General Bulletin

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Cutting Permits Without Logging Plan Approvals

Background

The *Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act* (Act) requires an approved logging plan to be in effect prior to commencement of harvesting operations (section 21). A plan must be submitted by woodlot or major license holders and approved by the district manager. All cutting permits that were grandparented in with the new Act or approved after June 15 (section 230) must have a logging plan except in cases where the district manager has granted exemption. In the case of the SBFEP the district manager has the option of preparing the logging plan (section 20).

Recommendation

The following recommendations are for district managers to consider and should ***not*** be interpreted as Ministry policy or a legal interpretation.

1. Determine which cutting permits exist that do not have an approved logging plan.

    a. Complete a logging plan that meets contractual or district standards that existed immediately prior to the Act coming into effect. Licensees be requested to complete the plan immediately with the support of district staff.

    b. Ensure licensee and district manager approval of the logging plan is completed prior to continuation of harvesting operations.

    c. The approved cutting permit document may provide sufficient detail for major licenses to develop a logging plan.

    d. District managers should prepare logging plans for their SBFEP tenures.

2. Before harvesting operations are suspended under the *Forest Act* for a grandparented logging plan, district staff should ensure that contractual obligations as well as the logging plan is considered before deciding enforcement options.

Contacts

Further details and direction are available from:

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