



## ASSOCIATION FOR SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY SILVICULTURE CRITERIA

### COMMERCIAL THINNING (Category 6)

*“A treatment designed to increase the diameter growth of selected crop trees and improve stand quality by reducing competition and stand density, while harvesting wood volume that would be lost to natural tree suppression and mortality.”*

To be eligible for funding, the site must conform to the following criteria **prior to treatment**:

Crop Tree Species	<b>SW:</b> RS, WS, BS, JP, RP, WP, BF, TL, EH <b>HW:</b> WAS, TA, LA, YB, WB, RM, SM, RO, BE, BC, IW, BP
Stand & Site Limitations	Consult with the Commercial Thinning Keys and Guides in the SGEM (Silvicultural Guide for the Ecological Matrix) published by the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources for stand eligibility. Contact the ASF for a copy of the Keys and Guides if required.
<b>Approval</b>	<b>Natural stands that have <u>NOT</u> been previously pre-commercially thinned <u>MUST</u> be pre-approved by ASF Staff.</b> <b>Pre-treatment Assessment (PTA) is required for any stands &gt; 5ha.</b> <a href="https://www.asforestry.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/ASF-Silviculture-Assessments-Procedures-Manual-2015.pdf">https://www.asforestry.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/ASF-Silviculture-Assessments-Procedures-Manual-2015.pdf</a>

To be eligible for funding, the **submitted** area must conform to the following criteria **after treatment**:

Post-treatment Basal Area (BA)	Softwood stands: 16 – 30 m <sup>2</sup> /ha Hardwood stands: 16 – 24 m <sup>2</sup> /ha
Crop Tree Species	<b>SW:</b> RS, WS, BS, JP, RP, WP, BF, TL, EH <b>HW:</b> WAS, TA, LA, YB, WB, RM, SM, RO, BE, BC, IW, BP
Crop Tree Species Limitations	BF must constitute <50% of post-treatment BA. RM and poplar (TA, LA, BP) combined must constitute <25% of post-treatment BA. BS, JP, and TL combined must constitute <25% of post-treatment BA.
Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Treatment area must retain post-treatment criteria for a period of at least 18 months after treatment.</li> <li>• Evidence of treatment over entire area claimed is required.</li> <li>• Evidence of wood removal over entire claimed area is required.</li> <li>• Strip thinning is NOT ELIGIBLE.</li> </ul>
Claims	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submitted areas must conform to ASF Shapefile Standard</li> <li>• <b>Claims &gt;5ha must be accompanied by a pre-treatment assessment (PTA). See Forms section of ASF website for PTA forms and information.</b></li> </ul>

#### Rates

\$550/ha (PTA optional for claims <5ha)

\$590/ha (With PTA completed and submitted with claim - required for claims >5ha)

This treatment may be combined with Crop Tree Pruning during the same year.

**All ASF Silviculture Rates are subject to change without notice.**