

## 3150 - MOTOR VEHICLE EQUIPMENT EXERCISE - POLICY AND PROCEDURE

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### POLICY

The purpose of exercising motor vehicle equipment is to provide maximum cost-effective use of South Carolina Forestry Commission mechanized equipment and to assure a complete state of readiness to respond to emergency and routine functions.

### PROCEDURE

3150.1 Equipment operators will start and exercise their assigned trucks and tractors once every other week of the year. All moving parts (winches, plows, blades) will be exercised. County operators will advise dispatch when the exercising starts and stops, and this time will be recorded on the dispatch report.

A. Transport Trucks

1. Older than 2008 Model Year - will be exercised in all gears and driven for at least 50 miles in one continuous trip to ensure all components reach normal operating temperatures.
2. 2008 Model Year and Newer - will be exercised in all gears and driven for at least 100 miles in one continuous trip to ensure all components reach normal operating temperatures.

B. Dozers

1. All dozers will be exercised in all gears and for at least 2 **consecutive** hours to ensure all components reach normal operating temperatures.

C. Equipment Exercise is not necessary if the following conditions are met:

1. Transport truck is driven to a wildfire or service work call and 50/100 mile trip requirement is met. Example – A 2008 Model Transport is driven to a wildfire. The wildfire is 50 miles away from operator's residence, round trip mileage to wildfire and back equals the 100 mile requirement. However, if wildfire is 50 mile roundtrip, an additional trip of 50 miles on another day **does not** meet 100 mile requirement.
2. Dozer is operated on a wildfire or service work call for at least 2 consecutive hours. If dozer is operated 1 hour on a wildfire or service work call, an additional 1 hour of operation on another day **does not** meet 2 consecutive hours requirement.

3150.2. Particular attention should be directed to the polished surface of hydraulic cylinder shafts and other bare or unpainted surfaces. Shafts and other bare surfaces will be coated with a heavy grease to prevent rust.

3150.3. Operator will keep equipment cleaned of all dirt, mud, leaves and other debris.

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3150.4. Operator will check to make sure the chain, ax, torch, shovel, and fire extinguisher are on the unit, clean and in good working order.

3150.5. Once each week the vehicle operator will check all oil levels (hydraulic transmission and engine) to determine proper operating levels.

3150.51. During periods of heavy continuous usage, oil levels will be checked daily.

3150.6. Supervisors will be responsible for compliance of this procedure within the county and report major maintenance requirements to the Regional Maintenance Supervisor immediately.

3150.7. The Equipment Maintenance Manager will be responsible for compliance of this procedure at the regional level.

3150.8. The Central Repair Shop Supervising Mechanic will be responsible for compliance of this procedure at the Central Repair Shop.

3150.9. State Forest Directors, Nurserymen and Seed Orchard Managers will be responsible for compliance of this procedure at their areas of responsibility.