FACT SHEET



Provincial Forest Use Regulation
March 2024

Summary of Changes to the Provincial Forest Use Regulation under *OIC# 119/2024*

On November 25, 2021, Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act (FPC) was amended to clarify the authority of the Lieutenant Governor in Council to make regulations related to special use permits (SUPs). In March of 2024, the Provincial Forest Use Regulation (PFUR) was amended. Changes to the FPUR took immediate effect. The amended FPC and FPUR are now available on <u>BC Laws</u>. The regulation amendment summary is as follows:

Theme: SUP Applicants

- The regulation clarifies who can apply for an SUP and includes clarity on:
 - Purposes for which Crown land in a Provincial forest, Crown land described in an area-based licence under the *Forest Act*, and Crown range may be managed or used under a SUP, and any restrictions on those purposes
 - Type of applicant in relation to those purposes (e.g. ancillary, Mineral Tenure Act, Forest Act, Range Act)

Theme: Terms for SUPs

• Setting out terms for each purpose under a SUP.

Theme: Provincial Annual Charge Schedule. (see Appendix 1)

- Synchronizes Land Act pricing policy for industrial uses (7.5% of Land Value or \$850 minimum)
- Charges for roads are 7.5% of 2x the zone rate and a maximum annual charge is set at \$20,000.
- Discounted charges for purposes relating to environmental monitoring or environmental enhancement.
- Discounted charges for existing SUPs in 2024 to March of 2025 before implementation of full charges in March, 2025.

Theme: Enforcement

- Provides more criteria on when an SUP can be suspended or cancelled.
- Provides for continuing obligations when the SUP expiries, is surrendered, is under suspension or is cancelled.
- Allows the Minister to issue a deactivation or remediation order.



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- Creates contraventions for not following an order.
- Create contraventions for not complying to conditions specified in the SUP or in a permission to enter onto Crown land for the purposes of remediation and restoration.

Theme: Transition for Existing SUPs (see new Interim Guidance)

- New provisions on annual charges, suspension and cancellations, ongoing liabilities, and orders apply immediately to all existing SUPs.
- Other changes occur at expiry or at the application for an amendment, replacement, or closure.
- Long term logging camps, mill sites and SUPs that no longer can be issued under the new amendments will need to start transitioning to a Land Act tenure, if applicable.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Forest Tenures Branch at <u>ForestTenuresBranch@gov.bc.ca</u>