



# Forest Practices Board

## **Forestry Audit: BC Timber Sales and Timber Sale Licensees**

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*Quesnel Natural Resource District Portion of the  
Cariboo-Chilcotin Business Area*

**FPB/ARC/238**

July 2020

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# Audit Results

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## Introduction

The Forest Practices Board is the public's watchdog for sound forest and range practices in British Columbia. One of the Board's roles is to audit the practices of the forest industry to ensure compliance with the *Forest and Range Practices Act* (FRPA) and the *Wildfire Act*.

As part of its 2019 compliance audit program, the Board randomly selected the Quesnel Natural Resource District (the district) portion of BC Timber Sales' (BCTS) Cariboo-Chilcotin Business Area for audit. A map of the audit area appears on page 2.

This report explains what the Board audited and the results. Detailed information about the Board's compliance audit process is provided in Appendix 1.



*BCTS operations in the Quesnel Natural Resource District are typically on moderately rolling terrain.*

## Background

The BCTS Cariboo-Chilcotin Business Area has operations in both the Quesnel Natural Resource District and the Cariboo-Chilcotin Natural Resource District. The audit only examined BCTS's activities in the Quesnel Natural Resource District.

The district is located in the northern part of the Cariboo Region, in the Fraser Basin and the Interior Plateau between the Coast Mountains to the west and the Cariboo Mountains to the east. The major population centre is the city of Quesnel. Other communities in the district include Wells and Barkerville in the east, and Nazko and Kluskus villages in the west. The economies of these communities are largely resource-based, and the majority are dependent on the local forest industry. Ranching, mining and tourism are also integral to these communities.

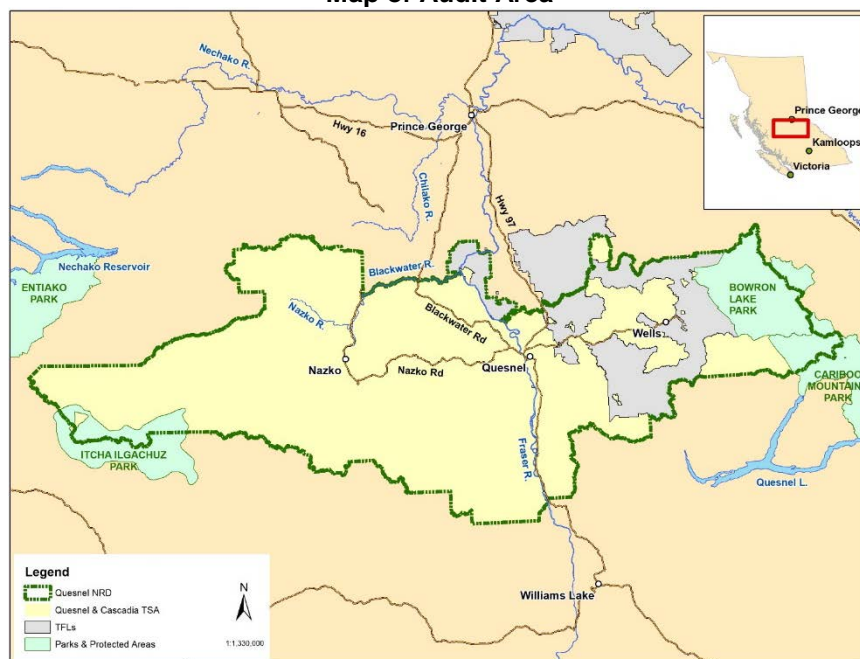
Natural resources associated with the forest land base include forest products, recreation and tourism, ranching, and wildlife. Parks, recreation sites and trails, and roaded and non-roaded areas

provide opportunities for numerous outdoor activities. There are two large provincial parks (Bowron Lake Park and Itcha Ilgachuz Park) and several smaller parks. The area provides a range of recreational activities such as hiking, canoeing, camping, guided horse tours, fishing, hunting, snowmobiling, dog-sledding, and downhill and cross-country skiing.

BCTS’s activities in the district are managed by the Quesnel field team. The field team staff prepare operational plans and conduct silviculture and road construction activities. Timber sale licensees must fulfill licence, permit and operational plan obligations, including timber harvesting and road work within cutblocks.

The allowable annual cut apportionment for BCTS in the district is about 880 000 cubic metres. BCTS reduces the apportionment to adjust for the volume that is dead and uneconomical to harvest. The reduced or rationalized apportionment was 400 000 cubic metres. BCTS harvested about 450 000 cubic metres during the one-year audit period. Most of the harvesting is targeting mountain-pine-beetle-damaged stands, and is dispersed across the district, but not in tree farm licence 52.

**Map of Audit Area**



## Audit Approach and Scope

This was a full scope compliance audit with a one-year timeframe. All activities carried out between June 1, 2018, and June 28, 2019, by BCTS and timber sale licensees were subject to audit.

BCTS is responsible for operational planning, including preparing forest stewardship plans (FSP)<sup>i</sup> and site plans, silviculture activities, major structure<sup>1</sup> maintenance, construction and deactivation, and most road construction, maintenance and deactivation outside of cutblocks.

<sup>i</sup> Major structure includes bridges and major culverts where:

- Bridge means a temporary or permanent crossing structure with a span length equal to or greater than 6 metres or an abutment height of 4 metres or greater.
- Major culvert has a pipe diameter of 2 metres or greater or is a pipe or open bottom arch with a span greater than 2.13 metres.

Timber sale licensees (licensees) are responsible for timber harvesting, fire protection, and most road construction, maintenance and deactivation within cutblocks and for their road permit roads.

Auditors assessed these activities for compliance with FRPA, the *Wildfire Act*, and applicable regulations. Auditor’s work included interviewing BCTS staff, reviewing the FSP and site plans, assessing silviculture records, as well as site visits with BCTS staff to review field practices. Sites were accessed by truck and by helicopter.

The standards and procedures used to carry out this audit are set out in the Board’s *Compliance Audit Reference Manual, Version 7.1, July 2016*.

Two forest professionals, one forest professional/geoscientist-in-training, and a chartered professional accountant made up the audit team. The audit team was in the field with BCTS staff from June 24 to 28, 2019.

## Planning and Practices Examined

### BCTS Responsibilities

#### *Operational Planning*

BCTS’s operations are covered by the Cariboo-Chilcotin Land Use Plan, originally established in 1994. A land use order that clarifies aspects of the plan was approved in 2011. The order sets legal direction for forestry activities under FRPA with respect to key resource values including biodiversity, wildlife, riparian and recreation. BCTS incorporated the objectives in the Land Use Plan into its FSP.

BCTS planned its activities under a FSP that was approved in 2012 and extended to May 2020. The FSP and stand-level site plans were examined to ensure they met legal requirements. Auditors also considered site plans during harvesting, road and silviculture field sampling to ensure that they accurately identified site conditions.

#### *Road and Major Structure Construction, Maintenance and Deactivation*

The population and sample for road and bridge activities are shown in Table 1. BCTS did not deactivate any roads during the audit period.

**Table 1.** Population and Sample for Road and Bridge Activities

ACTIVITY	POPULATION	SAMPLE
Road construction (forest service road)	6 km	6 km
Road maintenance (forest service road)	42 km	12 km
Bridge construction	4	4
Bridge maintenance	33	6
Bridge removal	1	1

#### *Silviculture Activities and Obligations*

BCTS conducted site preparation, planting, brushing and mistletoe control silviculture activities, and had regeneration and free-growing obligations during the audit period. The population and sample for silviculture activities and obligations are shown in Table 2.

**Table 2.** Population and Sample for Silviculture Activities and Obligations

OBLIGATIONS AND ACTIVITIES	POPULATION	SAMPLE
Site preparation	89 cutblocks	20 cutblocks
Planting	50 cutblocks	11 cutblocks
Brushing	16 cutblocks	8 cutblocks
Mistletoe control	49 cutblocks	17 cutblocks
Regeneration obligations (due or declared)	123 cutblocks	22 cutblocks
Free-growing obligations (due or declared)	84 cutblocks	42 cutblocks

## Timber Sale Licensee Responsibilities

### *Timber Harvesting*

Twenty-seven timber sale licensees harvested 106 cutblocks, totalling approximately 5000 hectares, during the audit period. Auditors examined harvesting by 18 licensees on 27 cutblocks, totalling 1285 hectares.

### *Road and Major Structure Construction, Maintenance and Deactivation*

Timber sale licensees constructed 126 kilometres and maintained 13 kilometres of road during the audit period. Auditors sampled 49 kilometres of constructed road and 2 kilometres of maintained road. Timber sale licensees did not deactivate any roads, or construct, maintain, or remove any bridges during the audit period.

### *Wildfire Protection*

Auditors examined fire hazard assessment and abatement practices and wildfire preparedness as part of the harvest sampling. A summary of the population and sample of wildfire protection activities is shown in Table 3.

**Table 3.** Population and Sample for Wildfire Activities

ACTIVITY	POPULATION	SAMPLE
Fire Preparedness at active work sites	6 cutblocks	3 cutblocks
Fire hazard assessment	126 cutblocks	27 cutblocks
Fire hazard abatements	126 cutblocks	27 cutblocks

## Findings

The audit found that BCTS's planning and practices generally complied with FRPA and the *Wildfire Act* as of June 2019. However, the audit identified a significant non-compliance for not ensuring a road and three bridges were structurally sound and safe for industrial use; a significant non-compliance for not reporting silviculture activities; and an unsound practice due to inadequate record documents for constructed bridges.

The audit found that timber sale licensees' practices generally complied with FRPA and the *Wildfire Act* as of June 2019. However, the audit identified a significant non-compliance for not having a water delivery system on two cutblocks while conducting high risk activities; an unsound practice for not following the recommendations in a terrain field assessment; and an opportunity for improvement for several timber sale licensees who did not complete required fire hazard assessments

## **BCTS Responsibilities**

### *Roads and Associated Structures*

Section 72<sup>ii</sup> of the *Forest Planning and Practices Regulation* (FPPR) requires BCTS to ensure roads and bridges are structurally sound and safe for industrial users. Section 77<sup>iii</sup> requires BCTS to retain all records for bridges it maintains.

Auditors identified three separate concerns. In the first case, BCTS did not complete a recommended terrain-stability assessment for roads in a challenging area with steep terrain. In another case, BCTS did not conduct a bridge inspection, and was unaware of a separate bridge inspection conducted on behalf of the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development's (the Ministry) regional engineering staff, prior to awarding a sale that required the bridge for industrial use. In the third case, BCTS has been using two bridges for industrial purposes for several years with no record of any inspections or any other bridge records. All three structures are located on forest service roads (FSRs), and only one is included in the Ministry's corporate bridge registry.

In all three cases, BCTS did not ensure the road or the three bridges, all of which were used for industrial purposes during the course of the audit, were structurally sound and safe for industrial use.

Not ensuring roads and bridges are structurally sound and safe for industrial use is a significant non-compliance.

Subsequent to the audit, BCTS informed the auditors that it has put corrective measures in place to ensure these types of issues do not happen again, it has downgraded the unsafe bridge to a 2-tonne load rating, and it added the other two bridges to the corporate bridge registry.

### *Bridge Construction Documents*

BCTS constructed four bridges during the audit period. Overall, the bridges were constructed appropriately and record, or as-built, drawings were prepared as required by legislation. However, all four record drawings lacked detail and did not conform to the *Guidelines For Professional Services in the Forest Sector – Crossings V2*<sup>2</sup> (crossing guidelines) which are the acceptable standards. The record drawings should:

- reference the structure identification (fabrication information), which properly determines the load rating;
- include footing base and deck elevations and actual attained road grades;
- include lock-block information if lock-blocks are used;
- include dimensions of sill timbers;
- identify scour protections / rip rap; and
- be signed and sealed by the professional of record.

As all four record drawings lacked most of these items, this is considered an unsound practice.

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<sup>2</sup> Acceptable standards as per section 4.5 As Built/Record Drawings and Other Documentation of the APEGBC & ABCFP - June 2014 *Guidelines for Professional Services in the Forest Sector – Crossings V2* <<https://www.apeg.bc.ca/getmedia/97dcbad3-5482-416a-9bc0-55b3c662e71a/APEGBC-Guidelines-for-Forest-Sector-Crossings.pdf.aspx>>



Subsequent to the audit, BCTS informed the auditors that it has reviewed the crossing guidelines and will ensure they are adhered to in the future.

### ***Silviculture Reporting***

Section 86 3(e)<sup>iv</sup> of the FPPR requires BCTS to report a summary of any silviculture treatments in a timely manner. Although BCTS was tracking its silviculture treatments internally, more than 80 percent of the silviculture treatments sampled were not reported on time into the Reporting Silviculture Updates and Land status Tracking System (RESULTS).<sup>v</sup> Failure to do so is a non-compliance with legislation. This is an administrative shortcoming that did not affect regeneration delay or free-growing obligations.

As the reporting errors in RESULTS are pervasive, this is considered a significant non-compliance.

Subsequent to the audit, to ensure this issue does not occur again, BCTS created a reporting matrix for RESULTS that lists personnel and their associated responsibility for reporting, and the date the reporting is required to be completed.

### ***Operational Planning***

Planning was consistent with the FSP and legislative requirements. The FSP addressed the legal orders that apply to forest practices in the audit area. Harvesting was located outside of spatially identified old-growth management areas and community and domestic watersheds.

BCTS addressed site-specific resources in the site plans by accurately identifying and prescribing practices for resource features, including streams and wetlands. BCTS managed riparian areas well. There were few streams or non-classified drainages within cutblocks, and where they did exist, BCTS prescribed suitable vegetation retention and machine-free zones. BCTS committed to retaining a minimum percent of harvest units in wildlife tree patches (WTPs) based on landscape unit and BEC subzone. BCTS exceed the WTP retention targets.

Auditors found no issues with operational planning.

### ***Road and Major Structure Construction, Maintenance and Deactivation***

#### **Road Construction**

BCTS constructed roads according to plan. Roads were well built and natural drainage patterns were maintained. There were no signs of cut slope or fill slope failures and ditches were functioning. Auditors had no concerns with the roads that BCTS constructed.

#### **Road Maintenance**

BCTS adequately maintained its forest service roads by retaining the structural integrity of the road prism. All of the culverts examined were functional and natural drainage patterns were maintained. Auditors found roads were well maintained.

#### **Bridge Maintenance**

Auditors examined maintenance of six bridges. Other than the three bridges discussed in the “*Roads and Associated Structures*” section above, there were no issues with bridge maintenance.

#### **Bridge Deactivation**

The one bridge that was deactivated was well done. The stream banks were protected, and exposed soil was grass seeded to minimize the risk of erosion and sediment entering the stream.



Other than the issues noted above, auditors found no issues with road and bridge construction, maintenance or deactivation.

### ***Silviculture Activities and Obligations***

BCTS planted cutblocks with suitable tree species and stock. Cutblocks contained the range of healthy, well-spaced, acceptable trees required to meet free-growing requirements within the required periods. BCTS met its regeneration and free-growing obligations.

Other than the silviculture reporting issue noted above, auditors did not have any concerns with regeneration delay or free-growing obligations, or the field work associated with the silviculture treatments.

### **Timber Sale Licensee Responsibilities**

#### ***Harvesting – Timber Sale Licence (TSL) A57795 Block 001***

The *FPPR* sets objectives for resource values, but allows forest licensees discretion about how to achieve those objectives. Licensees meet the objectives by relying on forest professionals to plan, advise and carry out forestry activities. Forest professionals in turn rely on specialists to conduct assessments of proposed development and to provide recommendations on operational activities to mitigate the potential impact on resource values.

TSL A57795 is held by Michael Thomas Lepetich. BCTS completed layout of TSL A57795 using consultants and hired a terrain specialist to prepare a terrain stability assessment (TSA) for the cutblock. The TSA identified landslide hazards and made recommendations on how to carry out harvesting activities to minimize those hazards. Two of those recommendations were to restrict excavated trails to slopes less than 35 percent and to rehabilitate these trails concurrent with the completion of harvesting. Neither the TSA nor its recommendations were included in the TSL document or the site plan. The harvest plan map incorrectly switched the harvest system from cable yarding to ground based, however, the recommendations for excavated trails and rehabilitation were included in the support document for the site plan and the harvest plan, which were made available to the timber sale licensee.

The timber sale licensee harvested the cutblock using the ground-based harvest system identified on the harvest plan map, but did not follow the recommendations. The licensee constructed excavated trails on slopes greater than 35 percent and did not rehabilitate them concurrent with harvesting. Not following the recommendations in a TSA can increase the risk of a landslide and is considered an unsound forest practice.

Subsequent to the audit, the timber sale licensee informed the auditors it rehabilitated the excavated trails in the summer when conditions were more conducive to rehabilitation activities.

#### ***Water Delivery System***

TSL A90699, Block 001, is held by Silver Star Mat Systems Inc., and TSL A95833, Block 001, is held by Julie Marie Backer. Auditors reviewed three active sites on these blocks and all three had adequate fire tools on site. However, the *Wildfire Regulation* 6(3)(ii)<sup>vi</sup> requires licensees to have an adequate fire-suppression system on site when carrying out a high-risk<sup>3</sup> activity. High-risk activities were occurring

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<sup>3</sup> High-risk activities related to harvesting include operating a power saw, mechanical tree felling, woody debris piling, tree processing, skidding logs and yarding logs using cable systems.

on two adjacent cutblocks, TSL A90699, Block 001, and TSL A95833, Block 001, but no water delivery system was on site on either of the cutblocks.

The fire-suppression system should be adequate to address a fire starting from the high-risk activity being carried out, with consideration to weather, fuel load, and other site conditions.<sup>4</sup> Prompt suppression of fire starts will reduce the risk of fire spreading into standing and felled timber. A fire starting and spreading has the potential to cause significant economic and ecological harm and poses a risk to life. As a result, not having a water delivery system on site is considered a significant non-compliance.

The day following the field review by the auditors, the timber sale licensees moved a water delivery system onto the site between the two active blocks.

### ***Hazard Assessment and Abatement***

Auditors evaluated all cutblocks in the harvest sample for compliance with the *Wildfire Act*.

The *Wildfire Act* requires licensees to assess the fire hazard at specified intervals, including an assessment of the fuel hazard and its associated risk of a fire starting or spreading. Furthermore, the licensee must provide a copy of a fire-hazard assessment to an official when requested.<sup>vii</sup> If the assessment identifies a hazard, it must be abated.

Fire-hazard assessments were required for 11 cutblocks. Auditors requested these 11 fire-hazard assessment from the timber sale licensees, and just 2 were provided.

It is the standard practice of all the timber sale licensees to pile slash and then burn it when it is safe to do so. Where slash abatement was observed, it was effective in reducing the fire hazard. On those cutblocks where abatement had not yet occurred, but harvesting had been completed, slash was piled in a manner that would facilitate hazard abatement by burning.

While licensees are abating the fire hazard as a standard practice, they cannot demonstrate that they have been diligent in assessing the hazard, which is a non-compliance with legislation. This non-compliance is not considered significant, since fire hazards are being abated in an effective and timely manner. As a result, this is an area requiring improvement.

### ***Harvesting***

Harvesting targeted stands damaged by mountain pine beetle and Douglas-fir bark beetle, although some green timber was also harvested. Overall, harvesting was well done. All harvesting was ground based and complied with the site plans.

With the exception of the harvesting block discussed above, auditors had no issues with harvesting activities.

### ***Road Construction and Maintenance***

The in-block roads and short-spur roads constructed by timber sale licensees to access cutblocks were well done. Culverts were functional and licensees maintained natural surface drainage patterns. In addition, the timber sale licensees “seasonally” maintained most in-block roads by cross ditching and removing stream culverts soon after harvesting and hauling had finished.

Auditors found no issues with road construction or maintenance.

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<sup>4</sup>*Wildfire Act, Wildfire Regulation* – [http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/38\\_2005](http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/38_2005)

# Audit Opinion

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In my opinion, except for the issues described below, the operational planning, timber harvesting, road construction, maintenance and deactivation, silviculture, and fire protection activities carried out by BC Timber Sales and its timber sale licensees in the Quesnel Natural Resource District, within the Cariboo-Chilcotin Business Area, between June 1, 2018, and June 28, 2019, complied in all significant respects with the requirements of the *Forest and Range Practices Act*, the *Wildfire Act* and related regulations, as of June 2019.

In reference to compliance, the term “in all significant respects” recognizes that there may be minor instances of non-compliance that either may not be detected by the audit, or that are detected but not considered worthy of inclusion in the audit report.

As described in the *Roads and Associated Structures* section of the report, the audit identified a significant non-compliance related to not ensuring roads and bridges are structurally sound and safe for industrial use.

As described in the *Silviculture Reporting* section of the report, the audit identified a significant non-compliance related to reporting errors in RESULTS.

As described in the *Water Delivery System* section of the report, the audit identified a significant non-compliance related to not having a water delivery system on site.

Without further qualifying my opinion, I draw attention to the *Bridge Construction Documents* and the *Harvesting – TSL A57795, Block 001* sections of the report, which identify two unsound forest practices.

Without further qualifying my opinion, I draw attention to the *Hazard Assessment and Abatement* section of the report, which describes an area requiring improvement.

The *Audit Approach and Scope* and the *Planning and Practices Examined* sections of this report describe the basis of the audit work performed in reaching the above conclusion. The audit was conducted in accordance with the auditing standards of the Forest Practices Board, including adherence to the auditor independence standards and the ethical requirements, which are founded on fundamental principles of integrity, objectivity, professional competence and due care, confidentiality and professional behaviour. Such an audit includes examining sufficient forest planning and practices to support an overall evaluation of compliance with *FRPA*, and *Wildfire Act*.



Christopher R. Mosher CPA, CA, EP(CEA)  
Director, Audits

Victoria, British Columbia  
May 28, 2020

# Appendix 1: Forest Practices Board Compliance Audit Process

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## Background

The Forest Practices Board conducts audits of government and agreement-holders under the *Forest and Range Practices Act* (FRPA), section 122, and the *Wildfire Act*. Compliance audits examine forest or range planning and practices to determine whether or not they meet FRPA and / or *Wildfire Act* requirements. The Board conducts about 10 compliance audits annually. Most of these are audits of agreement holders. The Board also audits the government's BC Timber Sales Program (BCTS).

### Selection of auditees

To begin with, auditors randomly select an area of the Province, such as a natural resource district. Then the auditors review the forest resources, geographic features, operating conditions and other factors in the area selected. These are considered in conjunction with Board strategic priorities (updated annually), and the type of audit is determined. At this stage, auditors choose the auditee(s) that best suits the selected risk and priorities. The audit selections are not based on past performance.

For example, in 2016, the Board randomly selected the Dawson Creek portion of the Peace Natural Resource District as a location for an audit. After assessing the activities within the area, it was noted that there were two community forest agreements that had not yet been audited by the Board. As the Board strives to audit an array of licence types and sizes each year, these two community forest agreements were selected for audit.

For BCTS audits, a district or timber supply area within 2 of the 12 business areas in the province are selected randomly for audit. Only those areas that have not been audited by the Board in the past five years are eligible for selection.

### Audit Standards

The audits are conducted in accordance with auditing standards developed by the Board. These standards include adherence to the auditor independence standards and the ethical requirements, which are founded on fundamental principles of integrity, objectivity, professional competence and due care, confidentiality and professional behaviour and are consistent with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. The standards for compliance audits are described in the Board's *Compliance Audit Reference Manual*.

### Audit Process

#### Conducting the Audit

Once the Board randomly selects an area or district and determines the scope of audit to be conducted and the licensee(s) to be audited, all activities carried out during the period subject to audit are identified (such as harvesting or replanting, and road construction or deactivation activities). Items that make up each forest activity are referred to as a population. For example, all sites harvested form the timber harvesting population and all road sections constructed form the road construction population.

A separate sample is then selected for each population (e.g., the cutblocks selected for auditing timber harvesting). Within each population, more audit effort (i.e., more audit sampling) is allocated to areas

where the risk of non-compliance is greater. For smaller audits, the sample will include the full population.

Auditors' work includes interviewing licensee staff, reviewing applicable plans, assessing features from helicopters and measuring specific features like riparian reserve zone width using ground procedures. The audit teams generally spend three to five days in the field.

## **Evaluating the Results**

The Board recognizes that compliance with the requirements of FRPA and the *Wildfire Act* is more a matter of degree than absolute adherence. Determining compliance, and assessing the significance of non-compliance, requires the exercise of professional judgment within the direction provided by the Board.

The audit team, composed of professionals and technical experts, first determines whether forest practices comply with legal requirements. For those practices considered to not be in compliance, the audit team then evaluates the significance of the non-compliance, based on a number of criteria, including the magnitude of the event, the frequency of its occurrence and the severity of the consequences.

Auditors categorize their findings into the following levels of compliance:

**Compliance** – where the auditor finds that practices meet FRPA and *Wildfire Act* requirements.

**Unsound practice** – where the auditor identifies a significant practice that, although in compliance with FRPA or the *Wildfire Act*, is not considered to be sound management.

**Not significant non-compliance** – where the auditor, upon reaching a non-compliance conclusion, determines that one or more non-compliance event(s) is not significant and not generally worthy of reporting. However, in certain circumstances, these events may be reported as an area requiring improvement.

**Significant non-compliance** – where the auditor determines a non-compliance event(s) or condition(s) is, or has the potential to be, significant and is considered worthy of reporting.

**Significant breach** – where the auditor finds that significant harm has occurred, or is beginning to occur, to persons or the environment as a result of one or more non-compliance events.

If a significant breach of the legislation has occurred, the auditor is required by the *Forest Practices Board Regulation* to immediately advise the Board, the party being audited, and the Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development.

## **Reporting**

Based on the above evaluation, the auditor then prepares a draft audit report. The party being audited is given a copy of the draft report for review and comment before it is submitted to the Board.

The Board reviews the draft report and determines if the audit findings may adversely affect any party or person. If so, the party or person must be given an opportunity to make representations before the Board decides the matter and issues a final report. The representations allow parties that may potentially be adversely affected to present their views to the Board.

The Board reviews representations from parties that may potentially be adversely affected, makes any necessary changes to the report, and decides if recommendations are warranted. The report is then finalized and released: first to the auditee and then to the public and government seven days later.

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<sup>i</sup> A forest stewardship plan (FSP) is a key planning element in the FRPA framework and the only plan subject to public review and comment and government approval. In FSPs licensees are required to identify results and/or strategies consistent with government objectives for values such as water, wildlife and soils. These results and strategies must be measurable and once approved are subject to government enforcement. FSPs identify areas within which road construction and harvesting will occur but are not required to show the specific locations of future roads and cut blocks. FSPs can have a term of up to five years.

<sup>ii</sup> **Forest Planning and Practices Regulation – Roads and associated structures - Section 72**

A person who constructs or maintains a road must ensure that the road and the bridges, culverts, fords and other structures associated with the road are structurally sound and safe for use by industrial users.

<sup>iii</sup> **Forest Planning and Practices Regulation – Retaining information - Section 77**

1. A person who builds a bridge or major culvert for the purpose of constructing or maintaining a road must do all of the following:
  - a. Prepare or obtain
    - i. Pile driving records,
    - ii. For new materials used to build the bridge or major culvert, mill test certificates, in-plant steel fabrication drawings, and concrete test results,
    - iii. Soil compaction results, and
    - iv. Other relevant field and construction data;
  - b. Prepare as-built drawings of the bridge or major culvert;
  - c. Retain the information referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b) until the earlier of the date that
    - i. The bridge or major culvert is removed, and
    - ii. The person is no longer required to maintain the road.
2. Subject to subsection (3), a person responsible for maintaining a road must retain a copy of inspection records for a bridge or major culvert associated with the road for at least one year after the bridge or major culvert is removed from the site.
3. Unless the road has been deactivated, a person must submit to the district manager or the timber sales manager, as applicable, the documents, drawings and records described in subsections (1) and (2) in respect of a road if the person is no longer required to maintain the road because the district manager or timber sales manager
  - a. Cancelled the road permit, road use permit or special use permit for the road, and
  - b. Does not require the road to be deactivated.

<sup>iv</sup> **Forest Planning and Practices Regulation – Annual reports - Section 86**

(1) In this section and in section 86.1:

"**location**" means the approximate location;

"**reporting period**", in respect of the year in which the report referred to in subsections (2) to (5) is to be furnished, means the 12 month period beginning on April 1 of the immediately preceding calendar year.

(2) Repealed. [B.C. Reg. 104/2008, s. 1 (a) (ii).]

(3) Before June 1 of each year, an agreement holder must report to the district manager

(a) for each area in which timber harvesting was completed during the reporting period and to which section 29 of the Act applies or to which section 44 (4) of this regulation applies, the following information:

(i) the area in which the harvesting occurred;

(ii) the amount of area that was harvested;

(iii) an update of the forest cover inventory;

(iv) the location and approximate size of all associated wildlife tree retention areas,

(b) the location of any resource feature or wildlife habitat feature in or contiguous to a cutblock or road of which feature the holder is aware during the reporting period if

(i) the holder has not, in a previous reporting period, reported the resource feature or wildlife habitat feature, and

(ii) the order establishing the resource feature or wildlife habitat feature requires the location of the resource feature or wildlife habitat feature to be reported under this section,

(c) the pertinent information about seeds used during the reporting period to grow seedlings planted by the holder in cutblocks on the land to which the agreement pertains,

(d) an update of the forest cover inventory for each area in which during the reporting period

(i) the requirements for the regeneration date have been met,

(ii) the requirements for the regeneration date have not been met but the regeneration date has passed,

(iii) a free growing stand has been declared under section 97 or 97.1 of this regulation or the requirements of section 46.11 (2) (b) of this regulation have been met, or

(iv) a free growing stand has not been established, but the free growing date has passed, and

(e) a summary of any silviculture treatments that were carried out during the reporting period.

<sup>v</sup> The RESULTS (Reporting Silviculture Updates and Land status Tracking System) application tracks silviculture information by managing the submission of openings, disturbances, silviculture activities and obligation declarations as required by the forest and range practices legislation.

<sup>vi</sup> **Wildfire Regulation – High risk activities - Section 6**

(1) Repealed. [B.C. Reg. 213/2008, s. 3 (a).]

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(2) A person who carries out a high risk activity on or within 300 m of forest land or grass land on or after March 1 and before November 1, unless the area is snow covered, must determine the Fire Danger Class for the location of the activity

- (a) by reference to representative weather data for the area,
- (b) by reference to
  - (i) the Danger Region from Schedule 1,
  - (ii) the applicable numerical rating under the Buildup Index, and
  - (iii) the applicable numerical rating under the Fire Weather Index, and
- (c) by cross-referencing the Buildup Index with the Fire Weather Index, for the applicable Danger Region, under Schedule 2.

(3) If there is a risk of a fire starting or spreading, a person carrying out a high risk activity on or within 300 m of forest land or grass land must

- (a) do so in accordance with the applicable restriction and duration set out in Schedule 3 for the Fire Danger Class, and
- (b) keep at the activity site
  - (i) fire fighting hand tools, in a combination and type to properly equip each person who works at the site with a minimum of one fire fighting hand tool, and
  - (ii) an adequate fire suppression system.

vii **Wildfire Act – Hazard assessment and abatement** - Section 7(1) states “In prescribed circumstances and at prescribed intervals, a person carrying out an industrial activity or a prescribed activity on forest land or grass land or within 1 km of forest land or grass land must conduct fire hazard assessments.”

**Wildfire Regulation - Hazard Assessment** – Section 11(3) states “Subject to subsection (3.1) of this section, the prescribed intervals, at which persons described in section 7(1) of the Act must conduct fire hazard assessments, are

- (a) 6 month intervals during the period during which the persons, in any area other than the area described in subsection (2), are carrying on the industrial activity or the prescribed activity, and
- (b) the shorter interval between the most recent 6-month interval and the date on which the activity ceases for an expected period of 6 months or more.”





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