

FIBRE ACTION PLAN

MEASURES TAKEN TO INCREASE THE USE OF WOOD RESIDUE

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What are the objectives of the Action Plan?

- The objectives of the Action Plan are to: increase the utilization of lower-quality wood and wood residue; facilitate integrated harvesting; enhanced business to business relationships between primary harvesters and secondary users; and enhance the security of fibre supply for secondary and non-lumber users of low quality and residual fibre.

Where can I find more details on what is included under the Action Plan?

- The Plan includes a total of 13 Action Items.
- Additional details on the Action Plan can be found on the following website:

<https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hth/timber-tenures/forestry-fibre-action-plan.htm>

When will these new initiatives be put into place?

- Implementation of the action plan is underway with the aim of having short term solutions operational by December 2015.
- Some of the initiatives will address immediate concerns, while others include a more fulsome review of current ministry policies and procedures prior to implementation. These more detailed reviews are necessary to insure some of the initiatives do not result in negative unintended consequences

How was the Action Plan developed?

- The Action Plan is the result of work done by the Forestry Fibre Working Group (FFWG). This FFWG is made up of representatives from the lumber, pellet, non-lumber, pulp and paper and ministry staff.

Will any new specific “programs” or “targets” be established under the Plan?

- Under the Action Plan various new protocols, guidelines and policies will be implemented and result in increased utilization of residual fibre, however the Plan does not include new programs or specified targets.

What is a “primary harvester” and what is a “secondary user”?

- A primary harvester is an individual or corporation that harvests standing timber for the logs to be processed through a sawmill into lumber. Primary harvesters are authorized to cut the timber through one of the various forms of tenure under the *Forest Act*.
- A secondary user is an individual or corporation that uses fibre that is a bi-product of primary harvesting or sawmilling operations for input to their plants. This includes wood chips, sawdust and residual fibre from primary harvesting.

What is meant by “integrated harvesting”?

- Historically, primary harvesting and secondary harvesting takes place in different phases and at different times within the same area. Integrated harvesting is where the primary and secondary harvesting takes place at the same time. This can result in more efficient operations and less cost to both the primary and secondary harvester.

What is meant by the phrase “business to business relationships”?

- In this case, Business to Business means when a primary harvester and secondary user have agreements in place with each other to facilitate the harvesting and delivery of residual fibre.
- The agreements could also address operational issues such as safety, road use, road deactivation, site disturbance and hazard abatement of piles that are not suitable for chipping or grinding.

What is the “fibre recovery process”?

- The Fibre Recovery Process focusses on improving the utilization of lower quality fibre in those areas where the residual fibre is not being used by the primary harvester, there is a demand for the residual fibre from secondary users, and business to business relationships have not been established.
- It includes increased communication and information sharing between primary and secondary harvesters, and the potential use of various existing legislative tools to encourage integrated harvesting and utilization of residual fibre.
- See the [fibre recovery process](#).
- While the process can be implemented immediately, some details are still to be finalized.

What are fibre recovery tenures?

- These are forms of licences issued under the *Forest Act* that have the purpose of accessing road and landing waste that will not be utilized by the person who conducted the original harvesting. These two fibre recovery tenures are the Fibre Supply Licence to Cut; and the Fibre Forestry Licence to Cut.
- The framework for issuing these tenures include a *Forest Act* notification process whereby once harvesting is completed on a specific block, the primary harvester will be required to provide notice whether or not the waste remaining on the block will be utilized. If not, the rights to the fibre maybe allocated to the holder of one of these tenures.