



File: File: 97250-20\2003-08

January 7, 2005

James Sutherland
Timber Sales Manager
BC Timber Sales
200-640 Borland Street
Williams Lake, BC V2G 4T1

Dear James Sutherland:

Re: Response to Recommendations, Audit 2003-08/BCTS Chilcotin Forest District

Thank you for your letter of December 17, 2004 outlining your response to the Board's recommendation in its audit report, Audit of Forest Planning and Practices, British Columbia Timber Sales Program in the Chilcotin Forest District, June 2004.

We understand that BCTS has reviewed all cutblocks approaching the free growing compliance date and corrected any identified scheduling deficiencies and/or implemented required treatments. In addition, BCTS has reviewed scheduled activities and recent field surveys to ensure consistency with the standard operating procedure. Finally, BCTS is reviewing all of the remaining opening files to ensure activity scheduling is appropriate, for target completion by June 30, 2006.

The Board believes that BCTS' comprehensive actions will address the non-compliances with free growing obligations identified by the audit, and reduce the risk of future similar non-compliances in the Chilcotin Forest District.

I appreciate your constructive response and for viewing the audit results as an opportunity to improve forest practices. This file is now closed.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce Fraser".

Bruce Fraser, PhD
Chair, Forest Practices Board