

# **TIMBER MARKS FOR PRIVATE LAND**



## Cutting Timber

Timber is cut on three kinds of land in BC:

- provincial crown land
- federal crown land
- private land

Each year, a large volume of timber is cut from all three kinds of land, then transported to various destinations, such as local mills, dry land sorts, booming grounds, and log brokers.

## Marking Timber

A timber mark does not grant the authority to cut timber

A timber mark is an identifying mark that must be marked onto cut timber before it may be removed from the land where the timber was cut. A timber mark identifies the timber so that Forest Service personnel can determine the origin of the timber, whether stumpage payments are due to the government on that timber, and whether the timber may be exported.

Thus, timber marks facilitate enforcement of the *Forest Act* and the *Forest Practices Code of British Columbia*.

## Registering Timber Marks

- The Office of the Registrar of Timber Marks (the Registrar) is in Victoria.
- The Registrar administers the provincial timber mark register and determines whether or not a timber mark certificate (a certificate) will be issued.
- A certificate describes a timber mark.

## About Timber Marks

**Q: What does a timber mark look like?**

**A:** A timber mark is a series of letters and/or numbers in a combination that is unique.

**Q: How long is a timber mark valid, and can it be renewed?**

**A:** A timber mark certificate (a certificate) is valid for five years from the date of registration. The registrar may issue a renewal certificate which is valid for 5 years.

**Q: What parcels of land does a timber mark apply to?**

**A:** A timber mark may be used on timber that is cut on land that is identified in the certificate.

**Q: Can a timber mark be used on timber that is on**



**land other than the land identified in the certificate**

**A:** On application to the Registrar, the Registrar may approve the use of the timber mark on timber on land other than land originally described in the certificate.

**Q: Can a certificate be transferred?**

**A:** No

**Q: Who can apply for a certificate?**

**A:** The following persons may apply for a certificate:

- (1) the owner of timber on private land under a charge registered in the land title office against the private land
- (2) the person who according to the records of the land title office is the beneficial owner of the private land as
  - (a) the registered owner of the land, or,
  - (b) the holder of an agreement to purchase the private land.

**Q: Can I submit an application for a certificate on behalf of a person who may apply for the certificate**

**A:** (1) An attorney under a power of attorney may apply for the certificate if the attorney has the authority to do so.

Where an attorney applies for the certificate, the application must be accompanied by a copy of the power of attorney and a lawyer's written opinion that the attorney is authorized under the power of attorney to make the application.

- (2) A committee who has been appointed by the Supreme Court under the Patients Property Act may apply for the certificate if the committee has the power to do so. Where a committee applies for the certificate the application must be accompanied by a copy of the Supreme Court order appointing the committee and a lawyer's written opinion that the committee is authorized under the order to make the application.

**Q: Where do I apply for a Certificate?**

**A:** You can apply at any Ministry of Forest District office.

**Q: What client information do I need to provide?**

**A:** If you are not already a client of the Ministry of Forests, you must supply:

- full legal name
- full contact information (address, telephone, etc.)
- copy of driver's licence or birth certificate.

For corporations, a Company Registry number is required.

**Q: What do I need to provide in my application?**

**A:** The information in the application should include:

1. A copy of the BC Assessment Authority Notice or Certificate of Title and a full legal description of the land from which the timber will be removed.
2. The signature of the applicant
3. A description of the location to which the timber will be transported after being removed from the land.
4. A copy of the survey plan of the property(s) from which the timber will be removed if the property is adjacent to Crown land.

**Q: How long does the application process take?**

**A:** Where the Registrar issues a certificate, the certificate will usually be mailed by the Registrars office about 21 working days after the Registrar receives an application that includes all of the required information.

**Q: Once I receive a certificate, how do I mark the timber?**

**A:** Contact your local Forest Service Office and an official of that office will advise you on how to properly mark timber.

**Q: How much does a certificate cost?**

**A:** The certificate is issued at no charge.

**More information**

**Contact your nearest Forest Service regional or district office.**

Contact:

Resource Tenures and Engineering Branch  
BC Ministry of Forests  
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8<sup>th</sup> Floor, 727 Fisgard St.  
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[Application Form](#)

[Forest Districts Address List](#)