



PACIFIC LUMBER INSPECTION BUREAU

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PLIB publishes revised grading rules

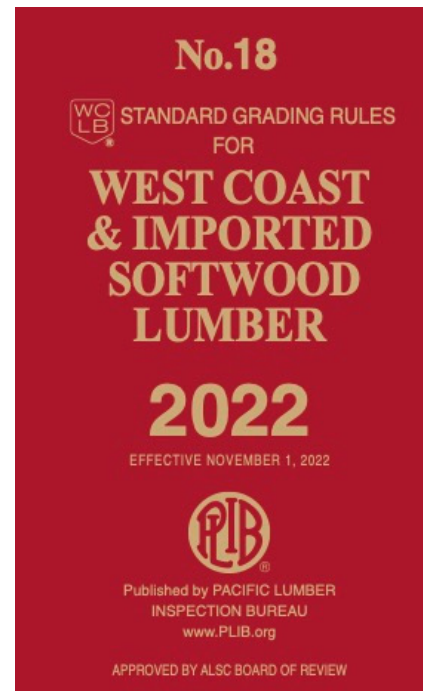
Multiple updates are included in the newly released “WCLB Standard Grading Rules for West Coast & Imported Softwood Lumber, No. 18, 2022”

(Federal Way, WA) – Pacific Lumber Inspection Bureau (PLIB) has published a new grading rules book, *WCLB Standard Grading Rules for West Coast & Imported Softwood Lumber, No. 18, 2022*. The new rule book replaces “Standard 17,” the Bureau’s previous version of the grading rules written and first published by West Coast Lumber Inspection Bureau (WCLIB) in 1991 and revised multiple times since.

When WCLIB and PLIB merged operations in 2019, PLIB was recognized by the American Lumber Standards Committee (ALSC) as a lumber grading rules-writing authority. *No. 18, 2022 edition* is the first major revision to the rule book since the merger, and the first to be published by PLIB. It replaces *Standard 17* as the official WCLB Grading Rules for West Coast & Imported Lumber.

“The new rule book includes all updates to the NGR grade rules as well as revisions to other grades specific to the WCLB rules,” said Jeff Fantozzi, PLIB’s president. “There are also several items included in *WCLB No. 18* that had not been included in previous editions of the *Standard 17* rule book.”

Besides the new title and publisher, among the most significant changes are inclusion of the complete and current National Grade Rule (NGR) interpretations as well as the WCLB rule interpretations. *No. 18* also features updates to MSR grade tables and design value tables, and a new seasoning provision for timbers, intended to make the definition for dry timbers consistent across manufacturers. Fantozzi said the PLIB also updated the species lists, rearranged the order of some sections, and incorporated revisions and corrections from previous editions.



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Coil-bound and perfect bound copies of *No. 18* may be purchased for \$30. Visit plib.org/publications or call 253-835-3344 for ordering information. A downloadable PDF will also be available soon.

About PLIB

The Pacific Lumber Inspection Bureau (PLIB) is a private, non-profit 501(c)6 member-based quality control inspection agency. Organized in 1903, PLIB offers lumber grading and grade stamping services as well as certification for heat-treated (HT) lumber, ISPM 15 wood packaging, glulam, mass timber panel products, wood trusses, CE Marking, and WUI registration services, to over 450 softwood lumber manufacturers and re-manufacturers, drying facilities, glulam, truss, mass timber panel manufacturing facilities, and wood packaging facilities in North America and Europe.

Headquartered in Federal Way, WA, PLIB maintains a Canadian division office in Vancouver, BC, and has field offices located in Washington, Oregon, California, Montana, British Columbia, and throughout Europe. PLIB is accredited by the American Lumber Standard Committee (ALSC), the Canadian Lumber Standard Accreditation Board (CLSAB), and the International Accreditation Service (IAS). The agency provides services throughout the Western and Southern U.S., Canada and Continental Europe.

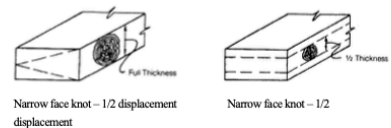
In 2019, PLIB merged operations with West Coast Lumber Inspection Bureau (WCLIB), extending PLIB membership to all former WCLIB members and its American Institute of Timber Construction (AITC) members, while also retaining all WCLIB and AITC trademarks and programs.

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Among the new features of WCLB Standard Grading Rules for West Coast & Imported Softwood Lumber, No. 18, 2022 is a new Interpretations section with graphics depicting knot measurements, such as those shown here.

For hi-res images suitable for print publication, contact info@plib.org.

INTERPRETATIONS OF THE NATIONAL GRADING RULE FOR DIMENSION LUMBER



Narrow face knots (spike knots) shall be measured according to the formulas depicted in Figure 4. The measurement of wide face knots overlapping one or two edges is demonstrated in Figure 5.

