



Forests for Tomorrow Update – November 3, 2009

Policy Regarding Blocks That Have Been Surveyed For ITLS Opportunity and the Whole Block Does Not Qualify For FFT

Questions have been raised regarding guidance with respect to blocks that have been surveyed for ITLS opportunity and the whole block does not qualify for FFT. Our current direction from Executive with respect to implementation of ITSL's in partnership with FFT is captured in the most recent version of the MoU.

<http://www.forestsfortomorrow.com/fft/node/459>

The current goals of the MoU are to ensure effective use of FFT fibre, facilitate achievement of FFT goals, provide market value information on marginal stands and improve the marketability of low quality fibre. While FFT BCTS ITSL's may also have a positive effect with respect to BCTS costs vs revenue, we do not have a mandate to address this issue outside of what is realized within the specifications in the MoU. The MoU is clear that blocks selected for FFT BCTS ITSL's must meet FFT eligibility criteria.

Notwithstanding this, some flexibility is required at the operational level to ensure efficient block layout. This may require inclusion of some area that does not meet FFT eligibility criteria. As an interim approach we will proceed with an 80% threshold – i.e. at least 80% of the block must meet FFT criteria.

With respect to applying this flexibility, we will be expecting that the % tolerance is only used where required to create a logical block. i.e. addressing issues such as not isolating timber, windfirm boundaries, VQO, avoiding inefficient boundaries through excessive elimination of non-FFT eligible strata, etc.

If this has the impact of reducing ITSL eligible ground that is okay ok, if suitable ground is not out there nobody should feel under pressure to stretch the rules.

If operational issues arise that this guidance does not adequately address, please e-mail details to Rob Bowden (Rob.Bowden@gov.bc.ca), Kevin Astridge (Kevin.Astridge@gov.bc.ca) & John McClarnon (John.Mcclarnon@gov.bc.ca).

