Regulation Bulletin

Number 07 **June 16, 1996**

Forest Fire Prevention and Suppression Regulation

Background

On June 14, 1996 amendments to the Forest Fire Prevention and Suppression Regulation were approved by B.C. Regulation 148/96 which contains three important initiatives.

Amendments

Fire Preparedness Plans

The requirement for submitting a fire preparedness plan has been reduced to industrial activity identified in Tables A and B of Schedule 1. The plans no longer have to be approved by a designated forest official (DFO). As a result, the plan is deemed approved unless the DFO determines otherwise. This amendment to the provision clarifies which activities are subject to the requirement to prepare fire preparedness plans.

Fire Hazard Assessment

Section 33(a) and (b) specifics that if a clearcut or clearcut with reserves silviculture harvesting system is used, a fire hazard exists if a fire hazard rating of greater than 14 is determined. For other types of silvicultural systems or for road right-of-way clearing, land clearing , other industrial activities or timber harvesting related activities that leave woody debris, a fire hazard exists unless otherwise determined by a designated forest official.

Cost-effective Fire-fighting

Section 35(2) was amended to require Ministry of Forests approval for funding of water bombers and other aircraft used by a person carrying out an industrial activity as an initial fire response. This amendment does not prevent the person from using a water bomber if that is the appropriate response but funding for water bombers will be controlled by the Ministry of Forests.

This amendment to the Forest Fire Prevention and Suppression Regulation is not included in the Consolidated Regulation Amendments package released in June of 1996. The attached documentation should be inserted in the relevant location within the binder.

Contacts

Further details and direction are available from:

Steve Grimaldi at ???
Richard Grieve at ???