

Tasha Buchanan

Subject: Requested Transfer of Tenure Agreements from Interfor to Simpcw in the Kamloops TSA

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Hello,

I am reaching out to provide information on a requested tenure agreement transfer that is under review by the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNRORD) in the [Kamloops Timber Supply Area](#) (TSA). You are receiving this email because you have already indicated interest in previous tenure transfers in the Kamloops TSA or you were recommended to our office as a point of contact in the community. You are welcome to share this email with any individuals or groups that you feel would have an interest in the information below.

As you may be aware, after the closure of their Vavenby operations, Canadian Forest Products Ltd. transferred, upon approval from the Minister, two forest tenure agreements to Interfor Corporation (Interfor), specifically Tree Farm Licence 18 and Replaceable Forest Licence A18688. As part of the extensive consultation conducted with First Nations at the time, the Simpcw First Nation (Simpw) identified a clear interest in acquiring a portion of the tenure volume under A18688. As a result, making this volume available to the Simpcw was specified as an expectation within the approval of the transfer.

Upon the Minister's approval of the transfer, a purchase agreement was put into effect between the Interfor and Simpcw to acquire 40,000 m³ of A18688. Interfor submitted a request to FLNRORD to subdivide A18688 to make 40,000 m³ available for purchase in the form of two new Replaceable Forest Licences, one of 35,000 m³ and one of 5,000 m³. It is the intention of Simpcw to enter into another purchase agreement with the Wells Gray Community Forest to allow the Community Forest to acquire the 5,000 m³ licence. This will be a separate transaction to be arranged if Simpcw receives approval to acquire these two new licenses from Interfor.

The licences that Simpcw wish to acquire allow for forestry activities within the [Kamloops Timber Supply Area](#), however, Simpcw have indicated that they intend to limit their activities within the extent of their traditional territory. Under the *Forest Act*, the decision to approve requested transfers for licences 100,000 m³ or less has been delegated to the Director of the Forest Tenures Branch. In addition to consultation with First Nations, the decision maker is required to consider the effect of the transfer on the marketing of fibre in British Columbia and on the public interest.

It is important to note that the forest tenure agreements under consideration are new as a result of the subdivision. They do not include a transfer of any approved, or give approval to, any cutting permit or road permit applications that may be attached or intended under A18688. Any future operational activities conducted under these new agreements will require submission of permits by the new tenure holder and approval by the District Manager through the established permitting process.

Please let me know if have any questions regarding the details or process for this requested transfer.

Regards,

Steve Baumber, MSc, RPF | Senior Timber Tenures Forester

Forest Tenures Branch

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