

May 18, 2017

Distribution List  
All Weigh Scale Mills

**Subject: TIMBER SCALING PRACTICES REGIONAL FIXED WEIGHT TO VOLUME CONVERSIONS FOR THE 2017 – 2018 TIMBER YEAR**

To Whom It May Concern:

Please note the changes to the 2017-2018 timber year to ensure you are reporting and sampling your scaling data correctly.

- Scaling population series for this timber year will be the **700 series** and **must be submitted to the department prior to hauling**. Enforcement actions will be undertaken for hauling without a population. Populations will not be approved if hauling has occurred prior to establishing the population in FOREST.
- The new FOREST system is undergoing final testing and will be released for industry use by the end of May 2017. The department is conducting training for industry users in May of this year and government area staff will be contacted for training starting in July 2017.
- MSCALE (2015) is required to be used as a checking and edit tool for scaling data prior to reporting in TPRS and FOREST. The department still requires that your scaling data be submitted in the .txt format and checked by the 2015 program. Data will be entered into TPRS and FOREST and will run parallel for one more timber year to ensure that the FOREST program is functioning as expected.
- Scaled data is to be submitted to the department electronically using a TM35 (.csv file) supplied by the department. Contact us for this form. Other versions of the form will not be accepted. The form is **not** to be scanned. If scanned your data will be sent back to you for correction.
- All companies are responsible for accurately completing and submitting the TM35 .csv file to the department as per section 114 of the Timber Management Regulation. The department will no longer enter any scale data for companies.

- **Failure to submit complete and accurate data may result in an enforcement action. Please ensure your data is accurate and submitted within the time constraints outlined in the Alberta Scaling Manual.**
- Please ensure all populations are set up with the correct harvest utilization standards for the dispositions listed on the TM262.
- Populations using fixed ratios will be entered in the format they are set up and agreed to. The species entered on the TM262 must have net scale values assigned to them. There will not be any entry of extra species to the population after the initial set up. The net scale value of .001 will not be accepted as a value holder as in the past. The private and salvage ratios below have net scale values assigned for SPGR01, 06 and 99.
- The process below is to be **used for NON CTP ratio populations** that fall below an estimated 100 loads. The targets listed will be the minimum required samples for those populations.
  - 0 to 24 expected loads delivered, 1 sample load required.
  - 25 to 49 expected loads delivered, 2 sample loads required.
  - 50 to 74 expected loads delivered, 3 sample loads required.
  - 75 to 99 expected loads delivered, 4 sample loads required.For populations expecting more than 100 loads, the sampling will continue to adhere to table 4 of Appendix 7 under Section 11 of the Alberta Scaling Manual.

### **Updated CTP Regional Fixed Weight to Volume Ratios**

The regional fixed weight to volume ratios have been re-calculated for the 2017-2018 timber year and the effective date is May 1, 2017. The requirements for the conditions of use for these ratios are outlined in the Alberta Scaling Manual. The ratios are offered for use at the option of the mill client and under the following conditions:

- **The Regional Commercial Timber Permit (CTP) ratios apply **only to green coniferous timber** harvested from a timber source approved for a utilization standard of 15cm (stump) and 11cm (top).**
- The CTP ratios may apply to timber permits or licences issued within the historical miscellaneous timber use areas.
- The acceptance of a fixed ratio may require a sample scale load to be measured. The loads are to be **scaled by the Smalian method** and are to be submitted to the department at the time they are scaled. Failure to scale and submit the required loads to the department may result in being disallowed the future use of the regional ratios. The following applies to each regional ratio used:
  - **If 24 or less loads to be received – One sample scale load is required.**
  - **If 25 or more loads to be received - Two sample scale loads are required.**

In accordance with the above conditions, any mill wishing to utilize one or more of the fixed ratios may do so by completing a TM262 "Scaling Population" form for each selected ratio. The

form must be approved and signed by a Forestry Division representative and be forwarded to the scaling department of Forest Management Branch.

**Scaling for fixed ratios is to be conducted using the same species, condition, and product codes identified on the scaling population form. The department cannot accept the separation of Spruce/Pine grouping into the individual species unless already provided for in the fixed ratio. Failure to comply with this rule will result in the file being sent back to the company for correction.**

Any deviation to the required sampling target for CTP regional ratios must be done so at the discretion of the Provincial Scaling Supervisor.

The ratio to use is that which corresponds to the management unit or area from which the timber is harvested.

The following table lists the ratios and net scale values to use for the completion of the TM262 "Scaling Population" forms:

**Fixed Weight to Volume Ratio Summaries Effective May 1, 2017**

CTP RATIOS								
REGION	RATIO	SPGR01	F GR01	SPGR06	F GR06	SPGR99	FGR99	PGR01
<b>Management Units B, C, and R TM262 Factors</b>	<b>779.460</b>	76.580% <b>98.247</b>	0.093% <b>0.119</b>	23.375% <b>30.239</b>	0.773% <b>1.000</b>	.333% <b>0.431</b>	0.006% <b>0.008</b>	N/A
<b>Management Units H, E, W, and S TM262 Factors R13, R13Z, R15</b>	<b>773.000</b>	73.541% <b>95.137</b>	1.972% <b>2.551</b>	23.736% <b>30.858</b>	0.859% <b>1.117</b>	0.582% <b>0.757</b>	0.017% <b>0.022</b>	N/A
<b>Management Units G, and P TM262 Factors</b>	<b>776.647</b>	77.840% <b>100.226</b>	1.503% <b>1.935</b>	19.383% <b>24.957</b>	0.553% <b>0.712</b>	0.705% <b>0.908</b>	0.016% <b>0.021</b>	N/A
<b>Management Unit F TM262 Factors</b>	<b>804.123</b>	82.014% <b>101.992</b>	0.648% <b>0.806</b>	16.844% <b>20.947</b>	0.163% <b>0.203</b>	0.331% <b>0.411</b>	N/A	
<b>Management Units A and L TM262 Factors</b>	<b>775.555</b>	59.641% <b>76.901</b>	2.761% <b>3.560</b>	12.977% <b>16.732</b>	19.832% <b>25.571</b>	1.314% <b>1.694</b>	3.332% <b>4.236</b>	0.144% <b>0.186</b>

PRIVATE AND SALVAGE								
REGION	Private				Salvage			
	RATIO	SPGR01	SPGR06	SPGR99	RATIO	SPGR01	SPGR06	SPGR99
<b>South/Central TM262 Factor</b>	<b>835.285</b>	90.957% 108.894	8.664% 10.373	0.379% 0.453	<b>814.451</b>	82.321% 100.951	17.495% 21.454	0.185% 0.226
<b>North TM262 Factor (N. of township 80)</b>	<b>896.798</b>	96.490% 107.593	3.252% 3.627	0.258% 0.288	<b>787.772</b>	89.102% 113.106	10.218% 12.971	0.680% 0.863

❖ Ratios for coniferous and deciduous fuelwood have been developed and can be requested for use from the department. Ratios for deciduous salvage or private wood are being developed and also can be requested for use from the Provincial Scaling Supervisor.

For Scaling inspections and enforcement, TM262 population review, check scale reviews and reports, training and scaling data analysis, please contact either:

Provincial Scaling Officer – Abigail Lewis ph.780-638-3668, cell 780-289-6257  
Email: [Abigail.lewis@gov.ab.ca](mailto:Abigail.lewis@gov.ab.ca)

Or:

Provincial Scaling Officer- Danielle Kjosness ph. 780-422-2804, cell 780-233-9586  
Email: [Danielle.kjosness@gov.ab.ca](mailto:Danielle.kjosness@gov.ab.ca)

Please keep in mind that if you require assistance to set up your populations for the upcoming timber year we are open to meeting with you to assist you in the set up and submission of your anticipated populations.

On behalf of the Scaling Department, we wish to thank our industry clients for your continued cooperation in conducting harvest accounting practices and providing scaling data in an accurately and timely manner.

Please direct your questions or concerns to Glenn Dobransky, Provincial Scaling Supervisor, at (780) 644-5085.

Yours truly,

*Original signed by*

Doug Schultz  
Director, Timber Production, Auditing and Revenue Section

Enclosure

cc: Timber Scaling Contacts Distribution List