
INFORMATION BULLETIN

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Ministry of Forests and Range

ILLEGAL TIMBER HARVEST NETS \$16,000 FINE

VICTORIA – A marine log salvor has been fined \$16,000 for the unauthorized harvest of Crown timber on the Central Coast following an investigation by Ministry of Forests and Range compliance and enforcement officers.

James Edgar Darwin of Vernon B.C. was fined May 3 for violating the Forest Practices Code and illegally harvesting public wood along Finlayson Channel, north of Bella Bella.

The ministry began its investigation in 2003 when Darwin was spotted towing logs that did not match the description of marine salvage timber. Officials recovered 319 cubic metres of western red cedar – approximately 110 trees – after matching the seized logs with stumps left at the theft site. The wood is valued at \$27,000.

Compliance and enforcement staff are responsible for enforcing forest management laws and combating forest crimes, such as theft, arson and mischief. Officials conduct about 16,000 inspections a year to assess compliance with forestry laws, including routine patrols of coastal areas.

If you have information about a forest crime, call your local Ministry of Forests and Range office or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477. Callers may remain anonymous.

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