

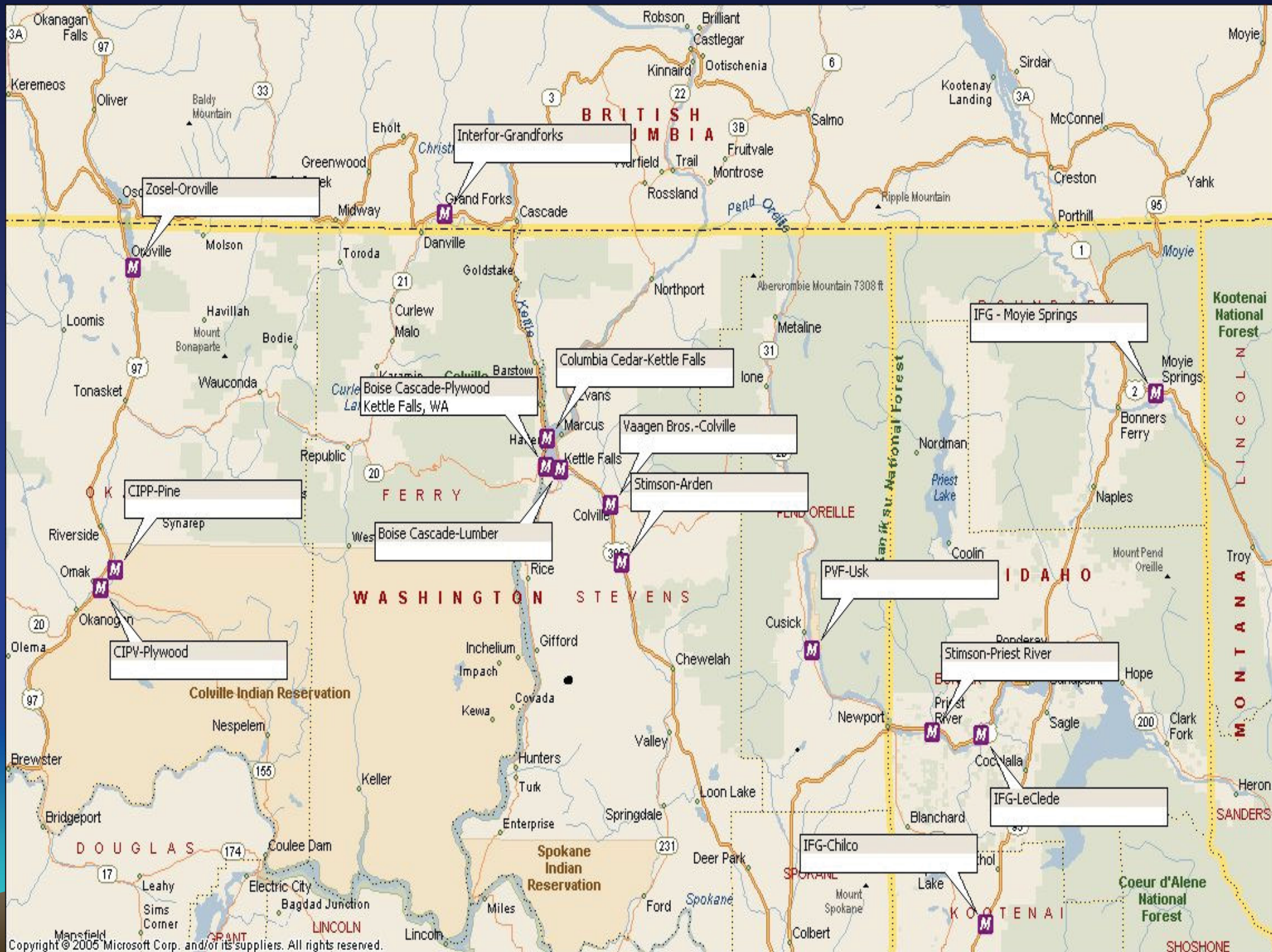
Eastern Washington Standard Taper Issues



So What's The Problem?

- **Buying and selling logs in Northeast Washington and Northern Idaho.**
- The Forest Service (The Northwest Log Rules Advisory Group) says do it one way
- The Washington DNR says do it another way
- The Idaho Board of Scaling Practices says do it this way





Butt cut logs, use standard taper for two segment logs and actual taper for three segment logs.

- Region 6 Eastern Washington (Industry)

Standard Taper:

	2 Segment	2 Segment	3 Segment
	21'-31'	32'-40'	41'- 60'
Larch & LPP	1"/segment	1"/segment	Caliper above butt swell
			(about 4' above butt) and
All Others	1"/segment	2"/segment	scale as if second cutt log

Taper Tables from the latest edition of the Forest Log Scaling Manual

5.43 Taper in Butt Logs.

The taper in long logs which have the butt cut at one end cannot be determined in the same manner as for other logs.

Average taper will be determined by using applicable taper tables. Accept the current taper rules by region using them at the point of scaling not the point of origin unless changed by special request.

The taper in long logs which have the butt cut at one end of the log will be determined as follows:

- Logs with a scaling length of 21 through 40 feet:
Use R6-2400-28,
“Taper Log Rule-Scribner Decimal C”.
- Logs with a scaling length of 41 plus feet:
Actual taper will be determined by measuring the diameter of both ends using procedures outlined in 17.3 - Log Diameters and computing total taper.
On butt logs, the butt diameter is measured by projecting the actual taper of the log through the flared butt area.



Use R-6-2400-28
Taper Log Rule – Scribner Decimal C

Butt Log Taper Table R-6
20ft. Max.

All Species except Western Larch



Total Taper	Lengths	Taper diameter (Applied to each segment)
1"/2"	21'-31'	D+1"
3"/4"	32'-40'	D+2"
	41'	
	42'-50'	
4"	41'-46'	D+2"+1"
5"/6"	47'-54'	D+2"+2"



Midpoint Taper On Multi-Segment Butt Logs

Region 1 – North Idaho Area (North of the Salmon River, including all of Idaho county except that portion which is both south of the main Salmon River and east of the Little Salmon River. Also includes western Montana, and the northeastern Washington area bounded by the Snake River of the south, to the Columbia River, north to the Okanogan River, north to Canada).

--- Midpoint taper (s) shall be a standard taper as follows:



Larch & Lodgepole Pine	21'-48'	Shall be 1-inch per segment.
Larch & Lodgepole Pine	49'-60'	Shall be 2-inch top segment, 1-inch remaining segment.
Cedar	21'-40'	Shall be 2-inches per segment
All Other Species	21'-40'	All 1-inch taper on pieces with and odd top diameter; allow 2-inch taper on pieces with and even top diameter (Odd-Even Rule).
All Species (except Larch & Lodgepole Pine)	41'-60'	Take two measurements, small end and 16' up from the butt. The diameter at the 16' measurement point shall be determined by actual measure. Apply calculated taper distribution to determine scaling diameter of the second segment.
All Species	61' and longer	Take two measurements, small end and top of the second segment up from the butt. The top diameter of the second segment shall be determined by actual measure. Apply calculated taper distribution to top segments (s) and standard taper rule for appropriate species to bottom segment.

Region 6- Southeast Washington & East Oregon Area

(South of the Snake River and east of the foothills in the Cascade mountain range)

---Midpoint taper (s) shall be a standard or actual taper as follows:

Larch	21'-40'	Shall be 1-inch standard taper.
All Other Species	21'-31'	Shall be 1-inch standard taper.
All Other Species	32'-40'	Shall be 2-inches standard taper.
Any Species	41' and longer	Shall be actual taper.

L-081 East Side Scaling Rules

Determination of volume of any forest products shall be conducted by a state approved third party scaling organization.

Determination of volume and grade of all logs shall be made in accordance with the Eastside log scaling and grading rules, Region 6 taper rules, and Scribner Volume Table, revised July 1, 1972, contained in the Northwest Log Rules Eastside and Westside Log Scaling Handbook (developed and produced by the Northwest Log Rules Advisory Group) and in effect on the date of confirmation of this contract.

Special scaling specifications shall be noted on the State's Brand Designation form which is hereby incorporated to this contract by reference.



Recent changes to the taper tables

- In 2001, Boise Cascade (Yakima) did an extensive taper study on Ponderosa Pine butt logs to determine if the standard taper rules being used were outdated. 2000 logs 24' and longer of different sizes were sampled in a systematic fashion. The study's results showed an average taper at 32' of 1.57 " combined. The company recommended the adoption of the "odd-even" taper rule which was adopted soon thereafter.



Lodgepole Pine

- In 2010, Vaagen looked at several years of data and over 200,000 LPP logs that went through their merchandiser and found that the Region 6 taper rules that third party scaling bureaus were using (2" on logs 32'-40') were overscaling logs.



NWLR Eastside Log Scaling Handbook

- January 1, 2011 Edition
- Chapter 5 Taper tables
- Adopted 10/2008
- Region 1 - North Idaho (North of the Salmon River)
- Region 6 - Oregon and Washington



Washington DOR Timber Tax Section

- Approved scaling and grading methods for timber harvested in stumpage value areas 6 and 7 must be scaled using the current regional taper tables at the point of origin



Confused yet?

- Some recommendations
- If selling logs – sell on net scale using taper rules from the area the logs were harvested from, because in the Eastern Washington trees are appraised with Region 6 Taper Rules and taxed as such when harvested
- Change the Region 1 boundary to extend to the Pend'Oreille River

