

OKANAGAN SHUSWAP NATURAL RESOURCE DISTRICT Small Scale Salvage (SSS) Manual

Updated: February 19, 2020

District SSS Website:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/forest-tenures/timber-harvesting-rights/licence-to-cut/small-scale-salvage>

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0	DM DIRECTION 2020	5
2.0	STRATEGIC PLAN	10
2.1	DESCRIPTION AND SCOPE OF THE SSS INITIATIVE	10
2.2	GENERAL FOREST CONDITIONS	11
2.3	SSS STRATEGIC GOAL AND OBJECTIVES	11
2.4	SSS PRIORITIES	13
2.5	SSS USE OF FLTCs, INTERMEDIATE SALVAGE FLTCs AND SNRFLs	14
2.6	ACCESS	15
2.7	IMPLEMENTATION	16
2.8	FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS	17
2.9	CONTACT	17
3.0	PURPOSE OF THE SALVAGE MANUAL	18
4.0	RESPONSIBILITIES FOR TIMBER SALVAGE	18
5.0	SALVAGE HARVESTING PRINCIPLES	18
6.0	TYPES OF LICENCES AVAILABLE UNDER SSS	19
7.0	RATIONALE FOR DIRECT AWARD OF FLTCs	20
8.0	PROFESSIONAL SALVAGE APPLICATION	21
8.1	APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY	21
8.2	PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS	22
8.3	PROCESS OVERVIEW	22
8.4	PROCESSING TIME	22
8.5	NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS	22
9.0	SSS PRE-APPLICATION PROCESS	23
9.1	STEPS	23
9.2	CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES AND ARCHAEOLOGY	24
10.0	DOS PROFESSIONAL SALVAGE APPLICATION PROCESS (PSA)	24
10.1	PROFESSIONAL EXPECTATIONS	24
10.2	PSA PROCESS	24
10.3	FIELD PROCEDURES	28
10.4	SMALL SCALE SALVAGE MOUNTAIN PINE BEETLE PROBE METHODOLOGY –	29
10.5	MAPPING REQUIREMENTS	30
10.5.1	MAPPING ACCURACY	30
10.5.2	ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION FRAMEWORK	30
10.5.3	SALVAGE PLAN MAPPING	31
11.0	LICENCE ISSUANCE	32
11.1	FLTC SCHEDULE A	32
11.2	DEPOSIT	32
11.3	ROAD MAINTENANCE AGREEMENTS	33
11.4	ROAD USE	33
11.5	NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT	33
11.6	COMMUNICATION WITH SSS STAFF	34
11.7	TIMBER MARKING	34
11.8	STUMPAGE PAYMENTS	34
12.0	SSS SILVICULTURE LEVY	35

12.1	SILVICULTURE LEVY	35
12.2	UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES LEVY.....	35
12.3	INTERMEDIATE SALVAGE LEVY	35
13.0	POST HARVEST ASSESSMENT	36
14.0	SSS SURVEY STANDARDS.....	37
14.1	RESULTS ENTRY	37
15.0	VOLUME/ AREA AMENDMENTS.....	38
16.0	TERM EXTENSIONS.....	39
17.0	EXCESS HARVEST PENALTY BILLING	39
18.0	OTHER DISTRICT SSS POLICIES.....	41
18.1	RIPARIAN / LAKESHORE MANAGEMENT ZONE POLICY	41
18.2	ROAD USE	41
18.3	TRAILS.....	42
18.3.1	BLADED TRAILS	43
18.3.2	NON BLADED TRAILS.....	43
18.4	LARGE SCALE EQUIPMENT IN SSS.....	43
18.5	DEAD AND DOWN CEDAR:	44
18.6	SSS IN OGMAS	44
18.7	RETENTION PLANS.....	45
18.8	DISEASED TIMBER: GENERAL STRATEGY	45
18.9	FIRE KILLED TIMBER SALVAGE.....	45
18.10	HARVEST OUTSIDE BLOCK BOUNDARY	45
18.11	REDUCING TREE WOUNDING	45
19.0	SSS FOREST HEALTH STRATEGY	46
19.1	FDI APPLICATIONS AND BEETLE FLIGHT	46
19.2	FOREST HEALTH MAPS	46
20.0	RANGE	46
20.1	RANGE BARRIERS.....	46
20.2	RANGE CONCERNS	47
20.3	INVASIVE PLANTS.....	48
21.0	PERMANENT SAMPLE PLOTS	48
21.1	FIELD DETECTION	49
21.2	PSP SPATIAL INFORMATION	49
22.0	FOREST FIRE PREVENTION AND SUPPRESSION	49
22.1	HOLDERS OF OPEN BURNING REGISTRATION NUMBERS.....	49
23.0	WORKSAFE BC	50
24.0	FIREWOOD CASH SALES	50
24.1	DEFINITION	50
24.2	CUT TO LENGTH FIREWOOD SALES.....	50
24.3	LOG LENGTH FIREWOOD CASH SALES.....	51
24.4	GREATER THAN 50 M3 FLTCs.....	51
24.5	LOGGING DEBRIS APPLICATIONS.....	52
25.0	SSS WASTE AND RESIDUE POLICY	52
25.1	INTRODUCTION	52

25.2	DEFINITIONS	52
25.3	PURPOSE	53
25.4	SCOPE	53
25.5	TAKE OR PAY	53
25.6	PENALTY BILLING	54
25.7	WASTE BENCHMARKS	54
25.8	FACTORS AFFECTING WASTE AND RESIDUE IN SSS	54
25.8.1	RISK	54
25.8.2	HARVEST METHODS	54
25.8.3	MOUNTAIN PINE BEETLE EPIDEMIC	54
25.9	REQUIREMENTS UNDER LEGISLATION	54
25.10	REQUIREMENTS UNDER SSS POLICY	55
25.11	TRAINING & CERTIFICATION	55
25.12	ADMINISTRATION	55
26.0	INTERMEDIATE SALVAGE INITIATIVE	56
26.1	ELIGIBLE TIMBER	56
26.2	INVITATION TO TENDER	56
26.3	EVALUATION AND AWARD	58
26.4	TIMBER PRICING – INTERMEDIATE SALVAGE	58
26.5	SECURITY DEPOSIT	59
26.6	PROCESSING OF TENDERS	59
26.7	OCCUPATION AND HARVESTING RIGHTS	60
27.0	SSS COMMUNICATION	61
28.0	CONTACT INFORMATION	62
	APPENDIX 1 - SSS STOCKING STANDARDS DEFINITIONS	63
	APPENDIX 2 – DISEASED TIMBER: ALTERNATIVE STRATEGY	64
1.1	ARMILLARIA ROOT DISEASE	64
1.2	PELLINUS ROOT DISEASE	65
1.3	TOMENTOSUS ROOT DISEASE	65
1.4	ALTERNATIVE STRATEGY	66
	APPENDIX 3 - REDUCING TREE WOUNDING	67
1.1	BEFORE HARVEST	67
1.2	DURING HARVEST	68
1.3	MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE REGIMES	68
1.4	DAMAGE CRITERIA BY MANAGEMENT REGIME	69
	APPENDIX 4 - ESF SUBMISSIONS	72
	APPENDIX 5 – FIRST NATIONS INFORMATION SHARING PROCESS FOR SSS	73
	APPENDIX 6 - STAKEHOLDER REFERRAL DETAIL	75
1.1	TRAPLINE IDENTIFICATION	75
1.2	GUIDE OUTFITTER IDENTIFICATION	75
	APPENDIX 7 – PROVINCIAL STANDARDS FOR APPLICATION FOR A FLTC	76
	APPENDIX 8 – HARVESTING SCENARIOS - RESULTS	78
	APPENDIX 9 – PSA DOCUMENTS (ON SSS WEBSITE)	80

1.0 DM DIRECTION 2020

(A PULL OUT / STAND ALONE SECTION)

File: FOR-19720-20/All Licensees

March 10, 2020

Re: SMALL SCALE SALVAGE DM DIRECTION - 2020

Dear DOS Small Scale Salvage Licensee:

Please note that a recent review of Okanagan Shuswap Natural Resource District (DOS) Small Scale Salvage (SSS) operations identified silviculture levies collected are not sufficient to cover the cost of District post-harvest silviculture activities.

Under Section 5.3 of the Interior Appraisal Manual, the silviculture levy is determined by the District Manager.

To address the issues of underfunded silviculture liabilities for the Crown and align us with other districts, the following action will be implemented effective April 29, 2020:

- 1) Increase of the base levy from \$5.25/m³ to \$6.30/m³ to grades 1, 2, and 4 harvested under a FLTC for all harvest systems.

The Highlights of the SSS Manual for 2020 document is attached to serve as a quick reference for DOS policies and procedures, roles and responsibilities and District Manager expectations.

For more information, please contact Megan Sheshurak, Jill Werk or Karri Lee at 250-558-1700.

Yours truly,

Ray Crampton
District Manager
Okanagan Shuswap Natural Resource District

Attachments(s): Highlights of the SSS Manual for 2020

Highlights of the SSS Manual for 2020

The following are the key messages to clients regarding the SSS Manual for 2020:

Initiative Intent:

The intent of SSS is to salvage isolated patches of timber that are imperilled and in danger of losing economic value and to collect sufficient revenue to fund reforestation activities. Sound forest management principles must apply and the salvaged timber must be in balanced consideration of economic, environmental and social perspectives.

Clients must:

- a) Ensure safety and safe work practices are prioritized over everything else.
- b) Work in co-operation with Work Safe BC
- c) Review regulations and policy from a safety perspective

Financial:

- Stumpage will be determined as per the Interior Appraisal Manual.
- The Forestry Licence to Cut (FLTC) will be subject to the stumpage rate in effect at the time of issuance.
- The silviculture levy ('the levy') is set by the District Manager.
- The FLTC will be subject to the levy in effect at the time of issuance.
- The full levy will be applied to any harvested area, whether or not a stocked stand remains post-harvest.
- **The 2020 levy is \$6.30/m³. It applies to all species and to timber grades 1, 2 and 4. The levy applies to all openings regardless of size and silviculture system.**
- The 2016 levy was \$5.25/m³. It applied to all species and to timber grades 1, 2 and 4. The levy applied to all openings regardless of size and silviculture system.
- Prior to 2016, the levy was \$6.25/m³ and applied only to grades 1 & 2 and only to 0.5 ha or larger openings, which resulted in significant Not Satisfactorily Restocked (NSR) area and an unfunded liability.
- The levy will be updated from time to time.

Applicable Sites / General Direction:

- Target stands must include significant forest health factors, blowdown, fire damaged, or otherwise imperilled timber. The stand must be at least 50% impacted and either dead or dying or in imminent danger of being destroyed. (Typically, endemic levels of impact do not pose imminent danger of loss.)
- Total volume of any license must not exceed 2000 m³ total volume of Grades 1 and 2 as described in the FLTC (normally measured using scale stratum (weight to volume conversions)).

Applicable Sites / General Direction: Cont'd

- Stands must be isolated patches of salvage timber and not contain arbitrary boundaries (as when the forest health issue includes a volume greater than 2000m³). Adjoining patches will not be considered.
- Activities must not include areas that would normally be addressed through large-scale salvage operations whether competitively awarded NRFLs or by replaceable tenure holders.
- Partial harvesting (single tree selection) may be an option for the SSS Initiative for some forest health factors such as Douglas-fir beetle. Partial harvesting will only be permitted if the residual stand is to remain healthy (i.e. low incidence of root disease), wind firm and with sufficient ecologically suitable species for the foreseeable future. Non-target species and access wood will be limited to 10% for partial harvesting.
- No roads or bladed trails will be constructed.
- For blow down opportunities, more than 50% of the stand must be blown down. If the blow down is within a spruce or Douglas-fir stand, a lower percentage may be considered if there is a strong beetle presence or likelihood.
- Combinations of forest health factors will be mapped and stratified in order to be considered. Endemic fringe, post-harvest blowdown will not contribute to a salvage opportunity (i.e. 50%). Deeper, stratifiable blow down within a block may be considered as contributing to an opportunity.
- Excessive non-target timber (>10%) will not be considered in proposals. Strong consideration must be given to the state of the watershed and landscape level influences. Salvaging must do more good than harm to watershed recovery in order to be considered in these sites.
- Candidate stands must not include management or reserve zones of sensitive riparian areas (S4, S3, S2, S1, W1-5). Fringe remnants of adjacent salvage harvested stands will not be considered as salvage opportunities and will be retained for other values.
- **Sites within Community Watersheds** - These sites require a heightened level of due diligence and environmental consideration. For mountain pine beetle (MPB) salvage opportunities, the standing component must be comprised of at least 50% red, grey and/or successful green attack. (see MPB probe methodology for definition). Downed timber does not contribute to the 50% since it is not a determining factor of stand longevity. This threshold increases to 80% in lakeshore management zones. Class A Lakes are off limits to SSS with the exceptions identified by the district manager, as per the Lake Classification and Lakeshore Management Guidebook: Kamloops Forest Region.
<https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/HFP/external/!publish/FPC%20archive/old%20web%20site%20contents/fpc/fpcguide/kamlake/kam1.htm>
- Candidate stands adjacent to non-target stands that are likely to blow down post salvage (e.g. spruce in riparian adjacent to pine) will not be considered.
- Candidate stands must be free of secondary structure as per regulation.

Expectations of Prescribing Foresters:

- Knowledge of and adherence to: FRPA, the Okanagan Shuswap LRMP, DOS Lakeshore Management Zone policy, natural range barrier breach mitigation best practices, OGMA policy, best practices within community watersheds, hydrologic function and impacts, forest health factors and applicable survey methodology.
- Salvage Plans must be complete, accurate and approvable. All referrals must be completed, and the site determined to be unencumbered (e.g. not private land, park, recreation site, etc.).

Professional Salvage Application – Submission Process

- Client determines a site meets the criteria above and submits a pre-application. (Note: pre-application will only determine if an area is unencumbered)
- If the site is unencumbered, the client will use the services of a prescribing forester to:
 - a. initiate referrals (tenure holders, stakeholders, etc.),
 - b. complete the information sharing process with First Nations: discuss, address concerns raised and complete the information sharing report
 - c. complete layout and develop the salvage plan
 - d. negotiate road use agreements.
 - e. submit the professional application
- Professional Salvage Applications will be submitted electronically to the District office with 1 hard copy of the signed and sealed salvage plans, maps, most recent stumpage rate request form, referral documentation and RPF certification. Spatial data will be submitted via ESF.
- Allow for at least 30 days for review and processing.
- The proponent is required to discuss, address and document any concerns raised by First Nations through information sharing prior to final submission.

Once Issued:

- The licensee will be required to provide a deposit.
- A Wildlife Tree Retention Area (WTRA) and road permit exemption will be provided by FLNR if required.
- The proponent must submit the planned harvest area into the RESULTS (Reporting Silviculture Updates and Land status Tracking System) database to create a RESULTS opening file. All RESULTS data entry must be in accordance with the most current RESULTS Information Submission Specifications (RISS)- Licensee Submissions.
- As per the Workers Compensation Act, operators are required to provide the WCB with a notice of project commencement for forestry activities. A start up notice must also be sent to.

- Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development:
2501 – 14 Avenue Vernon, British Columbia, V1T 8Z1
Resource Contract Administrator
Fax: (250) 549-5485
- or email: DOSRESOU@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca

Once Harvesting is Complete

- Licensees will have a qualified forest professional complete required surveys and fill out the SSS Post-Harvest Assessment Form to ensure all license obligations are complete.
- Licences will only be issued on the understanding that all required RESULTS work is completed by the proponent as follows:
 - The proponent must update the actual harvest area and completion date.
 - An accurate forest cover label (which includes inventory and silviculture labels) must be submitted with the RESULTS spatial update for any harvested area (regardless if harvesting has created an NSR stand).
 - Every opening, regardless of the polygon size and regardless if stocked, must be entered into the RESULTS database by the licensee.
 - For openings with un-mappable retention there is a need to track and prescribe more accurate areas for treatments and planning. There is a capability within RESULTS to determine a total area for a SU, and then deduct a % of reserve from the NAR in order to net the NAR down to a more refined estimate of the actual NAR of the SU. This SU maybe an aggregate of many small openings as per the nature of small scale salvage. The estimate of the deduction must be assessed by a field estimate
- Once all license obligations are complete, the deposit will be refunded.

Cash Sales

- Cash sale FLTC applications for up to 50m³ will be considered typically for commercial firewood use from dead and/or downed trees. Firewood must not exceed 56cm in length.
- Cash sale operations must:
 - Not construct roads or trails.
 - Not use motorized falling or yarding equipment.
 - Return existing roads to pre-harvest standard immediately following use.
 - Only use hand tools in the bush.
 - Include a scaling exemption
 - Follow all Worksafe BC procedures.

2.0 STRATEGIC PLAN

(A PULL OUT / STAND ALONE SECTION)

This document provides an overview of the Okanagan Shuswap Natural Resource District (DOS) Small Scale Salvage Initiative (SSS) and sets out goals and strategies for the SSS Initiative for 2020.

The SSS strategic plan will be reviewed and updated annually to incorporate objectives set out in the MFLNRO service plan. It will also be updated periodically to improve the practicality and effectiveness of SSS guidance and to incorporate changes in ministry policies governing the SSS.

Topics addressed in this strategic plan include: SSS goals and priorities; objectives for forestry licenses to cut (FLTCs) and salvage non-replaceable forest licenses (SNRFLs); application and scope of the SSS Initiative; and, information and requirements related to forest conditions, safety, access, range, forest health, First Nations, communications, and implementation.

SSS contacts are identified at the end of this document for any inquiries related to the strategic plan or the SSS Initiative in general.

The SSS strategic plan is consistent with the following guidance documents:

- The Assistant Deputy Minister's direction for the SSS Initiative,
- The BC Mountain Pine Beetle Action Plan (2005 – 2010), and
- The Okanagan Shuswap Natural Resource District MPB Management Strategy.

2.1 Description and Scope of the SSS initiative

Small scale salvage is used in the DOS as a tool to recover small and isolated patches of eligible timber that would not otherwise be harvested and cannot be more appropriately addressed by other forms of tenure.

Examples of eligible timber may include: forest health affected stands (insect or disease), fire-killed and other stand mortality, waste piles, and blowdown, with a minimal amount of incidental green timber allowed to be harvested for access and safety.

Direct-award FLTCs are issued through a client-driven process. SSS applicants identify small salvage areas that they are interested in and submit an application. Larger areas of salvage may be addressed through competitively awarded Intermediate Salvage Licences (ISL) or Salvage

Non-Replaceable Forest Licences (SNRFLs). More detail on the different licence types is found in a Section below.

Small scale salvage applications will only be accepted for unencumbered Crown land. Proposals will not be accepted for areas within Tree Farm Licences, Woodlots, Community Forest Agreement area, Timber Licences, Agricultural leases, protected areas, extension of holdings, deeded land with Crown timber reserves or Crown land with timber reserved to a second party.

2.2 General Forest Conditions

An important objective of the DOS SSS initiative is to address forest health problems in the district, including MPB infestations, Douglas-fir beetle, spruce beetle, fire events and minor blowdown, as well as the utilization of waste pile debris and other stand mortality.

The results of forest health overview aerial surveys and detailed flights have shown that the mountain pine beetle infestation in DOS is declining primarily, due to the loss of susceptible host trees. Douglas-fir bark beetle and spruce beetle have increased somewhat, with expansions most significant in the area south of Falkland. Infestations by defoliators such as spruce budworm, Douglas-fir Tussock Moth and the hemlock looper are decreasing. The district forest health strategy is found here:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/managing-our-forest-resources/forest-health/forest-health-strategies/regional-forest-health-strategies>

2.3 SSS Strategic Goal And Objectives Goal:

To support sound forest management through salvage of small areas of dead or damaged timber, while promoting a safe and viable Small Scale Salvage industry.

Objectives:

1. SSS clients operate in a safe environment:

- a) Ensure safety and safe work practices are prioritized over everything else.
- b) Work in co-operation with Work Safe BC
- c) Review regulations and policy from a safety perspective
- d) Ensure business objectives are viewed through a safety lens

2. Activities and operations under the SSS initiative are consistent with sound forest stewardship:

- a) Focus SSS activities away from areas that would normally be addressed through large scale salvage operations.
- b) Avoid small patch fragmentation across the landscape,
- c) Minimize any silviculture liabilities to FLNRORD and eliminate unfunded liabilities.
- d) Direct applications away from standing dead timber with marginal value where valuable timber must be felled to access the target timber.
- e) Through RPF site-specific planning, salvage operations will be conducted in accordance with the Forest and Range Practices Act, and associated Regulations to ensure proper forest management protects key resource values including soils, visual quality, timber, forage, water, fish, wildlife, biodiversity, recreation, cultural heritage, designated resource features, natural range barriers, and invasive plants.
- f) Planned salvage operations will also be consistent with the objectives identified in the Okanagan Shuswap Land and Resource Management Plan:
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/crown-land-water/land-use-planning/regions/thompson-okanagan/okanaganshuswap-lrmp>
- g) Salvage operations will be environmentally sustainable and will reflect the important contribution which standing dead and down timber make to biological diversity, stream stability and soil building processes.

3. The SSS Initiative achieves maximum recovery of timber that would otherwise be un-salvaged losses.

- a) Maintain a viable niche for “Small Scale” harvesting operators in the Okanagan Shuswap Natural Resource District.
- b) Support other district objectives including delivery of the district Forest Health Strategy.

4. The size of the SSS Initiative is commensurate with resources available in the district to manage the Initiative effectively.

- a) Concentrate on Professional Salvage Applications with low to moderate complexity
- b) Concentrate on higher priority applications as identified in the strategic plan.

5. The SSS Initiative’s application and approval process is efficient, effective and transparent:

- a) Utilize professional applications and professional post-harvest assessments to support administrative and operational delivery of the Initiative.

- b) Maintain adequate communication and consultation with all affected stakeholders, tenure or agreement holders, and engagement with First Nations, with respect to SSS activities.
- c) Develop targets for processing applications with DMT.

6. The SSS generates revenue and benefits for the Crown and tenure holders:

- a) Work with BCTS, major licensees, Stewardship, and the Tenures program to identify when alternative tenures for harvesting are more appropriate than direct award FLTCs.
- b) Continue to streamline the review process and search for improvements in delivery of services.
- c) Find innovative ways to share information with clients and RPF on salvage opportunities.
- d) **Collect the appropriate amount of Stumpage and Silviculture Levy.**

7. The SSS Initiative will support the continued implementation of professional reliance:

- a) The SSS Initiative will conduct an internal audit of professional reliance in the Initiative and implement recommendations.
- b) The SSS Initiative will provide guidance to clients and professionals through the Salvage Manual

8. Build and maintain effective relationships with our clients, other stakeholders, tenure or agreement holders, First Nations and the public.

- a) SSS staff will ensure mutual understanding of expectations with respect to SSS opportunities, applications, and timelines.
- b) SSS staff will communicate with clients to understand their needs, markets, and barriers to economic viability

The implementation plan will be reviewed and updated annually to incorporate objectives set out in the FLNR service plan. It will also be updated periodically to improve the practicality and effectiveness of SSS guidance and to incorporate changes in ministry policies governing the SSS initiative.

2.4 SSS Priorities

In the Okanagan Shuswap Natural Resource District (DOS), small-scale salvage applications are prioritised according to the following criteria:

1. Salvage to address insect spread or fire hazard in areas adjacent to private land, woodlots, and settlement corridors, along public roads and hydro lines, in scenic areas, and where other values may be at risk.
2. Salvage opportunities that include identification and removal of small scattered bark beetle infestations to avoid infestation expansion.
3. Recovery and utilization of damaged timber that is highly susceptible to beetle attack, such as fresh spruce and Douglas-fir blowdown.
4. All remaining damaged timber where pest control is not an objective (such as fire killed timber, dead Cedar).
5. Other timber not normally recovered through standard harvesting, including small volumes of damaged timber, and special forest products (such as post and rails and firewood) contained in logging residue.

These criteria apply only where removal of healthy timber and non-target species is an absolute minor volume, the amount of which will be subject to the District Manager's approval.

2.5 SSS Use of FLTCs, Intermediate Salvage FLTCs And SNRFLs

Various types of licences may be issued through the SSS Initiative, depending on the size and nature of the salvage involved.

1. Direct Award FLTC

These licences are limited to a maximum of 2000m³ per licence, with penalties applied for harvest over the maximum licence volume. Harvesting is restricted to timber that is dead or, in the opinion of a qualified professional, will die within the year as a result of an insect infestation, fire, or windthrow. Professionally prepared salvage applications (PSAs) are required for most salvage situations (the current exceptions are described under "conventional applications" below).

Direct award FLTCs are initiated by SSS applicants, whereby applicants identify areas of suitable salvage timber and submit applications for that timber. On occasion, areas with potential for SSS are made known to SSS staff. These areas are posted on the district SSS website as "salvage opportunities", and either made available on a "first-come, first-served" basis, or by random selection from interested applicants.

It is expected that all forest management considerations will be addressed by the registered professional when the PSA application is submitted,

although the PSA process is subject to review. Review of applications will be intensified where concerns are identified by SSS staff.

Tabular stumpage rates apply as per the Interior Appraisal Manual (IAM), although the option for full appraisal is available. A silviculture levy ('the levy') is added to all stumpage for any future reforestation activities (in exceptional circumstances the district manager may waive the silviculture levy).

Conventional FLTC (non-professional application). Applications for small volumes of salvage without the use of a PSA will be considered by the SSS Initiative in certain circumstances, and applications must be of very low complexity. These applications are of lower priority than professional applications, and processing times will depend on workload. Normally, the volume is limited to 50m³ per application.

2. Direct Award FLTCs - Cash Sales

Cash sales can be issued for small volumes of dead timber (such as commercial firewood). Cash sales are limited to a maximum of 50m³, and stumpage is pre-paid.

3. Competitive FLTC- Intermediate Salvage Licence (ISL)

Larger areas of potential salvage (between 2000m³ and 5000m³) may be advertised by the SSS Initiative as competitive salvage FLTCs. These Intermediate Salvage Sales (ISLs) will generally be in areas of high forest management priority, such as interface areas.

Stumpage rates for competitive intermediate salvage licences are normally 70% of the IAM Table Rates (Table 6.1) plus a bonus bid and silviculture levy but can be lowered in no-bid situations.

4. Competitive Salvage Non-Replaceable Forest Licences (SNRFL)

SNRFLs may be competitively tendered from time to time to address areas where previous salvage has taken place. These licences have silviculture obligations. There are currently 3 active SNRFLs in the district, and there are no plans to issue any additional SNRFLs during the term of this strategic plan.

2.6 Access

Under the SSS Initiative, the goal for access to salvage timber is to minimize the impact of access operations on soil, water, cultural heritage values and future harvesting opportunities. Maintaining the integrity of existing access structures is critical to reaching this goal.

Access objectives for the SSS Initiative are to minimize access structures, their width and length as well as to minimize the harvest of healthy, unaffected timber. New roads will NOT be authorized under direct award FLTCs within the SSS Initiative. Upgrading of existing bladed trails/roads and new landings or trails will only be approved where the applicant demonstrates that there is no other practicable alternative.

Information on road maintenance agreement requirements and the exemption from Road Permits or Road Use Permits can be found in the DOS SSS Salvage Manual.

2.7 Implementation

Detailed information regarding procedures, site eligibility, and other key aspects of the SSS can be found in the DOS SSS Salvage Manual document and on the district salvage website.

The Stumpage Rate Request Form must be submitted by the professional as part of the professional application package. The form will also be posted on the SSS website.

The proponent is required to discuss, address and document any concerns raised by First Nations through information sharing prior to final submission.

Professional Salvage Applications will be submitted electronically to the District office with 1 hard copy of the signed and sealed salvage plans, maps, most recent stumpage rate request form, referral documentation and RPF certification. Spatial data will be submitted via ESF. The digital files (spatial and attribute data) must be submitted through the FLNR Electronic Submission Framework (ESF)

Licences will only be issued on the understanding that all required RESULTS work is completed by the proponent as follows:

The proponent must submit the planned harvest area into the RESULTS (Reporting Silviculture Updates and Land status Tracking System) database to create a RESULTS opening file. All RESULTS data entry must be in accordance with the most current RESULTS Information Submission Specifications (RISS)- Licensee Submissions.

The proponent must update the actual harvest area and completion date. An accurate forest cover label (which includes inventory and silviculture labels) must be submitted with the RESULTS spatial update for any harvested area (regardless if harvesting has created an NSR stand).

2.8 Future Considerations

One of the main priorities for FLNRO is worker safety. FLNRO is considering options to further worker safety, including the option to only issue salvage licenses to companies that meet “safe company” criteria.

To ensure the SSS initiative does not create an unfunded silviculture liability the silviculture levy will be re-evaluated and adjusted regularly to reflect actual silviculture costs.

Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs) are being developed by local governments to identify priority areas requiring fuel management treatments and fuel reduction harvesting to protect the community. These plans may provide new opportunities for SSS clients in the near future.

DOS is considering a performance based rating system to expedite the application review and awarding of licenses for professional applications that are accurate and thorough. This expedited review and awarding process would also apply to amendment requests, post-harvest assessments, and related authorisations that are consistent with the Salvage plan, the professional salvage application, forestry legislation, the licence and written direction from the District Manager.

2.9 Contact

Further information and guidance on the DOS SSS Initiative is available on the SSS website at:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/forest-tenures/timber-harvesting-rights/licence-to-cut/small-scale-salvage>

For additional information please contact the:
Okanagan Shuswap Natural Resource District,
2501 - 14th Avenue,
Vernon, B.C. V1T8Z1,
Phone: (250) 558-1700.
toll free at 1-800-661-4099;

Inquiries should be directed as follows:

Megan Sheshurak, megan.sheshurak@gov.bc.ca 250 558-1711

Karri Lee, karri.lee@gov.bc.ca 250-550-2215

3.0 PURPOSE OF THE SALVAGE MANUAL

This document (as reviewed and amended from time to time) is intended to provide current direction to small-scale salvage (SSS) clients and RPFs regarding Okanagan Shuswap Natural Resource District policies and processes. It will be amended as necessary to reflect changes in district, regional, and provincial policies, strategic plans, and legislation. The guidance in this document is to be considered “best management practices”.

4.0 RESPONSIBILITIES FOR TIMBER SALVAGE

The primary focus of the SSS initiative is smaller scattered patches of dead or imperilled timber that are not practical for major licensees or the BCTS program to harvest. Generally, salvage of larger patches of timber is the responsibility of the operating area licensee (major licensee or the BCTS program) or the holder of a non-replaceable forest licence (NRFL).

In addition, major licensees are responsible for salvage within area-based tenures and within cutblocks that have outstanding reforestation obligations. Licensees are not responsible for salvage of timber contained within acceptable amounts of logging residue.

Where a major licensee “refuses” a salvage application, it is expected that they will adequately address the salvage in a timely manner. Enforcement options are available under sections 72 and 73 of the *Forest Act*.

The remaining areas of small patches and scattered, salvage timber will be addressed by FLNR either through the issuance of competitive Forest Licences to Cut (or “Intermediate Salvage Licences- ISLs) or through direct Forest Licences to Cut (FLTCs) issued under SSS.

5.0 SALVAGE HARVESTING PRINCIPLES

Timber that meets the salvage objectives and priorities described above and is not the operating area licensee’s responsibility may be sold through the SSS subject to the following:

1. Salvage is consistent with district guidelines, policies and best management practices in effect at the time of application.
2. Harvesting methods and equipment should minimize damage to the residual stand, the soil and the understory vegetation. Where appropriate, preference will be given to specialized equipment such as horses or skidders and crawlers that are narrow gauge, low horsepower and low ground pressure.

3. Recovery of salvage timber must not result in removal of excessive amounts of non-salvage timber or undue damage to immature growing stock or the residual stand. Damage or cutting of non-salvage timber for safety or access reasons must always be kept to an absolute minimum. Where an application targets only dead or endemic level beetle attack no damage to plantation or removal of healthy timber is allowed and no bladed trails may be constructed.
4. Not all salvageable timber within the district is intended to be removed. Small, scattered volumes of dead and down timber, approximating normal endemic levels, will be maintained to contribute to wildlife habitat, stream stability, biological diversity and soil building processes.
5. Timber may be salvaged from sensitive locations where the advantages outweigh the risks to other values, and, where imperilled volume is high. compared to non-salvage volume.
6. Recovery of salvage in logging residue should:
 - a) not proceed until waste assessments are complete. Salvage of flagrant waste is a licensee responsibility;
 - b) not significantly interfere with the original licensee's ability to meet its post-harvesting obligations, including reforestation;
 - c) not remove coarse woody debris that should be left for biodiversity reasons;
 - d) not cause excessive disturbance of the cut block or compromise efforts to rehabilitate roads, landings and skid trails;
 - e) not cause undue damage to immature and other residual trees.

6.0 TYPES OF LICENCES AVAILABLE UNDER SSS

- 1) Cash FLTC: used for volumes under 50 m³, and where the volume can be accurately determined prior to sale (usually firewood). The volume is determined, and the appropriate stumpage is paid in full in advance of harvesting.
- 2) Direct Award FLTC: restricted to volumes up to 2000 m³, preferably where small patches within close proximity can be grouped into one sale for administrative efficiency (see the Professional Salvage Application section).
- 3) Intermediate Salvage FLTC: Salvage Timber up to 5000 m³ that cannot be addressed by a major licensee may be competitively awarded under an Intermediate Salvage Forest Licence to Cut (see the Intermediate Salvage Initiative section below).
- 4) SNRFLs: Salvage Non Replaceable Forest Licenses (SNRFLs) address small but challenging areas that require reforestation due to salvage operations. The licensee incurs the silviculture liability.

The volume of the SNRFL licenses will range from 7,500 to 10,000 m³ per year and will give the holder the right to harvest small patches (generally less

than 2000 m3) of qualifying timber scattered throughout a defined portion of the district.

The Licensee may harvest trees that are dead or infested with beetles and those trees that are required to be removed to facilitate the removal of the infested timber.

The area is restricted to a maximum clearcut size of 10 hectares, and that have been previously harvested after 1985, by single tree selection or small patch cut harvesting methods, over greater than 75 per cent of the cutting permit area.

The area is also restricted to stands that will become not satisfactorily restocked (NSR) as a result of current blowdown or bark beetle activity and is further restricted to cutblocks where the volume of green healthy timber does not exceed 60 per cent of the “volume of timber harvested” in the cutblock.

7.0 RATIONALE FOR DIRECT AWARD OF FLTCS

Salvage timber may be direct awarded to an FLTC when:

- 1) the volume of timber specified does not exceed 2 000 m3 and;
- 2) harvesting is restricted to timber that is dead or, in the opinion of the district manager, is in danger, as a result of an insect infestation, fire, or windthrow, of being significantly reduced in value, lost or destroyed, and;
- 3) when the district manager has determined that other measures, such as forest licences, are not practicable and would:
 - a) excessively delay the timely removal of the salvage, leading to wood loss or deterioration and/or insect spread;
 - b) create excessive workload which would jeopardize the timely processing of salvage applications;
 - c) discourage applications to the point where damaged timber would not be discovered in time to be salvageable; or
 - d) not guarantee the quality of harvesting or type of equipment needed to salvage log a sensitive site.

Direct award licences are generally client-driven (the applicant identifies the area of salvage), but, if areas suitable for salvage become known to FLNR, these areas may be posted on the SSS website as Salvage Opportunities, with a timeline for applications to be submitted, along with a process for selecting the successful applicant (usually random) Email notification of a posting using the salvage client e-mail distribution list will precede the website advertising period.

A one page pre-application and map, plus a site visit, are requirements for eligibility.

8.0 PROFESSIONAL SALVAGE APPLICATION

All applications for small-scale salvage harvesting in DOS must be submitted as Professional Salvage Applications (PSA). A PSA is a proposal where the salvage applicant (licensee) hires a qualified registered professional forester to complete a salvage application. The exception to PSAs will be for small salvage area applications that involve less than 50 m³ of timber.

Under the PSA initiative a registered professional forester is required to sign and seal the application package to confirm that it complies with all legal and policy requirements and that it otherwise conforms to accepted standards of forestry practice.

The salvage client submitting the salvage application is the "licensee" that is making a FLTC application. The licensee may appoint the RPF to act as his or her agent in dealing with FLNR, providing that the licensee states this in writing and includes a statement that he has reviewed and accepted the work. The licensee is responsible to ensure the work from the hired consultant is acceptable to meet their requirements for the intended salvage proposal, before making an application to FLNR

This section provides additional detail on standards for applications in the Okanagan Shuswap Natural Resource District. The provincial standards for application for an FLTC can be found in Appendix 6.

A list of professional salvage application documents can be found in Appendix 9.

8.1 Applicant Eligibility

- 5.3.1 To qualify for a licence, applicants must be a resident of British Columbia, be 19 years of age or over and have suitable logging experience (at least one year).
- 5.3.2 Preference will be given to proponents that have significant logging experience in salvage situations where resource values are high, or the site is difficult or sensitive to harvest.
- 5.3.3 Preference will be given to proponents that have specialized equipment (e.g. horses and narrow-gauge skidders) for salvage situations where resource values are high, or the site is difficult or sensitive to harvest.
- 5.3.4 Applicants must hire their own consultant (qualified, registered professional forester (RPF)) to complete a professional salvage application (PSA), so that FLNR may issue a FLTC (see Professional Salvage Application section).

8.2 Performance Expectations

DOS uses past performance to evaluate risk during the application process in order to expedite the application review and awarding of licenses for professional applications. The process can be expedited where pre-applications, professional salvage applications, amendment requests, and post-harvest documents are consistently delivered with accuracy and thoroughness, and where harvesting operations have been consistently conducted in accordance with the licence, legislation, and direction from the district manager.

8.3 Process Overview

The core process for SSS requires six (6) basic steps.

Step 1 (Pre-application) – Applicant or RPF

Step 2 (Application) - RPF

Step 3 (Review and approval) - District Manager/Forest Officer

Step 4 (Operations) - Licensee

Step 5 (Post Harvesting Report) - RPF

Step 6 (Deletion) - District Manager or Forest Officer

8.4 Processing Time

Allow a minimum 30 working days for review and processing. Every attempt will be made to process pre-applications and Professional Salvage Applications (PSAs) submissions in a timely manner. A longer time may be required if demand exceeds our resource capability, if the application involves high risk harvesting, complex values and issues, submissions that are not consistent with SSS policies, or if documentation is not adequate. Note that conventional (no consulting RPF) applications for volumes less than 50 m3 are considered lower priority for processing than PSAs.

8.5 Number of Applications

The combined maximum number of salvage applications and issued FLTCs per applicant is three (3). FLNR may limit the number of applications that any individual family or company may submit or vary the maximum number of applications submitted by an individual in special circumstances.

9.0 SSS PRE-APPLICATION PROCESS

9.1 Steps

1. Complete a one page pre-application form (Client or RPF) based on a thorough field recce. Applications must be accurate and legible. Applicants are expected to thoroughly investigate the salvage site before applying for an FLTC. The logging chance and suitability for SSS must be confirmed and the volume estimated by salvage type and species. The applicant must also ensure that there is no obvious pre-existing layout in the area. This form is available at the district office or on the district SSS website.
2. Produce a clear and accurate map (Client or RPF) of suitable scale (generally 1:5,000 to 1:20,000 scale) identifying the precise location and extent of the timber to be salvaged. Forestry consulting firms in the Okanagan/Shuswap may provide base map service, or iMap is available on the GeoBC website:
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/data/geographic-data-services>
3. Provide accurate directions to access the site from the nearest city using an overview map.
4. Submit the completed pre-application and map to FLNR (Client or RPF).
5. Pre-app review (SSS staff) - carry out a review for:
 - Ensuring area is free from current FLTC applications,
 - Identifying whether SSS is appropriate for the application area,
 - Overlap with any cutting permits or similar conflicts,
 - Identifying whether area is within a NRFL or SNRFL operating area,
 - Identifying key resource features such as Old Growth Management Areas, List of First Nations communities, Cultural Heritage Resources, and Community Watersheds,
 - Determining the level of First Nations consultation required following information sharing by the proponent.
5. If the pre-application is approved, the applicant will be sent a letter informing them to proceed to a PSA. They will be provided with a licence number and notified of any issues that were identified by SSS staff (note that this does not replace the need for the applicant's RPF to do a complete assessment of all resource values in the application area).

Any applications that are not legible or are incomplete will be disallowed and returned to the applicant with an explanation of the problems.

Pre-applications will be retained for a period of sixty (60) days. Where a follow up PSA is not received within sixty days the application will expire and will require re-application in order to proceed.

9.2 Cultural Heritage Resources and Archaeology

It is important that both the RPF and the licensee:

- Understand the requirements of The Heritage Conservation Act
- Make use of available resource guides such as Archaeology Resource Guide Handbook for foresters and the Guide to Identifying Culturally Modified Trees
- Be informed and be prepared to alter operational plans (such as winter harvest on snow pack)
- Include a “fail safe” plan in the event a previously unidentified archaeology resources are encountered (Salvage plan section)
- To cease operations and report when any new archaeological feature becomes evident either before, or as operations are underway
- See Appendix 5 for details on the SSS FN Information Sharing Process.

10.0 DOS PROFESSIONAL SALVAGE APPLICATION PROCESS (PSA)

10.1 Professional Expectations

It is expected that every RPF submitting a salvage application is working within the scope of his or her practice. An RPF that is unfamiliar with the proper forest management under the small scale salvage Initiative must have gained experience in the Initiative by working with other RPFs or forest companies. RPFs must become familiar with the district direction and provincial legislation with respect to the Forest Licence to Cut (FLTC) tenure and SSS Initiative.

Where an issue arises that is outside of the RPFs area of expertise, they may require the services of a consulting biologist, engineer, or other professional.

Submitted professional salvage applications (PSAs) are considered the final application and must meet the Initiative standards. Processing of the application will include a review by a SSS staff.

10.2 PSA Process

1. After receiving the pre-app response letter from the client and before undertaking any further work on a professional application on behalf of their clients, the RPF must refer the proposed salvage area to the major licensee (including BCTS) and NRFL or SNRFL holders operating in the area of interest to identify any potential conflicts with

existing plans (including FSP, harvest plans, retention plans). The referral must accurately identify:

- Location, volume and type of salvage;
- Assigned FLTC number;
- Date by which a response is requested from the licensee (normally, this would be 14 calendar days).

If no referral response is received, the salvage RPF will follow-up with the major licensee, and document all referral efforts. If there is still no response in a reasonable time, the RPF may proceed with the PSA.

If the major licensee identifies concerns with the proposal, the RPF must provide a written rationale to the district (copied to the licensee) that addresses those concerns before proceeding. District SSS staff will make the decision about whether the concerns have been adequately addressed. Any significant changes to the size or location of the initially referred area will require an amended referral to the major licensee.

2. The PSA completed by the RPF must be consistent with the expectations of full professional reliance. Additional information may be requested from the RPF to support the plan.
3. The RPF will accurately and completely prepare all required documents (found on the DOS SSS website) and maps.
4. The RPF is required to discuss, address and document any concerns raised by the operating area major licensee, by other resource agencies, by other referral parties prior to final submission of the application. Referrals are required for all applicable agencies, licensed resource users, and any person that may be materially affected by the proposed operations including, but not limited to MOE, BC Hydro, MOTH, water purveyors / irrigation districts, trappers, and ranchers. See Appendix 6 for Trapper and Guide Outfitter Identification and other stakeholder information.
5. The proponent is required to discuss, address and document any concerns raised by First Nations through information sharing prior to final submission. Follow up on any FN information sharing concerns is required as per any instruction at the pre-application stage. See Appendix 5 for details on the SSS FN Information Sharing Process.
6. It is important that both the RPF and the licensee understand the requirement (Heritage Conservation Act) to cease operations and report when any new archaeology site becomes evident either before, or as operations are underway.
7. The RPF must consider all applicable guidance, best management practices, and district policies. Where deviations from these are proposed, a rationale must be provided.
8. The RPF is required to ensure that the salvage proposal is consistent with the key resource values under *the Forest and Range Practices*

Act (FRPA) and all other pertinent legislation. Key values under FRPA include soils, visual quality, timber, forage, water, fish, wildlife, biodiversity, recreation, cultural heritage, designated resource features, natural range barriers, and invasive plants.

9. The RPF must ensure that the planned harvest operations are consistent with the objectives identified in the Okanagan Shuswap Land and Resource Management Plan.
10. Once the salvage licensee and consultant have agreed on a final FLTC application and signed and sealed applicable documents, the complete package is submitted as a final submission. Any deviations from district policies, LRMP, etc., should be resolved with FLNR staff prior to the final submission. All submissions shall have the reference number and/or FLTC number noted on them. **Incomplete or inaccurate applications will be disallowed.**
11. The Salvage Plan must be signed and sealed by a Registered Professional Forester and the applicant.
12. **One paper copy** of the completed, signed salvage plan and map (see mapping requirements section below) and a digital copy are to be submitted with a signed cover letter attesting that the application is accurate and conforms with all relevant legislation, applicable major licensee Forest Stewardship Plan, the Okanagan Shuswap Land and Resource Management Plan and the District small-scale salvage direction. Professional salvage application package contents will include (but not be limited to):
 - Cover letter
 - Completed DOS Salvage Plan
 - FLTC Map
 - RPF certification form (Appendix 9),
 - Interior Stumpage Rate Request Form (signed and sealed by RPF),
 - Digital shape file of block (Arc map) and completed electronic submission to ESF (see Electronic Submission Framework Section),
 - Major licensee referral letter, other stakeholder or agency comments,
 - Additional requirements may include assessments, road maintenance agreements, permission for access through private land, and free growing declarations. Note that road use under the Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA) is subject to conditions in accordance with Section 22.1, subsection (5) including, if required by the road permit holder, the requirement for the exemption holder (FLTC licensee) to pay for road use maintenance in accordance with section 22.3 of the FRPA. A copy of this agreement must be provided prior to licence issuance.

- Shape file and digital copies (.pdf) of the SP and map are to be emailed to SSS staff
 - Licences will only be issued on the understanding that all required RESULTS work is completed by the proponent as follows:
 - The proponent must submit the planned harvest area into the RESULTS (Reporting Silviculture Updates and Land status Tracking System) database to create a RESULTS opening file. All RESULTS data entry must be in accordance with the most current RESULTS Information Submission Specifications (RISS) - Licensee Submissions (see links to RISS manuals in the “RESULTS Entry” section below).
 - The proponent must update the actual harvest area and completion date.
 - An accurate forest cover label (which includes inventory and silviculture labels) must be submitted with the RESULTS spatial update for any harvested area (regardless if harvesting has created an NSR stand).
 - For openings with un-mappable retention there is a need to track and prescribe more accurate areas for treatments and planning. There is a capability within RESULTS to determine a total area for a SU, and then deduct a % of reserve from the NAR in order to net the NAR down to a more refined estimate of the actual NAR of the SU. This SU may be an aggregate of many small openings as per the nature of small scale salvage. The estimate of the deduction must be assessed by a field estimate.
13. Once submitted, the application will be forwarded to the applicable SSS staff person for review according to the principles of professional reliance. Additional information on any aspect of the application may be requested by the reviewer. A site visit/audit by salvage staff may be required. Timing for a field review will be dependent on the salvage staff workload.
14. If satisfactory, FLTC documents will be prepared and forwarded to the DM for signing.
15. If the major licensee requests a map of the FLTC exhibit A, it will be provided to them by FLNR once the application is completed.
16. Applications that are found not to meet SSS initiative standards will be disallowed and returned to the applicant with a letter of explanation. The RPF will be sent a copy of the disallowance letter. Depending on the issue, revision and re-submission may be allowed. The application will fall out of the processing queue when it is disallowed. Processing timelines will be based on the date when re-submission occurs.

17. Further applications submitted by the RPF in the above situation will fall into a higher risk category and will require additional scrutiny during review. The RPF and his or her client must expect the processing of these applications to fall well outside of the normal processing timelines.

10.3 Field Procedures

1. In the field, GPS and clearly mark the boundaries of the area to be harvested with durable orange flagging tape and/or marked with blue boundary paint on the bole at breast height and on the stump prior to harvest (regardless if clear cut or single tree selection, and regardless of size of the area to be harvested).
2. For single-tree selection harvest, the application must exclude areas of impracticable timber salvage, such as low or non-existent levels of beetle attacked timber.
3. For single-tree selection salvage harvest, if the trees to be removed are not obvious (e.g., all PI in a mixed stand), salvage timber must be paint marked with blue paint all trees to be cut, with a paint slash below stump height reaching the ground, with a line encircling the tree at breast height, and with consecutive numbering of all trees.
4. Establish corner post trees on all salvage application areas (mandatory) with 3 orange ribbons, 3 horizontal blue paint lines, an axe blaze, and a metal tag stating NW, NE, SW, SE corner, date, licence number, and name. Locate the corner posts with GPS latitude and longitude (or UTM) co-ordinates (minimum standard for corner post location is handheld GPS unit).
5. Clearly mark all major skid trails in the field with durable yellow flagging tape. The reference number and or Forest Licence to Cut (FLTC) number must be clearly marked on the flagging tape that starts each skid trail from each landing.
6. Riparian Areas with No Operations must be clearly marked in the field with durable flagging tape stating the words "Riparian Reserve Zone". Riparian Areas with Restricted Operations must be marked with the words "Riparian Management Area".
7. Provide a tally of the number of marked access/safety trees and the number of proposed salvage trees separately that includes an estimate of the volumes.

10.4 Small Scale Salvage Mountain Pine Beetle Probe Methodology –

The purpose of this methodology is to verify presence and severity of mountain pine beetle (MPB) in order to make appropriate forest management decisions regarding pine salvage. This methodology will generally follow MPB probe procedures with some changes in order to fit with the Small Scale Salvage Initiative (SSS). Probes will be completed by a registered forest professional with extensive survey and probing experience, specifically with MPB and MPB identification. Proof of qualifications may be requested.

Methodology

Probe transects should be set on pre-determined cardinal bearings (N, S, E, W). Transects can be spaced either 50m or 25m apart and count all standing trees within 5m or 2.5m on each side of the transect line respectively to ensure a reasonable representation of the block (e.g. 20% coverage). Transects will be a minimum of 20m inside the edge of the block boundary. Transects will be mapped, and ribboned (every 10m at eye level) for verification in the field. Points of commencement (POC) and termination (POT) will be GPS'd and marked with double ribbon and include: transect # and direction, date and surveyor's initials.

The following merchantable trees will be tallied:

- Number of total trees
- Number of grey attack trees
- Number of red attack trees
- Number of successful green attack trees
- Number of unsuccessful green attack trees
- Number of advanced regeneration (non-merch / all species) as per the secondary structure regulation

A minimum of 50% of all green attack trees will be chopped with an axe at pitch tube locations on at least two sides of the tree to determine attack success. A successfully attacked tree will exhibit characteristic lateral galleries and the presence of immature beetles. Presence of pitch tubes

and even vertical galleries alone does not constitute a successfully attacked tree.

The surveyor must complete, sign and seal a package which will include the following:

- A map (1:5000 scale) clearly identifying transects, stratification of timber types and areas of significant attack (if stratifiable, not scattered) and GPS POC and POT locations. Map will also include roads, timber type polygons, riparian areas and other typical geographic features.
- A table outlining the cumulative tree tally as described above and rendered down into percentages.
- An estimate of the age of the majority of green attack (from last flight or previous flights) and whether the population is endemic or epidemic.
- Field cards and sketch maps.

10.5 Mapping Requirements

10.5.1 Mapping Accuracy

The minimum standard for accuracy of boundary location is to locate the corner posts with GPS latitude and longitude (or UTM) co-ordinates using a handheld GPS unit. A handheld GPS track of the entire Exhibit A boundary is recommended to prevent trespassing and unauthorized harvest. Areas excluded from salvage should also be GPS traversed and mapped.

10.5.2 Electronic Submission Framework

One goal of FLNR is to have accurate and complete information available to assist in making the best land management decisions. An important element of that information is the spatial or map based detail.

All professional applications must include both a paper copy map and the digital files associated with the map.

In addition, the digital files (spatial and attribute data) must be submitted through FLNR Electronic Submission Framework (ESF) for the Forest Tenures Administration System (FTA) and for the

RESULTS (Reporting Silviculture Updates and Land status Tracking System) application. Applicants can do the electronic submissions themselves or through the use of a service provider for ESF. To make an ESF submission a BCeID user number is required. A consultant (RPF or service provider) who submits on the licensee's behalf will need to use the licensee's BCeID. To apply for a business BCeID user number call 1-888-356-2741 or use the link below;

<https://www.bceid.ca/>

For RESULTS application support go to:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/managing-our-forest-resources/silviculture/silviculture-reporting-results>

Appendix 4 contains "The Mandatory Fields for Electronic Submission of Forest Licence to Cut (FLTC)". This information will assist the client / service provider with their submission.

Once a submission is received, the District Geomatics staff will carry out a land status clearance operation. This check is to identify conflicts with Forest and Range, and Land Act Tenures. The client's RPF is still required to ensure all forest management constraints and conflicts are resolved.

10.5.3 Salvage Plan Mapping

Digital shape files (ARC GIS) and one paper copy of the Salvage Plan maps are required. Required detail on base maps is described below. In addition to the Salvage Plan map FLNR requires a simple landscape level overview map to identify the block location that includes identifiable features within the natural resource district.

The following describes minimum standards for a map that must accompany a Small Scale Salvage Application for an FLTC.

- 1) Scale 1:5,000 to 1:10,000 for Salvage Plan Map as required for detail.
- 2) Reference to the appropriate 1:20000 forest cover map sheet number (e.g. 82L006).
- 3) Geographic description (name of nearest known feature)
- 4) Description of access (driving directions) from nearest town
- 5) UTM coordinates or latitude and longitude
- 6) Legend
- 7) Boundaries of private land, Indian reserve, parks, woodlot license, or other tenures.

- 8) Boundary of the area proposed for harvesting under the Forest License to Cut.
- 9) Significant topographic features within the application area, including streams, wetlands and lakes.
- 10) Resource features, as defined by legislation, in the vicinity of the salvage area.
- 11) Clearcut areas, including plantations adjacent to the areas proposed for salvage.
- 12) Access roads and trails to or between harvest sites (not including dispersed skid routes to conduct single tree removal within the area)
- 13) Landings to be utilized on or off the proposed salvage area
- 14) Stream crossings and machine free zones
- 15) Domestic water supply intakes and water supply infrastructure
- 16) Government approved experimental projects, growth and yield plots, operational trials and research installations
- 17) Range improvements, including structures, excavations or constructed livestock trails
- 18) Trapping cabins, identified trapping sites and access trails
- 19) Recreation sites and known features
- 20) Cultural heritage resource features
- 21) Critical wildlife habitat areas
- 22) Streams, wetlands and lakes along with identified class.
- 23) Location of salvage patches and type of salvage clearly identified within the proposed block area.
- 24) Existing and/or proposed wildlife tree retention areas.

11.0 LICENCE ISSUANCE

11.1 FLTC Schedule A

The Schedule A includes important conditions, requirements, and obligations that must be adhered to by the licensee. An example of a Schedule A condition is that all operations on the Licence shall be carried out in accordance with the Salvage Plan submitted as part of the professional salvage application. Each license may have specific Schedule A clauses.

11.2 Deposit

The licensee is required to pay a deposit according to the Advertising, Deposits, Disposition and Extension Regulation that is the sum of 10% of the first \$100 000 of the total estimated stumpage value plus 5% of the remaining total estimated stumpage value. The deposit is maintained for the duration of the licence and until all obligations have been fulfilled. This

and any other charges owed to FLNR will be payable before further applications will be considered.

11.3 Road Maintenance Agreements

The licensee is required to enter into a Road Maintenance Agreement with the primary user of the road. Before a salvage FLTC is issued, the applicant is required to produce a signed agreement with the Road Permit holder or in the case of a FSR, the Road Use Permit holder who has maintenance responsibility to FLNR.

11.4 Road Use

Small scale salvage licensees (FLTC only) can be exempted from obtaining a Road Permit or Road Use Permit under FRPA Sec 22.1 and the *Forest Planning and Practices Regulation* FPPR Section 79.

Despite the provision for exemption, the district manager may still make an exemption subject to conditions under certain circumstances. A person who is exempted must notify the primary road user at least 48 hours before using the road.

Prior to the licence issuance the applicant must be familiar with the requirements under the legislation including notification, maintenance, and conditions.

11.5 Notice of Commencement

As per the Workers Compensation Act and associated regulations, operators are required to provide WorkSafeBC with a notice of project commencement for forest management activities. For WorkSafeBC requirements and notice of project forestry (NOPF) forms try this link:

<http://www.worksafebc.com/>

The Notice of Commencement (NoC) is to be submitted to the District Manager before beginning timber harvesting. It is also required before re-starting timber harvesting after an inactive period of 3 months or more. Submission is usually in the form of an email with an attached map (send e-mail to: DOSRESOU@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca). It may also be submitted by fax, mail or in person to the attention of 'Resource'.

11.6 Communication with SSS Staff

Professional reliance and the Professional Salvage Application approach rely on the RPF to convey to the licensee all harvesting operation information. A pre-work site visit between the two parties is recommended.

DOS SSS staff may audit a site at the pre-application, application, active, or post-harvest stage for technical or professional reasons. Such visits are to determine the rationale for certain operations or to assess the salvage operation results but are not intended to recommend forest management options.

Licensee concerns or questions may be directed to SSS staff at any stage of the application process or following issuance of the licence. Concerns about changed circumstances that will affect intended results must be brought to the attention of the SSS coordinator.

11.7 Timber Marking

Section 84 of the Forest Act and the Timber Marking and Transportation Regulation describes the requirement for timber marking. Note that a hammer mark is required unless the licensee is exempted from the requirement. Regional policy states that an exemption may be approved if requested in writing, for volumes not exceeding 300 m³. An exemption would include conditions.

11.8 Stumpage Payments

Stumpage will be payable based on the stumpage rate and weight or piece scale. Table 6 rates in the Interior Appraisal Manual apply for FLTCs issued through the SSS initiative. Table rates are adjusted on the first day of March, July, and November. Salvage and Special Products stumpage rates can be found in the appraisal manual. A full appraisal is an option available for any application BUT note the rates are not fixed and will adjust automatically each quarter (Sec 6.2.6(a) of Interior Appraisal Manual).

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/competitive-forest-industry/timber-pricing/interior-timber-pricing/interior-appraisal-manual>

12.0 SSS SILVICULTURE LEVY

The Small-Scale Salvage initiative (SSS) manages all sites under the Forest Licence To Cut (FLTC) tenure, including areas that are less than 0.5 hectare, to ensure they are adequately reforested.

In order to fund silviculture responsibilities, a silviculture levy ('the levy') is added to stumpage rates for FLTC's. The levy will be updated from time to time.

12.1 Silviculture Levy

The 2020 levy is \$6.30/m³. It applies to all species and to timber grades 1, 2 and 4. The levy applies to all openings regardless of size and silviculture system.

The full levy will be applied to any harvested area, whether or not a stocked stand remains post-harvest.

12.2 Unusual Circumstances Levy

Where exceptional costs are anticipated, as in the case of helicopter logging, remote locations and/or extreme site preparation conditions, the District Manager may set a higher than average levy to ensure the levy will meet the silviculture costs.

12.3 Intermediate Salvage Levy

The levy for competitive intermediate salvage will be set using site specific information including size of block (ha) and biogeoclimatic zone.

13.0 POST HARVEST ASSESSMENT

Upon completion of harvesting, and no more than 2 months after licence expiry, an RPF (on behalf of the licence holder) must conduct a site inspection and complete a Post Harvest Assessment Form (PHA) which is to be submitted to the SSS staff.

A Post Harvest Assessment must be completed on a cutblock within sixty (60) days after primary logging has been completed on the cutblock or within sixty (60) days that the cutting authority expires or is otherwise terminated, whichever occurs first, or as soon thereafter that the ground is sufficiently free of snow that an assessment may be carried out on the cutblock.

This PHA provides information critical for reporting under Section 86 of the FPPR, including the submission of data into RESULTS (see section below).

The report templates are found on the DOS SSS website (see list of forms in Appendix 9) and must be completed fully and accurately. The PHA must state whether:

1. The timber targeted for salvage has been removed in accordance with the approved plan. If not, an amendment submission is required including ESF to RESULTS.
2. Waste and residue standards have been achieved.
3. The stand remains stocked and free growing in accordance with Section 46 of the *Forest Planning and Practices Regulation*.
4. Measures undertaken to protect soil, water, archaeological features and wildlife habitat have achieved the required results.
5. Access trails, roads and landings have been deactivated to an acceptable standard.
6. In the opinion of the RPF the licensee has completed all on-site obligations under the licence or cutting permit.
7. For openings with un-mappable retention there is a need to track and prescribe more accurate areas for treatments and planning. There is a capability within RESULTS to determine a total area for a SU, and then deduct a % of reserve from the NAR in order to net the NAR down to a more refined estimate of the actual NAR of the SU. This SU maybe an aggregate of many small openings as per the nature of small scale salvage. The estimate of the deduction must be assessed by a field estimate.

If all obligations are NOT complete, the RPF must inform the licensee of the outstanding work to be done. If there are obligations outstanding other

than the burning of landing debris, then a follow-up inspection by the RPF is required.

If debris management (for fire hazard abatement) is not complete, the RPF must describe the debris (locations, size, number, etc) and the plan to manage (by when, etc). This still allows for licence deletion (and processing of a new application for the client). A portion of the deposit is withheld until debris management is complete.

14.0 SSS SURVEY STANDARDS

Survey Standards apply to stocking, free growing and green up surveys of small scale salvage areas

Assessments carried out for both pre-harvest estimates of residual stocking and post-harvest stocking must use the basic surveying principles provided in the most current edition of the “Silviculture Survey Procedures Manual”.

https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/forestry/silviculture/silviculture-surveys/silviculture_surveys_procedures_manual_2018.pdf

The survey area must be located within the harvested area of the FLTC area. Plots that randomly or systematically fall outside of areas harvested are not to be included in the final assessment.

For salvage opportunities occurring on or adjacent to areas where salvage activities have previously occurred on a partial cut basis, the RPF will be required to verify that the area has been declared free growing. If the area has not been declared, the RPF will be required to survey the area and prepare a free growing declaration according to the district standards.

14.1 RESULTS Entry

The Okanagan Shuswap Natural Resource District requires the proponent to submit the planned harvest area into the RESULTS database at the time of FLTC issuance.

Upon completion of harvest, the actual harvest area, completion date and forest cover attributes must be updated in accordance with the most current RESULTS Information Submission Specifications at the following links:

“RESULTS Information Submission Specifications (RISS) - Licensee Submissions”

https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/publications/00220/RISS_gf_Edition_4a_2014_May.pdf

“Submitting Forest Cover To RESULTS For Openings With Treed Retention”

https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/forestry/silviculture/silviculture-results/forest_cover_retention_submissions_may_5_2016_final.pdf

Every opening, regardless of the polygon size or stocking status, must be entered into the RESULTS database by the licensee. See Appendix 8 for examples of Treed Retention RESULTS reporting.

All blocks within an FLTC Salvage Plan are to be entered as one opening file in RESULTS. Blocks that have the same silviculture systems, silviculture regimes or stocking standards must be entered as one standard unit SU. Blocks with different silviculture systems, silviculture regimes or stocking standards require separate standards unit (SU A, B, etc.) within the same RESULTS opening file.

An accurate forest cover label (which includes inventory and silviculture labels) must be submitted with the RESULTS spatial update for any harvested area (regardless if harvesting has created an NSR stand).

For openings with un-mappable retention there is a need to track and prescribe more accurate areas for treatments and planning. There is a capability within RESULTS to determine a total area for a SU, and then deduct a % of reserve from the NAR in order to net the NAR down to a more refined estimate of the actual NAR of the SU. This SU may be an aggregate of many small openings as per the nature of small scale salvage. The estimate of the deduction must be assessed by a field estimate.

To determine the stocking label information for the un-mappable retention a layer 1 survey is required. To determine the non-stocked portion a layer 4 survey is required.

15.0 VOLUME/ AREA AMENDMENTS

Major licensees are sometimes surprised to see post-harvest results that do not reflect the original PSA referral. To ensure the amended FLTC does not impact ML planned operations, any request for an increased volume on a FLTC, whether the affected timber is inside or outside of the existing boundary, must include a second referral response from the major licensee indicating they have no conflict. This only applies to partial cutting where the added volume is within the existing boundary and applies to partial or clear-cut where the added volume is outside the original Exhibit A area. The exception will be for very minor additional volumes of +/- 2 truckloads.

The Salvage Plan will require an amendment (available online) and the client will need to sign a FLTC licence amendment (FS3) prepared by this office.

Note that volume amendment requests must be made prior to harvesting additional timber. Licences will not be amended for additional volume after the fact.

16.0 TERM EXTENSIONS

Term extensions are allowed under certain circumstances with a written request. Term extensions must be received prior to the expiry of the licence. Under no circumstances can a licence be extended once it is expired.

17.0 EXCESS HARVEST PENALTY BILLING

Salvage FLTCs are restricted to a maximum volume as specified in the FLTC document. It is the responsibility of the licensee to monitor harvested volume and request an amendment to the FLTC maximum volume if required. Volume cut in excess of the licence will be subject to a penalty billing. Other action may be taken under the Forest and Range Practices Act for non-compliance.

In accordance with Section 75.21(2) of the Forest Act the holder of a licence must ensure that the volume of timber harvested under the licence does not exceed the maximum harvestable volume specified in the licence. If the volume of timber harvested under an FLTC licence exceeds the limit specified, the holder of the licence must pay to the government a penalty (plus regular stumpage). The penalty is the product of the volume of timber harvested under the licence that exceeds the limit and the prescribed rate.

Limit on total cut for forestry licence to cut and community salvage licence

75.21 (1) In this section, "licence" means a forestry licence to cut or community salvage licence.

(2) The holder of a licence must ensure that the volume of timber harvested under the licence does not exceed the maximum harvestable volume specified in the licence.

(3) If the volume of timber harvested under a licence exceeds the limit specified in subsection (2), the holder of the licence must pay to the government the penalty determined under subsection (4).

(4) The penalty under subsection (3) is the product of

(a) the volume of timber harvested under the licence that exceeds the limit referred to in subsection (2), and

(b) the prescribed rate.

(5) A penalty under this section is in addition to stumpage payable or another penalty under this Act or another enactment.

In accordance with Section 2 of the Cut Control Regulation the prescribed rate currently is:

a) if the volume exceeds the limit by less than 15% of the limit, the penalty is the lesser of:

1. \$4.00/m³ and
2. the average stumpage rate payable on the licence during the past year.

(b) if the volume exceeds the limit by more than 15%, the penalty is equal to the average stumpage rate payable on the licence during the past year.

Licensees that exceed the maximum volume harvestable under the licence will receive a letter from the District Manager indicating the amount of excess harvest volume and the next steps in the penalty billing process.

Forest Act / Cut Control Regulation

Excess harvesting penalty for short term licences, forestry licences to cut and community salvage licences

2. (1) In this section, "**licence**" means a licence as defined in sections 75.2 (1) and 75.21 (1) of the Act.

(2) For the purposes of sections 75.2 (4) (b) and 75.21 (4) (b) of the Act, the prescribed rate is,

(a) if the volume of timber harvested in excess of the applicable limit under section 75.2 (2) or (2.1) or 75.21 (2) of the Act is less than or equal to 15% of the applicable limit, the lesser of

(i) \$4.00 per cubic metre, and

(ii) the average stumpage rate that was applicable to timber harvested under the licence during the last year in which stumpage was payable in respect of that timber, or

(b) if the volume of timber harvested in excess of the applicable limit under section 75.2 (2) or (2.1) or 75.21 (2) of the Act exceeds 15% of the applicable limit, the average stumpage rate that was applicable to timber harvested under the licence during the last year in which stumpage was payable in respect of that timber.

18.0 ADDITIONAL DISTRICT SSS POLICIES

18.1 Riparian / Lakeshore Management Zone Policy

Candidate stands must not include management or reserve zones of sensitive riparian areas (S4, S3, S2, S1, W1-5). Fringe remnants of adjacent salvage harvested stands will not be considered as salvage opportunities and will be retained for other values.

Sites within Community Watersheds - These sites require a heightened level of due diligence and environmental consideration. For mountain pine beetle (MPB) salvage opportunities, the standing component must be comprised of at least 50% red, grey and/or successful green attack. (see MPB probe methodology for definition). Downed timber does not contribute to the 50% since it is not a determining factor of stand longevity. This threshold increases to 80% in lakeshore management zones. Class A Lakes are off limits to SSS with the exceptions identified by the district manager, as per the Lake Classification and Lakeshore Management Guidebook: Kamloops Forest Region.
<https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/tasb/legsregs/fpc/fpcguide/kamlake/kam-toc.htm>

Candidate stands adjacent to non-target stands that are likely to blow down post salvage (e.g. spruce in riparian adjacent to pine) will not be considered.

18.2 Road Use

No new roads may be constructed under the Small Scale Salvage Initiative. With a few exceptions, "minor salvage operations" do not have to apply for Road Use Permit Exemptions or Road Permit Exemptions. Some examples of exceptions include:

- 1) Use of a non-status road where a minor upgrade is required to facilitate a stream crossing;
- 2) Use of a non-status road that requires maintenance to a stream bank to use the road;
- 3) The use of the road will materially affect the use of the road by others, or
- 4) The use of the road will materially impact forest resources. Refer to s 22.1 of the Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA) and s. 79.1 of the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation (FPPR) for more information.

For Road Permits or Forest Service Roads, proper notification to the Road Permit holder or the person(s) responsible for maintaining the road (e.g. Road User Committee) is required. Refer to s. 80.1 of the FPPR. Failure to enter into a Road Use Agreement risks non-compliance.

It is important to identify all roads that will be utilized for hauling, including, road kilometres (e.g. 15-25 km on the 201 Road) and road status (i.e., FSR, road permit, Ministry of Transportation and Highways) on the application.

Ministry of Transportation and Highways has specific requirements where joining a public road or highway. These can be checked at:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/transportation/transportation-infrastructure/engineering-standards-guidelines/traffic-engineering-safety/trafficmanagementmanual>

In order to more effectively monitor road use and maintenance requirements, the salvage applicant is required to present a road maintenance agreement to SSS **before the licence will be awarded to the applicant**. A map must accompany the agreement that clearly identifies road sections under the maintenance agreement as well as all Forest Service Roads and Non-Status roads to be used and maintained by the licensee.

Note that conditions, including the requirement to notify and the requirement to maintain are included with the FPPR (Forest Planning and Practices Regulation) Section 79.1 exemption, for minor salvage operations, from the requirement for a road permit and road use permit (FRPA Section 22).

Applications must indicate where re-activation of a deactivated structure (road) is proposed. Where a deactivated road or landing is utilized, the salvage licensee will be required to re-establish the deactivation to its former level.

Accessing salvage sites with logging trucks or low beds that use non-status roads or FSR roads with old bridge structures is a professional reliance concern and will require inspections by a professional that is qualified to carry out bridge inspections.

18.3 Trails

Plan new skid trails before logging. Use straight-line trails wherever possible and avoid sharp turns. This not only reduces skidding distance but eliminates the damage that may occur at the turns.

Trails and landings must be included in the FLTC Exhibit A area.

Trails crossing existing plantations are to be avoided. Where no practicable alternative exists the proponent must refer the plan with the major licensee holding the silviculture obligations for the plantation. Further, the trail area must be entered into RESULTS to provide for reforestation under the FLTC silviculture obligations.

18.3.1 Bladed Trails

The SSS initiative is most interested in issuing licences where no bladed/excavated trail is required. In unique situations where bladed trails are proposed the applicant must seek pre-approval. Any proposed trail more than 100 meters in length will then require an archaeologist to assess potential for impact.

Full rehabilitation with an excavator is required to meet Initiative requirements. The exception will be where 20 meters or less of bladed trail are required (one or two sections only). All bladed trails must be identified on the salvage plan map.

18.3.2 Non Bladed Trails

Non-bladed trail width and length is to be minimized to have as little impact on the site as possible. Trail width is to be no more than 3.5 meters and should average 3.0 meters over the block. Appropriate equipment that can achieve this objective must be selected or the application should not be submitted. Exceptions (clear cut harvesting for example) must be based on reasonable forest management rationale provided in advance of the PSA to the district manager.

18.4 Large Scale Equipment In SSS

There has been a surge in applications involving the use of feller bunchers and in some cases grapple skidders. The SSS Initiative was developed around the use of small equipment to keep trail width, access wood, damaged timber, and debris pile size to a minimum. A special case can be made in certain circumstances, such as hoe chucking in soft ground, and if the equipment is designed specifically with single tree selection harvest in mind.

For single tree selection harvest particularly, operators are expected to develop and maintain trails as narrow as possible (must be 3.0 meters wide on average with a 3.5 meter wide maximum), to keep access wood to a minimum, to keep trailside timber undamaged, and to meet regulations for burning pile size and proximity to standing timber. Equipment selection must be consistent with these requirements.

Concern over the impact of large equipment will be addressed through field audits over time. It would be wise to consider the use of this large

equipment as special situation, limited application only. Future policy on application disqualification based on equipment size and type will be based on audit results.

18.5 Dead and Down Cedar:

Dead and down cedar is **not usually** considered to be in imminent danger of being lost or destroyed and so is considered outside the mandate of small scale salvage. Being highly resistant to decay, it will usually persist for a significant number of years contributing to biological diversity and soil building processes.

Excessive (catastrophic) volumes of damaged cedar will be salvaged, either by the operating area licensee or through a competitive licence, as appropriate.

The following applications for cedar will be considered:

- Cedar in logging residue.
- Incidental volumes of dead cedar mixed in with other salvage timber.
- Further opportunity for cedar may involve a competitive award process. An example might be a small isolated blowdown cedar patch greater than 1 ha.

The following applications for cedar will not be considered:

- Applications that include cedar with any live limbs or branches (except for blowdown).
- Applications for the harvest of dead cedar (or any other species) where there is no major forest health issue and which will result in the removal of any live access wood, damage to plantations, or disturbance to deactivated trail and road.
- Applications that involve the manufacturing or milling (e.g. of shakes) on site. Cedar must be removed to a scale site and authorized milling facility.

18.6 SSS in OGMAs

The SSS initiative generally does not issue licences in OGMAs. Knowledge and understanding of administrative requirements and important biological attributes of OGMAs is necessary when proposing harvest in these areas. Despite some very good recent attempts to remove beetle attacked timber while maintaining old growth attributes, the result has been removal of timber over and above maximum allowable accumulative levels (20%). Any proposed salvage in OGMAs must be reviewed with SSS staff before proceeding.

18.7 Retention Plans

Retention plans designed by major licensees for landscape level forest management have been developed for heavily beetle impacted parts of the district. Harvest by SSS should be consistent with the objectives of the retention plans and must meet SSS initiative criteria for minimal access wood and other qualifications.

18.8 Diseased Timber: General Strategy

Diseased timber is not usually considered to be in imminent danger of being lost or destroyed until the crown is completely dead. Furthermore, selection logging of root rot-infested timber may accelerate the spread of the disease. Most diseases move slowly, and the more resistant trees may persist for many years, producing disease-resistant seed. Salvage of diseased timber is therefore restricted to trees that are completely red or dead.

Qualified RPFs should keep in mind the widespread nature of root disease in most of the ICH and much of the wetter IDF BEC subzones within the Okanagan Shuswap Natural Resource District and must provide a strategy to address root disease management. It is recommended that applicants refer to the District Forest Health strategy regarding Root Diseases and Root Disease strategies. An alternative strategy is provided in Appendix 2.

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/managing-our-forest-resources/forest-health/forest-health-strategies/regional-forest-health-strategies>

18.9 Fire Killed Timber Salvage

In situation of large-scale fire kill, after major licensees have finalized their plans, (including NRFLs and SNRFLs) SSS clients may apply for salvage.

18.10 Harvest Outside Block Boundary

FLTC licences do not allow for removal of beetle attacked timber outside the block boundary. No falling of trees outside the boundary is authorized, with the exception of danger trees. Danger trees felled outside the block boundary must be left on the ground. In certain situations, a buffer may be required around danger trees instead of falling. If additional attacked timber is noted, a new FLTC may be required.

18.11 Reducing Tree Wounding

The most effective way to reduce decay and the resulting volume losses in residual trees is to prevent wounding during stand activities. This requires

not only good planning and logging practices but also well-trained personnel.

The recommendations in **Appendix 3** to reduce stand damage during harvest are summarized from several sources. Although intended primarily for thinning operations, many of the principles may be applied to any silviculture system.

19.0 SSS FOREST HEALTH STRATEGY

The DOS SSS initiative works strategically with the District Forest Health specialist to attain mutual objectives for forest health. SSS staff will work cooperatively with major licensees and forest health staff and share forest health information with salvage clients. Leading edge, beetle attacked stands are a high priority for salvage opportunities.

19.1 Fdi Applications and Beetle Flight

Applications for Douglas-fir salvage will be accepted throughout the year, however, no FLTC will be issued that allows for harvest immediately preceding or during Douglas-fir beetle flight. (April 15 to June 15). This will reduce the risk of beetle spread to adjacent healthy timber that may become scarred or wounded during harvest. Use of trap trees may be considered. Refer to the District Forest health strategy for Douglas-fir beetle strategies.

19.2 Forest Health Maps

A link to the PDF format Forest Health overview map is provided on the DOS website to assist in the identification of new opportunities for salvage applications. Note that this map is very large so may take some time to download. Click the link to the Forest Health Overview Map and Forest Health Strategy for the most current information on beetle activity and other forest health factors in the Okanagan TSA.

Maps can be found at:

http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/dos/programs/forest_health/forest_health_index.htm

20.0 RANGE

20.1 Range Barriers

FRPA Section 48 specifies that, "A person carrying out a forest practice that directly or indirectly removes or renders ineffective a natural range barrier must

carry out measures that are authorized by the minister to mitigate the removal or the ineffectiveness of the natural range barrier."

The RPF/applicant must identify potential breaches and the required remedial measures in their application after consulting with the range agreement holder. The RPF will also request FLNR range staff to review these specific PSAs prior to the issuance of the FLTC to ensure the proposed remedial measures are appropriate. If natural barriers are breached without consideration in their application, it will become a non-compliance issue.

The PSA application must include measures for mitigating breaches and should consider the following process:

1. Review FLNR information on tenure boundaries, pasture boundaries and Range Improvements,
2. Communicate with range tenure holders on harvest plans and practices,
3. Where a potential breach of barrier (tenure boundary, pasture boundary, or barrier to a water body in a community watershed) due to the proposed harvesting, the applicant must:
 - a. Make reasonable efforts to mitigate the breach of barrier by reaching agreement on measures to mitigate the breach with the Range tenure holder,
 - b. where agreement is reached, include the measures in the salvage plan and implement the measures,
 - c. in circumstances where agreement is not reached, provide options for resolving the issue to FLNR which may be utilized to facilitate an agreement with the timber licensee and range tenure holder.

Best Management Practices for mitigating the removal of natural range barriers in community watersheds are posted on the SSS website (currently in draft form)

A Range Impact Assessment form, to create open communication between Range Agreement holders and Timber Licensees, is available for use by PSA RPFs on the SSS website.

20.2 Range Concerns

As part of the RPF's due diligence, referrals to stakeholders including range tenure holders must be considered at the salvage application referral stage. Fence issues are only one of several range concerns.

A range fence damaged by harvesting operations or left in a non-functional condition due to downed timber that is part of a Small Scale Salvage FLTC

must be repaired to FLNR specifications within two weeks of harvest completion.

A range fence damaged by wind thrown timber may be the responsibility of the FLTC licensee. The licensee must include this information in their application and refer to both the range tenure holder and the FLNR range program staff.

Range staff at FLNR can assist in identifying range tenure holders in the application area.

20.3 Invasive Plants

FRPA Section 47 states "A person carrying out a forest practice or a range practice must carry out measures that are authorized by the minister to prevent the introduction or spread of prescribed species of invasive plants".

Factors to consider in the development of measures to prevent the introduction and spread of Invasive Plants follow:

- 1) Obtain information and locations of Invasive Plants
 - a. You can view locations of known invasive plants on the Forest Practices Branch's web site
 - b. General information on invasive plants can be viewed on the Ministry of Agriculture's web site:
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/agriculture-seafood/animals-and-crops/plant-health/weeds>
- 2) Questions No. 15 and 16 of the FRPA Administration Bulletin, number 3, dated November 07, 2005; provide guidance with respect to measures for Invasive Plants.
- 3) Draft "Invasive Plant Prevention Guidelines for Forest and Range Practices Act operational plans", dated October 2005.
- 4) "Habitat Susceptibility to Invasive Plants by BEC Zone" table identifies areas that are susceptible to the introduction and spread of invasive plants by plant species and biogeoclimatic variant.
- 5) Introduction and Spread of Invasive Plants that are of concern locally: Found on the SSS website under forms and guides, or on the DOS Range webpage.
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/plants-animals-ecosystems/invasive-species>

21.0 PERMANENT SAMPLE PLOTS

The RPF and licensee must take into consideration Permanent Sample Plots during application and harvesting. Please be aware that salvage operations must not impact the permanent sample plots or buffer area.

21.1 Field Detection

In the field our permanent sample plots use a pair of 3" X 5" annotated aluminium plaques on the tie tree (a reference tree adjacent to a road etc.) as well as on the plot reference tree near the sample plot centre. These plaques are nailed to the tree with 4 aluminium nails. In most instances we will have red annotated (Growth & Yield) flagging banding the reference and tie tree and marking the access tie line. The sample trees are tagged in most cases with circular blue plastic numbered tags which are nailed to the trees at breast height with aluminium nails.

21.2 PSP Spatial Information

You will be able to download the Inventory Growth and Yield (GY) PSP data view from DataBC by selecting http://catalogue.data.gov.bc.ca/dataset?=&q=PSP&download_audience=Public&sort=score+desc%2C+record_publish_date+desc

- Follow instructions on the site and determine whether you accept the terms and conditions before proceeding.
- Select “Add” From List and you will find the samples listed as (P) Growth and Yield Samples - Active Status (or All Status). The difference between these two views is listed below.
- You can select your area of interest AOI (e.g. Forest District, TFL etc.) if you do not require the entire province and you can specify the output format for the order.
- Submit the order and you will be notified when your download is available for recovery.

Detailed information is provided on the Vegetation Resources Inventory (growth and yield) website which has program information, standards and procedures and software downloads is located at: <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hts/vridata/>

22.0 FOREST FIRE PREVENTION AND SUPPRESSION

When completing Part III Section 3 of the salvage plan - Fire Prevention and Protection Measures, refer to the FOREST FIRE PREVENTION AND SUPPRESSION REGULATION for pile size/fireguard width requirements etc.

21.1 Holders of Open Burning Registration Numbers

Holders have a responsibility to extinguish ignited fires. Holders may also be responsible to pay for fire suppression costs if a wildfire results. Below is a link to the protection website where more information can be found on the legislation and on open fire restrictions:

<http://bcwildfire.ca/>

23.0 WORKSAFE BC

Please note that all salvage operators must be covered by the WorkSafeBC and must comply with the Act and Regulations. Workers Compensation Act and associated regulations require operators to provide Work Safe BC with a 5 day notice of project commencement for forest management activities. For WCB requirements and notice of project forestry (NOPF) forms try this link:

<http://www.worksafebc.com/>

24.0 FIREWOOD CASH SALES

24.1 Definition

This Policy applies to cash sale FLTCs of firewood for resale with a maximum volume of 50m³. A < 50 m³ FLTC will have conditions that include staying to existing logging roads and landings. Exemptions from hammer mark for volumes less than 300 m³ may be granted (paint and crayon still required). A Scaling exemption may be granted.

These Licences fall into two categories.

- Cut to length firewood sales
- Log length firewood sales (i.e. decked wood)

24.2 Cut To Length Firewood Sales

Firewood FLTCs are subject to the following conditions:

1. Only dead standing, or dead and down trees with no green foliage may be used for firewood. All firewood cut shall not exceed fifty-six (56) centimetres in length. This is to ensure that mill-able timber is not removed under this permit. No cutting or removal of cedar is authorized under this permit.
2. All trees shall be utilized to a top diameter of ten (10) cm, with stumps not exceeding thirty (30) cm from the ground.
3. Only hand tools (power chainsaw, saw, and axe) will be used.
4. The licensee will ensure that any chainsaw used is equipped with a muffler in good repair and that appropriate firefighting tools are available at the site.
5. All branches shall be lopped from the felled trees and the branches shall be scattered to be elevated no more than thirty (30) cm from the ground. All debris shall be cleared from roads, ditches and culvert entrances.
6. Timber of the following species and grades is specified as reserved:
 - a. all coniferous or deciduous species that are live, standing timber;

- b. all trees (live or dead) greater than forty (40) centimetres in diameter (diameter measured 1.3 meters from the ground);
 - c. all timber within wildlife tree retention areas.
 - d. all trees (live or dead) within 10 meters of stream banks, natural ponds or wetlands.
- 7. The Licensee may only harvest in accordance with the following conditions:
 - a. not in any way block, obstruct or damage any road, trail, water course, or property, and any damage caused by the Licensee will be removed and repaired forthwith by the Licensee at his/her own expense to the satisfaction of the Forest Officer;
 - b. not cause any damage to regenerating stands; and
 - c. leave the site in a clean and orderly manner.
- 8. The Licensee must complete a load description slip (FS649) before transporting timber from the Licence Area.

24.3 Log Length Firewood Cash Sales

Log Length FLTCs are subject to the following conditions:

- 1. On road and on landing operations only.
- 2. Fuel wood logs are restricted to grade 4, 6, and Z timber and deciduous.
- 3. Timber moved in log form has to be scaled by an authorized scaler and billed accordingly or exempted under a Dcash FLTC.
- 4. The licensee must submit a Fuel wood Reporting Form (Load Description Slip) to the scaling supervisor that indicates;
 - a. What has been hauled
 - b. Destination of load

24.4 Greater than 50 m3 FLTCs

50 m3 licenses are assessed (scaled) prior to issuance and no scale site designation is required. Where commercial firewood applications exceed 50 m3 a PSA is required. A scaling exemption is not normally granted for FLTCs > 50 m3.

Where a commercial firewood application includes plans for entering the net area to be reforested (NAR) from a previous harvesting operation, a professional salvage application is required. The PSA will include the site plan from the previous harvesting operation and will amend any variations from the plan using the salvage plan for the current FLTC. Agreement must be reached with the previous licensee to vary from the site plan.

24.5 Logging Debris Applications

Logging Debris Applications may be applied for after the previous licensee operations have ceased and the TSL or cutting permit has expired (Some exceptions apply (R&W has been completed at block specific level, ML has endorsed the salvage in writing). A waste survey must be completed prior to the issuance of a new salvage licence. A logging debris FLTC will include conditions such as to stay on existing logging roads and landings.

An alternative to harvesting debris under a FLTC is to make an agreement with the current licensee with an existing cutting permit or TSL. Note that the debris must be scaled under the original licensee's timber mark. Coniferous Grade 4 and deciduous volume will be attributed to the cut control /AAC of the original licensee.

25.0 SSS WASTE AND RESIDUE POLICY

25.1 Introduction

In British Columbia, the right to harvest Crown timber is conferred through the form of agreements under the Forest Act. The Forest Act and the agreements require licensees to carry out waste assessments.

Waste assessments are carried out to quantify the volumes of merchantable timber and waste left on the harvested areas following the completion of primary logging.

Because the mandate of SSS is to harvest and utilize small volumes of timber that are dead and/or in danger of being significantly reduced in value, lost or destroyed and would otherwise not be harvested, the risk of creating excessive waste and residue is low.

25.2 Definitions

"Waste" means timber, except timber reserved from cutting, whether standing or felled, which meets or exceeds the timber merchantability specifications described for the Interior in the Provincial Logging Residue and Waste Measurement Procedures Manual that was not removed from the cutting authority area.

"Unavoidable waste" means waste that:

- i. is inaccessible or physically obstructed;
- ii. could not be felled, bucked or removed due to safety or environmental reasons.

“Avoidable waste” means waste that does not fall within the definition of unavoidable waste.

“Merchantable timber” means timber that meets or exceeds the timber merchantability specifications that are described in Table 1-2 for the Interior in the Provincial Logging Residue and Waste Measurement Procedures Manual. Timber that is graded Grade 6 or Z is not merchantable.

“Residue” means the volume of timber left on the harvested area which meets or exceeds the size requirements but is below the log grade requirements of the minimum utilization standards in the cutting authority.

“Timber Merchantability Specifications” means stump height and diameter, log top diameter, slab thickness and log length described in Provincial Logging Residue and Waste Measurement Procedures Manual.

“Waste assessment” means an assessment conducted in accordance with the procedures set out in the Provincial Logging Residue and Waste Measurement Procedures Manual for determining the volumes of merchantable timber and waste left on a harvested area following completion of primary logging.

“Waste benchmark” means the volume of avoidable waste, expressed in cubic metres per hectare, which can be left on a harvested area without being subject to a monetary waste assessment.

25.3 Purpose

Waste assessments are carried out to bill licensees monetarily for timber, whether standing or felled, that was not removed from the cutting authority area and which meets or exceeds the timber merchantability specifications in accordance with the Provincial Logging Residue and Waste Measurement Procedures Manual.

25.4 Scope

This document identifies the steps the Okanagan Shuswap Natural Resource District Small Scale Salvage Initiative will take to comply with the legal requirements regarding waste and residue.

25.5 Take Or Pay

Licensees are free to extract any logs of value to them within the cutting authority areas subject to the Forest and Range Practices Act and the required forest management standards. Licensees must pay stumpage on timber removed and scaled, and waste assessments on timber, whether standing or felled that was not removed from the cutting authority area. This is referred to as the “Take or Pay” Policy.

25.6 Penalty Billing

The avoidable sawlog grade volumes are billed at the average stumpage rates determined in Appendix 3 of the Provincial Logging Residue and Waste Measurement Procedures Manual.

Avoidable waste volumes of grade 4, lumber reject are billed at \$0.25 per m3.

25.7 Waste Benchmarks

Waste benchmarks are currently still in effect but may be eliminated in the future. See the *Residue and Waste Manual Appendix* for details.

25.8 Factors Affecting Waste And Residue In SSS

25.8.1 Risk

Due to the fact that Small Scale Salvage recovers timber which would otherwise be significantly reduced in value or lost the risk of excessive waste and residue is very low.

25.8.2 Harvest Methods

Singletree select harvest and small patch cuts result in significant standing timber within the block and small volumes of wasted wood.

Because the licensees are required to leave small volumes of salvage timber if it would necessitate the removal of significant amounts of reserved timber, these trees cannot be regarded as waste.

25.8.3 Mountain Pine Beetle Epidemic

Due to the extent of the mountain pine beetle infestation and the rapid deterioration of beetle killed wood timber graded Grade 4 may not be merchantable even though it meets the criteria.

25.9 Requirements Under Legislation

A waste assessment must be completed on a cutblock within sixty (60) days after primary logging has been completed on the cutblock or within sixty (60) days that the cutting authority expires or is otherwise terminated, whichever occurs first, or as soon thereafter that the ground is sufficiently free of snow that an assessment may be carried out on the cutblock.

A waste assessment report for the cutblock must be submitted to the District Manager within thirty (30) days of the completion of the waste assessment.

25.10 Requirements Under SSS Policy

As part of the Post-Harvest Assessment which has to be carried out and submitted within 2 months of completion of harvest operations the RPF has to determine whether or not the waste and residue standards have been achieved. From a walkthrough, if waste and residue is not clearly below benchmarks, an Ocular Estimate Form (*R&W Manual Sec 3.3*) must be completed and submitted.

Where the licensee is required to leave small volumes of salvage timber to protect reserved timber, these trees cannot be regarded as waste.

25.11 Training & Certification

Ocular estimates must be submitted and signed off by a licensed surveyor or scaler, RPF or RFT. Where there are no revenue concerns, a district manager may exempt this requirement for minor tenures and woodlot licences.

25.12 Administration

The Small Scale Salvage Initiative will make waste and residue assessments part of their audits and include them in the audit reports.

26.0 INTERMEDIATE SALVAGE INITIATIVE

The Provincial 2006/07 Small Scale Salvage Action Plan included the commitment to investigate options for providing larger, competitive salvage opportunities. The objectives are to provide a new salvage tenure for harvesting and reforesting small isolated patches of salvage timber in a cost effective manner, and to provide an opportunity for small operators to bid on new salvage tenures. The intermediate salvage initiative's primary objective is for forest management use on a limited basis and as such is not intended to be client demand driven.

Intermediate Salvage criteria include a high percentage of blowdown or beetle attack in areas where it is expected that single tree salvage would not work, i.e. resulting in a non-stocked stand. Therefore, target stands are ones where harvesting would result in openings greater than 1ha and would exceed 2000 m³ and be less than 5000 m³. The tenure may apply to areas of high importance to regeneration, to wildfire interface, or to power lines but also may apply where volumes are too small or isolated for the major licensee.

The Intermediate Salvage FLTC may be tendered as an undeveloped or a fully developed salvage opportunity. The DM will assume the silviculture liabilities funded through silviculture levies.

26.1 Eligible Timber

Eligible Timber includes timber that is dead, is likely, in the opinion of the regional manager or district manager, to be damaged or killed by bark beetles, has been damaged by fire and is likely, in the opinion of the regional manager or district manager, to die within 3 years, or be at risk of attack by bark beetles, or is windthrown and, in the opinion of the Regional Manager or District Manager, must be harvested to limit or prevent the spread of bark beetles.

An FLTC may, at the discretion of the regional manager or district manager, include Crown timber that is interspersed with the timber described above, or must be harvested to provide access to the timber described above. The total volume of timber that may be specified in a FLTC entered into under the Licence to Cut Regulation section 2 must not exceed 5 000 m³.

26.2 Invitation to Tender

The District Manager or Regional Executive Director will invite tenders for an FLTC. These opportunities will be advertised on BC Bid, and SSS clients on the District SSS email contact list will be notified.

The primary purpose of this licence is to develop and salvage Crown timber. The District Manager may approve the application whose bonus bid is the highest of those tendered by the applicants with eligible applications. Applicants must submit only one bonus bid.

An estimate of the volume and the licence term will be provided in the tender. In undeveloped tender offers the estimated volume is normally based on an ocular estimate and not on a timber cruise. It is mandatory that all bidders view the entire site.

A licence area will be identified on a Schedule B map and a general location description will be provided. The boundary may or may not be marked in the field.

The successful applicant must enter into the Licence by a date determined by the District Manager. The term of the Licence will be dependent on the situation but will normally be less than 1 year. Upon written request, the term of the Licence may be extended by the District Manager. The FLTC will not be designated as a major licence under Section 1 the Forest Act.

Applications must be submitted in sealed containers marked "Application and Tender For Forestry Licence To Cut" and must be received by the District Manager by the time and date provided.

An eligible Tender must comply with the Invitation to Tender and propose a bonus bid and include a completed Tender with a security deposit, in the form of cash, money order, bank draft, and/or certified cheque from the applicant made payable to the Minister of Finance.

The application must be made on behalf of an entity having the legal capacity to enter into the agreement at the time the application is made. An individual or corporation is an appropriate legal entity. A corporation must be registered in the Province of British Columbia. A joint application is also acceptable as long as all companies are registered in British Columbia. The District Manager will not consider for approval a Tender that is not eligible.

An application submitted after the "DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS", or that does not include the required amounts of cash or approved security, will be rejected and deemed not eligible. An application that is incomplete or incorrect may be rejected. Facsimile applications and tenders are not acceptable and will be rejected and deemed ineligible.

In accordance with Section 81 of the Forest Act, an application will be rejected from an individual or corporation having an outstanding account at the time of tender opening, except where arrangements satisfactory to the District Manager have been made prior to the tender closing. Where

an application is rejected for non-payment of outstanding accounts, the deposit will be applied against any outstanding account. In accordance with Section 81 of the Forest Act, an application may be rejected from an individual or corporation holding an agreement of which the rights have been suspended under Section 76, 77 or 78 of the Forest Act.

26.3 Evaluation and Award

The District Manager may approve the eligible application of the applicant whose proposed bonus bid is the highest of those tendered by all applicants with eligible applications or may decline to approve any of the eligible applications.

The evaluation of applications will be based on the assessment of the amount of the bonus bid, if any, offered by each applicant. The bonus bid must be in whole multiples of whole dollars (i.e. \$1). There is no minimum bonus bid. In the event that two or more applications are received offering the same bonus bid, those applicants submitting the tied bonus bids will be requested to submit a tie breaking application. The original bonus bid will form the new minimum bonus bid to participate.

Unsuccessful applicants will be advised and moneys accompanying such applications will be refunded subject to any outstanding financial obligations the applicant may have to the government.

26.4 Timber Pricing – Intermediate Salvage

Timber pricing for sawlogs will be calculated in accordance with policy and procedures referred to under Section 105 of the Forest Act and described in the Interior Appraisal Manual (Section 6.1 - Miscellaneous Timber Pricing Policies 6.1, Table 6-1). The bonus bid will apply only to the Sawlog Grades 1, 2 and 4. Stumpage is generally advertised at 70 % of Table 6-1 of IAM.

Stumpage for non-sawlog grade logs will be calculated in accordance with the statutory rates described in the Interior Appraisal Manual. Special forest products will be scaled according to the Forest Act and the Scaling Regulations.

Free growing obligations will be the responsibility of the District Manager, unless a licence is designated as a “major” licence.

In accordance with the Interior Appraisal Manual (Part 6 – Miscellaneous Timber Pricing, Section 6.7 – Levies), a silviculture levy will be added to the reserve stumpage rate. The levy is determined by the District Manager and will be applied to all species and to grades 1, 2 and 4 unless otherwise indicated. Monies submitted to the government, where the

government carries out the silviculture obligations of the license, are non-refundable.

Section 75.21 of the Forest Act states that the holder of the licence must ensure that the volume of timber harvested under the licence does not exceed that maximum harvestable volume specified in the licence. The “volume of timber harvested” will be defined in the licence and the definition under Section 75.1 of the Forest Act does not apply to this licence.

All coniferous and deciduous species that are: Grade 1 Sawlog, Grade 2 Sawlog, and Grade 4 Lumber Reject, on all areas authorized for harvest associated with this licence, will be charged against the “volume of timber harvested” under this licence unless otherwise indicated.

26.5 Security Deposit

Each applicant must submit a security deposit with the “Application and Tender” form. The deposit must be the sum of 10 percent of the first \$100,000 of the total estimated stumpage value plus 5 percent of the remaining total estimated stumpage value. The security deposit must be in the form of cash, certified cheque, bank draft, money order and/or irrevocable line of credit (interest is not paid on any of these forms of security).

An Applicant may withdraw its Tender prior to the deadline for submitting Tenders without consequence by means of a letter requesting the withdrawal. The letter must be signed by the applicant and received by the District Manager before the deadline for submitting Tenders. An Applicant cannot withdraw its Tender after the deadline for submitting Tenders.

26.6 Processing of Tenders

All Tenders received by the District Manager prior to the deadline for submitting Tenders will be opened at the time and date specified. Each Tender will be examined to its eligibility. The District Manager will inform the successful applicant of the approval of its Tender.

The successful applicant will enter into an FLTC in accordance with Section 47.6 and 47.7 of the Forest Act within the period of time required by the District Manager, as stated in Section 2.

Where an applicant whose Tender is approved by the District Manager does not enter into the licence within the period of time required by the District Manager, the successful applicant's security deposit is forfeited to

the Crown in accordance with the Advertising, Deposits, Disposition and Extension Regulation.

An unsuccessful applicant is any applicant whose Tender was either refused or not approved. Except as indicated below, the security deposit submitted by the unsuccessful applicants will be returned to that applicant when the District Manager approves a Tender and a licence is entered or when the District Manager declines to approve any of the eligible Tenders.

The security deposit submitted by an applicant whose eligible Tender includes a proposed bonus bid that is second highest, of those Tendered by all applicants with eligible Tenders (the next highest applicant), will be returned to that applicant when the applicant whose Tender is first approved enters into the licence.

The total security deposit made by the applicant who enters into the Licence (the Licensee) will be returned to the Licensee upon the Licensee successfully completing its obligations under the Licence and the Forest Act, and paying all of its debts to the Government of British Columbia in accordance with the Financial Administration Act

26.7 Occupation and Harvesting Rights

No rights to remove Crown timber or to occupy Crown land are conferred by reason only that a Tender is approved. The occupation of Crown land or cutting of Crown timber may only be authorised by a fully executed forestry licence to cut. The right to harvest is subject to requirements of the licence and legislation, including operational planning requirements specified under the Forest and Range Practices Act and its Regulations.

The Licensee must consult with other forest tenure holders to resolve any harvesting conflicts related to forest development plans, forest stewardship plans, cutting permit applications, and road permit applications.

The Licensee must consult with the Ministry of Transport, power utilities, telephone utilities, and other agencies to resolve any harvesting conflicts related to forest development plans, forest stewardship plans, cutting permit applications, and road permit applications.

It is anticipated that short “bladed temporary access trails” will be required to harvest the licence area. Where required, use of a forest road for industrial use will be authorized through the issuance of a Road Use Permit. Road users should anticipate that they may be required to enter into joint road use agreements with the Road Permit holder(s). Where new roads are required to provide access, the licensee will conduct planning, construction, maintenance, and deactivation as authorized

through a road permit application, in accordance with the Forest and Range Practices Act.

Despite access rights and obligations which may be conferred through a Forestry Licence to Cut or associated road use permits, applicants are advised that FLNR does not warrant the Licensee's right of unfettered access to the Licence area which may be impeded by the actions of third parties including acts of disobedience or natural occurrences.

The estimated volumes of timber are prepared from field examinations, and there are no representations or warranties concerning the accuracy of the estimates or concerning the profitability of operations to be carried out under the Licence. Applicants are advised to verify all volume estimates in the invitation before submitting a Tender. FLNR does not guarantee volume, species or grade estimates.

An Intermediate Salvage Plan is to be completed prior to harvest. Undeveloped salvage opportunities require the licensee to complete the Salvage Plan.

Further information about the Intermediate Salvage Initiative may be obtained from district tenures staff. Also see the Licence to Cut Regulation.

27.0 SSS COMMUNICATION

Information exchanges will occur on a regular basis through meetings with the salvage community at large. An opportunity for questions, comments, discussion and feedback will occur throughout the year as needed during meetings, workshops, by phone, at the front counter, and through email correspondence. Field visits and individual meetings can be arranged by appointment as time permits.

In addition to this implementation plan (Initiative description), detailed information and guidance on the SSS initiative is provided in the salvage direction letters, in email correspondence to a distribution list of salvage clients and RPFs, and through presentations.

This implementation plan, related guidance documents as noted above, SSS forms, and district salvage maps, are posted on the DOS small scale salvage initiative public webpage:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/forest-tenures/timber-harvesting-rights/licence-to-cut/small-scale-salvage>

28.0 CONTACT INFORMATION

Further information and guidance on the DOS SSS initiative is available on the SSS website at: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/forest-tenures/timber-harvesting-rights/licence-to-cut/small-scale-salvage>

For additional information please contact the:

Okanagan Shuswap Natural Resource District,
2501 - 14th Avenue,
Vernon, B.C. V1T8Z1,
Phone: (250) 558-1700.
Toll free at 1-800-661-4099;

Inquiries should be directed as follows:

Megan Sheshurak, megan.sheshurak@gov.bc.ca 250 558-1711

Karri Lee, karri.lee@gov.bc.ca 250-550-2215

APPENDIX 1 - SSS STOCKING STANDARDS DEFINITIONS

Definitions	Updated 2015 10 19
Adjacent, Adjoining, Contiguous	Closer than 2 tree lengths from another harvest area
Affected Trees:	Dead timber or fire-damaged timber or wind thrown timber, or timber that is infested with bark beetles and in the opinion of the licensor will die within one year.
Clearcut with Reserves:	An opening that is at least 2 tree heights in width where less than 20 m ² /ha of residual basal area remains.
Clearcut:	An opening that is at least 2 tree heights in width from which all merchantable trees have been harvested.
Cutblock:	Any area under licence to harvest, whether clear cut, clear cut with reserves or intermediate cut.
Intermediate Cut:	A harvesting system where greater than 20 m ² /ha of residual basal area remains and is comprised of merchantable, commercial coniferous species (12.5 cm+ in PL; 17.5 cm+ dbh in all other species) that is sufficiently well-distributed (where each hectare must be sufficiently stocked).
Merchantable, coniferous species:	Must meet minimum Leave Tree Characteristics for Layer 1 Trees as described in appendix 10 of the Establishment to Free Growing Guidebook: Kamloops Region – May 2000.
Not satisfactorily restocked (NSR):	Productive forestland that has been harvested and has not been regenerated to the specified stocking standards for the opening. Includes clearcuts, patch cuts, and partially stocked stands with less than 20 m ² /ha basal area.
Patch cut with reserves:	For the purposes of the Okanagan Shuswap Natural Resource District SSS initiative, a patchcut is an opening less than 1 ha and greater than 0.25 ha in which less than 20 m ² /ha of merchantable, coniferous timber remains after harvesting.
Patchcut:	For the purposes of the Okanagan Shuswap Natural Resource District SSS initiative, a patchcut is an opening less than 1 ha and greater than 0.25 ha from which all merchantable trees have been harvested.
Sufficiently stocked stand	An ecologically suitable stocked residual stand exists post-harvest.
Uneven-aged stands:	Stands with three or more well represented and well defined age classes, differing in height, age, and diameter. These stands have an uneven and highly broken canopy (found in dry IDF, PP, and some ESSF stands).
Well-distributed:	Stocking is uniform throughout the stratum as measured on a per hectare basis. Each hectare is sufficiently stocked on its own.

APPENDIX 2 – DISEASED TIMBER: ALTERNATIVE STRATEGY (Link to the Root Disease Management Guidebook below)

<https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/rsi/external/publish/Forest%20Health/forest%20health%20references/RootDiseaseGuidebook%20May2018.pdf>

A unique set of disease management strategies and tactics is recommended for use in prescriptions in order to maintain favourable conditions for tree growth.

Minimum treatment levels by root disease

Site ecology should be given paramount consideration when creating prescriptions for managing root disease. Forest health treatments should be prescribed to maintain or enhance identified resource values. To ensure the long-term integrity and productivity of forest ecosystems, biological and ecological considerations should be the minimum constraining criteria used when determining the need for, and selection of, a treatment. Refer to Table 4 and Table 6 in the root disease guidebook for clarification on disease treatment levels and options. For host species susceptibility, consult Table 1.

1.1 ARMILLARIA ROOT DISEASE

(a) Minimal disease treatment level:

There are no restrictions on harvesting or regeneration strategies. However, unless Armillaria is completely absent from the stratum, consideration should be given to prescribing for tolerant or moderately susceptible species.

(b) Alternate disease treatment level:

Prescribe moderately susceptible or tolerant species for regeneration where ecologically appropriate. Where planting is prescribed, an alternating mixture of species should be considered. Planting of highly susceptible species is not recommended where susceptible host tree roots have not been removed.

Partial cutting systems should be used only where clearcutting or group selection cannot be applied due to constraints imposed by other resource values, the site, or where inoculum reduction can be achieved via stumping or push-over harvest.

(c) Intensive disease treatment level:

Push-over harvest or harvest conventionally and stump the stratum to reduce inoculum, and regenerate with any desired species. Group selection or partial cutting will not be applied within this stratum unless inoculum reduction is done via stumping or push-over harvest.

1.2 PHELLINUS ROOT DISEASE

(a) Minimal disease treatment level:

There are no restrictions on harvesting or regeneration strategies. However, unless Phellinus is completely absent from the stratum, consideration should be given to prescribing for moderately susceptible, tolerant or immune species.

(b) Alternate disease treatment level:

Prescribe moderate, tolerant or immune species for regeneration where ecologically appropriate. Where planting is prescribed, an alternating mixture of species should be considered. Planting of highly susceptible species is not recommended where susceptible host tree roots have not been removed.

Partial cut systems, within strata prescribed to be regenerated with highly or moderately susceptible species, should be used only where clearcutting, group selection, or group shelterwood cannot be applied due to conflicts with other resource values, site constraints, or where inoculum reduction can be achieved via stumping or push-over harvest.

(c) Intensive disease treatment level:

Push-over harvest or harvest conventionally and stump the stratum to reduce inoculum, and regenerate with any desired species. Group selection or partial cutting should not be used unless inoculum reduction is achieved via stumping or push-over harvest. Where this cannot be achieved, regenerate with tolerant or immune species. Consider moderately susceptible species only if planted as a minor (<20%) component.

1.3 TOMENTOSUS ROOT DISEASE

(a) Minimal disease treatment level:

There are no restrictions on harvesting or regeneration strategies. However, unless Tomentosus is completely absent from the stratum, consideration should be given to avoidance planting around infected stumps.

(b) Alternate disease treatment level:

Prescribe moderately susceptible, tolerant or immune species for regeneration where ecologically appropriate. Planting of highly susceptible species is not recommended where susceptible host tree roots have not been removed.

Avoidance planting, using highly susceptible species, can be done providing minimum stocking targets can be met (given the reduction in plan table spots resulting from a 5 metre radius buffer around infected stumps).

(c) Intensive disease treatment level:

Push-over harvest or harvest conventionally and stump the stratum to reduce inoculum, and regenerate with any desired species. Group selection or partial cutting should not be used unless inoculum reduction is achieved via stumping or push-over harvest.

1.4 ALTERNATIVE STRATEGY

The RPF may provide a rationale for a different strategy.

APPENDIX 3 - REDUCING TREE WOUNDING

(Link to the Tree Wounding and Decay Guidebook below)

<https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/hfp/external/!publish/FPC%20archive/old%20web%20site%20contents/fpc/fpcguide/Decay/Tw-toc.htm>

The most effective way to reduce decay and the resulting volume losses in residual trees is to prevent wounding during stand activities. This requires not only good planning and logging practices but also well-trained personnel. The following recommendations to reduce stand damage during harvest are summarized from several sources. Although intended primarily for thinning operations, many of the principles may be applied to any silviculture system.

1.1 BEFORE HARVEST

- Manage on short rotations. Keep rotations to less than 150 years. Even in unmanaged stands, incidence of decay increases after this age because of natural injuries.
- Restrict the operating season. Do not let harvesting occur during spring and early summer, when sap is flowing, and the bark is not tight. Trees are easier to wound, and injuries are often larger.
- Thin stands as young as is practical. Decay following injury is confined to wood existing at the time of injury. Therefore, the smaller the tree at the time of injury, the smaller the volume of wood that will be susceptible to decay.
- Consider local environmental conditions when evaluating stand management options. In locations with high wind risk, removing more than 25 per cent of stand volume may cause excessive damage due to windfall.
- Match the size and type of equipment to topography, tree size, soil type and soil condition.
- Select crop trees with at least 50 per cent live-crown ratio, at least 20 cm of current leader growth to ensure release, the best form and growth, and no evidence of previous wounding or decay (e.g., fruiting bodies of decay fungi along the stem).
- Plan skid trails before logging. Use straight-line trails wherever possible and avoid sharp turns. This not only reduces skidding distance but eliminates the damage that may occur at the turns.
- Designate "rub" or "bump" trees. These trees are to be harvested last. Culled logs may also be placed along the edges of skid trails to protect residual trees.
- Match log length with final spacing. Close spacing requires that short logs be skidded. Wider spacing allows longer logs to be skidded, with minimal damage to residual trees. Skidding whole trees increases damage to residual trees.

- Gain the cooperation of the operators. Help operators realize that most damage to residual trees is unnecessary and avoidable. Both training and supervision may be necessary to provide desired results.

1.2 DURING HARVEST

- Log skid trails first and utilize marked for removal rub trees to mitigate scarring of leave trees.
- Use directional felling. Fell trees to minimize the need for skidder manoeuvring.
- Logs should be limbed before skidding. Cut limbs flush with the bole, because stubs may redirect skidded trees into residual trees. Stubs may also snag on residual trees, causing deep injuries.
- Wound dressings are considered unnecessary. Chemical and biological control measures have not proven effective in preventing decay. In some cases, wound dressings may even encourage decay.
- Stump treatments are generally unnecessary. Unless thinning or harvesting in areas with a high incidence of *Heterobasidion annosum*, treating the stump surface with chemicals is unnecessary.

For more information on reducing tree damage, consult the *Commercial Thinning Guidebook*.

1.3 MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE REGIMES

The impact that decay fungi have on the prescription depends largely on the retention period for the trees left behind. *Decay fungi have a minimal impact where residual trees are removed within a few years* (e.g., seed trees). The management objectives of the prescription determine how decay fungi are to be managed in a stand. Review the four suggested regimes below and decide which best fits your situation. The examples provided are not meant to be exclusive.

Regime A (short-term retention)

Apply this regime where the stand will be re-entered for a final harvest within 20 years. Examples include seed trees, poling and commercial thinning.

Stands managed under this regime can withstand considerable damage, regardless of species (with the possible exception of broadleaves). The remaining stems will be removed before decay pathogens have a chance to cause significant decay. Some incipient stain is likely to occur, but serious loss of volume or quality is not likely. Due to the short retention

period, even the most decay-prone species may be managed successfully under this regime.

Regime B (long-term retention)

This regime applies where the residual stand is maintained for a longer period or there is a long period between stand entries (i.e., 20 to 40 years). Examples of this regime include partial cutting with retention, shelterwood systems and commercial thinning.

Stands managed under this regime are moderately susceptible to loss, depending on a combination of degree of wounding, species composition and retention. Using the damage criteria for this regime may result in some loss in volume and quality. These losses, however, should not be significant.

Regime C (true uneven-aged management)

This regime applies where the stand is managed in a true uneven-aged state. Examples include selection systems.

Stands managed under this regime are very susceptible to loss from decay. Harvesting across a profile of stem sizes and ages results in the prolonged retention of some trees and may allow decay to progress to a level where losses become serious. The damage criteria for this regime are set to restrict these losses to an acceptable level.

1.4 DAMAGE CRITERIA BY MANAGEMENT REGIME

Consult the following matrix to determine what decay damage is acceptable, based on the prescription. As indicated earlier, the acceptable levels of damage are influenced by the management regime and species group.

Table 4. Damage criteria matrix

Species susceptibility group	Stand management objective			
	Short-term retention	Long-term retention	Uneven-aged management	Special management areas
Broadleaf	C	E	E	E
B, H, Lw, Ss, and Cw	B	C	D	E
<60 years				
Cy, Sx, and Cw >60 years	B	C	C	D
Fd, Pw	A	B	C	C
Pl, Py	A	A	B	C

Use the following criteria when assessing partial-cut sites for satisfactory residual crop trees. Trees that exceed the specified criteria are unsuitable, because the damage will:

- let decay fungi colonize injured areas and degrade tree quality and growth
- prevent the crop tree from releasing and taking advantage of better growing conditions
- result in unacceptable tree form.

Definitions: A *wound* is an injury that removes a portion of the bark and cambium from the tree but does not penetrate into the sapwood. A *gouge* involves penetration into the sapwood or deeper. A *supporting root* is one that originates from the base of the tree and maintains a diameter greater than 2 cm.

Based on biological considerations, a tree is *not acceptable* as a residual crop tree if it meets or exceeds the following levels of damage, as determined by the stand management regime defined in Table 4 of the Tree Wounding and Decay Guidebook

<https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/hfp/external/!publish/FPC%20archive/old%20web%20site%20contents/fpc/fpcguide/Decay/tw2.htm#table4>.

Damage Type A:

- The tree has a wound that girdles more than half of the stem circumference.

Damage Type B:

- The tree has a wound that girdles more than a third of the stem circumference.
- The tree has a wound on a supporting root within 1 m of the stem.
- The tree has a gouge in the stem.

Damage Type C:

- The tree has a wound that girdles more than a third of the stem circumference.
- The tree has one wound exceeding 400 cm² on the stem.
- The tree has a wound on a supporting root within 1 m of the stem.
- The tree has a gouge in the stem.

Damage Type D:

- The tree has a dead or broken top representing three or more year's growth or longer than 1 m.
- The tree has a wound that girdles more than a third of the stem circumference.
- The tree has one wound exceeding 400 cm² on the stem.
- The tree has a wound on a supporting root within 1 m of the stem.
- The tree has a gouge in the stem.

Damage Type E:

- The tree has a dead or broken top.
- The tree has a wound that girdles more than a quarter of the stem circumference.
- The tree has a strip wound 5 cm or wider and 0.8 m or longer.
- The tree has a wound exceeding 400 cm² on the stem.
- The tree has a wound on a supporting root within 1 m of the stem.
- The tree has a gouge on the stem.

Under a timber management objective, leave-trees should be as defect- and disease-free as possible. Leave-trees should not have defects such as forks, large wounds, dead or broken tops, rotten branches or frost cracks. Leave-trees should also be free of diseases causing stem cankers, mistletoe brooms and conks. Under other management objectives, diseased or damaged trees may be retained for a particular purpose, such as wildlife trees.

APPENDIX 4 - ESF SUBMISSIONS

Mandatory Fields for Electronic Submission of Forestry Licence to Cut (FLTC)	
Submission Type:	Forest Tenure Administration (FTA)
Coordinate System:	BC Albers
Email address:	client/submitter's email address
Telephone #:	client/submitter's telephone #
Client #:	client code from Client Mgmt. System
Client Location Code:	client location code from Client Mgmt. System
Administrative District:	DOS-Okanagan Shuswap Natural Resource District
Licensee Contact:	name of licensee contact
Type of Application:	Harvest Application
Application Purpose:	Amend
Application Description:	Geographic location
Geographic District:	DOS-Okanagan Shuswap Natural Resource District
Cascade Split:	E-East
Provincial Forests:	IN/OUT/Partially within a provincial forest - choose the correct one
Management Unit Type:	U-Timber Supply Area
Management Unit ID:	22
BCGS Map Reference:	BCGS Mapsheet #
Licence Type:	B07- Forestry Licence to Cut
Purpose:	SS-Small Scale Salvage<2000m3
Licence:	This is your FLTC # provided by District FLNR

APPENDIX 5 – FIRST NATIONS INFORMATION SHARING PROCESS FOR SSS

Process:

- Identify which First Nations should be included in the information sharing process Consider using the public CAD tool and/or MFLNRO staff.
- Contact the appropriate First Nations and provide detailed information about the proposal.
 - Date: Date of pre-application.
 - Licence and Licensee: FLTC number and /or reference number if available and name of licence holder.
 - Blocks or Patches: List of blocks included in the referral summary.
 - Geographic Location/Operating Area: General area of the application and operating area.
 - Map: Provide maps (site map and overview) and access instructions and geographic co-ordinates
 - Area: Hectares proposed in the application
- Ensure the entire development is within the area that was referred to First Nations (e.g. size, shape, location).
- Ensure a reasonable effort was made to contact First Nations about the referral, and First Nations had a reasonable opportunity to respond or participate in the planning process.
- Allow sufficient time for FN information sharing and the possibility of a field trip to the site.
- Information may be gathered by the forest professional that is the focus of a traditional use by an aboriginal people and that is of continuing importance to that people and not regulated under the Heritage Conservation Act. Cultural heritage resource assessments are typically completed by First Nations under a fee for service agreement.
- **Communication Summary:**
The Licensee summarizes and submits the communication that occurred during the information sharing process.
 - For each First Nation include:
 - Contact Name
 - Date
 - Method of Communication
 - Concern Identified
 - Measures taken to Address concern
 - For Example:

Contact Name	Date	Communication Method Phone, email, letter, field review	Concern Identified	Measures to Address Concern
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- Clearly document issues and how they were addressed. This documentation should identify the First Nations, the Issue, the Mitigation, and indicate that “Close the Loop” steps have been taken. This informs government that the licensee has adequately addressed concerns of the First Nation in response to the mitigation of the issue.
- The forest professional declares that information about the proposed forest developments was shared with First Nations including that all information within the report is complete and the licensee has addressed all operational concerns.
- Indicate if First Nations have not responded with any concerns. It is important to attempt to follow up with First Nations, if they have not responded to your primary communication efforts.
- Attempt to resolve concerns prior to submitting a PSA. There may be situations where the licensee has exhausted all reasonable options and requests FLNR staff to resolve the concern. If necessary, it is best to seek the involvement of government staff early in the process
- Clearly document issues and how they were addressed. This documentation should identify the First Nations, the issue, the mitigation, and indicate that “close the loop” steps have been taken.

APPENDIX 6 - STAKEHOLDER REFERRAL DETAIL

Due diligence in completing a professional salvage application includes referring the application to other stakeholders. Stakeholders requiring referrals will vary by application area, however, range tenure holders, trappers, guide outfitters, community watershed groups, water purveyors, water licence holders, and land act tenure holders, are only some of many that need to be considered.

Below are instructions for accessing background information on trappers and guide-outfitters. Range tenure holders can be identified with help from the range staff at the district office.

1.1 TRAPLINE IDENTIFICATION

To access trapline maps

- On the internet, go to DataBC and follow online instructions to download data. <http://maps.gov.bc.ca/ess/sv/imapbc/>
- Under “I want to” choose “Add DataBC layers
- Under “Filter” type “Trapline”. Click “Trapline Boundaries” and “apply”
- Under Navigation tab click “Zoom in” and or “Pan” to zoom to the area you are interested in.
- Under the “Analysis” tab click “Point” and with the cursor click on the area of interest.
- A table of will appear at the left of the screen with the Trapline identifier number.
- Repeat procedure to acquire the Guide Outfitter name and certificate number.
- Once a Trapper's registration number is identified - contact the SSS staff or the Ministry of Environment Wildlife Biologist in the Penticton Office for the name and address of the trapper.

1.2 GUIDE OUTFITTER IDENTIFICATION

Names of guide outfitters can be identified using the same steps provided for Traplines. Their contact address can be found on the last page of the document below.

Another useful site below provides Wildlife Management Units
http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/fw/wildlife/docs/mu_maps/south%20east.pdf

APPENDIX 7 – PROVINCIAL STANDARDS FOR APPLICATION FOR A FLTC

Pre-application planning

To prepare an application for submission, the applicant, or a professional acting for the applicant must take the necessary steps to assess the area and gather information needed for an application. These activities include, but are not limited to:

1. Determining that the proposed salvage is consistent with the district forest health plan or the district salvage plan.
2. Confirming that the proposed application area will not be in conflict with an existing tenure or application.
3. Carrying out a referral to major licensee(s) and/or BC Timber Sales if either has a Forest Stewardship Plan (or Forest Development Plan) for the area and obtain written confirmation that they do not dispute the proposed application.
4. Consulting with other tenure holders or agencies where appropriate.
5. Verifying the land status and ownership.
6. Identifying potential conflict with any known archaeological features.

Application

An application must be submitted in writing to the District Manager. The application must contain the information set out below and in the attached form “small scale salvage application” and any additional information required by the District Manager in a local procedure or guideline.

1. The location of the timber proposed for harvest and confirmation of land status.
2. The cause of the timber mortality (e.g. insects, windthrow, fire, disease etc.).
3. The volume and species of the timber proposed for harvest, including and described separately: dead timber, in danger (damaged or infested and expected to be dead within one year), interspersed with dead or endangered, or timber that must be harvested to provide access to the dead or endangered timber.
4. The method of harvest (e.g. patch cut, selective cut).
5. The proposed term of the licence.
6. Documentation of referrals to major licensees, BC Timber Sales or others, including how comments were addressed.
7. Such information as is required by the district manager or regional manager for establishment of a stumpage rate.
8. A map showing the boundaries of each harvest area, prepared to quality suitable for use as Exhibit A in the licence.
9. Information describing any road use agreements or requirements pertinent to the application.
10. A declaration signed and sealed by a qualified professional, that the application has been professionally prepared.
11. Signature of the applicant or a person authorized in writing by the applicant.

Review and approval criteria

The Ministry may approve an application made under this policy and issue a licence if the following criteria are satisfied:

1. The timber volume applied for does not exceed 2000 m³.

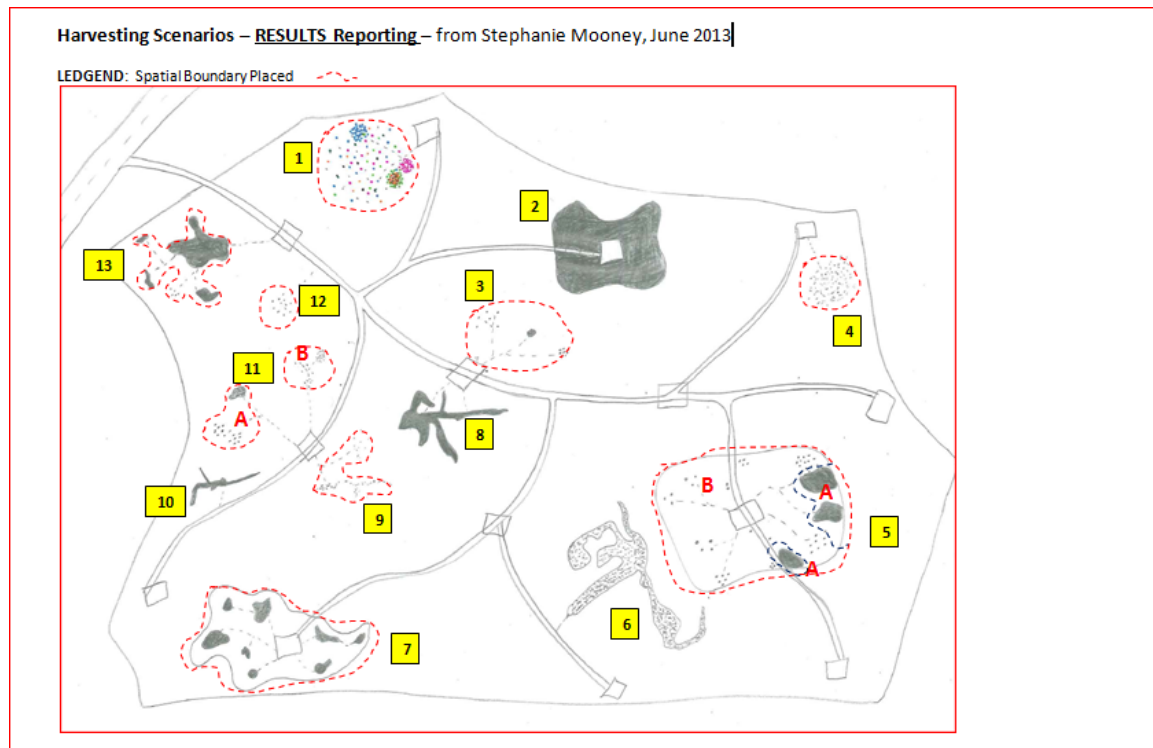
2. The timber applied for in the application is dead, or in the opinion of the regional manager or district manager, meets the definitions set out in Section 2 of the Licence to Cut Regulation under the Forest Act.
3. The application is consistent with the applicable statutes, including the Forest and Range Practices Act and the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation.
4. The application is consistent with the district forest health strategy or a district small scale salvage plan.
5. In the opinion of the district manager or the regional manager, the applicant is capable of carrying out the salvage in a manner consistent with the objectives and guidelines for the area.
6. The applicant is not in default of another agreement with the Crown.
7. The district manager is satisfied that a licence issued according to the application will not be in conflict with the Ministry Small Scale Salvage Strategy or associated policies.
8. Issuance of a licence or cutting permit will not unduly infringe on aboriginal rights and title.
9. The application has been prepared and signed in a manner consistent with this policy.

A forestry licence to cut, or cutting permits pertaining to one, must be consistent with Section 47.7 of the *Forest Act* and with a licence document format approved by the Director, Resource Tenures and Engineering Branch, and may include such additional conditions as are determined necessary by the district manager or regional manager to achieve the purpose of this policy.

For additional provincial guidance see the SSS provincial website:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/forest-tenures/timber-harvesting-rights/licence-to-cut/small-scale-salvage>

APPENDIX 8 – HARVESTING SCENARIOS - RESULTS



Interpretation of Suitable “Treed Retention Reporting Document - 2014” Applicable Examples – Dave Weaver Jan. 2014

Numbered Harvest Openings, Grouped in Common Scenario Interpretations**

** All depends on Management Intent and Prescriptions and Scale (width and area) (i.e. Uneven-aged and Multiple Entry with FG obligations [*Multi-storey*]; Even-aged and Single Entry with FG obligations [*Clearcut, Small Patch Clear Cut and Clear cut with Grouped or Dispersed Retention*]; Even-aged and Multiple Entry with FG obligations [*Shelterwood*]; or Even-aged and Single Entry with NO FG obligations [*Intermediate Cut or Commercial Thinning*])**

Harvest Opening Number	Interpreted EXAMPLE Match	Treed Retention EXAMPLE Section Number
1	(Multiple year Entries) -Combination of Single Tree and -Group Selection	4.2.1 4.2.2
2 , 5A ,	-Clear Cut or Small Patch Clear Cut	4.1.2 or regular RISS

3 , 5B, 9 , 12	-Intermediate Cut or -Single Tree selection (first cut)	4.2.3 4.2.1
6 , 4	-Single Tree selection (first cut) or -Clearcut with Dispersed Retention	4.2.1 4.1.2
7 , 13	-Group Selection (Multiple year Entries) or -Irregular Shelterwood (Multiple year Entries) or -Small Patch Clear Cut	4.2.2 4.2.4 4.1.2 or regular RISS
8 , 10	(Extra Wide Skid Trail) -Intermediate Cut or -Small Patch Clear Cut	4.2.3 4.1.2 or regular RISS
11A , 11B	-Combination of Single Tree and -Group Selection or -Intermediate Cut	4.2.1 4.2.2 4.2.3

APPENDIX 9 – PSA DOCUMENTS (ON SSS WEBSITE)

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/forest-tenures/timber-harvesting-rights/licence-to-cut/small-scale-salvage>

1)	SSS Pre-Application Form	Application form and instructions to have an area considered for small scale salvage -
2)	Salvage Plan - 2016	Forestry Licence to Cut Salvage Plan – required for PSA
3)	Interior Stumpage Rate Request Form	Form used to gather information required for rate determination
4)	Small Scale Salvage Field Report	Field data collection form- not for submission
5)	Salvage Plan Amendment Form	Professional submission detailing changes to the salvage Plan which result from extension or amendment requests.
6)	Small Scale Salvage Major Licensee Referral	Referral information required for application
7)	Small Scale Salvage RPF Certification	Certification required for a professional application
8)	SSS Post Harvest Assessment Form	Post Harvest Assessment Form identifying outstanding obligations and adherence to plan proposed in the Salvage Plan
9)	Fire Hazard Assessment Form	For post-harvest fuel loading data collection as per Wildfire act

10)	Application to Designate Site of Scale	Timber removed from private land will need to be scaled and the scale site will have to be approved by the FLNR.
11)	Range Impact Assessment Form	If within a Range Tenure, this form is required