

OPERATOR OR LANDOWNER SHALL LEAVE UNCUT AND UNINJURED AT LEAST EIGHT CONE-BEARING LOBLOLLY, SHORTLEAF, OR POND PINE TREES 14 INCHES OR LARGER IN DIAMETER ON EACH ACRE CUT FOR THE PURPOSE OF RESEEDING. IF EIGHT CONE-BEARING LOBLOLLY, SHORTLEAF, OR POND PINES 14 INCHES IN DIAMETER ARE NOT PRESENT ON ANY ACRE, THE OPERATOR OR LANDOWNER SHALL LEAVE UNCUT OR AND UNINJURED IN PLACE OF EACH CONE-BEARING LOBLOLLY, SHORTLEAF, OR POND PINE TREE OF THE REQUIRED DIAMETER, AT LEAST TWO CONE-BEARING PINE TREES OF THE NEXT LARGEST DIAMETER THERE STANDING. TREES LEFT UNCUT PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION FOR THE PURPOSE OF RESEEDING SHALL BE HEALTHY, WINDFIRM, WELL-DISTRIBUTED THROUGHOUT EACH ACRE, AND WITH WELL-DEVELOPED CROWNS POSSESSING A SUFFICIENT NUMBER OF CCNES TO REFOREST THE AREAS AFFECTED BY THE CUTTING OPERATION.

(2) CONE-BEARING PINE TREES NEED NOT BE RESERVED IF THERE ARE AT LEAST 400 LOBLOLLY, POND, OR SHORTLEAF PINE SEEDLINGS ON EACH ACRE WHICH ARE VIGOROUS, WELL DISTRIBUTED THROUGHOUT, AND FREE TO GROW UPON COMPLETION OF THE CUTTING OPERATION.

(B) INSTEAD OF LEAVING PINE TREES OR SEEDLINGS PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (A) AND ~~(B)~~, THE AREA WHERE ANY CUTTING OPERATION HAS BEEN CONDUCTED MAY BE REFORESTED PURSUANT TO A PLAN APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

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~~(A) AN OPERATOR MAY NOT COMMENCE ANY CUTTING OPERATION UNLESS HE FIRST OBTAINS AN APPROVED PLAN FOR LEAVING PINE TREES OR SEEDLINGS OR AN APPROVED REFORESTATION PLAN FROM THE DEPARTMENT.~~

~~(B) AN OPERATOR PROPOSING TO LEAVE PINE TREES OR SEEDLINGS UNDER SECTION 5-504 UPON COMPLETION OF ANY CUTTING OPERATION SHALL DELIVER TO THE DEPARTMENT ON A FORM PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT AT LEAST 24 HOURS PRIOR TO COMMENCING ANY CUTTING OPERATION, A STATEMENT OF INTENT TO LEAVE PINE TREES. THE STATEMENT SHALL SPECIFY THE METHOD OF SELECTING THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF CONE BEARING PINE TREES OR SEEDLINGS AND SHALL BE APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT.~~

(A) A CUTTING OPERATION MAY NOT COMMENCE UNLESS SEED TREES HAVE BEEN RESERVED OR A REFORESTATION PLAN HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT. THE REFORESTATION PLAN SHALL BE PREPARED BY THE LANDOWNER OR HIS AGENT AND SHALL BE DESIGNED TO ASSURE THE REPRODUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF GROWTH OF YOUNG, VIGOROUS PINE TREES.

~~(C) (B) AN OPERATOR OR LANDOWNER PROPOSING TO REFOREST ANY AREA OF A CUTTING OPERATION SHALL DELIVER A REFORESTATION PLAN TO PURSUANT TO AN APPROVED PLAN SHALL NOTIFY THE DEPARTMENT AT LEAST 24 HOURS PRIOR TO INITIATION OF THE CUTTING OPERATIONS. THE REFORESTATION PLAN SHALL BE PREPARED BY THE LANDOWNER OR HIS AGENT AND SHALL BE DESIGNED TO ASSURE THE REPRODUCTION AND~~