



BCTS
BC Timber Sales

BC Timber Sales Environmental Management System

ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD PROCEDURE

EFP 05 HARVESTING

Purpose and Scope

This EFP applies to all Licensee, Permittee and Contractor workers involved in all phases of harvesting and hauling within the scope of the BCTS EMS. It describes procedures and requirements to minimize impacts of these field activities on the environment. This EFP does not replace the requirements of legislation, licences, permits and contracts.

Falling

1. Fall next to boundaries only when boundaries are clearly visible (know where they are).
2. Retain marked boundary trees where safe to do so. Removal, damaging or cutting of trees outside the falling boundary is prohibited unless authorized.
3. Use extra caution when opening-up adjacent to boundaries and reserves, to minimize damage to standing trees and protect resource features.
4. Follow stream prescriptions when falling, limbing and bucking adjacent to watercourses. Know which streams and gullies require cleaning.
5. Fall trees to facilitate yarding method and direction, unless other resources such as streams or wildlife tree patches may be affected.
6. Know leave-tree, stubbing and retention requirements, and monitor your progress to ensure you meet the objectives.

Yarding, Skidding and Forwarding

1. If yarding or skidding in steep or gullied terrain, ensure you fully understand the yarding/skidding strategies and restrictions in place to prevent soil disturbance and to protect streams.
2. Ensure that your activities do not result in excessive soil disturbance.
3. Know the stream classification and prescriptions for the watercourses within the harvest block. Know and understand the riparian management area requirements (e.g.: machine free zones, riparian reserve zones, etc.).

Loading, Processing and Hauling

1. Minimize decking impacts to standing timber and RMA's.
2. **Before moving equipment** at the end of operations, ensure roadside and landing conditions meet all drainage requirements.
3. **Report** to the project supervisor any road conditions which may adversely affect the environment (e.g.: siltation of streams, lakes or other water bodies, or deterioration of the road).

Fire Hazard Assessment

1. Complete Hazard Assessments at prescribed intervals in accordance with the Wildfire Regulation. If a hazard exists, it must be abated or removed.
2. If burning is part of the project plan, insure required notification is made, approvals received and conditions followed. Ensure burn area is safe from escape and clear of hazardous/sensitive areas.

STOP WORK

And contact your project supervisor or the BCTS representative if:

- You are uncertain of the project plan, your responsibilities, or hazardous/sensitive areas.
- A previously unidentified cultural or resource feature, value or sensitive area is found.
- You experience unfavourable weather or site conditions that could cause environmental damage.
- You observe conditions that have the potential for immediate environmental damage.
- You feel the proposed project plan will not work to achieve the desired outcomes.