Chapter 7: Road Deactivation

The intent of road deactivation is to place a road in a self-maintaining state that will indefinitely protect adjacent resources. Road deactivation requirements typically include removing bridges and stream culverts, stabilizing the road prism, and barricading the road surface width in a clearly visible manner to prevent access by motor vehicles (other than all-terrain vehicles).

This chapter describes the objectives of road deactivation, as well as professional responsibilities, mandatory procedures and best management practices for developing deactivation prescriptions and carrying out the works. It also presents a number of road deactivation techniques that address the province-wide range of terrain, soils, and climatic conditions, and assists ministry staff in achieving the statutory and regulatory requirements in the Forest and Range Practices Act and the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation.

7.0.1 Policy

When no longer required, Forest Service Roads (FSRs) that are the responsibility of either Timber Operations and Pricing Division or BC Timber Sales (BCTS) will be deactivated in a planned manner that considers future access needs, road user safety, cost efficiency, and values at risk of damage or loss.

7.1 Mandatory Procedures & Best Practices

7.2 Road Deactivation Professional Responsibilities & Considerations

- 7.2.1 Involvement of Specialists in Road Deactivation
- 7.2.2 Professional Field Reviews
- 7.2.3 Project Assurance

7.3 Planning Road Deactivation

7.4 Deactivation Prescriptions

- 7.4.1 Prescription Requirements
- 7.4.2 Phases of Prescription Development
- 7.4.3 Modification of Prescriptions

7.5 Road Deactivation Works

- 7.5.1 Project Management
- 7.5.2 Cost Estimate of the Planned Works
- 7.5.3 Carrying Out the Works
7.5.4 Submission Requirements After Completing the Works
7.5.5 Inspections After Deactivation

7.6 Deactivation Hazard Warning Signs

7.7 Road Deactivation Objectives
    • 7.7.1 Achieving Deactivation Objectives

7.8 Road Deactivation Techniques
    • 7.8.1 Water Management Techniques
    • 7.8.2 Road Fill Pullback Techniques
    • 7.8.3 Revegetation Techniques

7.9 Resources & Suggestions for Further Reading

7.10 Appendices
    • 7.10.1 Project Tracking Checklist