

Husby Group
Haida Gwaii Forest Stewardship Plan 2018-2023
Amendment 1 (October 8, 2020)
Supporting Information

Intermediate Cutting and Commercial Thinning (s.8.5)

Intermediate cutting is a harvesting treatment that is intended for the extraction of a specific forest product. For instance, cedar poles or house logs. This activity occurs prior to clear felling of the cut block. Commercial thinning is a silviculture treatment that removes merchantable and competing timber from a stand to improve the growing conditions for the remaining co-dominant and dominant trees, and is another form of intermediate cutting. The stand would retain canopy coverage as more than 40 square meters of basal area would remain. The maximum patch size would be 0.20 hectares or approximately 45m by 45m.

Single Stem Harvesting (s.8.6)

Single Stem Harvesting is a form of partial harvesting that is intended to maintain extensive forest cover in order to meet non-timber objectives. There are areas of the timber harvesting land base that, due to other non-timber resources are highly constrained from conventional harvesting practices and would not be typically harvested. For example, a visually sensitive landscape or unstable terrain that would not support roads or conventional harvest systems. Under the prescription of a Qualified Professional, these areas will be sensitively managed by partial cutting a limited amount of the timber profile of the stand. The stand would retain canopy coverage as more than 40 square meters of basal area would be remain. The maximum patch size would be 0.20 hectares or approximately 45m by 45m. Any large openings, capable of supporting artificial regeneration, will be considered for the planting of ecologically suitable tree species.

Single Entry Dispersed Retention System Standards (s.8.7)

SEDRSS is based on the work done by the Coast Region FRPA Implementation Team – Silviculture Working Group, as presented in the “Single Entry Dispersed Retention System Stocking Standard Discussion Paper” (November 2009). The stocking standards presented here are intended to be consistent with the direction provided in the SEDRSS Stocking Standard Discussion paper.

Stocking standards for “variable” basal area retention (e.g., contiguous openings with >5 to <40m²/ha of retention) have been developed. Situations and circumstances have been included to describe where the Single Entry Dispersed Retention System (SEDRSS) stocking standards are to be applied. The intent is for SEDRSS to be used to maintain the timber supply in areas that are otherwise constrained.

Prior to harvest under the Single Entry Dispersed Retention System, the Plan Holder will need to clearly delineate the objectives for the harvest area, including specifying the stocking standards, acceptable leave tree characteristics and basal area retention targets. Once harvesting is complete, the Plan Holder will need to do a post-harvest evaluation of the Standards Unit and assess the timber retained. Where “first pass” harvesting does not meet the requirements set out on the applicable stocking standard, then additional harvest entries may be required (including subsequent re-evaluation).

As the Single Entry Dispersed Retention harvesting system approach is relatively new on Haida Gwaii, the

application of SEDRSS has been limited to a maximum of 5% of the AAC for the Plan Area. It is acknowledged that SEDRSS will need to be reviewed in the few years (i.e., at the end of the term of the FSP), including a review of any Timber Supply impacts.

Table 1: Summary of Stocking Standards Application

Contiguous Opening Size (ha)	Basal Area Retention (m²/ha)	Stocking Standard
Variable	> 5 to < 40	SEDRSS
Variable	≤ 5	Even-Aged
<0.2	≥ 40	Intermediate or Commercial
<0.2	≥ 40	Single Stem