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November 7, 2017

**BY EMAIL**

To: Regional Executive Directors, Ministry of Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations

**Re: 2017 Cruising Manual, Amendment No. 1**

The purpose of the memo is to inform you that Amendment No. 1 to the 2017 *Cruising Manual* becomes effective November 7, 2017.

The manual will be available on the internet at the following link:

<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/competitive-forest-industry/timber-pricing/timber-cruising/timber-cruising-manual>

Please find a copy of the 2017 *Cruising Manual* highlights attached.

Comments or questions about this manual should be referred to Keith Tudor, Manager, Timber Measurement, Timber Pricing Branch at (250) 387-8357.

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A/Director  
Timber Pricing Branch

Attachment

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# Highlights

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## November 2017 Cruising Manual Changes

The *Cruising Manual* is available on the Internet at:

<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/competitive-forest-industry/timber-pricing/timber-cruising/timber-cruising-manual>

<b>Section</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>A.6.1.4</b> – Attack Codes for Spruce, Douglas Fir	Modification to risk group changes for Grey Attack Code 7. All dead spruce with Grey Attack Code 7 is now moved to the highest mature risk group regardless of maturity.
<b>A.6.2</b> – Fire Damage	Removal of risk group changes for Fire Codes B and C. Risk groups for all fire damaged trees will be determined by tree class and pathology.

**Grey Attack Code 7 (Highest Risk Group for Fir/Highest Mature Risk Group for Spruce).**

This code represents trees which are dead and have gray needles. Little or no foliage is left, the boles of the older kills may have much checking and loose bark. **The compilation program downgrades Fir trees to the highest risk group and Spruce trees to the highest mature risk group.**

**Red Attack Code 8 (Risk Group 2, Fir)**

This code is reserved for Douglas fir where the red foliage remains on the tree for an average of two years. The compilation program downgrades these trees to Risk Group 2. If they have conk or blind conk they will be compiled as Risk Group 3.

**A.6.1.5 Defoliators (Path/Tree Class = Risk Group, All Species)**

This damage category includes hemlock looper, budworms, moths and other defoliators. If the classification is doubtful, assess the cambium on the north side at DBH.

- Code X - trees with living cambium. Tree classes 1, 2, 5, 6, 8, and
- Code Y - trees with dry cambium. All tree classes are allowed.
- All other insect attack codes take precedence over defoliator, codes x and y except code 4, Blister Rust.

**A.6.2 Fire Damage**

The following fire damage codes apply to all appraisal cruises and will be entered in column 62 of the cruise tally sheet ([Figure 4.1 Cruise Tally Sheet – FS 205C \(front side\)](#)):

**A.6.2.1 Light Damage - Code A**

Damage consisting of scorched bark and foliage but no charring in the merchantable portion of the stem. Bark scorching greater than or equal to 5 years after the date that the fire was recorded by the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations does not qualify for the fire damage coding.

### A.6.2.2 Moderate Damage - Code B

Damage of any age consisting of some shallow charring of wood fibre in the merchantable portion of the stem.

### A.6.2.3 Heavy Damage - Code C

Damage of any age consisting of extensive shallow charring or deep charring in the merchantable portion of the stem. Multiple deep checks in trees less than 30 cm DBH with fire damage also qualify for heavy damage.

The risk groups of all fire damaged trees will be determined by tree class and pathology.

Definitions:

“**Merchantable section**” means the section of the stem between 30 cm stump and the 10 cm or 15cm top diameter inside bark as per the appropriate timber merchantability standards. Damage outside of these limits was not included in the loss factor data.

“**Charring**” means the actual destruction of wood by fire. There must be identifiable damage to a surface area greater than 100 cm<sup>2</sup>.

“**Shallow charring**” means charring which is greater than 100 cm<sup>2</sup> in surface area and less than one-third of the radius of the tree.

“**Extensive Shallow charring**” means charring in the bottom third of the tree that has 3 or more areas (each at least 100 cm<sup>2</sup>) of exposed and charred wood fibre or the cumulative total of charred areas is greater than 300 cm<sup>2</sup>.

“**Deep charring**” means where charring is deeper than one-third of the radius of the tree.

“**Multiple deep checks**” means where more than 1 check is deeper than one-third of the radius of the tree.

Surface checking may occur as the result of fire damage but this does not affect the tree classification.