

# YUKON FOREST RESOURCES ACT

## Field Marking Standards

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Under Section 23 of the Forest Resources Regulation, the Forest Management Branch has established management guidelines and standards identifying operating procedures for forest resource harvesting and related activities as described in timber harvest plans, woodlot plans or site plans.

The purpose of these standards and guidelines is to ensure that the management of forest resources occurs in a sustainable manner and with consideration to other values on the land base.

### **OBJECTIVE**

To establish standards for the field marking of block boundaries, cruise strips and plots, and road locations in Forest Management Branch operations and related project work to provide consistency across Yukon.

### **STANDARDS**

To avoid confusion, the field markings are the official representation of the intended harvest boundary, road locations, survey location and other operational constraints within harvest areas.

See "GPS Guidelines" for details regarding GPS data collection and GPS settings.

#### **1. Block Boundary**

Orange boundary ribbons are to be hung on the main stem of trees, as high as possible above the head, with tails and knots facing into the harvesting unit; ribbon tails should be approximately 18 inches in length. Avoid ribbon/paint on shrub species, immature trees and dead/danger trees, where possible. Spacing should be approximately 10 m, with at least 2 ribbons visible in either direction.

Blue station markers are to be clearly marked on the ground and labeled with permanent marker including the date, block number, type of station (i.e. PoC or PoT, or survey station) and a unique number. Examples of station markers are: creek junctions, road intersections, falling corners, significant changes in direction, or other significant land point features. Station markers are to be recorded using GPS and will appear on maps prepared for the harvest area.

**Trees marking the boundary must not be harvested where boundary marking has occurred. The harvesting area is inside the marked boundary, and does not include the boundary.**

In cases where it is difficult to clearly flag a boundary, it may be necessary to also paint the boundary using blue paint. Boundaries are to be ribboned in accordance to this standard unless there is no other possible way to ribbon, and fall under an exceptional circumstance.

If an exceptional circumstance arises, it is necessary to engage in discussions with the Area Forester and the local Client Services and Inspections Natural Resource Officers.

## **2. Cruise Strips & Cruise Plots**

Cruise lines are to be flagged in blue with yellow station markers from a known tie point on the block boundary.

Cruise Plot centers are to be staked (minimum 1m height), double flagged, indicating block number, plot number, distance and bearing from last plot or tie point or geo-referenced using GPS.

All counted trees in the plot shall be marked with the tree number above the dbh line in blue paint, facing the plot center. If a tree is measured and determined to be "out", paint an "X" through the number on the tree to indicate that it is not recorded on the tally card. There is to be NO blazing of trees in the plot.

## **3. Road Locations**

Road survey standards are somewhat variable dependant on Class of road being developed. Refer to the Forest Resources Road Survey Standards for details. In general, all roads require at minimum, the center-line flagged with station markers (cumulative distance from PoC) marked on the ground and correspondingly noted on maps or construction profiles.

Start and finish points of road surveys, landing locations and road junctions shall be triple marked with ribbon and survey information written on the flagging.

All road station markers are to be noted on maps prepared for road construction. The Point of Commencement (PoC) and Point of Termination (PoT) and other stations along the survey route shall be marked with permanent ink with the station ID, Harvest Unit or Road ID, distance from last known point, initials of surveyor(s) and date.

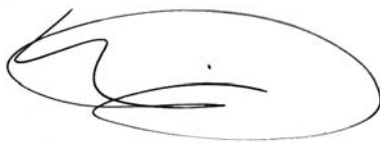
All red preliminary road ribbon must be taken down and removed from the site when the final road location is confirmed. All amended boundary or road line flagging must be completely removed from the site to avoid confusion.

The colour of flagging to be used in forest layout work is noted in Table 1.

**Table 1: Ribbon Colour Identifier**

Harvest Block Boundaries	Orange ribbon with blue station markers
Preliminary Road Location	Red
Final Road Location	Pink with yellow station markers
Mainline Right-of-Way (when required)	Red with white or yellow candy stripe
Culverts	Triple yellow (C/L and each edge of road prism)
Skid trails (where required)	Blue and white candy stripe
Cruise Strip Lines	Blue with yellow markers
Cruise Plot centers	Double blue and yellow on stake @ plot center
Reserve Patches & Reserve Zones	Orange ribbon printed with "RESERVE"
Management Zones	Orange and black candy stripe or orange printed with designation
Reconnaissance lines	Any contrasting colour flagging that will not make final field marking confusing to the contract administrator or harvester (any colour other than what is listed above). In no case shall pink and orange ribbon be used for recce lines.

**All final boundary and road survey ribbon used will be "fluorescent glow" arctic (-40) quality.**



Approval Signature  
 Lyle Dinn, Director Forest Management Branch

June 19, 2012  
 Date