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To All Interior Licensees:

The purpose of this communication is to provide information on the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations' (FLNRO) strategy for eliminating the interim species adjustment factors (SAFs) for timber supply areas (TSAs), tree farm licences (TFLs), woodlots (WLs), community forest agreements (CFAs) and First Nation woodland licences (FNWLs) located in the interior. Previous correspondence was conveyed on May 7, 2008.

SAFs were established to account for the implementation of the new interior log grades that were effective on April 1, 2006. SAFs were meant to be temporary and eventually eliminated over time as part of the chief forester's allowable annual cut (AAC) determination.

In 2009, the *Forest Act* was amended to enable the chief forester to complete AAC determinations every 10 years instead of every 5 years, resulting in SAFs remaining in effect longer than originally intended for some management units. In consideration of the *Forest Act* changes noted above, and to ensure the timely elimination of SAFs, the following policy is implemented immediately:

SAFs will be eliminated for all TFLs, WLs, CFAs, FNWLs and all applicable licences in TSAs once a new AAC is determined by the chief forester for the underlying TSA or a TFL.

As before, the Cut Control Regulation will be amended on an annual basis to reflect any AAC determinations made by the chief forester in the previous 12-month period.

Regular review by licensees of the planned Timber Supply Review (TSR) determination schedule should provide some advance notice of any upcoming SAFs removals. The links to the TSR schedules are as follows:

- TSAs: <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hts/schedtsa.htm>
- TFLs: <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hts/schedtfl.htm>

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If you have any questions or comments, please contact Blair Pigeon, Senior Tenures Forester, Forest Tenures Branch, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, at (250) 387-8330.

Yours truly,



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