

IDAPA 20.02.01 Rules Pertaining to The Idaho Forest Practices Act Section 030

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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. (10-14-75)

02. Quality of Residual Stocking. Reforestation is required if harvesting reduces stocking of acceptable trees below minimums of Subsection 050.04. (7-1-96)

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. (8-13-85)

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, except for traction-assisted harvesting equipment, shall not be used ~~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. (~~4-4-13~~)(~~1~~)

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%). (7-1-96)

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. (8-13-85)

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. (8-13-85)

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. (10-14-75)

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. (3-13-90)

b. Minimize the size of a landing to that necessary for safe economical operation. (8-13-85)

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. (8-13-85)

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. (4-21-92)

a. Stabilize skid trails and fire trails whenever they are subject to erosion, by water barring, cross draining, out-sloping, scarifying, seeding or other suitable means. This work shall be kept current to prevent erosion prior to fall and spring runoff. (8-13-85)

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. (8-13-85)

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. (10-14-75)

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. (3-13-90)

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. (11-7-86)

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. (8-13-85)

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. (8-13-85)

a. Lakes require an approved site specific riparian management prescription prior to conducting forest practices within the stream protection zone. (7-1-96)

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, Prior to conducting forest practice operations that cross streams using ground-based equipment, install adequate temporary or permanent structures adequate to carry stream flow; skidding or forwarding directly in or through streams or fords is not permitted shall be installed. Minimize the number of stream crossings and make direct approaches to minimize ground disturbance in the SPZ. Cross the stream at right angles to its channel if at all possible. Remove all temporary crossings immediately after use and, where applicable, cross-drain the approaches.~~ (Construction of hydraulic structures in stream channels is regulated by the Stream Channel Protection Act - Title 42, Chapter 38, Idaho Code and Subsections 040.02.e and 040.02.g.) ~~Remove all temporary crossings immediately after use and, where applicable, water bar the ends of the skid trails.~~ (4-4-13)()

c. Operation of ground-based equipment shall not be allowed within the Stream Protection Zone except at approaches to stream crossings. (7-1-96)

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. (8-13-85)

e. Provide for large organic debris (LOD), shading, soil stabilization, wildlife cover and water filtering effects of vegetation along streams. (7-1-96)

i. Leave shrubs, grasses, and rocks wherever they afford shade over a stream or maintain the integrity of the soil near a stream. Landowners are strongly encouraged to leave all trees immediately adjacent to streams. (3-20-14)()

ii. During commercial harvest within ~~Adjacent to all Class I s~~ Streams Protection Zones, to maintain and enhance shade and large woody debris recruitment, landowners must comply retain with the one of the two following options defining weighted tree retention-count per one-hundred (100) linear feet of stream: -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.

- (1) fifty-seven (57) north of the Clearwater/Lochsa Rivers
- (2) forty-nine (49) between the Clearwater/Lochsa and Salmon Rivers
- (3) forty-one (41) south of the Salmon river
- (4) thirty-seven (37) in drier forests with Stream Protection Zones dominated by Douglas-fir and ponderosa pine.

At least four (4) of the above weighted tree count must be retained in the outer twenty-five feet (25') if the SPZ.

Calculate weighted tree count by multiplying the number of live conifers and hardwoods present in each diameter range by the weight below and then sum the results.

<u>Diameter Range (inches)</u>	<u>4-11.9"</u>	<u>12-19.9"</u>	<u>20-27.9"</u>	<u>28-35.9"</u>	<u>≥36"</u>
<u>Weight</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>11</u>

~~(3-20-14)-()~~

~~(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. (3-20-14)~~

~~(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. (3-20-14)~~

~~(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. (3-20-14)~~

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)	0.154	0.326	0.54	0.787	1.063	1.366	1.693

~~(3-20-14)~~

iii. Prior to and during harvest, cutting in any part of a given one hundred foot (100') SPZ segment is only allowed if the weighted tree count in the inner fifty feet (50') of that segment is above: thirty-three (33) north of the Clearwater/Lochsa Rivers, twenty-eight (28) between the Clearwater/Lochsa and Salmon Rivers, twenty-three (23) South of the Salmon River, and twenty-one (21) in drier forests with Stream Protection Zones dominated by Douglas-fir and ponderosa pine. Note that the combination of minimum values for the inner fifty feet (50') and outer twenty-five feet (25') do not meet the minimum for the SPZ segment; additional trees need to be left in one or both areas to meet the rule. ()

~~iii~~ iv. 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. (3-20-14)

v. 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 harvested or naturally fallen ~~of felled trees fall~~ land ~~into~~ or over a Class I stream, leave the portion consistent with the LOD definition of Subsection 010.35. ~~(4-11-06)~~

~~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. L~~ When salvaging uprooted trees, leaving the section with the root ball attached is preferred. (4-11-06)()

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. (4-11-06)

vii. To obtain a variance from the ~~standing tree and shade retention~~ 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. (4-11-06)

viii. Stream width shall be measured as average between ordinary high water marks. (3-13-90)

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. (4-11-06)

i. Hand piles shall be at least five (5) feet from the ordinary high water-mark of streams. (4-11-06)

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. (4-11-06)

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. (10-14-75)

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. (10-14-75)

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. (4-4-13)

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 ~~effects~~ effects on water quality, quantity and wildlife and aquatic habitat. (4-4-13)

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 (1/4) mile. (4-4-13)