

**Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR)**  
**Timber Report**  
**Third Quarter Fiscal Year (FY) 2014-15**

**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.

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

**Third Quarter FY 2014-15 Timber Treatments**

State forest planning and activities, including timber treatments, are conducted within the framework of SFI and FSC forest certification principles and standards, which require both multidisciplinary department staff and public participation. The MDNR utilizes the compartment review process for public participation and approval of treatments. Timber treatments in a given year are based on decisions made two years prior to actual implementation of the treatments.

The FY 2014-15 plan of work currently identifies 67,011 acres for timber sale preparation that were prescribed for treatment and approved through the compartment review process.

Timber sale preparation is done by MDNR staff, and through timber marking contracts with private consultants. Through the first three quarters of FY 2014-15, department staff has prepared 14,436 acres of timber sales, with an estimated volume of 228,003 cords. This represents an average of approximately 15.8 cords per acre.

Additionally, 10,779 acres of timber sale preparation-marking contracts have been awarded through the third quarter. These acres will be prepared for sale by the end of the fiscal year. Contracts for an additional 1,512 acres are expected to be in place in the fourth quarter.