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**BY EMAIL**

To: Interior Regional Executive Directors  
Interior District Managers  
Interior Timber Sales Managers  
Forestry Fibre Working Group

From: Jason Fisher, Associate Deputy Minister, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

**Re: New Initiatives to Support the Harvest of Residual Fibre in Conjunction with Traditional Primary Harvesting (integrated harvesting)**

The purpose of this memo is to advise you of two new initiatives that support the provincial objective of increasing the use of residual fibre through encouraging integrated harvesting methods and ensuring all appropriate crown revenue control requirements are being met. The Forestry Fibre Action Plan was prepared in response to Minister Thomson's mandate to "examine ways to enhance the security of fibre supply for secondary and non-lumber users of lower quality and residual fibre."

**The two initiatives are:**

- 1) Pre-Harvest Waste Assessment (PHWA) process; and
- 2) Biomass Handling Guidelines.

**Pre-Harvest Waste Assessment**

In support of enhancing fibre supply for Secondary Manufacturing Facilities, Timber Pricing Branch (TPB) has developed a PHWA process which will allow timber to be transported for the purpose of manufacturing it into Special Forest Products (SFP) at the same time that primary harvesting operations are being conducted.

Following significant review of pilot projects in the southern interior, amendments have been made to the *Interior Appraisal Manual* and the *Provincial Logging Residue and Waste Measurement Procedures Manual* that provide for waste assessments being completed prior to harvesting a block.

I expect that all district managers will remain as signing authority for the PHWA SFP authorization (as attached) under s.94.1 of the *Forest Act* and carry out their role as outlined in the SFP authorization. Licensees must follow the authorization conditions as listed. TPB will be implementing communication and training plans on this initiative in the near future.

The PHWA has three main components: 1) Approval of a waste assessment, 2) Approval of a SFP Authorization, and 3) Monitoring by Districts to ensure no SFP enters a sawmill.

### Biomass Handling Guidelines

Both the PHWA and Biomass initiatives add to what has already been implemented under the Forestry Fibre Action Plan (fibre recovery process; waste benchmark policy etc.) to promote business to business relationships where there is supply and demand for residual forest fibre. Additional details for both of these initiatives as well as the broader Forestry Fibre Action Plan can be found on the following website:

<https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hth/timber-tenures/forest-fibre-action-plan.htm>

The purpose of the Biomass operational guidelines is to provide advice on how to handle forestry biomass (where it has been determined that some or all of the biomass will be harvested) in a manner that promotes its harvest in the most efficient and cost-effective manner. The guidelines represent the best practices available to date and are available to be used voluntarily by primary harvesters and secondary users.

Finally, I wish to thank the Natural Resource District Managers and Timber Sales Managers for implementing the Forest Fibre Action Plan and their continued dialogue at the operational level with forest sector representatives on improving fibre utilization.

If you have any questions, please contact Shawna Young, Timber Pricing Branch (PHWA) at (250) 356-7671, or Patrick Russell, Forest Tenures Branch (Biomass Handling Guidelines) at (250) 387-8395.



Jason Fisher  
Associate Deputy Minister  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

Attachment: PHWA SFP Authorization template

pc: Paul Knowles, A/Assistant Deputy Minister, Timber Operations, Pricing and First Nations Division  
Kevin Kriese, ADM, North Area  
Rick Manwaring, ADM South Area  
Jennifer Burleigh, A/Executive Director, Timber Operations, Pricing and First Nations Division  
Steve Kozuki, Director, Timber Pricing Branch  
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