

FSP Tracking System Newsletter

November 15, 2012

Newsletters are posted at <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/his/fsp/communiques.htm>. Please share with industry and government colleagues who may have an interest in the FSP Tracking System.

Introduction

There are 4 items in this newsletter:

- the FSP Tracking System (FSP TS) is moving to a new home (Resource Practices Branch)
- the FSP TS support contract is continued for another year
- update on the FSP TS given that the last newsletter was back in the spring of 2011.
- possible future enhancement options for your review and comments

FSP Tracking System moving to Resource Practices Branch

Given the interconnectiveness of the FSP TS and RESULTS as well as the current corporate direction to consolidate application systems, Forest Tenures Branch approached Resource Practices Branch with the intent to migrate the FSP Tracking System to their branch so it would be housed under the same roof and managed by the same team as RESULTS. This will allow for efficiencies and savings down the road, given how interlinked the two systems are.

Following those successful discussions, we are happy to announce that the FSP TS will be the responsibility of the Resource Practices Branch and will be looked after by Matt Leroy and Caroline MacLeod, starting in November 2012. A transition plan is in place where Forest Tenures Branch (Paul Picard) will provide support to Matt & Caroline on an as needed basis until the end of fiscal. The support contract (see next item below) will continue and will also help to smooth out the transition.

Should you have any questions on this transition, feel free to contact Paul, Matt or Caroline (contact info below).

FSP Support Contract

The support contract for the FSP TS has been renewed this year once again with Joanne Pickford until March 15th, 2013, so we encourage you to make the most of it as there may not be funding next year. To access this service, contact the FSP TS person in the district office as they set the priority for the work given the limited funds. The services are available to licensees (including BCTS) via your local districts and to district staff and can involve help with data upload, stocking standards, and other FSP TS data or problems.

Keep in mind though that the NRS Service Desk is the lead contact for application support. For Ministry clients, contact NRSApplications@gov.bc.ca and for external users (non-government) contact NRSenquiries@gov.bc.ca.

If you need help above & beyond the support contract above (or once the contract funds run out), Newsletter #2 lists other options: www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/his/external/!publish/fsp/communiques/newsletter_20100504.pdf. As well, there are consultants available who can deal with data input very cost-effectively.

FSP Tracking System updates & other news worthy items

1. Several updates are being made to the FSP Tracking System website (www.for.gov.bc.ca/his/fsp/):
 - a. the Administrative Guide to FSPs was updated and is in the process of being posted online
 - b. PowerPoint presentations (with audio) for each of the key chapters of the Administrative Guide to FSPs were updated and in the process of being posted online
 - c. older self-study LearnLinc modules (for non-government users) were converted to Windows Media Files (for all users) and are in the process of being posted online
2. A rare but important spatial upload bug when converting from 50K to 300K scale (causing an LRDW replication failure and a bottleneck) was fixed.
3. A full day FSP TS training session was held at the end of June for Coastal district staff who were in Victoria for a RESULTS training

Possible future enhancement options for your review and comments

Future possible updates that are on the drawing board in various stage of progress include the following ideas listed below. Your thoughts and feedback on these ideas is important. Let us know if you think any of these ideas are good/bad ideas or whether you have any other suggestions to improve the FSP TS that are not listed.

- Expanding the “View_all” access level to personal BCeIDs so users with these can also view all approved and legal FSPs and amendments (currently only business BCeIDs can be granted that access level). This would bring the FSP TS in line with the Open Government project and would streamline public access to public FSPs.
- Continue to explore eventual mandatory use of the FSP TS as a streamlining of the business processes.
- Explore allowing individual plan holders the ability to grant their own “View_Only” access, as a tool to facilitate and streamline consultation on draft FSPs and amendments. Caution would have to be given to the content of the “supporting documentation” attachment section prior to implementation. This could be a very economical way for the plan holders to allow selected parties to see draft FSPs and amendments for the purpose of providing review and comments.
- Another option to potentially facilitate consultation on FSPs and amendments is to link FSP TS and the E-Referral system, however, more analysis of the two system’s compatibilities is needed before this can be pursued further.
- Explore new access types (for historical plan holders for example).
- Continuous access to stocking standards beyond plan expiry, client removal, license transfers or acquisitions.

Thanks in advance, knowing how you are doing with the FSP TS is very important to us.

Contacts

If you have any questions, let us know. Please note that I will be phasing out my involvement with the FSP Tracking System as it is transitioned to Matt Leroy and Caroline MacLeod at Resource Practices Branch.

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