RESPONSE TO THE PRACTICES BOARD 2012/11/13

FOR B. LEPKA , Licensee WL 657

Dear Chris Mosher

I am the sole owner of Thor's Forest Management and as you are aware I have been hired by Mr. Lepka of WL 657 to bring into compliance the woodlot in so far as RESULTS reporting. The woodlot has been in place since 1988 and has a colorful record in this matter particularily when you compare the older blocks with the newer ones. The older cutting permits were to have been entered into RESULTS by the Ministry after having received the old paper annual reports. In this District this has seldom occurred , I should know as I was the Woodlot Technician for 15 years here in Fort St James.

This does not relieve or obviate Mr. Lepka of his obligations but it must be understood that the entry of accurate data into RESULTS is at the very least a sadly shared failure. Nonetheless Mr. Lepka has accepted the fact that he is well behind in these obligations and over the course of this summer we have worked to bring the silviculture records up to date.

I have completed data entry with what I believe to be the priority items as follows...

1. I have completed the GPS'ing of the most recent block shapes (C.P..'s EE, FF) and have entered those blocks into RESULTS.(denudation and forest cover screens)
2. I have collected all the various shapes of over ten years of salvage logging under the Z & Y cutting permits and have entered them into RESULTS.(same as above)
3. The above data entry has given us a list of due dates for SR surveys some of which are overdue and thus are scheduled for next summer.
4. This data entry has also given the Licensee a schedule of survey work to be performed over the next few years .

Overall the condition of the woodlot looks entirely different in the fall of 2012 and I can report that all harvesting done on the woodlot over the last 10 years is fully reported. The surveys that will be completed in the near future will bring the older cutting permits into a compliant status. The survey results will also allow Mr. Lepka to plan for any activities that may be required such as fill planting or brushing to keep these blocks healthy and moving toward free to grow.

Stephen Harrison , RFT
Thor's Forest Management

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Forest Practices Board

File: 97150-20/2011-08

January 28, 2013

VIA EMAIL

Burkhard Lepka
Woodlot W0657
Box 1463
Fort St. James, BC
V0J 1P0

Dear Mr. Lepka:

Re: Audit of the Fort St. James Forest District Woodlot Program

In August 2012, the Board publicly released its audit report on forest planning and practices on Woodlot Licence 0657 in the Fort St. James District. The report noted serious shortcomings in your management of the reforestation obligations and identified three significant non-compliance findings. The Board requested that you report back to the Board by December 31, 2012, on the progress made in remediating these deficiencies for current and past activities in accordance with regulatory requirements.

On November 13, 2012, the Board received an update from a consultant, Stephen Harrison, RFT, that was hired by you to bring your woodlot reporting into compliance.

Board staff has reviewed your submission as provided by Mr. Harrison, and finds that it has substantively addressed the Board's request to remediate the reporting deficiencies.

I accept this response as having addressed the Board's request and now consider this file to be closed.

Thank you for your continued co-operation throughout the audit.

Yours sincerely,

R.A. (Al) Gorley, RPF
Chair

cc: Lynda Currie, District Manager, Fort St. James District
Stephen Harrison, Consultant, Thor's Forest Management