

File:  
Ref: 220498

To: All District Managers  
All Regional Executive Directors  
Mike Falkiner, Executive Director, BC Timber Sales

From: Diane Nicholls, Chief Forester

**Re: Guidance on the replacement of forest stewardship plans**

Further to the Minister's letter dated March 8, 2016, I have attached guidance on the replacement of forest stewardship plans (FSPs) that outlines my expectations for the preparation of a new generation of plans.

Through the attached guidance, I aim to provide procedural certainty and fairness across the province, and to advocate that a reasonable approach is taken to address the expectations upon government, licensees and professionals for the management of British Columbia's Crown forest and range resources.

Furthermore, I expect that this opportunity is seized to advance our use of FSPs and to demonstrate our commitment to the FRPA model so that we can benefit from the business certainty and demonstrated resource stewardship that current and defensible plans can provide.

Improvements are the collective responsibility of the forest industry and government. If satisfactory improvements are not achieved, the province will consider whether more prescriptive actions should be taken.

Questions regarding the interpretation of this guidance may be directed to Jennifer Davis, Director, Resource Practices Branch at (250) 387-0088 or Jennifer.C.Davis@gov.bc.ca, or to Norah White, Sustainable Forest Management Policy Officer, Resource Practices Branch at (250) 387-8013 or Norah.White@gov.bc.ca.



Diane Nicholls  
Chief Forester

pc: Tim Sheldan, Deputy Minister  
FLNR Executive Committee  
All Directors, Resource Stewardship Division  
Perry Grilz, Director, Range Branch  
Doug Stewart, Director, Forest Tenures Branch  
Kevin Edquist, Director, Compliance and Enforcement Branch  
Charles Hunter, Director, First Nations Relations Branch  
All Members, Provincial Forestry Forum (c/o Patrick Russell)  
All Members, Resource Stewardship and Tenures Committee (c/o Jacques Bousquet)