



Sunshine Coast Natural Resource District: Guide to Removing Danger Trees

How do I obtain Authorization to Limb or Remove a Danger Tree on Crown Land adjacent to my property?

When you identify a tree(s) on Crown Land adjacent to your property, that you believe is a potential hazard to your safety or improvements, submit a package with the following to the Sunshine Coast Natural Resource District:

- A letter briefly describing why you believe these trees are potentially hazardous. Please include your full name, address and phone number, and legal description of your property.
- A copy of a map that indicates the location of the hazard tree(s) in relation to your property boundaries. Indicate the location of the trees by marking a 'X' at their location, and also include the species and diameter (at 1.3 meters above the ground) for each tree. (Instructions for creating maps using iMapBC are provided in a separate document).
- Photographs that show how these trees are potentially dangerous to your property or improvements, which include an identifiable object to indicate the scale of the photos. Please indicate the location from which the photos were taken, on the map noted above.
- Unless the tree(s) is dead or it shows obvious signs of instability or damage, submit a report from a wildlife/danger tree assessor* or a licensed arborist that concludes that the tree(s) is hazardous and, therefore, recommends the topping, crown thinning or removal of the tree(s).

*wildlife/danger tree assessor – an individual who has successfully completed a wildlife/danger tree assessors course recognized by WorkSafe BC.

Please note, it is your responsibility to ensure that your proposed tree cutting is in compliance with all applicable local municipal or regional district tree cutting bylaws.

Also note that the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) has jurisdiction over all activities within gazetted highway right of ways. Concerns over danger trees located within these areas should be referred directly to MOTI.

What happens to the Crown Timber that I am Authorized to Cut?

District staff will review your application and conduct an assessment of the quantity and quality of the timber that you propose to cut. Generally, for small volumes, you will be issued a Free Use Permit which authorizes you to cut down the hazard tree(s) and utilize them for personal use firewood. If the assessment determines that the volume and quality is marketable, you will be required to deck the timber at an accessible location for a future timber sale of harvested Crown timber.

If you are required to deck the timber for a future timber sale licence for harvested timber, the letter authorizing the danger tree cutting issued to you, will include provisions indicating that this timber is to be decked and cannot be sold or traded.

The Crown is not liable for the costs associated with the removal of the danger tree(s). These costs must be fully borne by the proponent who wishes to cut and remove the tree(s).

Who Do I Contact If I Have Any Questions?

You can contact the Tenures Technician at the Sunshine Coast Natural Resource District for additional information.

Sunshine Coast Natural Resource District	
7077 Duncan Street Powell River, B.C. V8A 0A8 Email: FTA.DSC@gov.bc.ca Tel: 604-485-0700	