

Green Mountain National Forest

Administrative Correction 4

March 14, 2008

Changes to Forest Plan: Appendix D, Timber Practices Average Annual Allowable Sale Quantity (ASQ)

Administrative corrections as defined at 36 CFR 219.31(b) in the 2000 Planning Rule¹ may be made at any time, are not plan amendments or revisions, and do not require public notice or the preparation of an environmental document under Forest Service NEPA procedures.

Administrative corrections include the following:

1. Corrections and updates of data and maps,
2. Updates to activity lists and schedules (proposed actions, anticipated outcomes, projected range of outcomes);
3. Corrections of typographical errors or other non-substantive changes; and
4. Changes in monitoring methods other than those required in a monitoring strategy (referring to the requirements for monitoring sustainability criteria in the 2000 rule.)

Forest Plan, Appendix D, page D2 and D3 (36 CFR 219.31(b)(1))

Appendix D: Timber Practices Average Annual Allowable Sale Quantity (ASQ) states:

The average annual allowable sale quantity of timber (ASQ) is the maximum amount of volume that may be offered and sold during a decade of Forest Plan implementation from land identified for timber management. During Decade 1 (the first ten years of plan implementation), the average annual ASQ on the GMNF is 16.4 million board feet. During Decade 2, the average annual ASQ is 16.4 million board feet. Average annual ASQ means that the amount of timber that may be sold on the Forest in a given year may exceed 16.4 million board feet as long as the decadal ASQ (164 million board feet) is not exceeded.

Table D-2 shows the volumes that can be harvested in each decade on a long term, sustained yield capacity. Volume between decades does not vary.

¹ The U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California has enjoined the Forest Service from implementing the 2005 planning rule. Therefore, administrative corrections to the Forest Plan are currently governed by the 2000 planning rule, which became effective again on April 27, 2007.

Table D-2: Maximum Annual Average Allowable Sale Quantity and Long-Term Sustained Yield for the Green Mountain NF (MMBF)

Decade	MMBF
1	16.4
2	16.4
3	16.4
4	16.4
5	16.4
6	16.4
7	16.4
8	16.4
9	16.4
10	16.4

Proposed and Probable Sawtimber and Pulpwood

Table D-3 shows the proposed (Decade 1) and probable (Decade 2) volumes of sawtimber and pulpwood expected to be produced on the Forest.

Table D-3: Estimated Annual Average Volume of Sawtimber and Pulpwood, Decades 1 and 2		
	Decade 1	Decade 2
Sawtimber (average MMBF/year)	12.0	12.0
Pulp (average MMBF/year)*	4.4	4.4
For comparison, 2 pulpwood cords = 1 MBF		

Appendix D: Timber Practices Average Annual Allowable Sale Quantity (ASQ) is corrected to:

The average annual allowable sale quantity of timber (ASQ) is the maximum amount of volume that may be offered and sold during a decade of Forest Plan implementation from land identified for timber management. During Decade 1 (the first ten years of plan implementation), the average annual ASQ on the GMNF is 19.7 million board feet. During Decade 2, the average annual ASQ is 19.7 million board feet. Average annual ASQ means that the amount of timber that may be sold on the Forest in a given year may exceed 19.7 million board feet as long as the decadal ASQ (197 million board feet) is not exceeded.

Table D-2 shows the volumes that can be harvested in each decade on a long term, sustained yield capacity. Volume between decades does not vary.

Table D-2: Maximum Annual Average Allowable Sale Quantity and Long-Term Sustained Yield for the Green Mountain NF		
Decade	MCF	MMBF
1	38,789	19.7
2	38,789	19.7
3	38,789	19.7
4	38,789	19.7
5	38,789	19.7
6	38,789	19.7
7	38,789	19.7
8	38,789	19.7
9	38,789	19.7
10	38,789	19.7

Proposed and Probable Sawtimber and Pulpwood

Table D-3 shows the proposed (Decade 1) and probable (Decade 2) volumes of sawtimber and pulpwood expected to be produced on the Forest.

Table D-3: Estimated Annual Average Volume of Sawtimber and Pulpwood, Decades 1 and 2		
	Decade 1	Decade 2
Sawtimber (average MMBF/year)	12.4	12.6
Pulp (average MMBF/year)*	7.3	7.1
For comparison, 2 pulpwood cords = 1 MBF		

Reason for correction:

During the Chief of the USDA Forest Service's review, which was conducted in response to appeals of the GMNF Forest Plan, it was determined that merchantable tops had not been included in the ASQ calculation, and that the ASQ should include that volume, or a rationale for not including them be clearly documented. GMNF staff found that the merchantable tops had been erroneously excluded in the final Forest Plan ASQ figure due to confusion about the definition of the modeling variable Live Cubic Tops (LCT). GMNF staff thought the variable represented unmerchantable tops (0 to 4 inch diameter) when the term LCT actually refers to those merchantable tops with a diameter of 4 inches and greater up to the diameter used for sawtimber. Upon review of this information, GMNF staff determined that the merchantable tops should have been included in the ASQ, and that the merchantable tops had been included in the initial determination of the Long Term Sustained Yield. This is a correction of this data error. There would be no change in acres treated, and there would be no environmental effects. Therefore, this is a non-substantive change.

Corrected Page D-3 and D-3 are attached.