Regulation Bulletin

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Regulation Amendment to Clarify Content Requirements for Operational Plans

Background

Section 221 of the *Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act* (Code) allows for amendments to the Code and regulations to remedy transitional difficulties encountered during code implementation. Amendments may be retroactive to June 15, 1995.

On August 17 1995, an Order In Council was approved amending the Operational Planning Regulation. The amendment adds sections to the regulation making first-time forest development plans (FDPs) under new agreements subject to the same content and review requirements as other FDPs submitted between June 15 and December 15, 1995. As well, the amendment adds specific content requirements for woodlot licence FDPs during the initial phase of transition.

Due to a drafting oversight, the previous provision for content and review of FDPs and logging plans during transition did not cover new plans for licence agreements entered into after June 15, 1995. Consequently, these plans would not have been required to meet provisions of the Code or associated licence agreements. The amendment corrects this.

As well, the previous provision required that FDPs meet the basic requirements of associated licence agreements during the first six months of transition. This requirement could not apply to woodlots because woodlot licence agreements do not refer to FDPs. To remedy this, the amendment outlines basic requirements for woodlot licence FDPs in keeping with the intent of the code. These requirements represent the woodlot licence management plan provisions which satisfy key FDPs requirements and are deemed as FDPs under the Code for the purposes of transition.

Recommendations

It is recommended that district managers and their staff make themselves familiar with this amendment to the Operational Planning Regulation to ensure:

- first-time FDPs (under new agreements) are subject to the same content and review requirements as other FDPs submitted during the first six months of transition;
- woodlot licence management plans are reviewed to determine if they meet content and review requirements of the woodlot licence FDPs created by this amendment.

District managers are reminded that, subject to section 224(2) of the Code, grandparented FDPs must expire by June 15, 1997.

Contacts

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