

File: 280-30

January 12, 2007

To: Regional Executive Directors
District Managers

From: Tim Sheldon
Assistant Deputy Minister
Operations Division

Re: Blanket Salvage Permits for Woodlot Licensees

The ministry has made a decision to implement a few key measures for woodlot licensees to address the salvage of rapidly deteriorating insect damaged timber for the winter 2006/2007 logging season. Therefore, further to my memo of December 21, 2006 and attached guidelines dated December 20, 2006 (the Guidelines), I wish to provide some subsequent guidance regarding Blanket Salvage Permits (BSPs) for woodlot licensees.



It should be noted that any issues not addressed below will remain unchanged as in my December 21st memo (and December 20th guidelines) and the changes referred to below will expire after April 15, 2007 at which time guidance reverts back to my December 21st direction.

Adjacency

Given the unique short term salvage imperative, I would ask that you relax any adjacency considerations referred to in the Guidelines under Criteria 2 - Logical Harvesting Opportunity, as long as this does not pose an environmental risk.

Volume/Area

I direct that the volume and area limits described in Criteria 4 - Size/Timber Type of the Guidelines, be changed from 2,000 m³ to 5,000 m³ and from 5 ha to 15 ha respectively.

Timber Type

The increased volume and area limits referred to above only apply to the harvest of stands that are 70% or greater pine and are 70% or more dead or damaged, and/or other stands with other species that are 70% or more dead or damaged.

Expiry

All existing BSPs that have an expiry date prior to April 15, 2007 will have their expiry dates extended to April 15, 2007.

Term

All new BSPs will have a term that will expire after April 15, 2007.

Please refer to Amendment No. 18 to the Interior Appraisal Manual for the pricing of BSPs during the period to April 15, 2007.

Lastly, I would ask that staff place a high priority on the review and potential approval of BSPs given the short term nature of this salvage situation.



Tim Sheldan
Assistant Deputy Minister
Operations Division

Attachment(s): December 21, 2006 Tim Sheldan memo
December 20, 2006 (attached) Guidelines

pc: Bob Friesen, Assistant Deputy Minister, Tenure and Revenue Branch

Dave Petersen, Assistant Deputy Minister, BC Timber Sales

Bill Howard, Director, Revenue Branch

Jim Langridge, Director, Resource Tenures and Engineering Branch