



Ministry of  
Forests, Lands, Natural  
Resource Operations  
and Rural Development

## **SMALL SCALE SALVAGE PROGRAM**

**Haida Gwaii  
Natural Resource District**

UPDATED: 2021-11-04

# **Haida Gwaii Natural Resource District Small Scale Salvage Program Information and Procedures**

## **1. Introduction**

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance and information related to the delivery of the Small Scale Salvage Program in the Haida Gwaii Natural Resource District (HGNRD). These procedures aim to streamline the application process with the intent of using greater professional reliance for salvagers to carry out their business.

The District Manager (DM) may deny applications based on an evaluation of risk and past performance.

### **Objectives:**

1. Provide employment and business opportunities for small independent operators on Haida Gwaii;
2. Harvest and utilize small, isolated patches of timber that are dead and/or in danger of being significantly reduced in value, lost or destroyed, and would otherwise not be harvested or post-harvest logging residue;
3. Ensure areas harvested under the program are entered into the Ministry silviculture tracking system (RESULTS) and surveyed to ensure regeneration delay and free growing are met;
4. Ensure small scale salvage operations take place within the context of overall, long-term forest stewardship and economic objectives;
5. Ensure a cost-effective program that contributes to government revenues;
6. Recognize and meet the government's objectives for coarse woody debris; and
7. Reduce the forest fire hazard by reducing the dead and down fuel load.

### **Strategic Goals:**

1. To focus small scale salvage activities in areas that would not normally be addressed through large or medium scale salvage operations, avoid small patch fragmentation across the landscape, and support other Haida Gwaii objectives;

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2. To maintain a small scale salvage program size that corresponds with the Haida Gwaii Timber Supply Area (TSA) timber allocation and the resources available in the district to manage the program effectively;
3. To maintain a viable niche for “Small Scale” harvesting operators in the Haida Gwaii timber supply area (TSA);
4. To utilize professional applications and professional final harvest reporting to support administrative and operational delivery of the program;
5. To ensure small scale salvage program activities are consistent with good stewardship and do not negatively impact the ability of Major License holders or BCTS to achieve operational plan or certification commitments (e.g. second pass, reopening skid trail for small volume, reopening face, silviculture obligations, etc.);
6. To maintain adequate communication and consultation with other stakeholders, tenure or agreement holders, and the Haida Nation, for small scale salvage activities.

## 2. Guidelines

The HGNRD seeks to provide equal access to all active participants in the Small Scale Salvage Program. Access to timber will be based on a ‘first come, first serve’ basis, and will be dated based on the date a complete application is received. Expression of interest will no longer be accepted. Eligible applicants may hold one Forestry License to Cut (FLTC) and one submitted application at any one time when applying for salvage opportunities. Applications cannot exceed volume limits of 2000 m<sup>3</sup>.

The priority areas for all Small Scale Salvage activities are:

1. Blowdown patches that are less than 1 hectare in size
2. Post-harvest logging residue that has been waste assessed
3. Areas of help address infrastructure (i.e. roads), protection, and fuel management objectives where said objectives can be achieved by salvaging one contiguous area less than 1 hectare in size.

The HGNRD accepts two types of applications for salvage:

1. Professional Applications (volumes 50 – 2000 m<sup>3</sup>) that must be prepared by an ABCFP Registered Forest Professional:
  - i. Registered Professional Forester (RPF), or
  - ii. Registered Forest Technologist (RFT)
2. Cash Sale (D-sale) Applications (volumes < 50 m<sup>3</sup>)

### **Silviculture Levies**

Generally, the default reforestation strategy on all salvage patches less than 1.0 ha will be natural regeneration, and typically silviculture levies will not be collected for patches less than 1.0 ha.

The District reserves the right to restrict harvesting where the salvage of proposed timber will have an adverse effect on forest management or stewardship objectives. This includes, but is not limited to, restricting the harvest of leaning trees that are lending stability to the remaining standing trees.

### 3. Program Criteria and Applicant Eligibility

Small Scale Salvage program applicants must meet the following conditions to be eligible for FLTC:

- Be in good standing with the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNRORD), (i.e including Compliance and Enforcement, and have no outstanding accounts, fees, or fines.)
- Not currently holding an active tenure or license which may create potential conflicts
- Be registered in the CLIENT system

Program Eligibility Requirements:

- Volumes of 50 - 2000 m<sup>3</sup> requiring a professional application
  - Total area is under 40 ha for Special Forest Products (SFP); OR
  - Total area is under 1.0 ha per opening for wind throw patches (exemptions may be made provided a site plan is provided and silviculture obligations are met)
- Windthrow or post-harvest residue only
- Windthrow must be scaled as a whole log prior to being manufactured (as per Schedule A in the Forestry License to Cut)

### 4. Professional Applications (50 – 2000 m<sup>3</sup>)

**Applications must be submitted by a qualified ABCFP Forest Professional (RFT or RPF)**

To ensure that applications are processed in the order of receiving, all applications must be completed in full. The District cannot accept partial applications. Please use the Professional Submission Checklist to assist.

Seven (7) Steps Required:

- Step 1: Pre-application and Preliminary Status (Applicant or Forest Professional)
- Step 2: Application and Field Report (Forest Professional);
- Step 3: Review and Approval (Small Scale Salvage Coordinator)
- Step 4: Pre-work (Small Scale Salvage Coordinator and Licensee / Forest Professional)
- Step 5: Operations (Licensee)
- Step 6: Post Harvesting Inspection and Final Harvest Report (Forest Professional)

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### Step 7: Review and Closure (Small Scale Salvage Coordinator)

NOTE: Each of these steps may have several components that may be unique to the particular area or circumstance.

### **Step 1: Pre-application and Preliminary Status (Applicant or Forest Professional)**

To prepare an application for submission, the applicant, or professional acting for the applicant, must take the necessary steps to assess the area and gather information needed for an application. These activities include, but are not limited to:

1. Determining if the proposed salvage is consistent with the HGNRD salvage objectives
2. Confirming the proposed application area is not in conflict with existing tenures, applications, or reserved areas (see the *Preliminary Land Status Guide*)
3. Carry out referral to the major licensee(s) and/or BCTS and **obtain written confirmation** that they do not dispute the proposed application (see *HGNRD Small Scale Salvage Referral Form*)
4. Consulting with other tenure holders or agencies as needed
5. Identify potential conflicts with known archaeological features. Where a CFI is absent or older than 10 years, a new CFI survey is required.

### **Step 2: Application and Field Report (Forest Professional)**

An application must be submitted to the District Manager. The application must contain the information set out below.

- Cover letter (see the *Cover Letter Template*):
- Completed, signed, and sealed copy of the Application for a Forestry License to Cut form (see *HGNRD Small Scale Salvage Professional Application Form*)
- Operational Map(s), 1:5000, showing the boundaries of each harvest area drafted to the HGNRD standards (see section HGNRD Mapping Standards below).
- Overview Map, 1:10,000 or 1:20,000, providing an overview of roads required for access and transportation of the materials drafted to the HGNRD standards (see section HGNRD Mapping Standards below).
- Documentation (*HGNRD Referral Form*) of referrals to major licensees, BCTS, or others, including how comments were addressed if needed.
- Completed *Miscellaneous Appraisal Data Submission Form*, signed by the Forester Professional.
- GPS traversed polygon/shapefile(s) of application area(s), submitted through the Electronic Submission Framework
- GPS points and photos of live standing trees
- Copies of written correspondences with other tenure holders and agencies where applicable
- Culture Features Identification (CFI) survey report (within the last 10 years)

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### Road Usage

All salvage activities are to be conducted using existing access infrastructure. No new roads may be constructed under the Small Scale Salvage Program.

The following legislation applies to industrial use of a roads::

- *Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA) Section 22.1*
- *Forest Planning and Practices Regulation (FPPR) Section 79.1*

#### *Forest Service Roads (FSR)*

If an FSR is required to conduct the salvage operations, the District Engineering Officer must be engaged to determine if a Road Use Permit will be required.

#### *Road Permit (RP) Roads*

If industrial usage of a road permitted to another tenure holder under Road Permit (RP) is required, a Road Use Agreement may be required. These Agreements are a business-to-business arrangement with the RP licensee.

Information on roads required to access and transport salvage materials must be detailed within the *HGNRD Small Scale Salvage Professional Application Form*. Please include a map that highlights the transportation route for the salvaged materials.

The Small-Scale Salvage Coordinator will work with the District Engineering Officer to determine the road use requirements, and/or provide a list of licensees the client needs to engage with to negotiation a RP Road Use Agreement.

Clients are encouraged to reach out to the District Engineering Officer in advance of submitting an application to discuss their application and use of roads.

Please contact Front Counter Haida Gwaii at (250) 559-6200 or [FrontCounterHaidaGwaii@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FrontCounterHaidaGwaii@gov.bc.ca) and ask to speak with, or have your email forwarded to, the District Engineering Officer.

### Live Trees

If the proposed area requires the removal of live-standing trees, the application must include:

- i. trees marked on-site and a rationale is required. Strategies prescribed to mitigate damage to and retention of, as many stems as possible should be provided within the *HGNRD Small Scale Salvage Application Form*.
- ii. site photos documenting the live-standing trees that will be required to be removed must be included as part of the field report at the time of application.
- iii. GPS points of the live-standing trees must be provided. The Small-Scale Salvage Coordinator reserves the right to complete a field visit to assess the removal of live-standing trees.

### **Mapping Standards:**

The following describes the minimum standards for a map that must accompany a Small Scale Salvage Application (Forestry License to Cut). Applications that fail to meet this standard will not be accepted and sent back for clarification.

1. The background is to be on a 1:5000, 1:10,000, or 1:20 000 scale forest atlas map, showing water features, roads, access trails, protected areas, culture features as per culture feature identification survey (where applicable)
2. Geographic description (name of nearest known feature)
3. Description of access from the nearest town or well-known point
4. GPS Information: UTM Coordinates or latitude and longitude
5. Legend
6. Boundaries of private land, Indian Reserve, parks, woodlot license, or other tenures
7. The boundary of the area proposed for harvesting under the Forestry License to Cut and size of requested FLTC displayed in hectares
8. Significant topographic features within the application area, including streams, wetlands, and lakes
9. Resource features, as defined by legislation, in the vicinity of the salvage
10. Access roads and trails to or between harvest sites
11. Landing to be utilized on or off the proposed salvage area
12. Government-approved experimental projects, growth and yield plots, operational trials, and research installations
13. Range improvements, including structures, excavations, or constructed livestock trails
14. Trapping cabins identified trapping sites and access trails
15. Recreation sites and known features
16. Critical wildlife habitat
17. North Arrow
18. Date on map

### **Step 3: Review and Approval (Small Scale Salvage Coordinator)**

Once submitted, the application is reviewed by the Small Scale Salvage Coordinator for completeness and correctness. Any applications missing any information requirements or completed not to the standard outlined in this guidance document will be promptly returned to the applicant.

Following review by the Small Scale Salvage Coordinator, a briefing note will be submitted to Front Counter Haida Gwaii for Solutions Table (BC/CHN) review. This process meets all requirements for First Nation Consultation.

### **Step 4: Pre-work (Small Scale Salvage Coordinator and Licensee / Forest Professional)**

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If the application is approved, the Small Scale Salvage Coordinator will prepare the Forest License to Cut (FLTC) documents and arrange for signing with the applicant. This may involve coordinating a pre-work meeting to review the licence particulars.

### **Step 5: Operations (Licensee)**

Once the signed license document is received the below can be received.

Notification must be given to Front Counter Haida Gwaii when:

1. Harvesting is to commence (*Notice of Commencement Form*)
2. Harvesting is complete (*Notice of Completion Form*)

### **Scaling and Timber Marking**

Please be advised, consideration for scaling should occur early by the applicant. All timber harvested under the Small Scale Salvage Program must be scaled by a licensed scaler. The timber must be designated to a scale site before transporting. The correct Timber Mark must be conspicuously and legibly applied to the load of timber and the load documentation forms (Load Slips) must be completed and accompany the load as per the Timber Marking and Transportation Regulation (TMTR), under the *Forest Act*. Arrangements for the scaling of the timber is the responsibility of the applicant.

Please contact the District Scaling Officer for any scaling-related questions and to get the Small Scale Salvage Timber Mark designated to a scale site for scaling.

Please contact Front Counter Haida Gwaii at (250) 559-6200 or [FrontCounterHaidaGwaii@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FrontCounterHaidaGwaii@gov.bc.ca) and ask to speak with, or have your email forwarded to, the District Scaling Officer.

### **Step 6: Post Harvesting Inspection and Final Harvest Reporting (Forest Professional)**

Upon completion of harvesting, a Registered Forest Professional must conduct a site inspection and complete the *Final Harvest Report*.

**Note:** Failure to submit the final harvest report within 60 days of harvest completion may result in processing delays for pending applications from the client.

### **Waste and Residue**

Waste and Residue standards as per provincial standards are to be achieved and must be assessed as part of the Final Harvest Report. A procedures manual can be found at: <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/competitive-forest-industry/timberpricing/forest-residue-waste>

Please contact the District Stewardship/Revenue Forester for any related questions.

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Please contact Front Counter Haida Gwaii at (250) 559-6200 or [FrontCounterHaidaGwaii@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FrontCounterHaidaGwaii@gov.bc.ca) and ask to speak with, or have your email forwarded to, the District Stewardship/Revenue Forester.

### **Step 7: Review and Closure (Small Scale Salvage Coordinator)**

Upon review and approval of the Final Harvest Report, the Small Scale Salvage Coordinator will prepare the license for closure by checking for any outstanding compliance and enforcement issues, completing a final review and if appropriate, approve of the Final Harvest Report.

## 4. Conventional Applications (volume < 50 m<sup>3</sup>)

Volumes under 50 m<sup>3</sup> are applied for by a sole applicant., A Forest Professional is not required. Applications are made via the *Application Form*. It is recommended that the application be discussed with the Small Scale Salvage Coordinator before submission to ensure the application is complete.

**Note:** Conventional applications require much more involvement and up-front work by the Small Scale Salvage Coordinator and as such the speed of processing for conventional applications is subject to available resources.

Steps:

- 1) Complete and submit an *Application Form* through Front Counter Haida Gwaii [FrontCounterHaidaGwaii@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FrontCounterHaidaGwaii@gov.bc.ca), (250) 559-6200
- 2) The Small Scale Salvage Coordinator will arrange to conduct an application and field review with the Small Scale Salvage client to review the following:
  - a. Access routes
  - b. Location concerns (Adjacency, land use conflicts, etc) land use
  - c. Environmental concerns (Riparian, land use, etc)
  - d. Harvesting methods
  - e. Scaling of timber if applicable

**Note:** It is the responsibility of the Small Scale Salvage Client to ensure that all pieces proposed for harvest are marked by flagging tape or tree marking paint that indicates their name and piece number. If possible, please provide UTM coordinates of the pieces under consideration.

- 3) Field notes are reviewed by District staff and if the information gathered meets the requirements for Small Scale Salvage, the Small Scale Salvage Coordinator will submit the appraisal information and completed the documents for a Forest License to Cut (under 50 m<sup>3</sup>)
- 4) The Small Scale Salvage Client begins operations and will pay stumpage based on the volume scaled during the field review.



## 5. Contact Information

For further information on the Small Scale Salvage Program in the Haida Gwaii Natural Resource District,

Please access:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/forest-tenures/timber-harvesting-rights/licence-to-cut/small-scale-salvage>

OR

Contact Front Counter Haida Gwaii at (250) 559-6200 or [FrontCounterHaidaGwaii@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FrontCounterHaidaGwaii@gov.bc.ca)