

FIELD LAYOUT PROCEDURES

- Objective: To remove identified salvage trees with minimal damage to the remaining healthy stand.
- Purpose: To standardize identification and layout methodology for small scale salvage
To facilitate the approval of the salvage area
To expedite issuance of Salvage licenses or Cash Sales.

1.0 BEETLE ATTACKED SALVAGE

1.1 BEETLE ATTACKED TREE IDENTIFICATION PROCEDURES

*ALL SMALL SCALE SALVAGE BEETLE SALES ARE **SELECTIVE HARVEST AND "MARK TO CUT", UNLESS PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED WITH DISTRICT STAFF FOR HARVEST IN NON-CONSTRAINED AREAS.***

For areas that have been probed for beetle by either the Ministry of Forests or a Licensee and applied for under Small Scale Salvage, it is the applicant's responsibility to ensure the marking of the trees meets the standards mentioned in sections **1.11 and 1.12**.

The Ministry requires an accurate count of the number of trees attacked within the sale area, separating the green and red attack from the grey attack.

Harvesting may **not** be approved for red and grey attack, more than 45 meters away from the closest green attack, when two or more healthy trees have to be removed to access them, unless being used for access.

1.11 Currently Attacked Trees and One Year Old Attack

Currently Attacked Trees: These are the trees currently attacked by the beetle (Green Attack).

One Year Old Attack: These are trees that were infested with beetle the year prior to this year's infestation and have been dead for one year (Red Attack). These trees usually have 75 %, or more, of their needles that are now red or yellow.

The emphasis on marking is to ensure the trees are highly visible. To accomplish this **Florescent or High-glow Orange** tree marking paint shall be used.

Each green and red attack will have a band spray painted around the bole of the tree between 1.5 to 2.0 meters (4.5 to 6.0 ft) above the ground. The band, around the bole, is to make the tree visible from any direction. At the base of each tree, a single dot shall be painted to assist in identification post-harvest.

1.12 Two Year or Older Attack

Two Year or Older Attack: These are trees that were infested and killed two or more years prior (Grey Attack). These trees have very few needles left, if any, and are dull red.

Grey attack will be spray painted with a circle and a horizontal bar through it. This symbol also is to be painted on two sides of the tree with orange paint. At the base, a single vertical line shall be painted 15-20cm in length to assist in identification post-harvest.

1.2 BOUNDARY LAYOUT PROCEDURES:

Boundary layout is required for all identified salvage areas that are under application. In salvage areas, where there is more one patch, each will be marked separately. A patch shall contain five (5) or more attacked trees. Where there are four or less, only the proposed skid trail requires to be established.

The applicant is required to complete boundary layout to the following standards:

- The boundary around each beetle salvage area shall be marked using *Winter Weight Orange Ribbon*. Ribbons shall be approximately 5 meters (15 ft) apart and a minimum of 1.5 meters (4.5 ft) off the ground. The boundary marking shall be visible during the worst conditions
- Point of Commencement (POC) stations are required. Stations are to be GPS'd.
- Each station will have the following information printed in permanent marker on winter weigh ribbon:
 - Block identifier # (which matches application)
 - Company Name
 - Date

1.3 RIPARIAN AND MACHINE FREE ZONES FOR WETLANDS, STREAMS AND LAKES

Riparian and Machine Free Zones which fall within in the boundary of the proposed harvesting area are to be ribboned out and adhere to the *Forest Planning and Practices Regulation, Division 3: Sections 47-58*. Licensees in the Small Scale Salvage Program are required to use a highly visible fluorescent flagging tape of any colour other then orange or pink.

2.0 BLOWDOWN SALVAGE

2.1 REQUIREMENTS

For harvesting blowdown, under the Small Scale Salvage Program, only down or leaning trees shall be taken. A full count by species of merchantable stems to be harvested is required.

The District may authorize clear-cuts if it is deemed necessary.

2.2 BOUNDARY LAYOUT PROCEDURES:

Boundary layout for Blowdown Salvage shall follow the same procedures as for Beetle Salvage.

2.3 RIPARIAN AND MACHINE FREE ZONES FOR WETLANDS, STREAMS AND LAKES

Riparian and Machine Free Zones which fall within in the boundary of the proposed harvesting area are to be ribboned out and adhere to the *Forest Planning and Practices Regulation, Division 3: Sections 47-58*. Licensees in the Small Scale Salvage Program are required to use a highly visible fluorescent flagging tape of any colour other than orange or pink.

3.0 FIRE SALVAGE

Fire Salvage will follow the Post-Natural Disaster Retention Guidance: 2017 Wildfires – Guidance document located here: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/forestry/2017_fire_report_revised.pdf.

Please speak with the Small Scale Salvage Technologist regarding potential fire salvage **prior to commencing layout.**

4.0 SKIDTRAILS

4.1 TRAIL AND EQUIPMENT RESTRICTIONS

To meet the objective for removal of salvage timber with minimal damage to the remaining healthy stand, the following restrictions will be placed on trails and equipment:

1. No trails shall be approved over 5.0 meters width,
2. The maximum blade width shall be 2.5 meters,
3. The maximum skidder width shall be 3.0 meters including the tires or tracks

The District can approve a wider trail width or recommend the use of smaller equipment and/or horses.

4.2 SKID TRAIL LAYOUT PROCEDURES:

Skidtrails required for access, shall adhere to the following points:

1. The ribbon used shall be *Winter Weight Pink Ribbon*.
2. Ribbon shall be hung approximately every 5 metres (15 ft).
3. Trails shall be as straight as possible to minimize the skid distance; keeping in mind trails should not degrade the site or soils.
4. All efforts shall be made to remove the fewest number of healthy trees for the access. Any merchantable trees to be removed for the skid trails shall be marked with an 'X' on two sides. These trees shall be tallied and the volume calculated into the total volume under the license.
5. Trails shall not go through new plantations to use old landings unless the applicant has *written permission* from the licensee responsible for the cut block.
6. Trails should not cross wet depressions or streams. Where a stream crossing is required, they shall be approved by the District Representative and meets the standards set in the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation.
7. Access trails are to be kept to a minimum. Where there is more than one patch, access can be through another patch if it reduces the amount of trails required.
8. The District shall approve landings, if they are deemed required.
9. No skidtrails shall be bladed unless authorized in writing by a Forest Officer.
10. Where there are existing skidtrails, it is expected these trails to be used where ever possible.

5.0 CONCLUSIONS

When the layout is complete, contact the Small Scale Salvage Technician, at 992-4400, with the following information:

1. Your count of total trees to be removed broken down by green, red, and grey attack and healthy merchantable trees needed for access.
2. Location of completed layout, in the event you have more then one application.

It is very important all marking of trees and trails be done accurately and to or better than the standards stated in the above procedures.

Where there are problems with the field layout, it may delay the issuance of your license. If you have any questions please contact the Quesnel Natural Resource District at (250) 992-4400 and ask for the Small Scale Salvage Technologist.