

# Division of Motorist Services

Procedure RS-24

## Motor Vehicle Procedure Manual Registration Forestry Products License Plates

## **Table of Contents**

Legal Authority	1
Description and Use	
Definitions	
Eligibility Criteria	2
Application Requirements	
Issuance of License Plates	3
Renewals and Transfers of Forestry Products License Plates	3
Replacement License Plate	3
Revision(s) to Procedure	3

## Legal Authority

**Section 320.08(4)(m)**, Florida Statutes, provides for a special registration class for truck tractors used exclusively to haul forestry products or associated forestry harvesting equipment used by the owner of the truck tractor within a **150-mile radius of the home address on the vehicle's registration**. The declared gross vehicle weight is not required for taxing purposes.

Section 320.08(4)(n) Florida Statutes states a truck tractor or heavy truck, not operated as a for-hire vehicle and which is engaged exclusively in transporting raw, unprocessed, and nonmanufactured agricultural or horticultural products within the state or within a 150-mile radius of its home address is eligible for a restricted license plate.

## **Description and Use**

This procedure provides information and instructions to assist employees of the tax collector, license plate agent and the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (FLHSMV) with the issuance of license plates for truck tractors used exclusively to haul forestry products.

## Definitions

The following definitions and terms apply to the issuance and use of forestry products plates:

1. "Forestry products" means any material originating from trees that is harvested, gathered, or collected from a forest, woods, or other tree land.

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- 2. "Forestry site" means the initial point of harvest, collection or gathering of forestry products.
- 3. "Hauling" means the transportation by truck tractor of forestry products and harvesting equipment from the forestry site to another location for processing, sale, or use.
- 4. "Home address" means the address as recorded on the registration certificate.
- 5. "Not-for-hire" means the owner of the truck tractor.

## **Eligibility Criteria**

- A. To be eligible to apply for this special class truck tractor registration, a **<u>customer</u>** must meet the following requirements:
  - 1. Must not be or plan to be hauling any forestry product outside of a 150-mile radius of the home address recorded on the vehicle registration. Crossing a state line is permissible if it is within the 150-mile radius.

However, if the power unit has three axles or the combined gross vehicle weight is greater than 26,000 pounds, the vehicle must be licensed under the International Fuel Tax Agreement (IFTA) or have temporary fuel use permits for each state (including Florida), once the vehicle leaves the state of Florida.

- 2. Must not haul any forestry products to or from **any** location other than the initial forestry site where the product was loaded.
- 3. Harvesting equipment being hauled must be for use by the owner of the truck tractor.
- 4. The forestry products must be unprocessed or partially processed in the forest.
- 5. The following examples will assist in determining eligibility for the forestry products registration:
  - a. A chip truck tractor hauling chips produced by a portable chipper from the forest to the pulp plant: Yes.
  - b. A chip semi-trailer hauling chips from a stationary chipper located outside the forest to a pulp plant: No.
  - c. A truck tractor hauling peeled logs from a stationary location outside the forest to a processing plant: No.
  - d. A truck tractor hauling mulch, straw, and bark from the forest to the processing plant: Yes.
  - e. A truck tractor hauling mulch, straw, and bark to a retail vendor: No.
  - f. A vehicle hauling processed lumber from a mill or lumberyard: No.
  - g. A vehicle hauling preassembled fences or other types of preassembled products made of forestry products: No.
  - h. A vehicle hauling any finished forestry product. (e.g., furniture or paper): No.
  - i. A truck tractor hauling sawdust or shaving from a forest or from a plant: Yes, when the vehicle is hauling from the forest. No, when the vehicle is hauling from the plant.

## **Application Requirements**

- A. **<u>Customer</u>** must advise the tax collector or license plate agent that they wish to apply for the forestry products license plate and affirm their eligibility for the plate.
- B. FEES: Original plate fee, service fee, registration tax and fees from the Tax Due and Credit Manual for class code 39, with "Reg Use" of "FH" for semiannual or "Reg Use" of "FF" for full year. Refer to the Registration Fees and Flat Taxes Distribution Chart for applicable fees.
- C. PROOF OF INSURANCE: <u>**Customer**</u> must submit proof of commercial motor vehicle insurance. Refer to Procedure<u>RS-33</u> for additional information.

## **Issuance of License Plate**

Form <u>HSMV 83080, Eligibility Affidavit for Motor Vehicle Registration</u>, may be processed for forestry products in the tax collector or license plate agent office. When the license plate is issued, the statement "Hauling Unprocessed Forestry Products and/or Harvesting Equipment 150 Miles of Home Address" will be printed on the registration certificate. **Violations will declare the registration invalid.** 

## **Renewals and Transfers of Forestry Products License Plates**

Renewals and transfers may be processed by the tax collector or license plate agent using form <u>HSMV 83080</u>, <u>Eligibility Affidavit for Motor Vehicle Registration</u>.

#### **Replacement License Plate**

Replacement plates may be issued by the tax collector or license plate agent upon submission of the following:

- A. Form <u>HSMV 83146</u>, <u>Application for Replacement License Plate</u>, <u>Validation Decal or Parking Permit</u>.
- B. Fees: Replacement Plate fee, Service fee, Air Pollution Control fee, Advanced Replacement fee, Emergency Medical Services, Reflectorization fee and FRVIS fee. Refer to the Registration Fees and Flat Taxes Distribution Chart for applicable fees.

## **Revision(s) to Procedure**

<u>Conducted Statutory Review and added Section 320.08(4)(n). Linked statute to the procedure and form.</u> <u>Changed "applicant" to "customer." Verbiage added to page 3 under Issuance of License Plate:</u> <u>"violations will declare the registration invalid."</u>