



File: 18046-20/FSP\_DCK

July 17, 2017

**Andrew Brownsword**

Bowen Island , BC

Dear Andrew Brownsword:

**Re: BC Timber Sales Proposed Forest Stewardship Plan #643:**

Thank you for your letter dated July 15, 2017, regarding BC Timber Sales (BCTS) proposed Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP) within the Chilliwack Natural Resource District, specifically the Salish Forest Development Unit (FDU) covering Bowen Island.

The FSP has been advertised with the purpose of enlisting input from all stakeholders that may be affected by development. That includes any development on any portion of the 1,414 hectares of crown forest (working forest) on Bowen Island that is currently assigned to BCTS.

The timeline for comments closes on September 6, 2017. In addition, an open house has been set for Sunday afternoon, July 30, 2017, at Collins Hall, to clarify the FSP review and subsequent planning process. Your letter will be included in the record of FSP stakeholder input and we encourage you to attend the open house...

At the present time there are no plans for any harvest to take place on Bowen Island. We are well aware of the sensitivities and concerns outlined in your letter. Any harvest plans would require a protracted community involvement strategy and many site assessments to ensure that the integrity of the ecosystem is not adversely affected.

I would encourage you to ensure that the communications on Island reflect the facts that there is no intent to be harvesting there in the immediate or mid-term. However it is important that residents on Island understand that these lands are in fact working forest. Indeed government has the ability to review and perhaps change this status, however, at this time it remains part of our overall harvesting land base. That inventory is premised on timber extraction dispersed over the entire timber harvesting land base and when areas are excluded the pressure increases in other areas.

FSP are renewed as directed by the District Forest Manager and this is the second submission of an FSP since the legislation was enacted. It is not a signal that harvesting is imminent.

Page 1 of 2

I thank you again for bringing your thoughtful concerns to our attention. Should you have any further questions please contact Enrique Sanchez, Planning Forester, at [Enrique.sanchez@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Enrique.sanchez@gov.bc.ca) .

Yours truly,

Kerry Grozier  
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