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Cliff: 286335

August 28, 2026

BY EMAIL

To: Regional Executive Directors

From: Amanda Fouty, A/Director, Timber Pricing Branch

Re: *Waste Manual Amendment #3*

I hereby approve the new, provincial *Waste Manual Amendment #3*.

The manual can be found here:

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

The purpose of this amendment is to address changing timber markets and create efficiencies for assessing low value timber.

Key changes include:

- The Fibre Recovery Zone (FRZ) is paused effective August 21, 2026, responding to pulp mill closures on the Coast.
- Deciduous leading cutblocks with more than 70% deciduous are eligible to submit waste without a field survey. Licensees can use district averages in their submissions, which provide a significant overhead cost savings.

Amendment #3 highlights are listed below. This amendment comes into effect on September 8, 2026.

Amanda Fouty, RPF
A/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 #3 - Highlights

Section, Table or Appendix Number	Description
3.2.2.4, 3.2.2.5	The Coast Fibre Recovery Zone (FRZ) adjustment factor is 1 for all waste assessments submitted on or after August 21, 2026.
4.5	Cutblocks that have more than 70% deciduous timber volume may use the district average process to meet waste obligations.

TIMBER PRICING BRANCH

Waste Manual

Effective: January 15, 2026

Includes Amendments

Amendment 1

Amendment 2

Amendment 3

Effective Date

April 1, 2026

July 31, 2026

September 8, 2026



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3.2.2.4 Fibre Recovery Zone Rates – Non BCTS

Where a non BCTS cutting authority is within a Fibre Recovery Zone, the full rate is calculated as follows (except for timber excluded from FRZ, described above).

The result of the rate formula in 3.2.2.1 is multiplied by the FRZ adjustment factor. Where this rate is less than \$2.00, the full rate is \$2.00.

The FRZ adjustment factor is determined as follows. Where:

- a. The harvest start date is before April 1, 2019; the FRZ adjustment factor is not applicable.(Enter as FRZ = “No” in waste system.)
- b. The harvest start date is on or after April 1, 2019 and the PLC date was before April 1, 2021; the FRZ adjustment factor is 3;
- c. The harvest start date is April 1, 2019 to July 31, 2022, and the PLC date was on or after April 1, 2021; the FRZ adjustment factor is 1; —
- d. The harvest start date is on or after August 1, 2022; the FRZ adjustment factor is 3; and
- e. Notwithstanding the paragraphs above, the FRZ adjustment factor is 1 for all waste assessments within the FRZ that are submitted on or after August 21, 2026.

3.2.2.5 Fibre Recovery Zone Rates – BCTS

For BCTS cutting authorities within a FRZ, the full rate is calculated as follows:

1. Where the advertised date is before December 15, 2023:
 - a. (Stumpage rate – Obligation Adjustment) multiplied by 3
 - b. Where this rate is less than \$2.00, the full rate is \$2.00.
2. Where the advertised date is on or after December 15, 2023:
 - a. Where (Stumpage Rate – Obligation Adjustment) is less than or equal to \$2.00, the full rate is equal to the Obligation Adjustment + \$2.00.
 - b. Where (Stumpage Rate – Obligation Adjustment) is greater than \$2.00, the full rate is equal to the Obligation Adjustment + [(Stumpage rate – Obligation Adjustment) multiplied by 3]

In this section,

Stumpage rate = the total of the upset stumpage rate plus the bonus bid

Obligation Adjustment = the obligation adjustment for the district

under Table 3-4.

Table 3-4 BCTS Obligation Adjustment Values

District	Obligation Adjustment \$/m ³
DCK	43.03
DCR	38.24
DHG	43.16
DKM	43.16
DNI	40.49
DSC	37.16
DSI	38.51
DSQ	42.86

3. Notwithstanding the paragraphs above, the FRZ adjustment factor is 1 for all waste assessments within the FRZ that are submitted on or after August 21, 2026.

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 waste assessment area that contains more than 70% deciduous species timber volume. The species percentage must be supported by a timber cruise where available, or in the absence of a cruise by another estimation method acceptable to the District Manager and Area Director.**
12. 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.
13. 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.