

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release July 10, 2017

Board to audit West Fraser Mills Ltd.

VICTORIA – VICTORIA – The Forest Practices Board will examine the activities of West Fraser Mills Ltd. on tree farm licence 52, near Quesnel, during the week of July 17, 2017.

Auditors will examine whether harvesting, roads, silviculture, fire protection and associated planning, carried out between July 2016 and July 2017, met the requirements of the *Forest and Range Practices Act* and the *Wildfire Act*.

Tree farm licence 52 consists of two blocks: one is located east of Quesnel toward Bowron Lake Provincial Park and one northwest of Quesnel along the Fraser River. The operating area is 293,485 hectares and consists of mainly spruce and lodgepole pine trees.

Once the audit work is complete, a report will be prepared, and any party that may be adversely affected by the audit findings will have a chance to respond. The board's final report and recommendations then will be released to the public and government.

The Forest Practices Board is B.C.'s independent watchdog for sound forest and range practices, reporting its findings and recommendations directly to the public and government.

The board audits forest and range practices on public land, as well as appropriateness of government enforcement.

For more information:

Website: www.bcfpb.ca

Facebook: <u>www.facebook.com/pages/BC-Forest-Practices-Board/163884970335862</u>

Twitter: https://twitter.com/bc fpboard

Contact:

Darlene Oman Communications Forest Practices Board

Phone: 250 213-4705 / 1 800 994-5899