



Province of  
British Columbia



Ministry  
of  
Forests

## SMALL SCALE SALVAGE PROGRAM Professional Application Provincial Guidelines

June 1, 2004

### PURPOSE

To establish an application and approval process for small scale timber salvage that is efficient, effective and transparent.

### GUIDELINES

The Ministry will require a suitable application, signed by the applicant and a Professional, prior to issuing a Forestry Licence to Cut under authority of Section 47.6(2)(a) of the *Forest Act*.

The Ministry requires a Post Harvesting Report, signed by a Professional, as documentation that the holder of a Forestry Licence to Cut has completed operations in compliance with the approved standards, guidelines and licence conditions. The Post Harvesting Report does not prevent the Ministry from carrying out inspections or audits as it may deem appropriate.

### SCOPE OF APPLICATION

- Province wide
- Forestry licence to cut issued without advertising for the purpose of salvaging timber volumes between 50m<sup>3</sup> and 2000m<sup>3</sup>

### DEFINITIONS

1. "Applicant" means the person or company who is the intended licensee for the Forestry Licence to Cut or cutting permit.
2. "Application" means a written request, submitted to the Ministry in a manner consistent with the procedures and standards outlined below.
3. "Post Harvesting Report" means a written report, submitted to the Ministry in a manner consistent with the procedures and standards outlined below.
4. "Professional" means a member of a professional regulatory body, who is registered to practice in BC, is qualified for the work and can be held accountable by the professional regulatory body.
5. "Small scale salvage plan" means a part of a District Forest Health Strategy that sets out objectives and priorities for small scale salvage, or a plan designated by the District Manager.

### PROCESS OVERVIEW

The core process for small scale salvage applicable throughout the province requires six (6) basic steps. Each of these steps may have a number of components that may be unique to the particular area or circumstances.

**Step 1** (Pre-application) – Applicant or professional

**Step 2** (Application) - Professional

**Step 3** (Review and approval) - District Manager or Forest Officer

**Step 4** (Operations) - Licensee

**Step 5** (Post Harvesting Report) - Professional

**Step 6** (Closure) - District Manager or Forest Officer

**DISTRICT GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES**

A Regional Manager or District Manager may establish local guidelines or procedures provided that they are consistent with the purpose of this policy and do not contradict the procedures and standards herein.

- Guidelines may be established to set out small scale salvage priorities based on local forest management objectives and circumstances.
- Local procedures may be established where they are needed to achieve the purpose of this policy.
- Local guidelines or procedures must be made known to potential applicants in an appropriate manner and time.

**GENERAL STANDARDS**

**Pre-application planning**

To prepare an application for submission, the applicant, or a 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 that the proposed salvage is consistent with the district forest health plan or the district salvage plan.
2. Confirming that the proposed application area will not be in conflict with an existing tenure or application.
3. Carrying out a referral to major licensee(s) and/or BC Timber Sales if either has a Forest Stewardship Plan (or Forest Development Plan) for the area and obtain written confirmation that they do not dispute the proposed application.
4. Consulting with other tenure holders or agencies where appropriate.
5. Verifying the land status and ownership.
6. Identifying potential conflict with any known archeological features.

**Application**

An application must be submitted in writing to the District Manager. The application must contain the information set out below and in the attached form “small scale salvage application” and any additional information required by the District Manager in a local procedure or guideline.

1. The location of the timber proposed for harvest and confirmation of land status.
2. The cause of the timber mortality (e.g. insects, windthrow, fire, disease etc.).
3. The volume and species of the timber proposed for harvest, including and described separately: dead timber, in danger (damaged or infested and expected to be dead within one year), interspersed with dead or endangered, or timber that must be harvested to provide access to the dead or endangered timber.
4. The method of harvest (e.g. patch cut, selective cut).
5. The proposed term of the licence.

6. Documentation of referrals to major licensees, BC Timber Sales or others, including how comments were addressed.
7. Such information as is required by the district manager or regional manager for establishment of a stumpage rate.
8. A map showing the boundaries of each harvest area, prepared to quality suitable for use as Exhibit A in the licence.
9. Information describing any road use agreements or requirements pertinent to the application.
10. A declaration signed and sealed by a qualified professional, that the application has been professionally prepared.
11. Signature of the applicant or a person authorized in writing by the applicant.

### **Review and approval criteria**

The Ministry may approve an application made under this policy and issue a licence if the following criteria are satisfied:

1. The timber volume applied for does not exceed 2000 m<sup>3</sup>.
2. The timber applied for in the application is dead, or in the opinion of the regional manager or district manager, meets the definitions set out in Section 47.6(2)(a), subsections (i), (ii) or (iii) of the *Forest Act*.
3. The application is consistent with the applicable statutes, including the Forest and Range Practices Act and the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation.
4. The application is consistent with the district forest health strategy or a district small scale salvage plan.
5. In the opinion of the district manager or the regional manager, the applicant is capable of carrying out the salvage in a manner consistent with the objectives and guidelines for the area.
6. The applicant is not in default of another agreement with the Crown.
7. The district manager is satisfied that a licence issued according to the application will not be in conflict with the Ministry Small Scale Salvage Strategy or associated policies.
8. Issuance of a licence or cutting permit will not unduly infringe on aboriginal rights and title.
9. The application has been prepared and signed in a manner consistent with this policy.

A forestry licence to cut, or cutting permits pertaining to one, must be consistent with Section 47.7 of the *Forest Act* and with a licence document format approved by the Director, Resource Tenures and Engineering Branch, and may include such additional conditions as are determined necessary by the district manager or regional manager to achieve the purpose of this policy.

### **Post Harvesting Report**

Upon completion of harvesting a qualified professional may conduct a site inspection and complete a Post Harvesting Report attesting to the whether:

1. The timber targeted for salvage has been removed in accordance with the approved plan.
2. Waste and residue standards have been achieved.
3. The stand remains stocked and free growing in accordance with Section 46 of the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation.
4. Measures undertaken to protect soil, water, archeological features and wildlife habitat have achieved the required results.

5. Access trails, roads and landings have been deactivated to an acceptable standard.
6. In the opinion of the professional the licensee has completed all on-site obligations under the licence or cutting permit.

## **APPENDICES**

- I Small Scale Salvage Application (form)**
- II Post Harvesting Report (form)**
- III Mapping Requirements**
- IV Detailed Procedures**