

Subpart G—Special Forest Products

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 73 FR 79386, Dec. 29, 2008, subpart G was added, effective Jan. 28, 2009. At 74 FR 5107, Jan. 29, 2009, the amendment was delayed until Mar. 30, 2009. At 74 FR 14049, Mar. 30, 2009, the amendment was further delayed until May 29, 2009. At 74 FR 26091, June 1, 2009, the amendment was delayed indefinitely.

§ 223.215 Applicability.

The regulations contained in this subpart govern the disposal of special forest products from National Forest System lands through sale and free use. Pursuant to the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2000 (Pub. L. 106–113, Div. B, sec. 1000(a)(3), 113 Stat. 135 (sec. 339 of Title III of H.R. 3423)), as amended in 2004 by Section 335 of Public Law 108–108, special forest products that are also forest botanical products shall be sold, or offered for free use, subject to the requirements of subpart H of this part, until termination of the forest botanical pilot program. A commercial sale of special forest products shall be governed by a contract, permit, or other authorizing instrument. Free use above the incidental-use harvest level shall be conducted under a permit, unless otherwise provided.

§ 223.216 Special Forest Products definitions.

As used in this subpart:

Person: Any individual, partnership, corporation, association, Tribe, or other legal entity.

Special forest products: Products collected from National Forest System lands that include, but are not limited to, bark, berries, boughs, bryophytes, bulbs, burls, Christmas trees, cones, ferns, firewood, forbs, fungi (including mushrooms), grasses, mosses, nuts, pine straw, roots, sedges, seeds, transplants, tree sap, wildflowers, fence material, mine props, posts and poles, shingle and shake bolts, and rails. Special forest products do not include sawtimber, pulpwood, non-sawlog material removed in log form, cull logs, small roundwood, house logs, telephone poles, derrick poles, minerals, animals,

animal parts, insects, worms, rocks, water, and soil.

§ 223.217 Authority to dispose of special forest products.

The Forest Service has authority to dispose of special forest products located on National Forest System lands pursuant to the Multiple-Use Sustained-Yield Act of 1960, as amended (16 U.S.C. 528–531); the National Forest Management Act of 1976, as amended (16 U.S.C. 472a *et seq.*); and, the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1600–1614).

§ 223.218 Consistency with plans, environmental standards, and other management requirements.

The disposal of special forest products from National Forest System lands shall be consistent with applicable land management plans. Each contract, permit, or other authorizing instrument shall include, as appropriate, provisions requiring the person or user to:

- (a) Provide fire protection and suppression;
- (b) Protect natural resources;
- (c) Regenerate harvested species after harvesting operations;
- (d) Minimize soil erosion;
- (e) Maintain favorable conditions of water flow and quality;
- (f) Minimize adverse effects on, protect, or enhance other national forest resources, uses, and improvements; and
- (g) Deposit voucher specimens with a curator of a nationally recognized herbarium in North America as identified in the *Index Herbariorum* when the permit, contract, or other authorizing instrument allows bioprospecting.

§ 223.219 Sustainable harvest of special forest products.

(a) *Sustainable harvest levels.* Prior to offering a special forest product for sale or free use, the responsible forest officer must determine the product's sustainable harvest level. A special forest product's sustainable harvest level is the total quantity of the product that can be harvested annually in perpetuity on a sustained yield basis. Responsible forest officers shall not authorize harvest or free use of special