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July 31, 2026

BY EMAIL

To: Regional Executive Directors

From: Amanda Fouty, Acting Director, Timber Pricing Branch

Re: *Manual Waste Amendment #2*

I hereby approve the new, provincial *Waste Manual Amendment #2*.

The manual can be found here:

[Waste Manual - Province of British Columbia](#)

The purpose of this amendment is to provide an urgent waste provision for a new type of Timber Sales Licence (TSL), the first of which is expected to be advertised in August 2026.

Key changes include:

- Ability for holders of an Undeveloped Timber Sales Licence (UTSL) to use the District Average method to submit a waste assessment. This is a cost saving efficiency targeting low-value timber.
- A definition of UTSL in the Glossary, which stipulates that a UTSL is only used when the harvest area contains at least 80% fire or wind damaged timber.

Amendment #2 highlights are listed below. This amendment comes into effect on July 31, 2026.

Amanda Fouty, RPF Acting
Director Timber Pricing
Branch

pc: Jillian Rousselle, Assistant Deputy Minister, Forest Policy and Indigenous Relations
Division
Patrick Asante, Manager, Timber Pricing
Anthony Giannotti, Director, Regional Operations Division, North Area
Larry Henry, Director, Regional Operations Division, South Area
Randy Husband, Director Pricing, Tenures and Administration

Waste Manual Amendment #2 - Highlights

Section, Table or Appendix Number	Description
4.5	Undeveloped Timber Sale Licenses (UTSL's) may use district average process to meet waste obligations.
Appendix 1	A definition for Undeveloped Timber Sale Licence is added to the glossary.

TIMBER PRICING BRANCH

Waste Manual

Effective: January 15, 2026

Includes Amendments

Amendment 1

Amendment 2

Effective Date

April 1, 2026

July 31, 2026



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4.5 Conditions for Using District Averages

The following waste assessment areas may be assessed using district averages from the Timber Pricing Branch website:

1. Forestry Licence to Cut with a volume limit of 2,000 m³ or less, written in the licence agreement.
2. Occupant Licence to Cut with a volume limit of 2,000 m³ or less, written in the licence agreement.
3. Forestry Licence to Cut issued under 47.6 (3) of the Act in conjunction with an activity funded out of the BCTS account.
4. Forestry Licence to Cut issued under Section 47.6 (2)(d) of the Act and Section 4 of the LTC Regulation, and utilizes Section 6.2.1 (1)(d) of the Interior Appraisal Manual (with set sawlog stumpage rate of \$1.20/m³) in conjunction with an activity funded by the Forest Investment Program (i.e. Forests for Tomorrow).
5. A scale based right of way accessing a cruise based cutblock.
6. A cutblock within a blanket salvage cutting authority.
7. A cutblock smaller than 2.0 ha. This paragraph does not apply to partial cutblocks or patch cut cutblocks.
8. A waste assessment area within a Woodlot Licence or Community Forest Licence that has 50% or more of the stand volume retained in dispersed retention.
9. A waste assessment area where all coniferous timber harvested from the cutting authority (up to the date of the waste submission) was billed at the minimum stumpage rate of \$0.25. Where this criterion is used, an HBS report(s) of billing volume and value must be attached to the submission.
10. **A waste assessment area within an Undeveloped Timber Sale License (UTSL).**
11. A submission for material disposed of prior to a waste assessment, as described in Section 4.4. This criterion can only be used under the direction of the District Manager and the Area Director.
12. A submission for a late waste assessment where a field survey is no longer feasible. This criterion can only be used under the direction of the District Manager and the Area Director.

The applicable criterion must be indicated within the District Average Calculator attached to the submission.

The waste volume for the waste assessment areas described in this section will normally be billed

“Timber Sales Manager or TSM” means the Timber Sales Manager or the Timber Sales Manager’s designate;

“Tree” means any live or dead piece of a tree still attached to its roots having an average diameter equal to or larger than the TMS diameter for at least 3.0m of its length;

“Unavoidable Waste” means waste that meets or exceeds the Timber Merchantability Specifications that:

1. Is inaccessible or physically obstructed;
2. Could not be felled, bucked or removed due to safety or environmental reasons;

“UTSL” or “Undeveloped Timber Sale Licence” means a Timber Sales Licence where the holder of the licence has agreed to undertake planning and development work for a licence area at their own expense, as a condition of tendering and the licence agreement. A UTSL will only be used when timber within each proposed cut block contains at least 80 percent of the net merchantable timber damaged by fire or windthrow.

“Unharvested” means a cutblock where:

- no timber is cut, or
- the timber is cut and not removed to a scale site.

“Volume Estimate” means the determination of a volume of material using sampling principles and measurements in accordance with this Manual;

“Volume Prediction” means a forecast of waste volume at the waste assessment areas or plot level;

“Waste” means timber within a cutting authority, whether standing or felled, except timber reserved from cutting, which meets or exceeds the Timber Merchantability Specifications described in this Manual, which was not removed from the cutting authority area;

“Waste Assessment” means an assessment conducted in accordance with the procedures set out in this Manual for determining the volume of waste left on a harvest area after PLC date or expiry of the cutting authority;

“Waste Assessment Area (WAA)” means a cutblock or a partial cutblock, which requires a waste assessment under the Forest Act and the agreement under which authority to cut timber is granted. It includes harvest areas, processing areas, new access roads, and off-site landings;

“Waste Benchmark” means the volume of avoidable waste, expressed in cubic metres per hectare that can be left on a harvested area without being subject to a monetary waste assessment;

“Waste System” means the online Waste System;

“WMRF” (waste monetary reduction factor) means a factor applied to the waste rate to generate a waste billing rate.