

SPECIFICATION 11 – SLASH RAKING

CONTRACT JOB SPECIFICATIONS FOR MECHANICAL LAND PREPARATION: SLASH RAKING

Dated 29 JUNE 1999

APPROVED	FORESTRY MANAGER	DATE:
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Agreement made the _____ day of _____ 19 __

BETWEEN

1 **PAN PAC FOREST PRODUCTS LIMITED** a duly incorporated company having its registered office at Auckland (with its successors and assigns called “the Company”)

2 (“The Contractor”)_____

RECITALS

A The Company and the Contractor have entered into an Agreement relating to the appointment of an Independent Contractor dated

the _____ day of _____ 19 __

(“The Contractors Agreement”)

B The Company requires the Contractor to complete a particular class of work or works pursuant to the Contractors Agreement, the specific terms and conditions of which the parties now wish to record.

IT IS HEREBY AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

1 INTERPRETATION

- 1.1 In this Agreement, words and expressions used shall have the same meanings as ascribed thereto in the Contractors Agreement unless expressly varied herein.
- 1.2 “Contractors Agreement” means the Contractors Agreement referred to in Recital A including any additions, variations or amendments thereto.
- 1.3 “Job Specification” means the job specification(s) as detailed in this Agreement and shall include any Contract Note or Prescription relating to such Job Specification.
- 1.4 “Working Block” means the defined area of forest or forests.
- 1.5 “Stand” means a defined area of forest in which all trees were planted in the same year.

2 EFFECT OF THIS AGREEMENT

The provisions of this Agreement and any Contract Note issued pursuant to this Agreement shall form part of and shall be read with the Contractors Agreement and such provisions shall have the same force and effect as if they were set out in the Contractors Agreement so that a default under this Agreement or any Contract Note or Prescription issued pursuant to this Agreement shall be deemed to be also a default under the Contractors Agreement.

3 THE DETAILS OF THE JOB SPECIFICATION ARE AS FOLLOWS

MECHANICAL LAND PREPARATION: SLASH RAKING

This Contract Job Specification applies to mechanical slash raking land preparation operations in any working block allocated to the contractor.

1. INTRODUCTION

This job specification covers work associated using slash raking as a means of mechanical land preparation for the establishment of a *Pinus radiata* crop on new land or cut-over.

2. OBJECTIVE

To facilitate foot access in and around flat and easy terrain by mechanically crushing and breaking heads and the moving of large diameter slash into piles or windrows, while minimising the removal of branches, needles and the duff layer and ensuring soil and water issues are not compromised.

3. ALLOCATION OF WORKING BLOCK

3.1 The Company shall from time to time during the continuance of this agreement allocate the Contractor a working block to be slash raked with the associated Job Prescription, Contract note and stand map. The Contractor will thereafter proceed in a proper and workmanlike manner with the operation.

4. COMPANY'S RESPONSIBILITIES

4.1 The Company will supply to the Contractor the following for each working block to be slash raked:

- i) A map and/or photo showing the boundary of each area for slash raking and restricted areas. The whole stand may not necessarily require treatment.
- ii) A Job Prescription showing:
 - a) Machine type and equipment
 - b) Spacing between rows
 - c) Row size
 - d) Row orientation
- iii) A Contract note
- iv) List of known physical hazards.

5. SITE CONSIDERATIONS

During and after the slash raking operation, the operator should ensure:

- i) Landing runoff and sediment traps (drainage structures) put in place during the harvesting operations are not to be damaged in any way.
- ii) Any slash on tracks which will slow runoff or form a sediment trap are to be left in place.

- iii) Cutouts on any harvesting tracks are to be left in a working condition and if damaged are to be re-established.
- iv) Water tables and drainage structures are to remain well clear of debris.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES AND CONSIDERATIONS

This operation is to be conducted in accordance with the following guidelines and conditions. Soil and water issues are important considerations to ensure long-term site productivity is maximised.

- 6.1** The machine and debris is to be kept at least 5 metres clear of watercourses. This undisturbed strip beside waterways and wetlands filter the runoff.
- 6.2** Debris is to be kept at least 5 metres back from the edges of steep faces, whether above a stream or not. This is to reduce the risk of slope failure.
- 6.3** Soil compaction and soil disturbance is to be minimised at all times. Soil disturbance involves any moving, churning or exposing of the mineral soil.
- 6.4** Machine operating should be avoided on steep slopes, unstable soil and wet or saturated soils. Forest Co-ordinators should be contacted if there is any uncertainty.
- 6.5** The making of tracks and stream crossings requires consultation with the Forest Co-ordinator. All remedial or clean up tasks as a result of these activities is to be undertaken as soon as possible.
- 6.6** The length of slash raking lines should be minimised and located so the piles do not detrimentally interfere with air and water drainage. Visual impacts from roads should also be considered.
- 6.7** The discharging of runoff into waterways or where it can easily enter waterways or water tables is to be avoided.
- 6.8** Refuelling of vehicles and machines should be undertaken in a manner and location that minimises the risk of accidental spills.
- 6.9** All rubbish, whether work related or domestic rubbish is to be removed off site.

7. METHOD

- 7.1** To use a machine to clear heavier or large diameter slash into slash piles or to back up slash mechanically to improve access into and around the block. Care must be taken with slash pile size to ensure that the required spacing is achieved. The machine is only to be operated on flat to easy terrain. The decision to carry out root raking will only be done after a thorough inspection of the block and consideration of all alternatives.

8. SPECIFICATIONS

8.1 Timing

Slash raking is to be carried out preferable when soils are dry and will ideally be completed by the end of April. This allows time for the germination and then treatment of weeds prior to the planting operation.

8.2 Size and Spacing of Rows

The height, width and spacing of slash rows will be as defined in the Job Prescription.

8.3 Slope

Slash raking is to be confined to slopes not greater than 15% (8.5 degrees or 1:7 slope)

8.4 Contour

Wherever possible slash raking should be undertaken across the slope and as a minimum within 10% (5.7 degrees or a 1:10 slope) of the contour (across slope).

8.5 The contractor is to carry out their own post operation assessment to ensure the operation is to the Job Prescription and Specification.

9. EQUIPMENT

The machine and equipment type to be used for the slash raking must be approved by the Company before being used. The operator is not to exceed recommendations of the machine's operating manual.

10. SAFETY AND HEALTH

10.1 The Contractor shall comply with all necessary sections within:

- i) HBF Forest Operation Handbook
- ii) LFITB Guidelines

10. QUALITY CHECKS

The Company shall carry out quality control checks at the completion of each working block before the operator moves to another block or forest. A rework will be required if the slash raking does not meet the desired standard and shall be at the Contractors cost or in some instances a deduction will be given if for environmental reasons reworking would be detrimental.

11. RECORD OF WORK

The Contractor shall keep an accurate record of the area slash raking and the hours worked. This record shall be passed on to the Company at the completion of each working block or each monthly pay period.

12. LEGISLATION AND REGULATIONS

The Contractor shall comply with the following Acts and Regulations:

- i) Resource Management Act
- ii) Health & Safety in Employment Act
- iii) Forest and Rural Fires Act and Regulations
- iv) OSH Safety Codes for Bush Undertakings
- v) New Zealand Forest Code of Practice
- vi) Forest Code of Practice

IN WITNESS WHEREOF these parties have executed this Job Specification

Mechanical Land Preparation: Slash Raking

On the day and in the year written above.

SIGNED for and on behalf of:]
PAN PAC FOREST PRODUCTS LIMITED]
BY

EXECUTED by the Contractor]
In the presence of:]

_____ **Witness Name**

_____ **Witness' Occupation**

_____ **Witness' Address**