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# FORESTRY

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## Goals

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### **ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES**

Provide for economic opportunities and stability in the forest products industry by allowing the use of state tidelands and submerged lands for log storage and transfer sites, A-frame logging, and beach log salvage.

### **MAXIMUM USE OF LOG TRANSFER SITES (LTSS)**

Promote maximum use of LTSs over their usable life. Encourage joint use of sites and promote harvest scheduling that will minimize the overall number of sites needed.

### **COORDINATION BETWEEN UPLAND AND TIDELAND MANAGER**

Coordinate with upland managers and tideland regulatory agencies to provide for economically efficient and environmentally sound log transfer.

### **USE OF BEACHLOGS**

Promote removal of beachlogs from state tidelands to provide economic opportunities while eliminating logs as navigational hazards and transportation barriers and reducing impacts to intertidal habitat.

### **ACCESS FOR TIMBER HARVEST**

Provide for harvest of timber resources, including beach logs, by allowing access to public and private lands.

## Definitions

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The definitions listed below are useful for the guidelines of this section. Other definitions for commonly used terms are contained in the glossary, Appendix A.

**Log Transfer Facility (LTF):** Any facility or mechanism necessary to transfer timber from uplands to marine waters.

**Log Transfer Site (LTS):** A site for all facilities necessary for transfer of timber from uplands to marine waters, including associated components such as log rafting and sorting areas, floating camps, mooring buoys, access ramps, etc. A single log transfer site may contain more than one log transfer facility.

**Resource Transfer Facility (RTF):** Any facility or mechanism necessary to transfer timber, mineral or other resources from uplands to marine waters, including all necessary components such as log rafting and sorting areas, floating camps, etc.

**Resource Transfer Site (RTS):** A site for all facilities necessary for transferring timber, mineral or other resources from uplands to marine waters, including all necessary components such as log rafting and sorting areas, floating camps, etc. A single resource transfer site may contain more than one resource transfer facility.

## Management Guidelines

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### **A. SITING LOG TRANSFER & STORAGE SITES (LTSS) IN PROTECTED WATERS**

LTSSs and log raft storage facilities should be sited in water that is protected from the weather and has a bottom suitable for anchoring. Where inwater storage and booming is anticipated, the site should have at least 20 acres for temporary log storage and log booming.

### **B. SITING LTSS ADJACENT TO FLAT UPLANDS**

LTSSs should be sited near at least five acres of relatively flat uplands suitable for safe and efficient log handling storage, sorting and transfer. There should also be a body of water sufficient to provide a minimum facility face of 60 lineal feet.

### **C. SITING RESOURCE TRANSFER FACILITIES (RTFS) TO ALLOW SAFE ACCESS FROM THE UPLANDS.**

To provide safe access to the log transfer facility and adjoining log sort yard, the facility should be sited where access roads to the site can maintain a grade of 10 percent or less for trucks and 4 percent for specialized equipment.

### **D. SITING LOG TRANSFER FACILITIES (LTFs) NEAR A CLEAN ROCK SOURCE**

To minimize erosion and associated sedimentation of adjacent waters, LTFs should use clean rock materials for construction of roads, pads, and yards.

#### **E. SITING RESOURCE TRANSFER SITES (RTSS) TO MINIMIZE OR AVOID CONFLICTS WITH OTHER IMPORTANT USES**

RTSSs should be sited to minimize or avoid interference with important established personal, commercial, or recreational uses.

#### **F. SITING LTFs AND RTFS IN ANCHORAGES**

See Public & Private Access guideline C, *Anchorages*, page 2-33.

#### **G. JOINT USE AND CONSOLIDATION OF RTSS**

Joint use and consolidation of sites should occur where it is feasible and prudent.

#### **H. SITING RTSS TO ACCOMMODATE FUTURE USE**

Resource transfer sites should be sited and designed to accommodate future development and avoid unnecessary relocation of sites. The feasibility of using or modifying available existing sites in an area should be evaluated before a new site is authorized.

#### **I. SITING LTFs IN AREAS WITH CURRENTS ADEQUATE TO DISPERSE DEBRIS**

LTFs should be sited along or adjacent to straits and channels or deep bays where currents may be strong enough to disperse sunken or floating wood debris. Siting LTFs in embayments with sills or other natural restrictions to tidal exchange should be avoided.

#### **J. SITING RESOURCE TRANSFER FACILITIES (RTFS) AND LOG STORAGE AREAS TO AVOID PRODUCTIVE OR SENSITIVE HABITATS**

RTFs and log raft storage areas should not be sited within 300 feet of an anadromous fish stream; or sited on or immediately adjacent to extensive tidflats; salt marshes; kelp or eelgrass beds; seaweed harvest areas; shellfish concentration areas; or other areas which meet the definition of crucial habitat.

#### **K. SITING LOG STORAGE AREAS IN DEEP WATER**

See Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas guideline L, *Grounding of Floating Facilities*, page 2-15. In addition, a minimum depth of 40 feet or deeper at mean lower low water (MLLW) for log raft storage is preferred.

#### **L. LOG TRANSFER FACILITIES DESIGN**

Log transfer facilities should be designed to be the most economically practical and the least environmentally damaging. Factors to be considered (not in order of importance) in selection of design alternatives include: 1) economic practicality, 2) design requirements, 3) physical site constraints, 4) timber volumes to be transferred, 5) potential total effects on biota and water quality, 6) biological productivity and sensitivity, and 7) other potential uses of the site and facility.

**M. BARK ACCUMULATION MANAGEMENT**

The siting, design, and operation of the LTF and contiguous collateral upland facilities will use the best practicable procedures and methodologies to control intertidal and submarine accumulations of bark.

**N. BARK ACCUMULATION**

The regulatory agency(ies) will impose an interim threshold level of bark accumulation in intertidal and submarine areas. When accumulations exceed the threshold level, cleanup will occur by the permittee at the discretion of the permitting agency(ies). The interim threshold bark accumulation level is 100 percent coverage exceeding both one acre in size and a thickness greater than 10 cm (3.9 inches) at any point.

**O. BUNDLE SPEED**

The speed of log bundles entering receiving waters should be the slowest practicable speed achievable. Decisions on the allowable transfer system that can be used will occur on a site-specific basis during the permitting process.

**P. TIMING OF INWATER CONSTRUCTION**

Inwater construction, blasting, and filling associated with LTF sites should be timed to limit adverse impacts to marine and estuarine fishery resources and avoid conflicts with other user groups.

**Q. OPERATING RTFS TO MINIMIZE OR AVOID IMPACTS TO OTHER IMPORTANT USES**

The operation of RTFs should minimize or avoid interference with important established personal, commercial, or recreational uses.

**R. SAFE ACCESS LANES IN BAYS AND STRAITS**

In bays or straits where proposed resource transfer facility operations may reduce access by commercial and recreational vessels to areas of established use, the maintenance of a safe access lane will be required.

**S. EQUIPMENT ON TIDELANDS**

Equipment crossing of tidelands requiring a permit will occur only at locations authorized by appropriate regulatory agencies and may be subject to timing restrictions to minimize or avoid impacts to habitat.

**T. BEACH LOG SALVAGE**

Beach log salvage will be administered under the provisions of the ACMP consistency review procedures. If, in the future, beach log salvage is no longer covered under the provisions of an ACMP general concurrence determination, this plan will be amended to include guidelines for the management of beach log salvage.

**U. FELLING TREES ONTO VEGETATED TIDEFLATS**

Trees to be felled adjacent to the tidelands should be directionally felled away from vegetated tideflats. Deposition of logging debris should be avoided in these areas.

**V. PERSONAL USE WOOD HARVEST**

When there are state uplands or tidelands near communities and where personal-use harvest is consistent with other purposes for which the land is being managed, some land should be managed to help provide personal-use-wood products. (For guidelines on providing personal-use harvest areas near land disposal projects, see Settlement guidelines, this chapter and individual management units in Chapter 3.)

**W. CUTTING AND GATHERING DEAD OR DOWN WOOD**

Cutting and gathering of any dead or down wood on state land is a generally permitted activity and no permit is required. Wood gathered for this purpose is for personal use only and may not be used for commercial purposes, nor may it be bartered or sold. Cutting of any live timber is generally not permitted on state lands without authorization by the DNR.

**X. A-FRAME LOGGING IN CRUCIAL OR PRIME FISH AND WILDLIFE AREAS**

On all small islands where forestry is designated as secondary use, the compatibility of siting A-frames will be determined using agency review. Cumulative impacts of A-frame logging on prime or crucial fish and wildlife areas will be considered. (See also Introduction, Chapter 3.)

**Y. ANCHORING OF FLOATING FACILITIES**

See Public and Private Access guideline K, page 2-34.

**Z. OTHER GUIDELINES AFFECTING FORESTRY**

Other guidelines will affect management practices for timber development support facilities and forestry. See in particular the following sections of this chapter:

- Coordination and Public Notice
- Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Harvest Areas
- Floating Residential Facilities
- Materials
- Public and Private Access
- Recreation, Tourism, and Scenic Resources
- Transportation and Utilities

The Forest Resources and Practices Regulations (11 AAC 95) also provide guidance for managing forest related activities.

