

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

ORDER OF THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND LANDS

ESTABLISHING LAND USE OBJECTIVES UNDER SECTION 93.4 OF THE LAND ACT

FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE FOREST AND RANGE PRACTICES ACT.

I, Tom Kearns, Regional Executive Director, Integrated Land Management Bureau, Ministry of Agriculture and Lands, hereby make this order.

Preamble

This order establishes land use objectives for agricultural development areas and settlement reserve areas within 4 forest districts.

These land use objectives were developed using the social direction of the Land and Resource Management Plans (LRMP) and Crown land plans presently existing within each area. These plans are designed to provide an appropriate balance of social, economic and environmental benefits, while considering the expected impacts of the current forest health situation and any adverse impact on opportunities for timber harvesting or forage use within or adjacent to the area that will be affected.

These objectives may be periodically amended to incorporate new knowledge and address changing social, economic and environmental conditions.

I. Pursuant to section 93.4 of the *Land Act* (the Act), land use objectives are established for all agriculture development areas (ADA's) and settlement reserve areas (SRA's), also referred to as ADA's and SRA's on the map(s) as identified on the following maps attached as Schedule A:

1. Map #1 - Fort St. James Forest District
2. Map #2 - Vanderhoof Forest District
3. Map #3 - Prince George Forest District
4. Map #4 - Mackenzie Forest District

Land Use Objectives:

In recognition of the economic potential of agriculture development areas and settlement reserve areas, timber is to be managed subject to the following conditions and practices:

Part A. Harvesting For Environmental and Safety Reasons

Harvesting is permitted for environmental and safety reasons (such as interface fire preparedness) as proposed by local and/or provincial government, with interagency agreement by Ministry of Forests and Range and Ministry of Agriculture and Lands, and as directed by an operational work plan.

Part B. Forest Practices Around Forest Health

Harvesting is permitted for activities under the Bark Beetle Regulation, or other relevant forest health legislation, subject to conditions specified in Part C. There must be a clear indication that forest health sanitation harvesting will significantly assist in preventing the spread of a forest health problem (e.g., mountain pine beetle) to adjacent stands.

Part C. Conditions Applicable to Part B. Forest Practices Around Forest Health

Each of the following conditions apply to forest practices permitted under Part B:

1. Removal of dead or infested timber only, but allowing for removal of incidental live or non-infested trees when necessary, to meet operational requirements for any of the following: access to and from a cut block (e.g., road, hauling), skidding, and to meet legislated safety requirements,
2. Harvested stumps must have a MINIMUM 15 cm (6 inch) stump height to facilitate future stump removal for agricultural purposes. Stump height can be less than 15 cm. to meet operational requirements for any of the following: access to and from the cut block (e.g. road, hauling), skidding, landings, and to meet legislated safety requirements,
3. Logging waste and residue must not be distributed across the cut block, but is to be piled and then appropriately disposed of through either burning or removal,
4. Permanent access development, including gravelling, is to be minimized, and as much as possible located along lot lines and natural boundaries,
5. No activities related to site preparation and artificial regeneration,
6. All harvesting proposals to be referred to the Ministry of Agriculture and Lands.

Part D. Area Based Forest Tenures

1. No area based forest tenures will be established within these agricultural development areas and settlement reserve areas.

Part E: Deviations from Parts A, B, C and D

Deviations may include the following:

1. Limited and conditional salvage and/ or harvest opportunities as determined by Ministry of Agriculture and Lands, and administered by Ministry of Forests and Range,
2. Adjustments may be required for activities resulting from practices pursuant to Ministry of Agriculture and Lands Crown Land Adjudication programs and policies.

II. This order applies only to Crown land and does not affect any of the following that are in effect at the beginning of the day the order takes effect:

1. a cutting permit
2. a road permit
3. a timber sale licence that does not provide for cutting permits
4. an area described in section 7 (1) (b) or 196 (1) of the *Forest and Range Practices Act*
5. a schedule, as it applies for the calendar year in which the order is made, which schedule is
 - a. in a range use plan for grazing of livestock and is referred to in section 33 (1) (b) of the *Forest and Range Practices Act*
 - b. in a range use plan for hay cutting and is referred to in section 34 (1) (b) of the *Forest and Range Practices Act*,
 - c. required under section 43 of the *Forest and Range Practices Act*, in relation to a range stewardship plan.

III. Despite Section 16 (2) of the *Forest and Range Practices Act*, this order takes effect on the date on which it is published in the Gazette.

IV. For the purposes of Section 8 of the *Forest and Range Practices Act*, the applicable period is 6 months.

V. This order is filed at the regional offices of the forest regions to which this order relates as noted below:

Northern Interior Forest Region
1011 Fourth Avenue, 5TH Floor
Prince George, British Columbia V2L 3H9
Telephone: (250) 565-6100

Appendix A

1. Map #1 - Fort St. James Forest District
2. Map #2 - Vanderhoof Forest District
3. Map #3 - Prince George Forest District
4. Map #4 - Mackenzie Forest District



Regional Executive Director

Integrated Land Management Bureau
Ministry of Agriculture and Lands

Nov. 21 / 2006

Date