

on the ground conditions and project objectives. Clearcutting is an available silvicultural tool in all alternatives except alternative F.

Based on modeling, Alternative B would have the highest levels of clearcutting, followed by C, A, D DEIS, D FEIS and E.

Table 3-193. Average annual harvest acres by treatment types contributing to ASQ averaged from first 50 years.

Treatment Type	Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D DEIS	Alt D FEIS	Alt E	Alt F
Even Aged Harvest Regeneration	2,067	2,103	1,988	1,810	1,687	1600	8
Uneven Aged	586	408	342	379	459	431	113
Even Aged Non-Regeneration	592	613	646	626	590	532	54
Total Acres	3,245	3,124	2,976	2,835	2,736	2,562	175

Source: SPECTRUM Timber Model

\*This table includes only harvest acres directly contributing to ASQ. Harvest figures in the S-2 tables include harvest acres for other resource objectives such as fuel treatments.

As described in the preceding table, even-aged regeneration methods include clearcutting, seed tree and shelterwood seed cut systems. Even-aged non-regeneration treatment methods include shelterwood preparatory cuts and overstory removal cuts. Uneven-aged regeneration methods include group selection and single tree selection treatments. While traditional uneven-aged management is a silvicultural tool available to the Forest, use of the term here indicates multiple age classes within a stand, which results from group or single tree selection treatments. At the stand level, these harvests are small pockets of even aged trees. Over the landscape, this results in multiple age classes that mimic small-scale natural processes where there are historically small areas of insect infestations, blowdown, or other mortality. True uneven-aged harvest methods, where all ages are represented on all acres, is not a practical silvicultural system for lodgepole pine.

Alternatives D DEIS, D FEIS and E include a large percentage of the suitable base in Management Area 5.15. This management area includes a variety of ecologically oriented standards designed to reduce adverse visual impacts associated with clearcutting. Implementation of this prescription will generally treat fewer acres during some site-specific projects based on local conditions. Actual treatment plans will be based on site-specific goals and objectives and other site-specific project level information.

The acres in the above table only include harvest activities directly contributing to ASQ. As described in the previous section, the fire and fuels section, and presented

in the S-2 tables, total harvest will also include over 1,000 acres of fuel treatment harvest. The S-2 tables include harvest acres combined to include harvest that contributes to ASQ and harvest for other objectives which may occur on lands not classified as suitable. These harvests will primarily be even aged non-regeneration treatments designed to reduce fire hazards. Where these harvests occur on lands suitable for timber harvest they will contribute to the ASQ. Where these treatments occur on lands not suitable for timber production they will not contribute to the ASQ.

**Growing Stock and Growth**

Growth occurs across the forest at different rates. The rate of growth is dependent on the age of the trees. Young trees grow at a very rapid rate compared to older trees whose growth slows over time. Growth alone cannot be assumed to equal a level of harvest which could occur, since much of the growth occurs in smaller diameter trees.

The effects of the alternatives on growth for commercial species Forest-wide are displayed in the following table. Because growth is directly related to age, generally, alternatives that harvest more timber result in higher levels of growth. There is currently, approximately 5,811,000 MBF standing volume (growing stock) of commercial species. While harvesting that does not contribute to ASQ will be occurring to meet other objectives we did not model that in SPECTRUM, so it is not displayed below.

Table 3-194. Forestwide growth (MBF) of commercial species as modeled by SPECTRUM.

MBF	Alt A	Alt B	Alt C	Alt D DEIS	Alt D FEIS	Alt E	Alt F
Decade 1	407,221	403,953	401,994	401,853	403,464	402,654	404,089
Decade 5	241,537	253,684	245,091	244,538	250,258	243,076	194,659

Removals counting toward ASQ do not exceed forestwide growth over a 50-year period. Over that same period, there is a reduction in forestwide growth.

**Age Class Distribution (HSS)**

The age class distribution of commercial timber species on the forest is a critical concern for maintaining a sustainable supply of forest products, maintaining healthy vigorous stands of trees, and maintaining ecosystem diversity. A condition with more timber in overmature age classes results in a reduction of future potential harvest volumes due to slower growth rates, increasing decay, tree mortality, and risk of insect and disease infestations, and wildfire.