# In-woods Drying and Extended Decking

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> Merchantability Standards



# What does this work respond to?

- Improve operational efficiency
- Reduce weight of harvested material to increase amount hauled per load

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## What was done?

- Put option in Agreement
- Collaborative study
- Site specific request
- Specialist review



• Approval with monitoring plan





### What worked well?

- Having the language in the SPA's to allow for this ahead of time, without modification can streamline the process.
- While the initial review process took a long time, a suitable risk analysis and determination process now exists for future requests.





# **Key points for implementation**

- Use the right mechanism
- Provide sufficient time for the process
- Site specific decision -
- Conditions change over time



### Recommendations

- Site specific reviews take time. Ensure that Formal requests sufficiently in advance of planned implementation to avoid delays.
- Begin collaboration early on the development of a monitoring and mitigation plan.





#### **General Process for Assessing Site-specific Conditions, Risk and Determination**

- The line officer works with the relevant staff to review risks to resources and public safety such as seasonal timing, proximity to communities, dispersed and developed recreation areas, powerlines, approved environmental analysis Decision requirements, and forest pest activity.
- Additional mitigation measures may be developed based on the review. Line officer approves or denies the request in letter
- Additional concerns why this is site specific and not blanket policy are precedence for all contractors and contracts. Potential for defaults with high level of decks left in the woods, rehab issues, temp road closeouts, inability to conduct in workman like manner especially at the scale of 4FRI
- Outcomes will be monitored for the development of unexpected risks or changing conditions that increase risk.

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