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Document name: g:\grpdata\dlaops\zonefor\majtenur\corr\licensee.doc CLH

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Date typed: 96/09/26 Date revised: 96/09/26 09:40 am

File: 19720-00
19500-00
10765-00

September 26, 1996

SBFEP

Major Licensees

Woodlot Licensees

Dear Sir:

Revisions have been made to the Forest Development Plan Policy which was approved on August 20, 1996. Specifically, pages 3, 7, and 13 have been revised. The changes affect submissions by Woodlot Licensees and reflect that development during years 1-20 should be scheduled on Management Plans while years 1-5 will appear on the Forest Development Plans. Also, clarification of visual impact assessment requirements and detailed block map requirements for woodlot licensees was made.

Please call woodlot licence operational staff within the Lakes District with any questions.

Yours truly,

R.A. Murray
District Manager
Lakes Forest District

Attachments

Ministry of
Forests



Lakes Forest District

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185 Yellowhead Hwy. Box 269
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General Forest Development Plan Requirements - Page 3 of Guidebook

This section is revised and should read:

"- Address an area sufficient in size to include all the area affected by the timber harvesting and road construction or modifications to operations being proposed.

- Major Licence holders, SBFEP: cover a period of at least 5 years.
Woodlot Licence holders: cover a period of at least 5 years.

- Provide a written submission of those actions and objectives for the area under the plan that are not shown on maps.

- Map submission consisting of an optional key map (1:250,000 scale); development plan maps (1:50000) and a set of larger scale maps (1:10000 - 1:20000) for specific areas under the plan. (See "Mapping Requirements, page 11)

- Be consistent with any higher level plan that is in effect when the FDP is approved or given effect under the *Forest Practices Code of B.C. Act*. There are no officially designated higher level plans within Lakes Forest District. However, there are local resource use plans and other plans that have been approved by the district manager and should be incorporated into forest development plans and other operational plans. Such plans currently in effect include:

Interim Recreation Management Plan - 1994-1996
Klaytahnkut, Tildesley Riparian Zone Timber Harvesting Guidelines
Management Guidelines for the Tweedsmuir Entiako Caribou Herd
Migration Corridor
Sutherland LRUP Draft Report - June 1990 (endorsed)
Approved Licensee Management Plans

The Attachments and Administration sections apply as outlined in the *Guidebook*.

Initially, operations in scenic areas must be planned in a sequence as outlined in Figure 5. As well, various site-specific issues raised during the referral and public review processes may require licensees to address visual landscape management issues in the forest development plan.

Visual landscape management concerns should be recognized as early as possible in the planning process to allow for visual impact assessments to be completed and made available for public review before the submission of silviculture prescriptions and road permit applications. The recommended steps and time frame for preparing and reviewing a forest development plan requiring visual landscape management are given in Table 1."

For Forest Licence holders, SBFEP;

"Persons proposing operations in areas with established VQOs are not required to prepare a visual impact assessment for newly proposed blocks or roads in Year 5 of the forest development plan. This assessment is, however, necessary for Year 4, 3, 2 and 1 of the plan. **As a transitional measure, for the period of 2 years after approval of this policy, Lakes Forest District will accept visual impact assessments on those blocks requiring VIAs for Years 3, 2 and 1 only.** The information may be shown on maps or in cutblock summary tables."

For Woodlot Licence holders;

"Persons proposing operations in areas with established VQOs are not required to prepare a visual impact assessment for newly proposed blocks or roads in Year 4 or 5 of the forest development plan. This assessment is, however, necessary for Year 3, 2 and 1 of the plan. **As a transitional measure, for the period of 2 years after approval of this policy, Lakes Forest District will accept visual impact assessments on those blocks requiring VIAs for Years 2 and 1 only.** The information may be shown on maps or in cutblock summary tables." For harvesting scheduled in Years 4 and 5, visual impact assessments must be submitted for approval prior to or with the silviculture prescription.

The remainder of the section dealing with Visual Landscape Management applies as outlined in the *Guidebook*. This includes Figure 5 and Table 1, appearing on pages 18 and 19, respectively. With respect to this Table 1, Woodlot Licence holders should use the Years of the plan as outlined above.

Detailed block maps

Detailed block-by-block maps are required for Years 3, 2 and 1 of the forest development plan for forest licence holders and SBFEP. Detailed block maps are required for Years 1 to 5 of the forest development plan for woodlot licence holders. These are required since larger scale maps will provide more detailed resolution which will aid in the approval process. These maps should use forest cover maps as the base, with a minimum scale of 1:20000. Existing silviculture prescription (PHSP/SP) maps are good examples. The following detail, at a minimum, must be shown on the maps:

- block boundary and important adjacent features
- topography and natural features
- silvicultural system(s) proposed
- harvest method(s) proposed
- location and classification of each stream, wetland and lake, in or adjacent to the block for Years 1 and 2.

Public consultation and advertising

Advertising

This section applies as outlined in the guidebook

Time frame for advertising

Division 1 (Notice, Review and Comment) of Part 2 of the *Operational Planning Regulation* should be followed

Advertising format

This section is revised and should read:

"It is not necessary to advertise 5 - year silviculture plans and access management plans simultaneously with the forest development plans at this time. This may, however, be advantageous to the licensee.