

The U.P. Collection and Disposal of Drift and Stranded Wood and Timber Rules, 1963

Published vide U.P. Notification No. 944/14-53, dated October 21, 1963
The following rules have been prescribed with regard to the collection and disposal of drift and stranded wood and timber in the State of Uttar Pradesh :

1. No person, unless specially authorised in writing by the Forest Officer to whom the control of the river pertains, may salvage or collect wood or timber of any description, other than unmarked, unfashioned pieces not exceeding six feet in length and two feet in girth within the area above notified.
2. The Forest Officer may grant permission in writing to the owner or owners of all timber bearing marks registered under Section 41, Indian Forest Act (XVI of 1927), which owing to floods or other causes is a drift or stranded to salvage or collect such timber or may collect in himself, or contract with a third party to salvage and collect the same at certain places at rates to be agreed upon between that party and the Forest Officer. Such timber thus collected by the Forest Officer or by a person authorised by him under these rules shall be handed over to the owner or owners on payment by them of such dues as may be fixed from time to time by the Forest Officer.
3. Timber bearing marks which have not been registered under Section 14, Indian Forest Act or on which the marks have been obliterated, altered or defaced by fire or otherwise, and fashioned timber bearing no marks, may be salvaged and collected by the Forest Officer or by a person authorised by him in writing. No such timbers shall be delivered to any claimant who under Section 47, Indian Forest Act, has been recognised to be the owner until under Section 50 of the said Act, he has paid to the Forest Officer a sum not exceeding 25 per cent of its value as adjudged by that officer, together with such other expenses as may have been incurred in salvaging the said timber. Should the recognized owner fail to make these payments within ten days of his receiving intimation from the Forest Officer of the amount due, the property salvaged shall be dealt with (under Section 48 of the Act), as unclaimed timber. All timber salvaged under these Rules which may become vested in the Government under Section 48 of the Act, may be disposed of to the best advantage after two months from the expiry of the period fixed for the disposal of claims under Section 46 of the said Act.
4. All unfashioned wood or timber bearing no marks may be sold at any time by the Forest Officer where it lies stranded when in his opinion it is not sufficiently valuable to be brought to a depot, or the right to collect and dispose of such timber may be leased by him.

5. All wood or timber when sold by the Forest Department under these Rules shall be marked with the departmental sale mark, and when relinquished under Rule 3 with a suitable distinguishing mark, and for the removal of any wood or timber from the area above notified a printed and numbered pass must be obtained from such officials as may be appointed by the D.F.O. on which shall be entered the number of pieces and the kinds of wood and timber and amount realized from the purchaser or claimant, over the signature of the official appointed to this duty.
6. Any person who infringes any of the provisions of these Rules shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to six months, or with a fine which may extend to 500 rupees, or with both.