

Guidelines for the administration of Firewood permits, Cash Sales and Fuel Log Forestry Licenses to Cut within the Kootenay Lake Forest District

Vision Statement:

The Ministry of Forests and Range (MOFR) does not discourage firewood cutting however, there are specific differences between firewood cutting for personal use and firewood cutting for commercial resale, community use or First Nations use.

This document describes to potential clients what is considered firewood, the legislative requirements pertaining to firewood harvesting, firewood classifications used in the District, the types of permits required and compliance and enforcement requirements.

Part A. What is to be considered as Firewood?

Logs that are dead and dry when harvested are no longer automatically considered as firewood, but will be scaled based on rules that took effect April 1, 2006. Firewood that is of a poorer scale grade than Grade 4 can be collected by means of a permit without paying for stumpage.

Grade 4 material would include:

- a log with severe twist over the entire length of the log.
- numerous deep checks greater than 4 cm in depth over the entire length of the log.
- the log has enough rot to meet and exceed the grade 4 criteria.
- less than 50% of the log can produce merchantable timber.
- Birch can be classed as sawlog material, so look for defects as noted above.

For more details on the scaling requirements, see this website or contact the District Scaling Supervisor at 250-825-1100 :

<http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/tasb/legsregs/comptoc.htm>

Part B Legislative Requirements:

Section 84 of the *Forest Act* requires timber that is to be transported and scaled to have a valid timbermark.

The *Timber Marking and Transportation Regulation* requires timber to be marked with a timbermark and that all timber hauled is to have a load description slip; which in part describes the timber, identifies where the timber originated from and where the load will be delivered. Where a load description slip is required (FS 649), the person transporting

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the load of firewood or fuel logs must complete the load slip in accordance with the regulation.

Section 94 of the *Forest Act* requires timber to be scaled. Section 94(5) of the *Forest Act* provides for exemptions with conditions from scaling.

More details are available at this website or by contacting the District Scaling Supervisor at 250-825-1100 : <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/tasb/legsregs/comptoc.htm>

Part C Firewood Classifications:

Firewood is divided into two classifications, **Class 1** and **Class 2**. Class 1 is for personal use and is limited to 5 cords or less (16.5 cubic meters of wood). Class 2 is either greater than 5 cords or for commercial resale use, community use or use by First Nations.

1. Class 1 Firewood.

Personal use (not for commercial resale)

Individuals, First Nations or school boards may apply to the Ministry of Forests and Range for the authority to harvest firewood for personal, cultural activities or for school board use.

How do I/we apply?

- Apply to the Kootenay Lake Forestry Centre for a Free Use Permit for Firewood in person, by phone, email, or download your own form from the WWW at the following link: <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/DKL/Tenures/Firewood/Permit2007.pdf>
- Please provide the necessary contact information upon request.

Type of tenure authority required:

- Free Use Permit for Firewood (FUP). Limited to 5 cords or less. (3.3m³/cord)
- This type of tenure is exempt from the requirement to have a timbermark and to provide a scale report.

Conditions of this permit:

- Applicable for vacant crown land (VCL) only.
- Firewood material is comprised of code Grade 4 material and/or Birch, and must not contain any sawlog grade.
- Area where firewood is to be cut is either designated as a Free Use Permit area, or is described as VCL with no active forest tenure. As the Permittee, you will be required to ensure that you are not cutting a dead tree on private land.
- There is no requirement for a timbermark; a load slip; or for the load to be scaled.
- The permit holder must have a signed copy of their permit with them and present this permit to a Forest Official if requested.
- The FUP will have conditions stated in the permit, which the permittee must abide by when cutting the firewood.

2. Class 2 Firewood

Individuals may apply to the Ministry of Forests and Range for the authority to harvest firewood for Personal or First Nations use (when the volume required exceeds 5 cords, or 16.5 cubic meters) or when someone wants to establish a commercial firewood operation.

Prior to a person or group contacting the Ministry of Forests and Range for a permit, the person or group will be required to have already negotiated an agreement with either a Major Licensee or other forest tenure holder to address the scaling; waste and residue billings and fire hazard issues related to this class of firewood.

It would also be to your benefit to contact the Small Scale Salvage Technician who will be able to assist you with a contact list of Major Licensees or other tenure holders who may be willing to enter into a contractual relationship with you. Call 250-825-1100 for more details.

This classification of firewood has two routes of payment- either it will be manufactured on site (Special Forest Products route) or the firewood will be hauled off site (Fuel Log route) and a stumpage billing generated as a result of the stacked scale estimate, modified weight scale, or actual weight scale.

Other information that you will need when you apply for this Class of firewood:

In order to apply for Class 2 Firewood, you will need two additional pieces of information to accompany your application:

1. A Ministry of Forests and Range Client Number- in order for the MOFR to process your application for a cash sale or a forestry license to cut you will need to complete the Client Number Application form. This form requires personal contact information. Contact the Kootenay Lake Forestry Centre at 250-825-1100 for more details. If you already have a valid Client Management System ID number, then simply provide this number upon application.
And,
2. A Map of the Area: in which the cash sale or forestry license to cut will apply. This information will need to be collected by you and presented in a format that is acceptable to the MOFR. The information needed takes the form of either an accurately drawn by hand map or digital information that is either provided by the Major tenure holder who you have negotiated an agreement with; or submitted into the MOFR Forest Tenure Administrative System via an Internet Service Provider. Contact the Kootenay Lake Forestry Centre at 250-825-1100 and ask for the Small Scale Salvage Technician or Tenures Forester for more information.

How do I/we apply?

Apply to the Kootenay Lake Forestry Centre at 250-825-1100 for either a Cash Sale License (CSL) or a Forestry License to Cut-Fuel Logs (FLTC-SSS). You can apply in person, by phone or email. Please provide the necessary contact information when requested.

Type of tenure authority required:

1. Cash Sale for Firewood:

- Applicable to vacant crown land only.
- Limited to less than 50 cubic meters or 15 cords (3.3m³/cord) in total and will be manufactured at a given location.
- Firewood is to be bucked, split and is referred to as a *Special Forest Product* (SFP), stumpage will be set at \$0.50/cubic meter. Scaling code for firewood is “FW” Firewood material is comprised of code Dry Grade 4 material and must not contain any sawlog grade.
- It is your option to either pay the stumpage up front or to report to a scale site with the volume.
- If you chose to pay up front, please provide the exact location and estimated volume by species. Ministry of Forest and Range personal will then review your application and determine the amount required to be paid by you prior to receiving your permit.
- If you chose the scale option, you must contact the District Scaling Supervisor for details on completing a stacked scale estimate report. The stacked scale report involves measuring the LxWxH of the load and then reporting to a scale site. The scaler will then apply a conversion factor. Call 250-825-1100 for more details.
- If the firewood will be cut on an active forest tenure area, the person must have the written permission from the Major Licensee or other forest tenure holder to manufacture the firewood on site. Provide a copy of this agreement upon application. You must agree on the amount of volume by species and grade that will constitute the residue billing and any liability that you will assume under the *Wildfire Act* and *WorkSafe BC*.
- A timbermark is required- this will be the Cash Sale permit number and must be visible and discernible on each load that you remove from the area under this cash sale permit.
- The permit holder must have a signed copy of their Cash Sale permit with them and present this permit to a Forest Official if requested.
- The Cash Sale will have conditions stated in the permit, which the permittee must abide by when cutting and transporting the firewood.
- The residue volume goes against the Major Licensees cut control or the FS reserve.

2. Forestry License to Cut for Fuel Logs:

- Applicable to vacant crown land only.

- A timbermark is required and will be issued to you once the license is granted.
- This type of license is limited to 50-2000 cubic meters and will be transported off site and manufactured at a given location.
- Firewood material is comprised of code Dry Grade 4 material and/or Birch, and must not contain any sawlog material.
- Prior to applying for a license for fuel logs the person must have the written permission from the Major Licensee or other forest tenure holder to remove the fuel wood. Provide a copy of this agreement upon application. You must agree on the amount of volume by species and grade that will constitute the residue billing and any liability that you will assume under the *Wildfire Act* and *WorkSafe BC*.
- A load description slip must accompany each load, hammer mark or crayon mark each load front and back in accordance with the *timber scaling and transportation regulation*. Report to a designated scale site.
- Fuel logs are scaled as logs or the person completes a “Modified Weight Scale” (volume estimate) referred to as “an alternative method of scale”. You must contact the District Scaling Supervisor for details on completing the modified weight scale report. This includes the physical address of where the logs will be hauled to; the phone # of the purchaser; breakdown of the species in percent by each load; and the bunk scale weight of each load of logs. Call the district scaling supervisor at 250-825-1100 for more details.
- Grade 4 volume will be scaled at \$0.25/m³, Birch at \$0.50/m³, any Grade 2 will be scaled at the full sawlog rate for the forest tenure if active, or by district average rates if the forest tenure has expired. (rates subject to change)
- You will receive through the mail a “piece scale invoice” stating the amount of money required to be paid by you under this license.
- The permit holder must have a signed copy of their Forestry License to Cut with them and present this permit to a Forest Official if requested.
- The Forestry License to Cut will have conditions stated in the permit, which the permittee must abide by when cutting and transporting the fuel logs.
- The volume goes against the Major Licensees cut control or the FS reserve.

Part D Compliance and Enforcement:

Failure to abide by any requirements or conditions stated in the FUP, Cash Sale or Forestry License to Cut will be grounds for enforcement actions.

If you have any questions, please contact the Kootenay Lake Forest District at 250-825-1100.

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