



Timber Measurements Society
Intermountain District Spring Meeting

**MINUTES OF THE SPRING MEETING OF THE TIMBER MEASUREMENTS SOCIETY
INTERMOUNTAIN CHAPTER
MARCH 27-28, 2008~COLVILLE, WASHINGTON**

The Intermountain District teamed with the North East Washington Hoo Hoo Club for the annual spring meeting on March 27-28, 2008 at the Park Place Restaurant in Colville Washington. Attendance was higher than what was expected with the extremely poor market conditions. There were a total of about forty-five people, including a few who were only able to attend for one day. Richard Swim opened the meeting at approximately 9:00 a.m. with a general welcome, and a brief history of the "scaling school" which began in 1965. Over the past 43 years several different organizations have sponsored the scaling school in an effort to maintain its continuation. So far these efforts have been successful and the scaling school has been conducted every year since its inception. The meeting opened with a "round-house" introduction from each of the attendees who stated their name, the name of the company or organization they were representing, and their years of scaling experience. The following is a brief summary of the speaker's presentations.

Gross Volume Determination

Russ Carrier, Regional Check scaler, Boise Building in Kettle Falls, was the first speaker. Russ presented some back ground information on how log volumes were originally conceived and some of the responsibilities and qualifications of a modern day log scaler. He presented detailed

information on the proper rules and procedures for determining lengths and diameters for various logs. Russ also explained the rules for distributing taper in second-cut, two and three segment logs as well as the (Industry) Standard Taper Rules for butt-cut logs in their portion of region 6. A workbook type handout containing log diagrams for each of the topics was completed as that portion of the rules was explained.



Figure 1- March 27, 2008 meeting in Colville, Wa.



Figure 2 - March 27, 2008 meeting in Colville, Wa.

Flume Logging

Russ Carrier presented an old movie called "Flume Logging" just before the lunch break. The movie consisted of a collection of old film clips from the Priest Lake area from around 1949. The collection is owned by a gentleman who had worked as the "Cat" mechanic in the logging camps and always kept his camera on hand. It depicts the various methods that were used to move logs back then. Trees were felled with cross-cut saws, limbed with axes, skidded with bladeless crawlers and jammers, bucked with two-man chainsaws and cross-cuts, loaded with tongs, hauled on single axle trucks that looked like they could tip over at any minute, then unloaded at the landing. Using peeves, the logs were rolled into the log flume where they raced down to splash into Priest Lake. The movie was very interesting and well worth watching.

Net Volume Determination

Russ Hogan, Check Scaler, Idaho Board of Scaling Practices, was the next speaker and gave a presentation on defect deduction methods and applying the specific rules for various defects. His presentation was based on the new "blue" National Forest Log Scaling Handbook, and included the new rules for spiral grain, slope of grain, and the knot guide. He explained that by law the State of Idaho acknowledges the "old

orange" U.S.F.S. manual and that these new rules do not apply there. There was some discussion on the new knot guide excluding Ponderosa pine. The concern was that some people might incorrectly assume they were no longer allowed to deduct for large knots in Ponderosa pine logs. Russ noted that large knots in Ponderosa pine may still be a defect deduction, and that you would use a pie-cut, length-cut, or partial diameter-cut for the portion affected instead of using the fixed diameter cuts that are in the knot guide. Russ continued the presentation using photos with detailed illustrations to show several of the different log defects and the various rules and procedures used in calculating the defect deductions. Several log diagrams were passed out and examples drawn on the eraser board with the defects deductions being worked out with class participation.



Figure 3 - No knots in this roll out

Roll Out Instructions

Russ Carrier concluded the meeting by giving driving directions and scaling instructions for the roll out. Everyone was to proceed to the log yard the following morning, scale the logs and meet back at the restaurant for lunch. The scaler's results would be tallied up during lunch followed by the awards presentation. After the conclusion of the awards presentation, everyone who was interested returned to the yard for a log review. Randy Queen volunteered to buck any questionable logs.



Figure 4 - Log roll out at Stimson Lumber in Arden, Wa. 2008

Log Roll Out

Randy Queen, Area Manager, Yamhill Log Scaling and Grading Bureau, organized a great log roll-out at the Stimson Lumber Company's Arden log-yard. Many thanks to Stimson for hosting this year's log rollout. Most of the attendees at the meeting participated in the log roll-out where they scaled the logs; their gross and net volumes were recorded; and a hatchet was awarded to the scaler with the closest net volume to the check scalers'. To be eligible for the prize the scaler's gross volume had to be within 1.00% of the check scalers'. The logs were numbered, and the lengths marked on them. They were then scaled on Wednesday by four check scalers, Al Blankenship, Russ Carrier, Randy Queen, and Russ Hogan to determine a school book answer.

There were 50 logs with a gross volume of 12,210 b.f. and a net volume of 8400 b.f. the percentage of defect was 31.2%. No doubt these were some highly defective logs. Congratulations go to Don Snider for winning the hatchet by being the closest to the check scalers. Honorable mention goes to the top ten finishers, Gary Peterson, Mike Radan, Chieko Abalos, Bruce Bower, Dewey Hall, Curt Smith, Al Heckford, Bill Fletcher, and Rick Schroeder.



Figure 5 - Don Snider receiving hatchet from Richard Swim - Russ Carrier in the back ground.

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