

**THREE RIVERS RANGER DISTRICT
SMALL SALES PROGRAM
2012**

Objectives:

- To increase the utilization of dead and down material.
- To remove hazards and fuels along open roads.
- To allow interested parties to identify material to be considered for sale and removal.
- To improve the opportunities for small operators to purchase sales.
- To increase the size of the sales that qualify for the SSTS program.
- To stay within all existing standards and guidelines and utilize existing environmental assessments as the criteria to conduct the small sale program.
- To have a small sale program that is competitive, using a variety of methods to allow for competition. These include sealed bids, oral bids, posting on District bulletin boards, newspaper advertisements and letters to prospective bidders. Any one, or all, of these methods might be used for a particular sale offering.

2012 Program

The Three Rivers Ranger District will continue with its normal small sales program offerings. We will be offering some sales under the Categorical Exclusion authority. We will continue to offer sales in areas that have been covered by previous environmental assessments.

Wednesday Sales

Beginning in May, some small sales will be placed into the Wednesday Sale Program. These will be small sales that are covered under existing NEPA such as the Forest Wide Blowdown EA. These sales will be sold by a sealed bid process. Any sales in this program will be auctioned by opening the sealed bids for that sale generally on the **FIRST** and **THIRD** Wednesday of each month at 1:00 at the Troy Ranger Station. Prospective purchasers will be responsible for contacting the Three Rivers Ranger District office prior to the weekly bid opening to review all available permits or sales. There will be Wednesdays that no sales are available. Bid forms may be picked up and submitted any time prior to the bid opening date and time.

Because the District has limited time and personnel to locate product areas, we welcome the assistance of the public in locating suitable product areas to offer during the year. If you find an area that contains a product you would like to see offered, please contact this office. District personnel will verify the area's suitability for removal of forest products. It might be worthwhile for you to visit with our personnel prior to looking for areas to get an understanding of the areas that we can and cannot consider for small sales.

Increase the volume for Special Salvage Timber Sale (SSTS) Sales

The Kootenai National Forest has tried to keep most of our SSTS sales generally to 250 MBF or less. However, the requirements of the SSTS still must be met, such as completion in one season, etc.

If you would like further information about the Wednesday Sale Program or our small sales program, please contact Pat Shira (406) 295-7439, Ed Sedler (406) 295-7456 or Lindy Meyer (406) 295-7437, at the Troy Ranger Station.