

Fuel Management Prescription – Notes to Assist Form Completion

A. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

This section denotes the legal and physical boundaries of the prescription, the authority to proceed, and any linkages to higher level plans. This information must be included in the prescription.

PROJECT ID AND UNIT ID: Identify the treatment unit and any associated fuel management projects.

LAND OR TENURE HOLDER: Identify the legal occupant of the area, or the person authorized to carry out works on the area. This could be the owner of fee-simple land, the tenure or lease-holder in the case of occupied crown land, or an authorized official in the case of vacant crown land.

LATITUDE/LONGITUDE: Include to the nearest 1/00 minute. This information can be found at the following site:

<http://maps.gov.bc.ca/ess/sv/imapbc/>

GEOGRAPHIC DESCRIPTION: Use a familiar and identifiable unit, such as “Lower Lemon Creek Valley” or “Champion Lakes Campgrounds”.

HIGHER-LEVEL PLAN(s): Identify any public document that sets standards for land management in the area, such as “Kootenay-Boundary Land Use Plan”, or the internal document such as “Kikomun Creek Provincial Park Ecosystem Restoration Plan”.

Another example would be a Woodlot Licence Plan or Community Forest Management Plan, etc., that is associated with the area and incorporated into the prescription. Identify specific unit(s) (i.e. Landscape Units) related to this prescription if applicable. If no plan exists, enter “N/A”.

MAP REFERENCE NUMBER: State the 1:20 000 TRIM number, such as “082F 031”. This information can be found at the following site: <http://maps.gov.bc.ca/ess/sv/imapbc/>

Select “Add DataBC layers”, and under “Base Maps” select “Mapsheet Grid (1:20,000)”. Zoom in to area and use “Point Identity” tool to scroll over the area and get map reference.

B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This section specifies the objective of the prescription which should answer the questions: why is this project being undertaken; what strategies will be used to achieve the objective; what will this project accomplish; and what methods will be employed?

OBJECTIVE: Indicate the objective by placing an “X” within the appropriate boxes. In the case of multiple objectives, indicate the priority by using numbers (“1” is highest). Further describe the objective(s). For example, if “public safety” was checked, include a statement such as “reduce crown fire initiation, fire intensity and crown fire spread” or, if “wildlife habitat” has been indicated, include a statement such as “restore late winter range productivity for, and reduce predation of, bighorn sheep”. Also include a rationale for why the prescribed treatment is necessary (e.g. “treatment unit one was identified as a high priority in the CWPP (or Fire Management Plan Five Year Fuel Treatment Plan), and provides a defensible space along the community’s main access road”). For wildfire specific public safety objectives, provide supporting details such as: fire history, fire behaviour and weather trends (i.e. number of days with crown fire potential, prevailing wind history, etc.), response capacity/capability, and location of treatments to provide continuity and anchoring.

Fuel Management Prescription – Notes to Assist Form Completion

STRATEGIES: Indicate what will be done to satisfy the objective. For example, “Increase sunlight to the forest floor to encourage grass and forage production, and reduce predator hide habitat”, or “modify stand structure to reduce fuels available in the event of a wildfire”.

METHODS: Provide a brief description of the proposed treatments. Provide more detail in Section B Project Description.

Note: *How the treatment units will be anchored, accessible/defensible and designed according to expected fire spread and intensity must be included within the prescription for fuel management specific strategies.*

C. TREATMENT UNIT SUMMARY

This section provides a summary of the treatment unit area, proposed treatments, and general physical description.

NET AREA: Identify the net area to be treated, excluding areas such as water bodies, roads, areas removed from the treatment area, etc.

GROSS AREA: Identify the total area covered by the prescription.

LEAVE AREAS: State the area retained/reserved within the treatment boundaries to meet specific objectives/values outlined in this prescription (i.e. wildlife tree reserve (WTR), wildlife feature protection, etc.).

Non-Productive (NP): State the total area that that is considered non-productive (i.e. rock outcrops, permanent roads or landings, etc.).

NET AREA REFORESTATION (NAR): State the area requiring reforestation.

TREATMENT REGIME: List the proposed treatments in the order they will occur (e.g. spacing, pruning, hand piling, pile burning).

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Describe the treatment area and its boundaries in the context of the local terrain including terrain characteristics (e.g. flat, rolling, etc.) or features; any landscape/topographic limitations to wildfire; and any other physical characteristics not included in Section D Site Characteristics. For example: “The treatment unit (TU) is uniformly sloped with a few rocky outcrops that were excluded from the net treatment area. The TU is located between the Chapman Road and the lake, being bounded on the east by Deep Creek and on the west by the BC Hydro campground”.

D. SITE CHARACTERISTICS

This section denotes the physical characteristics and ecological classification of the treatment unit.

CFFBPS FUEL TYPE: Identify the Canadian Forest Fire Behaviour Prediction System (CFFBPS) fuel type for each treatment area. The CFFBPS includes 17 fuel types that are used in fire behaviour prediction work in British Columbia. If you do not know the reference fuel type for your area, contact your nearest Fire Centre or Zone Office for assistance.

TIMBER TYPE: Enter major tree species and percent (species composition. For example: Fd₇ Lw₃ (Py) denotes a stand dominated by Douglas fir (70%) followed by Western larch (30%), with a minor component (<10% which is denoted in brackets) of Yellow pine.

BGC SUBZONE, VARIANT & SITE ASSOCIATION: Identify the Biogeoclimatic Zone, subzone and site associations for each treatment unit. Information can be found at: <http://maps.gov.bc.ca/ess/sv/imapbc/>

Fuel Management Prescription – Notes to Assist Form Completion

Select “Add DataBC layers”, and under “Forest Grasslands and Wetlands” select “BEC Analysis – Zones – All”. Zoom in to area and use “Point Identity” tool to scroll over the area to identify BGC zone.

ELEVATION RANGE: Enter elevation to nearest 50 metres.

SLOPE POSITION: Enter slope position as “upper, middle, lower, valley bottom, hilltop, or mid-slope bench”.

SLOPE RANGE: Enter the range in slope gradient.

ASPECT: Enter the treatment unit aspect(s).

FUEL TYPE DETERMINATION: State how fuel type was determined (i.e. Fuel Spatial layer). If fuel type was determined by other means or was not the best fit upon ground truthing, provide a rationale and methodology (if applicable) and attach photos.

E. SOIL CHARACTERISTICS

This section summarizes specific soil characteristics used in making planning decisions around soil conservation. Completing this section is essential in all treatments that contain heavy equipment operations or any treatment that may impact soil conservation or other values in, or adjacent to, the treatment unit.

SOIL TEXTURE: Enter the soil texture class (e.g. sand, silt, clay, loam).

DUFF DEPTH: Enter the average depth (cm) of the organic material between the top of the mineral soil and the top of the forest floor, including the “L layer” (unmodified litter), the “F layer” (partially decomposed, lighter organic material), and the “H layer” (highly modified, darker organic material).

COARSE FRAGMENT CONTENT: Provide a visual estimate of the percentage of particles > 2mm in diameter (gravels, cobbles, stones) that are present in the soil profile (by volume).

SOIL DISTURBANCE LIMIT: Enter the soil disturbance limit as per the objective under FRPA (*Forest and Range Practices Act*) for soil conservation.

SOIL HAZARD RATING: Identify the sensitivity of the treatment unit to: soil compaction, surface soil erosion, and soil displacement (Low, Moderate, High, and Very High).

Guidance Document: *Hazard Assessment Keys for Evaluating Site Sensitivity to Soil Degrading Processes Guidebook*

<https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/tasb/legsregs/fpc/fpcguide/HAZARD/HazardAssessKeys-web.pdf>

F. VALUES – FOREST AND RANGE PRACTICES ACT

This section provides details and management strategies for values identified under legislation and Higher Level Plans, as well as any other site-specific values identified. If a value is not known to exist or is not applicable, provide a rationale. For example: “Reviewed Conservation Data Centre (CDC) spatial layers on May 12, 2014, and no species or ecological communities at risk were identified”. If the value is known to exist, provide adequate information, such as: the source of the data; specific identification unit (i.e. Landscape Unit); any management specifications or existing standards in place; the likely impact of the project on the value; and any measures that will be taken to maintain or enhance the value. Additional direction can be found below.

Fuel Management Prescription – Notes to Assist Form Completion

Reference Links:

Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA) http://www.bclaws.ca/Recon/document/ID/freeside/00_02069_01

Forest Planning and Practices Regulation (FPPR) http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/14_2004

Government Actions Regulation (GAR) http://www.bclaws.ca/Recon/document/ID/freeside/582_2004

Land Use Objectives Regulations (Land Act) - http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/357_2005

Silviculture Prescription Plot Card FS 39A-1 - <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/isb/forms/lib/FS39A.PDF>

RIPARIAN AND LAKESHORE AREAS: This section includes streams, wetlands, and lakes. Describe the extent of the proposed treatment in riparian areas. Describe any requirements and specifications to ensure appropriate operations in Riparian Management Areas (RMAs).

Guidance document: *Riparian Management Area Guidebook*

<https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/tasb/legsregs/fpc/fpcguide/riparian/rip-toc.htm>

RIPARIAN MANAGEMENT AREAS (RMAs): This section includes streams, wetlands, and lakes. Complete the Riparian Management table including riparian class, Riparian Reserve Zone (RRZ) and Riparian Management Zone (RMZ) widths and any specific management/treatment strategies. Ensure any non-classified drainages (NCDs), and non-classified wetlands (NCWs) are included in the table. If tree removal will occur, state the Basal Area (BA) or stems per hectare (sph) to be retained or removed from the RRZ and RMZ and describe the recommended species and tree characteristics for retention. If treatment is proposed in a lakeshore management zone or riparian management zone, describe how the prescription is consistent with objectives under legislation.

TEMPERATURE SENSITIVE STREAMS: Describe how the proposed treatment is consistent with the requirements to retain trees and other vegetation that shade these streams, or any requirements to ensure consistency with legislation.

ROAD CONSTRUCTION IN RIPARIAN MANAGEMENT AREAS: Describe the extent of road construction in the RMA and how it is consistent with FPPR section 50 and any specific requirements. Show the location on an applicable map.

STREAM CROSSINGS: State the requirement that stream crossings must be constructed and removed in accordance with FPPR section 55. Indicate the location of the stream crossings to be constructed on the applicable map.

MAINTAINING STREAM BANK STABILITY: If the stream bank or channel is likely to be affected by proposed treatments, describe proposed retention of trees in the RMZ for the affected streams and any specific conditions to ensure activities do not increase the likelihood of stream bank or stream channel instability.

DOMESTIC WATER LICENCES: Provide details and describe any specific requirements to ensure that material that is harmful to human health is not deposited in, or transported to, the water source used for human consumption.

Fuel Management Prescription – Notes to Assist Form Completion

LICENCED WATER WORKS: Provide details if timber harvesting, site preparation or road construction may occur within a 100 m of a licensed waterworks and describe any specific requirements to ensure the activity will not damage the licensed waterworks or increase sediment delivery to a water intake for human consumption.

FISHERIES SENSITIVE WATERSHED: Describe how the proposed treatment is consistent with the fisheries sensitive watershed objectives or any requirements to ensure consistency if applicable.

COMMUNITY WATERSHED: If the treatment area is in a community watershed, describe any specific requirements to be consistent with objectives set by government for water quality in the community watershed and to comply with FPPR sections 8.2, 61, 62 and 84.

If road construction or deactivation is required, state specifics around compliance with FPPR section 84 and the requirement to notify affected water licensees or water purveyors at least 24 hours before the road construction or deactivation commences.

WATERSHED ASSESSMENT CONSIDERATIONS: Describe how the proposed treatment is consistent with the watershed assessment considerations and describe any requirements to ensure consistency.

SOIL DISTURBANCE AND PERMANENT ACCESS STRUCTURES: State the proposed maximum soil disturbance percent for each treatment unit (5% or 10 % Based on Soil Hazards), and proposed maximum permanent access structure percent if applicable. If proposed Permanent Access Structures exceed 7%, describe how the proposed % is consistent with FPPR section 36(1) and (2).

LANDSLIDES AND TERRAIN STABILITY: Describe how the primary forest activities are consistent with FPPR section 37 if concerns were identified and a terrain stability field assessment was complete. Describe any requirements to ensure activities do not cause a landslide (i.e. no excavated or bladed trails or ground based harvesting on steep potentially unstable slopes).

SUITABLE SECONDARY STRUCTURE: Indicate if the 'targeted pine leading stand' will be protected or why not protecting the 'targeted pine leading stand' is consistent with FPPR section 43.1 if applicable.

Note: *If FPPR section 43.1 does not allow the 'targeted pine leading stand' to be harvested, an exemption may be requested under FPPR section 91(3).*

UNGULATE WINTER RANGE (UWR): Describe how the proposed treatment complies with applicable general wildlife measures (GWM) or is consistent with objectives for the UWR. Describe any requirements to ensure activities are appropriate.

WILDLIFE HABITAT AREA (WHA): Describe how the proposed treatment complies with applicable GWM or is consistent with objectives for the WHA. Describe any requirements to ensure activities are appropriate.

OBJECTIVES SET BY GOVERNMENT FOR WILDLIFE: Describe how the proposed treatment is consistent with the applicable objectives for wildlife under FPPR section 7. Describe any requirements to ensure activities are appropriate.

OBJECTIVES SET FOR GOVERNMENT FOR BIODIVERSITY (Landscape Level): Describe how the proposed treatment is consistent with the applicable objectives for landscape level biodiversity under FPPR section 9. Describe any requirements to ensure activities are appropriate.

Guidance document: *Biodiversity Guidebook* <https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/tasb/legsregs/fpc/fpcguide/biodiv/biotoc.htm>

Fuel Management Prescription – Notes to Assist Form Completion

OBJECTIVES SET FOR GOVERNMENT FOR BIODIVERSITY (Stand Level): Describe any specifications around maintaining stand structure (wildlife trees, wildlife tree reserves, etc.), coarse woody debris, and maintaining tree and vegetation species composition. Details may also be located in other sections of the prescription.

Guidance documents: *Biodiversity Guidebook* <https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/tasb/legsregs/fpc/fpcguide/biodiv/biotoc.htm>
and *Chief Foresters' Guidance on Coarse Woody Debris Management*
<https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/values/wildlife/wlt/policies.htm>

RECREATION FEATURES: State any known recreation features within the proposed treatment area and whether or not they are protected under FPPR section 70. Describe any requirements for protecting, maintaining or enhancing these features.

VISUAL QUALITY OBJECTIVES: Describe how the proposed treatment is consistent with 'visual quality objectives'. Describe any requirements to ensure consistency with 'visual quality objectives'.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES/CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES: Identify any known or suspected archaeological or cultural values (i.e. CMTs, cache and house pits, etc.), and discuss how these features are being managed.

Note: Do not disclose the location of confidential sites.

INVASIVE PLANTS: Describe any specific requirements to prevent the introduction or spread of invasive plants if applicable to the site or activity.

NATURAL RANGE BARRIERS: Indicate the location of the natural range barrier on a map if applicable, and describe any requirements to mitigate the effect of removing or rendering ineffective natural range barriers.

LAND USE OBJECTIVES: Specify the land use objectives that apply to the proposed area. This may include items that are not listed in this checklist, like Old Growth Management Areas. If a conflict is identified, please describe and provide a rationale for why the proposed treatment activities should occur. State any requirements to ensure activities are as consistent as possible with land use objectives.

G. OTHER STATUTORY AND NON-STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS

This section identifies additional considerations not addressed in any section above. Any points or areas of concern identified should be mapped if possible.

CONSULTATION

CONSULTATION – FIRST NATIONS: Identify all First Nations whose traditional territory falls within the prescription area and list any concerns brought forward from the consultation process and how those concerns are being addressed. If no feedback was provided from the band, than state so. State whether or not the consultation processes is complete and provide details (i.e. date referral process complete, etc.). Attach all relevant documentation.

Fuel Management Prescription – Notes to Assist Form Completion

Guidance Document: *Updated Procedures for meeting Legal Obligations When Consulting First Nations*

http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/DownloadAsset?assetId=9779EDACB673486883560B59BEBE782E&filename=legal_obligations_when_consulting_with_first_nations.pdf

CONSULTATION – GENERAL: Describe the scale of consultation (local, regional), the method (notice, poll, survey, meetings) and the details of any meetings to be scheduled. Attached any specific details and describe how any specific concerns have been addressed within the prescription. Some level of public consultation should occur if the treatment area is: subject to public use; contains a value of concern as identified in a management plan, higher level plan, etc.; adjacent to private property; or is highly visible from major transportation routes.

EXISTING TENURE HOLDERS: Identify existing tenure holders in the proposed treatment areas that include Forest Tenure Holders, Range Tenure Holders and Guide Outfitters. Ensure adequate consultation and attach all written comments received.

PRIVATE PROPERTY: Indicate whether or not there is private property adjacent to the treatment unit(s), or any specific concerns expressed by the landowner or community, and what measures have been taken or are recommended to inform and educate landowners regarding the proposed treatment and FireSmart.

SMOKE MANAGEMENT: Ensure compliance with all relevant legislation (i.e. Environment Management Act and Open Burning Smoke Control Regulations) and existing Smoke Management Plans. State any existing plans and any requirements to ensure consistency with objectives.

List the minimum venting indices required, the source of your venting forecasts, and any special measures in place to manage smoke (e.g. roadside warning signs, flag-persons at night, special burning equipment, curing slash prior to burning, etc.).

SAFETY: Describe any safety concerns within and adjacent to the treatment unit and specific measures required to ensure worker safety (i.e. steep slopes, danger trees, etc.).

UTILITIES: List any utilities (i.e. gas or other pipelines, hydro lines, etc.) located in, or adjacent to, the treatment area and describe any concerns and requirements regarding communication, procedures, and safety.

ACCESS CONTROL: Describe any specific access concerns and requirements, including any post treatment measures required to limit access to the area.

TRAFFIC CONTROL: Describe any measures that will be required to ensure traffic safety through the unit (e.g. flag-persons, traffic control signs, spotters for fallers or skidders working near roadside, etc.)

OTHER: List other issues not addressed above and describe any specific requirements.

H. STAND TABLE

This section describes the existing and desired characteristics of the forest stand within the treatment area. This information is essential in ensuring the prescription is meeting the established objectives with measureable specifications. Stems per hectare (sph) data is required; and where volume based data is required, the volume-per-hectare section should be populated along with the sph for the understory layers. In all cases, the stand should be sampled to a level that provides sufficient and accurate

Fuel Management Prescription – Notes to Assist Form Completion

data required to: determine the desired treatment specifications; estimate fuel loading; and to assist with harvest/treatment planning and valuation (if applicable).

SPECIES AND DIAMETER CLASS: Fill in a separate line for each species by diameter class. Use appropriate diameter classes to ensure adequate data for treatment specifications and for fire behaviour model inputs.

CROWN BASE HEIGHT: Determine the conifer Crown Base Height (CBH). CBH is a measure from the ground to the live or dead crown in the veteran, dominant and co-dominant coniferous canopy layers. Dead crowns are only measured when they are of sufficient density to allow vertical wildfire spread. Individual dead limbs should not be considered. Full whorls of dead limbs, especially with needles and fine branches or volatile mosses or lichens should be considered as part of the live crown in this measurement.

TREE HEIGHT: Determine the average tree height for each species within each diameter class.

SURFACE FUEL LOADING: Provide the dry weight of combustible materials per unit area and describe the distribution (i.e. scattered, continuous, elevated, etc.). Recommended units are kilograms per square metre (kg/m²) and tonnes per hectare (t/ha) (1.0 kg/m² is equivalent to 10 t/ha). Describe methods for determining this value and attach any field data cards if applicable.

CROWN CLOSURE: Estimate the percentage of stand condition resulting in the crowns of trees touching and effectively blocking sunlight from reaching the forest floor. If there is a deciduous component to the stand, provide percent of crown closure for the live and dead coniferous component as well as the crown closure for the deciduous component.

COARSE WOODY DEBRIS (CWD): Describe existing and target sph and distribution. The prescribed target CWD should reduce the wildfire hazard while also meeting stand level biodiversity objectives under FRPA (more detail regarding this should be found under the “Values” section).

Guidance document: *Chief Forester’s Guidance on Coarse Woody Debris Management*

<https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/values/wildlife/wlt/policies.htm>

WILDLIFE TREE RETENTION TARGET: Specify any retention objectives and targets for each treatment unit. Provide greater detail in the “Values” section of this document under “Biodiversity – Stand level”.

FOREST HEALTH: Describe any identified forest health concerns in the area (i.e. Mountain pine beetle attack % and stage, root rot, pests, etc.), and how these concerns will be addressed within this prescription.

TREE REMOVAL/RETENTION STRATEGY BY SIZE/SPECIES: Summarize the treatment specifications outlined above for each treatment unit. For example: “Retain all Yellow pine (25 sph), Western larch (30 sph), hardwoods (15 sph), and 50% of Douglas fir greater than 40 cm. (15 sph). Remove all Douglas fir below 40 cm dbh, 50% of Douglas fir greater than 40 cm dbh, and all Lodgepole pine. Target density = 85 sph, with an acceptable range of 60 – 110 sph.”

TREATMENT SPECIFICATION RATIONALE: Provide a summary as to how the treatment specifications were determined and how they will meet the prescription objectives. Discuss which parameters of the fuel component of the threat assessment worksheets will be modified and the anticipated reduction value. Include considerations of local fire behaviour (fuel, weather, and topography), fire history (size, location and cause of starts, etc.), and anchoring of treatment polygons. Also include

Fuel Management Prescription – Notes to Assist Form Completion

specifics around determination of treatment targets (i.e. pruning height, thinning density, etc.). Attach any supporting documentation (i.e. model runs, references, etc.).

I. TREATMENT DESCRIPTION

This section describes the various phases of the proposed treatments, including: techniques, targets/specifications, timing, and variations between treatment units. Sufficient detail is required to ensure transparency with prescription objectives and the management of identified values and concerns.

Note: *All treatments that occur on crown land require proper authorizations and licences when the cutting, damaging, destroying and/or removal of crown timber are proposed.*

MERCHANTABLE TIMBER HARVEST

This section focuses specifically on the removal of merchantable timber that is subject to pricing (stumpage) and potential reforestation obligations. Ensure all targets/specifications and timing requirements are detailed along with any variations between treatment units (i.e. silvicultural system, winter logging, etc.).

Note: *Boundaries, leave areas, riparian reserve zones, machine free zones, etc., should be adequately ribboned, and mapped. If not done so at the prescription stage, this needs to be stated clearly in the “Outstanding Works” section of this document.*

ROADS, LANDINGS AND TRAILS: Describe how the treatment unit will be accessed and developed (e.g. existing roads or new construction, skid trails, etc.); the standards and locations of required new construction; and the deactivation requirements and techniques of roads, landings and trails upon project completion. All roads and access structure must be mapped, have proper approval (e.g. road permits and road use agreements), and meet provincial standards.

FELLING: Describe the method (e.g. hand, feller buncher) and whether tops and branches will be bucked in place or processed roadside.

YARDING/SKIDDING: Describe the method (e.g. skid-trails, hoe-chucking, high-lead) and the type of equipment (rubber-tire skidder, forwarder, backhoe, grapple yarder, etc.). Include any additional measures or restrictions.

LOADING/HAULING: Describe the equipment to be used, the location (e.g. roadside, landings), and the timing (concurrent with logging, decked for a period of time, etc.). Include any critical timelines, such as beetle flights, soft ground restrictions, etc.

SLASH DISPOSAL: Describe the actions that will be taken to ensure that the hazard and risk created by tree removal is reduced to an acceptable standard.

Guidance Document: *A Guide to Fuel Hazard Assessment and Abatement in British Columbia*

http://bcwildfire.ca/Industry_Stakeholders/Industry/Hazard%20Assess%20%20Abate%20Guidance%20Doc%20FINAL%20with%20all%20Links%20April%202012.pdf

SITE DISTURBANCE: Describe the acceptable level of site disturbance (e.g. compaction, mineral soil exposure) and the measures that will be taken to ensure that this level is not exceeded.

SPECIAL MEASURES: Describe any measures that will be taken to address the objectives, targets or Values that are not listed above (e.g. no-work-zones to protect critical habitat, variable spacing along riparian areas to “feather” the boundaries, etc.)

Fuel Management Prescription – Notes to Assist Form Completion

STAND MODIFICATION TREATMENTS

This section focuses on treatments where timber is not going to be harvested for commercial purposes. Ensure all targets/specifications and timing requirements are detailed along with any variations between treatment units.

Note: *This section may also need to be filled out if heavy equipment will be used to remove any non-commercial or merchantable stems.*

Note: *Boundaries, leave areas, riparian management zones, etc., should be laid out, adequately ribboned, and mapped. If not done so at the prescription stage, this needs to be stated clearly in the “Outstanding Works” section of this document.*

MERCHANTABLE TIMBER HARVEST UTILIZATION: Was commercial timber harvest considered as a treatment option? If commercial timber harvest is not prescribed, explain why.

BRUSHING: Describe the method to be used, and other specific details such as: target species and size, desired density, and debris disposal requirements, if any.

PRUNING: Describe the equipment to be used, the target crown base height, the live crown ratio that will result, and the disposition of slash created.

THINNING: Describe the existing and proposed stands in terms of species composition, average height and crown width, and density (if not captured in the “Stand Table” section above). Describe the method of thinning, the equipment to be used, the target density, and the slash disposal method.

DEBRIS PILING: Describe method (i.e. hand or mechanical) and specifications (i.e. dimensions, maximum Diameter to be piled, etc.), and any other instructions such as distance to standing timber, etc.

PILE BURNING: Describe pile burning details including methods and timing. Ensure compliance with all relevant legislation and existing Smoke Management Plans that should also be detailed in the “Smoke Management” section of the plan.

MULCHING: Describe the type of equipment to be used, the number of stems to be removed, the volume of mulched material to be created, and the disposition of that material if it is considered an impediment to meeting the project objectives.

MASTICATION: See comments on “mulching” above.

GRINDING: See comments on “mulching” above.

PRESCRIBED FIRE: Describe the objectives of the prescribed fire (i.e. desired amount of duff removal; ground fuel reduction objectives - type of material to be consumed, size of material, % coverage, etc.; crown base height target; acceptable % leave tree mortality; % acceptable understory survival, etc.). Describe the conditions under which the burn is not acceptable (e.g. “Do not burn 2 if bunchgrass is > x cm in height” or “do not burn when extensive mop-up is probable”, etc.). Provide an acceptable and realistic range of outcomes for each of these objectives, so that burn objectives are achievable and burn opportunities exist. Map and label all areas that are excluded from the prescribed fire (e.g. critical wildlife habitat).

Note: *Provide a Burn Plan that specifies the range of fire parameters that will achieve the prescribed objectives.*

Fuel Management Prescription – Notes to Assist Form Completion

PLANTING: Describe planting objectives and specifications and ensure further details are included in the “Post Treatment” section including the “Stocking Standard” portion of the plan. Stocking standards must be approved by the land manager at the time of prescription development.

OTHER: Describe any treatment not specifically listed above, including the method, equipment to be used, the target results, and how debris will be disposed of. Explain how the treatment will meet the objectives of the prescription while addressing the identified values and issues.

AUTHORIZATION AND TIMBER TENURE

State any authorization and timber tenure requirements that need be in place prior to treatment start-up. “Other” can include local government if on municipal land, and utilities (gas, hydro, etc.) if required.

J. POST TREATMENT

This section addresses silviculture obligations and the effects of the proposed treatments over time.

EXPECTED VEGETATION RESPONSE: Describe the amount and type of vegetation expected to occupy the site as a result of the treatment(s).

ADDITIONAL TREATMENTS OR MAINTENANCE: Describe any additional treatments recommended that are not addressed within this prescription as well as any recommended maintenance treatment and timing.

SILVICULTURE OBLIGATIONS: Provide details around silviculture obligations (e.g. planting, stand tending, free to grow) if applicable.

PLANTING: Provide specific planting specifications not found in the stocking standards table. Ensure a planting map is provided and that all areas that are not easily identifiable on the ground are ribboned in the field and ribbon weight and colour are stated here. Any ribboning required should also be stated in the “Outstanding Works” section if not completed at the time of the prescription. If sowing is required, state specifics here (including timing) and ensure this is noted in the “Outstanding Works” section.

STOCKING STANDARDS: Complete the table provided or attach a table with all relevant information. All stocking standards must be approved by the district manager at the time of the prescription development. If wildfire management is the primary long-term objective in the treatment area, ensure that stocking standards reflect this, and that a long-term maintenance plan is proposed to sustain this objective.

K. OUTSTANDING WORKS

Describe any outstanding work required prior to treatment (e.g. assessments, ribboning, authorization and tenure acquisition, sowing request, etc.). It is expected that the majority of work required for the prescribed treatment(s) will be completed at the prescription stage. If this is not possible it is expected that the local government and the Fuels Management Specialist are informed and that details are provided in this section.

Fuel Management Prescription – Notes to Assist Form Completion

L. ADMINISTRATION

PREPARATION

Fuel management prescriptions constitute professional forestry practice in British Columbia. Field work must be completed or supervised by a qualified professional, and the prescription must be signed by a Registered Professional Forester. For further information on this subject, refer to the Association of BC Forest Professionals: <http://www.abcfp.ca/>

M. ATTACHMENTS

Indicate which documents are attached by checking the appropriate box. If a professional assessment was completed, indicate the date the report was completed and the professional who completed the work.

MAPPING STANDARDS

Include the following georeferenced map(s):

- Overview: General overview map of the project boundary in relation to communities and other major features and base data. Include data in Section C Treatment Unit Summary.
- Fuel Treatment Prescription Map

Prescription map should include:

- Treatment unit boundaries and new sand existing threat class plots (labeled with TREATMENT_UNIT_ID and PLOT_NUMBER)
- Reserves (including wildlife tree retention areas, riparian reserve zones, etc.)
- Streams, Wetlands, Lakes including the class and identification number/name
- Existing and proposed roads and skid trails (labeled)
- Existing or proposed stream crossing structures (culverts, bridges)
- Any other values or features that should be mapped (i.e. Goshawk nests, bear den, range fencing, power lines, a licensed waterworks that is within 100 m of proposed treatment, etc.)
- Natural range barriers that may be affected by treatment
- Any areas of safety concern (i.e. steep slopes, utility lines, etc.)
- Table with all areas identified in Section C Treatment Unit Summary, including treatment regime

Please note that all maps must contain:

- Descriptive title
- Scale (as text or scale bar)
- North arrow
- Legend
- CWPP and GIS consultant company name
- Local government name or First Nation band number
- Date

Note: *If features or areas discussed above are not labeled, they should be included in the legend. A separate harvesting, road building, or planting map may be required depending on the treatment.*