



## Proposed Tenure Disposition in the Great Bear Rainforest North Timber Supply Area

### Purpose of this Document

This document provides detail on a tenure transfer in the Great Bear Rainforest (GBR) North Timber Supply Area (TSA).

The tenure transfer requires the approval of decision makers in the Ministry of Forests (the “Ministry”). Details on the legal requirements for the approval and the process the ministry will employ to determine if the disposition should be approved, are within the document titled “Disposition of an Agreement Administrative Guide”. The document is available on the Forest Tenures Branch website at: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/forest-tenures/forest-tenure-administration/timber-tenure-transfer-disposition>.

For further information on the proposed transaction please contact Emma Neill, Senior Timber Tenures Forester at 778-974-2439 or Matthew Feagan, Timber Tenures Specialist at 250-739-8324 or by email at [InterforDisposition2023@gov.bc.ca](mailto:InterforDisposition2023@gov.bc.ca)

### Details of the Disposition Requests

The Ministry of Forests has received an application to complete the following tenure transfers in the Great Bear Rainforest North TSA:

1. The subdivision of Replaceable Forest Licence (RFL) A16850 with an allowable annual cut (AAC) of 83,382 m<sup>3</sup>/yr into an amended A16850 with an AAC of 15,846 m<sup>3</sup>/yr and the creation of three new RFLs, A99081, A99841 and A99715 with AACs of 41,690 m<sup>3</sup>/yr, 15,845 m<sup>3</sup>/yr and 10,001m<sup>3</sup>/yr respectively.
2. The transfer of the subdivided RFL A16850 with an AAC of 15,846 m<sup>3</sup>/yr from Interfor to the Metlakatla First Nation or its wholly-owned corporate nominee.
3. The transfer of the new RFL A99081 with an AAC of 41,690 m<sup>3</sup>/yr from Interfor to the Heiltsuk Tribal Council or its wholly-owned corporate nominee.
4. The transfer of the new RFL A99481 with an AAC of 15,845 m<sup>3</sup>/yr from Interfor to the Lax Kw’alaams First Nation or its wholly-owned corporate nominee.
5. The transfer of the new RFL A99715 with an AAC of 10,001 m<sup>3</sup>/yr from Interfor to the Gitga’at First Nation or its wholly-owned corporate nominee.
6. The transfer of A16837 with an AAC of 14,049 m<sup>3</sup> from Sonora Logging to the Gitga’at First Nation.

### What is a Replaceable Forest Licence and what rights are being provided?

RFL’s are a form of forest tenure that provide harvesting rights in a TSA. RFLs are replaced every 10 years with a new term of 15 years. Details of the RFLs being subdivided and/or transferred follows:



RFL	Current Term	Replacement Date
A16850 – Interfor	2017-11-01 to 2032-10-31	2027-11-02
A16837 – Sonora Logging	2017-09-01 to 2032-08-31	2027-09-01

## Are there other Tenures or Permits that will be transferred?

Interfor has indicated that some road permits (RPs) cutting permits (CPs), and Licences of Occupation (permits issued under the *Land Act*) may be transferred in whole or in part to the new tenure holders. There will be no ancillary permits transferred as part of the transaction with Sonora Logging.

Permits and licences that are to be transferred or assigned in whole or in part to new holders:

### Road Permits

Associated Tenure	Permit #	Proposed New tenure holder	Operating Area and Location
A99081	R06279	Heiltsuk Tribal Council	MOS, MOS(TL), HOY
A99081	R09263	Heiltsuk Tribal Council	King, King (TLs), Jen
A99081	R13881	Heiltsuk Tribal Council	King (TLs), (JEN)
A99081	R14895	Heiltsuk Tribal Council	King (JEN)
A99081	R10804	Heiltsuk Tribal Council	COU, COU (TL)
A99715	R11149	Gitga'at First Nation	SUR
A16850	R13230	Metlakatla First Nation	DAV

### Licences of Occupation

File #	Expiry	Use	Proposed New Holder	Location
5406297	2019/01/31	Foreshore - log dump and storage	Heiltsuk Tribal Council	Cousins Inlet
5406460	2022/07/14	Foreshore - float camp	Heiltsuk Tribal Council	Wallace Bay
1413669	2022/12/05	Log Handling and dumping	Heiltsuk Tribal Council	Labouchere
5401671	2017/11/19	Log dump, storage and float camp	Heiltsuk Tribal Council	Jenny Inlet
5400883	2021/12/06	Foreshore - Log Dump	Heiltsuk Tribal Council	Moses Inlet

Further details on these permits and licences are available on request and maps (shapefiles) are available on the FTP site located at:

<https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/HTH/external/!publish/Interfor%20Transfer/>.

## Where will the RFLs be allowed to operate?

The RFLs will provide the holder with the right to apply for CPs and RPs within the GBR North TSA. The approval of the CPs and RPs will require consultation with First Nations and the approval of the District Manager to ensure they meet all legal requirements. A map of the GBR North TSA is attached.

It is a common practice for tenure holders in a TSA to enter into an operating area agreement to restrict their operations to a certain area of the TSA. This arrangement avoids tenure holders from overlapping operations and helps to ensure orderly planning in the TSA. These operating area arrangements are business to business arrangements by tenure holders and are not mandated by the ministry.



It is expected that new tenure holders will operate within the operating area historically allocated to the RFL they acquire and any future operating area changes will be done through discussion with other tenure holders in the GBR North TSA.

### What harvest rights have been provided in the GBR North TSA?

The GBR North TSA's current AAC is 803,000 m<sup>3</sup>/yr as of January 1, 2017. The GBR North TSA AAC was allocated (or apportioned) into Forest Licences and for use by BC Timber Sales as follows:

Tenure Type	Coniferous Volume (m <sup>3</sup> /yr)	Deciduous Volume (m <sup>3</sup> /yr)	Apportionment by Licence (m <sup>3</sup> /yr)
Replaceable Forest Licences	619,263		Metlakatla, A16841 – 24,488 Interfor, A16850 – 83,38 Interfor, A82002 – 22,223 Sonora Logging Limited, A16837 – 14,049 Sonora Logging Limited, A16838 – 10,001 SWC Holding Ltd., A16848 – 10,001 Western Forest Products, A16845 – 136,029 Western Forest Products, A16847 – 19,674
Non-Replaceable Forest Licences		5,000	Dean Channel Forest Products Ltd., A96670 – 5,000
First Nations Replaceable Forest Licences	25,000 15,800 66,472 8,528 4,445 10,500 25,000 66,671 15,000 9,400		Coast Tsimshian Resources Ltd. – A97045 Gitga'at Forestry Inc. – A95995 Gitxaala Forest Products Ltd. – A16820 Gitxaala Forest Products Ltd. – A95624 Gwa'nak Resources Ltd. – A93864 Kitasoo Forest Company Ltd. – A94536 Kitasoo Forest Company Ltd. – A94009 Kvamua Forestry Services Ltd. – A82001 Kvamua Forestry Services Ltd. – A94010 Kvamua Forestry Services Ltd. – A94515
First Nations Non-Replaceable Forest Licences	55,898		Nuxalk Forestry Limited Partnership, A87259 – 30,898 and 31,302 Non-AAC lump sum volume Metlakatla Forestry Limited Partnership, A94773 – 17,000 Non-AAC lump sum volume Gitxaala Forest Products Ltd., - 75,000 Non-AAC lump sum volume
BC Timber Sales	117,976		

### Are manufacturing facilities involved in the transaction?

There are no timber processing requirements with the RFL.



## **Is there contracting requirement associated with the RFLs?**

There are no contractors with contractor rights associated with these RFLs.

## **What happens to existing obligations, such as for silviculture and roads?**

If there are outstanding silviculture obligations accrued under the RFL from previous harvesting, the new holder of the RFL becomes responsible for all of these obligations once the transfer is completed.

Going forward, the new holder will also be responsible for all future silviculture requirements associated with their own harvesting under the RFL, as well as obligations to pay stumpage and annual rent.

Existing obligations associated with road permits are still being determined between Interfor and the intended recipients, as some road permits may be fully deactivated and some road sections may be removed from a permit.

Requests may also be made under the provisions of the *Forest and Range Practices Act* for a new holder to transfer outstanding silviculture obligations back to Interfor, where both parties agree to do so and have received the Minister's approval. This is a separate process from the transfer of the RFL.

Interfor continues to work with individual First Nations to ensure that each transaction clearly identifies the obligations that come with the transferred tenure agreements and road permits. Where possible, Interfor seeks to align the holding of existing obligations where they are clearly located within a particular Nation's traditional territory. Where a First Nation partner is unwilling to assume obligations associated with a road permit or outstanding silviculture obligations from previous harvesting, these obligations remain with, or will be transferred back to, Interfor.

Within the GBR North TSA, Interfor has indicated that all outstanding silviculture obligations will likely be retained by the company, subject to agreements with First Nation partners. Interfor has committed to the province that all silviculture and road obligations that remain with their company will be met.

## **How will harvest operations be conducted?**

Interfor has submitted a major FSP amendment under the *Forest and Range Practices Act* to Interfor's existing Multi-Licensee Forest Stewardship Plan #675 for consideration by the Ministry. Metlakatla and Lax Kw'alaam will be FSP licence holders under this approved amendment.

Gitga'at and Heiltsuk Tribal Council will be developing their own Forest Stewardship Plans.



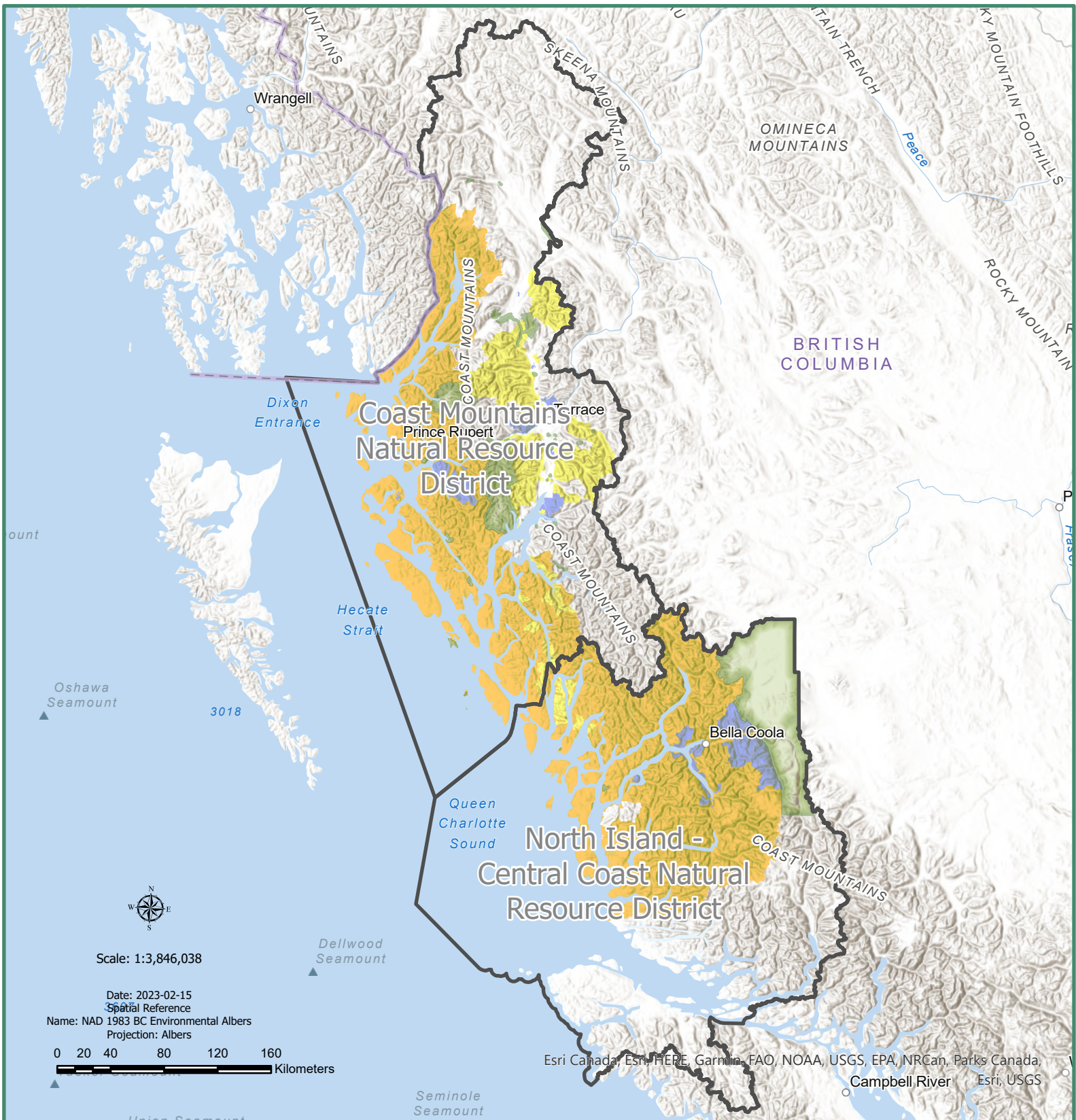
Ministry of Forests

# Ministry of Forests

## Great Bear North - Timber Supply Area



Esri, FAO, NOAA, USGS, NRCan, Esri, USGS



Scale: 1:3,846,038

Date: 2023-02-15  
Spatial Reference  
Name: NAD 1983 BC Environmental Albers  
Projection: Albers



Esri Canada, Esri, HERE, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, EPA, NRCan, Parks Canada, Esri, USGS



Esri, FAO, NOAA, USGS, NRCan, Esri, USGS

<b>Region: West Coast (RWC)</b>	District Boundary	Managed Licence (CFA's & Woodlots)
<b>Districts: Coast Mountains (DKM), North Island (DNI)</b>	GBR North TSA (46)	Parks, Ecological Reserves, and Protected Areas
	Tree Farm Licence	

**DISCLAIMER**  
If there is a discrepancy in the location of legal surveyed boundaries, ground location takes precedence.