



Administrative Bulletin

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Silviculture Prescriptions for Multiple Salvage Areas

Introduction

This document provides information for district managers to consider in administering silviculture prescriptions (SP) for minor salvage operations. Please note, further information regarding approval of operational plans is available from the Resource Tenures and Engineering Branch document titled, "Administration of Forest Operational Plans" which is available on the [Ministry of Forests Intranet](#).

Combining Multiple Minor Salvage Areas into One SP

For administrative purposes and to simplify plan approvals, district managers may consider using an SP for multiple minor salvage areas occurring over a one to five year term in a management unit (normally the area under one forest development plan). The intent is to reduce paperwork and expedite the approval process. In determining which salvage areas could be combined into one SP the following questions should be asked:

- Is the proposed salvage area consistent with the approved forest development plan ?
- Is it the same tenure holder ?

Administration

An SP containing multiple minor salvage areas should include a map for each area. Multi-area minor salvage SPs may contain more than one standards unit (SU) and these must be described in the SP. An SU is an area that will be managed through the uniform application of species and density management and soil conservation standards. The standards established for these units will be used in compliance inspections after harvesting (soil disturbance) and silviculture requirements (regeneration and free growing) have been completed.

A "generic" salvage SP should be created as the original salvage prescription and contain only the information general to all the potential salvage areas. As salvage areas are proposed, they should be added as amendments with the unique information for the salvage standards units. The initial salvage SP can be submitted for approval when the standards for the first salvage area have been added.

Amending into an Existing SP

Salvage areas can be amended into an existing generic salvage SP. A time frame for new areas to be added should be determined. This time frame can range from one to five years. A one year allowance for amendments will minimize the inconvenience of standards changing from time of SP approval to amendment.

Amendments to add new areas can be administratively treated as unique silviculture prescriptions, to allow for:

- changes in commencement dates for harvesting occurring in different years;
- use of separate opening numbers and cut block numbers for each amendment; and,
- writing off free growing obligations for individual salvage areas.

Amendment details should include:

- tenure identification;
- area summary;
- any unique information for the area such as a riparian management area description;
- new standards for amendment; and,
- a map of the new area.

It is not necessary to revise the original generic SP when amending in additional areas. Such amendments should constitute the new information only, for example, the additional pages describing the new salvage area and the unique obligations and standards, plus a map.

General Information for District Managers to Consider in Developing Policy Regarding Multiple Salvage Areas in an SP

The following is an example of items that a district manager may wish to incorporate into a district manager policy:

- each minor salvage area within the SP must be less than 2,000 m³. When determining compliance a tolerance should be applied (e.g. +5%). There are no limits on total SP volume (combined volume of all amendments);
- each amendment creates a new cutblock and opening;
- where appropriate, multiple salvage areas can be incorporated into one SU.;
- salvage operations occur within a pre-determined time frame of from one to five years; and,
- a salvage silviculture prescription pertains to one forest tenure.

Areas that may not be suited to amending into an existing generic salvage SP include:

- proposed salvage areas where environmental and/or other factors are so complex that they warrant a separate and complete SP; or,
- proposed salvage areas with unique local circumstances.

Silviculture Prescription Content

The July 28, 1998 version of the FS39C Silviculture Prescription, which has been updated to reflect the revised Forest Practices Code regulations as of June 15, 1999, is used for this example. Please note that use of this form is not mandatory.

	Generic SP	Amendments
A. Tenure Identification	The generic SP should contain the licensee name, licence number, and cutting permit number.	Amendments should have licensee name, licence number, cutting permit number plus block, location and opening number if available.
B. Area Summary	The area summary is not contained in the generic SP.	This section in an amendment will summarize each salvage area.
C. Objectives	The generic SP will clearly state management objectives.	Amendments should indicate if salvage areas vary from these objectives.
D. Ecological Information and Site Characteristics	This is not contained in the generic SP.	Amendments will contain ecological information.
E. Management Strategies	The generic SP will contain all management strategies common to all the salvage areas e.g., forest health and coarse woody debris.	Amendments will contain management strategies specific to one area e.g. riparian management areas.
F. Soil Conservation	This is not contained in the generic SP.	This information is generally contained in the SP amendment.
G. Silvicultural Systems	The generic SP may contain this information if it is to be generally consistent for all salvage areas.	Amendments may also contain the silvicultural systems information. Either for each salvage area, or only when a specific salvage area deviates from information contained in the generic SP.

H. Stocking Requirements	The generic SP does not contain stocking standards.	Amendments will contain the stocking standards.
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Map

A detailed map of each salvage area (or multiple if practical to keep them together) is required. SP mapping requirements are as listed in Section 39(4) of the Operational Planning Regulation. Since the salvage areas can be anywhere in an entire management unit, the SP maps should show features which can be used to readily locate the area.

Summary

A generic silviculture prescription with amendments can be used for multiple minor salvage areas scattered over a management unit. Salvage should occur during a one to five year period. New areas can be amended in throughout this term. Amendments should be kept simple and constitute the new information only.

Contacts

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