



NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER 2016

This newsletter highlights items of interest to MF owners and interested parties for Fall 2016

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Recent News

Stakeholder Engagement in the Kootenays

Executive Director Phil O'Connor and Chair Rod Davis visited the Kootenays in June to continue the Managed Forest Council's ongoing engagement with managed forest owners, local governments, and other interested parties. They met with four local governments, two managed forest owners, and a local citizen's group.

Phil & Rod appreciated the opportunity to develop relations with Managed Forest owners and stakeholders and discuss issues of local interest. The Managed Forest Council welcomes opportunities to meet with all stakeholders.

Current Activities

Drinking Water Review

One of the key objectives of the Manage Forest legislation is the protection of water quality for domestic consumption. To assist the Council in evaluating the effectiveness of our regulatory framework in achieving this objective, a review was conducted during the last year.

The review includes a survey of managed forest owners and water licence holders. Managed forest owners provided data on their strategies and practices to protect downstream water, and water licensees were surveyed regarding their interactions with landowners, their awareness of regulatory requirements, and any concerns they may have regarding their water quality.

The survey data has been compiled, and Council will now review the information gathered and assess the next steps. Further information regarding the Drinking Water Review findings and next steps will be communicated through the Council website when available.

Field Notes

Road Maintenance & Deactivation: Important Regulatory Requirements

Protection of water quality and fish habitat are two of the forest management objectives identified in the *Private Managed Forest Land Act*.



As winter approaches, owners are reminded to be diligent around regulatory requirements related to road maintenance & deactivation with respect to protection of water quality and fish habitat. Two of the key elements in the Council Regulation related to road maintenance & deactivation are:

- Road constructed or used for harvesting purposes must be maintained until deactivated
- Maintenance and deactivation practices are required to the extent necessary to avoid causing a material adverse effect on fish habitat or on water diverted by a licensed waterworks intake

[Read our blog post](#) for information and resources on regulatory requirements and field practices.

Reminders

Reforestation Obligations

Managed Forest owners who harvested trees or had timber destroyed in 2011 are required to restock the areas by the end of 2016, i.e. within five years of harvest. We encourage owners to survey their harvested or destroyed areas to determine if fill planting or other action may be required to meet the requirements of Section 31 of the Council Regulation.



Recently planted block

For more information on reforestation obligations, [see our 2015 blog post here](#).

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