

# **ANNOUNCEMENT: BDC22S-08**

**DATE:** January 13, 2023

SUBJECT: Lumber and Timber

- Revision to the 2019 Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction, Subsections 915.04 and 915.05

Subsections 915.04 and 915.05 of the 2019 Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction have been revised in order to address the changes made in the American Wood Protection Association (AWPA) standards.

The following revisions have been incorporated into the 2019 Standard Specifications via the 2019 Standard Inputs, SI2019:

### **915.04 DIMENSION LUMBER, TIMBER, AND DECKING FOR STRUCTURES** THE FIRST PARAGRAPH IS CHANGED TO:

Use dimension lumber, timber, glued-laminated timber, and decking for structures that conform to AASHTO M 168 with the following modifications:

- 1. Manufacture dimension lumber and timber from Southern pine or Douglas fir of structural grade that conforms to the grading rules of the Southern Pine Inspection Bureau or the Western Lumber Inspection Bureau. Ensure that the grading is performed by an agency approved by the Board of Review of the American Lumber Standards Committee. Use Southern pine that is designated and graded as No. 2 if 2 to 4 inches nominal thickness and as No. 1 if 5 inches nominal thickness or thicker. Use Douglas fir that is designated and graded as Dense No. 1.
- 2. For decking subjected to vehicular traffic, use timber that is graded as No. 1 Dense Southern Pine or Douglas-fir lumber and timbers . Dress timber for bridge decking square edged S4S.
- 3. For decking used exclusively by pedestrians, use No. 1 grade Southern Pine or Douglas-fir lumber and timbers that are dressed square edged S4S.
- 4. Treat timber as specified in 915.05, except do not preserve timber railing systems and decking used by pedestrians with creosote. In addition, do not preserve timber decking to be covered with an HMA overlay with creosote.

### **915.05 TIMBER TREATMENT** THE ENTIRE SUBSECTION IS CHANGED TO:

Treat wood species according to AASHTO M 133 and AWPA Standards U1-20 and T1-20, including those as summarized in Table 915.05-1, Table 915.05-2, and Table 915.05-3.

	Table 915.05-1	Freatment for Sawn Timber Posts	
Type of Wood	Location/Environment	AASHTO Treatments	AWPA Standard Reference for Minimum Retention Level
Southern Pine	Soil or Fresh Water	CCA or Pentachlorophenol	UC4A
Douglas Fir	Soil or Fresh Water	ACZA	UC4A
	Table 915.05-2 T	reatment for Round Timber Piles	
Type of Wood	Location/Environment	AASHTO Treatments	AWPA Standard Reference for Minimum Retention Level
Southern Pine	Soil or Fresh Water	CCA	UC4C
Southern Pine	Marine	CCA	UC5B
Douglas Fir	Soil or Fresh Water	ACZA	UC4C
Douglas Fir	Marine	ACZA	UC5B
	Table 915.05-3 Treatment for	Timber Sheet Piling and Timber fo	r Structures
Type of Wood	Location/Environment	AASHTO Treatments	AWPA Standard Reference for Minimum Retention Level
Southern Pine	Soil or Fresh Water	CCA or Pentachlorophenol	UC4B
Southern Pine	Marine	CCA	UC5B
Douglas Fir	Soil or Fresh Water	ACZA	UC4B
Douglas Fir	Marine	ACZA	UC5B

Notify the ME at least 14 days before treating timber. If directed by the ME, perform an assay to determine the retention of preservative according to AASHTO M 133 and referenced AWPA standards. Submit certification of compliance as specified in 106.07. Attach the assay report to the certification.

The use of uncoated pressure-treated timber using the above timber treatments, as specified in Table 915.05-1, Table 915.05-2, and Table 915.05-3, may not be permitted in areas containing shellfish or submerged aquatic vegetation, or in other environmental sensitive areas. Alternative materials, such as plastic, natural cedar or other untreated wood, polymer coated pressure-treated wood, concrete or other inert products, may be required by regulatory agencies. Prior to using treated timber products, contact the NJDOT Bureau of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Solutions or the Division of Environmental Resources, as appropriate.

All lumber and timber, including those specified in Table 915.05-1, Table 915.05-2, and Table 915.05-3, must be pressure treated according to current AWPA or AASHTO M 133 standards. Preservatives are subject to EPA Guidelines 2004 with restricted use of CCA preservatives.

## Implementation Code R (ROUTINE)

Changes must be implemented in all applicable Department projects scheduled for Final Design Submission at least one month after the date of the BDC announcement. This will allow designers to make necessary plan, specifications, and estimate/proposal changes without requiring the need for addenda or postponement of advertisement or receipt of bids.

## **Recommended By:**

**Approved By:** 

Schneider

Paul F. Schneider Director Capital Program Support

PS: NE: HP

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