



WESTERN FOREST PRODUCTS INC
West Island Region

February 20, 2009

Paul Knowles
District Manager
Ministry of Forest and Range
4885 Cherry Creek Road.
Port Alberni BC
V9Y8E9

Dear Paul,

Re: WFP Queen Charlotte Islands, Mid Island, Stillwater, Port Alberni, Portions of the Mainland Coast, Nootka Sound and Zeballos FSP (#69)

Please be advised that an amendment (20Feb09) has been submitted via the FSP Tracking System.

This amendment is required to address the Ministry of Agriculture and Lands, Ministerial Order establishing Land Use Objectives for the Renfrew Sustainable Resource Management Plan. This plan and order underwent extensive discussions and reiterations during its development from June 2002 to May 2006. This order was signed January 30, 2007 came into effect on Feb 22, 2007 and establishes objectives for Old Growth Management Areas and wildlife tree retention. Specifically, the Caycuse, Nitinat and Walbran landscape units have areas of overlap with Forest Development Unit #1 of the FSP #69.

A review and comment period took place from December 4th, 2008 thru to February 2nd, 2009. No comments were received from the public or First Nations. Please note that this amendment was reviewed as Major Amendment #2, this numbering has been since removed due to inconsistency in numbering in the FSP TS.

Please contact me if you have any further questions.

Yours truly,
WESTERN FOREST PRODUCTS INC.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Cindy Fife', is written over the typed name.

Cindy Fife, R.P.F.
Regional Forester
West Island Region

Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP) Amendment (20Feb09), Western Forest Products Inc. (WFP) Forest Stewardship Plan for The Queen Charlotte Islands, Mid Island, Stillwater, Port Alberni and Portions of the Mainland Coast, Nootka Sound and Zeballos Forest Operations (FSP#69)

The Province of British Columbia Ministry of Agriculture and Lands have established Land Use Objectives for the Renfrew Sustainable Resource Management Plan under section 93.4 of the *Land Act*. The order is comprised of the Caycuse, Gordon, Nitinat, San Jaun, and Walbran landscape units. The land use objectives were established February 22, 2007, the date the notice was published in *The Gazette*.

The Western Forest Products Inc. FSP was approved on January 4, 2007 for a term of 5 years. This FSP, Forest Development Unit #1, overlaps portions of the Caycuse, Nitinat, and Walbran landscape units within TFL 44 of the WFP Port Alberni Forest Operation. The establishment of the landscape unit objectives is a change to the results and strategies for as per S.7 (1.1) (a) of the Forest and Range Practices Act.

It is proposed that the attached text be an addition to the approved FSP in Appendix C.5.2, as referenced in Section 4.4.2.1, Activities within OGMA's; and Section 4.4.5 Wildlife Tree Retention.

Appendix C.5.2

1. Applicable OGMA's

“Addition to table”

Landscape Unit	Map Attached to Order Establishing Objective for OGMA's in Landscape Unit
Caycuse	Dated: December 20, 2006
Nitinat	Dated: December 20, 2006
Walbran	Dated: December 20, 2006

3. Where Paragraph 2 Does Not Apply

Applicable Landscape Units – Caycuse, Nitinat, Walbran

Permitted Activities

A. Minor OGMA intrusions and/or boundary adjustments for operational reasons:

Minor timber harvesting operations, and road or bridge construction required to access resource values beyond or adjacent to the OGMA, are permitted in OGMA's that are 10 ha or greater in size, provided that the operation or boundary adjustment does not affect more than 10 per cent of the area of the OGMA,

i)no other practicable option for road or bridge location exists,

- ii) suitable OGMA replacement forest of equivalent age, structure and area is
- iii) identified either (in order of priority) directly adjacent to, or in the same variant and landscape unit as the adjusted OGMA, and
- iv) intrusions, boundary adjustments and OGMA replacement areas are
- v) documented, mapped and submitted to the delegated decision maker at the end of each calendar year.

In the case of temporary roads or bridge sites placed within OGMAs, as an alternative to finding replacement area the licensee may permanently deactivate and rehabilitate a temporary road or bridge site within four years after construction.

B. Other permissible activities within OGMAs:

- i) Salvage harvesting to prevent the spread of insect infestations or diseases that pose a significant threat to forested areas outside of OGMAs. Salvage within OGMAs will be done in a manner that retains as many old growth forest attributes as possible.
- ii) Road maintenance, deactivation, removal of danger trees, or brushing and clearing on existing roads under active tenure within the right-of-way for safety purposes.
- iii) Felling of guyline clearance, tailhold anchor trees, or danger trees along cutblock boundaries or within the right of way on new road/bridge alignments to meet safety requirements.
- iv) Construction of rock quarries and gravel pits under authority of forest tenure where the development will be located immediately adjacent to existing roads under tenure and will affect the OGMA by less than 0.5 ha in total.
- v) Small boundary adjustments for operational reasons, or intrusions, other than those specified above, that result in a net loss to the OGMA of less than or equal to 0.5 hectare in total.
- vi) First Nations traditional use of trees or understory plants.

OGMA replacement forest is required as a result of the activities in (b) (i) to (v) above if the total net change to the OGMA exceeds two ha in size. Replacement forest must be of equivalent age, structure and area and situated (in order of priority), either immediately adjacent to the existing OGMA, or in the same variant and landscape unit as the existing OGMA. Boundary adjustments and OGMA replacement areas must be documented, mapped and submitted to the delegated decision maker at the end of each calendar year.

Exemptions

The permissible activities under A and B (i) to (v) above do not apply to OGMAs 317 and 367.

4.4.5 Wildlife Tree Retention

4.4.5.1 Amount of Wildlife Tree Retention

- (a) "Addition to table"

Landscape Unit	CDF mm	CWH dm	CWH mm1	CWH mm2	CWH vh	CWH vm	CWH vm1	CWH vm2	CWH xm	CWH xm1	MH mm	MH mm1
Caycuse	-	-	14	14	-	11	11	11	14	14	4	4
Nitinat	-	-	14	14	2	12	-	-	15	15	4	4
Walbran	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	0	0

4.4.5.3 Characteristics of Wildlife Tree Retention Area

(c) for the Caycuse, Nitinat, and Walbran landscape units:

- i) WTPs must be well distributed across the BEC subzone
- ii) When designated at the operational site plan level, WTPs must be located within or immediately adjacent to a cutblock.
- iii) No timber harvesting, including single tree selection is to occur within WTPs, except as noted in (iv) below
- iv) Salvage of windthrown timber is permitted within WTPs where windthrow impacts 25% to 50% of the dominant or co-dominant stems. Salvage of windthrown timber and harvesting of remaining standing stems is permitted within WTPs where windthrow exceeds 50% of the dominant or co-dominant stems; or where forest health issues pose a significant threat to areas outside the WTP. Where salvage/harvesting is planned and authorized, suitable replacement WTP area of at least equivalent quantity must be identified concurrently to achieve the retention target.
- v) WTPs should include, if present, remnant old-growth patches and live or dead veteran trees (excluding danger trees).
- vi) WTPs must include representative larger trees for the stand (dbh>average operational cruise) and any moderate to high value wildlife trees if available (excluding danger trees).
- vii) BEC subzones and variants will be determined by operational site plan information.
- viii) In WTPs with a likelihood of windthrow, pruning and/or topping may be carried out to maintain the integrity of the WTP.

SIGNATURES OF PERSONS REQUIRED

Licensee

Western Forest Products Inc.

PO Box 220

Gold River, BC

V0P 1G0

Phone: (250) 283-2221

Fax: (250) 283-2221

Authorized Licensee Signature:

Name:

Cindy L. Fife

Date: February 20, 2009

Signing Forester:



Name:

Cindy L. Fife
Cindy Fife, RPF
Regional Forester - WFP

Date: February 20, 2009

"I certify that I have reviewed this document and while I did not personally supervise the work described, I have determined that this work has been done to the standards expected of a member of the Association of British Columbia Forest Professionals".