Prince George Natural Resource District
Small Scale Salvage Guidelines

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Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

Prince George Natural Resource District

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Prince George BC

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Small Scale Salvage Guidelines

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Small Scale Salvage Professional Applications

Professional reliance is one of the pillars of the Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA) and an important component of the Small Scale Salvage (SSS) application process. The District Manager, prior to approving an application must be satisfied the signing professional has proposed a professional quality plan that meets the District Guidelines. Although the professional application is in a template format, professionals are reminded of their obligation to take the necessary steps in both assessing the suitability of the proposed salvage area, and gathering all of the information for an application. Where a signing Professional is unsure of any requirements in the application, they are encouraged to contact the Prince George District SSS coordinator for clarification.

In addition to the requirements listed in the attached professional application package, the guidelines must also be followed when preparing your application. Note that these guidelines are periodically updated, and you are encouraged to check online to ensure you have the latest version or both the guidelines, application, and post harvest report.

Current District guidelines, application, and other small scale salvage documents can be found on the Prince George District Small Scale Salvage website:

http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/dpg/SSS/SSSIndex.htm

Provincial Guidelines

PURPOSE

To establish an application and approval process for small scale timber salvage that is efficient, effective and transparent.

GUIDELINES

The Ministry will require a suitable application, signed by the applicant and a Professional, along with the required ESF submissions, prior to issuing a Forestry Licence to Cut under authority of Section 47.6(2) (a) of the *Forest Act.*
The Ministry requires a Post Harvesting Report, signed by a Professional, as documentation that the holder of a Forestry Licence to Cut has completed operations in compliance with the approved standards, guidelines and licence conditions. The post harvest reporting also includes an ESF submission to RESULTS for the opening inquiry, stocking standards, disturbance activity, and forest cover. The Post Harvesting Report does not prevent the Ministry from carrying out inspections or audits as it may deem appropriate.

SCOPE OF APPLICATION

1. Province wide
2. Forestry Licence to Cut is issued without advertising for the purpose of salvaging timber volume between 50 m^3 and 2000 m^3.

DEFINITIONS

1. "Applicant" means the person or company who is the intended licensee for the Forestry Licence to Cut.
2. "Application" means a written request, submitted to the Ministry in a manner consistent with the procedures and standards outlined below.

3. "Post Harvesting Report" means a written report, submitted to the Ministry in a manner consistent with the procedures and standards outlined below.
4. "Professional" means a member of a professional regulatory body, who is registered to practice in BC, is qualified for the work and can be held accountable by the professional regulatory body.
5. "Small Scale Salvage Plan" means a part of a District Forest Health Strategy that sets out objectives and priorities for Small Scale Salvage, or a plan designated by the District Manager.

PROCESS OVERVIEW

The core process for small scale salvage applicable throughout the province requires six (6) basic steps. Each of these steps may have a number of components that may be unique to the particular area or circumstances.

Step 1 (Pre-application) - Applicant or Professional Forester
Step 2 (Application) - Professional Forester
Step 3 (Review) – Small Scale Salvage Coordinator
Step 4 (Approval) - District Manager
Step 4 (Operations) - Licensee
Step 5 (Post Harvesting Report) - Professional Forester
Step 6 (Review and Deposit Release) – Small Scale Salvage Coordinator

Provincial SSS website:
http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hth/timten/small-scale-salvage.htm

District Guidelines and Procedures

A Regional Manager or District Manager may establish local guidelines or procedures provided that they are consistent with the purpose of this policy and do not contradict the procedures and standards herein.

- Guidelines may be established to set out small scale salvage priorities based on local forest management objectives and circumstances.
- Local procedures may be established where they are needed to achieve the purpose of this policy.
- Local guidelines or procedures must be made known to potential applicants in an appropriate manner and time.

General Standards

Pre-application planning

To prepare an application for submission, the applicant, or a professional acting for the applicant must take the necessary steps to assess the area and gather information needed for an application. These activities include, but are not limited to:

1. Determining that the proposed salvage is consistent with the district forest health plan or the district salvage plan.

2. Confirming that the proposed application area will not be in conflict with an existing tenure or application.
3. Carrying out a referral to major licensee(s) and/or BC Timber Sales if either has a Forest Stewardship Plan (or Forest Development Plan) for the area and obtain written confirmation that they do not dispute the proposed application. NOTE: referrals must be **current** – within one year of the date that the application is received by the District.
4. Consulting with other tenure holders or agencies where appropriate.
5. Verifying the land status and ownership.
6. Identifying potential conflict with any known archaeological features.

Application

Electronic Submission Framework (ESF) Submissions

An ESF submission must be completed when submitting the professional application. The "Submission ID" number generated during the ESF submission must be recorded on the application, along with the auto-generated licence number.

Professional Application

An application must be submitted in writing to the District Manager. The application must contain the information set out below and in the attached form "Small Scale Salvage Application" and any additional information required by the District Manager in a local procedure or guideline.

1. The location of the timber proposed for harvest and confirmation of land status.
2. The cause of the timber mortality (e.g. insects, windthrow, fire, disease etc.).
3. The volume and species of the timber proposed for harvest, including and described separately: dead timber, in danger (damaged or infested and expected to be dead within one year), interspersed with dead or endangered, or timber that must be harvested to provide access to the dead or endangered timber.
4. The method of harvest (e.g. patch cut, selective cut).
5. Documentation of referrals to major licensees, BC Timber Sales or others, including how comments were addressed.
6. Such information as is required by the District Manager or Regional Manager for establishment of a stumpage rate.
7. A map showing the boundaries of each harvest area, prepared to quality suitable for use as Exhibit A in the licence.
8. Information describing any road use agreements or requirements pertinent to the application.
9. A declaration signed and sealed by a qualified professional, that the application has been professionally prepared.
10. Signature of the applicant or a person authorized in writing by the applicant.

Review and Approval Criteria

The Ministry may approve an application made under this policy and issue a licence if the following criteria are satisfied:

1. The timber volume applied for does not exceed 2000 m^3.
2. The timber applied for in the application is dead, or in the opinion of the Regional Manager or District Manager, meets the definitions set out in Section 47.6(2)(a), sub-sections (i), (ii) or (iii)of the *Forest Act*.
3. The application is consistent with the applicable statutes, including the Forest and Range Practices Act and the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation.
4. The application is consistent with the Small-Scale Salvage District Guidelines

5. In the opinion of the District Manager or the Regional Manager, the applicant is capable of carrying out the salvage in a manner consistent with the objectives and guidelines for the area.
6. The applicant is not in default of another agreement with the Crown.
7. Issuance of a licence or cutting permit will not unduly infringe on aboriginal rights and title.
8. The application has been prepared and signed in a manner consistent with this policy. A forestry licence to cut, or cutting permits pertaining to one, must be consistent with Section 47.7of the *Forest Act* and with a licence document format approved by the Director, Resource Tenures and Engineering Branch, and may include such additional conditions as are determined necessary by the District Manager or Regional Manager to achieve the purpose of this policy.

NOTE: If an application has been returned, or has had a request for information, the applicant has 3 months to provide the requested corrections or information. The application will be considered "withdrawn" if this specification is not met by the applicant. Further, should the applicant wish to proceed with an application that has been deemed "withdrawn", the applicant will have to provide a new application for review.

Post Harvesting Report

Within 60 days of completion of harvesting, a qualified professional must conduct a site inspection and complete post Harvesting Report attesting to the following:

1. The timber targeted for salvage has been removed in accordance with the approved plan.
2. Waste and residue has been assessed and the primary species by volume per hectare have been recorded.
3. The stocking status of the stand has been assessed and is in accordance with the approved plan.
4. Measures undertaken to protect soil, water, archaeological features and wildlife habitat have achieved the required results.
5. Access trails, roads and landings have been deactivated to an acceptable standard, or restored to their original condition (including unobstructed ditch lines).
6. In the opinion of the professional, the licensee has completed all on-site obligations under the Licence.

An ESF submission to RESULTS must also be completed within 60 days of harvesting including an update of the Disturbance History, Forest Cover attributes, and spatial information.

General Procedures

The following procedures are provided to give general guidance on the steps required to prepare and process an application for a Forestry Licence to Cut (FLTC) for purposes of small scale salvage.

Salvage Applicant

1. Locate the timber proposed for salvage, including a field assessment
2. Determine that the proposal is not in conflict with other operations proposed for the area
3. Produce a clear and accurate map, including directions to the site
4. Complete the attached *referral form* from the major licensee(s) and/or BC Timber Sales
5. Acquire a referral letter from the major licensee(s) and/or BC Timber Sales – must be within one year of the date that the application is received by the District.

6. Clearly mark the boundaries of the harvest area(s)
7. Paint mark all trees if single tree selection is proposed over a large area
8. Establish corner posts for the application area and locate with GPS
9. Clearly mark all major skid trails
10. Prepare a tally of trees proposed for salvage (distinguishing between dead, endangered and live by species) and estimate the volume
11. Determine road use requirements and obtain safety orientation
12. Retain a qualified professional to prepare the application

Professional

1. May carry out any or all of the steps above
2. Carry out a field assessment and document the results (e.g. species, volume, salvage)
3. Prepare a detailed harvest guide to identify constraints and conditions to govern operations
4. Prepare, sign and seal short-form appraisal data sheet
5. Complete the standard application form and identify any other concerns
6. Prepare, sign and seal the application
7. Submit required information into FTA via ESF submission

All current forms can be found on the Prince George District website under Small Scale Salvage: http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/dpg/SSS/SSSIndex.htm

Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations Staff

1. Receives the application
2. Reviews the application for consistency with the policy
3. Completes consultation with the applicable First Nations
4. Prepares the Forest Licence to Cut documents
5. Finalizes the licence documents and arranges for signing with the applicant
6. Collects the security deposit (10% of the estimated stumpage)

Licensee

1. Provides the security deposit and signs the licence in the manner prescribed
2. Acquires a road maintenance agreement if necessary
3. Harvest the timber in accordance with the licence conditions
4. Retain a professional to carry out an assessment and prepare a Post Harvest Report

Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations Staff

1. Issues Forestry Licence to Cut to licensee
2. Activates timber mark in the Forest Tenure Administration system (FTA)
3. Forwards Stumpage Rate Request form to the Northern Interior Forest Region

Licensee

1. Harvest the timber in accordance with the licence conditions
2. Retain a professional to carry out an assessment and prepare a Post Harvest Report

Submitting Professional

1. Carry's out a post-harvest assessment and submits a Post Harvest Report
2. Submits required information into RESULTS via ESF

Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations Staff

1. Prepare the licence for closing

2. Check for outstanding compliance or enforcement issues
3. Check for completion of licence obligations
4. Release partial or full deposit

Specific Guidelines

Program Focus

The program focus is to harvest unsalvaged losses, specifically, dead and/or dying timber that would otherwise not be harvested by another tenure within the shelf-life of that timber. The Prince George Forest District has developed criteria to define unsalvaged losses and determine scope of the program. These criteria are used to evaluate the appropriateness of an application.

Program Criteria

It is the signing professional's responsibility to ensure all aspects of the program criteria are met prior to submitting an application.

The following criteria are used to evaluate a proposed SSS application to determine if the application is targeting unsalvaged losses. These criteria form the Prince George District Small Scale Salvage Guidelines as directed by the District Manger.

- A single FLTC up to 2000 m^3 must be able to address the salvage for a particular area, and therefore it is not acceptable to submit multiple SSS permits adjacent to each other.
- For any given harvesting opportunity that would otherwise be available to other forms of tenure (such as a Forest Licence or Timber Sale Licence), no more than more than 20% of the cumulative total of all harvesting opportunity of any area should be harvested as SSS.
- Shelf-life is defined as the length of time after death that the tree will be useable considering the current merchantability specifications for salvage timber. Note that this must be addressed in the major licensee / BCTS referral (see Clearances and Referrals). SSS is not intended to address the salvage of large volumes of dead or damaged timber.
- With respect to mountain pine beetle salvage, removing a one hectare patch from a heavily beetle attacked ten hectare patch would not be appropriate;
- However it would be appropriate to apply for the harvest of small intensively beetle attacked patches that are surrounded by areas of low beetle attack.
- Low levels of beetle attack are defined as less than five percent.
    - Field crews must assess at least 100m beyond the proposed boundary to ensure the salvage opportunity is captured to the 5% level.
    - A group of trees outside a patch that meets the 5% incidence level must also be addressed to ensure the salvage opportunity is addressed.
- Bark beetle salvage/beetle attack levels are to be determined by the Northern Interior ground detection standards (see web link Additional Information).
- To be considered under the SSS program, the harvest patch must be small and widely dispersed from other infested patches. This will generally be considered as requiring mobilization of equipment.
- It is unacceptable to propose salvage harvests adjacent to areas NOT subject to reforestation obligations (e.g. existing SSS less than 1 ha). No buffer is required when harvesting adjacent to areas with reforestation obligations (e.g. plantations -- see

landings and skid trails for access through plantations). Application areas must also not be adjacent to each other as per the program focus (>100m from one another).

- Harvest strategies should be proposed where residual trees will be retained on the block or when selective harvesting is proposed. Harvest strategies should detail the proposed stand structure post harvest and methods to protect under story, mid story and merchantable stems.
- **Incidental Harvest** - For salvage operations the maximum total allowable harvest of non-target trees is 10% and should be minimized wherever possible.

Beetle Management Calendar:

For the mountain pine beetle, the following applies:

- Approved permits will expire on March 31, each year.

For other bark beetles, the following applies:

- the beetle infested timber must be harvested and delivered to a processing facility by the dates of the following year (as specified below) or prior to commencement of beetle flight, whichever is the later:
- Douglas fir beetle April 15th
- Spruce beetle - May 15th

Overlapped Applications

All applications are processed on a first come first served basis. Should one application overlap another, the application with the earlier submission date will prevail.

Three Sale Limit

An applicant may only hold a combination of applications and licences not exceeding three at any time. Once logging is completed on a sale (i.e. all felling and hauling) this will no longer count toward the limit.

Clearances and Referrals

A Forestry Licence to Cut can only be issued on vacant Crown land. To ensure this, it is imperative that *ALL* potential land status conflicts are checked prior to submitting your application. Checking "YES" on the relevant sections of this application indicates these checks have been done to a complete and professional standard.

- Private land, Tree Farm Licenses (TFL 30 and TFL 53), Indian reserves, Agricultural Development Areas (Lands and Water BC), Settlement Reserve Areas (Lands and Water BC), and parks or protected areas are examples of areas that will *NOT* be considered for Small Scale Salvage.
- Areas located within an Agriculture Development Area, or within the Crown Land Plan must have a supportive referral from the Lands office.
- The proposal *MUST* also be referred to the appropriate major licensee or BCTS if within their operating area. A referral form is included in this application package, and it is a requirement to complete and include this with all submissions.
- A supportive referral from the major licensee or BCTS indicates that they have no intentions for a particular area within the shelf-life of the timber in that area (see Program Criteria for definition of shelf-life).
- A supportive referral from the major licensee or BCTS must be current; within one year of the date that the application for small scale salvage is received by the District.

The following tools are available for checking land status:

- A map showing the operating areas of all Major Licensees and BCTS is available for viewing at the District Office in the main entrance. This map will show the applicant the necessary licensee they must refer to. For all referrals, the SSS referral form (included with this application package) must be included when submitting the application.
- Potential *private* land conflicts can be checked at www.bconline.gov.bc.ca or with the Government Agent at any BC Access Centre. iMap BC (http://maps.bcgov)identifies district lots, subdivisions, and encumbrances. Tantalis GATOR (https://tantalis.clrs.gov.bc.ca/) provides all Crown Land information.
- Clients are advised to consider the Regional District Official Community Plan (http://www.rdffg.bc.ca/building/Dev0101.html). For clarification or to discuss potential conflicts, please contact the Regional District Fraser-Fort George.

Stumpage Rates and Silviculture Levies

Currently, stumpage rates for Small Scale Salvage Forestry Licences to Cut are determined using various Table Rates that can be found in Section 6 of the Interior Appraisal Manual, and are adjusted from time to time. The most current version of the Interior Appraisal Manual (IAM) can be found at, http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hva/manuals/interior.htm). Stumpage rates are determined based on the day the licence is issued and are fixed for the term of the licence.

Silviculture levy calculations may be adjusted at the discretion of the District Manager to ensure the levy reasonably reflects the expected costs associated with the actual hectares proposed for harvest. A possible adjustment would include using a district average volume per hectare to pro-rate the conversion from $/hectares to $/$m^3$. Licensees have, in the past, overestimated the total volume on the site due to conversions with weight scaling to avoid over harvest penalties. This in turn translates to levy being applied to larger volume which may not actually be harvested, resulting in insufficient silviculture funds being collected. The goal is to collect a levy that reflects the estimated silviculture costs based on the $ per hectare indicated in the IAM (multiplied by incremental costs for working on a smaller scale). As such the District Manager may propose to use a district average volume per hectare and multiply it by the total hectares in the application. Staff at the district will clearly indicate the method used in the levy calculation.

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- Where an opening greater than one hectare in size will not retain a free growing stand post-harvest, a silviculture levy will be calculated using 1.7 times the rates posted in the IAM in Table 4-5.

Deposits

If your application is approved, the Forest Service requires a deposit that is equal to 10 %of the stumpage from your volume estimate, or $500, whichever is greater. This deposit must in one of the following: certified bank draft, money order, cash, safe keeping agreements, or a letter of credit.

Appraisal Data

A Stumpage Rate Request Form must be completed as per the attached rate form memorandum, and signed and sealed by a RPF and included with the application. All possible species must be accounted for; therefore volumes must be > 3 m^3 for each species. Please review the Memorandum that is included with the form.

Licence Closures

Please review the information within this package on Post-Harvest Reports. The deposit cannot be returned to the licensee until the contractual obligations within the licence document have been met, as per the Post Harvest Report. If, due to extenuating circumstances, the licensee cannot meet certain contractual obligations within the licence document (e.g., hazard abatement), a request for a partial return of the deposit may be made. In these cases, the Forest Service will withhold the deposit or $1000 of the original deposit, whichever is greater, and request that the licensee surrender their licence documents.

Ministry Review

Once the application is received, a field inspection may be completed on the site to ensure District expectations are being met. Once the licence is issued, the licensee is required to comply with the obligations set out in the licence document as well as the district policy discussed here. This may be accomplished by a pre-work carried out by the signing Professional Forester.

Archaeological Information and Review

Archaeological information cannot be released. However, potential conflicts with proposed harvesting may be ascertained through discussion with the Prince George District Aboriginal Liaison Officer. Note that any CMTs or archaeological resources found on site must be recorded, and discussed with District Staff.

All applications must undergo a 60 day consultation period, carried out by District Staff. The consultation period will not commence until the application has been reviewed and is considered complete.

Trapper / Guide / Mining Claims Notification

Guide-Outfitter information is available to the public and can be found at http://wlapwww.gov.bc.ca/fw/wild/documents/guide_outfitters.pdf. Trap line numbers **must be** provided with the application. Trapper identity can be however the corresponding trapper identity is not readily available to the public. If applicants have this information, they are encouraged to complete a referral to the respective trapper. Otherwise, they must notify the Forest Service and we will complete this referral.

ESF Submissions

All SSS application packages (paper copies) must also be accompanied by an ESF (Electronic Submission Framework) submission. The process for submitting a completed SSS application is as follows:

1. ESF submission
    a. FTA submission – Submit client and proposed licence information with spatial data. Please ensure that each opening is assigned a unique block number or identifier.

2. Submit Professional Application. Clearly record the ESF submission ID's and the auto generated FLTC number.

3. Within 60 days of harvest completion:
    a. RESULTS – Opening Definition submission – Submit opening information with spatial data, stocking standards, SU spatial data, disturbance updates, and forest cover via ESF. Please treat each opening as a separate block with a unique

block number or identifier.

b. Post Harvest Report Signed by RPF
c. Deposit released once all obligations completed.

The ESF submissions will be uploaded to FTA and RESULTS and a Submission ID will be generated for each. A Licence number will also be generated once the FTA submission has been accepted. The Submission ID and FLTC number must be recorded on the professional application when submitted.

A list of Service Providers for ESF Submissions can be found at the following link: http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/his/results/serviceproviders.htm or by contacting the District office.

For More information regarding ESF submissions, or how to become an ESF submitter, visit the web site at: http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/his/esf/

Also, review the RESULTS Silviculture Information Submission Guidebook at: http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/publications/00026/pdf/fs708-guide.pdf

Specific Standards

Road Use

No new roads may be constructed under the Small Scale Salvage Program. However, if a road needs to be used to access the salvage area, the following applies:

- Safe use of forest roads is imperative. Therefore all applicants are **required** to obtain a safety orientation from all primary users of the roads they are planning to use. Applicants are also encouraged to thoroughly review the Forest Road Procedures and Management System Documents that are attached to these guidelines.
- With a few exceptions, "minor salvage operations" do not have to apply for Road Use Permits, or Road Permit Exemptions. Some examples of exceptions include: (1) use of a non-status road where a minor upgrade is required to facilitate a stream crossing; (2) use of a non-status road that requires maintenance to a stream bank to use the road; (3) the use of the road will materially affect the use of the road by others; and (4) the use of the road will materially impact forest resources. Refer to s 22.1 of the Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA) and s. 79.1 of the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation (FPPR) for more information.
- For Permit Roads or Forest Service Roads, proper notification to the Road Permit holder or the person(s) responsible for maintaining the road (e.g. Road User Committee) is required. Refer to s. 80.1 of the FPPR. Applicants are encouraged to enter into a Road Use Agreement as it will assist them in fulfilling their legislative requirements.
- All roads that will be utilized for hauling, including, road kilometres **must** be indicated on the application in the “Transportation Information” section. (e.g. 15-25 km on the 100 Road) and road status (i.e., FSR, road permit, Ministry of Transportation and Highways).
- Ministry of Transportation and Highways has specific requirements where joining a public road or highway. These can be checked at:

http://www.th.gov.bc.ca/publications/eng_publications/TCM/Traffic_Control_Manual.htm

Landings

Landing construction should be avoided and existing landings should be utilized wherever possible. However, if a landing must be constructed, it must not exceed 0.2 ha in size. Landing area and volume must be accounted for in the application if trees are to be removed from the

site. Landings must also be indicated on the map where outside the harvest area. The appropriate major licensee MUST be informed if landings are proposed in existing plantations during the referral, as per the SSS referral form (proposed landings in cutblocks not free to grow are not included in the total harvest area).

Skid Trails

The maximum skid trail width allowed is 5.0 metres. When choosing skid trail use natural or other existing openings to the greatest extent possible. There shall be no excavated or bladed trails. Skidding through plantations should be avoided wherever possible. If access through a plantation is required, this must be explicitly indicated on the application, and the licensee MUST be informed of this in the referral, as per the SSS referral form.

Mapping

Five colour copies of a 1:10,000 scale computer generated map and five colour copies of a location map (1: 50,000) must be attached to the application. Please follow the attached *Mapping Standards* -included in this package. Applications that do not meet this standard will be placed on hold until the appropriate edits are made.

Ecological Classification and Stocking Standards ID

The Professional must determine the appropriate Biological Ecosystem Classification (BEC) and determine the associated Standards ID found in the "Reference Guide for FDP Stocking Standards".
http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/silviculture/stocking_stds.htm

Selective Harvesting Retaining a Free Growing Stand

To assess whether or not a free-growing stand can be retained, the following procedure is recommended: (1) assess pre-harvest stocking and stand structure, including biogeoclimatic zone and ecotype; (2) determine the amount of volume/stems per hectare to be removed; and (3) compare 1 and 2 to the *Establishment to Free Growing Guidebook Prince George Forest Region* to see if the stand after the proposed harvest would have adequate stocking. The submitting forester must then determine whether or not this stocking will achieve free-growing. Documentation of this is required on the application. Note that a tree that is susceptible to mountain pine beetle attack, damaged or infested *cannot be considered free-growing* (see Appendix 10 of the *Free Growing* Guidebook).

Silviculture Considerations

The prescribing Forester must carefully consider the impacts of harvesting the site. The responsibility to carry out silviculture obligations rests on the Crown therefore silvicultural considerations are a critical part of the application process. SSS applications should not be proposed on sites where extensive silviculture tending will be required. For SSS, extensive silviculture is defined as any site preparation activity or a stand tending activity that may be required more than once. It is unacceptable to propose salvage on a site that will be tough to regenerate and meet free growing obligations.

Alternative Stocking Standards

Generally, stocking standards will adhere to the standards found in the "Reference Guide for FDP Stocking Standards" for the Prince George Forest Region (http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/silviculture/stocking_stds.htm). However, in limited circumstances, alternative Stocking standards may be proposed for selective harvest applications. When proposing alternative stocking standards the prescribing Forester must consider the implications to future harvesting and limiting factors of tree species. For example, a Forester may propose to

change sub-alpine fir (*Abies lasiocarpa*) from and acceptable species to a preferred species to meet minimum preferred stocking where the trees are vigorous and have attained a mid canopy position or higher. It would be unacceptable to propose sub-alpine fir as a preferred species where the removal of the canopy would subject the trees to windthrow, sunscald or other damaging effects.

A rational must be provided to describe the site and tree characteristic and include standards that will result in the area being stocked with ecologically suitable species that address immediate and long-term forest health issues on the area; and may include other relevant information there by documenting the Forester's decision.

It is recommended the Forester submit the rational and receive approval by the District Manager prior to submitting the application.

Incidental Harvest

For salvage operations the maximum total allowable harvest of non-target trees is 10% and should be minimized wherever possible. Therefore, the applicant and professional must consider the operational constraints of their logging equipment and expertise prior to completing the layout and application for small scale salvage.

Blowdown/Windthrow

SSS operations must not increase the potential for blowdown/windthrow. Professionals must evaluate potential retention levels for blowdown/windthrow against suitability for the program and good forest management. Additionally, salvage applications will not be approved where it is proposed to harvest potential future blowdown/windthrow.

Range

Natural range barriers and range fences must not be removed for salvage operations. Section 51 of FRPA can be reviewed for more information regarding range. Natural range barriers and improvements are not always obvious and it is recommended that the holders of range licences be consulted prior to submitting an application. Any questions regarding range or range tenures should be directed to the District Range Officer.

MAPPING STANDARDS

The following describe minimum standards for a map that must accompany a Small Scale Salvage Application (Forestry Licence to Cut). Applicants should also check the District Guidelines to for any additional standards. All maps submitted must be in colour.

1. **Scale** 1:10000 and 1:50,000
2. **Reference** to appropriate 1:20000 forest cover map sheet number (e.g. 93 G064)
3. **Geographic** description (name of nearest known feature or operating area).
4. **Access description** from nearest town or well known point.
5. **UTM coordinates** or latitude and longitude.
6. **Legend**.
7. **Jurisdictional / Tenure boundaries** of private land, Indian reserve, parks, woodlot licence, or other tenures must be included.
8. **GPS information** of the following areas proposed for harvesting under the Forestry Licence to Cut:

a. Harvest boundaries: all proposed harvest areas > 0.2 ha must be GPSed and mapped, with an indication of the type of silviculture system proposed (e.g. selective or clearcut).
b. Skid trails and landings: all access trails between harvest sites must be GPSed (dispersed skid trails for single tree removal do not have to be GPSed); all landings outside the harvest area must be GPSed.

9. **Riparian features** within the application area, including non-classifiable drainages, streams, wetlands and lakes.
10. **Stream crossings** and **machine free zones**.
11. **Clearcut** areas and **Plantations** adjacent to the areas proposed for salvage, and any access trails through these areas if applicable.
12. **Timber type / forest cover** as per TRIM standard of equivalent (label and polygons).
13. **Range** structures, including fences, excavations or constructed livestock trails.
14. **Recreation** sites and **Known** features
15. **Cultural heritage** resource features.
16. **Wildlife habitat areas, OGMA**s.
17. **Trapping** cabins, identified trapping sites, access trails or trap line routes.
18. **Water supply** for domestic intakes and water supply infrastructure.
19. **Resource features**, as defined by legislation, in the vicinity of the salvage area.
20. Government approved experimental projects, growth and yield plots, stream stations, operational trials and research installations.
21. **Harvest method**. Clearly indicate the Harvest method proposed. Where clearcut and selective harvesting are proposed, they must be defined by Standards Units
22. **Standards Units/Silviculture Units**. Clearly delineate the SU's where different stocking standards apply. (This may require a third set of maps at 1:10,000)
23. **Other SSS Patches.** Any SSS patches the licensee has submitted or approved **must** be shown on the maps. These patches should be "greyed" out and labelled appropriately.

Useful Links:

Provincial Small Scale Salvage Website:
http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hth/timten/small-scale-salvage.htm

Northern Interior Ground Detection Standards:
http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/health/fia/ground_detection.htm

Forest Legislation and Regulations:
http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/tasb/legsregs/comptoc.htm

Interior Appraisal Manual:
http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hva/manuals/interior.htm

Provincial Bark Beetle Management Strategy:
http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/mountain_pine_beetle/actionplan/2005/

Bark Beetle Management Guidebook:
http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/tasb/legsregs/fpc/fpcguide/beetle/betletoc.htm

Forest Stewardship in the Context of Large Scale Salvage Operations: An Interpretation Paper,
http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfd/pubs/Docs/Tr/Tr019.htm

Information on Mountain Pine Beetle Flights:
http://www.pfc.cfs.nrcan.gc.ca/entomology/mpb/outbreak/dispersal_e.html

Logging Tax:
http://www.sbr.gov.bc.ca/business/Income_Taxes/Logging_Tax/logging_tax.htm

SSS Application Guidance

The following sections provide some guidance to the SSS Application. If you are unsure of any of the requirements in the application or the application process, please contact the Small Scale Salvage Coordinator.

Please remember that if an application package is substantially incomplete it will be returned.

A) Provide the required contact information

B) Site information:

i. Provide the required information for location as specified by the text in the electronic version of the application (Map sheets, geographic location, road name and road km

ii. Timber Proposed for removal – detail the volume a species of timber to be harvested, distinguishing between the categories. The totals should be accurate and not reflect and fudge factors. This volume will be used to calculate the silviculture levy, therefore it must be accurate.

iii. Total volume requested on licence – This volume will be used in the creation of the licence. Use a 15% fudge factor to account for issues with weight scale and conversions. Keep in mind the maximum volume for SSS is 2000 m^3.

iv. Specify the SU area and harvest method proposed (Clearcut or Selective harvesting) and any other relevant Information.

C) Transportation Information: Clearly indicate the road systems to be used for hauling timber. Example: 10km to 0km14000Rd on to 14km Pelican, down to Clear Lake Mill.

D) LAND STATUS, FOREST PLANNING, MAPPING AND REFERRALS: These are common land status checks that should be familiar to most professionals. If there are any issues or if a prescription is being made, attach supporting documentation to the application. These are check box indicators and the list should not be considered exhaustive, therefore a high level of professional reliance is expected.

E) Pre-harvest stand structure. Enter in the pre harvest stand structure as determined in the field. Provide the total average volume per hectare.

F) Post-harvest stand structure. Enter the planned level of retention post harvest (what you expect to find post harvest). For example if the stand contains 30% non target species, a minimum of 20% non target species should be left post harvest (no more than 10% non target species may be removed). This table is also important for selective harvest operations that must leave a stocked stand post harvest. This table should show that based on the pre-harvest stand structure, that post harvest a fully

stocked stand will be maintained. If you chose to use or include basal area for mature and pole layers, you will be measure against stem per hectare values unless you specifically request to use the deviation from potential method and have done the pre-harvest assessments.

G) Consult SSS Coordinator if you have questions.

Application Checklist

1. Completed Major Licensee Referral form – MUST BE CURRENT (within a year of the date that the application is received by the District)
2. Completed FLTC Application
3. Completed Rate Request Form
4. Completed Client form for new participants
5. 5 colour maps 1:10,000
6. 5 colour maps 1:50,000
7. ESF Submissions to FTA completed