

# Appendix II. Indian forest classifications



## **Indian forest lands**

Below are definitions for the land classification, categories, and types for Indian forest lands. Definitions cited from the (25CFR) are referenced as such. Other definitions come from various handbooks.

### ***Forest land (25CFR)***

Forest or forest land means an ecosystem at least one acre in size, including timber land and woodland, which: Is characterized by a more or less dense and extensive tree cover; contains, or once contained, at least ten percent crown cover, and is not developed or planned for exclusive non-forest resource use.

### ***Non-forest land***

Lands that do not fall under the definition of Forest Land. This is land that (1) has never supported forests (e.g., barren, alpine tundra), (2) was formerly forested, but has been converted to a non-forest area class (e.g., rangeland, cropland), or (3) presently meets the stocking requirements for forest land, but human activity on the site will preclude the natural succession of the stand (residential development). Other examples of non-forest land are improved roads of any width, graded or otherwise regularly maintained for long-term continuing use, and rights- of-way of all power lines, pipelines, other transmission lines, and operating railroads. If intermingled in forest areas, unimproved roads and non-forest strips must be at least 120-feet wide and 1 acre in size to qualify as non-forest land.

### ***Unreserved***

Forest land that is administratively available for harvest.

### ***Reserved***

Forest land that is unavailable for harvest because of administrative restrictions.

### ***Accessible***

Forest land that is physically, administratively and economically accessible to harvest or is anticipated to become so during the management plan period.

### ***Inaccessible***

Forest lands that are inaccessible by conventional logging methods (i.e. steep terrain or cut-off ridges or canyons) or restricted by special treatments (i.e. disease and insect areas) are excluded from lands that are suitable for timber management.

### ***Woodland (25CFR)***

Woodland means forest land not included within the timberland classification, stocked, or capable of being stocked, with tree species of such form and size to produce forest products that are generally marketable within the region for products other than lumber, pulpwood or veneer.

### ***Timberland (25CFR)***

Timberland means forest lands stocked, or capable of being stocked, with tree species that are regionally utilized for lumber, pulpwood, poles or veneer products.

### ***Commercial Forest Land (25CFR)***

Commercial forest land means forest land that is producing or capable of producing crops of marketable forest products and is administratively available for intensive management and sustained production.

### ***Noncommercial Forest Land (25CFR)***

Noncommercial forest land means forest land that is available for extensive management, but is incapable of producing sustainable forest products within the general rotation period. Such land may be economically harvested, but the site quality does not warrant significant investment to enhance future crops.

### ***Productive Forest Land (25CFR)***

Productive forest land means forest land producing or capable of producing marketable forest products that is unavailable for harvest because of administrative restrictions or because access is not practical.

### ***Unproductive Forest Land (25CFR)***

Unproductive forest land means forest land that is not producing or capable of producing marketable forest products and is also unavailable for harvest because of administrative restrictions or because access is not practical.

### ***Program Categories***

Current category definitions were established in 1986 for the ranking of forest lands to establish emphasis and priority for program implementation. Designation of reservations/properties is the responsibility of the Regional Director and is re-evaluated as part of each year's update of this report.

**Category-1** - *Major Forested Reservation* - Comprised of more than 10,000 acres of commercial timberland in trust, or determined to have more than 1.0 MMBM (million board measure) harvest of timber products annually.

**Category-2** - *Minor Forested Reservation* - Comprised of less than 10,000 acres of commercial timberland in trust, and less than 1.0 MMBM harvest of timber products annually, or whose

forest resource is determined by the Regional Office to be of significant commercial timber value.

**Category-3 - Significant Woodland Reservation** - Comprised of an identifiable forest area of any size which is lacking a timberland component, and whose forest resource is determined by the Regional Office to be of significant commercial woodland value.

**Category-4 - Minimally Forested Reservation** - Comprised of an identifiable forest area of any size determined by the Regional Office to be of minor commercial value at this time.

**Category-5** - Reservation or Indian property with forest land that the Bureau is charged with some degree of legal responsibility, but the land is not in [Federal] trust status.”

### ***Program Type***

Describes how the forestry program is funded and managed

**A** - All BIA. Program remains under the responsibility of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

**B** - P.L. 93-638. Program has been contracted to the Tribe under the P.L. 93-638 contracting regulations.

**C** - Part P.L. 93-638. Only a portion of the program has been contracted by the Tribe under the P.L. 93-638 contracting regulations. The remaining portion is still managed by the BIA.

**D** - All Compact. The entire forestry program has been compacted by the Tribe.

**E** - Partial Compact. Only a portion of the forestry program has been compacted by the Tribe. The remaining portion of the program is still managed by the BIA.

**F** - Other. The program is managed under some other agreement.

### ***Trust Reservation***

Reservation or Indian property that is in [Federal] trust status.

### ***Non-Trust Reservation***

Reservation or Indian property that the Bureau is charged with some degree of legal responsibility, but the land is not in [Federal] trust status.