

File: 410-20/IFPA, 19535-01

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BY EMAIL

Dear IFPA Holders:

Please be advised that Section 59.1 of the *Forest Act* has recently been amended to allow the maximum term of an Innovative Forestry Practices Agreement (IFPA) previously set at 15 years, to be prescribed in regulation. The Innovative Forestry Practices Regulation has recently been amended to extend the maximum term of IFPAs to 20 years.

As outlined in Minister Coleman's letter dated January 19, 2007, it was the ministry's intent to conclude the evaluation of the IFPA Program and develop recommendations with respect to the future of the IFPA Program. Our evaluation identified successes such as increased investments in improved forest inventory and growth and yield modelling as well as enhanced collaboration and the development of better working relationships among licensees within the TSA. These successes have ultimately contributed to the IFPA goal of improved forest management.

In order to take full advantage of these successes, I am providing an opportunity to extend current IFPAs to December 31, 2015. This will allow sufficient time to complete the orderly transition of the IFPA Pilot Program to a new model that builds on current successes and provides further opportunities to increase investment, improve efficiency and facilitate collaboration in achieving sustainable forest management objectives across the province.

To facilitate the transition to the new model, I have determined the following:

- If applicable, current IFPA holders may apply to the regional manager to extend the expiry date of their agreement up to December 31, 2015.
- If extended, the IFPA holders may update their forestry plans and apply to the regional manager for an extension of all or part of their AAC uplift up to the new expiry date of December 31, 2015. IFPA holders should communicate with the appropriate contact noted below regarding the application requirements for the updated forestry plans and AAC increase.
- Any request for extending AAC uplifts must be made prior to August 31, 2011.

IFPA Holders

It is my expectation once the new model has been developed, it will be available across all timber supply area management units. If a new model is not in place by December 31, 2015, the ministry will conclude the IFPA Pilot Program.

If you have further questions regarding an application to extend your IFPA, please contact Dirk Trigg, Tenures Manager at (250) 828-4144 for Regional Operations, South and George Halliday, Timber Tenures Specialist at (250) 565-6937 for Regional Operations North Central/West. For general questions about the new model, please contact Lorne Bedford, Project Manager, Forest Practices and Investment Branch, Ministry of Forests, Mines and Lands at (250) 387-8901.

Sincerely,



Pat Bell
Minister

pc: Steve Carr, Deputy and Chief Operating Officer
Ministry of Natural Resource Operations
Susanna Laaksonen-Craig, Deputy Chief Forester
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Dirk Trigg, Tenures Manager, Regional Operations, South
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