

A field inventory based on fixed area plots or variable radius points is required.

Lack of existing access does not exempt stands from this requirement.

Field plots/points must include, at a minimum, species and diameter (at breast height, $\leq 2''$ classes) for all live trees ≥ 5.0 dbh inches. Regeneration plot/point must include, at minimum, species, diameter classes, and stem count for all live trees ≥ 1.0 and < 5.0 dbh within sapling stands.

Sample size: The field inventory for the property must meet **one** of the following sampling standards. Sampling must occur in all stands where the inventory is required:

- Fixed area plots: a minimum 3% sample of the stand area (distributed sample so that it's proportional to the stand size or systematically)
- Fixed area regeneration plots: a minimum 1% sample of the stand area (distributed sample so that it's proportional to the stand size or systematically)
- Variable radius plots: an average minimum intensity of 1 sample point (10 BAF) per 3 acres, or 1 sample point (15 BAF) per 2.25 acres, or 1 sample point (20 BAF) per 1.5 acres (distributed sample so that it's proportional to the stand size or systematically)
- A showing that the estimated mean Basal Area per Acre, for *each inventoried stand*, is within an allowable error of less than 30% with a probability (confidence level) of 68%. For statistical purposes, an individual stand of 5 acres or less may be grouped with another stand of similar type and structure
- A showing that the overall estimated mean Basal Area per Acre, *for the entire woodlot*, i.e. an unstratified sample of all inventoried stands, is within an allowable error of less than 15% with a probability (confidence level) of 90%

Contact. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Gerald Barnes, State Forester at 207-990-9580 or email gerald.barnes@me.usda.gov.