1. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Quesnel District Small Scale Salvage Program (SSSP) is:

1. Confirm the role of the SSSP as originally intended in the Provincial Three-Year Small Scale Salvage Strategic Plan.
2. Provide economic opportunities for small logging operators.
3. Focus the SSSP within areas that would not normally be addressed through major licensees or British Columbia Timber Sales (BCTS).

Program Focus

The Quesnel District has experienced widespread Mountain Pine Beetle infestations. There are few opportunities for control of these infestations. Harvesting of dead bark beetle infested stands that do not contain an active beetle population can occur under the SSSP, however priority will be given to harvesting stands that have current infestations of Douglas Fir or Spruce Bark Beetle. The order of priority is as follows:

1. Bark beetle damaged or infested areas adjacent to private land (interface areas) where the risk of fire may pose a significant risk to people, buildings or improvements.
2. Bark beetle infested areas outside of woodlots or private land where the woodlot licensee or landowner has actively been controlling beetle infestations and removal may protect non-infested stands within the woodlot or private land.
3. Bark beetle infested areas where removal will protect non-infested stands.
4. Bark beetle damaged areas on other unencumbered crown land that is not being addressed by major licensees or BCTS.
5. Small patches of wind-thrown timber.
2. STRATEGIC GOALS

- For the current fiscal year, the Quesnel District (QD) plans to issue a target volume of 24 000 m³, which will be delivered through professional salvage applications (PSAs) and a small component of conventional salvage applications (4 000 m³).
- Small Scale Salvage applications are not to be proposed within areas of continuous beetle infested, fire-killed, diseased or wind-thrown trees unless to address fire risk. These should be addressed through conventional salvage planning and harvesting by the major licensees or BCTS.
- Only Professional Applications accompanied with Site Plans will be accepted for applications over 100 m³.
- The tenure issued under the SSSP will typically be a Forestry Licence to Cut (FLTC) under Section 47.6 of the Forest Act.
- Stumpage will be payable based on an appraisal rate or tabular rates as specified under Section 6 of the Interior Appraisal Manual.
- The SSSP will target salvage opportunities that are less than 2 000 m³ and will not create continuous clearcut openings.
- Salvage opportunities occurring on or adjacent to areas where salvage activities have occurred on a partial cut basis, the forest professional will be required to verify that the area has been declared free growing. If they have not been declared, the forest professional will be required to survey the area and prepare a free growing declaration according to district standards on areas that have had previous salvage history.
- Proposed partial cut harvesting must achieve a stocking level that achieves the standards identified within the Quesnel District Partial Cutting Stocking Standards. Proposals will not be accepted that do not achieve these standards.
- SSSP applications will only be accepted for unencumbered Crown land. Proposals will not be acceptable on Indian Reserves, Tree Farm Licences, Woodlots, Agriculture Leases, Extension of Holdings, First Nations Woodland tenures, Community Forest Licences or Deeded land with Crown timber reserves.

3. SPECIFIC GOALS

- Confirm the SSSP is appropriate and has a role to play in forest management.
- Ensure harvesting activities within the SSSP achieve a high standard of performance and are consistent with good forest management practices.
- Focus the SSSP within areas of endemic beetle infestations that could potentially become epidemic infestations in Fir and Spruce stands.
- Efficiently manage the program within the resources available in the QD.
- Direct salvage activity to areas with the greatest forest management needs.
- Maintain clear and effective communication and consultation with other stakeholders, tenure or agreement holders and First Nations.
- Mandatory professional salvage applications and post harvest assessments for applications greater than 100m³.
- Partial cut harvesting must achieve the standards of the QD Partial Cutting Stocking Standards.
SSS operations must not increase the potential for blowdown or windthrow. Forest Professionals must evaluate potential retention levels for blowdown or windthrow against suitability for the SSSP and good forest management.

- The maximum allowable harvest of incidental or non-target trees must be minimized and is limited to a maximum of 10%. The applicant and Forest Professional must consider the operational constraints of their harvesting equipment and expertise during the planning phase and prior to the submission of the SSS application.

### 4. ROADS

No new road construction will be authorized under the SSSP. If a road is required for accessing a salvage area, the following will apply:

- All roads being used must be clearly identified in the application. This includes actual road kilometres (i.e.: 1-20 km of the 500 Road) and road status such as Forest Service Road, permitted roads, non-status road or public road.
- If an applicant is proposing to use existing roads they must comply with Section 79.1 of the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation (FPPR). If the applicant is proposing to use a Forest Service Road (FSR), under Section 80.1 of FPPR, they must notify the person required to maintain the FSR. If no maintenance agreement exists, they must make application at the Quesnel District office for a Forest Service Road Use Permit.
- All roads being used that are covered under a Road Permit will require notification to the holder of the Road Permit. Applicants may also be required to enter into a Road Maintenance Agreement with the Road Permit holder.
- The applicant is required to submit a Quesnel Road User Agreement application form that is signed by a member of the Quesnel Road Users Committee.
- Under FRPA Section 22.1(4) the applicant may make a request for an exemption of the requirement of a road use agreement or permit.
- The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure have specific requirements for road junctions that join a public road or highway.
- Junction Permits may also be required for non-status roads that join a Forest Service Road.

### 5. DEPOSITS

If your application is approved, a deposit will be required that is equal to 10% of the stumpage from your volume estimate or $500, whichever is greater. This deposit must be in one of the following: certified bank draft, money order, cash safe keeping agreement or a Letter of Credit.
6. SILVICULTURE LEVIES

The prescribing Forester must carefully consider the impacts of harvesting the site. The responsibility to carry out silviculture obligations rests with the crown. Therefore silviculture considerations are an important part of the application process.

- SSS applications should not be proposed on sites where extensive silviculture tending will be required.
- Salvage proposals on sites that will be difficult to reforest or meet free growing obligations will not be approved.
- A silviculture levy will be applicable for those applications that are proposing clear cut or where a selective harvest is proposed that is not fully stocked post harvest on openings greater than 5 ha.
- A silviculture levy will be collected that reasonably reflects the estimated silviculture costs based on the dollars per hectare. The levy will be based on site specific information and known silviculture costs for a particular area within the QD.

7. FIRST NATIONS

Small Scale Salvage applications that exceed 100m³ will require consultation with First Nations. An initial assessment for First Nation values will be completed by QD staff and a referral period will be determined. The referral period may be between 0-30 days depending upon the results of the initial assessment. First Nations consultation may be initiated by Quesnel District staff or by the applicant and/or their Forest Professional. If consultation is to be initiated by the applicant, the Quesnel District 3rd Party Information Sharing Referral Guidelines must be followed. Please contact QD First Nation Consultation Coordinator for the most recent guidelines. Any conflicts with proposed harvesting should be discussed with the QD First Nations Consultation Coordinator.

An archaeological impact assessment (AIA) may also be required for small scale salvage areas that are located within “high” archaeological potential as indicated on the 2009 Quesnel District Archaeological Potential Model. The AIA must be conducted prior to the commencement of harvesting operations and the recommendations, if any, of the AIA must be followed. If previously unidentified archaeological features (CMTs, cache pits, trails, lithics) are discovered during harvesting operations, operations are to cease immediately and the QD staff contacted. An alteration permit may be required from the Heritage Branch to continue harvesting.

8. PROFESSIONAL APPLICATION STANDARDS

The Professional Application was implemented to facilitate a consistent submission package and to require a Forest Professional to certify that the information in the application is accurate and that it meets the guidelines, conditions and expectations outlined in this document.
• The Forest Professional must use the full legal name of the applicant when completing documents for small scale salvage clients. This can be their first, middle and last name, a registered company or a registered society.

• The Forest Professional is responsible for ensuring that all land status conflicts are resolved prior to submitting an application and provide related documentation with the application. A supportive referral from the major licencee or BCTS must accompany the application that indicates they have no intentions for a particular area.

• The Forest Professional is ultimately responsible for the submission of a complete and accurate application and post harvesting report. The professional application package must include the following:
  o Documentation of all referrals.
  o Road use notification to the road permit holder.
  o Authorization from the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, BC Hydro, or Telus if required.
  o Quesnel Road User Agreement form signed by a member of the Quesnel Road Users Committee.
  o Archaeological impact assessment and/or CMT Survey data.

9. MAPPING STANDARDS

The following describe minimum standards for a map that must accompany a Small Scale Salvage Application (Forestry Licence to Cut). Applicants should check the District Guidelines for additional standards. All maps submitted must be in colour.

- Scale 1:10,000 and 1:50,000.
- Reference to appropriate 1:20,000 forest cover map sheet number (e.g. 93G064).
- Geographic description (name of nearest known feature or operating area).
- Access description from nearest town or well known point.
- UTM coordinates or latitude and longitude.
- Legend.
- Jurisdictional/Tenure boundaries of private land, Indian reserve, parks, woodlot licence, or other tenures must be included.
- GPS information of the following areas proposed for harvesting under the Forestry Licence to Cut:
  a. Harvest boundaries: all proposed harvest areas > 0.2 ha must be GPSed and mapped, with an indication of the type of silviculture system proposed (e.g. selective or clearcut).
  b. Skid trails and landings: all access trails between harvest sites must be GPSed (dispersed skid trails for single tree removal do not have to be GPSed); all landings outside the harvest area must be GPSed.
- Riparian features within the application area, including non-classifiable drainages, streams, wetlands and lakes.
- Stream crossings and machine free zones.
- Clearcut areas and Plantations adjacent to the areas proposed for salvage, and any access trails through these areas if applicable.
☐ **Timber type/forest cover** as per TRIM standard of equivalent (label and polygons).
☐ **Range** structures, including fences, excavations or constructed livestock trails.
☐ **Recreation** sites and **Known** features.
☐ **Cultural heritage** resource features.
☐ **Wildlife habitat areas, OGMAs**.
☐ **Trapping** cabins, identified trapping sites, access trails or trap line routes.
☐ **Water supply** for domestic intakes and water supply infrastructure.
☐ **Resource features**, as defined by legislation, in the vicinity of the salvage area.
☐ Government approved experimental projects, growth and yield plots, stream stations, operational trials and research installations.
☐ **Harvest method**. Clearly indicate the Harvest method proposed. Where clearcut and selective harvesting are proposed, they must be defined by Standards Units
☐ **Standards Units/Silviculture Units**. Clearly delineate the SU’s where different stocking standards apply. (This may require a third set of maps at 1:10,000)
☐ **Other SSS Patches**. Any SSS patches the licensee has submitted or approved must be shown on the maps. These patches should be “greyed” out and labelled appropriately.

## 10. POST HARVEST REPORT

Within 60 days of completion of harvesting a Registered Professional Forester must conduct a site inspection and complete a Post Harvesting Report. The post harvesting report must verify operations are complete and indicate if the operations are compliant with the approved standards, guidelines and licence conditions. The Registered Professional Forester is not accountable for the actions carried out by the licensee under the terms of any Forestry Licence to Cut issued over the application area. The post harvest Report does not prevent the ministry from carrying out inspections or audits as it may deem appropriate.

The Post Harvest report must attest to the following:

☐ The timber targeted for salvage has been removed in accordance with the Site Plan.
☐ Waste and Residue has been assessed and the primary species by volume.
☐ The stocking status of the stand has been assessed and harvesting was conducted in accordance with the Site Plan.
☐ Measures undertaken to protect soil, water, archaeological features and wildlife habitat have been achieved the required results.
☐ Access trails, roads and landings have been deactivated to an acceptable standard or restored to their original condition (this includes water control measures).
☐ In the opinion of the Registered Professional Forester, the licencee has completed all on-site obligations under the licence.
11. SSSP – BASIC PROCESS CHECKLIST

The basic process for Small Scale Salvage applications requires six (6) basic steps which includes the following:

**Step 1 (Pre-application) Applicant or Forest professional.**

- [ ] Determine that the proposed salvage is consistent with the QD SSSP guidelines.
- [ ] Confirm that the proposed application is not conflicting with existing tenures.
- [ ] Perform a referral to major licencees and BCTS and obtain written confirmation that the proposed application does not conflict with their existing or proposed harvesting plans.
- [ ] Ascertaining the land status and ownership.
- [ ] Identify potential or known archaeological features.
- [ ] Applicants must meet with Quesnel District staff during this step to review salvage proposals.

**Step 2 (Application) Forest Professional**

Submission of written application to the district manager which includes the following.

- [ ] Location of the harvest area and land status.
- [ ] Cause of timber mortality ie. bark beetle, fire, insects, disease, ect.
- [ ] Volume and species of timber to be harvested.
- [ ] Field layout which includes clearly marked boundaries, skid trails and GPSing.
- [ ] Site Plan must be performed by a Registered Professional Forester.
- [ ] Documentation of referrals to major licencees and BCTS and how all conflicts were addressed.
- [ ] Map clearly indicating all boundaries of each harvest area.
- [ ] Road maintenance agreements, Quesnel Road User Agreement and Road Permit Exemption.
- [ ] SSSP application form that is signed by both the Forest Professional and the applicant.

**Step 3 (Quesnel District Staff)**

- [ ] Determine that the SSSP application meets the criteria of the QD SSSP guidelines.
- [ ] Application does not exceed 2000 m³.
- [ ] A field inspection may be completed on the site to ensure that the proposal meets the Quesnel District SSSP Guidelines.
- [ ] The application is consistent with the *Forest and Range Practices Act* and the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation.
- [ ] The applicant is not in default on any other agreement with the Crown.
- [ ] Issuance of a Forestry Licence to Cut will not infringe on aboriginal rights and title.
- [ ] The SSSP application has been prepared and signed in a manner that is consistent with legislation and statutes.
☐ Preparation of the FLTC document which may include any additional conditions in
the FLTC document that are deemed necessary.
☐ Submission of the Stumpage Rate Request form to the Southern Interior Region.

**Step 4 Harvesting Operations** (Licensee)

1) Submit Notice of Commencement to the QD Compliance and Enforcement Supervisor.

**Step 5 Post Harvesting Report** (Registered Professional Forester)

1) A Registered Professional Forester must conduct a site inspection within 60 days of
the completion of harvesting and submit a Post Harvest Report.

**Step 6 Document Closure** (Forest Officer)

☐ Prepare Forestry Licence to Cut for closure.
☐ Check for outstanding Compliance and Enforcement issues.
☐ Check for completion of licence obligations.
☐ Release of security deposit.

For further information, please contact the Quesnel District office at 250-992-4400.

Steve Dodge, RFT
District Manager
Quesnel District
Information Links:

Current District guidelines, application forms and other Small Scale Salvage documents can be found on the Quesnel District website:
http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/dqu/Samll_Scale_Salvage_forms.htm

Stumpage rates are found in the Interior Appraisal Manual. Information on this can be found in Section 6 of the Interior Appraisal Manual (IAM),
http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hva/manuals/interior.htm, and rates can be found in Tables 6-1 and 6-4. Rates are determined on the day the licence is issued and are fixed for the term of the licence.

Provincial Small Scale Salvage Website:
http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hth/timten/small-scale-salvage.htm

Forest Legislation and Regulations:
http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/tasb/legsregs/comptoc.htm

Provincial Bark Beetle Management Strategy:

Bark Beetle Management Guidebook:
http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/tasb/legsregs/fpc/fpcguide/beetle/betletoc.htm

Forest Stewardship in the Context of Large Scale Salvage Operations: An Interpretation Paper:
http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfd/pubs/Docs/Tr/Tr019.htm

Logging Tax:
http://www.sbr.gov.bc.ca/business/Income_Taxes/Logging_Tax/logging_tax.htm