

April 20, 2021

CITY OF QUESNEL
Operational Fuel Management Treatments

Dragon Mountain Communication Towers FTU 23

ADDENDUM NO. 2

This Addendum is issued as part of the RFP, in accordance with the Documents and shall be considered an integral part of the Contract Documents, read together with the RFP, Prescriptions, Specifications, Maps and any Addenda previously issued and with all subsequent Addenda.

Fibre:

Does the successful bidder have the right to the fibre? **No, the City retains the right to the fibre.**

Will the tenure be awarded to the successful bidder or the City of Quesnel? **The City is in the process of receiving an FLTC.**

If awarded to the City of Quesnel, please confirm whether the bidder is responsible for stumpage payments? **No, the bidder is not responsible for stumpage. The City will be paying stumpage.**

Roads:

The Road has degradation within the running surface and tight switchbacks that will likely require maintenance (grading) to make it suitable for logging trucks if fibre is to be removed. Whose responsibility and cost will this be? **There will be no grading. The road is too rocky to grade.**

Tight corner on road will require widening. Whose responsibility and cost will this be? **There are no plans to upgrade the road as part of this RFP.**

MDWR:

Confirm exemption to GAR order is in place. **Yes.**

Section F: UWR: It states that the "prescription has protected existing Douglas-fir regeneration on site. This prescription has protected existing Douglas-fir regeneration to the extent practicable."

In Section H under the stand and Stock Tables, the tables indicate that in Layer 2, a portion of Fd (40%) is to be removed and in Layer 3, a portion of Fd (68%) is to be removed. This appears to be in conflict with the Section F comments.

The key is "to the extent practicable" with wildfire objectives being the driver of this prescription. Fd understory is required to be removed.

Species Composition and Fuel Management:

In Section H under the stand and Stock Tables, the tables indicate that in Layer 2, a portion of Fd (40%) is to be removed and all of the Sx is to be retained. For fuel management and

creating a more fire resilient stand, shouldn't Sx/BI be removed as first priority followed by PI while trying to maintain the Fd as priority?

At the time of prescription development and field work, the decision to keep Sx/ BI as well as Fd was made based on biodiversity considerations.

Section H1. Fuel Treatment TU A:

This section refers to "TU A" and "FTU 23A", not "TU B" and "FTU 23B" is that correct, or is it a typo and is the rest of this section actually referring to FTU 23B?

The reference is a typo and the Stand/Stock table applies to the majority of the TU, which is for 23B

Surface Fuel Loading:

The target surface fuel loading is 2-5T/Ha. Is this the target for total fuels (fine and coarse) or just for fine fuels (less than 7.1cm diameter)?

What is the target (T/ha) for coarse fuels (greater than 7.1cm diameter and their distribution)?

The prescription was developed and written under the old paradigm.

The best interpretation of this under today's standards and discussions with BCWS would be:

Surface fuel loading for fines = target of 5T/ha

Coarse fuels should be lopped and flattened to lie on the ground. Targets for this could go up to 20t/ha

Is the distribution of fine fuels to be uniform or scattered and discontinuous?

Uniform distribution would be preferred

Stand and Stock Tables:

Some errors in column additions.

Stand and Stock Tables are estimates and used to guide prescription thresholds. There are rounding errors in the tables.

Burning vs Chipping/Removal:

There is no mention of burning restrictions within the prescription. Since there is critical infrastructure within the treatment Units, is there a restriction for burning due to proximity to the towers?

Section G provides guidance around the Utilities and Safety with minimum offsets specified.

Section G - Other:

The prescription lacks defined dates for Migratory bird windows. Is there a recommended or defined date for bird nesting season?

Due to migratory birds, treatments are to be undertaken in the Fall or Winter. Reduction of fine fuels in winter at high elevations will be challenging. Has a migratory bird survey been considered to allow for summer treatments?

If so, to ensure compliance with BC Wildlife Act, should breeding bird and nest surveys be conducted during the breeding season (Mid March to late August) by a qualified biologist prior to fuel management treatments?

The preference is to operate outside of the migratory bird window. A migratory bird survey was not completed.

Using the Migratory Birds Habitat Ranking System for Quesnel area, this proposal is within Risk Rank 4-Environment Canada Nesting Zone A3, meaning the entire area has a restricted harvesting period from May 20 to July 21.

If operations must occur within this timeline, a survey must be completed by a QRP.

Section I:

Merchantable Timber Utilization: It states that there is not a significant amount of merchantable timber, however the Stand and Stock tables indicate 107m³/ha of Layer 1 is to be removed of both green and dead conifer.

A component of "green" is prescribed to be removed but is only a minor amount, the focus is on removal of dead material. The dead timber is long since dead and located within rocky terrain and will be difficult to skid out. We anticipate a lot of breakage.

Thinning: it states 200sph in TU A. Is that a typo and should read TU B?

No. It is for TU A as specified in Section H.1 (Spacing)

Authorization and Timber Use: With an estimated 107m³/ha to be removed is a Section 52 appropriate rather than an FLTC?

Theoretically, the timber could be utilized and under current market conditions, the value has gone up significantly since the time of prescription development (2019). As stated above, timber is long since dead and located within rocky terrain and will be difficult to skid out. We anticipate a lot of breakage and viewed the road an obstacle to removal as well.

Area:

Prescription area is: 11.01ha

Map area is: 10.01ha

Please confirm?

The treatment unit B is 10.1 ha.

This Addendum may be better viewed on the City's website:

<http://www.quesnel.ca/Jobs.html>

If you have any questions regarding this Addendum, please contact Erin Robinson at 250-255-6002