

Road Infrastructure Deactivation and Rehabilitation Regional Guidance

INFORMATION SHEET

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
Kootenay Boundary Region



Reduction of road infrastructure, including recreational off-road-vehicle (ORV) trails, on Crown Lands is proposed for numerous reasons: public safety, environmental and financial mitigation, wildlife rehabilitation and other regulatory purposes.



Rehabilitation of roads and trails has been distinguished from road deactivation to reflect the desired outcome. Road Deactivation is self-maintaining and protects adjacent resources; whereas, road and trail rehabilitation restores or improves an ecosystem.



Works must consider impacts to First Nations, existing resource tenure holders, general public and other key stakeholders. Prior to works on the land, the best practice is to contact the local Resource District Office to obtain instruction for notification and engagement and to ensure all impacted users are adequately informed. Follow the recommended Regional procedures for engagement and notification.



Legal requirements for road deactivation and rehabilitation are established under various legislations and may vary when applied to non-tenured roads versus tenured roads (*Forest Act, Forest & Range Practices Act, Wildlife Act and Ministry of Forests and Range Act*).



Prior to decision the District Manager may request to review professional prescriptions for deactivation or rehabilitation to ensure the requirements of legislation is being addressed, and consistent with other guidance documents.

For more information please contact the local Natural Resource Offices. Other information about forest resource roads can be accessed at:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/organizational-structure/ministries-organizations/ministries/forests-lands-natural-resource-operations-and-rural-development>



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