Forest Practices Board

FORESTRY AUDIT

Interfor Corporation Castlegar Division

Tree Farm Licence 3

Selkirk Natural Resource District



December 2026 bcfpb.ca FPB/ARC/276

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AUDIT RESULTS

Introduction

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

As part of its 2025 compliance audit program, the Board randomly selected the Selkirk Natural Resource District (the district) as the location for a full-scope compliance audit. Within the district, the Board selected Interfor Corporation-Castlegar Division's (Interfor) Tree Farm Licence (TFL) 3 for audit.

This report describes what the Board audited and the results. Appendix 1 provides detailed information about the Board's compliance audit process.



Figure 1. Regenerating cutblock in the northwest of TFL3, looking across the Koch Creek valley.

Background

TFL 3 is an area-based forest tenure in the West Kootenays, covering approximately 78 000 hectares. Operations are located about 40 kilometres north of Castlegar. Interfor manages TFL 3 from its Castlegar office, where staff prepare operational plans and oversee forestry activities such as timber harvesting, road work and silviculture. The audit covered activities across the TFL, including areas west of Passmore and Slocan, and east of Lower Arrow Lake. The TFL is directly south of Valhalla Provincial Park, a 50 000-hectare protected area known for its extensive recreational use and ecological significance (see Figure 2).

The terrain in TFL 3 ranges from valley bottoms with even and rolling terrain to steep, forested slopes reaching up toward rocky, rugged mountain tops. Distinct ecological features contribute to biodiversity values with rare and infrequent low-intensity stand-initiating events such as fires, wind and insects that result in a natural mosaic of primarily even-aged stands.

Species diversity is reflected across the varied terrain. Lower-elevation forests include species like Douglas-fir, cedar, larch, lodgepole pine and hemlock. Higher-elevation forests consist of spruce-balsam mixtures. The area spans multiple biogeoclimatic zones, including Interior Cedar – Hemlock, Engelmann Spruce – Subalpine Fir and Interior Mountain-heather Alpine.

The area provides important habitat conditions for an array of wildlife, including grizzly bear, elk, mule deer, white-tailed deer, mountain caribou and moose.

This audit took place within the territories of the Ktunaxa Nation Council, whose member Nations include ʔaq'am First Nation, ʔakisq̓nuk First Nation, yaqan nuʔkiy First Nation, and Yaq̓it ʔa·knuqłi 'it First Nation, in addition to the Adams Lake Indian Band, Okanagan Indian Band, Penticton Indian Band, Lower Similkameen Indian Band, Neskonlith Indian Band, Shuswap Band, Sinixt-Lakes Tribe of the Colville Confederated Tribes, Skwlāx te Secwepemcúl̓ecw, Upper Nicola Band, and Westbank First Nation. The Board recognizes the importance of their historical relationship with the land that continues to this day.

The current allowable annual cut for TFL 3 is approximately 56 000 cubic metres and was determined in July 2024. This is lower than the previous determination of 80 000 cubic metres. During the audit period of June 1, 2023, to June 13, 2025, Interfor harvested approximately 52 500 cubic metres per year.

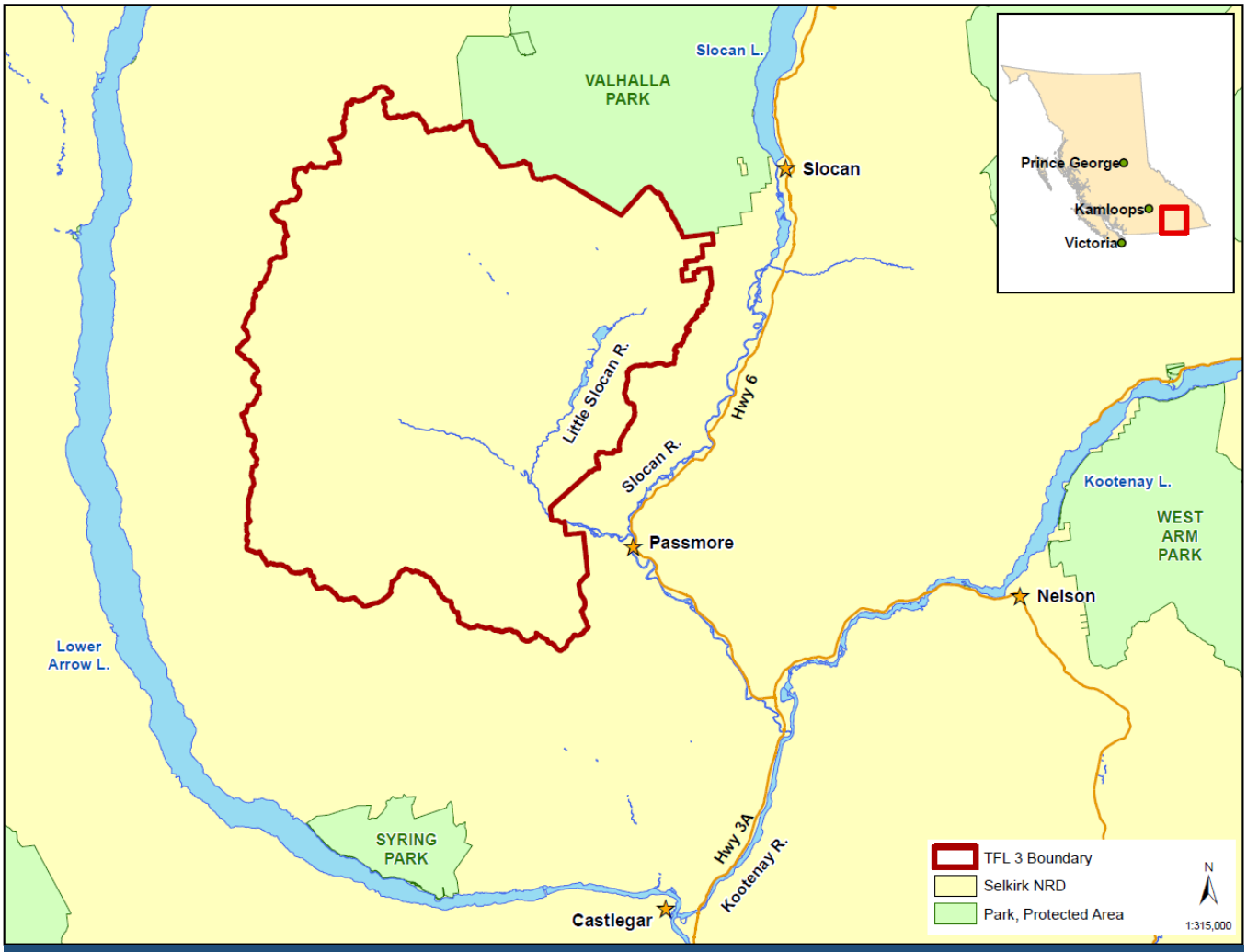


Figure 2. Map of the audit area.

Audit Approach and Scope

This was a full-scope compliance audit. All activities carried out between June 1, 2023, and June 13, 2025, were eligible for audit. These activities included operational planning (forest stewardship plan (FSP) and site plans), timber harvesting, wildfire protection, silviculture, and construction and maintenance of roads and major structures.[1]

Auditors assessed whether these activities complied with FRPA, the *Wildfire Act*, and applicable regulations. To do this, auditors interviewed Interfor staff, reviewed the FSPs and site plans, examined records, and visited sites to review field practices. The audit team was comprised of four forest professionals. Fieldwork took place from June 9 to 13, 2025, with licensee representatives present.

1 Major structures include bridges and major culverts. Bridges are defined as temporary or permanent crossing structures where the superstructure is either prefabricated or built with logs. A log structure is considered a bridge when the span length equals or is greater than 6 metres or the abutment height is 4 metres or greater for any span length. Major culverts include round pipes with diameters of 2 metres or greater, or pipe arches with openings greater than 2.13 metres.

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*.

Planning and Practices Examined

Operational Planning

Interfor planned its forest management activities in TFL 3 under two FSPs. Most activities audited were covered by the current FSP 895 which replaced FSP 658 in 2024.

Operations in TFL 3 are guided by the Kootenay Boundary Land Use Plan and fall within the Arrow Forest Development Unit #2.[2] The *Kootenay Boundary Higher Level Plan Orde*r (October 2002) applies to the TFL. This order sets objectives for values such as biodiversity, old and mature forest conditions, and habitat. Other legal orders established under the *Government Actions Regulation* also apply to Interfor's operations. These include requirements for wildlife habitat areas and ungulate winter range, as well as visual quality objectives.

Interfor has developed results and strategies in its FSPs to make sure the applicable objectives are addressed. The planning portion of the audit focused on FSP 895, which was the primary FSP in effect during the audit period. Generally, key resource interests and objectives relevant to the audit included:

- scenic areas;
- connectivity corridors;
- enhanced resource development zones for timber;
- important fish streams;
- old growth management areas; and
- measures for invasive plants.

2. A forest development unit (FDU) means an area identified in a forest stewardship plan where forest development may occur during the term of the plan, and within which, during the term of the plan, timber to be harvested or roads to be constructed are entirely located.



Figure 3. Overview of an active harvest block with dispersed retention of Douglas-fir.

Auditors analyzed the FSPs and stand-level site plans for consistency with legal requirements. During harvesting, road and silviculture field sampling, auditors also checked whether site plans reflected actual conditions on the ground.

Timber Harvesting

Interfor harvested 28 cutblocks during the audit period. Auditors examined 17 of these.

Cutblock samples were selected based on cumulative risk to resource values, geographic representation and sampling efficiencies. Risk factors included soil sensitivity, riparian values and visual quality objectives, among others.

Road and Bridge Construction, Maintenance and Deactivation

During the audit period, Interfor constructed, maintained, and deactivated roads and structures. Table 1 summarizes the population and samples of road and major structure activities reviewed during the audit.

TABLE 1. Population and Sample for Road and Structure Activities

Activity	Population	Sample
Road Construction (km)	14.1	8.3
Road Maintenance (km)	589.2	246.2
Road Deactivation (km)	8.0	2.52
Bridge & Major Culverts Maintained	30	20
Bridge Deactivated	1	1

Silviculture Obligations and Activities

Interfor conducted silviculture activities, including establishment planting, fill planting and brushing. During the audit period, milestones such as regeneration delay and free growing were completed along with the reporting requirements associated with harvesting and silviculture activities. Table 2 summarizes the population and samples of silviculture obligations and activities reviewed during the audit.

TABLE 2. Population and Sample Summary for Silviculture Activities

Activities and Obligations	Population (Cutblocks)	Sample (Cutblocks)*
Planting	24	11 Field 24 – seed transfer**
Regeneration Obligations (Due or Declared)	34	14
Brushing	3	3
Free-growing Obligations (Due or Declared)	22	11 Field 22 – seed transfer**

**Auditors checked all field-sampled cutblocks for annual reporting compliance.*
***Auditors checked planting records for the entire planting and free-growing populations to determine whether the seedlings planted conform to the Chief Forester's Standards for Seed Use.*

Wildfire Protection

Fire hazard assessment and abatement activities were either due or completed during the audit period. At the time of the field audit, eight logging sites were active. Table 3 summarizes the population and sampled wildfire protection obligations.

TABLE 3. Population and Sample Summary for Wildfire Protection Activities

Activity	Population (Cutblocks)	Sample (Cutblocks)
Fire Assessment	29	29
Fire Hazard Assessment	18	11
Fire Preparedness at Active Work Sites	8	8

Findings

Auditors found that Interfor's planning and practices did not comply in all aspects with FRPA and the *Wildfire Act*, as of June 2025.

Non-compliances were identified in the following areas:

- adequately providing fuel breaks;
- site plan development for roads;
- fire hazard assessment and abatement activities; and
- harvest and road building notification requirements.

The audit also found a notable harvesting practice relating to improved protection of soil productivity and terrain stability, which is described in the *Winch-Assisted Harvesting on Steep Slopes* section below.

Findings of Significant Non-compliance

Fire Hazard Abatement Practices with Respect to Fuel Breaks

Auditors found that pile burning damaged or killed individual trees in residual patches, in wildlife tree retention areas (WTRAs), and in adjacent standing timber on multiple occasions.

Under section 6(1)[i] of the *Wildfire Act* and sections 22(1)(e)(i) and 22(3)[ii] of the *Wildfire Regulation*, a qualified holder using a category 3 open fire is required to establish a fuel break around a cutblock and must ensure that the fire does not spread beyond the fuel break. Of the 11 cutblocks reviewed, 6 showed evidence of pile burning practices that resulted in damaged or killed trees outside the cutblock, including WTRA edges. This represents 55 percent of the sampled cutblocks where abatement was completed.

In addition, on six cutblocks where hazard abatement was not yet due or not fully complete, unburned piles were located next to standing timber with inadequate fuel breaks. If Interfor burns these piles as they are constructed, there is a high risk that adjacent timber would be damaged.

Interfor did not comply with category 3 burning requirements that apply to section 6(1) and the fuel break requirements of section 22(3). Due to the pervasiveness of this practice as demonstrated by observed damage to standing trees, this is considered a significant non-compliance.

Findings of Non-compliance

Site Plans for Roads

Section 10[iii] of FRPA requires Interfor to prepare site plans for roads before the right-of-way timber harvesting begins. Site plans help ensure the licensee's commitments in its FSP are adequately addressed and that forest resources are protected.

During the audit period, Interfor built 22 new road sections, totaling 14.1 kilometres, to access cutblocks. Only 4.2 kilometres (30 percent) of these roads were covered by a site plan—or 9 of 22 road sections in the population. Auditors found only one site plan, which covered nine road sections, was completed prior to the construction of new roads.

Interfor's non-compliances with road site plans were attributed to an outdated process under FSP 658. Interfor corrected those processes at the time of the approval of FSP 895, months prior to the audit. Interfor now has an updated road site plan development process.

Although changes to site planning processes are an improvement and were noted in the later stages of the audit period, 70 percent of the road length was built without a site plan in the earlier stages of the audit period. This represents a significant portion not in compliance with section 10 of FRPA. Auditors determined this finding to be a non-compliance, but not a significant non-compliance due to the improvements made by Interfor to meet the requirements of section 10.

Fire Hazard Assessment and Abatement

Section 7(1)[iv] of the *Wildfire Act* requires a person carrying out an industrial activity, such as timber harvesting, to conduct fire hazard assessments at certain intervals. This includes an assessment of the fuel hazard and the risk of starting or spreading fire.

Auditors found that Interfor did not complete required interim fire hazard assessments on time for 12 of the 13 cases sampled during the audit period (92 percent). Auditors also determined that final fire hazard assessments were not completed on time, or at all, for 10 of 28 samples (36 percent). This is a non-compliance with section 7(1) of the *Wildfire Act.*

Auditors found that Interfor consistently abated fire hazards by burning piles in every cutblock where abatement was due during the audit period, except for one, which exceeded the abatement deadline. Although piles were burned, the issue of missed fire hazard assessments was widespread. Considering both assessment and abatement activities, auditors determined this to be a non-compliance, but not a significant non-compliance.

Notification of Timber Harvesting and Road Construction

Section 85[v] of the *Forest Planning and Practices Regulation* requires agreement holders to notify government before beginning harvesting or road building activities.

Interfor was not able to demonstrate that it had notified government before beginning operations. As a result, the Selkirk Natural Resource District was largely unaware of Interfor's start-up activities. This limits the district's ability to communicate necessary safety updates to the public, initiate any compliance and enforcement monitoring, or support timely responses to emergencies such as wildfires.

Because there was no evidence of any environmental or public safety issue related to this finding, auditors deemed this to be a non-compliance, but not a significant non-compliance.

Since the audit, Interfor has committed to implementing a process for notifying the Ministry of Forests about harvest and road building in a timely manner. Auditors did not verify if this process step was implemented.

Notable Practices Finding

Winch-Assisted Harvesting on Steep Slopes

Interfor demonstrated a notable innovation in forest practices by selectively using winch-assisted harvesting systems (tethering) during the audit period. To better understand how to use these types of harvest systems, Interfor conducted a steep slope tethering study. The study included a post-harvest assessment of 89 cutblocks which identified factors and circumstances that increase the likelihood of landslides. Since tethering can impact soil productivity and terrain stability, Interfor set an objective to limit the potential impacts that this system may cause. Based on the study, Interfor developed best management practices, including operational decision tools, for tethering and block layout based on post-harvest impact ratings with the aim of minimizing negative impacts to soils.

General Findings

Operational Planning

The auditors observed a reportable non-compliance with the requirement to prepare site plans for roads as described in the *Site Plans for Roads* section above, but otherwise, operational planning was generally consistent with Interfor's FSP. Site plans were completed for roads, following Interfor's updated road site plan development process under FSP 895.

Auditors reviewed all sampled site plans and found them to be consistent with resource assessments required under the approved FSP. These included visual impact assessments, archaeological impact assessments, terrain stability field assessments, riparian assessments, and forest cover analyses for ungulate winter range areas.

Timber Harvesting

Harvesting generally complied with FRPA requirements, except for the findings described in the *Notification of Timber Harvesting and Road Construction* section.

Auditors examined 17 of 28 cutblocks harvested during the audit period. The sample was well distributed across the audit area and reflected a range of key resource values within the operating area. Harvesting practices included innovative steep slope systems, fire salvage operations, and conventional clearcuts with reserves. Timber harvesting was reported to RESULTS as per reporting requirements. Auditors are satisfied that Interfor has systems in place to consistently manage reporting obligations.

Auditors found that Interfor completed the necessary assessments, including archaeological, terrain stability, and visual assessments. As a result, Interfor either followed the recommendations or modified their harvesting practices to reduce risk or impact to specific values.

Three cutblocks were located within designated scenic areas, where harvesting may be visible from a significant public viewpoint and visual quality objectives are set, regarding scale, shape and appearance. Where field verification was possible, auditors found that the cutblocks were either not visible from a significant public viewpoint or met visual quality objectives. Auditors found that Interfor's visual impact assessments for these cutblocks were accurate.

Multiple cutblocks had overlapping wildlife habitat requirements, including consideration for grizzly bears and ungulate winter range. Interfor accurately identified the habitat potential associated with the sampled cutblocks and adjusted operating periods and practices to meet the applicable general wildlife measures.

Overall, Interfor's harvesting practices were consistent with legal requirements, the FSPs, and site plans.



Figure 4. Dispersed residual trees in a recently harvested, regenerating cutblock.

Road and Major Structure Construction, Maintenance, and Deactivation

Auditors found that road construction, maintenance, and deactivation were completed to a high standard. However, issues related to site planning and government notification are described in the *Findings* section.

Interfor maintained detailed and accurate records for all activities to complete the necessary road-related work. Auditors had no concerns with construction, maintenance and deactivation practices for roads and major structures.

Road Construction

Interfor constructed approximately 14 kilometres of road during the audit period. Required terrain stability field assessments were completed, and site-specific recommendations were followed when building roads in areas of potentially unstable terrain. Natural drainage patterns were maintained and cross-drains were installed to manage water where needed.



Figure 5. Preservation of stream banks and channel characteristics following bridge removal.

Road Maintenance

Road maintenance obligations totaled 589 kilometres and mainly consisted of roads categorized under road permit, with some forest service roads and in-block roads. This population is substantial relative to the construction and deactivation activities Interfor completed.

Auditors determined that drainage systems were functioning, and natural drainage patterns were maintained. There were no significant instances of instability or surface erosion, and no measurable impacts on forest values were noted.

Interfor carries out regular road inspections to identify and address road maintenance requirements.

Road Deactivation

Road deactivation work was completed by removing drainage structures, cross-ditching, recontouring, grass seeding and restricting access. Auditors did not see any adverse impacts on forest resources from these activities. Interfor demonstrated to auditors that they manage their road obligations by regularly retiring roads on an ongoing basis.

Structure Construction

Interfor did not construct any bridges or major culvert structures during the audit period.

Structure Maintenance

Auditors assessed 20 crossings and found that bridges and major culvert structures were sound and safe for industrial use. Interfor conducts regular inspections of its crossings and adheres to a high standard of inspection and repair. Auditors observed one bridge structure with damage to its guardrails caused by snow plowing. At the time of the audit, materials had been ordered, and a repair plan was prepared. Interfor was found to have managed its commitments to safety and environmental protection regarding crossings.

Structure Deactivation

Interfor removed one bridge during the audit period that had not been associated with active harvesting for approximately 15 years. Auditors determined the bridge removal was completed to an acceptable standard, with no adverse effects on public safety or the environment. Stream bank stability and stream channel integrity were preserved during the removal of the bridge.

Silviculture

Interfor met its silviculture obligations by reforesting healthy, new stands through planting or natural regeneration following harvest.

Intimate mixtures of ecologically suitable seedlings were planted. These mixtures included Douglas-fir, western larch, spruce, western hemlock, western white pine, western redcedar, lodgepole pine, and Ponderosa pine. Interfor monitored seedlings for survival and managed densities across the free-growing assessment period. Planting densities were prescribed to exceed the target stocking standard during the establishment phase to offset losses due to competition, forest health, and drought-induced mortality.

Interfor is required to comply with the *Chief Forester's Standards for Seed Use*[3] to meet legislated requirements under FRPA. Since 2022, this includes the adoption of Climate Based Seed Transfer when deploying seedlings to newly harvested areas. Interfor was within the reasonable range of compliance, ensuring 94 percent of seedlings in the audit sample conformed to the Climate Based Seed Transfer requirements. As well, Interfor obtained approvals for the alternative use of A-class, blister rust-resistant western white pine as a climate change adaptation strategy.



Figure 6. Ponderosa pine PSB 420 seedlings planted on rocky, droughty sites under competition from Ceanothus spp.

Interfor uses a survey framework that identifies risks associated with its regenerating stands, schedules necessary silviculture treatments, and collects appropriate silviculture information to support their free growing declarations. Although minor administrative errors were noted during the audit, the silviculture program is managed to an acceptable standard and information is submitted to government databases in a timely manner to meet its annual reporting requirements.

Auditors found that Interfor met its regeneration delay and free-growing obligations, consistent with legal requirements and the commitments made in its FSP.

[3] The province's chief forester established the Chief Forester's Standards for Seed Use in accordance with the Forest and Range Practices Act and its regulations. These standards came into effect April 1, 2005, and have been updated to require the use of Climate Based Seed Transfer prior to the beginning of the 2023 growing season.

Wildfire Protection

Other than the findings described in the *Fire Hazard Assessment and Abatement* and *Fire Hazard Abatement Practices with Respect to Fuel Breaks* sections, Interfor planned and completed piling and burning activities to manage wildfire risk.

Fire Hazard Abatement

Interfor burned debris piles within required timeframes for hazard abatement on all sampled cutblocks, except for one cutblock abated past the required timeframe.

Fire Preparedness

Auditors assessed Interfor's fire preparedness at eight active harvesting sites during the field audit.

At all sites, contractors had sufficient firefighting hand tools and adequate operational fire suppression systems, including water tanks, pumps, and hoses. Contractors and Interfor staff were aware of the correct weather station, current fire danger class, and applicable restrictions. They also understood their fire watching requirements.

All eight sites met legal requirements. Auditors had no concerns with Interfor's fire preparedness practices during the audit period.



Figure 7. Water tank truck on an active harvest site, in case fire suppression systems are required.

AUDIT ASSURANCE

This 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 the *Forest and Range Practices Act* and the *Wildfire Act*.



Francis Njenga
Director of Audits

Vancouver, British Columbia
November 17, 2026

APPENDIX 1: FOREST PRACTICES BOARD COMPLIANCE AUDIT PROCESS

Background

The Forest Practices Board conducts periodic audits of government and licensees to determine compliance with Parts 1.1 to 5 of the *Forest and Range Practices Act* (FRPA), and Parts 1 and 2 of the *Wildfire Act,* and associated regulations and standards.

Selection of Auditees

The number, type and scope of audits to be conducted each year are established by the Director of Audits in accordance with the Board's strategic priorities and budget. Once a licence has been audited, it is removed from the audit selection pool for five years.

The Board randomly selects districts or timber supply areas (TSAs) from each of the three natural resource areas of BC (North, South and Coast). The auditors then review the forest resources, geographic features, activities, and operating conditions in the district or TSA selected, as well as past Board audits in that district or TSA. These factors are considered with the Board's operational and strategic priorities, and the type of audit is determined. At this stage, the Board chooses the auditee(s) that best suits the selected risk and priorities. This is considered a qualified random approach of selection.

In addition, each year, the Board randomly selects at least 1 of the 31 BCTS field units for audit.

Audit Standards

Audits are conducted in accordance with auditing standards developed by the Board and described in the Board's *Compliance Audit Reference Manual*. The standards are based on Canadian generally accepted auditing standards and relevant ethical requirements. This includes those pertaining to independence, as published by the Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada, and consistent with the *Canadian Standards on Assurance Engagements* (CSAE) 3001, the *Conformity assessment – Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems* (ISO 17021-1:2011), and the CPA *Code of Professional Conduct* (CPABC Code – June 2015).

Audit Process

Conducting the Audit

Once the Board selects a licence or BCTS field unit for audit, the next step is to determine the scope of the audit (timeframe, activities). For the timeframe, the Board normally examines activities that took place over a one or two-year time period up to the last day of the audit fieldwork (i.e., looking back two years). This is referred to as the audit period.

For a full-scope compliance audit, all activities carried out during the audit period are identified, which may include harvest, silviculture, fire protection and road-related activities. These activities form the population.

From the population, the auditors select a sample of each activity to examine in the field. Generally, auditors will concentrate on sampling where the risk of impacts to forest resources is deemed to be high. This is called the *inherent risk*. It can be a function of site conditions, natural circumstances, and the particular forest or range practices involved. Proportionally, more sampling occurs where the inherent risk is high because the higher the risk, the higher the likelihood of significant non-compliance or failure to achieve specified results.

For smaller audits, the sample may include the full population. Auditors also consider factors such as geographic distribution and values potentially affected by activities to ensure an adequate sample size.

Auditors' work includes interviewing licensee staff, reviewing the auditee's applicable plans, and reviewing applicable legal orders, observations, inspections, and assessments 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 practice that complies with FRPA or the *Wildfire Act,* but may adversely affect a forest resource.

Areas Requiring Improvement (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. 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 an auditor identifies a probable significant breach of the legislation, the auditor is required by the *Forest Practices Board Regulation* to immediately advise the Board, the party being audited, and the responsible minister(s).

Reporting

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

The Board reviews the draft report and may make recommendations and/or provide commentary on the audit findings. The Board must, prior to publishing a report or recommendation, consider whether or not it may adversely affect a party or person. The Board must give any affected party or person the opportunity to review, rebut or clarify the information before the Board publishes its report. The final report is released to the auditee first and then to the public and government seven days later.

ENDNOTE

[i] Industrial activities

6 (1) Except in prescribed circumstances, a person carrying out an industrial activity must not light, fuel or use an open fire in forest land or grass land or within 1 km of forest land or grass land.

[ii] Category 3 open fire

22 (1) The circumstances in which a person described in section 5 (1) or 6 (1) of the Act may light, fuel or use a category 3 open fire in or within 1 km of forest land or grass land are as follows:

(e)the person establishes a fuel break around

(i) the cutblock, in the case of a qualified holder using a category 3 open fire for hazard abatement in a cutblock, and

(ii) each pile, windrow or grass or stubble area, in all other cases

22 (3) Without limiting subsection (1) or (2), a person who lights, fuels or uses a category 3 open fire must ensure that the fire does not spread beyond the fuel break.

Regulatory Requirement Endnotes

[iii] Site plans for cutblocks and roads

10 (1) Except in prescribed circumstances, the holder of a forest stewardship plan must prepare a site plan in accordance with prescribed requirements for any

(a) cutblock before the start of timber harvesting on the cutblock, and

(b) road before the start of timber harvesting related to the road's construction.

[iv] Hazard assessment and abatement

7 (1) 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.

[v] Notification of timber harvesting or road construction

85 (1) An agreement holder must notify the minister before

(a) beginning

(i) timber harvesting, or

(ii) construction of a road that is not a temporary access structure, and

(b) re-starting the activities described in paragraph (a) (i) and (ii) in a cutblock after an inactive period of 3 months or more.

85 (2) A notice under subsection (1) must specify

(a) the location of the timber harvesting or road, including any administrative identifier that relates to the location,

(b) a contact name and contact information, and

(c) the projected date for beginning timber harvesting or road construction.



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