Small Scale Salvage Program

Rocky Mountain Resource District January 1, 2012

Important Information For Applicants

Small Scale Salvage refers to the harvesting of small blocks of timber, that are in danger of being lost or destroyed, or that otherwise should be harvested to reduce the spread of forest pests. Generally, the timber has been killed or damaged by insects, disease, wind or fire. Harvesting of Small Scale Salvage opportunities will be based on district harvesting priorities and will be conducted in accordance with all legislative frameworks applicable to British Columbia. The intent of the program is to salvage timber as quickly as possible after discovery before wood degrades or to prevent further spread of insects.

Eligibility:

Anyone is eligible to apply for a Small Scale Salvage - *Forestry Licence to Cut*. Applicants do not have to be registered in the British Columbia Timber Sales (BCTS) Program.

Locations:

Salvage opportunities will primarily be within the BCTS operating areas but may be throughout the District. Proposals will be referred to the applicable major licensees and Salvage Non-Replaceable Forest Licensees for first refusal.

Priorities:

1. Trees attacked by insects (e.g. bark beetles), where there is potential for spread.
2. Standing dead timber.
3. Wind-throw or other damaged trees, which may be susceptible to insect attack.
4. Salvage of burned or other damaged timber.
5. Abandon log decks.

Types of Licences

1. Direct award Forestry Licence to Cut (FLTC) less than or equal to 2000 m^3. Where the volume to be harvested exceeds 50 m^3 the applicant **may** be required to submit a *Professional Salvage Application* completed by a Registered Forest Professional (RFP). This will be determined on a case by case basis. Stumpage invoices will be issued after the timber has been scaled. Scaling is mandatory and must be carried out by a licensed scaler.

2. The application and supporting information is available on the Rocky Mountain Resource District website or the provincial SSS website:
   http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/drm/services/tenures.htm
   http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hth/timber-tenures/small-scale-salvage/index.htm

3. Direct award Forestry Licence to Cut (Cash Sale) less than 50 m^3. These will only be considered under certain circumstances and if an accurate volume estimate can be made. Stumpage is payable at the time of issuance. Cash sales are exempt from scaling.

An applicant is not guaranteed exclusive rights to a salvage opportunity. Salvage opportunities may be offered competitively if more than one party shows interest in the same area. Major licensees are expected to harvest areas greater than 2000m^3 per opening or these may be offered up as competitive licenses. An applicant may not exceed 2 (two) active Small Scale Salvage licences at any one time. Applicants requiring additional volume are encouraged to participate in the BCTS competitive sales program. To qualify for the salvage stumpage rates, 1/3 of the stand has to be damaged by insects, fire and wind or otherwise be dead/dying.

Steps for non-competitive licences:

1. Applicant (Licensee) identifies salvage opportunity.

2. Applicant completes Notice of Interest and map and submits these documents to the district office. The district will advise licensee if a Professional Salvage Application is required.
3. The Registered Forest Professional completing the Professional Salvage Application:
   a) Confirms land status.
   b) Reviews for potential conflicts.
   c) Refers to appropriate resource agencies.
   d) Refers to appropriate Licensee for first refusal.
   e) Completes mapping and electronic submission (The District may complete this step, this will be determined on a case by case basis).
   f) Complete post harvest report within two months of harvest completion or snow free.
4. The district:
   a) Evaluates feasibility, priority and professional requirements.
   b) Field inspects the proposed area.
   c) Complete short form appraisal.
   d) Issues licence document.

   The time frame for administration of applications will be approximately 30 business days. **A mandatory deposit is required; value of deposit could be up to $1000.00**.
5. Applicant and district representative conduct a pre-work inspection.
6. Applicant commences harvesting.
7. All timber must be scaled at a designated scale site unless cash sale.
8. Stumpage is payable when timber is scaled and bill is issued by the Forest Service.

Contravention of contract conditions, operational plans or other requirements of the *Forest and Range Practices Act* or *Regulations* may result in suspension or cancellation of a Forestry Licence to Cut and/or penalties/fines.
The District Manager may deny applications, based on past poor performance.

Some examples of Poor Performance include:

1. Repeated submission of Professional Applications that does not meet the requirements or intent of the RMFD SSSP steps for a competitive licence.
2. Failure to retain a Free Growing Stand.
3. Failure to address fuel hazard in a timely manner.
4. Excessive levels of soil disturbance as a result of harvest activities.
5. Failure to harvest trees marked or targeted for removal.
6. Exceeding licence volume limits.
7. Not completing, or failing to harvest, an issued sale within specified time frame.
8. Failure to notify the SSS coordinator of commencement or completion of harvesting operations.

Note:

Not all applications to salvage timber will result in a license being issued. It is recognized that salvage logging may not recover 100% of dead or damaged timber in all forest stands. A certain amount of dead standing and down timber may be maintained to contribute to wildlife habitat, stream stability, biological diversity and soil building processes.
The term of the FLTC will vary from six months to one year depending on volume and insect infestation. Intent of the SSS Program is to recover timber as quickly as possible before wood deteriorates beyond economic viability. Requested terms of greater than one year will be evaluated on a case by case basis by district staff. Harvesting up to 10% of the specified harvest volume in the FLTC of green timber for the purpose of incidental, access and safety is the maximum allowed.

Critical Changes to the SSS Program

1. New Mapping Submission Requirements

One goal is to have accurate and complete information available to assist in making best land management decisions. An important element of that information is the spatial or map based details. Currently the program requires paper copy maps and also accepts digital files for that spatial information. All professional applications must include both paper copy maps and digital files associated with the map.

The digital files (spatial and attribute data) must be submitted through Electronic Submission Framework (ESF). Applicants can do electronic submissions themselves or

through the use of a service provider for ESF. To make an ESF submission a BCEid user number is required. A consultant (RFP or service provider) who submits on the licensee's behalf, will need to use the licensee's BCEid. To apply for a business BCEid user number call 1-888-356-2741 or use the link below;

http://www.bceid.ca

Some proposed areas of salvage such as road right of ways or ≤ 50m3 cash sales may be excluded from digital mapping requirements. Such proposals will be evaluated on a case by case basis by district staff.

2. Changes to how the Silviculture Levy is applied

The program will only collect a silviculture levy on openings ≥5.0 hectares in size. All openings smaller than 5.0 hectares in size will not have a silviculture levy applied to the stumpage rate. The district will continue to reforest all openings ≥ 0.5 hectare in size as outline in the District Stocking Standards. All openings ≥ 0.5 hectare are to be tracked in the RESULTS database.

When a silviculture levy is applied to the Table 6-2 stumpage rates as prescribed in the Interior Appraisal Manual (IAM). Each FLTC will be assessed by district staff to determine the amount of silviculture levy to be added to the prescribed stumpage rate.

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