

SPECIFICATION SHEET # 1203, TRESTLEWOOD II CHARACTER LUMBER
September 14th, 2009

1. Species

Douglas Fir

2. Source

Piling of Lucin Cutoff Railroad Trestle--Great Salt Lake (often the butt ends of said piling)

3. Moisture Content

Water saturated (often with significant air drying)

4. Knots

Unlimited; occasional loose or fallen out knots

5. Nail/Bolt Holes

Trestlewood II Character Lumber can have several holes (often about 1" in diameter) where metal has been removed. Such holes are generally surrounded by streaking black stains.

6. Checks/Cracks

Unlimited as long as board is not falling apart; TWII Character Lumber will often have significantly more checking/cracking than standard grade TWII lumber.

7. Grain Pattern

Mixed

8. Standard Dimensions

a) Thickness: 1" and 2"; b) Width: 4", 6", 8" and 10"; and c) Length: 2' increments, up to 12'

9. Available Dimensions

a) Thickness: to 2.5"; b) Width: to 16"; c) Length: to 24' (longer lengths may be possible on a case-by-case basis); d) Target Dimensions: circle-sawn lumber is targeted at full-sawn dimensions for dimensions to 12" and 1/2" nominal dimensions for dimensions greater than 12"; band-sawn lumber is targeted at 3/4" nominal for dimensions listed as 6" and over, 1/2" nominal for dimensions listed as 2" and over (but under 6") and full-sawn for dimensions listed as under 2"; planed (S4S) lumber is targeted at 3/4" nominal for dimensions listed as 6" and over, 1/2" nominal for dimensions listed as 2" and over (but under 6") and 1/4" nominal for dimensions listed as under 2"; e) Tolerances: circle-sawn lumber is cut to the stated dimensions +/- 1/4"; band-sawn lumber is cut to the stated dimensions +/- 1/8"; planed (S4S) lumber is cut to the stated dimensions +/- 1/16"; tolerances can be somewhat greater for lumber wider than 12" and/or longer than 16'.

10. Surfacing

Circle-Sawn (Band-Sawn and S4S also available; if not noted otherwise, Circle-Sawn surfacing is implied)

11. Weight

Typically, approximately 4 pounds per board foot

12. Salt/Minerals

Trestlewood contains significant amounts of salt and other minerals (often 20%+ by weight, although lumber cut out of the butt ends could theoretically have less than this), creating special characteristics and/or considerations like those described in the following items.

13. Color

Colors found in Trestlewood II include yellows, oranges, reds, browns, greens, grays/blacks and purples. The coloring of individual boards varies widely, from normal Douglas Fir coloring to color combinations unique to Trestlewood II. Surfacing and finishes impact final coloring. Color variations are more noticeable in planed and milled products than in circle-sawn or band-sawn products.



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14. Finishes/Glues

Certain finishes and glues do not work well with Trestlewood II. Most importantly, **DO NOT USE WATER-BASED FINISHES**. We tend to favor penetrating oil finishes on non-kiln-dried Trestlewood II lumber and other non-kiln-dried Trestlewood II products because they allow the wood to breathe, thereby facilitating efficient air drying.

15. Fire Retardance

Schuller International performed an ASTM E-84 Flame Spread test on a Trestlewood II piling sample in January, 1995. The resulting index value was 16, well below the maximum index value of 25 for a Class I fire retardant. Normal Douglas Fir has a flame spread index of 70 to 100. Only a few wood species have flame spread index values less than 75. Fire retardant treatments are generally necessary to meet Class I (and often to meet Class II.) Trestlewood has not done any tests to determine whether the fire retardant qualities (if any) of material cut from the butt-ends of the piling differ from the fire-retardant qualities of material cut from below-water piling materials.

16. Metal Corrosiveness

Trestlewood II can have a corrosive effect on metal fasteners, machinery and saw blades. High grade stainless steel fasteners should be used in lieu of regular steel fasteners, especially in applications involving the likely mixing of Trestlewood II, moisture and oxygen.

17. Moisture

Trestlewood II Character Lumber is not a kiln-dried product (unless specifically ordered as such) and should not be used in applications requiring kiln-dried wood. Air drying Trestlewood II lumber can reduce its moisture content over time, but this tends to be a slow process given that Trestlewood II gives up moisture more grudgingly (and absorbs moisture more readily) than typical Douglas Fir. The salt in Trestlewood II makes moisture meter readings unreliable. Trestlewood II products should only be used in humid environments after you have carefully considered Trestlewood II characteristics and the implications of those characteristics for your application.

18. Odor

Wet Trestlewood II boards often have a Great Salt Lake and/or "musty" smell to them. This odor is especially strong as wet boards are being cut or otherwise processed. It tends to become less and less of an issue as boards are allowed to air dry and are kept dry. Our experience suggests that a Trestlewood II odor is most likely to be noticeable in situations involving moisture or high humidity; limited ventilation / air circulation; and/or uncoated/unsealed Trestlewood II products. We believe the most important step in minimizing Trestlewood II odor issues is to control moisture by facilitating the efficient air drying of non-kiln-dried Trestlewood II products and minimizing any reintroduction of moisture.

19. Salt Leaching

As moisture is drawn out of Trestlewood II boards, it brings salt with it. Salt leaching tends to be the most concentrated at knots and board ends, but can happen anywhere. Drying Trestlewood II boards (and keeping them dry) minimizes, but does not eliminate, salt leaching. Approaches to salt leaching include sanding and refinishing impacted areas to doing nothing (and letting the salt serve as one of the most visible evidences of the history and reclaimed nature of Trestlewood II timbers.) Salt is more visible on planed and milled products than on circle-sawn or band-sawn products.

20. Additional Information

See the current Trestlewood II Features/Issues summary for additional information about Trestlewood II characteristics and their practical implications. This summary is for informational purposes only and is not a part of the Trestlewood II Circle-Sawn Boards specification sheet.