

TIMBER

A VISION

The forest is healthy and will continue on and on. A wide variety of useful products come from the forest such as, firewood to cook and heat with, pinon nuts for nourishment, wood to build our homes, golden aspen leaves to look at and walk through in the fall, and large majestic trees to "be a part of."

This looks into the future, although some may be happening now. It is stated in the "present tense" as if it is already that way. This gives a feel of where we are heading. It paints a general picture with a broad brush.

MANAGEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

- Provide a non-declining sustained yield of timber consistent with land capabilities and other resource values.
- Improve site productivity through management.
- Provide green and dead firewood and other forest products on a sustained yield basis.
- Design timber resource activities with emphasis on benefits to wildlife, watershed, and recreation while maintaining productive timber stands and providing wood products.
- Protect the forest resources from destructive insects and diseases using integrated pest management.

This snaps a more detailed picture. It gives a feel of the intent, purpose, and goals. It is the framework for the standards and guidelines.

Setting The Stage

There has been a long term historic demand for firewood. Its use continues to this day for cooking and heating.

The forest has had a history and often cyclic problem with insects and diseases, such as budworm and mistletoe.

Most of the aspen is generated from sucking off roots versus establishing from seeds. Aspen also serves as nurse trees for conifers which eventually outgrow the aspen and take over the site. Many aspen stands are lost this way.

Much of the natural processes have been altered by people's activities over the years, such as the putting out of all fires. Timber harvesting provides an opportunity to maintain or enhance the vegetation diversity and forest health.

Much of the current road network was put in conjunction with timber harvest activity. This is a definite asset for access throughout the forest but can contribute to problems in other resource areas, such as human activity within wildlife habitat areas. Much of the current harvest activities uses existing roads.

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Table Timber-1 below, describes the present and planned future condition of the Forest. Most of the figures for present conditions are based on Forest-wide averages from our 1985 inventory. Conditions for the future are based on a combination of 1985 inventory data and modeling of data from the 1976 inventory.

Table Timber-1. Present and planned future Forest conditions

CONDITION	UNIT OF MEASURE	SUITABLE LAND	UNSUITABLE LAND ⁴
Present Forest:			
..Growing stock ¹	MMCF	716	1197
	MMBF	2542	4249
..Live cull ¹	MMCF	39	130
	MMBF	146	488
..Salvable dead ¹	MMCF	13	43
	MMBF	42	140
..Annual net grow ¹	MMCF	15	25
	MMBF	62	104
..Annual mortality ¹	MMCF	1	6
	MMBF	3	24
Future Forest (200 years)			
..Growing stock ²	MMCF	879	
..Annual net growth ²	MMCF	20	
..Rotation age ³	Years	110 to 130	
Age Class Distribution (suitable lands)	Age Class	Present	Future
	0 - 21	20,000	48,000
	21 - 40	50,000	48,000
	41 - 60	43,000	48,000
	61 - 80	30,000	48,000
	81 - 100	20,000	48,000
	101 - 120	45,000	48,000
	121 +	172,000	92,000

¹ Based on Forest-wide average from 1985 Inventory. MMCF includes all trees 5.0" DBH +. MMBF includes all trees 9.0" DBH +.

² Proportionate increase from starting "Inventory" volume using proportion derived from modeled growth.

³ Average rotation age for regenerated stands on major forest type for lands with timber emphasis.

⁴ Figures for unsuitable lands are extrapolations of values for suitable lands.

TEN-YEAR SALE SCHEDULE

Table Timber-3 displays the timber sale schedule. Ranger sales are small sales and generally do not require any road construction or reconstruction. Several Ranger sales may be offered to form the volumes shown.

The timber sale program is based on current conditions and information. If new information becomes available, the timber sale program will be modified.

Most timber management activity is planned for suitable forest land, but some land areas in the unsuitable categories. Only chargeable timber volume is included in the allowable sale quantity. Timber activities on unsuitable land include:

1. Salvage or sanitation harvesting of trees or stands due to insect damage, fire, windthrow, or other catastrophes, or which are in imminent danger of such damage.
2. Cutting of individual trees or stands to test silvicultural techniques, or for the purpose of gathering information about tree growth, or the effect of such harvesting on other resources.
3. Cutting of trees to promote the safety of roads, trails, and picnic grounds, in administrative areas, or to remove hazardous trees.
4. Harvesting to meet habitat objectives for threatened, endangered animal or plant species or management indicator species.
5. Harvesting to improve timber stand health, or to enhance scenic vistas or by improving visual quality.
6. Harvesting to provide fuel for power generation, or to provide material for road construction.
7. Harvest of commercial products like wilding, fuel, or fence posts and non-convertible products.

MOVE to Appendix H-4 (Amendment 11).

Most activity on unsuitable land is included in Table Management A. Items 1, 4, and 7. Estimated volume for these activities is included in the Forest-wide and specific Management Plans.

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Allowable Sale Quantity

The average annual allowable sale quantity (ASQ) and timber sale program quantity for the first decade is shown in Table Timber-2. The timber sale program quantity includes the total of: 1) chargeable volume planned for sale from suitable lands (ASQ), and 2) the estimated non-chargeable volume from suitable and unsuitable lands. Harvests of aspen from MA-6 and pinon-juniper firewood are examples on non-chargeable volume.

Table Timber-2. Allowable sale quantity and timber sale program quantity (decade) for first decade)

HARVEST METHOD	CHARGEABLE VOLUME			TOTAL
	SAWTIMBER MMBF	SAWTIMBER MMCF	PROF	
Regeneration Harvest:				
...Clearcut	4.5	0.9		0.1
...Shelterwood:				
....Preparatory cut		No esti m No		N/A
....Seed cut	7.3			N/A
....Removal cut	16.6		N/A	N/A
..Selection	0.3		0.5	0.1
Intermediate harvests:			0.6	2.0
Total ¹			3.0	35.0 6.9
				0.4
			N-CHARGEABLE VOLUME	
Total ²			4.9	6.5 1.1
		0.3		0.8
GRAND TOTAL				41.5 8.0
...MMBF				
...MMCF				

MOVE to Appendix H-4 (Amendment 11).

¹ Only inc... suitable lands.
² Only i... from suitable and/or unsuitable lands.
³ Tot... additional sales.

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Table Timber-3. Ten Year Sawtimber Offering Schedule.

Ranger District	FISCAL YEAR..... Sale	'87 Vol. ¹	FISCAL YEAR..... Sale	'88 Vol. ¹	FISCAL '89
Canjilon	Mogote	2.2	Del Medio Ranger Sales	1.3 0.1	.3
El Rito	La Jara	3.7	Big Rock ²		4.1
	Ranger Sales	1.7	Ranger Sales		8.6 0.8
Camino Real	Picacho	5.4	Alamitos		0.0 ³
	Dropout	2.2	Frijoles		1.1
	Osha	3.6	Ranger Sales		
	Ranger Sales	2.5			
Tres Piedras	Jawbone	1.1	Lo		5.3
	Ranger Sales	0.5		0.2	0.1
Questa				1.2 0.6	Anchor I 1.6
Total				21.6	22.9

MOVE to Appendix H-4 (Amendment 11).

¹ Millions of Board Feet guidelines take prec actual accomplish

imates. Carson Forest Plan objectives, and standards/ume. Overall volume for decade will be met. 1987-89 are .tes.

² These are s also be in V

ederal Sustain Yield Unit. Some of the Ranger Sales on El Rito will

³ 2.4 M'

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Table Timber-3. Ten Year Sawtimber Offering Schedule (continued).

Ranger District	FISCAL YEAR.....	..'90	FISCAL YEAR.....	..'91	FISCAL YEAR.....	..'92
	Proposed Sale	Vol.1	Proposed Sale	Vol.1	Proposed Sale	Vol.1
Canjilon	Ranger Sales	0.1	Dulce Ranger Sales	4.2 0.1	P ..les	0.1
El Rito	Borracho ² Valle Grande ² Ranger Sales	5.0 7.1 2.5	Felipito ² Ranger Sales	7.0 2.7		7.0 2.5
Camino Real	Maestas Ridge Ranger Sales	7.3 2.0	Angostura Ranger Sales		..ales	9.5 5.0
Tres Piedras	Ranger Sales	1.0	Tanques-Barro Ranger Sales		.. Tusas Ranger Sales	6.0 1.0
Questa	Foster	2.0	Anchor Ranger		Saddle	1.5
Total		27.0		34.0		32.6

Table Timber-3. Ten Year Sawtimber Offering Schedule (continued).

Ranger District	FISCAL YEAR.....	..'94
	Proposed Sale	Vol.1
Canjilon	0.1 Madera/Oso Ranger Sales	2.8 0.1
El Rito	7.0 Escondida ² 2.5 Ranger Sales	7.0 2.5
	2.5 Telephone/Borrogo 9.5 Ranger Sales	11.0 3.0
	6.5 Butterfly Ranger Sales	5.5 0.5
Questa	1.5 Van Diest I Ranger Sales	1.5 0.5
Total	35.6	36.4

MOVE to Appendix H-4 (Amendment 11).

Table Timber-3. Ten Year Sawtimber Offering Schedule (continued).

Ranger District	FISCAL YEAR..... Proposed Sale	.. '95 Vol. ¹	FISCAL YEAR..... Proposed Sale	
Canjilon	Canyon Ranger Sales	1.4 0.1	Yeso Ranger Sales	
El Rito	Agua ² Palo Ranger Sales	4.0 2.5 2.5	Burro ² Mount Orter Rr	2.5 2.0
Camino Real	Casita/Capulin Paradise Ranger Sales	5.0 4.7		4.0 5.0 4.5
Tres Piedras	Nutritas/Olguin/ San Antone Ranger Sales		er Sales	3.5 2.0 1.5
Questa	Bobcat		an Diest II Ranger Sales	1.5 0.5
Total		35.5		35.5

MOVE to Appendix H-4 (Amendment 11).

1987 - 1996 TOTALS

Volume for Scheduled Sales (1987-96)	304.0
Volume Not Yet Scheduled (1990-96)	16.0
Total Volume to Be Sold (1987-96)	320.0

¹ Millions of Board Feet (MMBF). Volumes are estimates. Carson Forest Plan objectives, and standards/guidelines take precedence over exact sale volume. Overall volume for decade will be met. 1987-89 are actual accomplishments. 1990-96 are estimates.

² These are sales within the Vallecitos Federal Sustain Yield Unit. Some of the Ranger Sales on El Rito will also be in VFSYU.

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Standards And Guidelines

Standards and guidelines applicable to all Management Areas or groups of Management Areas are included in this "Forest-wide" section. For emphasis or clarification a few standards and guidelines are repeated in sections for specific Management Areas.

Except as specifically noted within the text or in [brackets] at the end of the text, standards and guidelines listed are applicable to the "suitable" timber land base. Areas within the "suitable" classification include the following Management Areas on general slope areas of 40% gradient or less: MA-1, Spruce; MA-3, Mixed Conifer; and MA-4, Ponderosa Pine.

Other groupings are defined below.

[All forested land] applies to all forested lands in all Management Areas.

[Forest-wide] applies to forest areas within the Management Areas classified as "suitable," "not appropriate for timber production" or most other "unsuitable" categories. Management areas not included are: MA-15, Potential Recreation Sites; MA-16, Existing Recreation Sites; MA-17, Wilderness; MA-18, Wild and Scenic River; and MA-19, Special Areas. Standards and guidelines for these are covered under the specific Management Areas. Management Areas 17 and 18 would be technically classed as "withdrawn."

[Not Appropriate and Other Unsuitable] applies to forested lands technically classified as "not appropriate for timber production" or most of the other "unsuitable" categories (FSH 2409.13). These lands may be identified as forested Management Areas or may be included as stringers or patches within non-forested Management Areas. Included are: MA-2, Spruce over 40% slope; MA-5, Mixed Conifer and Ponderosa Pine over 40% slope; MA-6, Aspen; MA-7, Unsuitable Timber; MA-8, Pinon-Juniper; MA-13, Oak; MA-14 Riparian, and MA-20, Semi-Primitive Areas. Also included are the forested patches and stringers within: MA-9, High Elevation grassland; MA-10, Low Elevation Grassland; and MA-12, Sage.

INDEX MAPS AND STAND RECORDS... Prior to annual updates and using available Stage-I and Stage-II Inventory data, complete index maps and stand records for sale planning areas associated with the ten-year sale schedule [Forest-wide].

INVENTORY... Reinventory (Stage-I) the timber resource in 1995. [Forest-wide]

SILVICULTURAL EXAMS... Complete silvicultural exams to track site specific Forest conditions and to provide information for project analysis and design. As a guideline complete 38,000 acres/yr on suitable forest land (1/10 of area in each Management Area per year). In coordination with wildlife management complete an inventory of MA-6, Aspen, during the ten year period. Complete 7,000 acres per year on pinon-juniper and other forested areas to meet specific project needs. [Forest-wide]

IRM... As further described in the "Wildlife" section, develop and prescribe treatments through Integrated Resource Management (IRM). In applying IRM cross-check all resource areas for standards and guidelines. [Forest-wide]

VEGETATIVE MANIPULATION AND TIMBER METHODS... Both even-aged and uneven-aged harvest cutting methods are permitted for use in the Southwestern Region. Uneven-aged management is the most appropriate for managing suitable timber producing lands. Even-aged management may be used for special purposes. In all cases, the cutting method will be selected to best fit the abiotic, economic and management objectives that apply to a particular area. (Amendment 11)

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all cases, the harvest cutting method will be selected to best fit the abiotic, biotic, economic, and management objectives that apply to a particular area. The Regional Guide (Table 3-2) displays the appropriate silvicultural system and cutting methods to be used for each forest type.

SHELTERWOOD... As a guideline, the shelterwood method will be a regeneration cut followed in 20 years by one removal cut. Preparatory cuts may be applied to meet specific situations.

THINNING... Stands may be treated with one precommercial thinning and one or more intermediate harvests designed to meet management objectives. Stocking guidelines are provided in FSH 2409.26a. Thinning should not be performed where there is a mistletoe infected overstory of the same species: Chapter 70, FSH 2409.26a. When accessible, make thinning slash available for firewood or other convertible products.

DIAMETER CLASS DISTRIBUTION... Where uneven-aged management is used a "Q" factor that best meets the site specific area objectives will be selected. Where even-aged management is used, the rotation age for regulated stands will be selected to improve the diversity with the surrounding diameter class distribution of uneven-aged areas as well as the unit's management objectives. (Amendment 11)

REGENERATION... Within limits established in 36 CFR 219.16, stands may be regenerated at 95% of CMAI as determined by individual stand examination, or earlier for use of sound silvicultural practices to attain multiple use objectives. Examples include improving age-class distribution within a diversity unit or reducing insect or disease problems. Regeneration harvests will have an objective of creating a new stand. Artificial reforestation will be scheduled for all clearcuts where natural regeneration is inadequate. Except for treatment of insect or disease conditions and/or when planting has been prescribed, final removal harvests will not be made until adequate regeneration is established.

NOT APPROPRIATE AND OTHER UNSUITABLE... Lands classed as "not appropriate..." or other "unsuitable" may be managed to meet specific resource objectives for the appropriate Management Area. [Not Appropriate and Other Unsuitable]

ASPEN:

Standards and guidelines for managing aspen within the suitable timber land base are included in this section; they primarily relate to MA-1, Spruce; and MA-3, Mixed Conifer. Aspen is included in these MA's if it is mixed as a component with conifer, or if an aspen dominated overstory has a stocked or nearly stocked conifer understory. Other aspen stands are included in MA-6; (Aspen) and MA-7 (unsuitable); reference these sections for management direction.

IMPROVE DISTRIBUTION... Inventory and manage aspen in all forested areas to improve age class distribution, and to improve the forest-wide distribution of the component. [Forest-wide, on appropriate habitat types.]

MINIMUM 10%... Within a diversity unit, create or maintain aspen stands on a minimum of ten percent of the timbered area that is capable of supporting the aspen-type as a major seral species. This applies to existing aspen with stocked or nearly stocked conifer understories and conifer stands with the capability to produce aspen if the conifer stand is clearcut.

DISTRIBUTION... Determine aspen stand size and location primarily to meet wildlife habitat and visual quality objectives. Consider the aspen distribution in adjacent diversity units when planning treatments.

CREATE STANDS... The guideline will be to create or maintain 200 acres of aspen per year within Management Areas 1 and 3. Created aspen stands will be managed under standards and guidelines for

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Management Area 6, Aspen. As described in the MA-6 section, clearcutting is the primary harvest method for regenerating a stand of aspen.

RELEASE CONIFER... On aspen areas with stocked or nearly stocked conifer understories, harvest aspen to release the conifer stand.

ENCOURAGE REGENERATION... In mixed conifer stands that contain aspen, encourage aspen regeneration as a minor stand component (less than 50% of total stocking) through location of skid trails, landings, and temporary roads.

FOREST PEST MANAGEMENT:

INTEGRATE SURVEYS... Integrate Forest Pest Management Surveys into Silvicultural Exams when practical. Primary emphasis is on dwarf mistletoe surveys, western spruce budworm risk rating, and spruce bark beetle risk rating. [Forest-wide]

TIMBER HARVEST... Most control action on suitable lands will be through timber harvest and other treatments to improve or maintain stand vigor and composition resistant to insect and disease conditions. Prioritize treatment of stands with existing or potential for insect or disease problems. Apply priority to sales within the 10-year sale schedule, and to stands within a given sale planning area.

MANAGE TO PLAY ROLE IN SUCCESSION... When consistent with Management Area objectives and objectives for adjacent Areas that might be affected, insect and disease conditions may be managed to play their role in forest succession through their interaction with host organisms and natural predators. [Not appropriate and other unsuitable]

PESTICIDES... Use pesticides when they are the most biologically sound, environmentally acceptable and most cost efficient means of preventing or suppressing pest outbreaks that threaten the attainment of objectives. [Forest-wide]

COORDINATE... Coordinate insect and disease evaluations and control measures with the appropriate State Agencies and other Federal Agencies. [Forest-wide]

HELP PUBLIC... Assist individuals in analyzing trees with insect and disease problems and/or refer them to the appropriate agency for technical assistance. [Forest-wide]

CUTTING PRESCRIPTIONS... Integrate the following pest management prescriptions into the cutting prescriptions for stands scheduled for treatment:

● **Dwarf Mistletoe** - Following seed cuts, remove the infected overstory as soon as regeneration is accomplished. Following removal of infected overstories, thin infected understories to densities which will maximize fiber production or meet other management objectives over the length of the rotation. Use yield simulation models as guides. When yield simulation indicates stands will not reach maturity because of mistletoe, eliminate the mistletoe by clearcutting (in conformance with Regional Standards for clearcut size). In treated stands, girdle or otherwise induce mortality in infected cull trees left to meet wildlife habitat objectives.

● **Spruce Beetle** - Salvage windthrow spruce trees and treat accumulated slash. Schedule high risk stands for harvest first. Treat spruce slash by removing all material over 6" in diameter.

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● **Western Spruce Budworm** - In the highly susceptible mixed conifer type, even-aged stands dominated by Douglas-fir, ponderosa pine, and/or aspen will be created. As appropriate for specific habitat-types, this can be accomplished by use of the silvicultural prescription below:

- Patch cutting followed by site preparation, broadcast burning, and planting a mixture of ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir.
- Regeneration cuts which retain a uniformly spaced overstory, composed principally of dominant and co-dominant Douglas-fir or Ponderosa pine. Advance regeneration is destroyed by tractor scarification or underburning. Regeneration is accomplished by planting ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir. The overstory is removed as soon as the regeneration becomes established.
- Regeneration cuts which retain a mixture of species in the overstory. Dominant and co-dominant, mistletoe-free or lightly infested trees are used for seed trees; advance reproduction will be protected during site preparation, and will be supplemented by natural seed fall.
- Removal of all trees larger than sapling size. Advance regeneration to be protected during logging activities. Supplemental planting of ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir on all disturbed understocked areas.

REFORESTATION:

INVENTORY, DIAGNOSIS, Rx, MONITOR... Complete inventory, diagnosis, prescription, and monitoring for reforestation projects. Certification of natural and artificial reforestation areas is in accordance with FSM 2470 and 2490.

NATURAL REGENERATION... Natural regeneration will be the preferred stand regeneration procedure.

PLANTING... Planting is used where needed to establish a new timber stand. The number of trees planted varies by site according to stocking needs. Satisfactory stocking will be in accordance with standards established in FSM 2472.03, R-3 Supplement.

UNDERSTOCKED/UNSTOCKED... Lands classified as suitable but currently unstocked or understocked, that may not achieve minimum levels, are evaluated for reforestation potential and are regenerated if environmentally and economically feasible, otherwise, these lands become unsuitable.

SITE PREP... Site preparation by mechanical, prescribed fire, or chemical means will be done as needed following the regeneration cut (seedcut or clearcut). The method to be used will be selected based on situation and economics.

LIMIT GRASS SEEDING... No grass is seeded during the regeneration period unless it is necessary for erosion control.

SLASH... Slash disposal during the regeneration period will be done as necessary to facilitate site preparation and meet protection standards, but Slash may be left as needed for seedling protection.

PROTECTION... Regeneration areas will be adequately protected from domestic livestock grazing to insure establishment of the trees, in accordance with FSM 2470, and FSH 2409.26b. Reforestation projects will include rodent control where needed.

ON OTHER AREAS... Reforestation on other areas may be completed as needed to meet specific Management Area objectives. [Not appropriate and other unsuitable]

SEED COLLECTION... To support reforestation needs, collect sufficient tree seed by species to maintain a 10-year supply by seed zone.

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TIMBER SALE PREPARATION AND ADMINISTRATION:

DO RESOURCE IMPROVEMENTS... Use sale area improvement plans as an opportunity to accomplish resource improvements within the timber sale area.

MINIMUM CUT VOLUMES... For commercial sales minimum cut volumes per acre are usually between 300 and 500 board feet of sawtimber and/or 160 cubic feet for products.

FIREWOOD... Where feasible, slash created by timber harvest activities will be made available for firewood.

BARK BEETLE.... Treat all green spruce slash over 6-inches DIB to make it unsuitable for bark beetle habitat.

GROUND SKIDDING/ SKYLINE YARDING... Timber harvest will be accomplished by the use of ground skidding equipment, and advanced methods like skyline yarding if needed to meet other management objectives like soil or streamcourse protection.

EXCEPTIONS TO 40% SLOPES... Timber harvest activities are limited to slopes less than 40 percent gradient with very minor exceptions, these include:

- Minor inclusions or short pitches mixed within general slope areas of 40% gradient or less, that can be operated within acceptable environmental limits.
- Areas within the clearing limits specified for road construction and reconstruction.
- Areas adjacent to roads that can be operated by hand for minor amounts of firewood, vigas, or other convertible or non-convertible products. [Forest-wide]

TREATMENT ON UNSUITABLE/ NOT APPROPRIATE LANDS... When vegetative treatment is needed to meet specific Management Area objectives on lands classed "not appropriate for timber production" and other "unsuitable" areas, consider commercial timber sales for sawtimber and products. To the extent possible, incorporate these treatments with harvests scheduled for surrounding or adjacent "suitable" lands. The harvest volumes will not count towards the allowable sale quantity. [Not appropriate and other unsuitable]

ADMINISTER CONTRACTS... Administer commercial timber sale contracts for sawtimber, products, and non-convertible products. This activity includes accountability, financial management, field inspections, contract interpretation and enforcement. [Forest-wide]

PERMITS... Plan, prepare, sell and administer commercial and personal use permits for smaller quantities of sawtimber, products or non-convertible products. [Forest-wide]

MEET INTEGRATED RESOURCE GOALS... Forest-wide sales for products and non-convertible products will be planned to meet integrated resource goals. [Forest-wide]

FIREWOOD...

● Firewood will consist of dead and down, or designated green timber. A permit is required. Reference the wildlife management section for information on snags and down wood.

● Priority will be placed on personal-use firewood permits. Commercial permit sales are appropriate to meet any of these conditions:

- Personal use demand has been met.
- The character of the product is not expected to attract personal use demand.
- Accessibility, operability, timing requirements, or other constraints require the material be harvested through a commercial permit or contract. [Forest-wide]

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- The free-use program for personal use of dead and down firewood will be reviewed annually. The Forest Supervisor may approve sales for dead and down in accordance with Regional policy. [Forest-wide]

VALLECITOS FEDERAL SUSTAINED YIELD UNIT:

The Vallecitos Federal Sustained Yield Unit was established on January 1, 1948, on the El Rito Ranger District in accordance with section 3 of the Sustained Yield Forest Management Act of March 29, 1944. The Unit includes about 73,400 acres of National Forest, of which, about 61,400 acres is classed as suitable timber land.

In addition to providing multiple-use benefits as derived from the National Forest as a whole, the purpose of the unit is to maintain a stable community or communities where such maintenance is primarily dependent upon the sale of timber or other forest products from federally owned or administered lands. To help maintain community support through a stable timber industry, exceptions to competitive bidding may be authorized within the VFSYU; timber is then sold at appraised value. Additional support is provided by requirements specifying primary manufacturing be performed with the Unit, and by specifying most employees be local residents.

Primary management direction for the Vallecitos Federal Sustained Yield Unit (VFSYU) is provided by standards and guidelines established for the Management Areas. Standards and guidelines listed in this subsection relate more specifically to administration, and are intended in support of existing law and Forest Service policy regarding Federal Sustained Yield Units. Appropriate references include FSM 2410; and as specified there, the following laws:

- Sustained-Yield Act of March 29, 1944, (16 USC 583-583i).
- 36 CFR 223.117, Administration of Cooperative or Federal Sustained-Yield Units.
- 36 CFR 221.3, Disposal of National Forest Timber According to Management Plans.

While it is appropriate to incorporate the VFSYU Policy Statement into the Forest Plan, and to review and revise both on a 10-year time frame; the intent of the Forest Plan is to establish the Policy Statement (and related standards and guidelines) within the framework of authorities defined in the aforementioned references. As prescribed, additional reviews and subsequent changes to the Policy Statement may be made by the appropriate authority; these will not constitute a major amendment or revision to the Forest Plan.

The following standards and guidelines form the Policy Statement for the continuation of the VFSYU.

PROVISIONS FOR COMMUNITY SUPPORT... The primary purpose for establishment of the Vallecitos Federal Sustained Yield Unit is to provide the maximum feasible, permanent support to the Vallecitos community and nearby areas from forest products industries obtaining a wood products supply from the national Forest Lands of the Unit. Wood products from the Unit will, therefore, be sold under conditions designed to promote the following objectives:

- Provide local residents with an opportunity to establish a wood products business.
- Maintenance of steady employment opportunities in the Vallecitos community and nearby areas both within each year and from year to year.
- Employment of local resident work force.
- Opportunity for those living within and near the Unit to obtain lumber for their local requirements.
- Efficient operation and maintenance of plant facilities; and, as supported by the economics of the Unit and Northern New Mexico area, additions to plant facilities to keep them in step with technical advances in forest products utilization and manufacture.

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Individual timber sale agreements will contain such provisions as are deemed advisable by the Regional Forester to attain these objectives. The Chief may designate an approved responsible operator or operators to whom wood products may be sold without competition and may, within his discretion, rescind such designation or designations.

HARVEST LEVEL... The harvest level for the VFSYU is defined as part of the Forest-wide allowable sale quantity and has been set at an average 7.6 MMBF/YR. The intent is to split this into 6.5 MMBF/YR sawtimber and 1.1 MMBF/YR products. Allocation to approved responsible operators is defined in subsequent paragraphs. The harvest level is based on a suitable timber land base of approximately 61,400 acres.

Harvest levels for the next decade will be made following a Forest-wide inventory and in conjunction with revision of the Forest Plan.

EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS... The following standards and guidelines relate to employment of persons engaged in harvesting, transporting material to manufacturing sites, and manufacturing material from the VFSYU.

Employment areas shown are generally defined as follows:

- Area "A" includes areas around the communities of Vallecitos, La Petaca, Las Tablas, La Madera, Canon Plaza, and Servilleta Plaza.
- Area "B" reaches out farther and includes communities of El Rito, Ojo Caliente, Canjilon, and Tres Piedras.
- Outside - All areas not included in areas A and B.

These employment areas are more specifically defined on a map on file in the Carson National Forest Supervisor's Office and at the El Rito District Ranger's Office.

Provided qualified applicants are available and except as specifically noted in subsequent paragraphs the following employment requirements apply to all responsible operators on the VFSYU.

Percent of Employees That Must Be Residents of the Employment Area	Employment Area
66%	A
95%	A & B
5%	Outside

A resident of employment Areas A and B shall be defined as a person who actually resides in this area for nine (9) months of any calendar year.

Exceptions to the employment requirements include:

- Specialists employed temporarily for not more than two weeks.
- Owners and supervisory positions approved as exempt by the Forest Service.
- Non-residents, if local applicants are not available as described in subsequent paragraphs. These cases must be fully supported by documentation.

Supervisory positions approved as exempt for the present single approved responsible operator (5.5 MMBF/YR) include:

Mill Yard Foreman	Logging Manager
Millwright	Logging Superintendent
Shop Foreman or Sawyer	Log Cutting Foreman
Sales Manager	Skidding and Road Construction Foreman

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To facilitate determination of compliance with local labor requirements the Forest Supervisor may designate a work group of local citizens.

The determination of whether qualified applicants are available shall be made by the Employment Security Commission (ESC).

Approved responsible operators will use the services of the ESC to obtain qualified local employees if needed to meet employment requirements.

When required by sale contract or permit provisions, approved responsible operators will submit to the Forest Supervisor, the Chairman of the local work-group, and the office of the Employment Security Commission, a list of employees on his payroll on the last working day of the prior month, with their resident addresses.

UTILIZATION STANDARDS... Utilization standards for the VFSYU are the same as defined for the Forest as a whole and specified in FSM 2450.

Conifer sawtimber:	9.0" - DBH to a 6" - d.i.b. top
Aspen sawtimber:	10.0" - DBH to an 8" - d.i.b. top
Products:	5.0 to 8.9" - DBH to a 4" - d.i.b. top
Other convertible products:	<5" - DBH to a usable top diameter [2" top d.i.b. for green firewood]

ALLOCATION OF THE HARVEST LEVEL, PRICING DETERMINATION, PRIMARY MANUFACTURING REQUIREMENTS, AND APPROVAL OF RESPONSIBLE OPERATORS... The following standards and guidelines define the harvest allocation to approved responsible operators, specification of competitive or non competitive pricing, location requirements for primary manufacturing facilities, and authority responsible for approving responsible operators (same authority for rescinding designation).

● 5.5 MMBF/YR sawtimber will be allocated on a non-competitive basis to a single approved responsible operator maintaining primary manufacturing facilities within a 1-mile radius of the community of Vallecitos. Primary manufacturing means production of lumber. A planer facility is not required but appraisal will be based on finished lumber. The operator must agree to permit those people living within or near the Vallecitos Federal Sustained Yield Unit to purchase lumber from the sawmill, at a fair price, in any amount necessary to meet their personal requirement, but not for resale. The operator must also agree not to restrict such local purchases to specific sizes or grades of lumber. People living within and near the Vallecitos Federal Sustained Yield Unit are defined as those people who are residents of the area designated as Area A or B and who actually reside in that area for nine (9) months of any calendar year. As approved by the Chief, the present operator, Duke City Lumber Company Inc., will be continued as the approved responsible operator for the 5.5 MMBF/YR of sawtimber.

● 1.0 MMBF/YR sawtimber will be allocated on a non-competitive basis in individual quantities ranging from 50 to 500 MMBF/YR to new approved responsible operators, approved by the Chief of the Forest Service or through delegation to the Forest Supervisor. These new responsible operators must establish and maintain primary manufacturing facilities within employment area "A." Primary manufacturing means production of lumber. A planer facility is not required but appraisal will be based on finished lumber. This allocation of sawtimber will be exclusively for smaller-scale operations.

● Non-convertible products and 1.1 MMBF of products (trees 5 to 8.9"DBH) will be allocated on a competitive basis to new responsible operators approved by the Forest Supervisor. Approval will be based on meeting "provisions for community support," "employment requirements," and specific manufacturing requirements. Manufacturing requirements for this material are:

C. Forest-wide Prescriptions

- No facility is required for sales that produce a product directly in the woods, but employment requirements must still be met. Examples might be Christmas trees, wildings, and in some cases firewood or vigas.
- A facility within employment area "A" is required for sale of material that may require a wood yard for splitting, viga peeling plant, or similar plant facility.

● The following materials may be sold or otherwise provided, on an equal basis, to the public for their personal use:

- small amounts of the 1.0 MMBF/YR sawtimber and 1.1 MMBF/YR products,
- convertible products from trees less than 5-inch DBH,
- non-convertible products,
- green firewood from non-commercial species, and
- dead/dry firewood.

Exceptions can be made for salvage unanticipated timber losses, National emergencies or other significant factors.

● The Regional Forester can provide exception to manufacturing requirements and associated employment requirements for salvage material which cannot be given primary manufacture within the unit before the material deteriorates.

● The harvest level for the unit may be changed at any time due to unanticipated timber losses, National emergencies or other significant factors upon recommendation of the Regional Forester and approval of the Chief.

OTHER STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES... All new road construction will be local-terminal and designed for closure after harvest, treatments (TSI and Reforestation) and firewood slash cleanup are completed.

Forest Rds. 244 and 44 (existing) will be improved to single lane with turnouts commensurate with user safety, resource protection, and efficient maintenance.