



Idaho Forest Practices Act Rule Summaries

IFPA - Forest Roads

Rule 040. Road Construction, Reconstruction, and Maintenance

01. Purpose. Provide standards and guidelines for road construction, reconstruction, and maintenance that will maintain forest productivity, water quality, and fish and wildlife habitat.

02. Road Specifications and Plans. Road specifications and plans shall be consistent with good safety practices. Plan each road to the minimum use standards adapted to the terrain and soil materials to minimize disturbances and damage to forest productivity, water quality, fish, and wildlife habitat.

- a. Plan transportation networks to avoid road construction within stream protection zones, except at approaches to stream crossings. Leave or reestablish areas of vegetation between roads and streams.
- b. Roads shall be no wider than necessary to safely accommodate the anticipated use. Minimize cut and fill volumes by aligning the road to fit the natural terrain features as closely as possible. Adequately compact fill material. Dispose of excess material on geologically stable sites.
- c. Plan roads to drain naturally by out-sloping or in-sloping with cross-drainage and by grade changes where possible. Plan dips, water bars, cross-drainage, or subsurface drainage on roads when necessary.
- d. Relief culverts and roadside ditches shall be planned whenever reliance upon natural drainage would not protect the running surface, cut slopes or fill slopes. Plan culvert installations to prevent erosion of the fill by properly sizing, bedding and compacting. Plan drainage structures to achieve minimum direct discharge of sediment into streams.