

DRAFT

PROTOCOLS FOR FORESTRY

PREAMBLE:

No points will be taken or practices cost shared on land where the landowner is out of compliance with Idaho Forestry Practices Act rules. A check should be made with IDL to see if a Notification of Forest Practice is in effect or should be in effect. Certain forestry practices such as road construction, forest riparian management and reforestation are required by the Act to be carried out and usually occur with proceeds from the timber sale and should not be cost shared.

The practices listed under the resource problems are only examples of what practices may be applied. Other practices or associated practices may be needed to solve the resource problem.

EROSION: CLASSIC AND EPHEMERAL GULLY: Concentrated flow is occurring in gully channels and will be treated in the conservation plan to meet the quality criteria. Practices may include 638, 410 or 412.

EROSION: STREAMBANK:

In order to score points for this question the producer must be implementing specific bank erosion control practices such as streambank bioengineering, rock riprap, rock barbs, or other in-stream structures such as grade stabilization structures designed to protect the banks or channel bottom. Practices may include 580, 584, 322, and 410. Producers who are implementing management changes within the riparian area to improve vegetation do not score points on this question.

EROSION: ROAD BANKS AND CONSTRUCTION SITES: Erosion must be documented on the treatment area on a per acre basis using USLE on range, pasture or forestland or by using gross erosion, headcut and/or lateral recession erosion. Practices scheduled may include one or more; 655, 575, 560, 362, 561, 348, 350, 342, 484.

SURFACE WATER – SUSPENDED SEDIMENT & TURBIDITY: Field evaluations using water quality indicator guide Field Sheet 1A must indicate a fair or poor rating to score points. Practices scheduled may include one or more; 350, 656, 382, 393, 390, 391 and all stockwater development practices 574, 614, 642, 516, 378, 575, 561. Permanent vegetation practices (512, 550, 327, 612) where erosion exceeds T or there is flooding or scour erosion may also be suitable.

PLANT SUITABILITY: ADAPTABILITY: The conversion or manipulation of plant communities from poorly adapted species, invasive species or species adversely affecting other resources. Practices scheduled may include 314, 327, 338, 612, 382, 490 and must include Use Exclusion 472 or Prescribed Grazing if livestock are present.

PLANT CONDITION: FOREST PRODUCTIVITY: The Forest Stand Improvement (666) practice will be used for pre-commercial thinning to reduce the potential damage by wildfire and attain stand density of desirable species within 25% of normal stocking. Written Idaho Department of Lands documentation or the NRCS Woodland Planning Worksheet (ID-190-001) will be used to document before and after density.

Minimum of 1 acre

PLANT MANAGEMENT: ESTABLISHMENT, GROWTH, AND HARVEST: Forest Site preparation 490, Tree/Shrub planting 612, Prescribed burning 338, Brush management 314 or Tree/shrub Pruning 660 (white pine only).

Minimum 1 acre.

PLANT MANAGEMENT: PESTS: The local pest control board must have identified and targeted a specific pest and the pest is having an impact on the acreage to be treated. Specific practices identified by the local weed control board that will impact the identified pest must be implemented. Documentation of the pest to be controlled and the control methods to be implemented must be included in the conservation plan.

REGULATORY AND OTHER ISSUES:

303D LISTED STREAMS: The conservation practices scheduled for implementation must have a positive impact on a 303d listed waterbody.

T&E SPECIES: In order to score points on this question, Federal Threatened and Endangered Species (T&E) fish, amphibians, and/or mollusks must be listed in the local FOTG and exist in the watershed where the planned practices will be implemented. (An example: If salmon are listed in the Snake River Watershed but are not listed in the local FOTG, **do not** take points for threatened and endangered species). This is a water quality statewide concern, so no points are given for birds, mammals, and/or plants. The conservation practice(s) must be expected to have a direct benefit to the considered species.

PROTOCOLS FOR FORESTRY (continued)

FOREST EROSION INDEX:

The forest erosion index will be calculated by taking the highest site index for any commercial tree listed in the county soil survey, multiplying this site index by the K factor for the predominant soil in the practice area, and dividing the result by the T factor for the soil. This number and the corresponding points will result in the higher points being assigned to the most erosive soils but also are the best tree growth sites.

Example: A site index of 115 times a K factor of 0.49 = 56.35 divided by a T of 2 = 28 for 15 points. This 15 points falls in the ID-19.99 point bracket, so 10 points would be taken on the rating sheet.