

What is this audit about?

The Board conducted a full-scope compliance audit of forest licences A77899 and A77900 held by 1175401 B.C. Ltd. within the Sunshine Coast Natural Resource District. All activities carried out between June 1, 2021 and June 2, 2023 were subject to audit. These activities included:

- Timber harvesting
- Road and major structure construction, maintenance and deactivation
- Silviculture obligations
- Wildfire protection
- Associated planning

What did the Board find?

While the licensee generally complied with requirements under the *Forest and Range Practices Act* and *Wildfire Act*, the audit found a number of significant non-compliances which are of concern to the Board. The audit shows the licensee was unaware of the scope of its road maintenance obligations specific to its forest tenure. As a result, the licensee had no proactive road maintenance plan in place to ensure its roads and structures were safe and sound. The licensee also did not fulfill several commitments made in its Forest Stewardship Plan regarding objectives for visual quality, fish habitat and wildlife, and measures for invasive plants.



Figure 1. Map of the audit area on Texada Island

Key Takeaways

The Board has noticed an increasing trend in the number of small forest licences acquired by new tenure holders. When a forest licence is awarded or transferred, the legal and financial obligations are transferred along with it. If licensees are not fully aware of their obligations, forest resources can be put at risk. This is not in the public's interest.



Figure 2. Looking southwest towards Lasqueti Island from a cutblock managed by 1175401 B.C. Ltd.

New tenure holders are encouraged to be diligent in understanding the risks and obligations associated with acquiring a new licence. This means:

- Clarifying roles and responsibilities with government.
- Engaging with forest professionals to ensure forest resources are managed according to legal standards.
- Consulting resources on [how to manage timber tenures in British Columbia](#).

To read the full audit report, visit the Board's website at: <https://www.bcfpb.ca/release-publications/releases/>

Acknowledgement

Texada Island is part of the territory of the shíshálh, Tla'amin, and the Snaw'naw'as Nations. These Indigenous Peoples have been stewards of the land since time immemorial, and the Forest Practices Board recognizes their deep connection with the land that continues to this day.