

**Department of Natural Resources  
Timber Report  
Third 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) by a third-party audit in December 2005. To date, Michigan has successfully retained certification under both standards through annual audits.

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.

**Third Quarter FY 2013-14 Timber Treatments**

Most 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. 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 three quarters of FY 2013-14, 10,798 acres of timber sale preparation-marking contracts were awarded. Contracts for an additional 750 acres are expected to be in place in the fourth quarter.

The Department prepared 20,215 acres of timber sales through the first three quarters of FY 2013-14, with an estimated volume of 309,400 cords. Of the 486 unique sales offered through the first three quarters, 457 have sold. A total of 66 sales, or approximately 14 percent of those offered, went no-bid one or more times. This is an improvement over the last half of FY 2012-13, when 18 percent of sales went no-bid. Of the 66 sales that received no bids upon initial offering, 40 have since sold. The 26 that remain unsold, approximately 5 percent of what was offered, will likely be re-offered in the coming months. There were also 3 sales that were withdrawn from advertisement or not executed by the high bidder that will be re-offered.