



OMINECA REGION

GUIDELINES FOR BLANKET SALVAGE PERMITS

(FOR SPRUCE BEETLE SANITATION)

1. Purpose

The purpose of these guidelines is to provide licensees and district staff with an efficient means to determine if a proposed salvage opportunity under a Blanket Salvage Permit (BSP) is a priority for the district and to provide consistent administration while recognizing different priorities between districts.

The responsibility for updating the guidelines and ensuring they are readily available to the public is with the Resource District.

2. General Information

The purposes of harvesting under a BSP are to:

- Harvest and utilize small, isolated areas of timber that have been killed or damaged by wind throw, insects, fire or disease.
- Expedite the harvest authorization processes to capture the value of dead or damaged timber before the quality deteriorates,
- Expedite the harvest authorization process to manage and control insect infestations (sanitation timber salvage).

For the purposes of BSPs the following definitions are established for Crown timber:

2.1. Damaged Timber is:

- a. Trees that are dead or damaged as a result of wind, fire, snow press, drought, landslide, flooding; or
- b. Trees as a result of the effects of forest pests or disease that are dead; or
- c. Trees that require management and control of insect infestation or will die within one year (sanitation timber salvage), as determined by the district manager.

2.2. Sanitation Timber Salvage is the harvesting of timber either standing or felled, for the purposes of managing and controlling insect infestations and includes trap trees or overflow trees.

2.3. Isolated Timber is defined as timber that cannot be logically added to an approved or potentially planned harvest opportunity unless required for sanitation timber salvage purposes.

2.4. Minimizing the amount of undamaged timber is a site specific forest stewardship requirement that recognizes that undamaged timber may need to be harvested: for access purposes, worker and public safety purposes, and for overall stand management reasons.

3. Requirements for Blanket Salvage Permits

BSP must meet the following criteria:

1. Maximum volume per block is 5,000 m³.
2. Maximum block size of 15 hectares unless the silviculture system used on the cut block is other than clear cutting, and at the completion of harvest the trees retained on the harvested area conform to the stocking standards specified in an approved Forest Stewardship Plan.
3. The area of timber to be salvaged must be isolated.
4. For sanitation timber salvage, the request to amend the Cutting Permit must include supporting documentation that justifies the harvest for insect control. Examples of documentation would be surveys, probe information, use of trap trees, etc.
5. The amount of undamaged timber must be minimized.
6. Harvesting must be scale-based.

It is the responsibility of both licensees and district staff to ensure that cut blocks proposed for harvest under a BSP do not overlap with other existing tenures and authorizations. It is expected that when a licensee is requesting an amendment to add a block outside of the licensee's chart area that a referral to the chart holder be completed.

Refer to the *Interior Appraisal Manual's Blanket Salvage Cutting Authorities* for the requirements.

4. Specific District Priorities

In addition to the criteria listed above, the following is a list of the district priorities in regard to harvesting under BSP:

At this time BSP's will be considered only for sanitation harvest of spruce beetle infested stands to:

1. Control spruce beetle populations in beetle management units with suppression/prevention and holding objectives.
2. Establish trap tree sites and/or remove timber from trap tree sites and overflow associated with trap trees.
3. Be used when sanitation harvest priority rating exceeds 1000 from spruce beetle probes.

For additional information on spruce beetle suppression, please contact your local FLNR office.