BRITISH COLUMBIA

File: 19500-40

October 22, 2002

Major Licensees
SBFEP
Lakes Forest District

Dear Licensee:

Some licensees throughout the District are implementing aspects of the Bark Beetle Regulation (BBReg) into their harvest activities. Some questions have arisen surrounding roads and the requirement for approved road, layout and designs prior to their construction. In order to provide clarification for this requirement, I sought feedback from other Districts for consistency and considered the intent of the BBReg which is to provide a more effective means of tackling the leading edge expeditiously. I also considered definitions provided through the Interior Appraisal Manual.

The following clarification is provided for road construction and road, layout and design approval:

Operational Roads

These are normally developed roads authorized through road permit and require an approved road, layout and design prior to construction. For the purpose of accessing blocks under the BBReg, it is expected that operational roads authorized under road permit will be used when:

- accessing two or more blocks administered under the BBReg., and;
- when the distance to a block administered under the BBReg exceeds 500 meters.

Access Trails

These trails are considered low impact roads that are used for access to and within BBReg blocks. These access trails do not require an approved road, layout and design prior to construction. It is permissable to haul timber on these access trails. Access trails may be considered when:

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- only accessing one block;
- when the distance to the block is less than 500 meters in length.

One provision is made to the above for the administration of harvest under the SBFEP stewardship areas, where access trails are purposefully kept to small widths for low impact. In these cases, it would be permissable to access several blocks using access trails.

Please contact me or my staff with any questions regarding this clarification.

Yours truly,

Mark Vieweg
A/District Manager
Lakes Forest District