

**Forest Service Handbook  
National Headquarters - Washington Office  
Washington, DC**

**Forest Service Handbook 2409.11 – National Forest Log Scaling Handbook  
Transmittal**

**Amendment:** 2409.11-2006-1

**Effective date:** October 30, 2006

**Duration:** This amendment is effective until superseded or removed.

**Approved by:** Gregory Smith, For Joel Holtrop, Deputy Chief

**Date approved:** April 20, 2006

**Responsible Staff:**

**Last Change:** Amendment No. 7

**Superseded Document(s):** Entire Handbook, Title Page thru 247

**Digest:** Following is an explanation of the changes throughout the directive by section.

**10:** Corrects minor typographical and technical errors throughout the chapter. Substantive changes are as follows:

**13:** Clarifies in paragraph 1 that the standard unit for saw timber scaling will be in cubic foot log scale, although board foot log scale is used under certain circumstances.

**17.12:** Changes the caption in exhibit 02 to clarify direction to allow full trim in the length measurement and record in 2 foot multiples.

**17.18:** Adds new direction and an exhibit for length measurements on forked logs.

**17.2:** Clarifies scalers will notify the contracting officer when improper trim allowance is detected.

**17.3:** Adds direction on how to record logs that are further reduced to the lower 2 foot multiple, but the diameter increases to the next diameter class, the increased diameter will be recorded as the proper scaling diameter.

**17.33:** Adds a list of butt characteristics to assist in identifying butt cut logs.

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**20:** Corrects minor typographical and technical errors throughout the chapter. There are no changes to the substantive direction in this chapter.

**30:** Corrects minor typographical and technical errors throughout the chapter. Substantive changes are as follows:

**33:** Establishes defect types and new deduction procedures for: Burls, Foreign Material, Pecky Rot, Pistol Butt Defect, Pitch Pockets, and Spiral Grain.

Slope of Grain, and Twist have been included in the Spiral Grain definition.

Barber Chair and Pull, Stump or Sliver has been included in the Breaks and Splits definition.

Bark Seam has been included in the Pitch Seam, Heart Check, Frost Crack definition.

Adds new direction and exhibits for crook defect deduction process.

Combines Knots, large and Knots, clusters into a single new defect type, Knots. Establishes new knot size limits and knot deduction guide.

Adds definition of massed pitch and clarification of when a deduction is necessary.

Adds clarification of scaling cylinder position when deducting for sweep.

Reformats and rennumbers entire section to conform to FSH 2409.11a - Cubic Scaling Handbook, chapter 20.

**40:** Corrects minor typographical and technical errors throughout the chapter. Substantive changes are as follows:

**44:** Changes caption from Stump Scaling to Timber Trespass. Provides direction for measurements to be performed by certified scalers and cruisers and requires coordination with Law Enforcement staff prior to beginning field work.

**44.1:** Changes caption from Timber Trespass to Stump Scaling.

**44.2:** Changes caption from Scaling when Stump and other Direct Evidence is lacking to Stump Cruising.

**44.3:** Established this code and recodes direction formerly at section 44.2 to this section.

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**51:** Changes caption to selection of scaling locations. Changes responsibility for selection of scaling locations from District Ranger to Contracting Officer. Also removes direction on selecting truck-scaling locations.

**52:** Removes requirement for Forest Supervisor to develop additional safety specifications for scaling.

**53:** Removes the direction which discusses the need for the purchaser to keep government logs separate from private logs up to the point of scaling and for the use of distinctive marking between various sales.

**54.1:** Changes the direction for team scaling from "discouraged" to "must not be used." Also removes direction Regional Forester to authorize team scaling in limited situations. Changes the responsibility for taking corrective action when scalers to not perform to standard from District Ranger to Contracting Officer.

**54.2:** Removes direction on the benefits of mill visits and specific direction concerning various items to be observed while conducting a mill visit.

**55.2 - 55.4:** Removes obsolete direction, which referenced out of date equipment, processes and procedures.

**55.5:** Revises and recodes to section 55.2. Changes the responsibility for completing the Scaler Information Form from the Forest Service Representative to the Contracting Officer.

**55.61:** Removes section on standard scaling forms.

**55.62:** Recodes to section 553.

**55.63:** Recodes to section 55.4. Removes significant amount of instruction, including exhibit's 01 and 02, on how to fill in scaling sheets. Stresses the use of field data recorders to record scaling information.

**55.64 - 55.65:** Removes obsolete direction from handbook.

**56.1:** Removes obsolete from handbook.

**56.21:** Removes obsolete direction from handbook.

**56.22:** Recodes to section 56.1.

**56.3:** Removes obsolete direction from handbook.

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**60:** Corrects minor typographical and technical errors throughout the chapter. Substantive changes are as follows:

**64:** Increases situations where Regional Foresters may deviate from established check scale standards.

**65:** Revises to require minimum check scale record and summary information. Removes outdated policy, procedures, and forms.

**70:** Reformats chapter.

**71:** Updates CFR reference.

**80:** Corrects minor typographical and technical errors throughout the chapter. Substantive changes are as follows:

**82:** Deletes previous documentation which was incomplete and adds reference to National Forest Cubic Scaling Handbook (FSH 2409.11a) for handbook direction.

**85:** Adds a cross reference on sample scaling to Forest Service Handbook 2409.11a, National Forest Cubic Scaling Handbook, chapter 50.

**85.5:** Recodes to section 86.1.

**85.6:** Recodes to section 86.2.

**87.42:** Establishes new direction for Fiber Scaling.

**Appendix:** Renames exhibits from "Table" to "Appendix." Removes Table 1A, Table VIII, Table IX - Exhibit A, Table XIV. Adds Appendix 15 - Factors for Computing Scribner decimal C Volumes and Appendix 16 - Scribner Decimal C Recorded Length and Segment Lengths.