



Introduction

Through the Timber sale license (TSL), a Licensee is granted rights to harvest Crown timber. The TSL also obligates the Licensee to comply with various legislation, regulations and with any obligation contained within the TSL agreement. BC Timber Sales (BCTS) provides copies of legally required plans. BCTS may provide other informational plans and guidance to the Licensee, intended to provide a reasonable expectation of meeting the results and strategies of the Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP).

The TSL document was revised to include the following clauses with respect to having a Plan:

- 0.10 The Licensee must have a plan that covers primary forest activities on the cutting authority area prior to commencement of primary forest activities.
- 0.11 The Licensee must amend the plan referred to in paragraph 4.10 before the Licensee intends to conduct primary forest activities in a way that is different from what is described in the plan.
- 0.12 The Licensee must submit the plan or amendment referred to in paragraphs 4.10 or 4.11 if requested by the Timber Sales Manager.

Any plan prepared or proposed to be amended must be consistent with the results and strategies in the approved FSP, and consistent with the various acts and obligations of the TSL or Road Permit (RP).

Definitions

Informational Plans - are any non-legally required plan, set of documents or amendment that provides information or guidance to on the ground forest management activities on the area. It includes any combination of: maps, text, reports or drawings. Some examples of informational plans are, but not limited to: harvest plans, road layout and design, deactivation plans, terrain stability field assessments, or road maintenance plans.

Legal Plans are any legal document that is required to be prepared to set conditions as described in various acts and regulations. The TSL document and the legal content of a site plan, per section 34 of the *Forest Planning and Practices Regulation* (FPPR), are examples of legal plans. Assessments for cutblocks carried forward under section 196(2) of the *Forest and Range Practices Act* are also considered legal plans.

Forest Professional - A person admitted under Section 14 of the *Foresters Act* as a Registered Professional Forester, Registered Forest Technologist, or a holder of a special permit entitled to practice professional forestry as defined in the *Foresters Act*, SBC 2003 c. 19, as amended.

Primary Forest Activity – As defined in section 1 of the FPPR.

1. Changes to the TSL Agreement

The TSL Agreement will only be amended to respond to a court ordered modification of harvesting rights due to infringement on rights or title of a First Nation, or an unidentified resource value.

2. Changes to the Site Plan

A site plan is a legally required plan that identifies describes how the results and strategies in specified in the FSP apply to a TSL. Only the holder of the FSP may prepare a site plan, therefore the Timber Sales Manager is the legal owner of the site plan and is the only person who may amend it. There are no foreseeable circumstances where a site plan may be required to be amended in the harvesting of a TSL: plan changes required in the course of operations are described in “Informational Plan Changes” below.

Changes to the amount of permanent road must be submitted to the TSM so that the Net Area to be Reforested in the site plan can be amended by BCTS staff. This can be submitted after harvesting is complete.

3. Informational Plan Changes

The TSL holder may replace or amend Informational Plans, however, the new plan must still comply with the BCTS FSP, Environmental Management System (EMS) requirements and all other applicable legislation. As per Part 4 of the TSL, the agreement holder must amend the plan prior to conducting primary forest activities that differ from those outlined in the original Informational Plan.

As a best practice, all changes to the plan need to be clear and communicated to workers on site prior to implementing the change. Proper documentation must be retained to support the change. The attached template could be used to properly document the change and the rationale for the change.

In accordance with Part 4 of the licence document, the licensee must submit the amended plan to the TSM upon request. BCTS uses the updated Plans to ensure EMS requirements are measured against the amended plan. Although BCTS receives the amended Informational Plan, they do not approve it.

Changing the Informational Plan falls within the scope of professional Forestry as governed by the *Forester’s Act*. When carrying out forest activities on Crown land, a Forest Professional must prepare a plan for that activity.

Examples

- Change in harvest method
- Changes to road design and road location
- Changes to WTRA location

Suggested Process to Change an Informational Plan

1. Prior to completing forest activities contrary to an existing plan the Licensee must amend the existing plan.
2. It is recommended that the Licensee inform the BCTS harvesting technician of the proposed change so that BCTS can provide the Licensee with relevant information for consideration by the licensee's forest professional when making the proposed change.
3. If informed, the technician discusses with their supervisor and the practices forester and provides the licensee with relevant information.
4. It is recommended that the Licensee use Forest Professionals as legally required by the *Foresters Act* to create the amended plan. The Forest Professionals may use other qualified professionals (PGeo, Peng. Hydrologists, Biologists) to provide assessments or advice in amending the plan.
5. Licensee documents the amendment and retains a copy with their records.
6. Licensee provides the BCTS Harvest Technician with a copy of the amended Plan.
7. Licensee continues work under amended plan.

3. Minor changes not requiring documentation to be submitted:

Licensees must ensure that any change to the Informational Plan does not impact other resource values. Minor changes are not normally required to be submitted to the TSM, but must be submitted upon request by the TSMs representative. The amended Plan must always be clearly documented and communicated to workers on site.

Examples

- Moving a landing in situations not affecting other resource values
- Moving a temporary in-block road where there are no TSA recommendations
- Moving a temporary skid trail where there are no TSA recommendations
- Moving a permanent road within the right of way
- Moving a temporary stream crossing where riparian values are not impacted

Template for Changing the Project Plan

Appendix A may be used by the licensee and provides general considerations (checklist) and suggested content (template) when making a change to the Project Plan. If applicable, the map accompanying the content below should **clearly** identify the change.

When considering changing a BCTS plan, a registered professional must comply with all current legislation and consider the eleven FRPA values (Biodiversity, Cultural Heritage, Fish/Riparian, Forage and Associated Plant Communities, Recreation, Resource Features, Soils, Timber, Visual Quality, Water and Wildlife). In addition the change in plan document must ensure that the Results and Strategies contained in the FSP will still be met. Specifically, any changes to the existing plan must consider the above values and the FSP and address them in the document which is considered the Project Plan.

Appendix A Changing the Plan Notification Form

License #	Block #
Licensee	Location
Date	

Description of Change

Rationale

Checklist of Potential Considerations and Documentation

Assessment	Yes / No
Terrain Stability	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Avalanche Assessment	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Visual Impact Assessment	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Hydrological Assessment	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Ungulate Winter Range Implications	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Wildlife Tree Retention Area % and does the Change impact the FSP %	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Biodiversity OGMAs + or Mature requirements	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Cultural Heritage Assessments	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Archeological Assessments:	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Natural Drainage Maintained	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Range Management Measures	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Other?	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Other resource values that may be impacted?	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
	Yes / No
Changes Consistent with FSP Results and Strategies?	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Map and GPS Shape File Required and Included	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Amendment to Original Harvest Plan Map +/-or Road Overview Map	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Changes communicated to necessary workers ?	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

Signing and Sealing Registered Professional:	Date:
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