



# INFORMATION BULLETIN

## MARCH 25, 2008

### **UNINTENTIONAL HARVESTING OCCURS ADJACENT TO EAST WILSON CREEK**

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In the Spring of 2007 an experienced and competent logging contractor working for Columbia National Investments Ltd (CNI), while harvesting adjacent to a 100m portion of small tributary to East Wilson Creek, inadvertently retained only 80% of the streamside trees required under section 19 of the Private Managed Forest Land Council Regulation that was then in effect. In all other areas within the harvest area the streamside retention either met or exceeded the requirements of the regulation.

A specialist retained by the Council concluded that there was no evidence that the incident resulted in any stream bank instability or any significant impacts to downstream water quality or fish habitat. After the incident, CNI improved the clarity of its operational plans and retained a specialist to assist with streamside planning.

After careful consideration of the particular circumstances, the Council determined that an administrative penalty or a remediation order were not warranted.

On September 1, 2007 the Private Managed Forest Land Council Regulation was replaced by the Private Managed Forest Land Council Regulation 2007. The new regulation, amongst other things, increases the retention requirements for streamside trees and understory vegetation. For streams such as the one which was involved in the incident, the streamside tree retention requirements have been increased by 50% as has the width of the area within which all non-commercial trees and understory vegetation must be retained.

Any inquiries in respect of this Bulletin may be made to the Executive Director at (250) 386-5737.