



Ministry of
Forests and Range
and Ministry Responsible
for Housing

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CRUISING ADVISORY NOTE

File: 20600-00

May 24, 2006

To: All Forest Licensees,
BCTS Managers
District Managers,
Southern Interior Forest Region

From: D. S. Robertson, RFT, ATE
Regional Cruising Coordinator
Southern Interior Forest Region

Re: Road Right of Ways - (*Cruising Manual 2.2.2.2*)



Section 2.2.2.2 paragraph 4 of the *Cruising Manual* states:

4. *Where timber on road rights of way within a cut-block is removed under a road permit (R.P.) after the block is cruised, the cruise plots that are within the area of the R.P. shall be included in the cruise compilation for the cutting permit and the area of R.P. will be removed from the cruise compilation.*

Incidents are occurring where the right of way has been harvested immediately after the area has been cruised and District staff does not have the ability to check the cruise data for plots that have been harvested.

For example:

1. Blanket cruises are taking place, but not submitted the District.
2. The road (billed as a different cutting authority) is harvested shortly after the cruisers have completed their cruise plots.
3. The cruise is then submitted to the district for check cruising.
4. District staff cannot perform a complete check cruise if plots are missing and therefore would not be demonstrating due diligence if they are approved.

For appraisal purposes, the most accurate information is required to determine a stumpage rate.

Regional Best Practices for Right of Way Cruise Data.

1. Section 2.2.2.2 paragraph 4 will be allowed when the cruise is completed according to a cruise plan, submitted prior to any harvesting, -- **WITH SUFFICIENT NOTICE** (30 days) such that District staff are able to check any or all plots.
2. Where insufficient notice is given (< 30 days), then, if any cruise plots are unavailable for check cruising purposes (due to right of way harvesting) those plots shall be removed from the compilation for the cut block area (along with the area of the right of way). In addition, any plots affected by the right of way are to be re-visited by the licensee to ensure that they are sampled accordingly (full plots may become walk-through plots).
3. The cruise must meet the sampling standards of the Cruising Manual. If plots are removed as per paragraph 2 above, either SE% must be achieved on the remaining plots or the remaining plots must achieve a minimum of 1.0 plots per hectare and 5.0 trees per plot in order for the cruise meet the standards.

Please use these interpretations and guidelines when dealing with cruises and right of way areas.

D. S. Robertson, RFT, ATE
Regional Cruising Coordinator
Southern Interior Forest Region