



## SAFETY AND SOUND FOREST MANAGEMENT HIGH PRIORITIES IN SKEENA BUSINESS AREA

**BC Timber Sales (BCTS)** was founded in April 2003 with a mandate to be the cost and price benchmark for timber harvested from public land in the province of British Columbia. Through 12 Business Areas and an operational presence in 33 locations, BCTS manages some 20 percent of the annual provincial Crown harvest.

From operations in Terrace and Hazelton, the Skeena Business Area (Skeena BA) conducts forest planning, timber cruising, layout and engineering, road construction and maintenance, bridge installations, and silviculture activities such as tree planting, surveys and stand treatments in the areas encompassed by the Kalum, North Coast and part of the Skeena Stikine Forest Districts. These forestry activities provide economic benefits to local businesses through the purchase of goods and services. Timber sales support communities by making wood available to loggers, wood processors and other forestry businesses of varying size, including major licensees. BCTS contracts annually with local suppliers for forestry work, road and bridge construction, and reforestation activities.

In its first five years, BC Timber Sales provincially offered 73 million cubic metres of timber to the market, sold 63 million cubic metres and generated \$430 million in net revenue for the Province. Over the same period, the Skeena BA offered 3.7 million cubic metres of timber to the market and sold 2.7 million cubic metres.

BCTS is the largest tree planter in B.C., with 199 million tree seedlings planted provincially since 2003 and 6.2 million seedlings planted in the Skeena BA over the same period. Operating with the principle of sound forest management, the Skeena BA has achieved International Organization for Standardization (ISO 14001) certification by developing and maintaining an Environmental Management System for its entire operations. The Skeena BA also has achieved Sustainable Forest Management certification conforming to the Sustainable Forest Initiative standard for its operations in the Cassiar, Cranberry, Kalum, Kispiox, Nass and North Coast Timber Supply Areas, and on Tree Farm Licences 1 and 41.

Safety is an overriding principle of BCTS and the organization, including the Skeena BA, achieved SAFE Company certification in August 2008. BCTS strongly supports a culture of safety across the B.C. forest industry and is committed to the safety of all people affected by its operations – staff, contractors, licensees and the public.

The Skeena BA provides front-counter walk-in service from its office in Terrace, where customers can pick-up or drop-off Timber Sale Licence tender packages/bids, contract tenders and other documents.

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### For more information:

[www.for.gov.bc.ca/bcts/areas/TSK.htm](http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/bcts/areas/TSK.htm)

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