

**Department of Natural Resources
Timber Report
Second Quarter Fiscal Year (FY) 2013-14**

Background

Michigan's state forest system was originally certified under both the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) and the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) third-party forest certification standards in December 2005. To date, Michigan has successfully retained certification under both standards.

Forest certification protocols require public participation in forest management planning and forest operations. The Department of Natural Resources (Department) compartment review process has been audited by both the SFI and the FSC and has been recognized as a key public participation mechanism that meets requirements for forest certification.

The Department's investment in forest certification strengthens Michigan's forest products sector. Certification is essential in order for primary wood producers in Michigan to have continued access to national and international markets.

Second Quarter FY 2013-14 Timber Treatments

State forest planning and activities, including timber treatments, are conducted within the framework of SFI and FSC forest certification principles and standards. Timber treatments in a given year are based on decisions made two years prior to the treatments through the compartment review process.

The FY 2013-14 plan of work identified 73,953 acres for timber sale preparation that were approved through the compartment review process. Managers have developed draft work plans to prepare all 73,953 acres.

Timber sale preparation is done by Department staff and through timber marking contracts with private consultants. Through the first two quarters of FY 2013-14, 7,781 acres of timber sale preparation-marking contracts were awarded. Contracts for an additional 3,301 acres are expected to be in place later in the fiscal year.

The Department prepared 15,022 acres of timber sales through the first two quarters of FY 2013-14, with an estimated volume of 230,800 cords. Of the 269 unique sales offered through the first two quarters, 245 have sold. A total of 46 sales, or approximately 17 percent of those offered, went no-bid one or more times. This is an improvement over the fourth quarter of last year, when 31 percent of sales went no-bid, and on par with the last half of FY 2012-13, when 18 percent of sales went no-bid. Of the 46 sales that received no bids upon initial offering, 22 have since sold. The 24 that remain unsold, approximately 9 percent of what was offered, will likely be re-offered in the coming months.