

REVELSTOKE TIMBER SUPPLY ANALYSIS RELEASED

VICTORIA – A timber supply analysis for the Revelstoke timber supply area in southeastern British Columbia suggests the current harvest level of 230,000 cubic metres a year could be maintained for up to 20 years.

The analysis, released today along with a public discussion paper, accounts for important forest values including timber, mountain caribou habitat, deer and moose winter range, scenic areas and watersheds. It suggests that after 20 years, the harvest level will decline to a mid-term level of about 165,000 cubic metres a year, which is slightly below the projected long-term harvest level of 170,500 cubic metres a year.

B.C.'s chief forester will consider the analysis, submissions received in response to the public discussion paper, and other scientific and technical reports, in determining the allowable annual cut for the Revelstoke timber supply area. Public submissions will be received until Nov. 29, 2004.

The Revelstoke timber supply area includes rugged, mountainous terrain and valleys that provide many environmental values and recreational opportunities. Only about one-third of the publicly owned forest in the timber supply area is considered available for harvesting.

Copies of the timber supply analysis report and public discussion paper are available on the Ministry of Forests website at <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hts/tsa/tsa27/> or from the following ministry offices:

- Columbia forest district, Revelstoke, 250 837-7611
- Southern Interior forest region, Kamloops, 250 828-4131

Under the comprehensive timber supply review, the chief forester must determine how much wood can be harvested in each of B.C.'s 37 timber supply areas and 34 tree farm licences at least once every five years. The chief forester may postpone a determination for up to five more years if the annual harvest is not expected to change significantly or set a new harvest level earlier to deal with abnormal situations such as insect infestations or wildfires.

Each allowable annual cut determination is an independent professional judgment based on information ranging from technical forestry reports and public input to government's social and economic objectives. For more information about the timber supply process, visit <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hts/>

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Visit the Province's website at www.gov.bc.ca for online information and services.