



SUNSHINE COAST COMMUNITY FOREST

BUILDING VALUE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Community Forest Glossary

Area-Based Tenure

A tenure based on a fixed area that allows the harvesting of timber at a rate determined to be sustainable for that specific area and circumstances. Tree farm licences, woodlots, and community forest tenures are area-based tenures. See also *Forest Tenure* and *Volume-Based Tenure*.

Allowable Annual Cut (AAC)

The amount of timber allowed to be cut from within a specified timber supply area or tenure.

Balsam

Balsam is a generic term used to refer to any of the BC true fir species, or Abies. It includes grand fir (*Abies grandis*) amabilis fir (*Abies amabilis*) and subalpine fir (*Abies lasiocarpa*). Balsam fir is not a native species in British Columbia.

BC Timber Sales (BCTS)

An operational arm of the BC Ministry of Forests and Range that manages large areas of BC forest lands and sells timber sale licenses to individuals.

Biodiversity

The diversity of living species and their interrelationships within a defined area. Biodiversity is subjective, depending on the subject area and considerations, and in some uses may include genetic variability within species.

Biogeoclimatic Ecosystem Classification

The biogeoclimatic ecosystem classification system is a methodology of identifying forest ecosystems. It recognizes a combination of the biological, geographical and climatic factors that determine the type of ecosystems that may occupy a site. Within the system are defined biogeoclimatic zones, subzones and variants.

Block

A stand of trees identified for a specific forest management treatment such as planting spacing, fertilizing or harvesting.

Coarse Woody Debris

- 1) Large pieces of wood left in a block following harvesting that will remain and decay in place to provide habitat for organisms and to release nutrients and organic material into the soil.
- 2) Large pieces of wood such as trees or logs within a stream or river that provide cover and interact with flowing water to shape the streambed. This provides diversity in stream habitat for fish and invertebrates

Co-dominants

Trees whose crowns form the main canopy of a forest, but not protruding above the rest of the trees.

Community Forest

In British Columbia—any forestry operation managed by a local government, community group, or First Nations for the benefit of the entire community.

Community Watershed

The drainage area above the lowest downstream point of a water intake on a stream used for human consumption, and which is licensed under the Water Act. Community watersheds are generally large areas of water, such as Chapman and Gray Creeks or Ruby and Sakinaw Lakes on the Sunshine Coast, where the water is used for large populations and treated to the standards set by the Canada Health Act. See also *Watershed*.

Conventional logging

Logging done using ground-based equipment or cables.

Crossditch

A crossditch is a ditch dug completely across a forestry road that has been deactivated. The purpose of a crossditch is to get the slope-side ditch water over the road and onto the soil on the other side to prevent erosion of the ditch line and road prism, and to prevent ditches filling up and overflowing on to the road surface.

Cull

A log that is of such poor quality that it does not meet the grade requirements for the lowest existing grade for its species.

Culturally Modified Tree

A tree showing signs of having been altered by First Nations peoples for the purpose of undertaking cultural activities. CMTs are regarded as a significant cultural resource if they are estimated to have been modified prior to First Nations' first contact with European explorers and settlers. This is generally regarded as 1843. None have been found to date in within the Sunshine Coast Community Forest tenure area.

Cutblock/Harvesting Block/Logging Block

A specific area of land, identified in an approved cutting permit, in which trees are available for immediate harvest.

Dominants

Trees within a stand whose crowns extend above the average level of the surrounding forest.

Deactivated road

A forest road may be deactivated after it is no longer in use but may be needed in the future. To deactivate a road the culverts are removed and replaced with crossditches, waterbars are dug into the road surface and small bridges may be removed. The purpose of deactivation is to prevent erosion so that the road remains usable into the future.

Domestic Log Market

A nearby and/or local market for logs. For example, SCCF logs are sold into the Vancouver log market and locally here on the Sunshine Coast.

Ecoforestry

Ecoforestry is a forest management strategy intended to maintain or restore the forest to standards where the forest may still be harvested for products on a sustainable basis. It emphasizes holistic practices which strive to protect and restore ecosystems rather than maximize economic productivity.

Ecosystem

Within a defined area, and ecosystem is the relationship between all living and non-living things including their processes, products, and influences through time.

Ecosystem-Based Management

Ecosystem-based management is an environmental management approach that recognizes the full array of interactions within an ecosystem, including humans, rather than considering single issues, species, or ecosystem services in isolation (Christensen et al. 1996, McLeod et al. 2005).

Even-aged management

Forest management employing a silvicultural system that regenerates a stand following harvesting of even-aged trees.

Forest Tenure

The right to log a certain volume from a forest area. The forest tenure holder has no rights to the land and must pay the province a stumpage fee once the logs are measured by a process called “scaling.” See also *Area-Based Tenure* and *Volume-Based Tenure*.

Forest license

A volume based crown tenure held by a licensee that allows the harvesting of a specified volume of wood per year. Stumpage is paid to the province for wood cut.

Free of Heart Centre (FOHC)

AFOHC is a grading term used to describe a timber cut from a log that does not contain the pith. It is a quality often requested of timbers for accurate and precise timber frame construction.

Gang

Gang is a term to describe the grade of a log or timber that is suited to be processed in a sawmill that uses a gang saw. A gang saw is an array of 2 to 6 bandsaws that quickly cuts a log into preset dimensions. The process does not discriminate for grade and is the usual process for making dimensional lumber for the home building market. Gang logs are typically reasonably straight and free of defects such as rot and shake. They do not require small knots, minimal taper and close grain as do peeler logs.

Geographic Information System

A computer program that spatially relates on screen mapping attributes to an associated database. It is used to query any type of spatial relationship between any mapped features and corresponding data. It can overlay many layers of map attribute data at once, including satellite and orthophoto images. It is used by the CFA to map forest inventory, plan harvesting and to track non-timber resource features.

Girdling

The cutting of all bark and cambium layers of a tree around its entire circumference to kill it. This may be done, for instance, when spacing to remove large alder trees shading out coniferous crop trees, when falling them may damage the crop trees. Girdling kills the trees over about one complete season and the tree usually decays and falls apart in pieces from the top down rather than all at once so the crop trees are not damaged.

GIS See **Geographic Information System**

Heart Centre

The pith or centre of the tree and surrounding wood contained in a timber or cut log. The heart centre is the most structurally unstable portion of the tree stem and is less desirable for some construction purposes.

Hembal

Hembal is a grouping of hemlock and true fir species of timber or logs for marketing and operational purposes. It is short for hemlock and balsam. It can include any combination of mountain or western hemlock, grand, amabilis or subalpine fir. These species are often processed into lumber and sold together because some characteristics of their wood are similar.

Hoe Chucking

The use of an excavator to carry logs to a road.

Hog

A biomass fuel produced by grinding bark, branches, stumps or any other unsorted logging or log processing waste. It is typically burned by pulp mills to produce steam and electrical energy for the pulping process.

Karst

Karst topography is a landscape shaped by the dissolution of a layer or layers of soluble bedrock, usually carbonate rock such as limestone or dolomite. Due to subterranean drainage, there may be very limited surface water, even to the absence of all rivers and lakes. Many karst regions display distinctive surface features, with sinkholes or dolines being the most common. However, distinctive karst surface features may be completely absent where the soluble rock is mantled, such as by glacial debris, or confined by a superimposed non-soluble rock strata. Some karst regions include thousands of caves, even though evidence of caves that are big enough for human exploration is not a required characteristic of karst. (definition from Wikipedia) Although there is limestone and dolomite in the Sechelt Peninsula, it is not widespread enough to form a Karst landscape.

Landscape Unit

Long-term planning areas, ranging in size from 5,000–100,000 hectares; used to integrate resource development and conservation activities by enabling understanding of ecological processes, landscape management visioning, and implementation of biodiversity strategies.

LIDAR (Light Detection And Ranging) is an optical remote sensing technology that measures properties of scattered light to find range and/or other information of a distant target. The prevalent method to determine distance to an object or surface is to use laser pulses. The range to an object is determined by measuring the time delay between transmission of a pulse and detection of the reflected signal. (definition from Wikipedia)

Log Export

Logs that are sold outside of Canada.

Log market

The collective group of log buyers and sellers on the BC coast and their interactions. Logs may be bought and sold wherever they are, there is no specific location of the Vancouver or coastal log market.

Merch

An abbreviated form of merchantable. This term can refer to the quality of logs as being a standard grade for lumber production or a stand of trees as having the potential to be harvested profitably.

Netdown

A process undertaken during a timber supply review that defines the timber harvesting landbase, by starting with the gross tenure area and subtracting area that is not suitable for timber production or is required for protection of other values. The net area, after all reductions, is the timber harvesting landbase.

Non-Timber Forest Products

Products, other than timber, that can be harvested from the forest—for example: salal, mushrooms, berries, and medicinal plants.

Old Growth

A tree, or group of trees, that is 250 years old or more.

Orthophoto

An orthophoto or orthophotograph is an aerial photograph geometrically corrected ("orthorectified") such that the scale is uniform: the photo has the same lack of distortion as a map. Unlike an uncorrected aerial photograph, an orthophotograph can be used to measure true distances, because it is an accurate representation of the Earth's surface, having been adjusted for topographic relief lens distortion, and camera tilt. (Definition from Wikipedia)

Peeler log

A log suitable to be peeled on a lathe into veneer at a mill. Such logs would have a small amount of taper, small knots, straight stems and close grain.

Polygon

A forest stand depicted on a forest map. Stands are usually an irregular shape when delineated, with many sides, leading to them referred to by this geometric name.

Recce

An abbreviation for reconnaissance. A recce is an informal survey of an area to investigate any aspect of forestry such as potential road locations, identification of harvestable timber or forest health issues.

Riparian

Located on the bank of a natural water resource

Scaling

A method used to calculate the stumpage payable to the province from a forest tenure. Logs are measured, scaled, and the cubic metre volume determined. Each log is graded for value and species, and deductions are made for defects, which produces a net volume of merchantable wood. A cubic metre is about the size of a telephone pole. See also *Stumpage*.

Secondary Manufacturing

Further processing of wood products that have already undergone some manufacturing—for example: processing lumber into flooring, doors, and window frames.

Selective Logging

The silvicultural practice of harvesting a proportion of the trees in a stand. The purpose of removing selected trees from mature timber, or thinning trees, is to improve the timber growth stand. This system may be used to manage or develop even- or uneven-aged stands.

Seral Stage

A developmental stage in the succession of a forest site from bare ground to climax old growth forest ecosystem. An early seral stage may be conifer saplings with a component of small alder trees. A mature seral stage may be a pure coniferous forest of 70 to 250 years of age.

Shake

- 1) A flat piece of western red cedar wood split from a block into a slightly wedged shape used as a roofing material. Typically shakes are 18 to 24 inches long, 3 to 12 inches wide, about $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch thick at the bottom end, and about $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{8}$ of an inch at the tip end.
- 2) A defect in logs which is the delamination or separation between the annual rings in a tree.

Shake Block

A piece of Western red cedar cut by a harvester from a log usually salvaged in the forest that is then split into shakes.

Shake whacker

A shake whacker is a slang term for a person who cuts shake blocks from logs. It is extremely physically demanding work requiring a lot of splitting wood with an axe.

Silviculture

Silviculture is the practice of growing crops of trees with specific attributes. Silviculture may employ strategies such as planting with a certain spacing, and undertake management practices such as spacing and pruning.

Silvicultural slum

A stand of trees that is of very poor form and value that has regenerated naturally after harvesting with no silviculture treatments. They are often comprised of trees that survived the initial logging, damaged and diseased trees, overstocked stands, and trees not well suited to the site. These stands pose a management problem because, generally speaking, it costs more to harvest these stands than they are worth, but they occupy good growing sites. It is a Sunshine Coast Community Forest term.

Single Tree Retention

A single tree or groupings of up to five trees left standing in an area. Immature or old trees that may be retained include: dying trees that are safe to let stand, wildlife habitat trees, or single trees in sensitive sites. See also *Variable Retention*.

Site Index (SI or SI₅₀)

Site index is a representation of a forest site's productive capacity. It is represented by the expected height growth of a specific species, most well suited to the site, on that site for a specified period of time. The most common site index unit in the Community Forest area is the height in metres for Douglas-fir at an age of 50 years.

Site Preparation or site prep

Preparing a harvested site for reforestation. Typically, after a stand is harvested and prior to planting the site may need to have slash moved or accumulated in to piles to prepare plantable spots, or soil that has had a lot of machine traffic may require decompacting.

Slash

Woody debris left on the ground following timber harvesting consisting of branches, foliage, tops, broken and trimmed sections of logs, bark, roots and brush species.

Spacing

The process of removing small trees in an immature stand to encourage those remaining to grow faster. The distance between trees, which is regulated at the time of planting, is increased, allowing remaining trees access to more light and nutrients. Spacing is an intensive forestry tool that benefits understorey vegetation, seed production, growth rate, and wildlife habitat.

Stumpage

The dollar amount charged by the province to companies or operators for the right to harvest timber on Crown land. Stumpage used to be calculated on a per-stump basis (hence the name). It is now billed in cubic metres at a rate determined by the province. See also *Scaling*.

Subdominants

Trees within a forest stand whose crowns just reach and contribute to the main canopy of the stand, but are smaller than average.

Succession

The process of ecosystem development from an early seral stage to culmination in an old seral or old growth forest. Each site identified by the biogeoclimatic classification system follows a predictable and successive series of developmental stages through time.

Suppressed

Trees within a forest stand that are completely overtopped by surrounding trees and the overall forest crown. Their growth is limited by lack of light and or moisture and nutrients.

Tabular rate stumpage

A set of stumpage rates that a licensee must pay for wood cut on a crown tenure that is pre-calculated from aggregated log sales prices, lumber prices and provincial revenue targets. Other stumpage systems include the comparative value of a stand of trees considering costs associated with getting the wood to market.

Thinning

The practice of taking out poorly growing, densely spaced, damaged, or dead trees from a stand of trees around 40 years old to create better growing conditions for the remaining trees.

Timber Cruising

The statistical sampling surveying of a stand or stand of trees to determine the volume and grades present, in order to determine their value. Information gathered usually includes sample tree diameter and height, species, potential log grades, estimates of decay waste and breakage and stand age.

Timber Harvesting Landbase (THLB)

THLB is the forested area with a specific tenure or timber supply area that sustainably contributes to the allowable annual cut or AAC. It is the resultant area after unproductive area and areas required for the provision of non-timber values have been removed. Also see the definition for **Netdown**.

Timber Sale

A tenure purchased from the Ministry of Forests and Range's BC Timber Sales organization that allows the holder to cut and sell all of the timber identified in the sale. The tenure holder pays for the wood in advance and undertakes all aspects of harvesting and marketing of the wood. Road building may or may not be included in the terms of the sale.

TIPSY (Table Interpolation Program for Stand Yield Information)

TIPSY is a computer program used for predicting volume and grade yields of forest stands over time based on a select set of variables. The user may choose species, site index, planting density, size of seedlings, scheduled silvicultural treatments and growing period. The program will then predict overall volume yield over time, volume of distribution of expected log grades at various utilization specifications and financial forecasting.

Timber Supply Area (TSA)

A large land area administered by the Ministry of Forests and Range within a Forest District within which volume-based tenures are issued. An AAC for the TSA is calculated and then portions of it are assigned to the various volume-based licensees within the Forest District. Specific operational areas, often referred to as chart areas, are assigned to each licensee in which they can undertake their operations.

Total Chance Plan

A comprehensive best-practices strategy for planning the development of all timber resources in a specific area while managing all other forest resource values and accommodating all stakeholders.

UREP (Use, Recreation and Enjoyment of the Public)

A BC lands designation for a particular parcel of land identifying it as having high recreation or public use potential.

Value Added:

A term designating the rise in value of a timber product when it is crafted by an artisan into woodwork, including guitars, carvings, and cabinetry. “Value added” can also refer to secondary manufacturing to create wood products such as moulding, plywood, doors and windows, or even paper.

Variable Retention: A silvicultural system that retains structural elements of the forest for at least one rotation, in order to preserve environmental values associated with structurally complex forests. See also *Single Tree Retention*.

VDYP (Variable Density Yield Prediction)

VDYP is a computer program that predicts forest stand growth and yield. It is specifically designed for use with unmanaged, natural stands of pure or mixed species.

Visual Quality Objectives (VQO)

Visual quality objectives are standards set by the Ministry of Forests and Range Forest District that specifies the level of disturbance within an area that can be visible from selected viewpoints. VQO limits are defined as percentages of a landscape that can be altered. VQOs are more restrictive when the forest area is visible from viewpoints more frequented by the public and tourists.

Volume-Based Tenure

A timber quota under a forest licence, giving the right to take a specified AAC out of a managed forest area like the Sunshine Coast Timber Supply Area. Those who hold volume-based tenures do not have forest tenure rights to any specific area of forest. The volume-based timber quota can apply to certain tree species or to types and qualities of timber. See also *Area-Based Tenure* and *Forest Tenure*.

Waste Survey

A waste survey is a survey conducted following harvesting to ensure that all merchantable wood has been harvested from a site. The licensee must pay stumpage to the government for any wood left on the site, over a set threshold, that is deemed to be merchantable.

Waterbar

A waterbar is a small ditch or trench dug across a road surface that is intended to drain water off the surface of the road to prevent erosion. Waterbars are built into forest roads when they are deactivated to ensure they remain in good shape indefinitely.

Watershed:

A basin-like landform defined by high points and ridgelines that descend into lower elevations and stream valleys. A watershed carries water “shed” from the land after rainfalls and snow melts. Water is channelled into soils, ground waters, creeks, and streams, making its way to larger rivers and, eventually, the sea. See also *Community Watershed*.

Woodlot

An area-based tenure of forest land used for small-scale production of forest products—such as timber, wood fuel, sap for maple syrup, and logs—as well as for recreational purposes.