

File: 19500-20

January 14, 2002

Forest Licensees
Lakes Forest District

District Implementation of Bark Beetle Regulation

Dear Licensee:

At this time, under the *Bark Beetle Regulation*, the Emergency Bark Beetle Management Area (EBBMA) has been designated by the Minister and the beetle management coordinator has designated Emergency Management Units (EMU) within the EBBMA. For Lakes TSA, that area north of Ootsa Reservoir is designated as either "sanitation" or "aggressive" zones. Therefore those forest licensees operating within areas north of the reservoir may use provisions under the regulation. A request for amendment has been submitted for inclusion of the area north of the Chelaslie River as a "sanitation" zone so that area could be eligible as well.

The Bark Beetle Regulation allows the district manager to exempt a person from the requirement to prepare and obtain approval of a silviculture prescription for areas up to 15 hectares in area (contiguous clearcut) or 5000 m³ in volume. This letter serves to provide guidance and procedures for the submission and approval of these silviculture exemptions.

The intent of the regulation is to provide better administration efficiency for harvest of infested blocks. The procedure of permit issuance for blocks will be similar to that of the SPS and SCC cutting permits.

Before an application can be made, the licensee must ensure that the limited information content of the blocks is consistent with the forest development plan (FDP). FDP's will likely require amendment in order to achieve that consistency.

In order to assist with the development of the FDP amendment, I provide the following guidance:

- in terms of adjacency between "MCC" blocks, I would expect that blocks be planned with no less than 50 meters between them. This is consistent with my direction with respect to adjacency for SPS openings (2 tree lengths).
- in large infested areas, there may be a tendency to plan a mosaic of these blocks separated by adjacency-width leave strips. I would expect that licensees avoid this



To: Forest :Licensees

type of patchwork pattern and address the planning of these through “normal” CP and SP avenues.

- the *Bark Beetle Regulation* outlines that the harvest within these blocks be restricted to infested trees only plus those incidental to their removal. For this reason, I expect that blocks eligible for this harvest have infestation levels of 30% or higher (minimum of 30% infested stems or partial brood removal made up of green, red and/or grey attack trees)

As part of the review and approval of the FDP (amendment), I will provide further guidance with respect to specific requirements of “MCC” blocks. Among other things, I will consider the need to consult with stakeholders, the need for assessments and the mapping requirements for notification of harvest to the MOF for these MCC blocks prior to commencement.

The approved FDP and rationale will provide licensees with the necessary tools to plan and harvest blocks under the Bark Beetle Regulation without need for further approvals. Please contact my operational staff or me with any questions respecting this guidance.

Yours truly,

R. A. Murray
District Manager
Lakes Forest District

This document was created with Win2PDF available at <http://www.daneprairie.com>.
The unregistered version of Win2PDF is for evaluation or non-commercial use only.