



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

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Date: April 29, 2004

Route To:

Subject: Project Activity Level (PAL) Implementation - 2004 revised

To: Forest Supervisors and Directors

Pursuant to my letter of June 19, 2003, affected staffs in this office have reviewed the Project Activity Level (PAL) data collected last year. The PAL has been compared and analyzed against the past Sale Activity Level (SAL) process. The PAL process provides a greater scientific basis for the regulation of activities that have the potential for igniting wildland fire during adverse fire danger. The PAL process has been improved to provide for greater operating periods while insuring that fire potential for ignition and spread is properly mitigated. The Fire and Aviation Management staff have made the necessary adjustments to both the PAL matrix and the Fire Plan used in procurement contracts.

The revised matrix and Fire Plan for implementation of PAL will be applied to all procurement contracts advertised or solicited for award after May 31, 2004 for the duration of this year.

I am deferring my decision to implement PAL for timber sale contracts during this year. Sale Activity Level (SAL) precautions will be observed in existing timber sale contracts and those advertised this year. Follow direction in my letter of June 12, 2003, for SAL determination. My staff will continue to evaluate PAL for use in timber sale contracts.

/s/ Bernie Weingardt (for)
JACK A. BLACKWELL
Regional Forester

Enclosures

cc: Ron Raley, Ray Hermit, Stephen Bishop, Chris Click, Tom Cable, Russell A Gripp, Beth Little

