



December 6, 2022

The Honorable Judge Channing Strother
Office of Administrative Law Judges
United States Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Stop 9202, Room 1049, South Building
Washington, D.C. 20250-9202

Re: Bell Timber, Inc. Sourcing Area application (docket number 22-J-0052)

Dear Judge Strother:

This letter is in response to the Request for Comments regarding Bell Timber's application to the U.S. Department of Agriculture for a Sourcing Area for its Longview and Bellingham, Washington facilities.

Vaagen Brothers Lumber has mills in Colville and Usk, Washington. We directly employ more than 250 people and rely on federal, state and private timber to keep our mills running and our employees working. In addition to our sawmills, four other mills work in the same wood basket and the log supply is tight. We have sold logs to Bell Timber from our federal and state timber sales in the past, and plan to continue to do so in the future. If Bell Timber were granted a Sourcing Area, it would further constrict the supply of logs to mills in northeast Washington, endangering their viability and putting the people and communities that rely on them at risk. We respectfully request that you decline Bell Timber's application for a sourcing area.

I certify that the information provided by me is true and accurate, to the best of my knowledge, and I understand that failure to provide true and accurate information could be a violation of the False Statements Act (18 U.S.C. 1001).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Josh Anderson".

Josh Anderson
Timber Manager

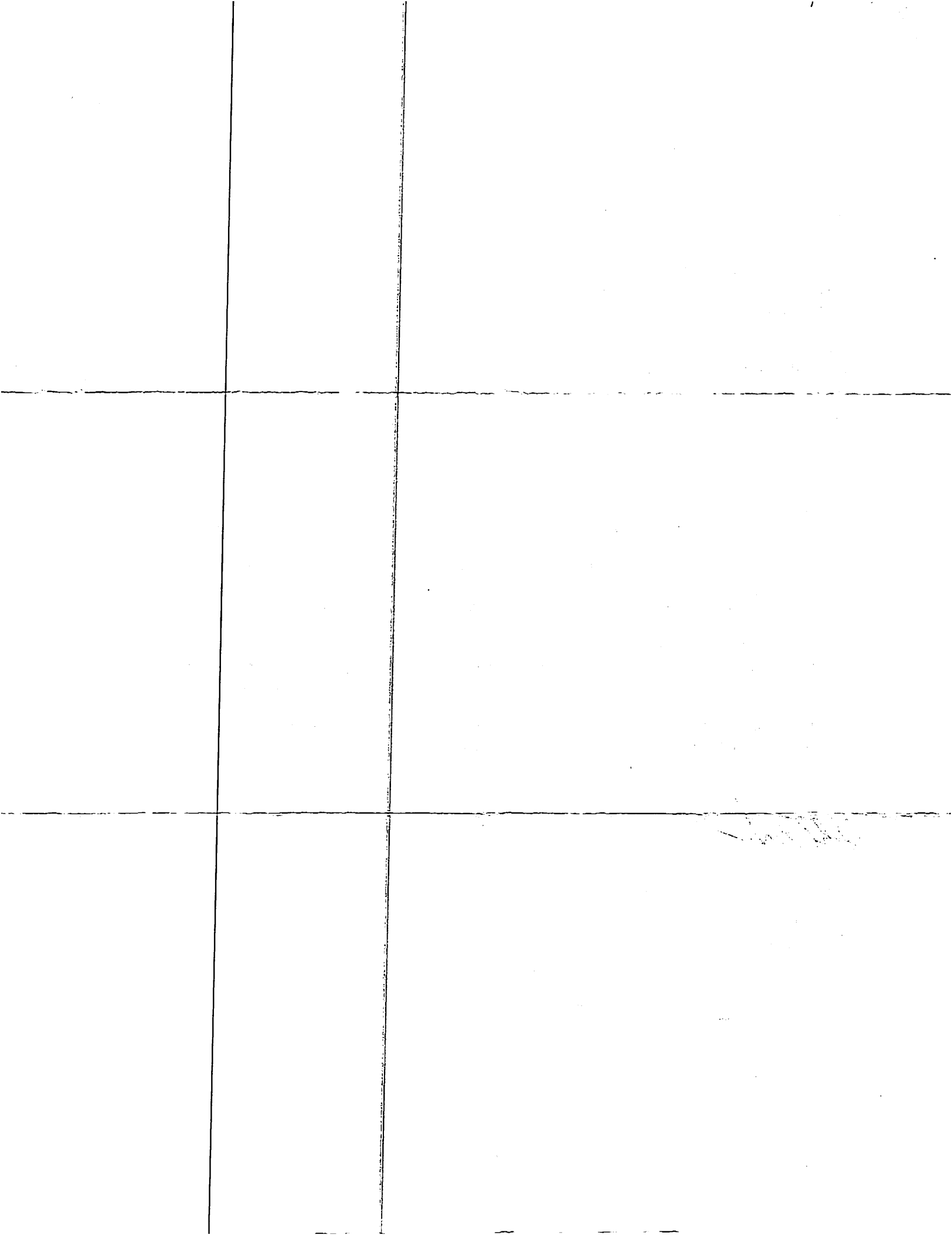
CC: Regional Forester
ATTN: Director, Natural Resources
1220 SW 3rd Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97204

VAAGEN BROS. LUMBER, INC.

COLVILLE OPERATION
565 WEST 5TH COLVILLE, WA 99114
PHONE (509) 684-5071 FAX (509) 684-2168

USK OPERATION
POST OFFICE BOX 309 USK, WA 99180
PHONE (509) 445-1732 FAX (509) 445-1072

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER





565 W. 5th Colville WA 99114

Regional Forester
ATTN: Director, Natural Resources
1220 SW 3rd Avenue
Portland, OR 97204



After printing this label:

CONSIGNEE COPY - PLEASE PLACE IN FRONT OF POUCH

1. Fold the printed page along the horizontal line.

2. Place label in shipping pouch and affix it to your shipment.

Use of this system constitutes your agreement to the service conditions in the current FedEx Service Guide, available on fedex.com. FedEx will not be responsible for any claim in excess of \$100 per package, whether the result of loss, damage, delay, non-delivery, misdelivery, or misinformation, unless you declare a higher value, pay an additional charge, document your actual loss and file a timely claim. Limitations found in the current FedEx Service Guide apply. Your right to recover from FedEx for any loss, including intrinsic value of the package, loss of sales, income interest, profit, attorney's fees, costs, and other forms of damage whether direct, incidental, consequential, or special is limited to the greater of \$100 or the authorized declared value. Recovery cannot exceed actual documented loss. Maximum for items of extraordinary value is \$1,000, e.g. jewelry, precious metals, negotiable instruments and other items listed in our Service Guide. Written claims must be filed within strict time limits, see current FedEx Service Guide.