

File: 16290-20
«File»

October 24, 2001

«Address»

Dear «Dear»:

A review of scenic areas in the Quesnel Forest District with respect to The *Cariboo-Chilcotin Land-Use Plan* (CCLUP) identifies which areas should be managed for visual quality. I have outlined the two classes of visually sensitive areas and have provided a summary in order to clarify the management of scenic areas in the Quesnel Forest District.

Visually sensitive areas can be managed in two ways: by establishing visual quality objectives, or making scenic areas known with recommended visual quality classes.

A Visual Quality Objective (VQO) is a resource management objective that reflects the desired level of visual quality based on the physical characteristics and social concerns for the area. Once established, they are binding.



A Visual Quality Class (VQC) is a recommendation for the level of alteration that would be appropriate for a specific landscape. Although VQCs are not binding under the *Forest Practices Code Act of British Columbia*, licensees are encouraged to meet them when planning and designing forest practices in known scenic areas. Forest Development Plans must include information about known scenic areas in the plan. They must also specify the measures that will be carried out to protect forest resources.

The Quesnel Forest District has four areas with known VQOs established by the district manager. They are:

- Barkerville corridor
- Lower Blackwater River
- Tree Farm Licence 5
- Tree Farm Licence 52

«Dear»

The following is a list of scenic areas with recommended VQCs that should be considered as known information as of November 15, 2001, and incorporated into relevant operational plan submissions four months after this date:

- Upper Blackwater
- Dragon Mountain
- Tzenzaicut Lake

All of the areas are outlined on the attached map and are available digitally on our FTP site (FTP\Cariboo_Region\Quesnel\external\publish\scenic_areas). Only the areas lying within the Quesnel Forest District boundaries should be considered as known information. Please consult the other forest districts for scenic area information within their boundaries.

CCLUP resource targets outline the general areas that require visual resource management. The areas that do not have Visual Landscape Inventories completed, but are identified in the CCLUP are:

- Baezaeko River
- Cariboo River
- Nazko River
- key lakes and existing tourism operations

Although these have not been identified as scenic areas, I wish to make you aware of them. Future planning processes such as the Quesnel Sub-Regional Plan will be reviewing all of these areas with respect to visual resources.

This letter supersedes the letter dated September 4, 1997, and only the areas that I have outlined in this letter should be considered as scenic areas for the purposes of the Operational Planning Regulation.

If you have any questions, please call Susan Pelletier at 992 4400.

Yours truly,

Gerry Grant, R.P.F.
District Manager
Quesnel Forest District

Attachment