STATE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS

May 21, 2024 Information Agenda

Subject

Proposed rule for IDAPA 20.04.02 *Rules Pertaining to the Idaho Forestry Act and Fire Hazard Reduction Laws*

Background

The Idaho Department of Lands (Department) is responsible for ensuring the reduction of hazardous wildland fuels created by forest products removal. IDAPA 20.04.02 establishes a consistent process for completing and assessing the reduction of hazardous fuels; it also sets bond rates for ensuring hazard reduction and penalties for non-compliant contractors.

Following Executive Order 2020-01, Zero-Based Regulation, this rule chapter is scheduled to be repealed and replaced in 2024 for review during the 2025 legislative session. Zero-Based Regulation negotiated rulemaking for Rules Pertaining to the Idaho Forestry Act and Fire Hazard Reduction Laws was approved by the State Board of Land Commissioners (Land Board) on August 15, 2023 (Attachment 1).

Discussion

The Department's outreach for negotiated rulemaking included the following:

- Published the Notice of Negotiated Rulemaking in the Idaho Administrative Bulletin.
- Created a rulemaking webpage to post documents, scheduling information, and comments.
- Posted meeting information on social media.
- Posted rulemaking notices to Townhall Idaho.
- Emailed draft rules to 197 interested members of the public.
- Posted three draft rules in strikethrough format with reasonable periods of time for public comment.
- Engaged in discussions with Associated Logging Contractors, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, Idaho Forest Owners Association, and Idaho Forest Industry group members.

The Department held two public negotiated rulemaking meetings with options for in-person or virtual participation. Three participants attended the October 10, 2023, meeting in Coeur d'Alene and no members of the public attended the October 11, 2023, meeting in McCall. There were no public comments provided during the meetings. The comment period ended April 17, 2024. Written comments were received from PotlatchDeltic, Associated Logging Contractors, Inc., the Department of Environmental Quality, and Riley Stegner and

Associates. All comments were addressed with changes to the rule text consistent with statutes and other Department regulations. A summary of negotiated rulemaking is included in Attachment 2. There are no unresolved issues from the negotiated rulemaking process.

Attachment 3 is the draft text that will be submitted for publication in the Administrative Bulletin as a proposed rule. The proposed rule will be open for public comment upon publication on July 3, 2024.

After the proposed rulemaking public comment period, the Department will present the rule to the Land Board for adoption as a pending rule for review by the 2025 Idaho Legislature.

Attachments

- 1. August 15, 2023 Approved Memo
- 2. Negotiated Rulemaking Summary
- 3. Proposed Rule Text

STATE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS

August 15, 2023 Regular Agenda

Subject

Negotiated rulemaking for IDAPA 20.04.02 *Rules Pertaining to the Idaho Forestry Act and Fire Hazard Reduction Law.*

Question Presented

Shall the Land Board authorize the Department to initiate negotiated rulemaking for IDAPA 20.04.02 *Rules Pertaining to the Idaho Forestry Act and Fire Hazard Reduction Law.*

Background

The Idaho Department of Lands (Department) is responsible for ensuring the reduction of hazardous wildland fuels created by forest products removal. IDAPA 20.04.02 establishes a consistent process for ensuring the reduction of hazardous fuels, establishing bond rates for operators, as well as penalties for non-compliant contractors.

Discussion

Following Executive Order 2020-01, Zero-Based Regulation, this rule chapter is scheduled to be repealed and replaced in 2024 for review during the 2025 legislative session. The Department will review the rules with stakeholders to ensure they provide clarity in our processes. Preliminary research from the Department has not identified any major changes. The Department anticipates reducing the total word count by removing repetitive statements from the rule chapter.

A proposed timeline for the rulemaking process is provided as Attachment 1.

Recommendation

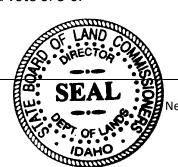
Authorize the Department to initiate negotiated rulemaking for IDAPA 20.04.02 *Rules Pertaining to the Idaho Forestry Act and Fire Hazard Reduction Law.*

Board Action

A motion was made by Attorney General Labrador that the Land Board authorize the Department to initiate negotiated rulemaking for IDAPA 20.04.02 Rules Pertaining to the Idaho Forestry Act and Fire Hazard Reduction Law. Secretary of State McGrane seconded the motion. The motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

Attachments

1. Draft rulemaking timeline



State Board of Land Commissioners Negotiated Rulemaking for IDAPA 20.04.02 Regular Meeting – August 15, 2023 Page 1 of 1

Summary Response to Comments on Negotiated Rule

IDAPA 20.04.02, Rules Pertaining to Forest Fire Protection

Comment	Rule Section	Response
DEQ proposes IDL include "burning operations" in the list of provisions added to this version of the rule.	001.	IDL appreciates this comment. The first draft attempted to broaden the scope of this section but for brevity did not include all topics the rule deals with. Burning operations are a key element however and this was incorporated in the third draft.
Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Idaho Department of Lands' (IDL) zero-based regulation negotiated rulemaking Docket 20-0402-2301 – Rules pertaining to the Idaho Forestry Act and Fire Hazard Reduction Laws – Draft #3. Landowners and their forest operations rely on clear and concise rules for post-harvest hazard mitigation, and the public rulemaking process ensures that the regulated public is provided ample feedback throughout the process. With the rulemaking process open, we would like to explore additional options to	060	2. Riley Stegner and Associates' supportive comments on Draft #3 are very much appreciated. IDL looks forward to discussions with Riley Stegner and Associates and their industry group members regarding contracts for Hazard Management. A Hazard Management Contract is listed as Option 4 on the Certificate of Compliance – Fire Hazard Agreement form and is authorized under Section 38-404, Idaho Code. This option is not often exercised by contractors but is available in circumstances that are mutually beneficial to the parties involved.
reduce slash hazard liabilities. Our members are uneasy about the 'prescribed burn plan' called for plus the suggested 'memorandum of understanding' between IDL and DEQ being discussed in the DEQ efforts to manage smoke from slash burning and prescribed fire. We would like to have further discussion with IDL on this and with DEQ & IDL on this as well.	110.	3. IDL regrets the re-organization of this Section in the second draft did not provide the added clarity needed to better define the burn plan requirements. IDL appreciated the opportunity to address these concerns with the Associated Logging Contractors, Inc., and believes the changes made in the third draft and the proposed rule provide the needed clarity.

Comment	Rule Section	Response
Although Draft #3 has provided additional clarification to several issues identified in the earlier versions, PotlatchDeltic wishes to contribute additional commentary on this latest draft Rule Citation Section: 20.04.02.110 The title of this section could be BURNING OF FOREST LAND as it is defined in the definitions section (38-101) and would encompass the types of burning listed in Draft #3. It is recommended to utilize definitions already defined in statues or chapters relating to Title 38 and describe Burning as	110.	4. IDL regrets the clarification provided in Section 110 in Draft #3 did not fully address the concerns of all stakeholders and appreciates PotlatchDeltic's helpful suggestions. Nineties era efforts to address authorities relative to air quality during burning operations for Hazard Reduction culminated in IDAPA 20.02.01.071 PRESCRIBED FIRE. More recently a great deal of effort on the part of IDL, DEQ, Forest Industry members, the Idaho Forest Owners Association and the Associated Logging Contractors was devoted to addressing DEQ smoke management plan requirements through an interagency memorandum between IDL and DEQ. Implementation of a burn plan requirement in 20.04.02 for burning Slash piles supports DEQ efforts to address smoke management and will help Idaho demonstrate to the federal government that National Ambient Air Quality Standards are achieved. This strategy avoids the need for a new DEQ rule for smoke management and allows Forest
the action it is and describe when Burn Plans are required and who needs to approve them. The phrase "are met" implies a rigid standard and requirement.		Operation contractors to get their work done under a single Agreement with IDL. To avoid future uncertainty, to ensure existing Title 38 definitions and statutory language are used, to ensure consistency with Title 39 and to ensure the current smoke management planning of IDL and DEQ is addressed, the definition for Prescribed Fire from IDAPA 20.02.01 and IDAPA 58.01.01.614 is added to the IDAPA 20.04.02 proposed rule definitions. The heading for Section 110 is now simply REQUIREMENTS FOR PRESCRIBED FIRE IN FOREST LAND. The statutory requirement to protect forest resources and maintain air quality from Title 38 Chapter 13 Idaho Code (20.02.01.071) and the requirement to provide adequate smoke control for open burning from IDAPA 58.01.01.614 are now referenced in the Subsection 110.01 Burning text. Additionally, the "for any purpose" text is replaced with "for Forest Operations" to specify what burn plans are required for and to avoid inadvertently requiring an IDL approved burn plan for

Comment	Rule Section	Response
		other uses of prescribed fire for open burning or non-forest management, non-negligent, deliberate fires in Forest Land (i.e., campfires and warming fires).
Specifically, there are multiple places in this section and the supporting tables that remove language regarding hazard points and credits given to landowners for items such as gated access and nearby water supply. Therefore, we recommend that the agency either retain the current hazard points system language in the rules document or move these elements to another document structure that requires public comment and negotiated rulemaking for any substantive proposed future changes to the system.	120.	5. IDL would like to state for the record there was no intention to change the point values or the process currently in use, but rather provide an opportunity to clarify the essential roles of the Contractor and the District Fire Wardens in implementing the Hazard Point system with a more complete narrative to describe that interaction. The table in question included lengthy examples of harvest operations that might generate the listed Slash Loads; these narratives, although useful, added unnecessary verbiage and will remain outside rule. The remainder of the table will stay in rule but is structured in Subsections that delineate the Contractor's role in Hazard Reduction and the District Fire Warden's role in auditing that Hazard Reduction. This not only provides added clarity but offers the opportunity to individually address elements of the process in future negotiated rulemaking as the forest management community sees fit. Further, the clearer description will help achieve consistency of application statewide. IDL appreciates PotlatchDeltic's support in making these changes.
To maintain efficiency and address operating areas that may consist of multiple slashing areas that are topographically unique or separated by uncut timber, we suggest an approach that will allow for collaboration and flexibility in decision-making regarding the treatment of these unique slashing units within one operating area.	120	6. This suggestion is consistent with a similar suggestion from District Fire Wardens and IDL appreciates PotlatchDeltic's support for adding this flexibility. The word "may" is substituted for the word "will" in the proposed rule to ensure the current, successful, collaboration between forest managers and Fire Wardens is maintained.

20.04.02 – RULES PERTAINING TO THE IDAHO FORESTRY ACT AND FIRE HAZARD REDUCTION LAWS

132 <mark>. and-</mark> 38-402	· ·
	(3 18 22)()
001. TITLI	E AND SCOPE.
VVIV 11122	
	Title. These rules are titled IDAPA 20.04.02, "Rules Pertaining to the Idaho Forestry Act and Fire
Hazard Reducti	
	the provisions of Title 38, Chapters 1 and 4, Idaho Code. They provide for Hazard Management eContracts and provide for burning requirements and Slash Hazard Reduction standards associated
	ber or other Forest Products. They also provide for release or continuation of Contractor liability for
	sion costs for commercial forest products. (3-18-22)()
* *	
	Scope. These rules implement the provisions of the Idaho Forestry Act and Fire Hazard Reduction
Laws.	(3 18 22)
002 009.	(RESERVED)
002 007.	(RESERVED)
010. DEFI	NITIONS.
	Warden, Forest Land, Forest Products, Person, and State are defined in Section 38-101, Idaho Code.
	he definitions set forth in the Idaho Forestry Act and IDAPA 20.04.01, the following definitions
apply to these r	
	TT 1
01. Lands Form 71:	5) required by under Section 38-122, Idaho Code (Fire Management Handbook 715 Att. 1).
01. Lands Form 71: (3-18-2	Agreement. The Certificate of Compliance-Fire Hazard Management Agreement (Department of 5) required byunder Section 38-122, Idaho Code (Fire Management Handbook 715 Att. 1).
01. Lands Form 71: (3-18 :	Agreement. The Certificate of Compliance-Fire Hazard Management Agreement (Department of 5) required by under Section 38-122, Idaho Code (Fire Management Handbook 715 Att. 1).
01. Lands Form 71: (3-18 :	Agreement. The Certificate of Compliance-Fire Hazard Management Agreement (Department of 5) required byunder Section 38-122, Idaho Code (Fire Management Handbook 715 Att. 1). Clearance. The Certificate of Clearance (Fire Management Handbook 760 Att. 1), required by the Contractor has met the terms of Section 38-122, Idaho Code.
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Proposed Rule 05/01/2024

which describes	Fire Warden Management Handbook. A duly appointed fire warden or deputypolicy docume procedures and forms the Department uses to administer these rules. (3-18-22)
09 <u>11</u> .	Fuel. Any slash Slash or woody debris that will contributes to the spread or intensity of a wildfi
10 <u>12</u> . and burned.	Fuel Break. An area in which all slash and dead woody debris have been Fuel is removed or pi
	(3 18 22) (
4113. Areas based on intensity of a wi	Hazard Points. A metric used by the Department to compute the fire hazard rating for Slash Hazard Reduction, site characteristics, and other protective measures that may reduce the spread ldfire.
14.	Hazard Reduction. The burning or physical reduction of fire hazards by treatment in a man e the spread or intensity and/or spread of a wildfire after treatment is completed. (3-18-22)(
12 <u>15</u> .	Initial Purchaser or Purchaser. The first pPerson, company, partnership, corporation, hatever nature who to purchases a forest Porest pProduct after it is harvested. (3-18-22)(
13 <u>16</u> .	Operational Period. A standard twelve (12) hour fire control shift. (3-18-22_
	Prescribed Fire. The controlled application of fire to wildland fuels, in either their natural under conditions of weather, fuel moisture and soil moisture that allow the fire to be confined to rea while producing the intensity of heat and rate of spread required to meet planned objectives. (
rules and to corr	Slash or Slashing. Brush, severed limbs, poles, tops and/or other waste material incident to succlearing of land, which are four (4) inches and under in diameter. However, for the purpose of the espond with standard fire classifications, for these rules slash will only includes material less than inches or less in diameter.
property remain	Slashing Areas. Areas where sufficient flammable material to constitute a menace to life s on the ground after cutting trees or brush preparatory to clearing, or after cutting Forest Products (
4520. exclusive of natu	Slash Load. Slash resulting from timber harvesting that has occurred under a current a Agreement and a surrent a Agreement and a Agreement and a Surrent
16.	State. The state of Idaho. (3 18
011. ABBR	EVIATIONS.
<u>01.</u>	FMH. Fire Management Handbook. ()
<u>012.</u> 029.	(RESERVED)
030. CERT	IFICATE OF COMPLIANCE-FIRE HAZARD MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT.
01.	Contents. A Certificate of Compliance-Fire Hazard Management Agreement must be obtained

intoenter into a contract as provided in under Section 38 404, Idaho Code, or for posting of a cash or surety

Proposed Rule

Docket No. 20-0402-2301
05/01/2024

anyone who conducts an operation involving the <u>before</u> any <u>Person may harvesting of forest Forest products products.</u> Such <u>The Agreement provides the options of to entering the options of to entering the options of the options o</u>

bond to the State. The Certificate of Compliance required by Section 38 122, Idaho Code, must be in substantially the same form as Department of Lands Form No. 715 "Certificate of Compliance Fire Hazard Management Agreement." Agreement is described in FMH 715.

- **O2. Period of Time.** The period set forth withindefined by the Agreement is based upon such considerations ason the size of the eContract aArea, the volume of the timber to be harvested, and or the silvicultural objectives of the landowner. However, iIn no case may a single Agreement exceed a period of twenty_-four (24) months unless the eContractor submits, and the fFire wWarden mutually approves, agree upon a written hazard management plan for the timely abatement of the hazard during a longer period that may exceed twenty four (24) months. (3 18 22)(____)
- **O3.** Extensions. If the a eContractor cannot meet the standard required to obtain a eClearance within the period specified above in the Agreement, they contractor may apply to the fFire wWarden for an extension. The application must be in writing, received at the Fire district District office thirty (30) working days before the Agreement expires, and show good reason as to other than financial hardship, why an extension should be given is necessary (other than financial hardship). Prior to the Agreement's expiration date, The the fFire wWarden will neknowledge receipt of grant or deny the request prior to the expiration of the Agreement with a form from FMH 715. (3 18 22)(____)
- **04. Responsibility**. The eContractor named in the Agreement will beis responsible for managing the fire hazard created by the harvesting and will receive the eClearance if the slash treatment meets standards requirements of Section 120 are met or will carry the liability for suppressing wildfire for five (5) full years following the expiration of the Agreement.

 (3-18-22)(_____)

031. -- 039. (RESERVED)

040. ADDENDUM TO CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE-FIRE HAZARD MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT FOR PARTIAL HAZARD REDUCTION.

041. -- 049. (RESERVED)

050. BOND.

- **02.** Rates. Rates and amounts listed in Table I will beare used as a minimum in calculating hazard reduction bonds for Forest products Products cut from all state and private lands in Idaho.

TABLE I	
PRODUCT	BOND RATE
(1) MBF Measurement	

All Products	\$4.00 MBF		
OR			
(2) Other Measurement			
Green pulp, stud timber, etc.	\$2.00 Cord		
Lineal Foot Measure			
Utility poles and pilings, all species	\$.014 LF		
Stulls, corral poles, cellar timbers, fence rails, round posts	\$.01 LF		
Piece Measure			
100 inch bolt material	\$.08 ea.		
Split posts	\$.02 ea.		
Tree stakes	\$.02 ea.		
Shake boards	\$.02 ea.		
Ton Measurement			
Green or Dead Pulp, Chips, etc.	\$.70 Ton		

(3 18 22)(

03. Exceeding Minimum Bond. The minimum bond rate will is only be exceeded when the landowner or operator requests that higher rate to accomplish additional hazard Hazard R reduction. (3-18-22)(_____)

051. -- 059. (RESERVED)

060. CONTRACTS WITH FOREST LANDOWNERS OR OPERATORSFOR ASSUMPTION OF HAZARD REDUCTION MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY.

Forest landowners and operators who engage in commercial timber harvesting operations Forest Operations may enter into an optional eContractAgreement with the Director as provided in Section 38 404, Idaho Code. Under the terms of such an optional eContractAgreement, the Director may assume all responsibility for the management and reduction of fire hazards to be created in return for a stipulated amount to be paid to the Director by the landowner or operator. Such Any optional eContractAgreement must be in substantially the same form as on forms provided by the -Department of Lands Form No. 720 "Contract for Management, Reduction and/or Removal of Fire Hazards Created by the Harvesting of Timber Within the State of Idaho," or Department of Lands Form No 725 "Contract for Management of Fire Hazards Created By the Harvesting of Timber Within the State of Idaho."

061. -- 069. (RESERVED)

070. CONTRACTOR CASH BOND RELEASE TO THE DIRECTOR.

Contractors that who elect, under Section 38-122, Idaho Code, to have hazard reduction money withheld, but who do not intend to dispose of the hazard themselves, must release the withheld monies to the Director of the Department of Lands. Such The release must be in substantially the same form as is on a form in FMH 761-Att. 1. Department of Lands Form No. 761 "Release of Cash Bond Withheld to Assure Slash Disposal." (3 18 22)(

071. -- 079. (RESERVED)

080. ADDED PROTECTION IN LIEU OF HAZARD REDUCTION.

As provided in Section 38-401, Idaho Code, Fire hazard management methods may include or be limited to the taking of additional protective measures in lieu of actual disposal of the slash Slash hazard. Any funds coming into district District hazard management accounts through contract, cash bond release, or forfeiture, may be used for added protection provided that the expenditure meets specifications outlined in Section 38-401, Idaho Code. (3-18-22)(

081. -- 089. (RESERVED)

090. DUTIES OF THE INITIAL PURCHASER REQUIREMENTS OF FOREST PRODUCTS.

- **01. Initial Purchaser.** Initial purchasers of forest Forest products products, in accordance with Section 38-122, Idaho Code, must withhold, and remit to the State, slash management hazard reduction monies as appropriate for according to the slash management hazard option chosen by the eContractor in the Agreement. Such The option must be clearly identified on the purchaser's Purchaser's copy of the Agreement. Slash Hazard reduction monies withheld in any one (1) calendar month must be remitted to the Director on or before the end of the next calendar month. Such The remittance must may be in on substantially the same form as Department of Lands Form No. 740 "Hazard Reduction Payment Record (FMH 705 Att. 2) or in a report with the same information."
- **O2. Duty of Initial Purchaser.** Initial <u>purchasers of forest Forest products products products products products products at all eContractors from whom they purchase <u>forest Forest products products products products products at a proper Agreement. (3 18 22)(___)</u></u>

091. -- 099. (RESERVED)

100. INJUNCTION AGAINST FURTHER CUTTING WITHOUT AN AGREEMENT.

Any pPerson who cuts timber or other forest Forest products Products of any kind, without having first secured obtaining an Agreement, in accordance with Section 38 122, Idaho Code, may be enjoined from continuing such further cutting and will be required to immediately dispose of all slash Slash created. If the pPerson responsible fails to properly dispose of the sSlash within thirty (30) days after being notified to do soreceiving notification, the State may dispose of the sSlash and such the costs of disposal, plus twenty percent (20%) as a penalty, may be collected as a prior lien against the Forest products harvested.

(3-18-22)()

101. -- 109. (RESERVED)

110. REQUIREMENTS FOR PRESCRIBED FIRE IN FOREST LANDBURNING OF SLASH.

- **O1. Burning.** Burning for Forest Operations must be planned, prepared, and executed in a way that protects forest resources and maintains air quality (Idaho Code §38-1304(1)(e) and IDAPA 20.02.071), provides adequate control of smoke (IDAPA 58.01.01.614) and avoids violating air quality standards.
- **02. Burn Plans.** Burning within specifically designated blocks or areas of Forest Land at any time must be conducted under a prescribed burn plan approved by the Fire Warden of the District's Fire Warden in which the burn occurs. ()
 - a. For piled Slash burning, the District Fire Warden will provide a burn plan with the Agreement.
- b. For other burning, the Contractor must submit to the District Fire Warden a detailed prescription for executing the burn.
- **91. Permits**. Any burning operation conducted for the purpose of hazard reduction must be in accordance with the law requiring burning permits during the closed fire season.

- **O3.** Burn Crew. A Persons conducting burning operations must have a permit, when required, and sufficient menpeople, tools, and equipment on hand to immediately stop the uncontrolled spread of any fire. Burning operations must be planned, prepared and executed in such a manner that forest resources are not damaged and air quality standards are met.

 (3 18 22)(____)
- **O2.** Burn Plan. Burning of specifically designated blocks or areas of forest land for any purpose must be conducted in accordance with a prescribed burn plan approved by the fire warden in whose area of responsibility the burn occurs.

 (3-18-22)

111. -- 119. (RESERVED)

120. STANDARDS -- TREATMENT OFFOR -HAZARD SREDUCTION.

- **O1.** Purpose. It is the policy of the State that the fire hazard created by commercial timber harvest be reduced by Slash disposal or physical treatment. This Section provides standards for hHazard rReduction and the release of liability for the contractor who is working under a valid Agreement with the State. (3.18.22)()
- - a. Slash Load Technical Specifications.

TABLE II – SLASH LOAD TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS				
HAZARD RATING (POINTS)	SLASH LOAD			
LOW (0-5)	Slash Load does not exceed three (3) ton per acre.			
MODERATE (6-10)	Slash Load is between three (3) ton per acre and six (6) ton per acre.			
HIGH (11-15)	Slash Load is between six (6) ton per acre and twelve (12) ton per acre.			
EXTREME (16-20)	Slash Load is greater than twelve (12) ton per acre.			

Slash Loads can be determined by using any standard photo series appropriate for the habitat type represented by the Slashing Area or by using USDA Forest Service General Technical Report INT-16, 1974 (HANDBOOK FOR INVENTORYING DOWNED WOODY MATERIAL). If the Contractor insists upon the latter, sampling intensity will be one (1) sample per two (2) acres through the Slashing Areas in question. The inventory cost is paid by the Contractor. All Slash resulting from the current harvest is included in the inventory except Slash piled and burned by the Contractor before the expiration date of the Agreement or granted extension.

b. Contractor Hazard Reduction Methods.

Hazard Point deductions can be assigned proportionate to the acreage completed using the table below. Fire Lines

are a minimum width of eighteen (18) inches for hand constructed and ten (10) feet for machine constructed. Machine constructed lines should not exceed twelve (12) feet width. Clear all fuels for a minimum of eight (8) feet adjacent to handlines. Displace soil to one side and all vegetative debris to the other for machine lines. Place Fuel Breaks and Fire Lines to take advantage of terrain (ridgelines, swales, etc.), manmade or natural barriers (roads, skid trails, escarpments, etc.), and provide optimum fire control effect. Tie lines to an anchor point except through a riparian management zone.

<u>Method</u>	DESCRIPTION			
Disposal	Remove, pile and burn, or broadcast burn Slash.	<u>0 to 42</u>		
Chipping	Chip Slash with a stationary or mobile chipper.	<u>0 to 42</u>		
Crushing or Mastication	Crush Slash with repeated passes of heavy equipment or a mobile masticator. Residual fuel must not exceed the height and diameter limits for lopping.	<u>0 to 20</u>		
Lopping	Cut all material less than three (3) inches in diameter so it does not extend more than twenty (20) inches of the mean height above the ground. Sever all boles greater than three (3) inches in diameter that intersect another bole.	<u>0 to 10</u>		
Single Fuel Break	Remove, pile and burn or treat sufficiently all Slash and woody debris for a minimum width of one chain (66 feet).	<u>1 to 5</u>		
Single Fire Line	Remove all vegetative material to expose mineral soil.	1		
Isolation	Install Fuel Breaks and Fire Lines to divide or isolate Slashing Areas. (See Subsection 04.a.)	1 to 25		

O3. Site Characteristics. The Fire Warden will audit the Forest Operation and assign Hazard Points for site characteristics that increase risk of forest damage or threats to life or property.

a. Slashing Area Size. Large Slashing Areas will be assigned up to five (5) Hazard Points using the table below.

 ACRES
 ≤40
 40-160
 161-320
 321-480
 481-640
 >640

 PT VALUE
 0
 1
 2
 3
 4
 5

TABLE II - HAZARD CHARACTERISTICS AND OFFSET SLASH LOAD MAXIMUM 20 POINTSRATING TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS				
RATING (POINTS) ADJECTIVE DESCRIPTIONSLASH LOAD				
LOW (0-5)	Slash Load does not exceed three (3) ton per acre. Associated with low harvest volumes per acresuch as selection cutting, light commercial thinning, sanitation/salvage operations, tree length skidding with tops and limbs and little			

	or no breakage. Slash is broken up; slash is in many islands over the operating area.
MODERATE- (6-10)	Slash Load is greater than three (3) ton per acre but less than six (6) ton per acre. Rating can be lowered by Fire Warden determination. Operation types similar to those listed above except that harvest volume per acre is higher or utilization standards are lower, or timber has higher proportion of unusable top and crown (commonly associated with partial cutting in second growth stands of mixed timber). Most diameter limit cutting falls in this category. Slash is distributed with some clear or very light areas intermingled with heavy islands of slash over the operating area, slash is not continuous.
HIGH (11-15)	Slash Load is greater than six (6) ton per acre but less than twelve (12) ton per acre. Rating can be lowered by Fire Warden determination. Usually associated with regeneration harvest methods such as shelterwood, seed tree and most clearcuts, or any partial cut with a high harvest volume per acre. Slash is nearly continuous through the operating area frequently with heavier islands intermingled with light continuous slash.
EXTREME- (16-20)	Slash Load is greater than twelve (12) ton per acre. Rating can be lowered by Fire Warden- determination. Any operation with very high cut volume, and/or low utilization standards, and/or- many slashed or broken stems. Slash is continuous over the operating area with few light areas.
	TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS
LOW (0-5)	Slash load less than or equal to 3 inch diameter materials not to exceed 3.0 tons/acre.
MODERATE- (6-10)	Slash load less than or equal to 3 inch diameter materials greater than 3.0 tons/acre but less than 6.0 tons/acre.
HIGH (11-15)	Slash load less than or equal to 3 inch diameter materials greater than 6.0 tons/acre but less than 12.0 tons/acre.

b. Slashing Area Aspect and Slope. The Fire Warden will determine the predominant aspect and slope of each Slashing Area and assign up to ten (10) Hazard Points using the table below.

ASPECT	PERCENT SLOPE					
	<u>0-10</u>	<u>11-20</u>	<u>21-30</u>	<u>31-40</u>	<u>41-50</u>	<u>>50</u>
N to NE	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	1	2	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
E or NW	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	1	<u>3</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>
W or SE	<u>0</u>	1	<u>2</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>
S to SW	1	2	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u>	9	<u>10</u>

c. Pre-existing Slash. Any Slashing Area that has Slash from a previous operation, which has occurred within in the last five (5) years, will be assigned up to two (2) Hazard Points.

d. Location. A Slashing Area's proximity to structures, highways, and recreational areas will be assigned up to five (5) Hazard Points using the table below.

<u>PROXIMITY</u>				
<u>330 feet</u>		<u>5</u>		
660 feet		4		
<u>990 feet</u>		<u>3</u>		
<u>1320 feet</u>		2		
<u>2640 feet</u>		<u>1</u>		

- **Other Protective Measures.** The Fire Warden can consider other protective measures associated with a Forest Operation by reducing Hazard Points for division or isolation of Slashing Areas, access control, and availability of water for firefighting as follows:
- **a. Isolation.** The Fire Warden can reduce Hazard Points using the table below if Fuel Breaks or Fire Lines are used to subdivide Slashing Areas into smaller areas and/or isolate Slashing Areas from other forest stands; the maximum deduction is twenty-five (25) Hazard Points.

<u>ACTIVITY</u>	FUEL BREAK ONLY	FIRE LINE ONLY	<u>вотн</u>		
Slashing Areas are subdivided:	Slashing Areas are subdivided:				
A. Partial division of Slashing Area	<u>1-5</u>	1	<u>1-6</u>		
B. Slashing Area divided into 2 areas	<u>6-10</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>6-12</u>		
C. Slashing Area divided into 3 to 5 areas	<u>11-15</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>11-18</u>		
D. Slashing Area divided into 6 or more areas	<u>16-20</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>16-25</u>		
<u>OR</u>					
Slashing Areas are isolated from adjacent stands:					
A. One third of Slashing Area boundaries isolated	<u>1-5</u>	1	<u>1-6</u>		
B. Two thirds of Slashing Area boundaries isolated	<u>6-10</u>	2	<u>6-12</u>		
C. All Slashing Area boundaries isolated	<u>11-15</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>11-18</u>		

b. Access Control. The Fire Warden can deduct from the Hazard Point sum for each Slashing Area One (1) Hazard Point if a locked gate system controls road access on all secondary roads to the Operating Area and the Slash on the main road is disposed of or treated. Two (2) Hazard Points can be deducted if -the system controls all roads into the Operating Area.

c. Water Supply. The Fire Warden can deduct Hazard Points from the Hazard Point sum for each

Slashing Area for water availability. The supply must provide at least ten thousand (10,000) gallons in any one (1) Operational Period during the fire season. Water supplies accessible to fire engines within one (1) road mile or to helicopter buckets within three (3) air miles are eligible.

- i. One (1) Hazard Point can be deducted for availability to engines only or to helicopters only. (
- ii. Two (2) Hazard Points can be deducted for availability to engines and helicopters. (
- <u>iii.</u> Two (2) Hazard Points can be deducted for availability to engines or helicopters and the supply self-replenishes every Operational Period.
- iv. Three (3) Hazard Points can be deducted for availability to engines and helicopters and the supply self-replenishes every Operational Period.

Slash loads can be determined by using any standard photo series appropriate for the habitat type represented by the contract area, or by using USDA Forest Service General Technical Report INT 16, 1974 (HANDBOOK FOR INVENTORYING DOWNED WOODY MATERIAL). If the contractor insists upon the latter, sampling intensity will be one (1) point per two (2) acres through the area in question. The inventory cost is paid by the contractor. All slash made available as a result of the current harvest will be included in the inventory except that slash that has been piled and will be burned by the contractor before the expiration date on the Agreement or such extensions granted by the fire warden.

SITE FACTORS - MAXIMUM 10 POINTS						
ASPECT	PERCENT SLOPE					
	0-10	-11-20	21-30	31-40	41-50	>50
N-NE-	θ	0	4	2	4	5
E,NW	Φ	0	4	3	6	7
W,SE	θ	4	2	5	8	9
S-SW	4	2	4	7	9	10

UNIT SIZE - MAXIMUM 5 POINTS						
ACRES	<40	-40-160	161-320	321-480	481-640	>640
PT VALUE	0	4	2	3	4	5

OTHER FACTORS - MAXIMUM 7 POINTS		
Pre-existing slash from operations in the past five- years	0-2	
Proximity to structures, highways and recreational areas (e.g., parks, established campgrounds, etc.).	Add Points	
330 feet	5	

660 feet	4
990 feet	3
1320 feet	2
2640 feet	4

In applying offset points to large, complex contract areas, or contract areas with highly variable hazard characteristics, hazard offset techniques must first be applied toward that portion of the contract area which will do the most to reduce the hazard by optimizing fire control effects.

HAZARD OFFSETSREDUCTION (ALL POINTS ARE DEDUCTIONS) ALL POINTS ARE DEDUCTIONS Piling and Burning, Broadcast DISPOSAL 0-42 Burning, etc. If disposal reduces slash load in the contract area to <3 tons, deduct hazard points to five (5) or less. If disposal does not reduce slash load to that level, points should beare assigned as a proportion of theproportionate to area treated. For example, if twenty-five percent (25%) of the area is dozer piled and the piles burned, but the slashload in the contract area still exceeds three (3) tons, twenty-five percent (25%) of the total points charged againstthe job should be deducted. However, if the disposal effectively isolates the untreated portion of the slash or isotherwise placed to optimize fire control effects the proportion of points deducted may be increased to an amountto be determined by the district fire warden. Chipping 0-42**MODIFICATION:** Crushina 0-20 **Lopping** 0-10 Lopping standards: All material less than three (3) inches in diameter will be cut so that it does not extend morethan twenty (20) inches of the mean height above the ground. In addition, all boles greater than three (3) inches indiameter intersecting another bole will be completely severed. Points are assigned proportionate to area treated Assign points as a proportion of the contract area treated. **ISOLATION** 0-20 **Fuel Breaks** To qualify as a fuel break, all slash and available fuels (Ref. Subsection 010.10) must be removed, or piled and burned, or treated sufficiently to prevent a fire from carrying through the area, for a minimum width of one chain (66 feet). In addition, the Pbreaks must be placed to take advantage of terrain, manmade or natural barriers and to provide for optimum fire control effect. Fire Lines All vegetative material must be removed to expose mineral soil. Minimum width of dozer All excavated lines must be the width of the dozer blade withhave all dirt soil pushed in one direction displaced to one side and all vegetative debris to the other. Handlines must be eighteen (18) inches wide; additionally, all fuels must be cleared for eight-(8) feet. Lines must be tied to an anchor point except that they are not required to be built through a riparian management zone. In addition, the lines must be placed to take advantage of terrain, manmade or natural barriers,

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break.

and to provide for optimum fire control effect. Maximum points allowed only if combined with an approved fuel-

ASSIGNING POINTS FOR ISOLATION

Isolation techniques will usually be used to break the area into subunits or isolate the area from adjacent stands. Hazard offsets can be deducted for both if, in the opinion of the fire warden, both objectives are met, and the total isolation points do not exceed 25 offset points.

ACTIVITY	FUEL BREAK-ONLY	FIRE-LINE- ONLY	BOTH-			
Isolates contract area into subunits:						
A. Partial isolation or incomplete units	A. Partial isolation or incomplete units 1-5 1					
B. Complete isolation of area into 1 to 2 subunits	6-10	2	6-12			
C. Complete isolation of area into 3 to 5 subunits	11-15	3	11-18			
D. Complete isolation of area into 6 or more subunits	16-20	4	16-25			
OR						
Isolates contract area from adjacent stands:						
A. One third of the contract area boundary isolated	4	1-6				
B. Two thirds of the contract area boundary isolated	2	6-12				
C. Entire contract area boundary isolated	11-18					
ACCESS CONTROL 0-2						
Locked gate system controls access on all secondary roads with slash treated on main road 1						
Locked gate system controls all road access into unit 2						
AVAILABILITY OF WATER						
The water supply must provide water availability for engines within one road mile of operating area or within three air miles for helicopter bucket use. The water supply must be sufficient to supply 10,000 gallons in an operational period during the fire season.						
Water supply for engine only or helicopter only (capacity 10,000 gallons during fire season).						
Water supply for engine and helicopter (capacity 10,000 gallons) or; for engine or helicopter and which replenishes itself every operational period.						
Water supply for engine and helicopter which replenishes itself every operational period. 3						

(3.18.22)

121. -- 129. (RESERVED)

130. LIABILITY FOR THE COST OF FIRE SUPPRESSION.

- **O1. State Liability.** With the exception of Except for cases of negligence on the part of the landowner, operator, or their agents, liability for the cost of suppressing fires that originate on-in or pass through a sslashing-a Area remains with the State if the Contractor executes one of the following alternatives—is executed by the contractor:

 (3 18 22)(_____)
- b. The-e_Contractor treats the sSlash in accordance with the standards outlined in the Section 120, Table II within the time period period specified on in the Agreement or approved extensions. (3-18-22)(
- c. The landowner or operator elects to enter into a contract Contract with the State for management of the sSlash and release from liability of for fire suppression costs as described in Section 060. in accordance with Section 38 404, Idaho Code.

 (3 18 22)(____)
- **O2.** Contractor Liability. Should the eContractor choose not treat the sSlash or not enter into a contract Contract with the State in accordance with Subsection 130.01Section 060, the contractor, in addition to forfeiting any applicable bond, Contractor is liable for fire suppression costs for all fires that originate on in or pass through the eContractor's sSlashing aAreas and must forfeit any applicable bond. The eContractor retains the full liability for five (5) years from the time the Agreement or any extension thereof expires, unless a eClearance has been is issued.

(3 18 22)(

- **O3. Failure to Treat.** Any eContractor who fails to treat the fire hazard as outlined in sliable under Subsection 130.02; is liable for the actual costs of suppressing any wildfire that may occur originates on in or passes through the the Slashing aAreas covered by their individual or separate Agreements for an amount up to two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) per Agreement, but no more than one million dollars (\$1,000,000); for separate Agreements with different liable Contractors, the actual costs of suppression up to one million dollars (\$1,000,000) will be shared by the Contractors prorated on the Contract Area acreage of those Agreements.
 - If the same wildfire occurs on

or passes through several areas covered by separate agreements or if several Agreements cover the same area, the contractor is liable for the actual cost of suppression up to one million dollars (\$1,000,000). If a wildfire occurs on or passes through an area covered by separate Agreements with different contractors, the actual cost of suppression up to one million dollars (\$1,000,000) will be shared by the contractors prorated on acreage included in their Agreements.

(3 18 22)(____)

04. Fees. Upon payment of the fees <u>set forthlisted</u> in Table III, the State will assume liability for the cost of suppressing fires that originate <u>on-in</u> or pass through the <u>C</u>eontract <u>A</u>area.

TABLE III - ADDITIONAL FEE TO TRANSFER LIABILITY BY HAZARD POINTS			
POINTS	RATE		
6-10	\$1.00/MBF		
11-20 \$2.00/MBF			
21-30 \$3.00/MBF			
>30	\$4.00/MBF		

Additional fee rates for measurement <u>units</u> other than <u>the</u> board foot <u>measurement unit</u> are available upon request from any Department <u>of Lands</u> office.

(3 18 22)(____)

O5. Additional Fee. If the eContractor is unable to reduce the hHazard pPoints on a Ceontract A-area to the standards required for a eClearance, but has completed some hHazard rReduction work, that the eContractor can discharge the remainder of his the hazard obligation by returning a portion of his the bond to the Fire district District and paying an additional fee to transfer liability. Use the following formula: [One (1) minus (the acceptable low hazard point rating or of five (5), divided by the residual, or untreated hazard Hazard pointsPoints)] times the bond rate)] multiply that ratio times the slash rate. This dollar amount should is multiplied by the total volume removed from the Ceontract Aarea, and Aadded to that the total volume times the additional fee to transfer liability (from Table III (for the untreated hazard) points, from Table III) times the total volume. When this amount is paid to the State the Agreement contract area can be cleared. Which can also be This computation is expressed as:

(1-(5/U)) * B * V + (A*V) = Formula to transfer liability for a partially completed job.

Where:

U = Untreated or residual hazard points

B = Bond rate (usually \$4.00 MBF) Ref. Section 050, Table I

A = Additional fee to transfer liability, Table III

V = Total volume removed from the econtract aAreas

3-18-22)(_____

131. -- 139. (RESERVED)

140. CERTIFICATE OF CLEARANCE.

Anyone who has entered into an Agreement must apply in writing to the Director for a Clearance. The Certificate of Clearance is the instrument used to certifyies that one (1) of the following situations exists:

01. that hHazard rReduction has been was accomplished in accordance withto the standards in Section 120-;

02. An additional fee was paid per Subsection 130.05; or

03. The Contractor entered into a eContract with the Director per Section 060 to ensure hazard management.

For Subsections 140.01 and 140.02, a contract entered into with the Director to ensure hazard management, or an additional fee has been paid. Anyone who has been issued an Agreement for the cutting of any forest product or potential forest product and who has met standards outlined in Section 120, or has made payment for hazard reduction under a contract with the Director, as provided in Section 38 404, Idaho Code, or has paid an additional fee in accordance with Section 38 122, Idaho Code, must apply in writing to the Director for a Certificate of Clearance. Wwithin thirty (30) days after of receipt of such writtenthe request for a Certificate of Clearance, the Director will eause inspect the requested area and issue the Clearance if the applicable requirements were met covered by the request to be inspected. If it is found that the fire hazard has been properly disposed of the Director will issue a Certificate of Clearance. The Certificate of Clearance must be substantially the same form as Department of Lands Form No. 760 "Certificate of Clearance." (3 18 22)()

141. -- 149. (RESERVED)

150. FIRE SUPPRESSION AND FOREST PRACTICES ASSESSMENT.

- **O1.** Withholding Withheld Hazard Reduction Money. An amount of three percent (3%) of the slash managementbond rate (twelve cents (\$.12)/MBF) will beis withheld from assessed against all slash management monieshazard reduction money received and dedicated to suppression of wildfires on forest lands. For harvest from private land, an additional amount not to exceed three percent (3%) of the slash management bond rate (twelve cents (\$.12)/MBF) ean beis withheld from assessed against slash management monieshazard reduction money received and will beis dedicated to Forest Practices support on forest Forest lands. (3.18.22)(_____)
- **O2.** Assessment CostsSurety Bond or Credit. Fire suppression assessment Assessment costs on Forest Θ perations covered by surety bond or irrevocable letter of credit or other form of bond is paid at the rate specified in Subsection 150.01.

151. -- 159. (RESERVED)

160. PRELOGGING CONFERENCE AND <u>AGREEMENT HAZARD REDUCTIONMANAGEMENT CONTRACT</u>.

Pre_logging conferences and hazard reduction agreementcs are encouraged.__, however, tThe hazard Hazard reduction Management agreementcContract will be canceled or modified if significant operational changes occur during the Forest Operation harvesting of forest products or potential forest products. (3 18 22)(____)

161. -- 999. (RESERVED)

