

**TIMBER SALE REPORT AND APPRAISAL**

**WEST PINOS TIMBER SALE – 2015**

Prepared by: Rachael Sanchez Date: 5-11-15  
Rachael Sanchez, Sales Prep Forester  
Divide Ranger District

I certify that this sale meets requirements of the Secretary of Agriculture's Regulation 36 CFR 223.30.

Approved by: Martha Williamson Date: 5.11.15  
Martha Williamson  
District Ranger, Divide RD

I. SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Advertised as Scaled Sale

INCLUDED VOLUME		
Engelmann Spruce		917 CCF
Subalpine Fir		343 CCF
Aspen		253 CCF
	Total (included volume only)	<b>1513 CCF</b>

REQUIRED DEPOSITS		
	Road Maintenance	\$0.00/CCF
	Surface Rock Replacement	\$1.59/CCF
	Slash Deposit	\$2.10/CCF

TOTAL SALE VALUE	\$3.88/CCF X 1513	<b>\$5,867.00</b>
ADVERTISED VALUE	By Species and Product	
SAWTIMBER	ES	<b>\$5.00/CCF</b>
SAWTIMBER	TF	<b>\$3.00/CCF</b>
NON-SAW	AS	<b>\$1.00/CCF</b>

APPRAISAL BULLETIN NO		BU230415
Support Information		
	Normal Operating Season	06/15 – 10/31
	Fire Liability	\$2,000.00
	Termination Date	11/30/2018
	Method of Bidding	Sealed Bid
	Escalated	Yes
	Bid Guarantee	\$600.00
	Minimum Performance Bond	\$4,700.00

This sale complies with Section 6(g), 3(e) - (f) of the National Forest Management Act of 1976, (36 CFR 233.3), the (revised) Rio Grande National Forest Land and Resource Plan (approved 11/7/96), and the Decision Memo for West Pinos Timber Stand and Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project, signed by Martha Williamson (03/20/2015).

II. DESCRIPTION OF SALE AREA

A. Location

The sale is found within FS Veg Units AT0201-272, 301 and 302 on the Divide Ranger District of the Rio Grande National Forest. The legal description is: T38N, R4E, all or portions of sections 26, 27, 34 and 35, all in the NMPM and all in Rio Grande County, Colorado. Access from Del Norte, Colorado is: travel west on US Highway 160 for approximately 0.5 miles to County Road 14 (Pinos Creek Road). Take County Road 14 for approximately 15.7 miles to its intersection with NFSR 345 (Del Norte Peak Road). Continue on NFSR 345 for 0.6 miles to the beginning of the sale area.

B. Acreage, Volume Data, and General Sale Information

This sale is comprised of 7 cutting units totaling approximately 89.8 harvest acres, on National Forest land. All units within the sale are leave tree marked, with leave trees and unit boundaries designated with orange tracer paint. Marked leave trees

consist of 5-7 trees per acre of Engelmann spruce, Douglas-fir, limber pine, and/or bristlecone pine. The cruise was designed to scaled timber sale standards to stay below a combined sampling error of + or - 35% with an estimated sale value of \$8,856.86 based recent ES bid rates and Appraisal Bulletin No. BU230415, effective 5/4/15. The actual cruise error was 28.26% for all included volume. This meets Regional and WO handbook standards in WO amendments 2409.12 –2000-2. This sale will be sold as a Sample Scale sale.

Live and dead included timber to be harvested: Engelmann spruce sawtimber, subalpine fir and other conifer species sawtimber and aspen non-sawtimber.

C. Land Status  
National Forest land.

D. Basis for Selecting the Area  
This area was identified for harvest to promote aspen on the landscape, create spatial diversity, salvage economic value of beetle infested Engelmann spruce, provide wood to local and regional industry and improve big game habitat. The area lies within Forest Products Management area prescription (5.13) of the revised Rio Grande National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan. For further information, please refer to the West Pinos Timber Stand and Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project Decision Memo.

E. Relationship to Other Uses  
See the West Pinos Timber Stand and Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project Decision Memo.

F. Project Design Criteria  
Project Design Criteria and monitoring measures identified in the West Pinos Timber Stand and Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project and the specialist reports and amendments to specialist reports specific for this sale are highlighted and how each one is addressed is listed here.

- Within Unit 1, maintain a 100-foot no-cut buffer (SMZ) on each side of the perennial stream. No equipment will be allowed within SMZ, except where approved in advance by the Forest Service. ***C6.50# Streamside Management Zones is included in this contract and identifies how the SMZ is marked on the ground. The Sale Area Map also identifies the SMZ. C6.42# “Skidding and Yarding” states skid trails must be approved in advance of falling.***
- Avoid the Needs Data cultural site identified in the project record. ***This site was avoided during timber sale layout.***
- For wildlife habitat, retain, on average, 5-7 snags/acre in various conditions of decay and distribution across the cutting units. Select snags with a larger-than-average diameter for the stand where available. All Douglas-fir not interfering with logging operations should be retained. ***Minimum snag, species and size requirements were met during leave tree marking. See logging plan for more information. C2.356# (Leave Tree Marking) is included in this contract.***
- The Forest Service timber sale or contract administrator shall consult the Forest Service wildlife biologist prior to granting approval to remove any hazard trees that actively support any threatened, endangered, proposed or forest sensitive species, including raptor nests. ***Notes to the Sale Administration team have been included in the logging plan for these criteria. The administrator will notify the biologist prior to granting approval to remove any trees described above.***
- Trees with known active bird nests/cavities will not be marked for removal. ***Any known trees with active birds’ nests were marked as leave during leave tree marking; these trees are not designated for removal.***
- Effects to soils, understory vegetation, and dense horizontal cover will be minimized to benefit soils, snowshoe hare, and lynx by identifying skid trail locations away from dense understory and spacing skid trails at least 100 feet apart, allowing for topographic variation and skid trail convergence. ***C6.42# “Skidding and Yarding” is included in this contract designating skid trail spacing. Notes to the Sale Administration team in the logging plan specify the importance of protecting existing regeneration.***
- Place landings in open areas if available, to protect understory. ***Landings from previous harvest entries will be utilized, as practicable, new landings will be placed in open areas, as much as possible. Notes to the Sale Administration team in logging plan specify the importance of landing placement.***
- Retain patches of trees with dense understory. ***This requirement was met during leave tree marking. The Sale Administration team will also work with the purchaser to meet this requirement during harvest.***

- The project has been surveyed for TES and MIS species. This will continue to occur during project implementation. If a species is discovered, they will be protected as indicated in the Forest Plan with consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, as necessary. ***B6.24 “Protection Measures Needed for Plants, Animals, Cultural Resources, and Cave Resources” is included in this project.***
- Gated roads utilized during logging activities and following logging will remain closed to the general public to minimize wildlife disturbance. An exception may be temporarily opening roads for public firewood collection. ***C5.41# “Closure to Use by Others” is included in this contract to ensure the gates on NFSR 345.2J and NFSR 345.2K stay shut during/after timber harvest operations.***
- The timber purchaser will be required to clean all off-road equipment prior to operating within the project area. ***B6.35 “Equipment Cleaning” is included in this contract requiring all off road equipment to be cleaned and inspected before moving to the sale area.***
- Use previous skid trails, existing roads and topographic features as much as possible. ***C6.42# “Skidding and Yarding” is included in this contract stating skid trails will be located and approved in advance of felling. Notes to the Sale Administration team are identified in the logging plan to re-use existing skid trails, where applicable. The purchaser will only use the existing roads identified in the logging plan for harvest activities.***
- Any seed, organic material used for rehabilitation, and any road fill or base material brought in off-site will be free of Colorado State Listed Noxious Weeds. ***C6.602# “Protection of Disturbed Areas from Noxious Weeds is included in this contract and specifies the seed mixture required for rehabilitation.***
- Minimize disturbance during maintenance of existing roads to limit movement of sediment into streams. ***C5.31# “Road Maintenance Requirements” is included in this contract.***

### III. CONDITION OF SALE

#### A. Planned Cutting Methods

The harvest system for this sale is ground-based – tractor/mechanical harvester on included timber.

#### B. Regeneration and Sale Area Betterment

Planting in high mortality areas is expected. Areas will be surveyed after harvest to determine regeneration needs. The KV plan includes regeneration surveys to ensure that this occurs.

#### C. Slash Treatment

C6.7#, states how slash will be treated in this sale.

#### D. Erosion Control

Provisions C6.601# and C6.602# are included in the contract.

#### E. Specified New Road Construction & Road Reconstruction

There is no specified new road construction or road reconstruction planned for this sale.

#### F. Check Cruise Information

Per FSH 2409.12, 60, 63.2, a verification check cruise was not needed for this sale due to volume and value of this scaled sale. A certification check was performed on Responsible Cruiser Chris Dupont with passing results.

### IV. APPRAISAL PREMISE

#### A. Volume Compilation

A summary of the volume determination is attached.

#### B. Plan of Operation

Over three operating seasons is assumed adequate to complete this sale.

#### C. Appraisal Point

Regional direction recently stated that all sawlog sales will be appraised to Montrose Forest Products in Montrose, Colorado given the current sawlog market condition. They also manufacture the end product.

V. APPRAISAL SUMMARIES

See the attached 2400-17 Appraisal Summary. Appraisal Bulletin used for this appraisal = BU230415

VII. VOLUME & COST CALCULATIONS

2400-17

Sale Volume Calculation

Sale Unit Volume Summary & Live and Dead Volume Calculation

Haul Cost

Road Maintenance Cost

Logging Plan and Map

Performance Bond Calculation & Bid Guarantee

Unusual Adjustment Calculation & Fire Liability (AT15)

Silvicultural Prescription

Marking Guides and Supplements

Cruise Design, Cruise Addendums, Cruise Design Appendices

Cruise Printout

Slash Plan & Costs

K-V Plan & Costs

Salvage Sale Fund & Costs