



Idaho Forest Practices Act Rule Summaries

IFPA - Slash Management

Rule 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.

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.

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.

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 (IFPA – Notification of Forest Practice), 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 Subsection 070.03.e. (IFPA – Notification of Forest Practice).

b. The operator, timber owner and landowner shall be notified in writing of the determination made in Subsection 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.

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.

d. If the department determines upon inspection that the hazard reduction or hazard offsets have not been accomplished within the time limit specified in Subsection 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).

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 Subsection 070.03, as determined by the department, will be sufficient

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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 (below). 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 (below) 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	9
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				

FROM: Idaho Department of Lands. 2014. Rules Pertaining to the Idaho Forest Practices Act Title 38, Chapter 13, Idaho Code. Idaho Department of Lands, Boise, ID

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Table II. Hazard Points Worksheet

HAZARD CHARACTERISTICS	HAZARD POINTS										
Fuel quality <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hazard points from Slash Hazard Table • Record number of trees/acre to be cut • Average DBH • Predominant species 	<hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black;"/>										
Size of thinning block: <table style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">Points</td> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">0-15</td> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">16-30</td> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">31-45</td> <td>46-60 1/</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Acres</td> <td>20</td> <td>20-40</td> <td>40-80</td> <td>80</td> </tr> </table>		Points	0-15	16-30	31-45	46-60 1/	Acres	20	20-40	40-80	80
Points	0-15	16-30	31-45	46-60 1/							
Acres	20	20-40	40-80	80							
Site factor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Record slope _____% Aspect _____ <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Determine points from table below 1/</p>											

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 are before forest practice commences	0 - 20 points
Condition of the 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
TOTAL FOREST PRACTICE AREA POINTS (Max. 240 points)	

FROM: Idaho Department of Lands. 2014. Rules Pertaining to the Idaho Forest Practices Act Title 38, Chapter 13, Idaho Code. Idaho Department of Lands, Boise, ID

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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, 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 zone of unthinned areas at least two chains in width between roadways and thinned areas.	0 - 15
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 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
FROM: Idaho Department of Lands. 2014. Rules Pertaining to the Idaho Forest Practices Act Title 38, Chapter 13, Idaho Code. Idaho Department of Lands, Boise, ID.	

FROM: Barkley et al., 2015. *Idaho Forestry Best Management Practices Field Guide: Using BMPs to Protect Water Quality*. Bulletin 891, University of Idaho Extension, Moscow, ID.