

File: 00975-20/Forest Pract 2009

January 7, 2011

Daryl Spencer, Manager
Audits and Investigations
Forest Practices Board
310 – 1675 Douglas Street
Victoria, British Columbia
V8W 9R1

**Re: Follow-up survey results from 2009 Cariboo-Chilcotin Business Area,
Quesnel Field Team. Forest Practices Board Audit**

As a follow-up to the 2009 Cariboo-Chilcotin Business Area, Quesnel Field Team,
Forest Practices Board Audit comment:

“For the remainder, BC Timber Sales has scheduled additional surveys to evaluate seedling growth and health. The Board requests that BC Timber Sales provide the survey results by November 30, 2010, along with an action plan for future monitoring.”



Attached are copies of the 2010 silviculture surveys conducted on nine openings that were planted in the spring of 2008 where the seedlings exceed the seedling transfer guidelines. This survey data was prepared, signed and sealed by a professional forester registered in British Columbia and the data was also reviewed by a professional forester. The data collected from these surveys show normal and expected results for these sites. Growth rates, survival, and forest health incidence appeared acceptable at the time of the surveys. It is our intention to re-survey these openings within a two to three year timeframe. The planned plot intensity (one plot per hectare) will ensure adequate monitoring, and will also ensure subsequent, timely decisions to be made if issues arise.

Further on this issue, the Cariboo-Chilcotin Business Area applied for the approval of the Chief Forester to accept four seedlots planted in contravention of standards for seed use at time of planting but are now in compliance with the new standards. The Chief Forester did not grant our application to accept these trees as compliant with the amended seed transfer guidelines. Respective of our application, the Cariboo-Chilcotin Business Area has determined these seedlings are currently located in a compliant elevation seed transfer area

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Ministry of
Forests, Mines and
Lands
BC Timber Sales

Cariboo-Chilcotin Business Area

Location:
200-640 Borland Street
Williams Lake, British Columbia

Mailing Address:
200-640 Borland Street
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V2G 4T1

Tel: (250) 398-4345
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Daryl Spencer, Manager
Audits and Investigations
Forest Practices Board

(supporting their ecological suitability to the site). These areas will be managed within a normal silviculture stocking survey regime (a survey conducted every three to four years).

The remaining eight blocks with seedlot violations will also be managed under our normal silviculture stocking survey regime. The Quesnel Field Team has conducted a risk-based review, and as a result has determined that these eight remaining openings had either a small component of "off site" seedlings planted (< 4%). When our survey program identifies low stocking levels, areas of NSR, poor seedling performance, or areas with elevated incidence of disease, an appropriate response will be developed to ensure appropriate stocking levels and forest health to achieve free growing.

If you have any questions, please call Keith Sandve, Woodlands Supervisor at 250-992-4400.

Yours truly

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Kennedy', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Paul Kennedy, R.P.F.
Acting Timber Sales Manager

Attachments: 9 survey results

pc: Keith Sandve, Woodlands Supervisor, Quesnel Field Team

File: 00975-20/Forest Pract 2009

January 25, 2011

Daryl Spencer
Manager, Audits and Investigations
Forest Practices Board
310 – 1675 Douglas Street
Victoria, British Columbia
V8W 9R1

Dear Daryl Spencer:

Re: Clarification of January 7, 2011, letter from TCC BCTS regarding the 2009 Cariboo-Chilcotin Business Area, Quesnel Field Team, Forest Practices Board Audit

Further to our telephone conversation of January 20, 2011, regarding clarification of A/Timber Sales Manager Paul Kennedy's letter of January 7, 2011, please accept the following.



The Quesnel field team conducted a review of all blocks planted in 2008 to identify openings that had stock planted with seedlings that exceeded the transfer guidelines.

Once we identified the blocks containing non-compliant seedlings, the Quesnel Field Team grouped the blocks into the following categories:

- category one: openings where greater than four percent of the seedlings planted exceeded the transfer guidelines; these seedlings were either outside their latitude/longitude thresholds or outside their elevation limits;
- category two: openings with seedlots planted in contravention of the seed transfer guidelines at the time of planting, but subsequently are compliant with the chief forester's amended standards for seed use; and
- category three: openings where less than four percent of the seedlings exceeded the transfer guidelines; these seedlings were either out of their latitude/longitude thresholds or outside their elevation limits.

The paragraphs in our letter of January 7, 2011, refer to each of these categories in the order listed above.

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Daryl Spencer
Forest Practices Board

Based on the approved management strategy, any areas of not satisfactorily restocked or with elevated levels of disease will be indentified and managed appropriately to ensure free growing is achieved.

If you have any further questions, please telephone me at 250-992-4414

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Keith Sandve".

Keith Sandve, R.F.T.
Woodlands Supervisor
Quesnel Field Team
Cariboo-Chilcotin Business Area



File: 97150-20/2008-04

February 4, 2013

Paul Kennedy, RPF - Acting Timber Sales Manager
Cariboo-Chilcotin Timber Sales Office
British Columbia Timber Sales
200 – 640 Borland Street
Williams Lake, BC V2G 4T1

Dear Paul Kennedy:

Re: Forestry Audit: British Columbia Timber Sales, Caribou-Chilcotin Business Area.

In May 2009, the Board publicly released its audit report on the Quesnel portion of the Caribou-Chilcotin Business Area. In that audit, the Board noted that BCTS did not comply with the seed transfer rules in effect at the time on eight cutblocks.

The report noted that BCTS planned to seek approval for those areas that were outside the transfer limits in effect at the time of planting, but will fall within the limits that came into effect April 1, 2009. For the remainder, BCTS had scheduled additional surveys to evaluate seedling growth and health. The Board requested that BCTS provide the survey results by November 30, 2010, along with an action plan for future monitoring.

The Board has received your response dated January 7, 2011, along with copies of the 2010 silviculture surveys conducted on nine openings that were planted in the of spring of 2008. The Board has also received the January 25, 2011 clarification letter from Keith Sandve.

Board staff has reviewed your submission and finds that it has substantively addressed the Board's request. While the Chief Forester did not approve the seed lots now falling within seedling transfer limits, they are now ecologically suitable to the site. The surveys demonstrate that offsite seedlings are performing well to date and that all areas meet the prescribed stocking standards. BCTS's monitoring plan, developing appropriate responses as identified during silviculture surveys, will assure free growing status is achieved within the required timeframe.

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

Thank you again for your continued support throughout the audit.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R.A. Gorley".

R.A. (Al) Gorley, RPF
Chair

cc: Steve Dodge, Acting District Manager, Quesnel Forest District