

# Chapter 18: Decay Classes

## Contents

<b>18.0 Decay Classes</b> .....	2
18.1 Standing deadwood .....	2
18.2 Lying deadwood .....	2
18.3 Stumps .....	2

## 18.0 Decay Classes

Using the decay classes (below) from Malcolm Hunter's *Wildlife, Forests, And Forestry* (1990), Prentice Hall, New Jersey, surveyors are required to enter Decay classes for lying deadwood in transects and for standing deadwood within plots.

### 18.1 Standing deadwood

During the assessments of Mensuration Plots (Circular or Whole Section) all dead stems  $\geq 4\text{cm}$  DBH are recorded. Using the diagram overleaf select which Decay class (top row of diagrams) the standing stem relates to (3 - 7).

### 18.2 Lying deadwood

During the Lying Deadwood assessments all dead stems  $\geq 7\text{cm}$  diameter where they cross the transect line are recorded. Using the diagram overleaf select which Decay class (Log Decomposition, 2<sup>nd</sup> row of diagrams) the lying deadwood relates to (1 - 5).

### 18.3 Stumps

When assessing the stump nearest the plot centre/point assess the decay class from the top diagram below using classes 8-9.

# NFI Survey Manual Chapter 20: Decay Classes

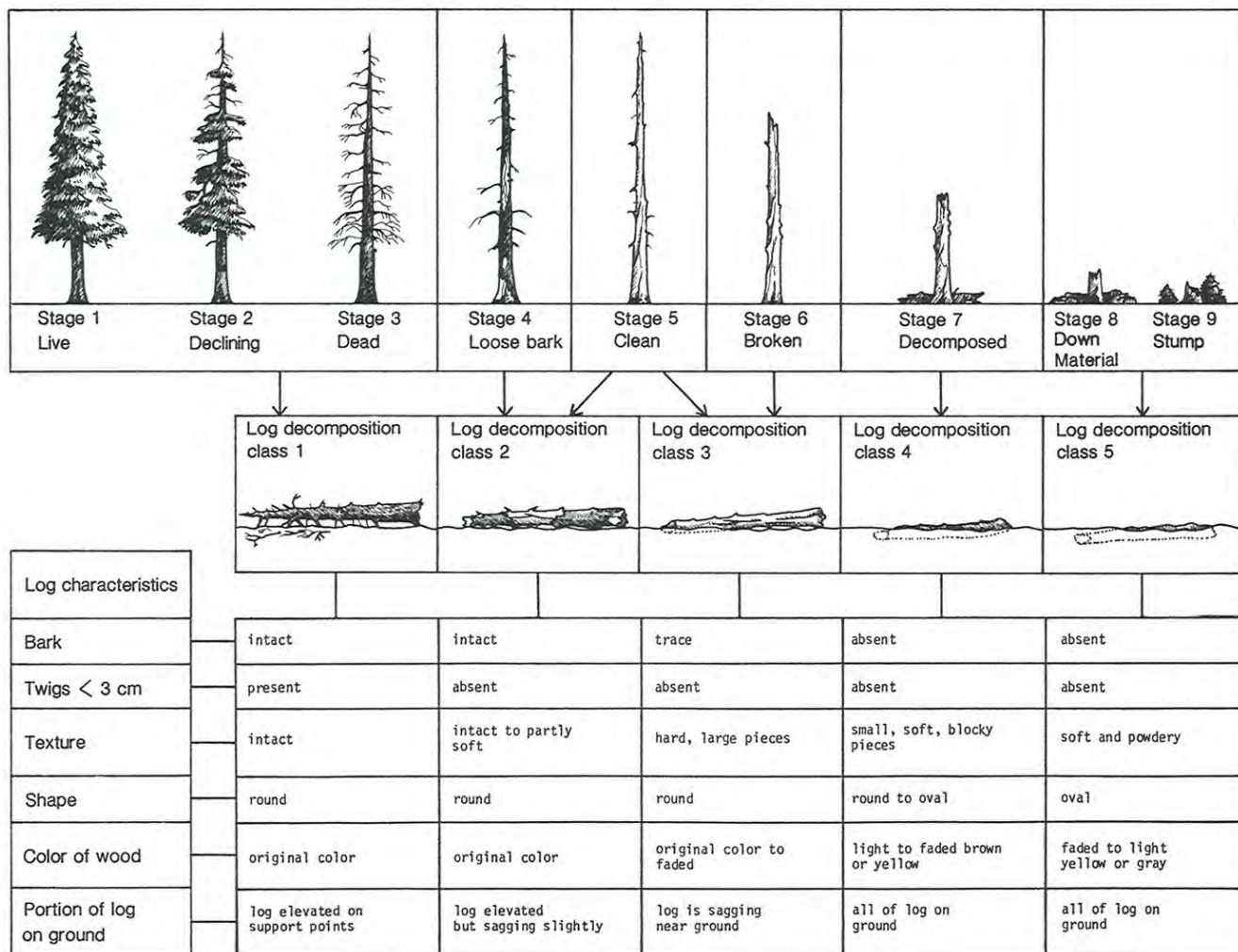


Figure 18 - 1: Decay classes in Standing and Lying deadwood (from Hunter (1990)).