



# Coast MARKET PRICING SYSTEM

Update – 2016



**March 1, 2016**

Timber Pricing  
Branch

# Coast Market Pricing System – Update 2016

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this paper is to provide an overview of the March 1, 2016 update to the Coast Market Pricing System (MPS).<sup>1</sup>

## 2. AUCTION DATASET

The auction dataset used in the update contains winning bids and data from 298 sales over the 5 year period July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2015.

## 3. EQUATIONS

With the new auction dataset, the 2014 equations were re-estimated using the new dataset. No other changes were made.

The results are the benchmark equations, on the following pages.

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<sup>1</sup> This paper is not intended to provide the basis for calculating stumpage rates nor should it be used as guidance for interpreting the legal policies and procedures for calculating stumpage rates, which are contained in the *Coast Appraisal Manual (CAM)*. The *Coast Appraisal Manual* contains the policies and procedures referred to in Section 105 of the *Forest Act*.

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	2014 Equation		Benchmark	
Dependent Variable	Real Winning Bid		Real Winning Bid	
Explanatory Variable	Coefficient	t-Statistic	Coefficient	t-Statistic
Constant	-13.11	-2.39	-21.09	-3.83
3-Month Average Log Selling Price	0.501	7.35	0.696	10.62
Cedar and Cypress	12.79	3.30	4.98	1.39
Gambier Dist 400	-3.98	-1.91	-6.10	-3.03
Cruise Grades	7.32	5.08	5.44	3.70
Conventional Slope	-0.179	-4.37	-0.260	-6.27
Helicopter Logging	-23.74	-8.01	-30.28	-10.44
Volume per Hectare/1000	7.15	2.26	13.77	4.36
Number of Bidders	1.80	9.28	1.82	8.29
Location	-0.0558	-4.46	-0.0544	-4.54
LN (Piece Size)	2.61	1.40	-0.561	-0.29
Second Growth Fir	8.88	4.10	11.13	4.91
Isolated	-3.81	-2.92	-5.26	-4.05
Lumpsum	-3.47	-2.91	-4.98	-3.94
<b>Number of Observations</b>	<b>310</b>		<b>298</b>	
<b>Adjusted R<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>0.584</b>		<b>0.715</b>	

Note: LN means natural logarithm

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### Number of Bidders Equation – 2014 and Benchmark

	2014 Equation		Benchmark Equation	
Dependant Variable	Number of Bidders		Number of Bidders	
Explanatory Variable	Coefficient	t-Statistic	Coefficient	t-Statistic
Constant	-3.61	-5.08	-2.13	-3.15
LN (Volume/1000)	0.478	2.88	0.386	2.32
Predicted Bid	0.147	11.52	0.112	10.93
District Average Number of Bidders	0.641	6.61	0.420	3.63
<b>Number of Observations</b>	<b>310</b>		<b>298</b>	
<b>Adjusted R<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>0.458</b>		<b>0.432</b>	

Note: LN means natural logarithm.

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New variables were tested to see if they would improve the statistics, compared to the benchmark equations. Likewise, variables that were no longer significant were removed. See appendix 1 for detailed statistics and definitions.

The final equations, compared to the Benchmark Equations, are shown below.

### Winning Bid – Benchmark and Final

	Benchmark		Final 2016 Equation	
Dependant Variable	Real Winning Bid		Real Winning Bid	
Explanatory Variable	Coefficient	t-Statistic	Coefficient	t-Statistic
Constant	-21.09	-3.83	-22.12	-4.51
3-Mo. Ave. Domestic Log Selling Price	0.696	10.62	n/a	n/a
3-Mo. Ave. Export Adjusted Log Selling Price	n/a	n/a	0.624	8.43
Cedar and Cypress	4.98	1.39	11.13	3.17
Gambier Dist 400	--6.10	--3.05	-6.16	-3.16
Cruise Grades	5.54	3.96	4.45	2.79
Conventional Slope	-0.260	-6.27	-0.250	-6.55
Helicopter Logging	-30.28	-6.27	-28.90	-10.59
Volume per Hectare/1000	13.77	4.36	12.87	4.84
Number of Bidders	1.82	-3.83	1.98	9.25
Location	-0.0544	-4.55	-0.0557	-4.91
LN (Piece Size)	-0.561	-0.292	n/a	n/a
Second Growth Fir	11.13	4.91	11.79	5.29
Isolated	-5.26	-4.05	-5.60	-4.58
Lumpsum	-4.98	-3.94	-4.28	-3.44
Year Ended June 2012	n/a	n/a	0.40	0.29
Year Ended June 2013	n/a	n/a	2.49	1.84
Year Ended June 2014	n/a	n/a	5.24	3.13
Year Ended June 2015	n/a	n/a	0.97	0.59
<b>Number of Observations</b>	<b>298</b>		<b>298</b>	
<b>Adjusted R<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>0.715</b>		<b>0.735</b>	

Note: LN means natural logarithm

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### Number of Bidders Equation – Benchmark and Final

	Benchmark		Final 2016 Equation	
Dependant Variable	Number of Bidders		Number of Bidders	
Explanatory Variable	Coefficient	t-Statistic	Coefficient	t-Statistic
Constant	-2.13	-3.15	-1.86	-2.75
LN (Volume/1000)	0.386	2.32	0.495	3.03
Predicted Bid	0.112	10.93	0.128	12.15
District Average Number of Bidders	0.420	3.63	0.314	2.77
Year Ended June 2012	n/a	n/a	-0.20	-0.68
Year Ended June 2013	n/a	n/a	-0.73	-2.41
Year Ended June 2014	n/a	n/a	-1.85	-5.42
Year Ended June 2015	n/a	n/a	-0.57	-1.82
<b>Number of Observations</b>	<b>298</b>		<b>298</b>	
<b>Adjusted R<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>0.432</b>		<b>0.474</b>	

Note: LN means natural logarithm

For both equations combined, the statistical accuracy and reliability was improved.

To implement the new equations in the *Coast Appraisal Manual (CAM)*, the two equations are reduced to one equation. This is done by substituting the Number of Bidders equation into the Winning Bid Equation (and thereby eliminating the variable: Number of Bidders).

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### 4. SPECIFIED OPERATIONS

The auction dataset used to develop MPS is comprised of 298 auctions. There are some harvesting situations that are not represented in the auction dataset (for example, helicopter single standing stem selection) and therefore, a specified operation cost estimate is used in the calculation of stumpage rates. See Appendix 2 for definitions of each specified operation.

The specified operations are shown below.

Specified Operations	January 2014 Update	March 2016 Update
Skyline Logging	Same formula	Same formula
Inland Water Log Transportation	\$4.41/m <sup>3</sup>	\$5.62m <sup>3</sup>
Tree Crown Modification	\$48.48/tree (old growth)	\$35.39/tree (old growth)
	\$21.16/tree (2 <sup>nd</sup> growth)	\$16.86/tree (2 <sup>nd</sup> growth)
Clayoquot Sound Operating Costs	\$6.11/m <sup>3</sup>	\$6.95/m <sup>3</sup>
Helicopter Single Standing Stem Selection	\$37.78/m <sup>3</sup>	\$37.78/m <sup>3</sup>
De-stumping for Root Disease Control	\$1,114/ha	\$1,114/ha
Ecosystem Based Management	\$2.75/m <sup>3</sup>	\$3.72/m <sup>3</sup>
Haul Distance Above 100km	n/a	\$0.135/m <sup>3</sup> per km beyond 100km
High Development Cost (only applies to BCTS upset rates)	n/a	See Section 4.4.9 of the Coast Appraisal Manual



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### 5. TENURE OBLIGATION ADJUSTMENTS

As outlined in the Coast Tenure Obligations Adjustment paper (dated July 1, 2012), the adjustments are based on cost surveys.

The tenure obligation adjustments are shown below.

Tenure Obligations	January 2014 Update	March 2016 Update
Forest Planning & Administration Cost	\$12.39	\$10.54
Low Volume Cost	\$7.51	\$7.51
Road Development Cost	Coast Appraisal Manual	Coast Appraisal Manual
Road Management Cost	\$1.45	\$1.36
Road Use Charges	Approved actuals	Approved actuals
Basic Silviculture Cost	\$2.89-\$8.97 (based on district)	\$2.83-\$6.83 (based on district)
BCTS Infrastructure	\$0.35	\$0.13
Low Grade Adjustment	1/ (1-% low grade)	1/ (1-% low grade)
Return to Forest Management	1.069	1.066

### 6. SUMMARY

The new final equation, specified operations and tenure obligation adjustments will be used to calculate stumpage rates on the Coast, starting March 1, 2016.

**APPENDIX 1**

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### FINAL ESTIMATED WINNING BID

Dependent Variable: RWB

Included observations: 298

Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
Constant	-22.11580	4.905715	-4.508171	0.0000
Number of Bidders	1.975173	0.213457	9.253247	0.0000
3mo Ave. Export Adj. Log Selling Price	0.623919	0.074021	8.428996	0.0000
Cedar and Cypress	11.13206	3.509644	3.171848	0.0017
Conventional Slope	-0.249620	0.038081	-6.554917	0.0000
Helicopter Logging	-28.90267	2.728560	-10.59265	0.0000
Volume per Hectare/1000	12.87350	2.658801	4.841844	0.0000
Location	-0.055724	0.011345	-4.911934	0.0000
Second Growth Fir	11.78735	2.229042	5.288079	0.0000
Gambier Distance 400	-6.158962	1.946915	-3.163447	0.0017
Cruise Grades	4.450718	1.597003	2.786919	0.0057
Isolated	-5.599652	1.222390	-4.580904	0.0000
Lumpsum	-4.281847	1.243218	-3.444164	0.0007
Year Ended June 2012	0.395017	1.351952	0.292182	0.7704
Year Ended June 2013	2.488253	1.352263	1.840065	0.0668
Year Ended June 2014	5.240215	1.672195	3.133735	0.0019
Year Ended June 2015	0.971077	1.643557	0.590839	0.5551
R-squared	0.749176	Mean dependent var		26.80594
Adjusted R-squared	0.734894	S.D. dependent var		14.24542

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### FINAL NUMBER OF BIDDERS

Dependent Variable: NB  
 Included observations: 298

Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
Constant	-1.861797	0.677882	-2.746493	0.0064
Predicted Bid	0.127922	0.010532	12.14562	0.0000
LN(Volume/1000)	0.495178	0.163195	3.034268	0.0026
District Average Number of Bidders	0.314359	0.113617	2.766835	0.0060
Lumpsum	0.704948	0.246875	2.855483	0.0046
Year Ended June 2012	-0.202936	0.298272	-0.680370	0.4968
Year Ended June 2013	-0.728001	0.301890	-2.411479	0.0165
Year Ended June 2014	-1.854791	0.342259	-5.419264	0.0000
Year Ended June 2015	-0.572131	0.317516	-1.801897	0.0726
R-squared	0.488093	Mean dependent var		4.120805
Adjusted R-squared	0.473923	S.D. dependent var		2.270919

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### VARIABLES AND DEFINITIONS

PREDICTED BID	Used in the Number of Bidders equation: The estimated winning bid for the cutting authority from the corresponding winning bid equation, expressed in $\$/m^3$ .
3 MONTH AVERAGE LOG SELLING PRICE	Average coniferous log selling price estimate expressed in $\$/m^3$ . This is based upon a consideration of log grades and species for the cutting authority area, and schedules of log market values collected and published by the Timber Pricing Branch.
3 MONTH AVERAGE EXPORT ADJUSTED LOG SELLING PRICE	As above but the regular, domestic log prices have been adjusted to represent an average including export values.
CEDAR AND CYPRESS	The fraction of the coniferous cruise volume that is cedar and cypress.
SECOND GROWTH FIR	The fraction of the coniferous cruise volume that is Douglas fir, if the appraisal is classified as second growth. Zero if the appraisal is classified as old growth.
VOLUME PER HECTARE	Cruised volume of coniferous timber per hectare. Expressed in $m^3/ha$ and is rounded to 2 decimal places.
PIECE SIZE	The net coniferous cruised volume per 10 m log expressed in $m^3$ . PIECESIZE is expressed in $m^3$ and is rounded to 2 decimal places.
HELICOPTER LOGGING	The fraction of the total net cruise volume, including deciduous volume, of timber in a cutting authority area that must be helicopter yarded or yarded by skyline where logs are fully suspended more than 600 m in a straight line to the centre of the closest possible landing. This is calculated by dividing the total volume of timber that must be helicopter yarded or skyline yarded over 600 m by the total net cruise volume of the cutting authority area. HELI is in decimal form, rounded to 2 decimal places.

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CRUISE GRADES	If cruise is used as a source for log grades for the appraisal for greater than 50 percent of the total net cruise volume, then CRUISE GRADES = 1, otherwise CRUISE GRADES = 0
DISTANCE TO GAMBIER	POA distance is the average straight line distance, weighted by net cruise volume, between the geographic centre of each cutblock in the cutting authority area and Gambier Island.
GAMBDIST400	Where DISTANCE TO GAMBIER is greater than or equal to 400, GAMBDIST400 = 1, otherwise GAMBDIST400 = 0.
DISTRICT AVERAGE NUMBER OF BIDDERS	The average number of bidders for the forest district the cutting authority area is located within is listed in Table 4-2 of the CAM.
VOLUME	That part of the total net cruise volume in the cutting authority area that is coniferous timber except that where the cutting authority is a timber licence or is issued under a licence with an AAC greater than 10 000 m <sup>3</sup> , then VOL = 29,900. VOL is expressed in m <sup>3</sup> , rounded to the nearest whole number.
CPIF	The BC Consumer Price Index approved by the director for use on the effective date of the appraisal, reappraisal or quarterly adjustment, divided by the base CPI of 109.3.
LOCATION	The net cruise volume weighted average straight line distance measured in kilometres between the geographic centre of each part of a cutting authority area and the nearest support centre that is closest to that part of the cutting authority area.
ISOLATED	Isolated =1, if all parts of the cutting authority area are accessible by air or water only and is not serviced by public ferry service.
LUMPSUM	If the cutting authority is a cruise based competitive timber sale with a stand as a whole rate then LUMPSUM = 1, otherwise LUMPSUM = 0.

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Year Ended June 2012	If the timber sale was sold in the 12 months ended June 30, 2012 then 1, otherwise zero.
Year Ended June 2013	If the timber sale was sold in the 12 months ended June 30, 2013 then 1, otherwise zero.
Year Ended June 2014	If the timber sale was sold in the 12 months ended June 30, 2014 then 1, otherwise zero.
Year Ended June 2015	If the timber sale was sold in the 12 months ended June 30, 2015 then 1, otherwise zero.

**APPENDIX 2**



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### SPECIFIED OPERATIONS

If sufficient auction data is not available, the ministry will, for those identified situations, implement specified operations.

The specified operations will be used to adjust the MPS stumpage rate for the estimated incremental cost of the identified situation. The explicit assumption is that if a bidder was faced with a similar situation he or she would lower the bid by the extra cost incurred because of the identified situation.

The situations that may be eligible for specified operations adjustment will be determined according to the following principles:

- The expectation that a bid would be influenced by this situation;
- representation (number of samples, if any, in the auction data set);
- materiality of estimated cost differential (supported by verifiable financial data); and,
- statistical analysis (including the premise that other represented situations and variables in the MPS database and equations may serve as a proxy for the situation in question).

The ministry, after considering the above and any other relevant technical information, may or may not designate the situation as an identified situation eligible for a specified operation and, if eligible, specify the dollars per cubic metre adjustment.

The ultimate objective is to have a representative auction database and hence, few, if any, specified operations adjustments.

The following are identified as specified operations for the Coast MPS.

**Cost estimates from the current *Coast Appraisal Manual* are used for a – f below.**

#### ***a) Skyline Logging***

For those areas within a cutblock that:

- are 600 metres or greater measured in a straight line horizontal distance from the centre of the closest possible landing or place where a landing may be located, and
- are yarded by skyline.

#### ***b) Inland Water Transportation***

- Where logs must be towed on Great Central, Owikeno or Powell Lake or other authorized inland water location.

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### **c) Clayoquot Sound**

- Recognizes the higher level of planning and engineering required by the scientific panel recommendations accepted by the government of British Columbia
- Applies to Hesquiat Peninsula, Esowista Peninsula and the islands, sea and all waters draining into the Pacific Ocean from the height of land between Escalante Point and Quisitis Point.

### **d) Helicopter Single Standing Stem Selection**

- Where single standing trees are marked, limbed, undercut, wedged and then broken from the stump and removed using a helicopter.
- Applies where this method is the only harvest method permitted on an area due to terrain and environmental constraints.

### **e) Destumping For Root Disease Control**

- Where tree stumps must be lifted from the ground for that part of the area where destumping for root disease control is required.

### **f) Tree Crown Modification**

- To protect the standing trees adjacent a harvested area by trimming tree crowns to reduce sail area and decrease the potential for windthrow damage.

### **g) Ecosystem Based Management**

- Applies where Section 93.4 of the *Land Act* requires a higher level of land use planning and/or different harvesting methods as described in the *Coast Appraisal Manual*.

### **h) Haul Distance Above 100km**

- A specified operation cost estimate for permits with haul distances greater than 100km from the cutting authority area to the final log dump.

### **i) BCTS High Development Cost**

- Allows an upset rate reduction for BCTS auction sales with development costs exceeding \$11.95/m<sup>3</sup>.