

QUESNEL NATURAL RESOURCE DISTRICT
SMALL SCALE SALVAGE PROGRAM INFORMATION PACKAGE
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Contact for forest health related salvage

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1. Introduction

This document has been prepared to provide guidance and information related to the delivery of the Small Scale Salvage Program (SSSP) in the Quesnel Natural Resource District (DQU).

The purpose of the SSSP is to address forest health issues on the landbase such as:

- Douglas-Fir
- Spruce Bark Beetle
- Western Balsam Bark Beetle
- Dwarf Mistletoe

The program may also be utilized to address Wildfire Risk Reduction treatments.

The SSSP offers tenure for small volumes of timber up to 2,000m³. The program is focused on small isolated patches of timber that are dead, damaged and would not otherwise be utilized.

The order of priority for eligible stands is:

1. Currently infested bark beetle stands at Epidemic levels (over 35% infection) within the suppression units and licensee commitment areas as per the District's Forest Health Strategy and other priority areas.
2. Damaged timber adjacent to private land (interface areas) in identified Wildfire Risk Reduction (WRR) areas as per the District's WRR Priority Plan.
3. Bark beetle infested areas outside of woodlots or private land where the woodlot licensee or landowner has actively been controlling beetle infestation and removal may protect non-infested stands within the woodlot or private land.
4. Bark beetle infested areas where removal will protect non-infested stands.
5. Damaged stands (wildfire, dwarf mistletoe, etc.) on other unencumbered Crown land that is not being addressed by District programs, major licensees or BCTS.
6. Small patches of wind-thrown timber.

Professional Salvage Applications accompanied with Site Plans must be submitted for applications over 150 m³. Professional applications will be valid for 1 year only.

Professional applications must be prepared in accordance with the Professional Application Provincial Guidelines for Small Scale Salvage (June 2004). The applications will be signed and sealed by a Registered Forest Professional (RPF or RFT) in good standing with the Association of British Columbia Forest Professionals (ABCFP) and signed by the applicant.

Getting Started

Areas of Interest shall be identified by the proponent and submitted to the ministry representative for upload to the Small Scale Salvage Webmap. Further requirements are highlighted further in this document.

Final engineered shapes shall be submitted electronically through the Electronic Submission Framework (ESF) after September 01, 2021. Multiple small sites should be submitted as one entry in the form of a multi-part polygon. This way there will not be a block entry for every site in Forest Tenure Administration system (FTA). The submitting professional requires a BCeID number and they will need your client number to submit on your behalf.

A digital copy of the application package, including: Professional Salvage Application and georeferenced maps are required to be submitted to DQUTENAP@gov.bc.ca upon upload to ESF.

SUMMARY OF CRITERIA

- SSS applications are not to be proposed within areas beyond the applicant's capacity for effective harvesting (e.g. widespread/large areas of fire-killed, diseased or wind-thrown trees) within short time frames.
- SSSP applications will target opportunities that are less than 2,000m³ and will not create continuous clearcut openings. Other silviculture harvest systems that result in partial cuts may be acceptable. Multiple licenses under 2,000m³ may be considered in some cases where licensees have proven success.
- SSSP applications will leave harvested areas in a stocked condition where possible. Areas that are left not stocked will be required to pay a silviculture levy.
- The tenure issued under the SSSP will typically be a Forestry Licence to Cut (FLtC) under Section 47.6 of the *Forest Act*.
- SSSP applications will only be accepted for unencumbered Crown land.
- Stumpage will be payable based on the tabular rate as specified under Section 6 of the *Interior Appraisal Manual* (IAM).
- A Security Deposit will be taken on all licences as per the [Advertising, Deposits, Disposition and Extension Regulation](#).

DEADLINES

Beetle Salvage and Sanitation

All beetle infested timber must be probed once summer beetle flights are complete. Please contact the District Forest Health Specialist if you have any questions.

Professional Salvage Applications (PSA) can be submitted to the District up until November 1st of each calendar year. This is to ensure that the District has time to complete any required field inspections of sites. Applications may be submitted after this date with sound rationale from the submitting professional.

Beetle infected timber may be harvested and transported during October 1 to March 30 of each calendar year. The marked timber must be harvested and removed from all sites by March 30th. If challenges or issues are present, please communicate those with the District prior to the March 30th deadline.

Please note that license holders should not rely on receiving extensions for harvesting or hauling past the March 30th deadline. This is to mitigate the effects and spread of bark beetle. If every option has been exhausted by the licensee to meet the program objectives before the allowable harvest date ends, and decked wood remains on site, operational dates may be extended if the remaining decks are managed to reduce beetle spread. Please speak with the District representative to determine the best management practice for your site.

Other Salvage

Salvage applications for non-beetle areas will be considered throughout the year.

2. Professional Expectations

The success of the SSSP relies on professional judgement and foresight to identify existing and potential conflicts, provide recommendations and ensure that proposed harvesting operations would meet the SSSP objectives as well as other management objectives.

Professionals are expected to exercise judgement in all aspects of application preparation, field layout and volume estimations. Any exemptions that may be required must be identified in the comments section of the Forestry Licence to Cut Application form.

It is the responsibility of the submitting professional to ensure that the appropriate exemptions have been obtained, and to submit approved exemptions to the District representative.

It is imperative that the PSA contain an appropriate prescription for the site and that all site level data is accurately portrayed.

3. General Information

Information on the Small Scale Salvage program for the Province of British Columbia can be found at <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/forest-tenures/timber-harvesting-rights/licence-to-cut/small-scale-salvage>

- All SSSP harvesting is subject to the Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA), the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation (FPPR), the Forest Act, the Cariboo Chilcotin Land Use Plan, the Wildfire Act, the Wildfire Regulation, the Land Act and any other applicable legislation. If awarded an FLtC, you will not only be bound by the terms and conditions of the license, but also by any relevant legislation.
- Professional applications will only be processed once any outstanding fines, penalties or remediation work has been completed.
- The number of FLtCs held by a client at any one time will be based on past performance and the quality of the client's Professional Salvage Applications.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

An application for a FLtC is made up of two separate components:

1. The submission of the digital map information through ESF and to the District.
2. The PSA package and Interior Stumpage Rate Request Form¹.

AREA OF INTEREST DATA

Area of Interest (AOI) data will be emailed as digital spatial files (e.g. shp, kmz, or kml format) that include clear identifiable features to DQUTENAP@gov.bc.ca and include the following information with this data in the email:

- Contact information;
- Type of timber that you plan to salvage (beetle, fire killed, blowdown, etc); and
- Map sheet number, or clear location (access) information

Your AOI should not exceed 2,000m³ of volume. AOIs should only target areas that are achievable within the 2,000m³ volume limit. However, if it is required to effectively treat or sanitize an area and the licensee has the capacity to harvest over 2,000m³ multiple FLtCs may be issued if the applicant has a thorough and detailed plan in place.

Ensure you keep a copy of this data for your records as you will require it for the referral process. Your area will be checked for overlaps with other SSSP applications and known archaeological sites. You will be notified of the results. The AOI must meet all requirements outlined in this package.

Areas identified in the AOI will be held in Forest Tenure Administration (FTA) for a period of 1 year for beetle salvage where no treatment has begun. Extensions may be granted by the District. Rationale for why harvest did not occur within the proposed treatment year will need to be submitted.

MAP REQUIREMENTS

The following two maps must be attached with each Professional Salvage application. These maps must be georeferenced pdf files.

1. Location /Overview Map: This map must show how to access the harvest area from a local public road. The scale should be sufficient to show roads from the closest existing public road to the harvest area. Detailed written access and identification of haul route must be included as part of the legend or within the application.
2. Harvest Plan Map: Map must show the area to be harvested, proposed/existing roads and skid trails appropriately identified. Should reflect the detailed operations that are planned for the area. Map scale should be 1:20,000. The minimum content requirement for these maps is as follows:

¹ Interior Stumpage Rate Request Form can be accessed electronically through the South Area Appraisal Sharepoint. Users with a BCEID can request access to the Sharepoint site by emailing SouthArea.AppraisalAdministrator@gov.bc.ca

- a. Private land boundaries
- b. Resource features
- c. Water features with classification clearly labeled
- d. Designated stream crossings clearly depicted
- e. Forest Inventory Label
- f. Proposed boundaries depicted in bold heavy line
- g. Other management values (e.g. MDWR, OGMA)
- h. Contours
- i. Existing/ proposed roads and trails
- j. Trap trees (if within area)
- k. Proposed decking/landing sites
- l. Legend with:
 - i. North arrow
 - ii. Applicant number and name
 - iii. Geographic location with Lat/Long or UTM
 - iv. Area in hectares
 - v. Scale

FIELD LAYOUT

Field layout will be held to the standards depicted in the [Field Layout Procedures](#) document. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that areas laid out meet these standards in order to avoid delays.

LANDINGS

Landing construction should be avoided and existing landings should be utilized wherever possible. However, if a landing must be constructed, it must not exceed 0.2ha in size. Landing area and volume must be accounted for in the application if trees are to be removed from the site. Landings must also be indicated on the map if outside the harvest area.

SKID TRAILS

The maximum skid trail width allowed is 5.0 meters. There shall be no excavated or bladed trails.

SILVICULTURE CONSIDERATIONS

The prescribing forest professional must carefully consider the impacts of harvesting on the site. SSS applications should not be proposed on sites where extensive silviculture tending will be required.

It is unacceptable to propose salvage on a site that will be difficult to regenerate due to site conditions.

Generally, stocking standards will adhere to the Cariboo Region Stocking Standards (2018). However, in limited circumstances, alternative stocking standards may be proposed for selective harvest applications.

When proposing alternative stocking standards, the prescribing forest professional must consider the implications to future harvesting and limiting factors of tree species. A rationale must be provided to describe the site and tree characteristic and include standards that will result in the area being stocked with ecologically suitable species that address immediate and long-term forest health issues in the area.

4. Referrals

FIRST NATIONS

Before a Professional Salvage application is submitted, potential SSSP licensees are encouraged to contact associated First Nations as per the District's *3rd Party Information Sharing Guidelines* to present their Area of Interest and salvage plan.

If you have questions related to the consultation process, or would like assistance in completing the 3rd Party Information Sharing document, please contact the First Nations Department at FN.DQU@gov.bc.ca or calling the district office at 250-992-4400.

INDUSTRY

If you are developing a proposal, you may need to contact West Fraser Mills LTD., Tolko Industries LTD., C&C Wood Products, Dunkley Lumber or BCTS. The major licensees have strategies for managing bark beetles and planned harvest of damaged timber in their high priority operating areas. It is the responsibility of the applicant and forest professional to retain all documentation related to the referral of their application to other stakeholders should the District require it.

ROADS

All roads being used that are covered under a Road Permit will require notification to the holder of the Road Permit. Applicants may also be required to enter into a Road Maintenance Agreement with the Road Permit holder.

A Junction Permit from the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure may be required where adjoining public roads or highways intersect proposed roads.

If the applicant is proposing to use a Forest Service Road (FSR), under section 80.1 of the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation (FPPR) they must notify the District. A Road Use Permit may be required. Request for a Road Use Permit or exemption can be sent to the Engineering Officer at the District.

Engineering Office Contact Information:

Terry Street – terry.street@gov.bc.ca; 236-713-2264

RANGE

Grazing leases require a full referral to the holder of the grazing lease. If required to breach a Crown range fence, this must be included in the application for referral to the Range Department and must be approved by the District Manager.

RECREATION AND TRAILS

Any industrial activity that takes place on or is accessed by a recreation trail or any industrial activity that takes place on or in a recreation site requires a Section 16 FRPA Authorization from the District Recreation Officer. The applicant should contact the District Recreation Officer prior to submitting the PSA.

Recreation Officer Contact Information:

Central Cariboo – Quesnel: Desi Cheverie, desi.cheverie@gov.bc.ca; 250-398-4757

UNGULATE WINTER RANGE

Under Government Action Regulations (GAR), harvesting bark beetle infested timber in a Mule Deer Winter Range (MDWR) must be consistent with the applicable General Wildlife Measures. The applicant must ensure that referrals are submitted to the habitat specialist outlining:

- Total number of “green” attack trees with GPS points
- Total number of “red” attack trees with GPS points
- Total number of “grey” attack trees with GPS
- Total number of unaffected trees
- Other rationale to support harvest (e.g. harvest aligns with wildfire risk reduction work being done in the same area)

It is important to have accurate, current data in the referral. Inaccurate data or outdated data may delay the process or may result in a GAR Order Exemption not being granted.

Habitat Specialist Contact Information:

Cariboo Chilcotin: Becky Bings, becky.bings@gov.bc.ca; 250-398-4246

OLD GROWTH MANAGEMENT AREA (OGMA)

Generally AOI applications will not be accepted within OGMA's.

AOI applications for SSSP harvesting operations with OGMA's may be accepted only if the areas are in alignment with the District's Forest Health or Wildfire Risk Reduction priorities. Please speak with the District prior to submitting a proposal for an AOI within an OGMA to determine if the application is appropriate.

5. Forestry Licence to Cut (FLtC)

The District will receive the submission as listed above. If all the application requirements have been met, a FLtC will normally be processed within 60 working days from the receipt of the PSA. Processing sales may take longer depending on the referral process.

Effective treatment/sanitation of a given site may require a two year FLtC. FLtC's for beetle salvage will typically be issued for a one year term. If a two year licence is proposed in the PSA, the District will require a detail plan explaining how this two year period will address the forest health issues with the licence area that will be referred to the Forest Health Specialist for review.

For more information on a Forestry Licence to Cut, please visit:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/forest-tenures/timber-harvesting-rights/licence-to-cut/forestry-licence-to-cut> or contact the District.

A pre-work meeting must be held between the applicant and ministry staff once the FLtC is issued and prior to any harvest. The forest professional responsible for the application must also attend the pre-work.

The holder of an FLtC will be required to submit a Notice of Commencement to the District prior to beginning on the license and shall provide a Post Harvest Report 60 days after the final harvest date.

The District may perform field inspections on approved licences during operations and will complete a field inspection upon receipt of a deposit release request.

APPRAISAL DATA

A Stumpage Rate Request Form must be completed, signed and sealed by a forest professional and included with the application package. All possible species must be accounted for; therefore volumes must be $>3\text{m}^3$ for each species.

STUMPAGE RATES AND SILVICULTURE LEVIES

Currently, stumpage rates for SSSP FLtCs are determined using various Table Rates that can be found in Section 6 of the Interior Appraisal Manual, and are adjusted from time to time. Stumpage rates are determined based on the day the license is issued and are fixed for the term of the license.

A silviculture levy will be applied to all licenses that have any cut blocks greater than one hectare in size and will not achieve a fully stocked stand post-harvest. This silviculture levy will be calculated so as to recover the costs to bring the stand to a free growing state. The silviculture levy will be a $\$/\text{m}^3$ that will be added to the stumpage rates and will be shown on the Interior Stumpage Rate Request Form.

6. Post Harvest

- A signage must be removed upon completion of harvest.
- All debris piles must be disposed of.
- All ditch lines must be cleaned of logging debris and restored to same or better condition
- Approval must be obtained if decking more than 200m^3 of wood for longer than six weeks (unless for break-up).
- Timber hammer marks are required for volumes over 300m^3 . To request an exemption from using a timber hammer, please contact the District Scaling Officer.
- Post-Harvest Report completed and returned to the District within 60 days for any work that required a Professional Application.
- ESF submission to Results

DISPOSING OF DEBRIS

Harvesting related debris must be mitigated on all sites as per the *Wildfire Act, Wildfire Regulation and Forest Planning and Practices Regulation*. A fire reference number is required whenever burning is to occur. To acquire a reference number, call 1-888-797-1717.

All burning must follow conditions set out in the *Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation* and must be within the limits set out by any applicable fire bans or restrictions. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that debris mitigation activities are carried out within a reasonable timeframe post-harvest.

If you plan to burn your debris piles concurrently while logging, you must tally the waste in the piles and forward this information to your forest professional.

CONCURRENT RESIDUAL HARVEST SYSTEM (CRHS)

The primary purpose of the CRHS is to provide an alternative method of scale for low quality timber harvested in the Interior as per Section 5 (1) (c) (iii) of the *Scaling Regulation*. This process is designed to be revenue and cut control neutral. It will reduce the administrative burden associated with timber delivered to secondary manufacturing facilities in order to improve fibre utilization. This process is voluntary and must have a business to business agreement between the primary harvester and the secondary manufacturer in place.

EXCESS HARVEST BILLING

Section 75.21 of the *Forest Act* provides for penalty billing of volumes that exceed the amount identified in the FLTC document. A single stumpage penalty will be charged for volumes up to 15% over the specified amount and double stumpage will be charged for volumes over the 15% mark. In each of these cases, an adjusted stumpage bill will be sent to the licensee.

WASTE AND RESIDUE

Legislation requires a waste and residue survey be submitted. A procedures manual can be found at: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/competitive-forest-industry/timber-pricing/forest-residue-waste>

7. Conclusion

In addition to the general conditions described above, the District Manager may set other conditions in the FLTC document on a site-specific basis.

Additional requirements may include copies of referrals with any of the required agencies, operation planning assessments, road maintenance agreements, road use permits, field review reports, field traverse, regeneration and silviculture surveys, free growing declarations, wind firmness assessments and other stakeholder or agency comments.

There is no guarantee that any application will result in the issuance of a FLTC.

This document is not intended to cover all legislation or regulation requirements and may be subject to changes as deemed necessary by the District Manager. Information in this document is intended to guide proponents but does not limit proposals that are deemed to be consistent with the *Forest and Range Practices Act* and all other relevant acts and regulations.