



Ministry of  
Forests

# Wildfire Timber Salvage Planning and Administration Guidance

Version 2.0 – February 18, 2025

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## Version History

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This document is designed to be a living resource, with a strong commitment to ongoing updates and improvements based on practical experience, new insights, and legislative changes. We encourage collaboration and input. Please send questions and feedback to [ForestTenuresBranch@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ForestTenuresBranch@gov.bc.ca).

The table below documents the changes that have been made to this document over time.

Version	Date of Issue	Brief Description of Change
1.0	September 18, 2024	Initial publication of guidance includes current information up to the date of issue.
2.0	February 18, 2025	Review and comment updates, reforestation content update, updated resources – blanket salvage cutting permits, ribbonless boundary tool, fibre recovery guidance.

## Table of Contents

Version History .....	3
Table of Contents.....	4
Abbreviations, Acronyms and Initialisms .....	5
Glossary of Terms Used in This Manual.....	7
Executive Summary .....	8
Scope.....	10
Roles and Contributions.....	11
Part 1: Phases of Salvage .....	13
1.1 Phase 1 - Preparation: Annual Readiness .....	13
1.2 Phase 2 - During the Wildfire: Consider Initiating Action.....	16
1.3 Phase 3 - Post Wildfire: Early Timber Salvage (0-6 months) .....	18
1.4 Phase 4 - Post Wildfire: Coordinated Timber Salvage (6-24 months).....	22
1.5 Phase 5 - Post Wildfire: Fibre Recovery (24-36+ months).....	24
Part 2: Current Tools and Processes .....	25
2.1 First Nation Partners .....	25
2.2 Available Tenures, Authorizations and Considerations .....	27
2.3 BC Timber Sales (BCTS).....	32
2.4 Wildfire Salvage Opportunity Agreement.....	32
2.5 Pricing .....	33
2.6 Identification of Retention Areas.....	33
2.7 Wildfire Timber Salvage and Reforestation .....	34
2.8 Land Use Objectives Guidance.....	35
2.9 Monitoring and Reporting .....	36
Appendices .....	38
Appendix 1: Layout Best Practices Guidance .....	39
Appendix 2: General Process to Apply for Exemptions.....	40
Appendix 3: Links & Further Reading.....	41

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## Abbreviations, Acronyms and Initialisms

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2BT	2 Billion Trees Program
AAC	Allowable Annual Cut
BAER	Burned Area Emergency Response
BCGW	BC Geographic Warehouse
BCTS	BC Timber Sales
BCWS	BC Wildfire Service
BEHF	Biodiversity and Ecosystems Health Framework (draft)
BSCP	Blanket Salvage Cutting Permit
CFA	Community Forest Agreement
CP	Cutting Permit
DA	Disposition Agreement
DDM	Delegated Decision Maker
FAIB	Forest Analysis and Inventory Branch
FIRB	Forest Investment and Reporting Branch
FIP	Forest Investment Program
FL	Forest Licence
FLP	Forest Landscape Planning
FLTC	Forestry Licence to Cut
FOM	Forest Operations Map
FOR	Ministry of Forests
FNESS	First Nations Emergency Services Society
FNWL	First Nations Woodland Licence
FPPR	Forest Planning and Practices Regulation ( <i>FRPA</i> )
FRPA	<i>Forest and Range Practices Act</i>
FSPPB	Forest Science, Planning & Practices Branch (within the Office of the Chief Forester)
FSP	Forest Stewardship Plan
FSR	Forest Service Road
FTA	Forest Tenure Administration
FTB	Forest Tenures Branch
GAR	Government Actions Regulation ( <i>FRPA</i> )
HCA	<i>Heritage Conservation Act</i>
NRFL	Non-Replaceable Forest Licence
OGMA	Old Growth Management Area

OLTC	Occupant Licence to Cut
RMA	Riparian Management Area
RP	Road Permit
SUP	Special Use Permit
TL	Timber Licence
TFL	Tree Farm Licence
THLB	Timber Harvesting Land Base
TPB	Timber Pricing Branch
TSA	Timber Supply Area
TSL	Timber Sale Licence
UWR	Ungulate Winter Range
VQO	Visual Quality Objective
WHA	Wildlife Habitat Area
WL	Woodlot Licence
WLP	Woodlot Licence Plan
WLRS	Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship
WSOA	Wildfire Salvage Opportunity Agreement

## Glossary of Terms Used in This Manual

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**Agreement** in this document, unless the context implies otherwise, refers to an agreement entered into under Part 3 of the *Forest Act* which grants the right to harvest Crown timber.

**Approve** means a statutory decision maker accepts a tenure holder's document. An example is a Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP) or Woodlot Licence Plan (WLP). Legislation requires tenure holders to prepare an FSP or WLP and obtain approval, and after approval the tenure holder retains responsibility for the plan. Compare with the term 'issue.'

**Cutblock** generally means an area of public or private land in which timber is to be harvested or has been harvested other than a road right of way.

**Cutting Authority** means:

a Cutting Permit (CP),

a Road Permit (RP), or

an agreement, such as a Timber Sale Licence (TSL), that grants the authority to harvest Crown timber, but does not provide for a CP (i.e., a CP is not required prior to harvesting timber).

**Cutting Permit** is the authority issued by FOR that authorizes the holder of certain agreements to exercise timber harvesting rights.

**Forestry Legislation** includes, but is not restricted to:

the *Forest Act*

the *Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act*

the *Forest and Range Practices Act*

the *Wildfire Act*, and

the regulations under those Acts as amended from time to time.

**Issue** is a process whereby the statutory decision maker may grant a right to an applicant in accordance with the *Forest Act*.

**Qualified Professional** as per the Professional Governance Act Schedule 1, Section 1.

**Shelf life** means the length of time during which wildfire damaged timber remains suitable for use for lumber production in primary sawmills.

**Tenure** generally refers to an agreement, licence or permit as described in the *Forest Act*.

## Executive Summary

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Wildfires have been a natural part of forest ecosystems throughout history. The changing climate, characterized by hotter and dryer conditions, is contributing to increased wildfire frequency, size and intensity that is posing greater impacts to forest ecosystems and the communities that depend on them. Wildfire timber salvage, combined with retention strategies and reforestation efforts, is a valuable tool for promoting the regeneration of healthy forests more quickly. Managing the diverse values of forested landscapes affected by wildfires is complex. A landscape-level approach is essential to determine when, where, and how timber salvage, retention and reforestation can occur. Well under five percent of British Columbia's total wildfire-damaged areas are harvested, as many sites are unsuitable for harvest due to factors such as accessibility, terrain stability, hydrology, wildlife, cultural values and other considerations. Of the sites that are appropriate for wildfire timber salvage, the goal is to harvest wildfire impacted timber to offset harvest pressure on green stands. The remainder of the wildfire impacted areas regenerate and recover through natural ecological succession.

The combined knowledge, experience and collaboration between forest tenure holders, First Nation governments, and the provincial government will help design best management practices and planning for forest resources in relation to wildfire timber salvage and reforestation. To capture the maximum value of the wildfire damaged timber, the Ministry of Forests (FOR), the Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship (WLRS), First Nations, and forest tenure holders must strive for strong collaborative relationships.

The purpose of this provincial guidance is to:

1. Outline the wildfire timber salvage process for planning and permit administration, consisting of five key planning phases. For First Nations, tenure holders, FOR and WLRS staff, this will support a more consistent process for post-wildfire timber salvage.
2. Establish a framework to support timely, collaborative planning and continue to build strong relationships, leveraging existing processes and committees where possible.
3. Clarify the roles and contributions of those involved in wildfire timber salvage, retention and reforestation work for efficient operation.
4. Support efficient and effective issuance of salvage cutting permits, while managing for a suite of environmental, cultural, and social values, and minimizing short- and mid-term timber supply reductions, where possible.
5. Consolidate provincial wildfire timber salvage permitting resources (e.g., tools, policies) in one place.

Proactive, early planning is an essential component of wildfire timber salvage and reforestation. It establishes a shared understanding between the forest tenure holder and the decision maker regarding cutting permit (CP) application requirements and the acceptable conditions and targets to be achieved on the land base prior to reacting to a catastrophic wildfire event.

Part 1 provides guidance for a consistent and efficient process, resulting in streamlined permitting for wildfire timber salvage across the five planning phases.

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Part 2 of this guidance highlights that the CP is the primary authority issued to existing tenure holders to cut both damaged and undamaged timber.

### **Phase 1 - Preparation: Annual Readiness**

Phase 1 aims to establish and align the shared objectives of government, First Nations, local communities, and tenure holders for wildfire timber salvage. This phase will review opportunities for timely planning, harvesting, and reforestation activities on wildfire areas. Existing meeting forums may provide the space for annual readiness conversations to discuss primary objectives in this planning phase.

The outcome of the annual readiness phase is to develop a shared, local ‘wildfire timber salvage strategy’ (Strategy) that guides the remaining four phases and identifies:

- values to be protected,
- areas that are constrained, and
- areas that are imminently available for timber salvage and reforestation.

### **Phase 2 - During the Wildfire: Consider Initiating Action**

Phase 2 describes activities that may be permitted as the wildfire is burning, with the approval of BCWS. The potential outcome of this phase, through collaboration with BCWS, is to secure early and safe access to burnt timber within an active wildfire perimeter to support more timely CP planning, development and issuance.

### **Phase 3 – Post Wildfire: Early Timber Salvage (0-6 months)**

The Phase 3 goal is to commence early timber salvage operations on the highest priority areas available for harvest. It is critical in this phase to first target highest value burnt timber currently under CP or in CP process and then move to new CP development. A key objective is to transition from harvesting green trees to harvesting wildfire impacted stands to mitigate impacts on future timber supply.

### **Phase 4 – Post Wildfire: Coordinated Timber Salvage (6-24 months)**

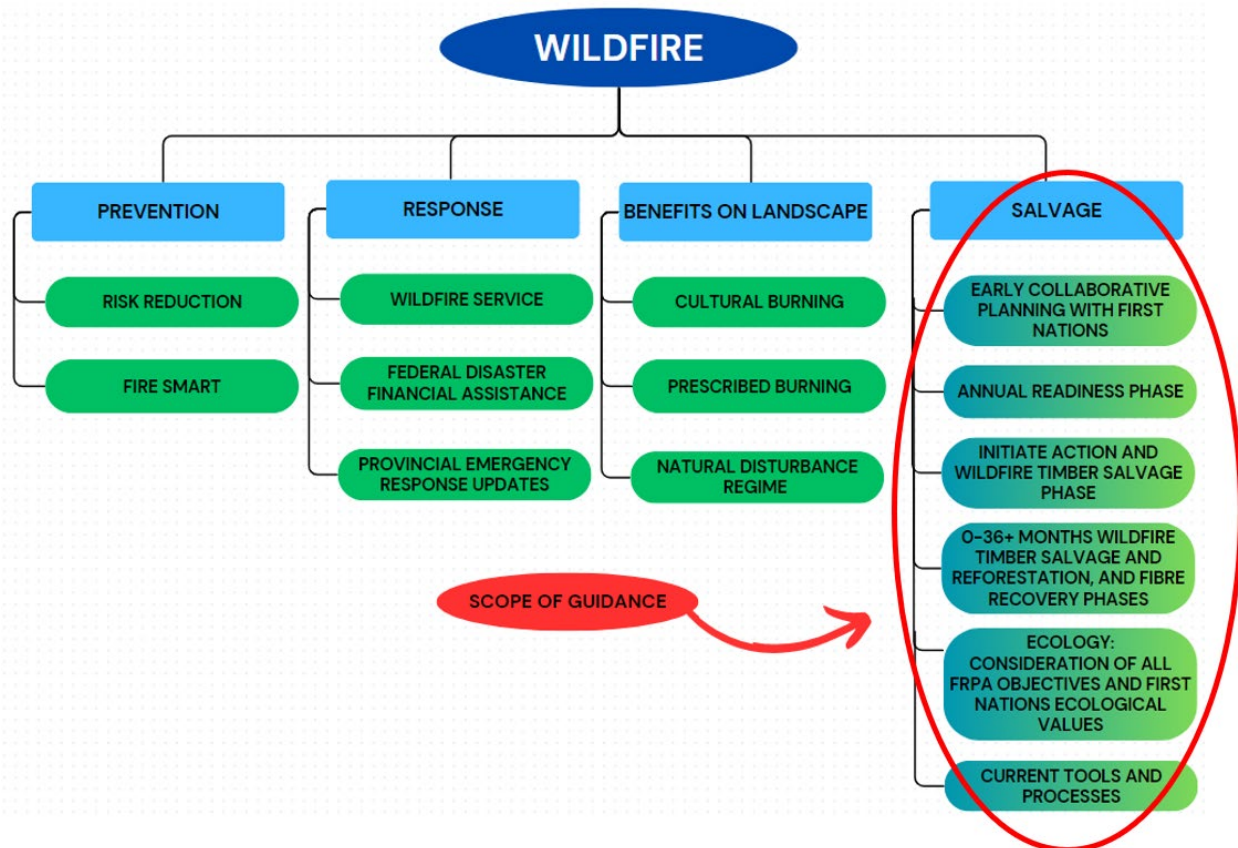
The Phase 4 objective includes optimal sawlog salvage combined with enhanced fibre utilization, ensuring good stewardship, prompt regeneration of harvest areas, and reducing wildfire impact on future timber supply. Full landscape planning for wildfire timber salvage and new CP development is underway in this phase. It is also understood in this phase that focus may shift from primarily sawlog salvage to fibre recovery.

### **Phase 5 – Post Wildfire: Fibre Recovery (24-36+ months)**

Phase 5 focuses on the process for fibre recovery of predominantly lower quality pulp logs while ensuring good stewardship of the land, promoting timely reforestation, and accelerating land and timber supply recovery after the impact of wildfire. The phase length is highly variable and dependent on shelf life, species, topography and burn severity.

## Scope

This document is designed to enhance the efficiency of the wildfire timber salvage process by providing clear provincial guidance for consistent understanding and application. It outlines five phases of operational planning, defines key roles and contributions, and highlights existing tools along with their appropriate uses. The goal is for all parties to work together to define planning criteria, priorities and timber types for salvage areas based on the level of wildfire intensity, physical and economic constraints, and cultural and biodiversity values on the land base.



This guidebook is separated into two parts:

- [Part 1: Phases of Salvage](#) describes the five phases of planning and relevant guidance and resources available:
  1. Preparation: Annual Readiness Phase (planning, preparation, and collaboration)
  2. During the Wildfire: Consider Initiating Action Phase
  3. Post Wildfire: Early Timber Salvage Phase (0-6 months)
  4. Post Wildfire: Coordinated Timber Salvage Phase (6-24 months)
  5. Post Wildfire: Fibre Recovery Phase (24-36+ months)
- [Part 2: Current Tools and Processes](#) outlines the current tools, processes, authorizations, and resources that are available to identify appropriate burnt timber for salvage.

## Roles and Contributions

The following table outlines roles and contributions through each phase that will assist with communication, planning and implementation of the Strategy. Some contributions span multiple phases as shown in Table 1.

**Table 1. Roles and Contributions through each salvage phase**

Wildfire Salvage Planning	PHASE 1 (Preparation: Annual Readiness)	PHASE 2 (During the Wildfire: Initiate Action)	PHASE 3 (0-6 months: Early Timber Salvage)	PHASE 4 (6-24 months: Coordinated Timber Salvage)	PHASE 5 (24-36 months: Fibre Recovery)
First Nations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Through all phases, opportunity to:</li> <li>Collaborate with District/Area staff/tenure holders to prepare wildfire timber salvage and retention plans</li> <li>Delineate areas of First Nation value or concern.</li> <li>Recommend treatment regimes for specific areas (where possible)</li> <li>Outline collaboration/consultation needs for wildfire timber salvage permitting</li> <li>Consider acquiring a Wildfire Salvage Opportunity Agreement (WSOA)</li> <li>Establish business to business agreements with existing tenure holders</li> </ul>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apply for wildfire fibre recovery opportunities with 2 Billion Trees (2BT) funding</li> </ul>
Tenure Holders (Indigenous, Non-Indigenous & BCTS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Through all phases:</li> <li>Facilitate annual wildfire readiness planning discussions</li> <li>Collaborate with District/Area staff and First Nations on development of the Strategy (annual readiness phase)</li> <li>Delineate areas of value or interest (e.g., landscape values such as old growth, culturally sensitive areas, visuals, wildlife, GAR orders)</li> <li>Identify target stands, volumes, values mapping</li> <li>Identify what climate change informed reforestation strategies are acceptable and identify sites where regeneration post salvage will be challenging and plan accordingly.</li> <li>Where relevant, identify and coordinate with other tenure holders and mills on milling capacity of burnt wood.</li> <li>Establish First Nation engagement process for CP/RP applications related to wildfire timber salvage.</li> <li>Establish treatment regimes for specific areas (e.g., by tenure holder, First Nation territory).</li> <li>Prepare the required FSP/WLP, CP/RPs and submit permit applications to District staff.</li> <li>TSL advertising (BCTS).</li> <li>Confirm agreements with other tenure holders for respective salvage areas.</li> <li>Consider volume attribution requests.</li> </ul>				
BC Wildfire Service (BCWS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaborate with First Nations to identify community response capacity and involvement</li> <li>Work with FOR District, Region and Area staff to identify early access considerations.</li> <li>Work with the <a href="#">Rancher Liaison Program</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Set fire reporting date and prepare wildfire perimeter mapping.</li> <li>Respond to wildfires.</li> <li>Report wildfires ‘contained/ extinguished’.</li> <li>Regular communication with communities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update wildfire dashboard through Phase 3-5.</li> <li>Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) including District/Area staff and First Nations.</li> </ul>		
Forest Analysis and Inventory Branch (FAIB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct analyses to estimate volume reports based on economic and topographic operability.</li> <li>Prepare burn severity mapping for wildfires greater than 100 hectares.</li> <li>Initiate new AAC determinations in accordance with <a href="#">Forest Act Section 8</a> and support Chief Forester in determination, if required.</li> <li>Support Partition Orders in accordance with <a href="#">Forest Act Section 75.02</a>, if required.</li> </ul>				

## Wildfire Timber Salvage Planning and Administration Guidance

Wildfire Salvage Planning	PHASE 1 (Preparation: Annual Readiness)	PHASE 2 (During the Wildfire: Initiate Action)	PHASE 3 (0-6 months: Early Timber Salvage)	PHASE 4 (6-24 months: Coordinated Timber Salvage)	PHASE 5 (24-36 months: Fibre Recovery)
Forest Science, Planning & Practices Branch (FSPPB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide support during wildfire timber salvage planning and implementation regarding <i>FRPA</i> and <i>FPPR</i> requirements to ensure efficient legal compliance of salvage plans.</li> <li>Provide guidance on <i>FSP</i> commitments, amendments and exemptions.</li> <li>Provide guidance on reforestation strategies and considerations.</li> </ul>				
Forest Tenures Branch (FTB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepare guidance &amp; policy on tenures and authorizations criteria/processes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assist staff with reviewing and issuing <i>CP/RP/FLTC</i> applications and amendments for wildfire timber salvage, and removal of fire guard decks/piles through all phases.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assist staff with permit issuance for 2BT process.</li> </ul>		
Timber Pricing Branch (FPB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updating the Interior Appraisal Manual (<i>IAM</i>) and Coastal Appraisal Manual (<i>CAM</i>) to address pricing criteria/standards for wildfire timber salvage; provide regular reports on wildfire timber salvage volumes and targets.</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and implement full appraisals for <i>OLTC</i>'s (Coast).</li> </ul>	
Water, Land, and Resource Stewardship (WLRS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participate in the annual readiness phase.</li> <li>Prepare guidance and policy on best practices regarding established land use orders and designations, including <i>GAR</i> orders for <i>UWR</i>, <i>WHA</i>, <i>OGMAs</i>.</li> <li>Provide data (including mapping/spatial data) on status or locations of values such as species and ecological communities at risk, sensitive ecosystems.</li> <li>Review <i>FSP/WLP</i>, <i>CP/RP/FLTC</i> and wildfire timber salvage and retention plans upon request.</li> </ul>				
Indigenous Relations Branch (IRB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assist <i>FOR</i> District, Region and Area staff in meeting First Nation consultation requirements for tenure/permit applications.</li> <li>Provide guidance on issuance of <i>WSOA</i> and associated <i>FLTC</i> (major)/<i>NRFLs</i>.</li> </ul>				
FOR – Regional and Area Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitate annual wildfire readiness planning discussions.</li> <li>Collaborate with <i>BCWS</i> to determine accountabilities in advance, early access considerations, Rancher Liaison Program, First Nation community capacity and involvement.</li> <li>Collaborate with District/<i>WLRS</i> to develop retention guidance for areas under land use orders or designations and identification of sites where reforestation will be challenging.</li> <li>Issue licences (e.g., <i>NRFL</i>, <i>FLTC</i> Major) in accordance with <i>WSOAs</i>, where appropriate</li> <li>Host regional salvage pre-planning discussions and oversee locally developed wildfire timber salvage strategies.</li> <li>Ensure pre-planning is included as a topic in regional working groups and meetings.</li> <li>Assist staff in determining appropriate stumps rates for <i>CP/RP/FLTC/OLTC</i>.</li> </ul>				
FOR – District Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitate annual wildfire readiness planning discussions.</li> <li>Collaborate with <i>BCWS/WLRS/Area/Branch</i> to determine accountabilities in advance, early access considerations, and First Nations capacity and involvement.</li> <li>Support tenure holders and First Nations to identify target stands, volumes, values mapping.</li> <li>Review <i>CP/RP</i> applications/amendments (e.g., for major tenure holders, <i>NRFLs</i>, <i>FLTCs</i>).</li> <li>Prepare <i>CP/RP</i> decision packages for District Manager's review.</li> <li>Issue <i>FLTC</i> through competitive or direct award to salvage small volumes.</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Permit issuance for 2BT and <i>FIP</i> program.</li> <li>Advise First Nations on the 2BT process.</li> </ul>	
FOR – First Nations Advisors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain established relationships with local First Nations communities.</li> <li>May facilitate annual wildfire readiness planning discussions with First Nations.</li> <li>Regular communication with First Nations communities to facilitate fire tracking and severity.</li> </ul>				
FOR – Research Geomorphologist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create and distribute post-wildfire natural hazard disturbance reports.</li> </ul>				

## Part 1: Phases of Salvage

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### 1.1 Phase 1 - Preparation: Annual Readiness

Phase 1 is a proactive approach to wildfire timber salvage and preparedness, emphasizing ongoing information sharing, strategizing, and relationship building. Foster strong collaborative partnerships with consistent communication to create and maintain an effective salvage process for future fire seasons.

#### 1.1.1 Time Period

Annual review and update occurs from January to April, to prepare for the upcoming fire season. Regular communication between the partners is recommended throughout the year.

#### 1.1.2 Objectives

The annual readiness phase is an early initiative to identify the lead and the partners, and their roles, contributions and communications required in the event of wildfire, prior to wildfire season. Together, the partners (First Nations, FOR, WLRS, BCWS, BCTS and forest tenure holders), in consult with stakeholders (local community members) will establish a ‘wildfire timber salvage strategy’ (Strategy) to outline an efficient and effective timber salvage approach with green retention and reforestation plan, in the event of a wildfire. The Strategy will clearly identify partners and contributions, strive for alignment, minimize conflicts, and establish action parameters including identifying areas to target, avoid, and further evaluate during and after a wildfire.

Examining the operational and strategic perspectives on timber salvage will shape the Strategy and enhance resource value sustainability while recovering timber value. Key considerations in every phase are to conserve resource values identified under FRPA, such as water, cultural heritage and wildlife resources, while effectively managing:

- the recovery of wildfire impacted timber value (including sawlog and fibre recovery),
- tree retention requirements, and
- the selection of wildfire timber salvage areas that minimize land impact and maximize reforestation potential. Consider key issues that will affect reforestation success such as climate change and site characteristics.

#### 1.1.3 Opportunities for Engagement:

Take advantage of existing venues for engagement opportunities regarding annual readiness planning. Some options include:

- Resource Stewardship Technical Committee (RSTC) meetings,
  - Operational Issues Forum (OIF) meetings,
  - District Timber Supply Area (TSA) meetings – suggested venue to form the Strategy,
  - Local First Nations tables,
  - Local planning tables, for example, Forest Landscape Planning (FLP) tables, and
  - Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP) or Woodlot Licence Plan (WLP) development and review.
-

### 1.1.4 Key Strategies

- **Accountability**

Identify and confirm the roles and contributions of all partners regarding the development and implementation of the Strategy. General roles and contributions are outlined in the [Roles and Contributions](#) section of this document. Components of the Strategy may be implemented as soon as access is granted to a fire perimeter by BCWS. Legislative and regulatory requirements are achieved using additional guidance, bulletins, templates. For further details, as well as timber salvage harvesting principles and best practices and reforestation requirements throughout the Strategy term, see [2.7 Wildfire Timber Salvage and Reforestation](#).
- **Integration**

It is important to ensure forestry professionals responsible for planning timber salvage harvesting collaborate with BCWS staff to integrate emergency response planning and early access. For example, when identifying the location and removal of fireguard wood, as these may provide access to areas of future timber salvage opportunities.
- **First Nations Collaboration**

To ensure harvest opportunities, priorities, and values of the First Nations are addressed for all phases of wildfire timber salvage. Consider the following:

  - Required cultural heritage assessments and First Nation capacity.
  - First Nations traditional territories and interests.
  - Establish shared understanding of existing tenure, burnt wood milling limitations and establish best practices for burnt timber management.
- **Milling Capacity & Coordination**

Identify and prioritize timber salvage harvesting geographic areas, and outline how the partners will work together in the event of a catastrophic wildfire.
- **Land Use Objectives**

All partners will review the Strategy when wildfire impacts land use objectives, such as Government Actions Regulation (GAR) Orders, ungulate winter range, visual quality objectives, and wildlife habitat areas or Old Growth Management Areas Objectives. General information is outlined in [2.8 Land Use Objectives Guidance](#).
- **Professional Assessments**

The need for assessments such as watershed assessments, terrain stability assessments, etc. are determined on a case-by-case basis by the qualified forestry professionals developing the site plans for wildfire timber salvage. Describe qualifications of suitable qualified professionals in the annual readiness phase.
- **Communications Plan**

A communications plan is designed to ensure prompt and effective communication with the public, government sectors (FOR/WLRS/BCWS), First Nations, tenure holders, and local stakeholders before, during, and after wildfire season. This plan aims to address information gaps and foster transparent, two-way communication, supporting a proactive

and comprehensive approach to disseminating information and safety preparedness strategies throughout each phase of wildfire timber salvage and ecosystem recovery.

The communications plan can align with local planning tables (e.g., Forest Landscape Planning, other collaborative tables) and existing communication pathways. These will be developed locally as required.

- **Continuous Improvement**

Local and Provincial analysis and reports of annual timber salvage efforts, along with lessons learned, can be applied to enhance future years' program efforts.

### **1.1.5 Outcome**

The outcome for this phase is the Strategy to guide action throughout the subsequent four phases.

## 1.2 Phase 2 - During the Wildfire: Consider Initiating Action

Phase 2 describes actions that may be permitted as the wildfire is actively burning, with the approval of BCWS. BCWS is responsible for wildfire suppression and access to areas during wildfire suppression. It is possible that certain activities during the wildfire may be agreed to by BCWS during the annual readiness phase. Processes may vary by District or Fire Center and may result in the conclusion that there is no early access to wildfires allowed. Prior to a wildfire being declared extinguished or during Phase 2, BCWS must approve access to the identified areas and support proposed CP/RP development or harvest activities.

### 1.2.1 Time Period

While wildfire season varies each year throughout the province, generally, April to October is recognized as the wildfire season. Phase Two spans the time that the wildfire is reported to BCWS until the wildfire is declared extinguished.

### 1.2.2 Objectives

The goal of phase 2 is to activate the Strategy to salvage burnt timber once it is safe to commence harvesting. BCWS will determine when it is appropriate for timber salvage operations to commence within a wildfire perimeter.

Suppression activities by BCWS are outside the scope of this guidebook, although it is recognized that some activities, such as determining the location of fireguards or fireguard timber management, will benefit from collaboration with BCWS.

### 1.2.3 Tools and Resources

- **Actionable Salvage Mapping:** The Forest Analysis and Inventory Branch (FAIB) produces a dataset that identifies merchantable forests within individual wildfire perimeters likely to be actionable for timber salvage each year. This strategic dataset applies a provincially consistent set of assumptions about operational constraints, considering parameters such as the burn severity class, harvest restrictions, stand volume, slope class and proximity to road within the wildfire perimeter. The information from this dataset is also used to generate a report for the BC Wildfire Dashboard, listing the gross area impacted by wildfire and the portion deemed actionable for timber salvage following provincial criteria. For more information, see [2.9.1 Mapping and Geographic Information System Tools](#).
- **BCWS Dashboard:** provides live data on active wildfires, including fire perimeters and control status.
- **Decision support:** [First Nations' Emergency Services Society \(FNESS\)](#) offers GIS tools for decision support and efficient emergency response, including Lightship Works platform for data management, mapping, and visual data summaries. First Nations can learn more about this process and connect with FNESS through their [decision support website](#).



### 1.2.4 Key Strategies

- **Collaboration with BCWS**

Harvest operations may begin on existing cutting authorities if the timber salvage site meets Strategy parameters, can be completed safely, and access is granted by BCWS staff. This also means reviewing and potentially re-evaluating existing CP harvest plans in the context of wildfire impact. Tenure holders and District staff must work with BCWS during the annual readiness phase to understand the process for early access to complete layout development or amendments or harvest within the wildfire perimeter. This process must be agreed upon by all parties and approved by the Incident Commander or equivalent and documented in the Strategy. BCWS staff will determine access to areas within wildfire perimeters for harvesting operations and/or the continuation of planning and development activities.
- **Integration**

Where possible, have individuals who understand how timber salvage harvesting will occur integrated into emergency response planning with BCWS. For example, identifying the location of fireguards, as these may provide access to areas of subsequent timber salvage opportunities. Have these conversations in the annual readiness phase.
- **Planning Operations**

Tenure holders continue planning timber salvage operations during this phase, building on the Strategy and targeting specific areas using the wildfire perimeter and burn severity mapping (if available).
- **Decked Fireguard Wood Permit Issuance**

Existing tenure holders may remove decked fireguard wood using a blanket salvage cutting permit (BSCP). Under the small-scale salvage program, a Forestry Licence to Cut (FLTC) may be issued by the District Manager to First Nation or non tenure holders. For more information, see [2.2 Available Tenures, Authorizations and Considerations](#). Timing of access to decked fireguard wood is determined and approved by BCWS staff.
- **Communication**

Regular communication by established First Nations advisors, either directly, and/or through local planning tables and other committees is required to relay wildfire information and status updates to First Nations. Burn severity maps, wildfire perimeter maps, and photos are helpful to show areas that have been significantly impacted and how the Strategy is being achieved.

### 1.2.5 Outcome

Approved CP, BSCP, or FLTC to enter active wildfire perimeter and commence harvest or harvest planning in collaboration with BCWS.

### 1.3 Phase 3 - Post Wildfire: Early Timber Salvage (0-6 months)

Post wildfire occurs when BCWS declares the wildfire extinguished. The early timber salvage phase 3 occurs post wildfire and involves timber recovery/salvage from burnt stands. This phase facilitates the transition from green tree harvest to timber salvage within wildfire areas. Ensure associated cutting permit amendments and issuance are in alignment with the Strategy and the *Forest Act*.

#### 1.3.1 Time Period

This early timber salvage phase occurs during the first six months post wildfire. Where early access and planning is possible in the wildfire area, CP amendment and issuance may be accelerated (see Table 2).

**Table 2. Scenario: Early access for CP amendment.**

Deliverable	Target Date
Milling capacity (as a part of Phase 1): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>determine for given management unit.</li> </ul>	Early June
Identification of areas available for harvest: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>priority harvesting areas based on fire permitter mapping, stand/tree/terrain attributes, ground truthing, values.</li> <li>Review First nation consultation summaries.</li> </ul>	Early October
First Nation consultation completed.	Mid October
Begin harvesting existing CPs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>economical, accessible burnt stands, see <a href="#">2.2.4 Existing Cutting Permits</a>.</li> <li>CP amendments completed.</li> </ul>	Early November

Commencing harvest on existing CPs will be the first timber salvage harvest opportunity. Planning and establishing new CPs on the recent wildfire will target non-encumbered and operable (economically and physically) areas. Developing the new CP will generally commence after the provincial burn severity mapping has been released (see [Phase 4 - Post Wildfire: Coordinated Timber Salvage \(6-24 months\)](#)).

#### 1.3.2 Objectives

The goal for the early timber salvage phase is to prioritize timber salvage, retention and reforestation opportunities, and then commence timber salvage operations on the identified accessible and highest priority areas.

### 1.3.3 Tools and Resources

- Amendments for issued CPs that have burned: see information in [2.2.4 Issued Cutting Permits](#). Discuss with District staff.
- Ribbonless boundary tool: see the [Ribbonless Boundaries for Wildfire Timber Salvage Operations \(in the Interior only\)](#). Direct any questions to District staff.
- Comparative cruise: see information in [2.5 Pricing](#). Discuss with Area pricing staff.
- Applicability of Forest Operations Maps: see information in [2.2.2 Applicability of Forest Operations Map](#). Discuss with District Staff.
- FRPA (FOM (Forest Operations Map), GAR (Government Actions Regulation), UWR (Ungulate Winter Range), VQO (Visual Quality Objectives)) exemptions: see further information in [2.2.2 Applicability of Forest Operations Maps](#) and [2.8 Land Use Objectives Guidance](#).
- Provincial wildfire timber salvage tracking and reporting metrics: see information in [2.9.2 Wildfire Land-Based Recovery Website](#).

### 1.3.4 Key Strategies

- **Tenure Holder led First Nations Collaboration**

Collaboration with First Nations throughout the planning and development of CP and RP applications will provide consideration of First Nations' values and interests and alignment of legislative requirements, principles, and best practices. This may include field tours with First Nations' representatives through the wildfire areas (e.g., aerial, on the ground if possible). It is hoped that these early and ongoing discussions will help reduce the timber salvage permitting timeline.

For information on how proponents and tenure holders can collaborate with First Nations to support the Province's duty to consult, visit [Engaging First Nations - Proponent Resources](#).

- **CP Prioritization**

Prioritize wildfire timber salvage areas based on status of CP:

  - Issued cutting permits: amend and submit for District Manager decision.
  - Submitted cutting permits: amend and resubmit for District Manager decision.
  - Cutting permits in development but not yet submitted: amend as required and revisit information sharing with First Nations.
  - New CP application in non-encumbered areas: initiate information sharing and engagement with First Nations.
  - New CP application in non-encumbered areas (i.e., free of land use objectives or requirements): confirm milling capacity and continue with new application.
  - Encumbered areas: identify areas appropriate for future timber salvage and initiate information sharing and engagement with First Nations.

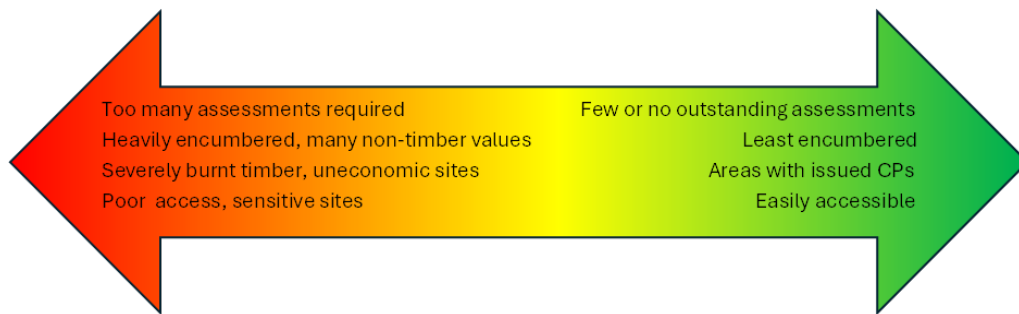
- **Economic Value**  
Identify and prioritize stands with the greatest risk of timber value loss and economically feasible for layout and timber salvage. This involves the consideration of burn severity, species, operability, haul distance, milling capacity, overall spatial extent of wildfire, subsequent forest health issues (i.e., insect infestation), land use objectives, environmental values, First Nation values, and reforestation considerations.
- **Layout**  
Commence layout activities for new blocks, see [Appendix 1](#).

### 1.3.5 Prioritizing Early Timber Salvage

Implement the Strategy in collaboration with the partners. Areas identified for timber salvage are based on the following limiting factors:

- Burn severity mapping review (or ground verified burn severity information); target moderate and high burn severity areas,
- Wildfire perimeter mapping,
- Actionable Salvage Mapping, see [1.2.3 Tools and Resources](#),
- Road access and haul distance (cycle times),
- Reforestation viability,
- Slopes (i.e., target less than 30% slopes first),
- Riparian areas, see [2.6.2 Riparian Best Management Practices](#),
- Forest health (likelihood of subsequent insect infestations),
- Economic value (including species specific shelf life),
- Archeological Overview Assessment potential rating,
- Cultural Heritage Resource Assessments,
- Timber Harvesting Land Base, and
- Land Use Objectives, including, but not limited to: Old Growth Management Areas, recreation polygons, Wildlife Habitat Areas, Visual Quality Objectives, Ungulate Winter Range, cumulative effects, Wildlife Management Areas, other local considerations.

Identify and prioritize areas for wildfire timber salvage harvesting, areas to avoid (red) to areas targeted for priority timber salvage (green). The yellow represents areas that would require more time to prepare for salvage, see figure below.



### **1.3.6 Outcome**

Detailed harvest plan of burned timber with CPs identified as issued, submitted, and proposed amendments.

## 1.4 Phase 4 - Post Wildfire: Coordinated Timber Salvage (6-24 months)

Phase 4, the coordinated wildfire timber salvage phase identifies and prioritizes sawlog salvage combined with enhanced fibre utilization. The coordinated timber salvage phase is challenging as it seeks to balance the rapid recovery of the economic value of burned timber while stewarding other values on the land base as per the Strategy.

### 1.4.1 Time Period

Phase 4 occurs 6 – 24 months after BCWS declares the wildfire extinguished, following or overlapping with Phase 3 early timber salvage. It includes planning for areas where there are no existing CPs. This phase spans the period from new cutting permit issuance to the estimated shelf life for economic sawlog recovery referenced in 1.4.3.

### 1.4.2 Objectives

The objectives of the coordinated wildfire timber salvage phase include optimal sawlog salvage and fibre utilization, ensuring good stewardship, prompt regeneration of harvest areas, and reducing wildfire impact on future timber supply. By the end of this phase, the harvest of the highest value wildfire impacted timber should be complete (e.g., logs for poles, veneer, grade one and two sawlogs).

### 1.4.3 Tools and Resources

Tools and resources used in [Phase 3 - Post Wildfire: Early Timber Salvage \(0-6 months\)](#) continue to be applicable in this phase. In addition, consider:

- **Burn severity mapping:** Mapping may be used to determine viability and priority areas for timber salvage and to guide decision makers. Burn severity mapping will be published and available by this phase. More information on publication dates can be found in [2.9.1 Mapping](#).
- **Shelf life:** While shelf life varies for wildfire impacted timber by species, topography and burn severity, it is generally 2-3 years. Additional guidance around specific tree species shelf life may be available from local District staff, Regional forest health specialists or from discussion with other tenure holders with experience in similar operating areas.
- **Botanical forest products:** There are both opportunities and challenges associated with the increasing number of people interested in harvesting mushroom species (i.e., morels) that become abundant post wildfire as well as the ongoing First Nations' interests in fire affected areas. Questions and requests for local guidance, studies and information can be directed to District staff.

### 1.4.4 Key Strategies

- **Coordinating Timber Salvage**  
Continue with collaborative timber salvage harvesting discussions as described in [1.3.5 Prioritizing Early Timber Salvage](#).

- **Economic Value**  
Identify and prioritize stands with the greatest risk of timber value loss and that is economically feasible for layout and timber salvage. This involves the consideration of burn severity, species, operability, haul distance, milling capacity, overall spatial extent of wildfire, subsequent forest health issues (i.e., insect infestation), land use objectives, First Nation values, and reforestation considerations.
- **Forest Health**  
Other timber salvage operations targeting forest health (e.g., bark beetle, windthrow) may commence post-wildfire. Connect with the regional Forest Entomologist for specifics on management techniques for insects in your area. General bark beetle information can be found on the [Forest Health](#) website.
- **Retention**  
Manage resource value including green timber retention requirements within the wildfire perimeter as described in the Strategy, during layout, and as harvest operations progress. Refer to [2.6 Identification of Retention Areas](#). Additional guidance may be provided by WLRS and FOR District staff.
- **Changes in Prioritization**  
During Phase 4, it is important to identify and consider values that may have been overlooked in previous phases.

#### 1.4.5 Outcome

Efficient harvest of available high value burned timber from within wildfire areas.

## 1.5 Phase 5 - Post Wildfire: Fibre Recovery (24-36+ months)

### 1.5.1 Time Period

Wildfire damaged fibre recovery may commence in Phase 4 if coordinated intentionally and concurrently with sawlog recovery. As well, there may be clients interested in fibre recovery after the sawlog recovery is complete, hence the Phase 5 timing at 24-36+ months.

### 1.5.2 Objectives

The objective of phase 5 is to recover remaining wildfire damaged fibre from accessible areas with regard for good stewardship of the land, promoting timely regeneration of harvested areas, and reducing wildfire impact on future timber supply. Green timber is not the focus for extraction in Phase 5. Ecological recovery principles remain as important at this stage as they were immediately post-wildfire. Harvesting activities that may hinder site recovery should be carefully evaluated, with a focus on enhancing the forest's future resilience (i.e., through species selection during reforestation, see [2.7 Wildfire Timber Salvage and Reforestation](#)).

### 1.5.3 Tools and Resources

Fibre recovery in this phase requires existing tenure holders to use the CP process. Non-tenure holders have two licence to cut options to recover damaged fibre that are outlined in the [Post Wildfire Fibre Recovery Guidance](#) document:

- Government Funded Stand Rehabilitation under the [Forest Investment Program](#) (FIP) Competitive Contract and FLTC process.
- Direct award to First Nations through third party funding: the [2BT-SUP-OLTC/FRPA](#) Sec 52.1 process.

### 1.5.4 Key Strategies

- **Funding**  
The FLTC/OLTC applicant must obtain funding for the silviculture costs prior to the issuance of any harvesting authorities. Funding sources such as FIP and 2BT are limited and funding will not be available for all potential projects and cannot be applied against free growing obligations.

Direct questions District staff, or FTB at [ForestTenuresBranch@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ForestTenuresBranch@gov.bc.ca).

### 1.5.5 Outcome

Recovery of accessible wildfire impacted fibre, reduction of slash burning and reforestation complete.



## Part 2: Current Tools and Processes

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### 2.1 First Nation Partners

Include First Nations early in the planning and preparation of permit using existing processes and committees. Collaboration will support reciprocal knowledge transfer and shared understanding of values on the land base that will facilitate the issuance of permits.

#### 2.1.1 First Nations Collaboration

Engage with First Nations throughout the five phases to understand and incorporate values and interests into the wildfire timber salvage, retention, reforestation plans, and CP/RP preparation.

For information on how proponents and tenure holders can participate in engagement with First Nations that can facilitate authorization and meet timber salvage strategies, please visit [Consulting with First Nations - Province of British Columbia \(gov.bc.ca\)](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/land/first_nations_consulting)

#### 2.1.2 Consultation Obligations

Under s.35 of the *Constitution Act*, 1982, the Province has a legal duty to consult and, where required, accommodate First Nations whenever it proposes a decision or activity that could adversely affect treaty rights or asserted and established aboriginal rights and title (“Aboriginal Interests”). Consultation must be meaningful, with the intention of reasonably addressing aboriginal claims and should be carried out through a timely, reasonable, transparent, and proactive process.

#### 2.1.3 Archaeology Assessment and Cultural Heritage Assessment Requirements

There are two assessment processes (related to pre- and post-1846) for review to meet legislated requirements prior to activity on the land base.

##### **Pre-1846 Archaeology Assessments**

These assessments are intended to protect archaeological resources as regulated by the *Heritage Conservation Act (HCA)*.

These assessments must be completed by a professional archaeologist and may include both: Archaeology Overview Assessment (office assessment) and Archaeology Impact Assessment (field assessment). Managing impacts on protected archaeological sites is a legislative requirement in B.C. This means that companies and individuals engaged in natural resource management must identify protected archaeological sites that will be directly or indirectly disturbed by operational activities. The archaeological work required is completed under the *HCA* Inspection or Investigation Permits.

##### ***Archaeology Assessment Option for Low Impact Activity***

To address concerns regarding the health and safety of field crews post wildfire, time consuming *HCA* permit requirements, and tight timelines associated with wildfire timber salvage, the Archaeology Branch’s Disaster Response & Recovery team is developing a unique *HCA* permitting

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approach to support more efficient wildfire timber salvage. The approach is to create guidance through an appendix document, applicable for wildfire timber salvage cutting permits only, that can be added to new HCA applications or existing HCA Inspection or Investigation Permits by amendment.

This HCA appendix document intends to provide options for archaeologists, that will:

- Authorize more flexible field methods considering the post wildfire field conditions and health and safety.
- Authorize certain low impact forestry activities (e.g., winter harvesting, planting) within recorded archaeological sites without requiring a separate [HCA Section 12.4](#) Alteration Permit (normally required for an alteration to an archaeological site). Note, road building is not a low impact forestry activity.
- Support the reduction of *HCA* permitting timelines through:
  - Standardizing field methods and application review by Archaeology Branch.
  - Prioritizing wildfire timber salvage permits by the dedicated Disaster Response and Recovery team within Archaeology Branch (recent applications for wildfire timber salvage issued in approximately 2-3 months, compared to standard permit issuance timelines of 10 months).

For further information, contact Archaeology Branch at [WildfireHCA@gov.bc.ca](mailto:WildfireHCA@gov.bc.ca).

#### **Post – 1846 Cultural Heritage Assessments**

These assessments to conserve or protect First Nation cultural sites and resources are regulated by the [FPPR Section 10](#).

If requested, the Cultural Heritage Assessments must be completed by a First Nation member to assess First Nation values on the land base. These assessments are a key item to discuss with First Nation representatives during the [annual readiness phase](#) to determine the best timing for completing the assessments.

## 2.2 Available Tenures, Authorizations and Considerations

Depending on the location and magnitude of the wildfire, and the existing tenure type(s) held by the tenure holder(s), there are three harvesting authority options that can be used to cut and/or remove wildfire damaged timber, as described in Table 3.

**Table 3. Harvest authorizations, tenures and considerations**

The following apply to all harvesting authorizations:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All permitting options require First Nation consultation and engagement for required archaeology assessments and cultural heritage assessments</li> <li>All wildfire timber salvage permit volume contributes to the AAC of the licence agreement (for #1 and #2)</li> <li>Consider existing tenures and potential AAC adjustments prior to applying for a new tenure</li> <li>Require a valid licence agreement and an approved FSP/WLP (for #1 and #2)</li> <li>All obligations defined in forestry legislation and the agreement(s) apply to the issued CP/RP/FLTC</li> </ul>		
Harvest Authorization	Applicable Forest Tenures	Considerations
1. <a href="#">Blanket salvage cutting permit</a> <sup>1</sup> (BSCP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Forest Agreement (CFA)</li> <li>Woodlot (WL)</li> <li>Tree Farm Licence (TFL)</li> <li>First Nation Woodland Licence (FNWL)</li> <li>Forest Licence (FL)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ideally suited for fireguard felled and/or decked timber</li> <li>Follow any District Blanket salvage cutting permit Policy</li> <li>Blocks &lt;5,000 m<sup>3</sup> and &lt;15 ha within licence area</li> <li>Tabular rates in IAM</li> </ul>
2. Cutting Permit (CP) / CP Amendment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FL, TFL, FNWL, WL, CFA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primary authority to harvest both (wildfire) damaged and green timber within a wildfire boundary.</li> <li>Full appraisal (or re-appraisal) with damage timber codes (<i>Forest Act</i> Part 3.1, Coast Appraisal Manual (CAM)/Interior Appraisal Manual (IAM))</li> <li>May include cut blocks of both damaged and non-damaged timber</li> </ul>
2.a. One CP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WL, CFA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One CP through District Manager discretion</li> <li>Tabular rates in IAM/CAM</li> </ul>
2.b. CP associated with a NRFL or FTLC (major)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Non-Replaceable Forest Licence (NRFL) under a Wildfire Salvage Opportunity Agreement (WSOA)</li> <li>Forestry Licence to Cut (FLTC) (major) under a Wildfire Salvage Opportunity Agreement (WSOA)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Available for First Nations</li> <li>Dependent on available volume</li> <li>Typically have a 5-year term with no extensions</li> <li>100% damaged timber</li> <li>Defined maximum volume in the licence agreement</li> <li>Full appraisal unless otherwise approved</li> <li>Direct award if WSOA held</li> <li>Applies to the traditional territory of the holder</li> </ul>
3. FLTC Remove Timber Only	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FLTC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No obligations or volume limits</li> <li>Strictly applies to damaged timber</li> <li>Not available for an existing tenure holder (i.e., cannot issue an FLTC to the holder of a TFL)</li> <li>Tabular rates in IAM/CAM</li> <li>Cannot be issued in a CFA/FNWL/WL except in accordance with <a href="#">Forest Act Section 72</a></li> <li>Can be issued in a TFL using undercut volume or in accordance with <a href="#">Forest Act Section 72</a> – <a href="#">Forest Act Section 47.8, 47.9</a></li> </ul>
Area-based tenures: TFL, FNWL, CFA, WL; Volume-based tenures: FL, NRFL, FLTC (major), FLTC Remove Timber Only		

### 2.2.1 Forest Stewardship Plan Considerations

An FSP may address wildfire timber salvage results and strategies under the fire management objective. The FSP could identify specific conditions and strategies to be applied in the preparation of a cutting permit, including the stand and tree conditions to be targeted under a salvage cut

<sup>1</sup> Changes to the Blanket Salvage Cutting Permit Policy to include Coastal operations are expected in 2025.

block. Under the biodiversity and wildlife values, the FSP could identify retention targets and standards following a wildfire event.

**2.2.2 Applicability of Forest Operations Maps**

The District Manager has been delegated to authorize an exemption of a FOM in accordance with the *FRPA* section 15.3. Refer to the [CP Manual version 1.0](#) and [Forest Act Bulletin #16 Cutting Permit and Road Permit Administration](#), or [FRPA Facts, Forest Operations Map](#).

**2.2.3 AAC Considerations and Volume Sourcing for Existing Tenures**

It is important to ensure harvest levels are sustainable and aligned with AACs. Salvage in identified priority areas must proceed as quickly as possible to capture the maximum value and reduce the area susceptibility to pest infestations or future wildfires. When issuing new, non-replaceable tenures, it is appropriate to source the volume to minimize impact to the mid- and long-term AAC and respect granted rights (and obligations) of existing tenure holders. However, if the AAC cannot be sourced or there is an overharvest, it will be reflected in the next Chief Forester AAC Determination. Table 4 identifies and describes five methods to temporarily source AAC.

**Table 4. AAC Considerations and Volume Sourcing Options**

Adjustment	Applicable Forest Tenures	Legislation	Considerations
Temporary AAC Uplift	FNWL, CFA, WL	<a href="#">Forest Act Section 8 (7)</a> requires Minister to determine AAC of each CFA and FNWL according to the licence agreement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tenure holder may submit a formal request for an amendment to the management plan and propose a new AAC for a period to address wildfire salvage.</li> <li>Currently delegated to the Regional Executive Director, and may be delegated to the Chief Forester, Deputy Chief Forester, or the Director of FAIB.</li> <li>Requires a full analysis submitted with the decision package, in accordance with the <a href="#">Provincial Guidance for the Preparation of Information Packages and Analysis Reports for Area-Based Tenures</a>.</li> </ul>
Disposition of Unharvested Volume (undercut volume)	TFL, WL, RFL, CFA, FNWL	<a href="#">Forest Act Section 75.8 (1) &amp; (2)</a> and the agreement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unharvested volume may be disposed of to a person other than the holder of the TFL, or WL, by means of FLTC (major) or NRFL.</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Cut Control Limit Exemption (CCLE)</a> :	FL, TFL, WL, and CFA (with a caveat*)	<a href="#">Forest Act Section 75.41, 75.51, 75.9</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>With a term more than five years.</li> <li>Exemption possible if the area is at risk because of wind, fire, insect, or disease.</li> <li>CFAs that have licence document wording stating the provisions of cut control that apply to Forest Licences that specify an AAC &gt;10,000 m<sup>3</sup>, and a term &gt; five years under FA Part 4 Division 3.1, Section 75.9.</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Temporary AAC Reduction</a>	FL, NRFL, TFL, FNWL, CFA, WL	<a href="#">Forest Act Section 61</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Holders of an agreement may apply for a temporary AAC reduction.</li> <li>Minister (delegated to Area ADM) may approve the request.</li> <li>Area Assistant Deputy Minister has delegated authority to dispose of reduced volume.</li> </ul>
Partition Orders	By geographic area, species, or terrain	<a href="#">Forest Act Section 75.02</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister may establish a partition order by geographic area or tree species/type that requires all licences AAC/volume be consistent with the requirements of the partition order.</li> <li>May be applied if tenure holders are not cooperating and effectively salvaging wildfire damaged timber.</li> </ul>

### 2.2.4 Issued Cutting Permits

Cutting permits (CPs) that were already issued prior to a wildfire, on areas that have now burned, can be a priority for early harvesting, if they align with retention and First Nations principles. Harvesting may occur under the current appraisal; however, to acquire a new stumpage rate, a cruise re-sweep is needed, following the guidance in the [Cruising Manual](#), the [Interior Appraisal Manual](#), or the [Coast Appraisal Manual](#).

All obligations under the [Forest Act](#) and the [Forest and Range Practices Act](#) and the [Wildfire Act](#) apply to all issued CPs. This includes the terms and conditions of the CP, the agreement, fire hazard abatement, waste assessment and free growing.

### 2.2.5 Cutting Permit - Wildfire Salvage – Interior Only

Many large-scale wildfire salvage operations will require a [cutting permit to harvest timber](#). In addition to the existing 7850 rule ([Interior Appraisal Manual \(IAM\) Section 1.4.2 \(1\)](#)), a new blending consideration, IAM Section 1.4.2 (2), is available with specifications for a fully appraised cutting permit, see [2.5 Pricing](#). A tenure holder may provide ground truthing of the wildfire boundary in their supporting rationale.

New CP and amendments to issued CPs for wildfire timber salvage are issued in accordance with Part 3.1 of the *Forest Act*. Early collaboration between tenure holders, First Nations and the local FOR District office may help accelerate the process for cutting permit issuance by:

- Using the [ribbonless boundary tool](#).
- Considering the use of comparative cruise data, see [2.5 Pricing](#).
- Coordinating First Nation consultation requirements with previously consulted areas.
- Reviewing the areas that met the values criteria identified with First Nations in the annual readiness stage process.

The Forest Tenures Administration System (FTA) has recently been updated to add a system flag to identify wildfire timber salvage permits. This data feeds into the Provincial wildfire timber salvage tracking and reporting metrics.

### 2.2.6 One CP on CFAs and WLs

When a wildfire has impacted a community forest or a woodlot, having a [One Cutting Permit](#) issued in advance will enable early wildfire timber salvage response through the addition of blocks following the established process in the [One Cutting Permit Administration Manual for Community Forest and Woodlot Licences](#). Community Forests/Woodlots Agreement Holders may want to familiarize themselves with the guidance provided in the *February 2024 Wildfire Recovery in BC Community Forests* document available to members via the BC Community Forest Association, and [The Forest Operations Map and One Cutting Permitting on Community Forest Agreements Best Practices Guide](#).

Tenures with One Cutting Permit may have an overharvest risk. These tenures could discuss the CCLE or AAC Uplift options with District tenures staff to avoid overharvesting penalties. Refer to [Management of Cut Control on a Woodlot Licence due to Timber and/or Forest Resources at Risk Document](#) for further guidance.

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**2.2.7 Forestry Licence to Cut (FLTC)**

There are currently 12 different purposes for FLTCs in British Columbia ([Licence to Cut Administration Manual 2020](#)) and below are the relevant applications of the licence in the context of wildfire timber salvage.

**FLTC Salvage**

An FLTC can be either the cutting authority, or an agreement that allows for the issuance of a cutting permit to harvest Crown timber for the purposes of salvage that in the opinion of the RED or District Manager meets the following criteria:

- Dead or damaged,
- In danger, as a result of insect infestation, fire, disease or windthrow,
- In danger of being significantly reduced in value, lost or destroyed, or
- Is interspersed with the timber described above and must be harvested to provide access to this timber.

There are two cutting authorities that can be issued to remove damaged timber (Table 5).

*Table 5. FLTC Salvage cutting authorities.*

FLTC	Considerations
Small Scale Salvage (SSS): in accordance with <a href="#">Forest Act Section 47.6(2)(d)</a> and <a href="#">Licence To Cut Regulation Section 2(2 &amp; 3)</a> , <a href="#">Forest Act Section 72</a> or <a href="#">Forest Act Section 73</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● direct award</li> <li>● Volume is less than 2,000 m<sup>3</sup>.</li> <li>● Tabular rates apply.</li> <li>● Section 72 or 73 FLTC volume can be associated with the cut control of the underlying forest agreement.</li> </ul>
Intermediate Salvage: in accordance with <a href="#">Forest Act Section 47.6(2)(d)</a> and <a href="#">Licence To Cut Regulation Section 2 (2)(4)</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● competitive award</li> <li>● volume allows 2,000 to 5,000 m<sup>3</sup>.</li> <li>● May apply tabular or cruise rates.</li> </ul>

**FLTC Remove Timber Only**

Felled and decked timber can be permitted through a Forestry Licence to Cut, in accordance with the [Forest Act](#):

- [Section 47.6 \(2\)\(b.2\)](#) which only allows for the removal of Crown timber that has already been cut, or cut and decked, and there is no limit on the volume (no additional cutting or processing of timber allowed).
- [Section 72](#) or [73](#) (less than 2,000 m<sup>3</sup>); volume may contribute to the cut control if there is an underlying licence.

This authority has been delegated to Regional Executive Managers and District Managers.

## Fireguard Salvage of Felled and Decked Timber

To aid in a more consistent and expedient fireguard timber (felled and/or decked) removal process in the TSA, consider the following permitting options, in the order presented, depending on the fireguard location. See [Table 3](#).

1. [Blanket salvage cutting permit](#)
2. CP
3. NRFL or FLTC (Major) as part of a WSOA (volume acquired using one of the options described in [Table 4](#))
4. FLTC Remove Timber Only (volume may contribute to the cut control if there is an underlying licence ([Forest Act Section 72](#) and [73](#)))

The underlying forest tenure holder has first rights of refusal to remove the fireguard timber under a CP, BSCP or TSL for BCTS operating areas (including Cascadia and Pacific TSA). Removal of fireguard felled/decked timber will be offered/awarded in the following order (dependent on fireguard location), to:

1. all major forest tenure holders according to their agreement, or BCTS within their operating area.
2. BCTS for a TSL outside of BCTS Operating Areas.
3. interested First Nations based on territories and WSOA.
4. Small Scale Salvage/FLTC Decked Timber clients.

As an area-based licence has exclusive rights to timber, offering fireguard felled/decked timber within the area-based licence to another party can only occur through the provisions of the [Forest Act](#), and described in 2.2.7:

- [Section 47.6\(2.11\)](#) Fibre FLTC associated with abandoned wood ([Section 79.1](#)),
- [Section 47.72](#) Fibre Supply Licence to Cut, and
- [Section 72](#) FLTC <2,000 m<sup>3</sup>.

Sourcing volume for salvage opportunities to ensure the management unit is not over harvested requires access to AAC from existing tenures or reserves. Volume may be obtained through the provisions described in [Table 4](#).

### 2.3 BC Timber Sales (BCTS)

As an arm of government, BCTS auctions timber from within legally defined operating areas. However, BCTS is not restricted to its operating areas and can auction timber from outside these areas as well. In general, BCTS operations support open-market access to timber, a basis for the market pricing system as well as the value-added sector. BCTS has authority to use the following mechanisms for wildfire timber salvage management purposes (Table 6).

Table 6. BCTS authorizations for wildfire timber salvage.

Licence/Agreement	Considerations
<p>Timber Sale Licence (TSL) and <a href="#">Innovative Timber Sale License (ITSL)</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Authorized under <a href="#">Forest Act Section 20</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sold by auction to the highest eligible bidder.</li> <li>Usually all costs, including silviculture, are recovered through the auction process.</li> <li>Stumpage billing can be cruised-based or scale-based.</li> <li>Can be issued for standing or felled timber.</li> <li>Costs for marginally economic stands may be eligible for funding under FIP.</li> <li>Auctions can be expedited for timber at risk of being damaged or destroyed.</li> </ul>
<p>Fibre Forestry Licence to Cut</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Authorized under <a href="#">Forest Act Section 47.6(2.11)</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Specifically for the recovery of residual fibre declared abandoned as per <a href="#">Forest Act Section 79.1</a> during the term of a TSL.</li> <li>Not required for residual fibre recovery conducted by or in cooperation with a TSL holder.</li> </ul>
<p>Disposition Agreements (DA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Authorized under <a href="#">Forest Act Section 22.2</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Voluntary agreements enable BCTS to auction the Crown timber on behalf of non-BCTS tenure holders (e.g., CFA, FNWL).</li> <li>Timber is sold through auction as a TSL.</li> <li>The non-BCTS tenure holder receives a negotiated proportion of the net revenue generated from the sale.</li> <li>Volume harvested under a DA is attributed back to the non-BCTS tenure for cut control purposes.</li> </ul>

### 2.4 Wildfire Salvage Opportunity Agreement

Information on WSOAs, including a process guide, is available here: [Wildfire Salvage Opportunity Agreement - Province of British Columbia \(gov.bc.ca\)](#). A non-replaceable forest licence or forestry licence to cut can be direct awarded under *Forest Act* 47.3(1)(a) for wildfire salvage as per the criteria and policy set by the Minister.



## 2.5 Pricing

The document [Pricing Wildfire Damaged Timber in BC](#) (September 2023 ) explains the changes that the Timber Pricing Branch has made to address the unique issues associated with wildfire damaged timber.

In the Interior, Table 6-4a ([Interior Non-Appraised Tabular Stumpage Rates](#)), and on the Coast, Table 7-3a ([Coast Appraisal Manual](#)) for fire salvage stands under cutting permits that are at least 80% burned timber evenly distributed through the stand, are an option for timber pricing.

Wildfire enhanced silviculture cost estimates for some wildfire damaged BEC units are listed in Table 4-7 of the [Interior Appraisal Manual](#).

The [Provincial Logging Residue and Waste Measurements Procedures Manual](#) still applies to wildfire salvage harvest operations.

Effective April 1, 2024, the [Interior Appraisal Manual](#) has been amended to provide clarity and flexibility for salvage of fire damaged timber, including:

- [1.4.2](#): The removal of the requirement that all blocks be within a polygon of a maximum area of 7,850 hectares, when all blocks within a CP consist of at least 40% fire damaged timber, are fully within a mapped wildfire boundary, are within the same management unit (i.e., TSA), and are appraised to the same point of appraisal.
- [2.2.3](#): Amending a cutting authority to include additional ‘suddenly and severely damaged timber’ through a process of submitting cruise information.

### 2.5.1 Comparative Cruise

To reduce delay in expeditious wildfire timber salvage harvesting that may result in further damage of timber, tenure holders may consider the use of comparative cruise data, in the B.C. Interior only, as described in the [Interior Appraisal Manual](#), the [Timber Cruising Manual](#) (Section 2.9), and the [Interior Comparative Cruise Policy](#).

## 2.6 Identification of Retention Areas

### 2.6.1 Forest Retention Guidance

The Office of the Chief Forester guidance document [Post-Natural Disturbance Forest Retention Guidance](#) describes planning considerations for determining retention during salvage harvesting. Emphasizing the retention of trees that survived the fire is important for wildlife and diversity purposes, and may help with regeneration, and needs to be balanced with potential forest health issues such as fir-beetle.

Some Districts and First Nations have developed local documents for retention planning – these should be referenced where available.

It is recommended that tenure holders, First Nations and District staff start the process of identifying priority retention areas in advance of wildfires (refer to [1.1 Phase 1 - Preparation: Annual Readiness](#)), and should ensure the process occurs immediately once a wildfire location is known

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(refer to [1.2 Phase 2 - During the Wildfire: Consider Initiating Action](#) and [1.3 Phase 3 - Post Wildfire: Early Timber Salvage \(0-6 months\)](#)).

Questions can be directed towards District staff and/or Office of the Chief Forester, FSPPB at [Forests.ForestPracticesBranchOffice@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Forests.ForestPracticesBranchOffice@gov.bc.ca).

### **2.6.2 Riparian Best Management Practices for Wildfire Timber Salvage Operations**

Best management practices for post wildfire timber salvage harvesting to mitigate disturbance to aquatic and riparian ecosystems include the following points:

- Anchoring retention to every watercourse that:
  - contains fish; or
  - is hydrologically connected to a fish-bearing waterbody; or
  - is habitat for regionally important wildlife or species at risk; or
  - is otherwise ecologically or geomorphologically sensitive.
- There should be no harvest within Riparian Reserve Zones (RRZ) and the extent of retention in riparian management zones (RMZ) should consider the severity of the burn, the sensitivity of the aquatic resource, and the degree of hillslope coupling which relates to sediment transfer routes from uplands to the watercourse.
- Retention widths should be measured from the edge of the floodplain if one is present, and where a stream channel is coupled or partially coupled to a side slope, consideration should be made to extending full retention past the top of the slope.
- On flat ground, all green or scorched trees that are predicted to survive within the RMZ should be retained, and in heavily burned areas with few or no surviving trees, consider retention of standing dead timber within one tree height in distance from the stream. This will ensure snag and large woody debris (LWD) supply in the short to mid-term, providing benefit to aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems in a post-fire landscape.

The Office of the Chief Forester is developing a guidance document on riparian best management practices for wildfire salvage. When published, the document will be posted on the [Sustainable Forest Management - Office of the Chief Forester: Policies and Standards](#) website. For further information, contact the FSPPB at [Forests.ForestPracticesBranchOffice@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Forests.ForestPracticesBranchOffice@gov.bc.ca).

## **2.7 Wildfire Timber Salvage and Reforestation**

### **2.7.1 Planning Considerations**

The complexity associated with managing values and assigning priority for timber salvage, retention and reforestation areas within fire impacted forests requires a coordinated landscape level approach, rather than considering blocks individually. For efficient planning, assess overlapping considerations for both salvage, retention and reforestation. It is important to prioritize joint planning to enable timely sowing for rapid planting, which is essential for successful reforestation, especially on challenging sites.

The recent amendments to *FRPA*, introducing FLPs and FOPs, are anchored in the concept of delivering multiple resource management at the landscape level. Similarly, the recent amendment

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to [Forest and Range Practices Act Section 108](#) addresses funding and relief for legal obligations that have been burned by wildfire with the introduction of a landscape level approach for reforestation. [FRPA Section 108.2](#) and [FRPA Section 108.4](#) introduce the concept of an Area of Catastrophic Disturbance (to be identified by a Ministerial Order) and a landscape reforestation plan. Consider Section 108 funding to create the plan. To be effective, it would include identification of priority areas for timber salvage and government led reforestation programs (FIP) as well as the tenure holder obligations.

## 2.7.2 Silviculture Considerations

The cost of the silviculture work required to get areas reforested after salvage operations is an important consideration. Although silviculture costs are a relatively small component of the full harvesting operation for higher value green stands, as timber deteriorates in quality (value) and quantity, they increase rapidly since they are a fixed cost in many situations. A rapid increase from \$4-6 per m<sup>3</sup> to \$10-15 per m<sup>3</sup> or more can occur in salvage scenarios, thus the silviculture implications of harvest choices are especially important. For review of options around silviculture obligations and costs, see [2.2 Available Tenures, Authorizations and Considerations](#). Pre-harvest silviculture assessments of potential salvage stands include consideration of the potential requirement for site preparation, shade, species, and stock type and whether successful regeneration is possible (i.e., on steeper south or west facing slopes). For guidance, see [fire management stocking standards](#).

A careful assessment of how much retention to leave, not just for biodiversity but for successful reforestation, is critical. Best management practices for [Reforestation Dry Sites in the Thompson Okanagan Natural Resource Region](#) (under Stand Management Guidance) and improving the survival of regenerating Douglas-fir must be reviewed for any area in southern B.C. where Douglas-fir is being salvage logged and requires reforestation. Prioritize future resilience of the forest through appropriate species selection for reforestation.

Rhizina undulata (“fire fungus”) root disease risk to planted seedlings should be considered if reforestation activities occur within two years following wildfires.

Questions can be directed towards District staff or the FSPPB at [Forests.ForestPracticesBranchOffice@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Forests.ForestPracticesBranchOffice@gov.bc.ca).

## 2.8 Land Use Objectives Guidance

### 2.8.1 Exemption Process

Various exemption provisions exist, depending on which objective, ministerial order, or land use objective is in place in the area for which an exemption is desired. Prior to seeking an exemption from any objective or other legal requirement, it is important to accurately determine with whom the authority to grant the specific exemption lies. After verifying under which Act (e.g., [FRPA](#), [Land Act](#)) the objective in question was established, and which exemption mechanism is most suitable, the [delegation matrix](#) should be consulted to determine who the delegated decision maker for the

chosen exemption provision is. A summary of the existing exemption provisions is shown in a flowchart in [Appendix 2](#). Considerations for exemption require First Nation consultation.

### 2.8.2 Visual Quality Objectives Guidance

The FSPPB is drafting policy guidance to assist forest practitioners who are contemplating primary forest activities (cutblocks and roads) in wildfire impacted areas that also contain legal VQOs.

The guidance provides numerical data on how much VQO area has been impacted since 2017, a brief background on the current legal framework under which VQOs are managed, and policy guidance on several predominant wildfire timber salvage harvesting scenarios. The document also includes road and cut block visual design techniques and provides references to pre-existing visual resource management material (i.e., [2022 Visual Impact Assessment handbook](#)) that should be used in conjunction with the guidance.

For more information, contact: FSPPB at [Forests.ForestPracticesBranchOffice@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Forests.ForestPracticesBranchOffice@gov.bc.ca).

## 2.9 Monitoring and Reporting

BCWS, FAIB and [GeoBC](#) support various tools that can be used to delineate wildfire occurrence, and monitor wildfire spread and intensity. These can report areas and volumes impacted by wildfire. FTB and TPB support non-spatial reporting of volume and areas salvaged following a wildfire. The following section provides an overview of the tools and resources available.

### 2.9.1 Mapping and Geographic Information System Tools

- **Fire Perimeters**

[BCWS Dashboard](#) provides live data on active wildfires, including fire perimeters and stage of control status.

Fire perimeters are available on the [BC Data Catalogue - BC Wildfire Fire Perimeters - Current](#). Perimeters are captured whenever possible, as data is available (they are not updated daily), from sources like sentinel imagery, planet labs, thermal scanning (e.g., fixed wing, rotary wing), and rehabilitation work. This data comes in sporadically and is then sent to the geospatial group and/or deployed GIS specialist at an incident. The data is replicated to the BC Geographic Warehouse (BCGW) and public facing applications.

- **Burn Severity Mapping**

FAIB is responsible for burn severity mapping and makes it available on the [BC Data Catalogue - Fire Burn Severity - Same Year](#). This mapping is typically generated on current year wildfires, in early November, and posted to the BC Data Catalogue by mid-November depending on the extent of the wildfires. This process is only applied to wildfires greater than 100 hectares and where clear (smoke-free/cloud-free) pre- and post-fire imagery is available.

BCWS, FAIB, BCTS, and GeoBC are implementing actions to increase capacity and mapping efficiency.

Annual wildfire [burn severity mapping information](#), including methodology and links to data sets, is available on the [Data Management and Access](#) website.

In addition, the burn severity process is applied to the fire impacted area one year later and this data is posted annually to the [BC Data Catalogue - Fire Burn Severity - Historical](#). Any wildfires not captured during a given fire year are usually captured in the subsequent year.

- **Forest Inventory Updates**

The updated Forest Inventory is available on the [BC Data Catalogue - VRI - 2023 - Forest Vegetation Composite Rank 1 Layer \(R1\)](#). This product is typically available in mid to late February of the year following the fire year (i.e., in February 2025 the completely updated Forest Inventory for 2024 including the fire updates from 2024 will be posted).

Further tools for assessing salvage opportunity and salvage performance reporting are currently under development. For more information contact FAIB, Forest Inventory Section at [Forests.ForestAnalysisBranchOffice@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Forests.ForestAnalysisBranchOffice@gov.bc.ca).

- **Actionable Salvage Mapping**

This 1-hectare raster dataset classifies the merchantable forests within individual wildfire perimeters that are likely to be actionable for salvage each year. The data is generated at the end of each wildfire season, once Burn Intensity Mapping is available. This product supports operational planning for salvage and intended to be integrated with local operational data and values mapping.

Currently, the data is distributed via BC Box, with plans to migrate to the BC Data Catalogue and Geographic Warehouse. For more information FAIB, Forest Inventory Section at [Forests.ForestAnalysisBranchOffice@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Forests.ForestAnalysisBranchOffice@gov.bc.ca).

## 2.9.2 Wildfire Land-Based Recovery

This [program](#) is intended to reduce the negative impacts of select wildfires on the land base.

Information regarding wildfire land-based recovery and their activities on wildfire suppression rehabilitation, post wildfire natural hazard risk analysis, and ecological wildfire recovery can be found on their website. Further information and questions can be directed towards [WildfireLandBasedRecovery@gov.bc.ca](mailto:WildfireLandBasedRecovery@gov.bc.ca).

## Appendices

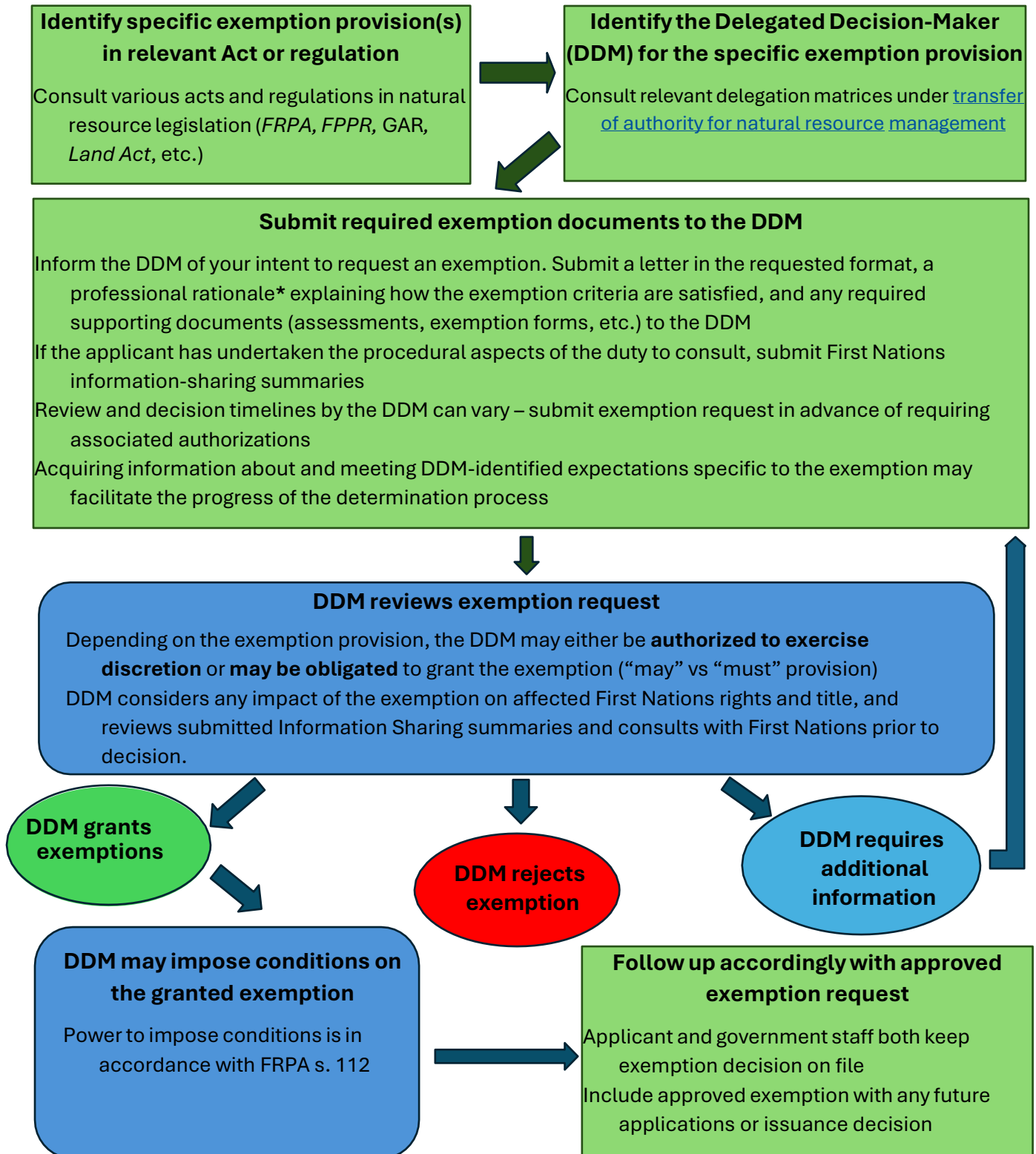
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## Appendix 1: Layout Best Practices Guidance

1. While the fire is still burning, draw the initial block shapes over the entire area including a buffer beyond the current known fire line. Once the fire has stabilized, clip those shapes back to the fire line.
  2. The initial shapes aim to include estimated area for harvest opportunities. This is not the right stage to exclude any area. The field assessment can remove those.
  3. Suggested exclusions from the initial shapes:
    - a. Riparian corridors (as per [FPPR Section 47](#)).
    - b. Plantations (logged in 1970 to present).
    - c. Evaluate if OGMAs are in scope, or out of scope.
    - d. Sensitive topics that may take too long to resolve (e.g., recreation sites, VQOs of Retention or Partial Retention, element occurrences of species or ecological communities at risk, GAR).
    - e. Generally, terrain classes IV and V should be removed.
  4. Break the units into 100-300 ha (so they can be handed out to the layout crews for field assessment).
  5. High severity burned timber may be developed preferentially but only up to the set maximum amount that can be realistically harvested prior to deterioration.
  6. Compare with consumptive capacity of mills.
  7. Layout guidance:
    - a. Start before the fire is under control if possible. The BCWS fire boss may give exemptions for areas that are safe (heavily burnt over areas, with no more fuel and safe access).
  8. Where First Nation Consultation, Archaeology Overview Assessments/ Archaeology Impact Assessments, and Cultural Heritage Resources Assessments were completed prior to the wildfire event, commit to reviewing the Consultation and Assessment records with First Nations in context of the wildfire impacts before mobilizing into these areas.
    - a. Sometimes the “right block shape, when considering the wildfire impact, is actually larger than the consulted/referred block”; however, in this case, only lay out the referred block shape, to move wildfire impacted volume out as quickly as possible. Then incorporate surrounding wildfire impacted area as possible through regular permitting process.
  9. The goal is to harvest wildfire affected timber before it deteriorates and regenerate the land, so tackle the easiest (e.g., least encumbered, low risk) sites first.
  10. Once there are approximately 200,000 m<sup>3</sup> approved, move to develop those areas that take a bit more time and need more planning.
  11. Existing CPs, impacted by wildfire, can be reswept for cruise data as soon as possible. These existing permits may present an opportunity to move wildfire impacted volume more quickly.
  12. Approach the field work like an assembly line:
    - a. Layout person – 2 days for about 40 ha
    - b. GPS person – comes in the next day
    - c. Cruiser is on the block 2 or 3 days after the GPS.
  13. The standard of excluding Riparian Management Areas (RMAs), see [2.6.2 Riparian Best Management Practices](#) may speed up the layout and help meet First Nation expectations.
  14. Full cruising on a wide grid (200 m). This allows limited cruising resources to go further. Save the comparative cruise for when snowed out.
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## Appendix 2: General Process to Apply for Exemptions



\*Rationales are expected to be submitted in accordance with Forest Professionals of British Columbia Practice Guidance for Professional Quality Rationales\*



## Appendix 3: Links & Further Reading

[2-Billion Trees Program](#) – website for Federal funding program

[Draft BC Biodiversity and Ecosystem Health Framework, November 2023](#)

[BCWS Dashboard](#) – website with live data on active wildfires, including fire perimeters and stage of control status.

[Coast Appraisal Manual](#), May 2024

[Cutting Permit and Forest Road Administration Manual](#), March 2023

[Cutting Permit Manual](#), November 2024

[Cutting Permit & Road Tenure Administration](#) – website with guidance and policy links

[Data Management and Access](#) – website with annual burn severity mapping information, including methodology and links to data sets

[First Nations Emergency Services Society - decision support website](#) for First Nations

[Forest Health](#) – website with information on bark beetles and contact information for provincial forest health program

[Interior Appraisal Manual](#), July 2024

[Management of Cut Control on a Woodlot Licence Due to Timber and/or Forest Resources at Risk](#), June 2022

[Post-Natural Disturbance Forest Restoration Guidance](#), July 2023

[Pricing Wildfire Damaged Timber in BC](#), September 2023

[Provincial Logging Residue and Waste Measurements Procedures Manual](#), April 2022

[Recovery Guide for Local Authorities and First Nations](#), Emergency Management BC, February 2022

[Summary of Recommendations – The Premier’s Task Force on Emergencies](#), April 2024

[Sustainable Forest Management - Office of the Chief Forester: Policies and Standards](#) – website for documents published by the Office of the Chief Forester

[Wetland Ways: Interim Guidelines for Wetland Protection and Conservation in BC](#), March 2009

[Wildfire Land-Based Recovery](#) – website with information, resources, and tools

[Wildfire Salvage Opportunity Agreement](#) – website with information and process chart