

For: State and County Offices

Issuing Additional Forest Land (Timber) TAP Payments

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

Pub. L. 108-324 authorized \$15 million in funding to provide assistance to eligible timber owners for losses incurred between December 1, 2003, and December 31, 2004. To be eligible, the forest timber owner **must** have suffered a 15 percent loss in mortality adjusted for normal mortality. Forest timber owners were eligible to receive the lesser of 75 percent of the actual cost or the maximum payment rate for replanting trees. Rates were established by STC for the cost of the tree, and the cost of labor and site preparation for replanting. Signup for Timber TAP ended on May 31, 2005.

During the initial payment review it was determined that the calculated maximum eligible payment amount exceeded the \$15 million funding limit. Software for loading Timber TAP applications was closed-out on August 26, 2005, so that a payment factor could be determined. The payment factor for Timber TAP, based on applications loaded, was determined to be 51 percent. County Offices were authorized to issue payments on October 17, 2005, according to Notice TAP-34.

Notice TAP-39 instructed State and County Offices to submit a report of any outstanding payments to the National Office for consideration in establishing the final payment factor.

The final payment factor has been determined to be 100 percent; therefore, an additional payment can be made to Timber TAP producers.

B Purpose

This notice informs State and County Offices that:

- additional Timber TAP payments can be issued on or about June 6, 2008, **after** County Release No. 642 is loaded
- Timber TAP payment software will **only** remain open until COB **Friday, August 1, 2008.**

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|----------------------|--|
| Disposal Date | Distribution |
| September 1, 2008 | State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices |

Notice TAP-40

2 Issuing Payments to Producers With Special Circumstances

A Bankruptcy

County Offices shall:

- follow existing procedures for producers who have filed bankruptcy
- see to 58-FI.

B Deceased Producers

County Offices shall follow the policy in 1-TAP, subparagraph 4 C for deceased producers.

C Successors-in-Interest

County Offices shall follow the policy in 1-TAP, subparagraph 23 A for successors-in-interest.

3 State and County Office Action

A State Office Action

State Offices shall ensure that County Offices:

- are informed of the contents of this notice
- follow directions in the forthcoming Information Bulletin for loading the Timber TAP parameter file
- allocate eFunds to the applicable County Offices
- issue all payments **before** COB Friday, **August 1, 2008**.

B County Office Action

County Offices shall:

- follow directions outlined in the forthcoming Information Bulletin to ensure that the new Timber TAP parameter file is loaded on the County Office system
- begin issuing additional Timber TAP payments, as applicable, after completing the instructions in the forthcoming Information Bulletin and this subparagraph
- issue payments for Timber TAP on or about **June 6, 2008**
- ensure that **all** additional Timber TAP payments are issued by **COB** Friday, **August 1, 2008**.

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4 Issuing Timber TAP Payments

A Handbook Reference

County Offices shall process Timber TAP payments according to 1-TAP, paragraph 81.

B Funds Control

Timber TAP funds are subject to Electronic Funds Control (E-FC) that provides real-time funds control and allows for program disbursements monitoring. Allotments have been provided to each applicable State Office through E-FC.

If additional allotments are determined, the State Office shall contact the National Office to request additional allotments by sending an e-mail to **all** of the following:

- **sandy.bryant@wdc.usda.gov**
- **tina.nemec@wdc.usda.gov**
- **steve.peterson@wdc.usda.gov**
- **lenior.simmons@wdc.usda.gov**.