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Ladder fuels: fuels that provide vertical continuity between the surface fuels and crown fuels in a forest stand, thus contributing to the ease of torching and crowning.

Lake: a naturally occurring static body of water greater than 2 m in depth and greater than 1 ha in size, or a licensed reservoir.

Lakeshore management area: the lands directly adjacent to a lake, in which forest practices standards are designed to maintain the unique combination of fish, wildlife, water, and recreation values that occur on and around lakes. For the purposes of the Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act it means an area established adjacent to a lake with riparian class of L1, consisting of a riparian reserve zone, determined in accordance with Part 10, and a lakeshore management zone.

Lakeshore Management Zone: defined in the Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act Operational Planning Regulation as that portion of the lakeshore management area established by the district manager around a lake with a riparian class of L1 that is outside of any riparian reserve zone or, if there is no riparian reserve zone, that is located adjacent to the lake.

Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP): a strategic, multi-agency, integrated resource plan at the sub-regional level. It is based on the principles of enhanced public involvement, consideration of all resource values, consensus-based decision making, and resource sustainability.

Land-use planning: the process by which decisions are made on future land uses over extended time periods, that are deemed to best serve the general welfare.

Landform: a landscape unit that denotes origin and shape, such as a floodplain, river terrace, or till plain.

Landing: an area modified by equipment that is designed for accumulating logs before they are transported.

Landing pile or cull pile: an area of piled slash, logging residue, and stumps, created as a result of harvesting operations and the construction of roads and landings.

Landscape: the fundamental traits of a specific geographic area, including its biological composition, physical environment and anthropogenic or social patterns.

Landscape ecology: the study of the distribution patterns of communities and ecosystems, the ecological processes that affect those patterns and changes in pattern and process over time.

Landscape inventory: see Visual landscape inventory.

Landscape level: a watershed, or series of interacting watersheds or other natural biophysical (ecological) units, within the larger Land and Resource Management Planning areas. This term is used for conservation planning and is not associated with visual landscape management and viewscape management.

Landscape sensitivity: a component of the landscape inventory that estimates the sensitivity of the landscape based on: the visual prominence of importance of features; conditions that affect visual perception; and social factors that contribute to viewer perceptions.

Landscape unit: For the purpose of the forest practices code, landscape units are planning areas delineated on the basis of topographic or geographic features. Typically they cover a watershed or series of watersheds, and range in size from 5000 to 100 000 ha.

Landscape unit objectives: objectives established for a landscape unit to guide forest development and other operational planning. Landscape objectives are established by the Ministry of Forests' district manager and a designated B.C. Environment official.

Large Organic Debris (LOD): entire trees or large pieces of trees that provide channel stability or create fish habitat diversity in a stream channel.

Large woody debris: a large tree part, conventionally a piece greater than 10 cm in diameter and 1 m in length.

Leader: the length of tree stem from the top of the tree down to the first set of branches, representing one year of growth and reflecting the tree's vigor and the site's growing potential.

Leave trees: all trees, regardless of species, age, or size, remaining on a harvested area as a result of a predetermined silviculture prescription to address a possible range of silviculture or resource needs.

License to cut: an agreement under the Forest Act allowing a person who purchases or occupies land, and who does not otherwise have the right to harvest Crown timber from the land, to cut and/or remove timber on the land.

Lightning detection system: a network of electronic field sensors linked to a central computer to detect, triangulate, plot the location of and record cloud-to-ground lightning flashes in real time over a predetermined area.

Limiting factor: a factor present in an environment in such short supply that it limits growth or some other life process.

Linear developments: straight line industrial development that is typical of power lines, highways, gas lines, and seismic activities.

Litter layer: the layer of organic debris, mainly bark, twigs, and leaves, on the forest floor.

Littoral zone: the shore zone between the high and low water mark.

Local Planning: A term describing a variety of resource planning initiatives undertaken to develop integrated approaches to resource use and development. Typically they have been undertaken to resolve potential land-use conflicts in local areas smaller than LRMPs.

Livestock: as defined in the Range Act and Silviculture Planning Regulations means animals of the genus Bos, horses, mules, asses, sheep and goats, but does not include wildlife designated under the Wildlife Act, exotic game animals, buffalo, swine or poultry but does include llamas.

Local Resource Use Plan (LRUP): A plan approved by the district manager for a portion of the provincial forest that provides area-specific resource management objectives for integrating resource use in the area. These plans are prepared pursuant to Section 4 (c) of the Ministry of Forests Act.

Log boom: floating logs tied together in rafts to be towed by boat to their destination.

Logging: see Harvesting.

Logging (cutting) plan: a map, along with a written plan, describing the road building, harvesting, and other related operations that are submitted for a forest officer's approval to ensure that the applicable standards and obligations stated in the Pre-Harvest Silviculture Prescription and the harvesting agreement are met.

Logging trail: a narrow, temporary path used by harvesting equipment.

Long Run Sustainable Yield (LRSY): the long run sustainable yield for any Timber Supply Area (TSA) is equal to the culmination of mean annual increment weighted by area for all productive and utilizable forest land types in that TSA including all not satisfactorily restocked, disturbed stocking doubtful, and potentially usable noncommercial cover.

Lopping: chopping branches, tops and small trees after felling into lengths such that the resultant slash will lie close to the ground.

Lopping and scattering: lopping the slash created after felling and spreading it more or less evenly over the ground without burning.

Loss factors: reductions made to gross timber volumes to allow for decay, waste, and breakage.

Low Ground Pressure (LGP) machines: machines that exert a total ground pressure of less than 43.4 KPa (6.3 pounds per square inch).