



Province of
British Columbia
Ministry of
Forests

Prince George REGION

Standard Operating Procedure

Number: 3-4

SUBJECT:

Deletions from the Provincial Forest

CHAPTER
5

MANUAL
Resource
Planning

SECTION

PROCEDURES FOR DELETION FROM THE PROVINCIAL FOREST

PART I: REFERRAL STAGE

B.C. LANDS CHECKLIST

1. Send land-use referral package to Forest District.

FOREST DISTRICT CHECKLIST

1. Receives referral from B.C. Lands and follows District procedures for routing and status clearance.

Guidelines for Adjudication of Deletions and Referrals from the Provincial Forest

- a) District staff should consider the following:
 - present forest cover on the site
 - growing potential of the site
 - impact on the AAC of the TSA, including future expectations for modified or reduced harvesting in the vicinity
 - impact on range and recreation programs
 - how forest and wilderness oriented recreation will be impacted
 - effects on water, fisheries and wildlife
- b) The land-use decision will be heavily influenced by the District Manager's response at the tenure referral stage, rather than at the deletion request stage.
- c) Each deletion is unique and should be handled on its own merits.
- d) Consider whether the socio-economic benefits of deletion will outweigh the benefits of the parcel remaining in the Provincial Forest.
- e) For agricultural leases, the timber must be removed under a license to cut, and deletion from the Provincial Forest can proceed on the recommendation of the Regional Director, B.C. Lands that the terms and conditions of the lease contract have been met and the Crown is prepared to issue a Crown Grant.
- f) These considerations should be documented on file, then later in a briefing note attached to the deletion request package sent to the Resource Tenures and Engineering Branch.
- g) The Protocol Agreement (attached) provides more direction on the adjudication of referrals and deletions.

DATE
April 10, 2001

ORIGINATOR (TITLE)
Strategic Planning Specialist

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PART II: DELETION STAGE

(assuming the District Manager agreed with the earlier referral from Lands)

B.C. LANDS CHECKLIST

1. Send deletion request letter and necessary documents directly to the Forest District.

The request letter should contain the following:

- legal description
- hectares
- land use justification and referral inputs from all parties contacted
- Provincial Forest name
- attach sketch map or survey map if available
- survey tube number, if available

2. If the Ministerial Order from Resource Tenures and Engineering Branch, confirming the deletion, is not received in a reasonable period of time, contact the Forest District.

FOREST DISTRICT CHECKLIST

1. District receives deletion request letter from B.C. Lands and follows District procedures for status clearance etc. (if not already done at the referral stage). Approximate turn-around time should be 6 weeks.
2. If the District Manager provided a favourable response to the earlier referral, and is prepared to recommend a Provincial Forest deletion, then send the following to the Resource Tenures and Engineering Branch:
 - deletion request memo signed by District Manager (cc. to B.C. Lands)
 - briefing note outlining rationale for deletion, signed by District Manager
 - copy of the deletion request letter from B.C. Lands
 - sketch map
3. A sample ledger is attached for the District to track the requests and the resulting losses to the land base.

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RESOURCE TENURES AND ENGINEERING BRANCH NOTE:

The Final Ministerial Order will be sent to the Forest District Office and B.C. Lands Regional Office only.

APPENDICES:

1. Samples of: deletion request memo, briefing note, Lands' request letter, sketch map
2. Memo from Wes Cheston re: Deletions from Provincial Forests
3. Protocol Agreement between Lands and Forests
4. Sample ledger to track requests and losses to land base.

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