United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
Washington, D.C. 20240

National Policy Memorandum

Office of Trust Services
Division of Forestry

Number: NPM-TRUS-45 A2 **Effective: 7/30/24**
Expires: 7/30/25

Title: Certified Silviculturist Position Task Book Requirement for Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Foresters – Amendment 2

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to extend NPM-TRUS-45 A1: Certified Silviculturist Position Task Book Requirement for BIA Foresters – Amendment 1, issued on August 10, 2023, for another additional year. This policy memorandum documents the option to complete a Silviculturist Certification Position Task Book (PTB) in lieu of a Formal Prescription Defense as currently described in 53 IAM 9-H: Silviculture Handbook.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all BIA Foresters who have successfully completed all four national modules and any applicable regional modules associated with the National Advanced Silviculture Program (NASP).

3. Policy and Procedure

Indian Affairs' (IA) policy does not require BIA Foresters who successfully complete the NASP to attain a silviculturist certification, but it is strongly encouraged. A qualifying candidate wanting to pursue certification may complete a Silviculturist Certification PTB, after work experience and formal education prerequisites have been met, as identified in 53 IAM 9-H: Silviculture Handbook, Chapter 7, section 7.3.

The PTB is a portfolio that documents the candidate's training, evaluation records, and work experiences required to demonstrate their understanding of silviculture principles. The PTB provides consistency in the process used to determine a candidate's qualifications for the role of Certified Silviculturist.

Successfully completing all requirements identified in the PTB, as determined by the qualified evaluators outlined in the PTB, will be the basis for recommending a candidate for final review.

4. Roles and Responsibilities

A. Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs (DBIA) is responsible for the development of national policy affecting Indian lands.

B. Deputy Bureau Director (DBD), Office of Trust Services (OTS) is responsible for:

1) developing national silvicultural certification guidance; and
2) providing assistance in the implementation of regional silvicultural certification oversight and guidance.

C. Regional Directors (RDs) are responsible for:

1) ensuring silvicultural certification standards and policies are met;
2) initiating the PTB on behalf of the qualifying candidate;
3) recommending qualified mentors for candidates;
4) engaging with candidates and evaluators periodically during the certification process;
5) reviewing the completed PTB and recent work with other specialists, evaluators, or silviculturists, as needed; and
6) certifying silvicultural candidates upon successful completion of the PTB.

D. Agency Superintendents are responsible for:

1) requesting the PTB be initiated on behalf of the qualifying candidate; and
2) signing as final evaluator before submitting to the region.

5. Approval

Darryl LaCounte Digitally signed by Darryl LaCounte Date: 2024.07.30 17:07:50 -04'00'

Darryl LaCounte Date
Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs