

FOR INFORMATION  
DA-2005-10  
April 7, 2005

SUBJECT: Movement of White Pine Logs and Bark by Limited Permit

TO: STATE AND TERRITORY AGRICULTURAL REGULATORY OFFICIALS

Commercial white pine logs and bark industries in Maine and the government of the state of Maine have requested that white pine logs and bark be allowed to move out of the regulated area under limited permits for processing. In March 2004, they requested and were approved to move pine bark mulch under limited permits. Currently, Docket # 04-020-1 is moving forward as a proposed rule that will allow this movement under a specified management plan.

The commercial movement of white pine logs and bark is important to industry in Maine and other states. Under the current rule for Pine Shoot Beetle (PSB) (7 CFR 301.50), pine logs and bark are regulated articles and the only allowable treatment is fumigation with methyl bromide.

However, the 7 CFR 301.50-4(c) rule allows movement of regulated articles with a limited permit under specified conditions, which the Administrator has found to be adequate to prevent the spread of PSB. The 7 CFR 310.50-5(b) rule allows a limited permit to be issued by an inspector for the movement of regulated articles to a specified destination such as a sawmill or a bark processor's facility for handling and processing such as, sawing into lumber or grinding and/or composting to produce mulch.

APHIS-PPQ has developed protocols for handling white pine logs and bark that are adequate to prevent the spread of PSB and under which these regulated articles may move out of the regulated area. These protocols are incorporated in the compliance agreements for shipping and receiving white logs and bark and include: limited dates and specified conditions for the movements and monitoring with Lungren traps using APHIS-approved trapping methods. In addition, the state has agreed to conduct a random audit of approximately ten percent of all agreements to ensure compliance with said protocols and conditions.

Allow the movement of white pine logs and bark under the protocols and specified conditions that APHIS-PPQ has determined to be adequate from quarantined areas in New England to non-quarantined areas in Maine, using compliance agreements and limited permits issued by APHIS-approved inspectors and following the protocols approved by APHIS-PPQ.

**/s/ John Payne for**

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