

Amendments to the Standards – June 2010

Assisted Range and Population Expansion of Western Larch for Use as a Climate Change Adaptation Strategy in British Columbia

On June 3, 2010, in accordance with requirements and authorities provided under section 169 of the Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA), section 43 of the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation and section 32 of the Woodlot Licence Planning and Practices Regulation, Jim Snetsinger, Chief Forester, amended the Chief Forester's Standards for Seed Use.

The purpose of these amendments are to expand the seed transfer limits of western larch to increase species diversity, and address the potential forest health and productivity impacts associated with a changing climate. Specifically, this amendment provides for the range and population expansion of Western larch (Lw) beyond its contemporary range (historical and current climate envelope) in areas projected to be climatically suitable in the year 2030.

These amendments make provisions for agreement holders to plant up to 10% of Lw seedlings (or, up to 5,000 Lw seedlings for small operators), of the combined total number of seedlings planted each year. These amendments apply to Lw orchard seedlots only. Seedlots suitable for use in new Lw tested parent tree seed planning zones will be identified on the Seed Planning and Registry (SPAR) system.

These amendments are based on recent scientific research and analysis conducted by Dr. Gerald E. Rehfeldt (USDA Forest Service, retired) and Dr. Barry Jaquish (MFR, Research and Knowledge Management Branch), as reported in their publication, "Ecological impacts and management strategies for western larch in the face of climate change" (March, 2010, Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies for Global Change; ISSN 1381-2386, Volume 15, Number 3); feedback solicited through stakeholder consultation; and analysis undertaken by ministry staff.

These amendments align with the BC Climate Action Secretariat's vision to "make adaptation part of the BC Government's business, ensuring that climate change impacts are considered in planning and decision-making across government". These amendments serve as "interim measures" for use prior to the development of the climate-based tree species selection and seed transfer decision support system over the next 2 to 5 years.

These amendments come into effect on October 3, 2010, 4 months after notice was published in the Provincial Gazette on June 3, 2010. This 4-month notification period is required under section 169 of FRPA. However, persons may waive this notification period in accordance with section 169(4)(b and c(ii)) if they so choose.

These amendments include:

1. Amend Section 8.1 by adding a new definition and changing numbering as follows:

8.1 In this Part:

- e. **"small operator"** means the holder of an agreement with an annual allowable cut of 5,000 cubic metres or less; [03/06/2010]
- f. **"timber sales licence"** means a timber sales licence to which section 29 (2) of the Act applies. [03/06/2010]

2. Amend Section 8 by adding two sections as follows:

8.11 Despite this Part, in areas of use within LW1, LW2, and LW3 tested parent tree seed planning zones as identified on the [Chief Forester's Standards for Seed Use website](#)

- e. a person, other than a timber sales manager, who is required to establish a stand under section 29 of the Act, may plant up to 10 per cent western larch seedlings, of the combined total of the number of seedlings and the number of cuttings that are planted during each fiscal year, by or on behalf of that person, with respect to all agreements held by that person in a single management unit, and
- f. a small operator may plant up to 10 percent or up to 5,000 western larch seedlings, of the combined total of the number of seedlings and the number of cuttings that are planted during each fiscal year, by or on behalf of that person with respect to that agreement. [03/06/2010]

8.12 Despite this Part, a timber sales manager who is required to establish a stand under section 29 of the Act may plant up to 10 per cent western larch seedlings of the combined total of the number of seedlings and the number of cuttings that are planted during each fiscal year, by or on behalf of the timber sales manager,

- 0. with respect to all timber sale licences located within a single management unit, or
- 1. with respect to a specific timber sales licence, if it is not located within a management unit,

in areas of use within LW1, LW2, and LW3 tested parent tree seed planning zones as identified on the [Chief Forester's Standards for Seed Use website](#). [03/06/2010]

2. Amend Appendix 2, page 21 by changing text in the first paragraph and adding a second paragraph as follows:

Except for tested parent tree seed planning zones LW1, LW2 and LW3, seed planning zone (SPZ) spatial data may be downloaded or viewed from the Land and Resource Data Warehouse (LRDW) website maintained by the Integrated Land Management Bureau at: <http://lrdw.ca>. [03/06/2010]

As referred to in sections 8.11 and 8.12, seed planning zone LW1, LW2 and LW3 may be viewed on the ["Range and Population Expansion of Western Larch \(2030\) Climate Change" maps](#) [03/06/2010]

3. Amend Appendix 2, page 22 by changing text in the first paragraph as follows:

Tested parent trees are restricted to the species listed in Table 2.2 and Table 2.3. The areas of use determined for tested parent trees for use within British Columbia are located within a Tested Parent Tree Seed Planning Zone. These zones are identified in the Tested Parent Tree Seed Planning zone spatial data (Version 2.0 dated June 29, 2003) and on the "Range and Population Expansion of Western Larch (2030) Climate Change" maps (Version 1.0, dated June 3, 2010) by the codes and names set out in Table 2.2 and Table 2.3. [03/06/2010]

4. Amend Appendix 2, page 22 by adding a new table as follows:

Table 2.3 Tested Parent Tree Seed Planning Zones for Climate Change, v. 1.0 [03.06.10]

Species		SPZ Code	SPZ Name
Code	Name		
Lw	Western Larch	LW1	Lw Climate Change 1
		LW2	Lw Climate Change 2
		LW3	Lw Climate Change 3

5. Amend Section 5.1.8 f), to correct a typo:

f) a lot that is collected from outside of British Columbia that does not meet the requirements in Appendix 6. [03/06-2010]

To view and download the "Range and Population Expansion of Western Larch (2030) Climate Change" maps (Version 1.0)

see: http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/HTI/external/!publish/Western_Larch_Interim_Measures_2010/LW1_LW2_LW3_overview_pdfs/. Spatial data (i.e. shape files), for the purposes of operational seed use, is available upon request by contacting:

Matt LeRoy, RPF
 Decision Support Analyst
 Tree Improvement Branch
 Ministry of Forests and Range
 Phone: (250) 387-4836
 E-mail: Matthew.LeRoy@gov.bc.ca

Questions regarding this amendment can be directed to:

Lee Charleson, MBA, RPF
 Seed Policy Officer
 Tree Improvement Branch
 Ministry of Forests and Range
 Phone: (250) 387-4839
 E-Mail: Lee.Charleson@gov.bc.ca

or

Leslie McAuley, RFT
 Decision Support Officer
 Tree Improvement Branch
 Ministry of Forests and Range
 Phone: (250) 356-6208
 e-Mail: Leslie.Mcauley@gov.bc.ca