



Guidelines for Small Scale Salvage within Kootenay BC Timber Sale Operating Areas

Forest health and forest stewardship are an integral part of BC Timber Sales (BCTS) objectives. The BCTS Kootenay Business Area recognizes that Small Scale Salvage (SSS) can play a key role in meeting these objectives. Priority attention will be given to SSS referrals that assist BCTS in priority forest health management. In the spirit of minimizing workload and expediting SSS applications within BCTS operating areas, the following guidance is provided to assist applicants in knowing where BCTS will respond favourably to referrals. The following is provided for all clients interested in Small Scale Salvage opportunities located within BCTS Operating Areas in the Kootenay Business Area (Arrow Boundary, Kootenay Lake, and Rocky Mountain Forest Districts)

Guidelines for Acceptable SSS within BCTS Operating Areas

- SSS includes trees that are wind-thrown, beetle-killed, fire-damaged, or considered to be logging residue. BCTS considers the highest priority to be the removal of small-scattered infestations of bark beetles in order to avoid expansion of an infestation. Second priority is the recovery of damaged timber that is highly susceptible to beetle attack, such as fresh Spruce and Douglas-fir blowdown. Third priority is all other damaged timber where pest control is not an objective (e.g., fire salvage, danger trees, and special forest products contained within logging debris). Douglas-fir bark beetle will generally be restricted to small scattered infestations displaying dead crowns.
- SSS should be limited to the recovery of individual trees or small patches of dead, down or showing obvious signs of imminent death (dead within 1 year). BCTS may consider larger scale salvage referrals (more than 500 m³) to be more appropriately addressed by competitive Timber Sales. SSS will not be considered in BCTS Category A blocks or established wildlife tree patches.
- A maximum of 10% of licence volume may be harvested for safety and access trees. No other harvesting of non-attacked standing green timber is acceptable. SSS referrals that have the potential to exceed 10% incidental harvesting will be refused by BCTS. To remain within the 10% limit, the expectation is that salvage will usually be restricted to roadside opportunities (i.e., SSS requiring lengthy new yarding corridors, trails or roads will be deemed unacceptable if it exceeds 10% safety and access volume).

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- Diseased timber will generally not be considered to be in imminent need of salvage (unless showing signs of imminent death). Furthermore, selection logging of root rot infested timber may actually accelerate the spread of the disease. Larch mistletoe salvage will be considered only in conjunction with existing BCTS silviculture obligations (e.g., removal of mistletoe Larch immediately adjacent to plantations).
- SSS should not result in a contiguous clearcut exceeding 1 hectare (includes proposed and existing cutblocks). A distance of at least 2 tree lengths of free-growing forest should separate areas to be considered as a non-contiguous clear-cut. Where salvage exceeds 1 hectare, the professional application should contain a statement that a stocked and free growing stand will exist post-harvest (i.e., the harvesting does not create a silviculture liability for government: see Section 46 Forest Planning and Practices Regulation).
- SSS within or adjacent to plantations will be refused if damage to regeneration may occur.
- Standing cedar does not qualify as SSS except for small incidental volumes mixed in with the main salvage material.
- The expectation is that SSS will be spread across the landbase (i.e., SSS operators should be seeking opportunities within major licensee and BCTS operating areas).
- Not all salvageable timber should be removed. Small, scattered volumes of dead and down material, approximating normal endemic levels, should be maintained to contribute to wildlife habitat, stream stability, biological diversity and soil building processes.

Roads, Trails Landings

- SSS Licensees are expected to rehabilitate all harvest areas, roads, trails to the same condition that they were found in and as required under SSS professional applications. Debris disposal and liability for holdover fires are the SSS Licensee's responsibility.
- Where a deactivated road or landing is utilized, the salvage licensee is required to re-establish the deactivation to its former level or to a level determined by the Forest Official. Note that some of these deactivations were professionally prescribed. The timing of hauling should be such that damage (rutting) does not occur (i.e., not during breakup or periods of high precipitation).
- SSS Licensees are expected to enter into a road maintenance agreement with the principle operator of forest roads used in salvage operations.

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Assistance from BCTS Staff with SSS

It's expected that the District Small scale Salvage Co-ordinator will be the primary contact for SSS operators. BCTS staff are not available for walk-in SSS counter calls. BCTS staff will make the SSS Co-ordinator aware of SSS opportunities that they encounter.

- Professional applications should be submitted through the SSS Co-ordinator. Referrals should contain all necessary information and maps to a professional standard. Note that non-priority SSS (see priorities above) will receive limited attention by BCTS staff due to workload and other priorities.
- BCTS does not provide mapping services, photos, local knowledge, directions, or opinions. Some BCTS Forest Development Plans are available on the web (<http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/TKO/external/!publish/>).