



Idaho Forest Practices Act Rule Summaries

IFPA - Soil Protection

Rule 030.03. Soil Protection. Select for each harvesting operation the logging method and type of equipment adapted to the given slope, landscape and soil properties in order to minimize soil erosion.

- a. An operation that uses ground-based equipment shall not be conducted if it will cause rutting, deep soil disturbance, or accelerated erosion. On slopes exceeding forty-five percent (45%) gradient and which are immediately adjacent to a Class I or II stream, ground-based equipment shall not be used except with an approved variance. Where slopes in the area to be logged exceed forty-five percent (45%) gradient the operator, landowner or timber owner shall notify the department of these steep slopes upon filing the notification as provided for in Subsection 020.05 (IFPA - Notification of Forest Practice).
- b. Limit the grade of constructed skid trails on geologically unstable, saturated, or highly erodible or easily compacted soils to a maximum of thirty percent (30%).
- c. In accordance with appropriate silvicultural prescriptions, skid trails shall be kept to the minimum feasible width and number. Tractors used for skidding shall be limited to the size appropriate for the job.
- d. Uphill cable yarding is preferred. Where downhill yarding is used, reasonable care shall be taken to lift the leading end of the log to minimize downhill movement of slash and soils.