



## **OCCUPANT LICENCE TO CUT**

### **Guidelines for application in the Okanagan Shuswap Forest District**

An OLTC is required by anyone wishing to harvest timber from Crown land for areas under a Crown land Occupancy Permit issued by Land and Water BC. The applicant must have authority to occupy the Crown land before an OLTC can be issued to harvest trees.

Such areas include:

- Water lines
- Road or trail construction to access private land
- Mining exploration
- Cat ski operations
- Heli-ski operations
- Cross country ski areas

All applications must include:

- Map showing area to be harvested
- Copy of approved Occupancy Permit from the applicable government agency
- Information for determining stumpage rate (see below).

Applications for larger areas such as ski operations must include:

- a plan showing all proposed development
- time frames for completion
- type of development (trails versus glading).

When timber is harvested from Crown land, stumpage must be paid to the Crown for the value of the timber. The stumpage rate is calculated in one of two ways, depending on the applicant's preference and the volume to be harvested:

1. For small volumes, less than 2,000 m<sup>3</sup> (approximately 60 logging trucks), the applicant has the choice of two methods:
  - (a) The applicant can use the Interior Appraisal Manual, table 6-1 *Average Sawlog Stumpage Rates by Forest Zone and Species (\$/m<sup>3</sup>)* to determine the stumpage rate. The Okanagan Shuswap Forest District is located in

the South East Forest Zone. These rates are based on average logging and hauling costs for the Forest Zone and are updated once a year on August 1<sup>st</sup>. Application information required for this method includes species, volume by species, location, and a map clearly showing area to be harvested.

- (b) Alternatively, the stumpage rate may be determined through a full appraisal. This option would include the requirement for a timber cruise to determine stand information (volumes, species, defects, etc.) used in the appraisal. This appraisal method incorporates costs associated with harvesting timber, road development and getting wood to the mill specific to the harvest area. The applicant should be aware of costs associated with conducting a timber cruise and preparation of the appraisal. Local forest consultants can provide cost estimates for this work.
- (c) For volumes greater than 2,000 m<sup>3</sup> the applicant must complete a full appraisal and timber cruise as per the Interior Appraisal Manual.

Applications will take approximately 30 days to process upon receipt of all required information.

You can find the Interior Appraisal Manual at:

<http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hva/manuals/interior/index.htm>

and the Cruising Manual at:

<http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hva/manuals/cruising/index.htm>)

For more information you can contact the Okanagan Shuswap Forest District at (250) 558-1700.