

# Idaho Board of Scaling Practices

## Log Scaler Certification and Ensuring Scaler Competency.

Timber Measurements Society  
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho  
April 12, 2012



# Who we are.

**The Board of Scaling Practices  
came into existence 40+ years  
ago with passage by Idaho  
legislature of the log scaling act.**



# Who we are.

- Log scaling act regulates “who” & “how” commercial scaling is conducted in Idaho.
- Creates a Board that licenses (certifies) log scalers & makes scaling rules.
- Board consists of people from the timber community representing logging contractors, timberland owners, and sawmill owners.



# Scaling Board Members

- **Chairman** – Director of Dept. of Lands (appointed by law, non expiring term).
- **Two members** from Associated Logging contractors – one representing north of the Salmon River, and one south.
- **One member** from Idaho Forest Owners Association, representing small land owners with less than 50,000 acres.
- **One member** representing large land owners with more than 50,000 acres of timberland.
- **One member** from industry manufacturing less than 100mm board feet of scaled logs annually.
- **One member** from industry manufacturing more than 100mm board feet of scaled logs annually.

**Members are appointed by the Governor to serve three year terms.**



# Scaling Board is charged with

- Log Scaling Law
  - Licensing
  - Scaling Methods
  - Check Scaling



# Scaling Board

- Passes rules to implement law provisions, sets policy standards, and rules on specific scaling issues as they arise.
- Board employs a staff to administer the rules and carry out day-to-day operating functions.



# Rules of the Board

- Apply and interpret the law
- Rulemaking process for adoption
- Subject to annual legislative review
- Apply within the state of Idaho, but not necessarily outside the state
- Rules of the Idaho Board of Scaling Practices – “Idaho Log Scaling Manual”



# Scaler Licensing (certification)

- Idaho law requires licensing of individuals who scale for commercial purposes.
- Permits and Licenses issued
  - Apprenticeship Permit
  - Temporary Permit
  - Specialty License
  - Standard License





# Scaler Licensing (standard)

- Procedure to obtain
  - Submit a notarized application form
  - Pay a \$25 exam fee
  - Pass a written examination



# Scaler Licensing (standard)

- 70% is required to pass the written exam.
  - Test is 50 questions and a combination of true/false and multiple choice.
  - All questions are based on rules contained in the “Idaho Log Scaling Manual”
  - Questions are general in nature and cover a broad range of scaling rules



# Scaler Licensing (standard)

- Procedure to obtain
  - Submit a notarized application form
  - Pay a \$25 exam fee
  - Pass a written examination
  - Pass a practical examination



# Scaler Licensing (standard)

- The practical portion
  - Exam is 200 logs with a minimum net volume of 20,000 bf.
  - Gross volume must be within +/- 2.0%
  - Allowable net volume is determined by the percent of defect
  - Allowable species identification errors is +/- 3.0%



# Scaler Licensing (standard)

- Previous exam results – (2003 - 2011)
- 197 individuals, 102 passed, 52% passed
  - 93 new applicants – 35 passed – 38%
  - 11 apprenticeship (new) – 3 passed – 27%
  - 23 temp permit (new ) – 11 passed – 48%
  - 21 renewal (lic. expired) – 14 passed – 67%
  - 49 check scale (valid lic.) – 39 passed – 80%



# License Renewal

- Usually every two years
- Always expire on June 30<sup>th</sup>
- Notification sent to address on record
- Timely renewal requires *both* ...
  - that you pay a \$25 renewal fee
  - that you pass an examination
  - acceptable check scale may be used for exam



# Ensuring Scaler Competency

- Check scaling
- Different types of check scales
  - Routine / Routine (prearranged)
  - Relicense
  - Temporary Permit
  - Requested



# Ensuring Scaler Competency

- Requirements for a valid check scale
  - Logs must be in the same position as presented to the scaler
  - Without scaler knowledge (if possible)
  - Minimum of 50 logs / 10,000 board feet





# Ensuring Scaler Competency

- Averages for routine check scales (FY 2011)
  - Average piece count 150 logs
  - Average loads 3.15
  - Average gross volume 17,055 *bf*
  - Average net volume 15,346 *bf*
  - Average % of defect 10.0%



# Ensuring Scaler Competency

- Valid check scale requirements
  - Minimum of 50 logs / 10,000 board feet
  - Without scaler knowledge (if possible)
  - Logs in same position as presented to the scaler
- Check scaler issues Check Scale Report



IDAHO BOARD OF SCALING PRACTICES  
CHECK SCALE REPORT

Scale: Joe Scaler		License #: 5000	Location: Any Idaho Log Manufacturer Any Idaho City	Check Scales: Ernie Bauer	Date: February 18, 2000
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**CHECK SCALE RESULTS**

SCALER'S VARIATIONS	Allowable Variations	Check Scale Results Are	ACCEPTABLE
GROSS SCALE: + 0.5%	+/- 2.0%		
NET SCALE: - 0.2%	+/- 3.0%		
SPECIES IDENTIFICATION: 0.0%	3.0%		
PRODUCT CLASSIFICATION: 0.0%	3.0%		

Report

Check scales are acceptable or unacceptable based on variations in these 4 areas.

Scale	156	1525	1329	12.9%	Sawlog totals	156	1517	1332	12.2%
Pulp:					Pulp:				
Cedar Products					Cedar Products				
CP Slabs					CP Slabs				
TOTALS	156	1525	1329	12.9%	TOTALS	156	1517	1332	12.2%

Remarks:

Log layout and log yard conditions were "good".

Scaler is excellent on both gross and net scale variations.

- EHB

# Check Scale Report

- Board rules govern distribution
- Routine & Requested
  - Scaler
  - Scaler's employer (and/or supervisor)
  - Logging contractor
  - Other persons directly affected as determined by the executive director



# Check Scale Report

- Board rules govern distribution
- Relicense & Temporary Permit
  - Scaler
  - Scaler's employer



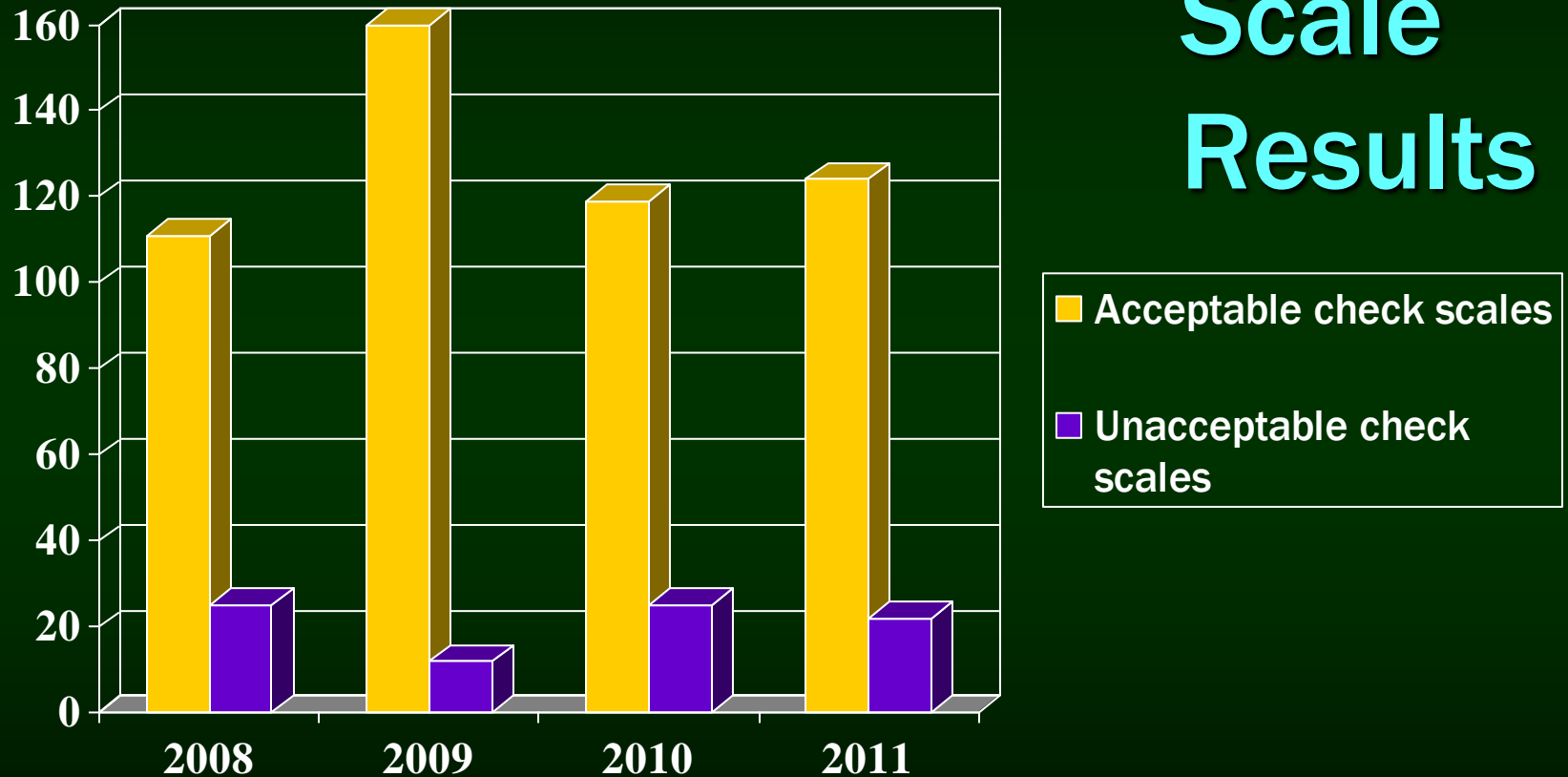
# Check Scale Report

- Unacceptable check scales
  - result in follow-up checks
  - three in 12-month period may result in suspension or revocation of license
- Most check scales are Acceptable
  - Unacceptable check scales 7% – 18%  
(4 year averages)



## Fiscal Years 2008 through 2011

# Check Scale Results



# Any Questions?

