

SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT STAFF REPORT

TO: Planning and Development Committee – April 21, 2022

AUTHOR: Julie Clark, Senior Planner

SUBJECT: BC TIMBER SALES OPERATING PLAN (CRN00140) 2022-2026

RECOMMENDATIONS

THAT the report titled BC Timber Sales Operating Plan (CRN00140) 2022-2026 be received for information.

BACKGROUND

SCRD receives an annual referral for [BC Timber Sales \(BCTS\) 5-year Operating Plan](#). SCRD and BCTS have a Communications Protocol which prescribes SCRD response within 90 days.

SCRD staff reports in response to BCTS annual Operating Plan referrals (2018-present) are available [here](#).

DISCUSSION

The BCTS 2022-2026 Operating Plan proposes no new cut blocks within the geography covered by Sunshine Coast Regional District authority. As such, SCRD Planning has not prepared a detailed analysis for APC referral or SCRD Board.

Staff will resubmit relevant recommendations from previous years' Board resolutions to BCTS forest planning staff to continue to emphasize SCRD's opposition to logging in:

- Community watersheds
- Aquifer recharge zones
- Areas of steep slopes on Mount Elphinstone or proposed Provincial Park expansion

SCRD has and will continue to emphasize strong concern to BCTS regarding the lack of accountability regarding cumulative impacts to:

- Downstream private property owners' stormwater impact
- Downstream public assets, such as roads, ravines and creeks
- Regional and provincial emergency response requirements for stormwater impact such as recent events related to Whittaker Creek and creeks in Halfmoon Bay.

SCRD has and will continue to advocate for:

- A proactive, landscape level, multidisciplinary, cumulative impact assessment framework;
- Climate change informed, climate-resilient forest planning that recognizes and values local forests as local assets that protect against increasing climate impacts; and

- A monitoring and data sharing program related to drinking water that:
 - a. Defines a drinking water protection strategy for proposed forestry operations that has the goal of achieving zero turbidity, zero sediment and zero pathogen input to nearby creeks or streams from forestry activities;
 - b. Establishes a monitoring and data sharing program.

Organization and Intergovernmental Implications

Harvesting in or near drinking water sources may have water quality impacts in the short or long term and or increased costs for SCRD.

Harvesting on steep slopes and near creeks may have downstream private property stormwater implications that result in SCRD and Provincial emergency resource requirements.

Communications Strategy

All 5 APCs received the Monthly Provincial Referral Summary which included a link to the BCTS 2022-2026 Operating Plan and a description noting that no new response is planned from SCRD.

STRATEGIC PLAN AND RELATED POLICIES

Responding to BCTS aligns with the SCRD Strategic Plan focus areas of advocacy for watershed governance, collaborative regional land use planning, natural asset management and climate resilience.

CONCLUSION

SCRD received BC Timber Sales' referral for 2022-2026 Operating Plan. BCTS proposes no new cut blocks in SCRD in this plan. SCRD's 2022 referral response will include this report and previous recommendations to emphasize SCRD's position and advocacy for community needs.

Reviewed by:			
Manager	X – J. Jackson	Finance	
GM	X – I. Hall	Legislative	
CAO	X – D. McKinley	Other	