



Fact Sheet 1

Harvesting firewood and timber for commercial sales

This fact sheet provides information on harvesting firewood or timber for commercial sale in Yukon. If you require further information, please contact your local Compliance, Monitoring and Inspections office or the Forest Management Branch.

How do I harvest firewood or timber to sell in Yukon?

The Forest Management Branch authorizes the harvest of firewood or timber for commercial sale by issuing harvesting licences and cutting permits to eligible businesses. If you want to harvest firewood to sell commercially, you can apply for a fuelwood licence. If you want to harvest timber for milling, processing and sale, you can apply for a timber resources licence. You can get application forms at any of our Compliance, Monitoring and Inspections offices throughout the territory.

What do I need to commercially harvest firewood or timber?

There are several requirements you must meet to be eligible to commercially harvest firewood and timber in Yukon. Harvesting must be done by registered businesses. When you apply for a harvesting licence,

you will be required to show a valid Yukon business registration number (or proof of exemption). The business applying must be in good financial standing with the Government of Yukon.

You must not have any outstanding field obligations based on previous harvesting authorities. In addition, your operational goals must be consistent with the timber harvest plan covering the area where you are applying.

Also, commercial harvesting must be consistent with the commercial timber allocation procedure. This procedure is performance based and ensures an equitable approach to allocating harvest volume to commercial licences. For more information on allocation of commercial harvest volume, contact the Forest Management Branch or view the procedure at Yukon.ca.

Government of Yukon Yukon.ca

Energy Mines and Resources

Forest Management Branch

Mile 918 Alaska Highway
Ph: (867) 456-3999
Toll-free: 1-800-661-0408
local 3999
Email: forestry@yukon.ca

Land Management Branch Land Use

Ph: (867) 667-5215
Toll-free: 1-800-661-0408
local 5215
• Land Use Permits

Compliance, Monitoring and Inspections

Dawson
Ph: (867) 993-5468
Haines Junction
Ph: (867) 634-2256

Mayo

Ph: (867) 996-2343

Carmacks

Ph: (867) 863-5271

Whitehorse

Ph: (867) 456-3877

Teslin

Ph: (867) 390-2531

Watson Lake

Ph: (867) 536-7335

Ross River

Ph: (867) 969-2243

Where can my business harvest firewood or timber for commercial purposes?

The Forest Resources Act requires all commercial harvesting occur in a timber harvest plan area. To inquire about available wood in your area, please visit or call your local Compliance, Monitoring and Inspections office. The natural resource officer can help you find available wood under local timber harvest plans. All timber harvest plans that are approved or are under review can be viewed at Yukon.ca.

Once I have found a suitable area within a timber harvest plan, how do I apply for a licence and cutting permit?

Businesses may submit applications for areas in approved timber harvest plans.

If you are interested in an area outside of an approved timber harvest plan, you are encouraged to speak to Forest Management Branch staff.

The process for issuing the licence depends on the level of interest.

We usually use a direct award process. However, if there is a lot of interest, we may use a competitive process. Specific instructions will be given on how to prepare and submit a bid or application.

Please note: *The timber harvest planning process must be finished before harvesting approvals are issued.*

All applications can be completed with the assistance of a natural resource officer at your local Compliance, Monitoring and Inspections office.

How long will it take to process my application?

Many factors contribute to the time involved in the application process. The Forest Management Branch will communicate expected timelines to you.

Every licence has a minimum 30-day notification period. Those who are interested can submit comments relevant to your application.

Other factors that affect the timelines include the eligibility of your business, the availability of wood in the timber harvest plan area, and the YESAB process.

What information will be included in my harvesting licence and cutting permit?

Your licence will establish the total allowable volume for harvesting, the maximum amount you can harvest each year, the timber harvest plan area, and the timeframe associated with your operation. You will also be issued a cutting permit that will indicate the specifics of your harvest site, including operational terms and conditions and stumpage rates. Maps that identify the permitted area(s) will accompany your licence and cutting permit documents.

Harvesting within the designated area(s) is one condition of your harvesting authority along with a schedule for harvest volume reporting and stumpage payments.

Community Services
Corporate Affairs
Ph: (867) 667-5314
Toll-free: 1-800-661-0408
local 5314

- Business Registration

Highways and Public Works
Transportation
Maintenance Branch
Ph: (867) 667-5644
Toll-free: 1-800-661-0408
local 5644

- Access Permits

Other Agencies

Yukon Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board
Ph: (867) 667-5645
Toll-free: 1-800-661-0443

Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board
Ph: (867) 668-6420
Toll-free: 1-866-322-4040

City of Whitehorse
Ph: (867) 668-8346

- Harvesting Fuelwood
- Business Licence

Does the fuelwood licence or timber resources licence allow me to sell my wood within my municipality?

No, the licence and cutting permit only provide authority for harvesting. You may still require additional permits or licences to operate as a business within municipal boundaries. You should contact your local municipal office to inquire about additional bylaws, regulations or responsibilities.

What are the fees associated with a commercial harvesting licence?

At the time of application, you will be required to submit a non-refundable application fee. Application fees are calculated based on the volume of timber you are applying for and are outlined below.

Application fees

Harvesting licences	
under 100 m ³	\$ 10.00
100 m ³ to 1000 m ³	\$ 50.00
over 1000 m ³	\$ 100.00

In addition to your application fee, the stumpage rate for your specific cutting permit will be calculated based on a per-cubic-metre basis and may include timber, reforestation, road use and development fees.

Please refer to Fact Sheet 4 for information on fees that could apply.

You will be required to report and pay stumpage for harvest volumes at regular intervals. Late reporting and non-payment of dues is a contravention of your licence and may lead to compliance and enforcement measures.

What are the reporting requirements?

Timely and accurate reporting of timber harvest volumes is an essential element of sustainable forest management and will be enforced under the Forest Resources Act. Your cutting permit will specify the timing of submissions. Failure to report full harvest volumes may affect your eligibility for future licence applications.

A note on compliance and enforcement in Yukon forests

Compliance and enforcement are a significant part of managing Yukon forests for their long-term health and to ensure that we can continue to realize the many benefits forests provide. As a forest user, it is your responsibility to ensure you are complying with applicable laws, regulations and any terms and conditions outlined in licences and permits. For more information about your responsibilities and possible penalties for non-compliance, read Fact Sheet 5, contact your local Compliance, Monitoring and Inspections office, or the Forest Management Branch.



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