

WOODLOT LICENCE # 0022

WOODLOT LICENCE PLAN

First Term
2007 to 2017

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Authorized Licensee Signature:

R. & K. Woodlot Ltd.

[Signature]

Position: Vice President

[Date]

DISCLAIMER

- Recognizing the special nature of management on a woodlot licence, this disclaimer forms part of the Woodlot Licence Plan (WLP) for Woodlot Licence Number 0022 (W0022) and advises that:
 - the decision to operate under one or more of the Default Performance Requirements provided in the Woodlot Licence Planning and Practices Regulation (WLPPR) is the sole responsibility of the woodlot licence holder, and involved no detailed oversight or advice from the prescribing registered professional forester. This disclaimer is signed on the explicit understanding and information provided by government that, the use and achievement of a Default Performance Requirement, meets the expectations of government with respect to the management of woodlot licences;
 - the undersigned Registered Professional Forester has been retained to provide advice on the practice of professional forestry with regard to items such as alternative performance requirements, applicable results and strategies and other required measures that do not have a default performance requirement provided in the WLPPR.

Signed _____

Name (Print): Nancy Pezel

RPF # 2315

Contact phone number: (250) 752-8896

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1 CONTENT FOR A WOODLOT LICENCE PLAN (WLP)

1.1 PLAN AREA

This plan covers the entire Woodlot Licence area.

This plan covers a portion of the Woodlot Licence area.

1.2 MAP AND INFORMATION

The majority of the applicable information required to be addressed under Section 8(1) of the Woodlot Licence Planning and Practices Regulation (WLPPR) is identified on the map in Appendix III. Only the required information not identified on the map is included in this section.

Biogeoclimatic zones and subzones:

Block A of the woodlot licence lies within the Coastal Douglas-fir Moist Maritime biogeoclimatic subzone. Blocks B and C lie within the Coastal Western Hemlock Very Dry Maritime subzone.

Resource Management Zones, Landscape Units or Sensitive Areas:

The entire woodlot licence lies within the E&N South General Management Zone of the Vancouver Island Land Use Plan. This woodlot licence plan is consistent with the applicable government objectives specified for this General Management Zone.

Scenic Areas:

The majority of the woodlot licence area lies within a Scenic Area. Those portions of the woodlot within the Scenic Area have established Visual Quality Objectives (VQOs) as identified on the map in Appendix III.

Community Watershed:

Blocks B and C of the woodlot licence area are within the Shawnigan Lake Community Watershed, as identified on the map in Appendix III.

Community and domestic water supply intakes that are licensed under the Water Act and any related water supply infrastructures:

Licensed domestic water supply intakes and any related water supply infrastructures are located on the map in Appendix III

Contiguous areas of sensitive soils:

There are no contiguous areas of sensitive soils on the woodlot licence area that the woodlot licensee is aware of.

Resource features other than wildlife habitat features, archaeological sites and other features where the location must not be disclosed:

At the time of preparing this woodlot licence plan, no resource features had been established with the woodlot licence area under the Government Actions Regulation. There were also no resource features within the woodlot licence area that were made “known” by the district manager under the regulations of the Forest Practices Code of BC Act.

1.3 AREAS WHERE TIMBER HARVESTING WILL BE AVOIDED

At the time of writing this woodlot licence plan, there are no portions of the woodlot licence areas where the woodlot licence holder is aware of a legal requirement to completely avoid harvesting.

1.4 AREAS WHERE TIMBER HARVESTING WILL BE MODIFIED

Modified harvesting where practice requirements in the WLPPR apply:

1. Harvesting will be modified in the scenic area established within the woodlot licence area to achieve the Visual Quality Objectives.
2. Harvesting will be modified along streams within the Shawnigan Lake Community Watershed (SLCW) and around any water intakes identified within the woodlot licence area.

Retention of trees in riparian management zones:

Unless exempted by the district manager, or the harvesting of a road clearing width is required, the woodlot licence holder is committed to retaining the following post harvest stand structure in riparian management zones:

Description of Post Harvest Stand Structure to be Retained in Riparian Management Zones for S4 (fish) streams			
Retention of all non-merchantable conifer trees, understory deciduous trees, shrubs, and herbaceous vegetation within 5 m of the channel to the fullest extent possible. Retention of wildlife trees.			
Trees to be Retained	Species	Fd, Cw, Hw, Dr, Mb	
	Characteristics	Merchantable and non merchantable, small and large diameter, including snags and other wildlife trees.	
Range of Residual Basal Area (m ² /ha)	25% - 100%	OR	Range of Residual Trees/ha

Description of Post Harvest Stand Structure to be Retained in Riparian Management Zones for NS4 (non-fish) streams and wetlands			
Retention of all non-merchantable conifer trees, understory deciduous trees, shrubs, and herbaceous vegetation within 5 m of the channel to the fullest extent possible. Retention of wildlife trees.			
Trees to be Retained	Species	Fd, Cw, Hw, Dr, Mb	
	Characteristics	Merchantable and non merchantable, small and large diameter, including snags and other wildlife trees.	
Range of Residual Basal Area (m²/ha)		0% - 100%	OR
		Range of Residual Trees/ha	

Description of Post Harvest Stand Structure to be Retained in Riparian Management Zones for S6 streams			
Retention of all non-merchantable conifer trees, understory deciduous trees, shrubs, and herbaceous vegetation within 5 m of the channel to the fullest extent possible. Retention of wildlife trees.			
Trees to be Retained	Species	Fd, Cw, Hw, Dr, Mb	
	Characteristics	Merchantable and non merchantable, small and large diameter, including snags and other wildlife trees.	
Range of Residual Basal Area (m²/ha)		0% - 25%	OR
		Range of Residual Trees/ha	

1.5 CONSERVING AND PROTECTING CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES

The woodlot lies within the traditional territories of the Cowichan Tribes, Malahat First Nation and the Penelakut First Nation. The woodlot licensee will implement the following strategies to conserve and protect cultural heritage resources that are the focus of a traditional use and of continuing importance to these First Nations peoples:

- Identify available information on cultural heritage resources (CHR) through personal contact and First Nations consultation activities by MOFR;
- Carry out on-going discussions with the First Nations around the conservation and protection of CHRs if new information becomes available during the term of the Woodlot Licence Plan.
- Examine harvest areas for CHRs and notify the district manager and First Nations if anything is found;
- Notify First Nations of applications for cutting permits prior to submission to the MOFR in order that any CHRs can be identified and included as a wildlife tree, in a wildlife tree patch, or collected by First Nation peoples prior to harvest.
- The licensee will continue to provide access to cedar bark, cultural cedar trees (logs) and traditional use plants for First Nations traditional use.
- The licensee will continue to plant western red cedar, where ecologically suited, in accordance with the stocking standards specified in this Woodlot Licence Plan.
- Should First Nations identify any spiritual sites, these sites will be excluded from harvest, provided they do not unduly impact harvest opportunity.
- The licensee will be available for field reviews with First Nation peoples upon request.

1.6 WILDLIFE TREE RETENTION STRATEGY

Note: the proportion of the Woodlot Licence area that is occupied by wildlife tree retention areas is specified in the “PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS” section of this plan.

1.6.1 INDIVIDUAL WILDLIFE TREES

a) Species and Characteristics:

Trees of all species occurring on the woodlot licence area may be selected as individual wildlife trees. Selection will favour trees that provide valuable wildlife tree attributes including signs of internal decay, trees with forks, large rotten branches, loose or cracked bark, recent scars, active wildlife use, existing cavities, nest trees, veteran trees and other large windfirm trees with poor form for sawlogs

b) Conditions Under Which Individual Wildlife Trees May Be Removed:

Individual wildlife trees may be removed if they are considered a safety hazard or they become infested with insects, which threaten the health of adjacent trees.

c) Replacement of Individual Wildlife Trees:

If individual wildlife trees are removed they will be replaced with trees of comparable wildlife tree value from a nearby location.

1.6.2 WILDLIFE TREE RETENTION AREAS

a) Forest Cover Attributes:

Preference will be given to locating wildlife tree retention areas in stands that contain or have a good likelihood of developing valuable wildlife tree attributes as described above. To maintain biodiversity, an attempt will be made to provide representation of all tree species found on the woodlot licence area and focus on riparian management areas, relatively rare biogeoclimatic site series and other areas where harvesting constraints provide the best long term potential for stands to develop wildlife tree attributes associated with advanced age. Root disease centres may also be selected to provide a continuing supply of dead and dying trees, coarse woody debris and biodiversity associated with stand openings.

b) Conditions Under Which Trees May Be Removed from Wildlife Tree Retention Areas:

Trees may be removed if they are considered a safety hazard, if they become infested with insects or diseases which threaten the health of adjacent trees or there is a need to remove the trees to provide access to adjacent stands. If providing access to adjacent stands the removal of high quality wildlife trees will be kept to a minimum.

c) Replacement of Trees Removed from Wildlife Tree Retention Areas:

If trees are removed from wildlife tree retention areas, they will be replaced with trees of comparable wildlife tree value from a nearby location. Where all or part of a wildlife tree retention area is salvaged, the salvaged area will be replaced with other suitable wildlife habitat in the nearest possible location. Suitable replacement areas will have characteristics that are consistent with the wildlife tree retention strategy. If a wildlife tree retention area suffers blowdown or is otherwise killed, but is not salvaged, it will not be replaced.

1.7 MEASURES TO PREVENT INTRODUCTION OR SPREAD OF INVASIVE PLANTS

The following measures will be implemented to reduce the introduction and spread of invasive plants that may result from the woodlot licensees' forest practices:

- Minimize soil disturbance.
- Seed disturbed roadside areas in as soon as practicable with the appropriate mix of fast, growing species of grasses and legumes.
- Minimize the transport of invasive plant seed by removing burrs from clothing and equipment, and by checking the undercarriage of vehicles and removing invasive plants before leaving an infested area.
- Learn to identify invasive plants and recognize early stages of invasive plant development.
- Establish well stocked stands of trees that will eventually suppress invasive plants.

Invasive plants, mainly broom, are prevalent within the Ministry of Highways gravel reserve portion of the woodlot licence area. Although the licensee will minimize the transport of invasive plant seed from this area, control of these invasive plants in this area will not be carried out.

1.8 MEASURES TO MITIGATE EFFECT OF REMOVING NATURAL RANGE BARRIERS

This measure is not applicable because there are no range tenures within the woodlot licence boundary. The licensee will request an exemption from the requirements of WLPPR section 15.

1.9 PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS

1.9.1 STOCKING INFORMATION FOR SPECIFIED AREAS

Unless exempted by the district manager, the stocking standards indicated below apply to areas where the establishment of a free growing stand is not required and harvesting is limited to commercial thinning, removal of individual trees, or a similar type of intermediate cutting, and for harvesting special forest products.

For the purposes of section 12 and 34(3) of the WLPPR the Uneven-aged Stocking standards for single-tree selection, as found in the MoF publication "Reference Guide for FDP Stocking Standards", are adopted. A copy of these stocking standards are included in Appendix I.

1.9.2 SOIL DISTURBANCE LIMITS

- Default WLPPR s.24(1)(b):
- 8% of Net Area to be Reforested

1.9.3 PERMANENT ACCESS STRUCTURES

- Default: WLPPR s.25:

The maximum area occupied by permanent access structures is as follows:

1. For Cutblocks ≥ 5 ha – 7% of the total cutblock area
2. For Cutblocks < 5 ha – 10% of the total cutblock area
3. For the Total Woodlot Licence Area – 7% of the total Woodlot Licence area

Note: For the total woodlot licence area, the 7% does not include existing paved and gravelled public access roads in Block A including Thain Road, Kingburne Drive, Doran Road, Gibson Road and Polera Road.

1.9.4 STOCKING STANDARDS

- Default WLPPR s.35(1)(b):

Adopt the stocking standards, regeneration dates and free growing dates described in the MoF publication “Reference Guide for Forest Development Plan Stocking Standards”, as amended from time to time, that are in place on the commencement date for the area. See http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/forsite/stocking_std.htm (a copy of which is also included in Appendix II).

1.9.5 WIDTH OF STREAM RIPARIAN AREAS

- Default WLPPR s.36(4)(b):

The minimum width of the riparian reserve zone, riparian management zone and riparian management area are as described in WLPPR s.36(4)(b).

1.9.6 WIDTH OF WETLAND RIPARIAN AREAS

- Default: WLPPR s.37(3)(b) The minimum width of the riparian reserve zone, riparian management zone and riparian management area are as described in WLPPR s.37(3)(b).

1.9.7 WIDTH OF LAKE RIPARIAN AREAS

- Default: WLPPR s.38(2)(b) The minimum width of the riparian reserve zone, riparian management zone and riparian management area are as described in WLPPR s.38(2)(b).

1.9.8 RESTRICTIONS IN A RIPARIAN RESERVE ZONE

- Default: WLPPR s.39(1) Cutting, modifying or removing trees in a riparian reserve zone is limited to the purposes described in Section 39(1) of the WLPPR.

1.9.9 RESTRICTIONS IN A RIPARIAN MANAGEMENT ZONE

Default: WLPPR s.40(1)(b)(c) or (d) Construction of a road in a riparian management zone is limited to the conditions described in Section 40(1) of the WLPPR without additional conditions to allow road construction being provided in the woodlot licence plan.

1.9.10 WILDLIFE TREE RETENTION

Unless exempted by the district manager, the proportion of the Woodlot Licence area that will be occupied by wildlife tree retention is:

Default WLPPR s.52(1)(c): 8 % of the woodlot licence area

1.9.11 COARSE WOODY DEBRIS

Unless exempted by the district manager or the WLPPR, the minimum amount of coarse woody debris to be left on areas where there is a requirement to establish a free growing stand is

Default: WLPPR s.54(1)(b)

Area on Coast – minimum retention of 4 logs per ha ≥ 5 m in length and ≥ 30 cm in diameter at one end.

1.9.12 RESOURCE FEATURES

Unless exempted by the district manager, the woodlot licence holder will

Default WLPPR s.56(1)(b): Ensure that forest practices do not damage or render ineffective a resource feature.

Note: Only the performance requirements in Part 3 (Practice Requirements) of the WLPPR for which an alternative can be proposed are shown in this Woodlot Licence Plan. The remaining performance requirements in Part 3 are not shown, nor are the performance requirements in Part 4 (Roads).

APPENDICES

- **Stocking Standards for Specified Areas** that apply to commercial thinning, removal of individual trees, intermediate cuttings, and harvesting special forest products (WLPPR sections 12 and 34(3)).
- **Stocking Standards for Free Growing Stands** that apply to this WLP
- **The WLP Map.**

Appendix I: Stocking Standards for Specified Areas

These layered stocking standards apply for the purposes of sections 12 and 34(3) of the Woodlot Licence Planning and Practices Regulation to areas where the establishment of a free growing stand is not required and harvesting is limited to commercial thinning, removal of individual trees, or a similar type of intermediate cutting, or the harvesting of special forest products.

Biogeoclimatic Ecosystem Classification				Preferred Species	Acceptable Species	Layer	TSS (sph)	MSSpa (sph)	MSSp (sph)
Zone	Subzone	Variant Site Series							
CDF	Mm	01	Fd Pl	Cw	1	400	200	200	
		04	Fd	Bg Cw	2	500	300	250	
		05	Fd	Cw	3	700	400	300	
		06,07	Cw Fd	Bg					
		12	Cw Fd						
13	Cw Fd Bg	4	900	500	400				
CDF	Mm	03	Fd Pl		1	300	150	150	
		11	Cw		2	400	200	200	
		14	Cw Bg		3	600	300	300	
					4	800	400	400	

SU = Standards Unit = a harvested area with the same stocking standards	Minimum Distance Between Well Spaced Trees = 2.0 meters except all healthy trees in the mature layer are considered well spaced	MSSpa = Minimum Stocking Standard of well spaced trees of preferred and acceptable species	Layer 1 = Mature trees \geq 12.5 cm dbh Layer 2 = Pole trees \geq 7.5 to < 12.5 cm dbh
TSS = Target Stocking Standard (sph) = healthy well spaced trees / ha		MSSp = Minimum Stocking Standard of well spaced trees of preferred species	Layer 3 = Sapling Trees >1.3 m tall & < 7.5 dbh Layer 4 = Regeneration trees < 1.3 m tall.

Note: Bg is only an acceptable species in the Balsam Wooley Adelgid quarantine zone and will only form up to 10% of the stocking.

These layered stocking standards apply for the purposes of sections 12 and 34(3) of the Woodlot Licence Planning and Practices Regulation to areas where the establishment of a free growing stand is not required and harvesting is limited to commercial thinning, removal of individual trees, or a similar type of intermediate cutting, or the harvesting of special forest products.

Biogeoclimatic Ecosystem Classification			Preferred Species	Acceptable Species	Layer	TSS (sph)	MSSpa (sph)	MSSp (sph)
Zone	Subzone	Variant Site Series						
CWH	xm	01	Fd	Cw Pw	1	400	200	200
		04	Fd	Cw Pw				
		05	Cw Fd	Pw	2	500	300	250
		06	Cw Fd Hw	Dr				
		07	Fd	Cw Pw	3	700	400	300
		08/09	Cw	Bg				
13	Cw Bg Fd		4	900	500	400		
14	Bg Cw							
CWH	Xm	03	Fd Pl	Cw	1	300	150	150
		12	Cw	Hw Pw	2	400	200	200
		15	Cw		3	600	300	300
					4	800	400	400

SU = Standards Unit = a harvested area with the same stocking standards	Minimum Distance Between Well Spaced Trees = 2.0 meters except all healthy trees in the mature layer are considered well spaced	MSSpa = Minimum Stocking Standard of well spaced trees of preferred and acceptable species	Layer 1 = Mature trees \geq 12.5 cm dbh Layer 2 = Pole trees \geq 7.5 to < 12.5 cm dbh
TSS = Target Stocking Standard (sph) = healthy well spaced trees / ha		MSSp = Minimum Stocking Standard of well spaced trees of preferred species	Layer 3 = Sapling Trees >1.3 m tall & < 7.5 dbh Layer 4 = Regeneration trees < 1.3 m tall.

Note: Bg is only an acceptable species in the Balsam Wooley Adelgid quarantine zone and will only form up to 10% of the stocking.

Appendix II: Stocking Standards, Regeneration Dates and Free Growing Dates for Free Growing Stands

These stocking standards, regeneration dates and free growing dates are copied from the Ministry of Forests' publication, Reference Guide for Forest Development Plan Stocking Standards and apply for the purposes of section 35(1) (b) of the Woodlot Licence Planning and Practices Regulation to areas harvested under this woodlot licence plan where the establishment of a free growing stand is required under section 29(3) of the *Forest and Range Practices Act*.

Regen date = Regeneration Date FG Date = Free Growing Date	MITD = Minimum distance between well spaced trees of the preferred and acceptable species	Crop Tree to Brush % = the height of free growing trees relative to the competing vegetation within a 1 m radius cylinder around the tree.
TSS = Target Stocking Standard (sph = healthy well spaced trees / ha)	MSSpa = Minimum Stocking Standard of well spaced trees of preferred and acceptable species	MSSp = Minimum Stocking Standard of well spaced trees of preferred species

Appendix III: The Woodlot Licence Plan Map

2. SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION TO SUPPORT OF THE PROPOSED WOODLOT LICENCE PLAN

Any Supplemental Information will be submitted with the WLP when the plan is submitted for approval.

2.1 REVIEW AND COMMENT

a) Advertising

A copy of the newspaper advertisement under which the WLP was given public notice is included with this final submission.

b) Referrals

Copies of the draft WLP were couriered to and received by the Cowichan Tribes, Malahat Band and Penelakut First Nation for a 60 day review and comment period. A summary of telephone calls included with this final submission.

A letter was e-mailed to and received by Kevin Telfer, Ministry of Environment, informing him of the availability of the WLP for review and comment.

A letter was sent to the Shawnigan Lake Watershed Watch, informing them of the availability of the WLP for review and comment. The letter was returned, address unknown. A follow-up search for a phone number for Mary Desmond was unsuccessful.

c) Copy of Written Comments Received

No written comments were received from any of the First Nations. A copy of an e-mail sent from Harry Williams of the Cowichan Tribes prior to the WLP review period is included.

No written comments were received from the Ministry of Environment.

Written comments received from Emma Neill, Woodlot Forester, South Island Forest District are included with this final submission.

d) Revisions Made as a Result of Written Comments Received

Only Section 1.5 was revised to reflect comments received from the Ministry of Forests and Range. Additional strategies were added to help conserve and protect cultural heritage resources. These additional strategies provide First Nations peoples continued access to cedar bark, cultural cedar trees (logs) and traditional use plants; sets out a process for notifying First Nations of intended harvesting activities prior to cutting permit submissions to allow the CHRs to be protected or collected; ensures a future supply of cedar is maintained on the woodlot; and sets out a process for protection of spiritual sites.

2.2 EFFORTS MADE TO MEET WITH FIRST NATIONS

July 10th, 2006

The licensee, Keith Granbois, sent letters to the Cowichan Tribes, Malahat Band and Penelakut First Nation informing them of the Woodlot Licence Plan process and requesting any information on cultural heritage resources that these First Nations would be willing to provide. The licensee requested that the First Nations contact him directly to set up a meeting at their convenience. On August 10th, 2006, Harry Williams of the Cowichan Tribes sent an e-mail response to the licensee informing him that a letter would be sent during the WLP review period commenting on: retention of red-cedar and any old veteran trees; encouragement of native vegetation and control of invasive plants; maintenance of water quality by proper road construction; and Cowichan Tribes' support for continuing forestry use of these lands.

No comments or messages were received from the other First Nations.

October 28th, 2006

The WLP was couriered to the Cowichan Tribes, Malahat Band and Penelakut First Nation for the 60 day review period. The WLP sent to the Penelakut was returned and resent to the correct address on November 30th with a new 60 day review period.

December 14th, 2006

Nancy Pezel left a message with Chief Alphonse's secretary regarding the WLP, whether any comments could be expected, and to call her if he had any questions about the plan. A message was also left on the Malahat First Nation answering machine.

January 22nd, 2007

Nancy Pezel spoke to Chief Alphonse's secretary regarding the WLP and told her that they could still send in written comments until February 5th. Nancy also mentioned that Harry Williams had initially made some comments in July via e-mail, but did not follow up on his intentions of submitting a report. Nancy was informed that Mr. Williams no longer worked for the Cowichan Tribes.

A message was left on the Malahat Band office answering machine informing them that comments could still be sent to the licensee regarding the WLP until February 5th and Nancy's phone number was left as well.

A message was left on Lisa Shaver's voice mail asking if the Penelakut have had a chance to review the WLP, and if they have any comments that they can forward them in writing to the licensee. Nancy left her phone number in case they had any questions.

At the end of the review period, no comments had been received and no First Nations contacted either the licensee or Nancy Pezel regarding the WLP or meeting to discuss cultural heritage resources.

2.3 EXEMPTIONS *(optional)*

A copy of all exemptions granted under sections 8(2), 78 and 79 of the WLPPR in the process of preparing the WLP will be included with the final submission.

2.4 RATIONALE IN SUPPORT OF PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS

No Alternative Performance Requirements are being proposed.