

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON RESOURCE INDUSTRY RADIO CHANNELS USED IN BRITISH COLUMBIA**

Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED) has been working with the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource operations and other stakeholders to implement a standardized bank of radio channels for use on resource roads to enhance traffic safety. This email is a reminder of the changes coming, the channeling plan, the programming specifications, and its implementation in the Selkirk Forest District on Saturday, June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Road User Groups have been working over the past several months with road users to inform them of the changes and initiate implementation of the standard RR channels. Most recently, Rocky Mountain Resource District initiated transition to the new resource road radio protocols (May 1<sup>st</sup>).

### **Implementation:**

- **The Resource Road channels will begin to be implemented in the Selkirk Forest District (West Kootenay, Golden/Revelstoke area) - Saturday, June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2016**
- **The Resource Road Channels have been successfully initiated in all areas of British Columbia except Selkirk and Haida Gwaii Resource districts.**

### **Usage:**

**Resource Road (RR) Channels:** RR channels are used for calling kilometer location and direction on radio assisted roads. The specific RR channel used will be posted at the entry point of the road. Please visit the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resources Operations web page to view the most current maps indicating where each channel is used:

[http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hth/engineering/Road\\_Radio\\_Project.htm](http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hth/engineering/Road_Radio_Project.htm). The channel polygon maps provided have been used for planning purposes and are for information only. Those using mobile radios for communicating location and direction on resource roads must use radio channels/frequencies that are posted in the field. Posted radio channels (or frequencies) will supersede those noted on any map; radio users should not solely rely on the map. Mobile radio users are advised that the transition to the standard bank of RR channels may be gradual in some areas. Examples of typical road channel signs can be viewed on-line at: [http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hth/engineering/sign\\_standards.htm](http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hth/engineering/sign_standards.htm).

**Loading (LD) Channel:** LD channels are used for the co-ordination of temporary site specific field work. The loading and unloading of resources or equipment and short term field work within a cut block are two possible

examples. The selection of the specific LD channel to use is up to the person in charge of the site. When a channel is selected be sure to listen for a period of time to ensure you are not interfering with other operations.

Interference can result if any channel is used improperly, such as for “chit-chat”, etc. Please use the LAD channels for talk not directly associated with these designated uses. All channels are designated that they cause no interference to other users and must accept interference from other priority spectrum users.

**Technical Details:**

**Radio Channels:** There are a total of 40 unique channels: 35 road channels, and 5 loading channels.

**Radio Transmitter Power:** Output power has been standardized to 30 watts maximum on all channels.

**Channel Designations:** The channel labels are RR-1 to RR-35 and LD-1 to LD-5.

**Radio Channel Programming:** It is recommended that the full bank of resource road radio (RR) channels be programmed in the standard format, by professional radio technicians. It is discouraged to have select or specific RR channels programmed into mobile radios as channel assignment may change with no notice. Users will be best equipped with the full bank of standard RR channels. **Only** the RR-XX or LD-XX label should appear on the radio display, since this is what will correspond to the road signs. No other channel information should be displayed.

**Radio Licencing:** Two-way radios require a valid radio licence with the RR Appendix which can be applied for by submitting the [IC-2366](#) form to Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada. The use of amateur, marine or user programmable radios are not permitted. Radios must be approved under RSS 119 issue 5 or later and must be able to accommodate narrowband channels.

**Bandwidth and Power:** All channels are simplex **narrowband (11 kHz)** with a maximum power of 30 watts.

Road Channels			
Frequency MHz	Label	Frequency MHz	Label
150.0800	RR-1	150.7700	RR-19
150.1100	RR-2	150.8300	RR-20
150.1400	RR-3	151.0100	RR-21
150.1850	RR-4	151.1300	RR-22
150.2000	RR-5	151.1900	RR-23
150.2450	RR-6	151.2200	RR-24
150.2600	RR-7	151.3100	RR-25
150.3200	RR-8	151.3400	RR-26
150.3650	RR-9	151.3700	RR-27
150.4100	RR-10	151.4300	RR-28
150.4400	RR-11	151.4600	RR-29
150.5000	RR-12	151.4900	RR-30
150.5300	RR-13	151.5200	RR-31
150.5450	RR-14	151.5800	RR-32
150.5600	RR-15	151.6100	RR-33
150.5900	RR-16	151.6400	RR-34
150.6800	RR-17	151.6700	RR-35
150.7100	RR-18		

Loading Channels	
Frequency MHz	Label
151.7000	LD-1
151.7450	LD-2
151.7900	LD-3
151.8050	LD-4
151.8500	LD-5

**Contact ISED at:**

British Columbia/Yukon  
1-800-667-3780

North Central Alberta  
1-800-461-2646

Southern Alberta  
1-800-267-9401

**Note for radio suppliers:**

This is also a good time to confirm your clients are properly licenced and programmed. A user who has the RR Appendix on their mobile licence will be covered with the changes and no further action is needed. If your client does not yet have RR Appendix on their licence, they must have this added. The clients themselves can email us, quoting their company name & licence #, or suppliers can make the request to ISED on their behalf.

Appendix RR requests should be sent to your local Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada Office.

**Questions:**

Should you have further questions, please contact your local Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada Office by phone. Alternatively, the complete address and contact information can be found in RIC-66 at: <http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/smt-gst.nsf/eng/sf01742.html>

- Northern British Columbia and Yukon Office: 1 (800) 667-3780
- Okanagan-Kootenay Office: 1 (800) 667-3780
- Lower Mainland Office: 1 (800) 667-3780
- Vancouver Island Office: 1 (800) 667-3780
- Central and Northern Alberta District Office: 1(800) 461-2646
- Southern Alberta District Office: 1 (800) 267-9401