change results in additional construction work by the purchaser in connection with such a road or facility, the United States shall bear such increased construction cost if, as determined by the Chief, Forest Service, the estimated cost is—

1. More than $1,000 for sales under 1 million board feet, or
2. More than $1 per thousand board feet for sales of 1 to 3 million board feet, or
3. More than $3,000 for sales over 3 million board feet.

(b) Where the Chief, Forest Service, determines that damages are so great that restoration, reconstruction, or construction is not practical under the cost-sharing arrangement in paragraph (a) of this section, he may allow cancellation of the contract notwithstanding provisions therein or in §223.116.

(c) The Chief, Forest Service, is authorized to reduce to 7 days the minimum time to advertise the sale of National Forest timber whenever he determines that—

1. The sale of such timber will assist in the construction of any area of a State damaged by a major disaster,
2. The sale of such timber will assist in sustaining the economy of such area, or
3. The sale of such timber is necessary to salvage the value of timber damaged in such major disaster or to protect undamaged timber.

(d) Any request for relief under paragraph (a) or (b) of this section shall be made in writing to the Forest Supervisor having administrative responsibility for the land involved.

§223.113 Modification of contracts to prevent environmental damage or to conform to forest plans.

Timber sale contract, permits, and other such instruments may be modified to prevent environmental damage or to make them consistent with amendments or revisions of land and resource management plans adopted subsequent to award or issuance of a timber sale contract, permit, or other such instrument. Compensation to the purchaser, if any, for modifications to a contract shall be made in accordance with provisions set forth in the timber sale contract. When determining compensation under a contract, timber payment rates shall be redetermined in accordance with appraisal methods in §223.60 of this subpart.

§223.114 Acquisition by third party.

No agreement permitting a third party to acquire the rights of a purchaser under a timber sale contract may be recognized and approved by the Forest Service except in writing, signed by the officer approving the sale, his successor, or superior officer. Such approval shall not relieve the purchaser of his responsibilities or liabilities under the timber sale contract and may be given only if—

(a) The third party is acceptable to the Forest Service as a purchaser of timber under the conditions and requirements then in effect for similar timber sales and assumes in writing all of the obligations to the Forest Service...
under the terms of the timber sale contract as to the uncompleted portion thereof, or

(b) The rights are acquired in trust as security and subject to such conditions as may be necessary for the protection of the public interests.

§ 223.115 Contract extensions.

The term of any contract or permit shall not be extended unless the approving officer finds:

(a) That the purchaser has diligently performed in accordance with contract provisions and an approved plan of operation; or

(b) That the substantial overriding public interest justifies the extension.

§ 223.116 Cancellation.

(a) Timber sale contracts and permits may be canceled:

(1) For serious or continued violation of their terms.

(2) Upon application, or with the consent of the purchaser, when such action is of advantage to the United States or not prejudicial to its interests.

(3) Upon application of the purchaser if the value of the timber remaining to be cut is diminished materially because of catastrophic damage caused by forces beyond the control of the purchaser resulting in (i) physical change in the sale area or access to it, or (ii) damage to timber remaining to be cut.

(4) For conviction of violation of criminal statutes or, following final agency or judicial determination, of violation of civil standards, orders, permits, or other regulations for the protection of environmental quality issued by a Federal agency, State agency, or political subdivision thereof, in the conduct of operations thereunder on National Forest System land, unless compliance with such laws or regulations would preclude performance of other contractual requirements.

(5) Upon determination by the Chief, Forest Service, that operations thereunder would result in serious environmental degradation or resource damage and with reasonable compensation to the purchaser for unrecovered costs incurred under the contract and the difference between the current contract value and the average value of comparable National Forest timber sold during the preceding 6-month period.

(b) Cancellation will be by the Chief, Forest Service. Authority to cancel contracts under paragraph (a)(1) through (4) of this section may be delegated to Regional Foresters for sales within their authorization. All contract cancellations under paragraph (a)(5) of this section shall be by the Chief, Forest Service, whose decision shall be the final agency decision.


§ 223.117 Administration of cooperative or Federal sustained yield units.

With respect to sustained yield units established pursuant to the provisions of the Act of March 29, 1944 (58 Stat. 132; 16 U.S.C. 583–583l), the Chief, Forest Service, with authority to delegate to other officers and employees of the Forest Service:

(a) Shall provide that National Forest timber in any sustained yield unit shall be available in sufficient amounts to meet the needs of bona fide farmers, settlers, miners, residents and prospectors for minerals for personal and domestic use as provided by law and by regulation.

(b) May offer for sale to cooperators, without competition but at not less than appraised value, timber on National Forest lands within an approved cooperative sustained yield unit; or, if the approved sustained yield unit consists entirely of federally owned or administered forest land and if necessary for the maintenance of a stable community or communities, may offer National Forest timber for sale to responsible operators within such community or communities, at not less than appraised value but without competition or with competition restricted to responsible operators who will manufacture the timber to at least a stated degree within the community or communities to be maintained. Each such sale which involves more than $500 in stumpage value may be made only after notice has been given in advance by such means as may be deemed effective in informing the public of the proposed action, including in any event,