Idaho Pesticide Law, Title 22, Chapter 34, Idaho Code and IDAPA 02.03.03, "Rules Governing Pesticide and Chemigation Use and Application." (7-1-21)T

**02. Petroleum Products.** Petroleum storage containers with capacities of more than two hundred (200) gallons, stationary or mobile, will be located no closer than one hundred (100) feet from any stream, water course, lake, or area of open water. Dikes, berms or embankments will be constructed to contain at least one hundred ten percent (110%) of the volume of petroleum products stored within the tanks. Diked areas will be sufficiently impervious and of adequate capacity to contain spilled petroleum products. In the event any leakage or spillage enters any stream, water course, lake, or area of open water, the operator will immediately notify the department. (7-1-21)T

**a.** Transferring petroleum products. During fueling operations or petroleum product transfer to other containers, there shall be a person attending such operations at all times. Fueling operations should not take place where, if spillage occurs, the fuel will enter streams, lakes or other areas of open water. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Equipment and containers used for transportation, storage or transfer of petroleum products shall be maintained in a leakproof condition. If the department determines there is evidence of petroleum product leakage or spillage, the use of such equipment shall be suspended until the deficiency has been corrected. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Waste resulting from logging operations, such as crankcase oil, filters, grease, oil containers, or other nonbiodegradable waste shall be removed from the operating area and disposed of properly. (7-1-21)T

**03. Licensing.** Any person applying, mixing or loading pesticides shall comply with the licensing requirements of Idaho Pesticide Law and IDAPA 02.03.03, "Rules Governing Pesticide and Chemigation Use and Application." This requirement does not pertain to individuals applying general use pesticides on their own property. (7-1-21)T

**04. Maintenance of Equipment.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** Equipment used for transportation, storage or application of chemicals shall be maintained in leakproof condition. If, in the director's judgment, there is evidence of chemical leakage, he shall have the authority to suspend the further use of such equipment until the deficiency has been corrected. (7-1-21)T

**b.** The storage of pesticide shall also be conducted in accordance with the requirements Rules of the Idaho Pesticide Law and IDAPA 02.03.03, "Rules Governing Pesticide and Chemigation Use and Application." (7-1-21)T

**05. Mixing.** (7-1-21)T

**a.** When water is used in mixing chemicals: (7-1-21)T

**i.** Provide an air gap or reservoir between the water source and the mixing tank. (7-1-21)T

- ii. Use uncontaminated tanks, pumps, hoses and screens to handle and transfer mix water for utilization in pesticide operations. (7-1-21)T
- b. Mixing and landing areas: (7-1-21)T
  - i. Mix chemicals and clean tanks and equipment only where spills will not enter any water source or streams. (7-1-21)T
  - ii. Landing areas shall be located where spilled chemicals will not enter any water source or stream. (7-1-21)T
  - iii. Rinsate and wash water should be recovered and used for make-up water, be applied to the target area, or disposed of according to state and federal laws. (7-1-21)T
- 06. Aerial Application:** (7-1-21)T
  - a. With the exception of pesticides approved for aquatic use and applied according to labeled directions, when applying pesticide leave at least one (1) swath width (minimum one hundred (100) feet) untreated on each side of all Class I streams, flowing Class II streams and other areas of open water. When applying pelletized fertilizer, leave a minimum of fifty (50) feet untreated on each side of all Class I streams, flowing Class II streams, and other areas of open water. (7-1-21)T
  - b. Use a bucket or spray device capable of immediate shutoff. (7-1-21)T
  - c. Shut off chemical application during turns and over open water. (7-1-21)T
  - d. Aerial application of pesticides shall also be conducted according to the Idaho Pesticide Law and IDAPA 02.03.03, "Rules Governing Pesticide and Chemigation Use and Application." (7-1-21)T
- 07. Ground Application with Power Equipment.** (7-1-21)T
  - a. With exception of pesticides approved for aquatic use and applied according to labeled directions, when applying pesticide, leave at least twenty-five (25) feet untreated on each side of all Class I streams, flowing Class II streams and areas of open water. (7-1-21)T
  - b. When applying fertilizer, leave at least ten (10) feet untreated on each side of all streams and areas of open water. (7-1-21)T
- 08. Hand Application.** (7-1-21)T
  - a. Apply only to specific targets; such as, a stump, burrow, bait, or trap. (7-1-21)T
  - b. Keep chemicals out of all water sources or streams. (7-1-21)T
- 09. Limitations on Applications.** (7-1-21)T
  - a. Chemicals shall be applied in accordance with all limitations and instructions printed on the product registration labels, supplemental labels, and others established by regulation of the director. (7-1-21)T
  - b. Do not exceed allowable rates. (7-1-21)T
  - c. Prevent direct entry of chemicals into any water source or stream. (7-1-21)T
- 10. Daily Records of Chemical Applications.** (7-1-21)T
  - a. When pesticides are applied on forest land, the operator shall maintain a daily record of spray

- operations which includes: (7-1-21)T
- i. Date and time of day of application. (7-1-21)T
  - ii. Name and address of owner of property treated. (7-1-21)T
  - iii. Purpose of the application (control of vegetation, control of Douglas-fir tussock moth, etc.). (7-1-21)T
  - iv. Contractor’s name and pilot’s name when applied aerially. Contractor’s name or applicator’s name for ground application. (7-1-21)T
  - v. Location of project (section, township, range and county). (7-1-21)T
  - vi. Air temperature (hourly). (7-1-21)T
  - vii. Wind velocity and direction (hourly). (7-1-21)T
  - viii. Pesticides used including trade or brand name, EPA product registration number, mixture, application rate, carrier used and total amounts applied. (7-1-21)T
- b.** Whenever fertilizers or soil amendments are applied, the operator shall maintain a daily record of such application which includes Subsection 060.10 and the name of the fertilizer or soil amendment and application rate. (7-1-21)T
  - c.** The records required in Subsection 060.10 shall be maintained in compliance with the record-keeping requirements of IDAPA 02.03.03, “Rules Governing Pesticide and Chemigation Use and Application.” (7-1-21)T
  - d.** All records required in Subsection 060.10 shall be retained for three (3) years. (7-1-21)T
- 11. Container Disposal.** Chemical containers shall be: cleaned and removed from the forest and disposed of in a manner approved by the director in accordance with applicable local, state and federal regulations; or removed for reuse in a manner consistent with label directions and applicable regulations of a state or local health department. Open burning of containers is prohibited. (7-1-21)T
- 12. Spills.** Spills shall be reported and appropriate cleanup action taken in accordance with applicable state and federal laws and rules and regulations. (7-1-21)T
- a.** All chemical accidents and spills shall be reported immediately to the director. (7-1-21)T
  - b.** If chemical is spilled, appropriate procedures shall be taken immediately to control the spill source and contain the released material. (7-1-21)T
  - c.** It is the applicator’s responsibility to collect, remove, and dispose of the spilled material in accordance with applicable local, state and federal rules and regulations and in a manner approved by the director. (7-1-21)T
- 13. Misapplications.** Whenever chemicals are applied to the wrong site or pesticides are applied outside of the directions on the product label, it is the responsibility of the applicator to report these misapplications immediately to the director. (7-1-21)T

**061. -- 069. (RESERVED)**

**070. SLASHING MANAGEMENT.**

- 01. Purpose.** To provide for management of slashing and fire hazard resulting from harvesting, forest



management, or improvement of forest tree species, or defoliation caused by chemical applications in that manner necessary to protect reproduction and residual stands, reduce risk from fire, insects and disease or optimize the conditions for future regeneration of forest tree species and to maintain air and water quality, fish and wildlife habitat. (7-1-21)T

**02. Commercial Slash.** Fuels and debris resulting from a forest practice involving removal of a commercial product shall be managed as set forth in the Idaho Forestry Act, Title 38, Chapters 1 and 4, Idaho Code and the rules and regulations pertaining to forest fire protection. (7-1-21)T

**03. Non-Commercial Slash.** Fuels and debris resulting from a forest practice where no commercial product is removed shall be managed in a manner as hereinafter designated under authority of the Idaho Forest Practices Act, Title 38, Chapter 13, Idaho Code. (7-1-21)T

**a.** Within ten (10) days or a time mutually agreed upon following receipt by the department of the “Notification of Forest Practice” as provided in Subsection 020.05, the department shall make a determination of the potential fire hazard and hazard reduction and/or hazard offsets, if any, needed to reduce, abate or offset the fire hazard. Such determination shall be based on a point system found in Paragraph 070.03.e. (7-1-21)T

**b.** The operator, timber owner and landowner shall be notified in writing of the determination made in Paragraph 070.03.a. above (on forms provided by the department) and of the hazard reductions and/or hazard offsets, if any, that must be accomplished by the operator, timber owner or landowner. The notification shall specify a reasonable time period not to exceed twelve (12) months from the date the forest practice commenced in which to complete the hazard reduction and shall specify the number of succeeding years that on site improvements or extra protection must be provided. (7-1-21)T

**c.** A release of all obligations under Subsection 070.03 shall be granted in writing on forms provided by the department when the hazard reduction and/or hazard offsets have been accomplished. When hazard offsets are to be accomplished during succeeding years, the release shall be conditioned upon the completion of the required hazard offsets. Notification of release shall be mailed to the operator, timber owner and landowner within seven (7) days of the inspection by the department. Inspections by the department shall be made within ten (10) days of notification by the operator, timber owner or landowner unless otherwise mutually agreed upon. (7-1-21)T

**d.** If the department determines upon inspection that the hazard reduction or hazard offsets have not been accomplished within the time limit specified in Paragraph 070.03.b., extensions of time, each not to exceed three months, may be granted if the director determines that a diligent effort has been made and that conditions beyond the control of the party performing the hazard reduction or hazard offsets prevented completion. If an extension is not granted the department shall proceed as required in Section 38-1307, Idaho Code (Idaho Forest Practices Act). (7-1-21)T

**e.** For the purpose of determining the potential fire hazard and the appropriate hazard reduction and/or hazard offsets, a point system using the following rating guides will be used by the department. A value of eighty (80) points or less for any individual forest practice under Paragraph 070.03, as determined by the department, will be sufficient to release the operator, timber owner and landowner of all further obligations under Subsection 070.03. Total points of the proposed forest practice will be determined from Tables I and II. If the total points are greater than eighty (80), modification of the thinning practice to reduce points may be made as determined by Tables I and II, slash hazard offsets may be scheduled to reduce points as determined by Table III or a combination of these options may be used to reduce the hazards to a point total of eighty (80) or less. Consideration will be given to the operator’s, timber owner’s and landowner’s preference in selecting the options to reduce the points to eighty (80) or less.

**TABLE I - HAZARD POINTS**  
**Hazard Points for Ponderosa Pine, Western Red Cedar or Western Hemlock**

Thinned Stems Per Acre											
Ave. DBH	250	500	750	1000	1250	1500	1750	2000	2500	3000	4000
1	1	2	3	3	4	5	6	7	9	10	16
2	3	6	9	13	16	22	25	30	36	42	51
3	7	16	25	32	38	46	51	52	56	59	
4	9	22	32	40	50	52	54	56	60		
5	13	28	40	51	54	56	59	60			
6	19	36	51	54	58	60	60				

**Hazard Points for Douglas Fir, Grand Fir or Engelmann Spruce**

Thinned Stems Per Acre											
Ave. DBH	250	500	750	1000	1250	1500	1750	2000	2500	3000	4000
1	1	2	3	4	6	7	8	9	13	16	22
2	4	7	13	16	22	28	32	36	42	50	54
3	8	19	28	36	44	51	53	54	58	60	
4	10	25	36	46	51	54	57	59	60		
5	16	32	46	52	56	59	60	60			
6	22	40	52	56	60	60	60				

**Hazard Points for Western Larch, Lodgepole Pine or Western White Pine**

Thinned Stems Per Acre											
Ave. DBH	250	500	750	1000	1250	1500	1750	2000	2500	3000	4000
1	1	2	2	3	4	4	5	6	8	9	13
2	3	6	8	11	16	19	22	28	32	38	48
3	6	16	25	32	38	46	51	52	56	59	
4	8	16	28	36	44	50	52	54	58		
5	9	22	32	42	50	53	55	57			
6	13	28	40	50	53	56	59				

**TABLE II - HAZARD POINTS WORKSHEET**

**HAZARD CHARACTERISTICS**

**HAZARD POINTS**

Fuel Quantity

Hazard points from Slash Hazard Table I 1/  
Record number of trees/acre to be cut  
Average D.B.H.  
Predominant species

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Size of thinning block  
Points 0 - 15

16 - 30      31 - 45      46 - 60 1/

Acres 20

20 - 40      40 - 80      80

Site Factor

Record Slope \_\_\_\_\_ % Aspect \_\_\_\_\_  
Determine points from table below 1/

ASPECT	PERCENT SLOPE			
	0 - 19	20 - 39	40 - 59	60
E or NE	0	5	10	20
E or NW	0	5	10	30
W or SE	0	10	30	40
S or SW	0	20	40	60
1/	Max. 60 points			

Other Factors	
Condition of operating area before forest practice commences	0 - 20 points
Condition of adjoining area	0 - 20 points
Presence of snags and culls	0 - 5 points
Deterioration rate of slash	0 - 5 points
Time of year forest practice operation	10 points
October thru December	2 points
August thru September	4 points
January thru April	7 points
May thru July	10 points

Other Factors	
TOTAL FOREST PRACTICE AREA POINTS	(Max. 240 points)

TABLE III - HAZARD OFFSETS

Offsets	Hazard Point Deductions
Physical Changes to the Hazard (1)	
(1) Points will be proportional to the amount of hazard disposed of or modified.	
Disposal by burning or removal.	0 - 160
Modification by reducing depth through crushing, chipping or lopping.	0 - 60
On Site Improvements	
Condition of main access road to forest practice area should allow movement of heavy trucks without difficulty.	0 - 5
Access control to forest practice area provided by closure to public traffic.	0 - 5
Availability of water for tankers within one mile of forest practice area or within three miles for helicopter bucket use. Water supply to be sufficient to supply at least fifty thousand (50,000) gallons.	0 - 15
Buffer zones of unthinned areas at least two chains in width between roadways and thinned areas.	0 - 10
Fuel breaks with slash hazard removal around and/or through forest practice area, located so as to provide optimum fire control effect and of two to four chains in width.	0 - 25
Fire trails with fuel removed to expose mineral soil to a width of twelve (12) feet. Maximum points allowed if combined with a fuel break.	0 - 15
Extra Protection	
Increased attack capability such as retardant availability, increased attack manpower and equipment. Must be in addition to regular forces normally available during the fire season.	0 - 40
Fire detection and prevention increased beyond that normally available for lands in the fire protection district.	0 - 15
Initial attack time based on proximity of forest practice area to initial attack forces.	0 - 5
Landowner protection plan which would provide extra fire protection on a voluntary basis such as extra equipment and/or manpower.	0 - 5

(7-1-21)T

**071. PRESCRIBED FIRE.**

**01. Purpose.** Prescribed fire is a tool with application in land management. Smoke from prescribed fires can have adverse impacts on ambient air quality or public health. It is the purpose of these rules to establish a management system for smoke from prescribed fires that will protect air quality. (7-1-21)T

**02. Notification.** The use of prescribed fire requires a valid notification in accordance with Subsection 020.05 to maintain air quality and to protect public health. Possession of a valid notification will not preclude meeting

the fire safety requirements specified in Section 38-115, Idaho Code.

(7-1-21)T

**03. Recommended Practices.** To maintain air quality and protect public health the following practices are recommended: (7-1-21)T

**a.** Slash and large woody debris piles should be compact and free of stumps, soil, snow, and nonwoody organic material. (7-1-21)T

**b.** Piles should be fully cured, dried at least two (2) months, prior to ignition. Piles should be at least partially covered with a water resistant material so they can be ignited after enough precipitation to lower the fire danger. (7-1-21)T

**c.** Broadcast burns should be conducted within a prescription that minimizes adverse effects on air quality. (7-1-21)T

**d.** Membership in good standing in a recognized Airshed Group is encouraged. (7-1-21)T

**072. -- 999. (RESERVED)**

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