



BCTS
BC Timber Sales
Strait of Georgia



SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY INITIATIVE

EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN REQUIRED SUPPLEMENT for **Community Watersheds** *for BCTS Client Use*

Scope and Purpose

This ERP supplement is in addition to the required EMS ERP (both must be on-site and understood by all workers when works are undertaken in a Community Watershed). This supplement applies to BCTS clients (Licensees, Permittees and Contractors) and their workers involved in forest practices in a Community Watershed, including harvesting; road construction; road deactivation, reactivation or maintenance; or any other forestry practice that could impact water quality. The purpose of this ERP is to prevent and prepare for emergency response to water disruption from sedimentation, spills, or interrupted flows in Community Watersheds.

Preparedness Roles and Responsibilities

- ☑ Ensure that a completed **Emergency Contacts List** for the applicable watershed is on-site and available to workers prior to the start of operations.
- ☑ **For Harvesting or Road Construction:** Notify the District Manager at least **48 hours** prior to start of operations and after ≥ 3 months of shutdown.
- ☑ **For Road Construction or Deactivation:** Notify all contacts listed in Tables 2 & 3 of the Emergency Contacts List 48 hours prior to start of operations, using the template letter provided
- ☑ Know the field location of applicable points of diversion (PODs) and associated infrastructure as identified on project maps, site plans, and assessments.
- ☑ Be familiar with applicable prescriptions (for example: site plans, road designs, drainage plans, riparian management prescriptions, terrain stability and soil erosion assessments, harvest plans) when working in and around drainage areas connected to PODs including protocols for changing site conditions. Review during office and field pre-work discussions.
- ☑ Minimize soil disturbance.
- ☑ Ensure adequate sediment control tool kit (e.g. filter fabric, hay bales, rock for armoring etc.) is available on site and workers are aware of their roles and responsibilities for sediment abatement.
- ☑ Conduct periodic emergency response drill(s) and or test(s) related to disruption of water, based on employee knowledge and experience and seasonal and site conditions. Conduct first drill in first week of operations. Document on CHK-010.
- ☑ Monitor activities, site and weather conditions, and visual evidence of water turbidity for possible impacts occurring to water quality and stream conditions associated with PODs.
- ☑ Ensure potentially-affected water users and BCTS are advised of planned water interruptions or potential sediment increases as a result of activities.
- ☑ Report to BCTS any amount of unexpected soil movement or any quantity of material spill or equipment fluid leaks within the watershed area.

Initial Response (Water Disruption Events)

1. Evaluate: Assess worker safety, hazards, & determine cause of disruption.
2. Take Control: If the disruption is a result of a forest practice, **STOP WORK.**
3. Take Action: Implement sediment abatement measures (sediment control kit).
4. Notification: Notify Emergency Contacts in Order Listed on Emergency Contacts List.
5. Document details of the incident and response measures on CHK-009 and submit to BCTS.
6. Work Co-operatively with BCTS, other agencies, and water users to investigate incidents and to implement measures to restore disrupted water supply quickly, thereby minimizing impacts on water users.

BCTS Clients must be aware of all legal requirements associated with activities in a Community Watershed, including the following excerpts from the *Forest Planning & Practices Regulation of the Forest and Range Practices Act.*

Division 4 – Watersheds

Protecting water quality

59 An authorized person who carries out a primary forest activity must ensure that the primary forest activity does not cause material that is harmful to human health to be deposited in, or transported to, water that is diverted for human consumption by a licensed waterworks.

[en. B.C. Reg. 580/2004, s. 41.]

Licensed waterworks

60 (1) An authorized person who carries out a primary forest activity must ensure that the primary forest activity does not damage a licensed waterworks.

(2) An authorized person must not harvest timber or construct a road in a community watershed if the timber harvesting or road construction is within a 100 m radius upslope of a licensed waterworks where the water is diverted for human consumption, unless the timber harvesting or road construction will not increase sediment delivery to the intake.

[en. B.C. Reg. 580/2004, s. 41.]

Excavated or bladed trails

61 An agreement holder who

- (a) carries out timber harvesting, and
- (b) constructs an excavated or bladed trail in a community watershed

must ensure that doing so does not cause sediment that is harmful to human health to enter a stream, wetland or lake from which water is being diverted for human consumption by a licensed waterworks.

[en. B.C. Reg. 580/2004, s. 41.]

Roads in a community watershed

62 (1) To prevent interference with the subsurface flow path of a drainage area that contributes to a spring that is a source of water for a licensed waterworks, the minister may

- (a) identify a spring in a community watershed,
- (b) specify a distance from the spring within which a person who constructs a road must not locate the road, and
- (c) permit a person who constructs a road to locate the road closer to the spring than the distance specified under paragraph (b).

(2) If the minister does not specify a distance under subsection (1) (b), a person who constructs a road must not locate the road closer than a 100 m radius upslope of the spring identified under subsection (1) (a), unless the construction does not interfere with the subsurface flow path of a drainage area that contributes to the spring.

[en. B.C. Reg. 580/2004, s. 41.]

Use of fertilizers

63 (1) An authorized person who applies fertilizer in a community watershed for the purpose of carrying out a silviculture treatment must not apply fertilizer

- (a) closer than a 100 m radius upslope of a licensed waterworks, or
- (b) within 10 m of a perennial stream that is observable from an aircraft used to apply the fertilizer,

if the application of the fertilizer results in

- (c) nitrate nitrogen levels in the stream exceeding 10 parts per million if measured immediately below the area where the fertilizer is applied, or
- (d) chlorophyll levels in the stream exceeding
 - (i) two micrograms per litre in a lake into which the stream drains, or
 - (ii) 50 milligrams per square metre in the stream.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply if the use of fertilizer is restricted to spot applications.

[en. B.C. Reg. 580/2004, s. 41.]

Notice — road in community watershed

84 At least 48 hours before commencement of road construction or deactivation in a community watershed, a person must notify affected water licensees or affected water purveyors.

[en. B.C. Reg. 580/2004, s. 53.]

Notification of timber harvesting or road construction

85 (1) An agreement holder must notify the district manager before

- (a) beginning
 - (i) timber harvesting, or
 - (ii) construction of a road that is not a temporary access structure, and
- (b) re-starting the activities described in paragraph (a) (i) and (ii) in a cutblock after an inactive period of 3 months or more.

(2) A notice under subsection (1) must specify

- (a) the location of the timber harvesting or road, including any administrative identifier that relates to the location,
- (b) a contact name and contact information, and
- (c) the projected date for beginning timber harvesting or road construction.

[am. B.C. Regs. 580/2004, s. 54; 102/2005, s. 6; 320/2006, s. 2.]