

Designation by Description (D x D)

03/2013

Designation by Description is a method used to designate trees without painting individual trees. The description must include specific information that allows the designation of each cut tree to be replicated by all parties before and after cutting.

Application:

- D x D can be used on all Scaled or TMS Timber Sale and Stewardship contracts, FS-2400-6 & 6T, FS-2400-13 & 13T.
- On Tree Measurement Sales, add-on volume for corridors, skid trails and landings includes only original leave trees after D x D has been applied.
- Use on area based cruise methods is most desirable. Use on tree based methods requires visiting and designating each tree for inclusion, which may negate the intended use of D x D.
- Best applied on uniform green stands of similar size and limited species.

Considerations:

- D x D is less costly than individual tree marking.
- D x D requires additional cruise time.
- D x D requires more sale administration time.
- A wide variation of species, sizes, and/or damage classes can make application of D x D difficult. Complex descriptions including but not limited to no cut species, prioritizing species for cut or leave, different spacing by species and/or units, skip or gap areas within units can also make application of D x D difficult.
- Diseased, insect damaged, dead, or damaged trees, such as blow down, wind thrown, hang-ups, or root sprung trees are difficult to adequately describe for proper D x D application as well as for checking designation after logging, thus, these trees should be individually marked with paint for cut or leave.

Requirements:

- Use WO C/CT2.352#, C/CT2.353, C/CT2.354# or R6 C/CT2.35# (Option 1) Individual Tree Designation (6/08) on Timber Sale contracts.
- Use WO K(T)-C(T).3.5.2#, K(T)-C(T).3.5.3#, or K(T)-C(T).3.5.4# on Stewardship contracts.
- Use of WO C/CT2.351# or K(T)-C(T).3.5.1# Designation by Spacing (4/04) is not approved in Region 6.
- Use of WO C2.355# Designation by Prescription (4/04) violates NFMA and is not approved for use in Region 6.
- Provision wording must define:
 - D x D specified diameter height; stump diameter or diameter at breast height (DBH). D x D at DBH can only be used on scaled sales using hand felling practices and requires Regional Office sale by sale approval per R6 FSM 2400-2009-1.
 - how D x D diameters will be measured when situations such as forked trees, tree clusters, exposed root collars, missing bark or defects affecting the diameter are encountered at the specified D x D diameter height.
- Provision direction should be included in cruise plan.

- Posted and painted unit boundary trees will be used to designate D x D cut trees within the unit. Apply D x D only to the trees inside the unit boundary. Trees adjacent to, but outside the unit boundary, are not to be used in applying D x D.
- Forest Service must use tracer paint on all timber sales, including for cruise purposes.
- Purchaser shall not use tracer paint in any of their operations. Non tracer paint used by purchaser must follow direction outlined in C/CT6.84 (Option 1) Use of paint by Purchaser (05/05), KT-GT.8.4 (Option 1) Use of Paint by Contractor (06/06), K-G.8.4 (Option 1) Use of Paint by Contractor (06/06).

D x D Definitions

Designate – to specifically indicate, identify, or appoint.

D x D Stump Height – measured in inches above ground level on uphill side of tree. D x D stump height is sale or unit specific, listed in contract provision, and may be different than the standard stump height listed in A6. D x D stump height is the minimum height that must remain to facilitate verification of designation after logging. When mechanized logging is used it is recommended to use a 4” D x D stump height.

D x D Diameter – Diameter is measured to the nearest tenth of an inch with a diameter tape at the specified D x D diameter height (stump or DBH), outside bark, perpendicular to the bole of the tree.

D x D Spacing – Measure slope distance at the specified D x D diameter height (stump or DBH) from the closest point between trees.

Leave Trees – Leave trees must remain standing.

Marking – using paint to indicate individual tree designation, cut or leave.

National Forest Management Act (NFMA) – Marking of Trees and Boundaries

NFMA requires the marking or designation, and supervision of harvesting of trees, portions of trees, or forest products to be conducted by persons employed by the Secretary of Agriculture. Such persons shall have no personal interest on the purchase or harvest of such products and shall not be directly or indirectly in the employment of the purchaser thereof. Each individual tree must clearly be designated as a leave or take tree.