



Ministry of  
Forests

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## FOREST TENURES BRANCH

# Sale of Decked Crown Timber

Operations such as clearing for roads, hydro right of ways, gravel pits and other operations (occupant licences to cut) often result in Crown timber being cut and decked on a roadside or landing. This Crown timber<sup>1</sup> can be subsequently sold through a direct award or through the tendering and awarding of a competitive decked timber sale.

Decks of timber that include volume greater than 500 m<sup>3</sup> should be referred to the local BC Timber Sales office. If BCTS is not interested in selling the decked timber, then the District Manager may proceed with the sale.

**Note:** *Decked timber seized under section 67 of FRPA that is to be sold must be auctioned in the manner outlined in section 67 of FRPA.*

Where appropriate, decked Crown timber within an area-based tenure could be removed through a cutting permit issued to the licensee.

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<sup>1</sup> Does not apply to BC Timber Sales operations.

## **AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO A FORESTRY LICENCE TO CUT**

Decked timber can be sold through a Forestry Licence to Cut entered into under Section 47.6 (2) (b.2) or 47.6 (2.11) of the Forest Act. Forest Act 47.6 (2) (b.2) provides for only the removal of Crown timber that has already been cut and decked. This form of licence does not allow any additional cutting or processing of timber. Similarly, Section 47.6 (2.11) is for fibre recovery and may be issued to remove decked or waste material after primary harvesting and is considered outside of this procedure.

This authority has been delegated to Regional Managers and District Manager (see [ministry delegation matrix](#)). The matrix also provides for sub-delegations to a Forest Officer for volumes up to a maximum of 2000 m<sup>3</sup>.

## **DIRECT VS. COMPETITIVE AWARD**

Disposing of decked Crown timber may be completed through a direct award of a FLTC or through a competitive process. Factors to be considered when determining if the decked timber should be directly awarded or put up for competitive sale include: volume, value and species of the timber; location (i.e., within area-based tenure), distance from processing plant; number of parties that may be interested in the timber; need for expedited removal (fire hazard; insect and disease).

A ministry policy is that all decks over 2000 m<sup>3</sup> should be competitively sold. However smaller decks of valuable timber (old growth cedar and fir) should be competitively awarded to maximize revenue to the Crown.

Ministry procedures and a comprehensive tender package have been developed to be used for processing competitive decked timber sales. The various documents can be found on the Forest Tenure Branch [Decked Timber Sale Website](#).

If a deck cannot be disposed of either through a competitive sale or direct award then other options to deal with the decked wood include

- contract to remove and dispose, possibly through chipping and grinding;
- approving for public firewood cutting (free use permits); or
- leaving as is.