

IDAHO PANHANDLE NATIONAL FORESTS

2450
Commercial Sales - Proposed

04-2420-01

STARS # 12103

LONE MOUNTAIN THIN TIMBER SALE REPORT
AND
APPRAISAL

DISTRICT

SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE

Prepared _____
By

Reviewed for Advertisement

Date _____

By

Date

Reviewed _____
By

Date _____

Reviewed _____
By

Date _____

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

Staff Officer, Timber

Date

Lone Mountain Thin

Timber Sale Report

I. Location

This timber sale is located within an isolated parcel of Forest Service land approximately 18 miles northwest of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. The timber sale area lies within T53N, R4W, in a portion of section 27; Boise Meridian. The timber sale area is 135 acres in size, and is located within Kootenai County, Idaho. The timber stand atlas compartment number is 318 (Spirit Lake), Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District, Idaho Panhandle National Forests. Harvest is planned on 70 acres.

Location to the sale from the Fernan Ranger District is West on I-90 for approximately 2.5 miles to the exit for US 95N. Take US 95N for 15 miles. Purchaser should then take a left on E. Brunner Road (immediately before Silverwood Theme Park). Continue on E. Brunner Road for approximately 4.5 miles. The road will curve to the right and turn into Ramsey Rd. Continue for about 1 mile. The southern end of the sale area will be to your left. There is a non-numbered road on the left that continues through the middle of the sale area.

II. Relationship to the Environmental Document and Other Uses

This sale was prepared under the direction of the Decision Memo from the Lone Mtn Thin Project Plan approved by the District Ranger on July 12, 2011. The purpose of this sale is reduce fuel accumulations and to maintain a healthy stand through reduction of density of the current stand. One objective of this timber sale is to treat fuel loadings within this isolated parcel that is located adjacent to a number of homes. The other objective is to improve long-term forest health by removing unhealthy off site pine and promoting the healthy understory of Douglas-Fir.

The Lone Mtn Thin Decision Memo identified the proposed action described in the April 2011 scoping letter as the action to be implemented. The proposed treatment includes commercial thinning of 70 acres.

- A. Relationship to Private Land/Rights-of-Way: The sale area is located adjacent to a number of homes that exist on the private land around the Lone Mountain inholding. Landlines are all in place. There are currently no right-of-way agreements needed to access this project area.
- B. Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive Species: Currently no threatened or endangered species have been known to inhabit or have been observed in the Lone Mountain Thin Timber Sale Area. The proposed treatment is not expected to adversely affect any T&E or sensitive plant or animal species per the biological assessment and evaluations.

For sensitive animal species, some activities may impact individuals or habitat, but these activities are not likely to trend toward a federal listing or a loss of viability. Snags will be retained to meet the Northern Region Snag Management Protocol. Snags will be retained unless needed to be felled for safety.

Protection measures will be added to C6.24# of the timber sale contract in the event that any TES species are encountered during sale operations and it will be reported to the wildlife biologist and/or district botanist. Provision C6.24# will also require that the district wildlife biologist and/or district

botanist be notified within 48 hours if evidence of threatened or endangered species usage is discovered in the sale area.

- C. Wetlands/Streamside Habitats: There are no wetlands or streams within the Lone Mountain Thin Timber Sale Area. There are not any harvest units located within any Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas. Any discovered wetlands, seeps, bogs, elk wallows and springs less than one acre in size will be protected with a 100 foot no activity buffer. Site specific BMP's will be utilized.
- D. Special Uses, Mining Claims, Range Allotments: There are no active mining claims or range allotments within the timber sale area.

There is a Kootenai Electric Co-op (KEC) powerline along the north side and the east side of the sale area. KEC has agreed to fell trees within 40ft of the powerline. The purchaser will be required to coordinate with KEC before beginning operations. KEC will need to fell trees before the purchaser can begin logging the unit in accordance with C6.316.

- E. Noxious Weeds: Purchaser will be required to wash off-road equipment prior to moving into the sale area in accordance with C6.351# of the timber sale contract. The timber sale contract will require that the purchaser seed and fertilize landings. The purchaser may be required to seed and fertilize areas of soil disturbance created by logging activities in accordance with C6.601#.
- F. Cultural Resources: No known cultural resource sites will be impacted by sale activities. Timber sale contract provision (B)C6.24# provides protection in the event that a new site is discovered.
- G. Soils: All harvest activities will occur when the soil profile is frozen to 4 inches or covered with 12 inches of settled snow. Running on slash mats will not be permitted. Mechanical felling is allowed only when operating on 12 inches of settled snow or 4 inches of frozen ground.
- H. Other: There is no old growth located in this site.

III. Timber Volumes

The timber sale was marked and cruised during the fall of 2011. The cruise is #12301 and dated 2/08/2012. The sale was sample tree cruised. This sale will be offered as a weight-scaled sale. Forest Service standards require that the cruise be less than a 30% error for scaled sales in this value range. The sampling error for this sale is 11.96%. This timber sale was cruised as a single strata.

Non-sawlog roundwood material (topwood) is required removal. For this sale, non-saw material will be required to be utilized to a 3" top with at least a 16' piece. All other regeneration should be protected as much as possible in accordance with B6.32.

Existing dead trees that do not meet saw log merchantability standards are required to remain standing unless needed to be felled for safety reasons. Snags felled for safety will be required to remain on site.

The Lone Mountain Thin Timber Sale was cruised utilizing Forest Service personnel. Cruising was completed during the 2011 field season. All Forest Service Cruise assistants were under the direct

supervision of Certified Cruisers. Cruise design and implementation procedures were adhered to the standards prescribed in the Forest Cruising Handbook 2409.12 and all Region 1 and IPNF Supplements. District Certified Cruisers: Linda Davis, Dan Frigard, Bob Rehnborg, and Tim Schaffer. District Assistant Cruisers: Tom Elliott and Lauren Goschke.

Area Determination: GPS was used for the unit in the sale.

GPS: Trimble Trimble GeoXT.

All files were differentially corrected as required within FSH 2409.12 Timber Cruising Handbook 52.21 – Global Positioning System Traverse Standards.

The following table summarizes sale acreage, and estimated timber volumes by species, and logging system by unit.

Volumes are in CCF

Unit	Acres	Type	LP	PP	Sawlog	Non-Saw	Total	Logging System
1	70	CTM	15	348	363	41	404	Ground Based
Total	70	-	15	348	363	41	404	-
MBF	-	-	7	167	174	13	187	-
Tons	-	-	54	1239	1293	130	1423	-

This sale will be offered on a weight scale basis. The following sawlog weight factors were used for this sale in lbs/cubic foot; LP-60 and PP-67. This resulted in a conversion factor of 3.52 tons per CCF for the whole sale including non-saw.

IV. Marking Plan

This sale contains 1 harvest unit that was individual cut tree marked (CTM). Cut trees are designated with a **BLUE** horizontal bole mark on the uphill and downhill side and a **BLUE** horizontal stump mark.

Standard Unit Boundaries all Units: Three vertical stripes of **ORANGE** paint approximately 3’ in length with the mid-point of each vertical stripe to be roughly at “eye-height”. The center vertical stripe faces into the area to be treated. Boundary trees have an **ORANGE** horizontal stump mark located on the downhill side. On the east side of the project, Ramsey road was used as the boundary. On the north side of the sale, Seasons road was also used as a boundary. On the southern piece of the project the fenceline was used as the boundary.

V. Logging Plan

This sale will require ground based (100%, 70 acres) yarding systems. The average ground based yarding distance is 400 feet with a maximum skid of 1,000 feet.

All harvest activities will occur when the soil profile is frozen to 4 inches or covered with 12 inches of settled snow. Running on slash mats will not be permitted. Skid trails must operate on 4 inches of

frozen ground or 12 inches of settled snow. Mechanized felling is permitted only if conducted from skid trails, unless operating on 12 inches of settled snow or 4 inches of frozen ground. Ground disturbance associated with skid trails will need to be seeded and fertilized in accordance with C6.601# of the timber sale contract.

Purchaser should utilize roads and turnouts as much as possible for landings in order to maintain existing and proposed soil compaction levels. All landings constructed with the sale and landings approved under B6.422 and C6.7 are required to have slash piled and removed. The intent is to remove the landing slash as biomass material. These landings require seeding and fertilizing at conclusion of use.

Along the east side of the sale, Kootenai County Electric (KEC) powerlines will need to be protected and directional felling must occur away from the lines. The powerlines will be protected under B6.22, Protection of Improvements.

VI. Transportation System

Volume has been appraised to the mill in Chilco, ID. Volume will haul out the #6005 road to either Ramsey Rd. or W Seasons Rd. and then will head south on Ramsey Rd. to Brunner Rd. Volume will continue to be hauled west on Brunner Rd to the ID-95 S. Volume will move south on I-95 to the Chilco Mill.

It is important for the purchaser to note that this is a Small Business Set-Aside Sale (SBA). This means that only 30% of the total volume of the sale may be sold to a non-SBA mill. See the prospectus and bid form for more information. Since Chilco is not an SBA mill, this will have an effect on where the other 70% of the material is hauled.

The purchaser will be responsible for any damage to roads as a result of timber harvest activities. The purchaser is also responsible for road maintenance as required under C5.31#.

Purchaser will be required to wash off-road equipment prior to moving into the sale area under provision C6.351#.

VII. Erosion Control

Purchaser will be required to seed and fertilize areas of ground disturbance associated with skid trails and landings at conclusion of use.

Application shall be during the period March 1 to June 15 and September 1 to November 15. Seed shall be applied evenly at the rate of 18.0 lbs per acre for landings and skid trails.

General seed mix: for use in disturbed areas associated with landings and the new system roads such as temporary roads and skid trails.

Seed quantity

Species*	cost/lb	lbs/ac	cost/ac
Slender wheatgrass <i>Elymus trachycaulus</i> "Revenue" or "Pryor"	4.00	6	
Idaho fescue "Joseph" or "Winchester" (<i>Festuca idahoensis</i>)	7.98	5	
Blue Wildrye <i>Elymus glaucus</i> "Arlington" or "Elkton"	8.70	5	
Annual rye (<i>Lolium multiflorum</i>)	3.26	2	
Blend fee (per lb @ 18 lbs)	\$0.05		
TOTAL	\$6.38	18.0	\$114.84**

*Each variety is required to be "blue tagged" certified noxious weed free using the all-states noxious weed list

**Quote from Pineview Horticultural Services, 11/28/11

Acres to seed: 4 acres x \$114.84/ac = \$459.36

Labor for Seeding: 4 hours @ \$17.40/hr = \$69.60

Seed and Labor cost: = \$528.96

Seed shall be applied by the Dry method. Fertilizer shall be applied at a rate of 200 pounds per acre in one application by the Dry method and have a chemical analysis as listed below:

<u>Nutrient</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Nitrogen, N	16
Phosphorous, P2O5	16
Potassium, K	16

Fertilizer cost = \$1,000 per ton (quote from Cenex, Dalton Gardens, ID 7/2011)

200 lbs per acre x 4 acres = 800 lbs.

800 lbs = 0.4 tons x \$1000/ton = 400.00

Labor for fertilizing: 4 hrs @ \$17.40/hour = \$69.60

Total fertilizer and labor cost = \$469.60

Total cost for seeding and fertilizing = \$998.56

Erosion Control – Cost/CCF: \$998.56/363 CCF = \$2.75/CCF

VIII. Sale Area Improvement - Reforestation

There is no reforestation included in this project.

IX. Hazard Reduction

The sequence of activities and activity costs are attached. Activities were input into FACTS for cost calculations.

Purchaser requirements:

Purchaser will be required to whole tree yard the unit.

Purchaser will be required to grapple pile landings.

Purchaser will be required to remove landing piles from US Forest Service land.

Purchaser will be required to fell and slash regeneration severely damaged by logging activities.

Forest Service BD requirements:

Forest Service will jackpot burn the unit. Burning may not occur within 200ft of the southern fenceline.

B. Purchaser Fire Liability:

1. Personnel and Equipment

Number Required	Item	Personnel
1	Tractor	1
1	Landing	1
1	Sawyer	2
2	Truck drivers	2
1	Loader	1

2. Cost Calculations

Total number of personnel	7
Number of hours per day	12
Total hours per crew day	84
Hourly rate for AD-C firefighter	\$17.40
Average daily cost	\$1,461.00
Average fire length	5 days
Purchaser obligation for operation fire	\$7,308.00
Rounded up to nearest \$100	\$7,400.00

X. Other Provisions

A. Period of contract:

1. Normal operating season: December 1 through February 28.
2. Termination date: December 31, 2015

B. Other unique requirements:

1. This is an SBA sale, therefore only 30% of the harvested product can go to a non-SBA processing facility (mill).

2. Purchaser is required to remove slash from USFS lands by May 31st in the same season it was created. An adjustment has been made in the appraisal for the purchaser to remove slash material.*
3. All off-road equipment shall be cleaned and inspected prior to entering or reentering into the sale area (C6.351#)
4. Kootenai Electric will need to be notified prior to felling trees with potential to reach the powerline. The Forest Service and Kootenai Electric personnel identified long term hazard trees that the power company would like to see removed. Kootenai Electric has agreed to fall all trees designated for cutting (hazard trees and commercial thin trees) within 40 feet of the centerline of the powerline corridor, approximately 85 in number.
5. Past skid trails should be used as much as possible in the development of the skid pattern.
6. Post harvest, all utilized skid trails where soil disturbance has occurred will need to be seeded and fertilized.
7. All harvesting will occur when the soil profile is frozen to 4 inches or covered with 12 inches of settled snow (C 6.316#).
8. Skid trails will be established at approximately 100-ft spacing unless operating on 4 inches of frozen ground or 12 inches of settled snow. Mechanized felling is permitted only if conducted on 4 inches of frozen ground or 12 inches of settled snow.

C. Performance bond: Minimum performance bond will be set to cover approximately 10% of the advertised value. The minimum bond will be \$2,000.00.

XI. Notification of Forest Practices

(Check appropriate box)

X	Harvest of forest tree species.
	Road construction associated with harvesting of trees.
	Reforestation.
	Use of chemicals or fertilizers for the purpose of growing or managing forest tree species.
X	Slashing or use of fire resulting from harvest or other management activities.
	Helicopter yarding adjacent to private ownership.
	Site specific BMP's
	Lake Present?
	Class I stream present?
	Steep Slopes?
	Unstable or erodible soils present?
	Stream crossings anticipated?

* \$6.89/CCF allowance for purchaser slash removal – Based on lump sum price of \$2500 quoted by Cannon Hill.