

**2005/2006 Registered Forest Technologists Practice Exam**

**Part A: Answer only three of the five following questions;**

**Question One.**

You work for the Ministry of Forests and Range and have just learned of a situation where you suspect one of your fellow RFT's that you work with is suspected of unprofessional conduct. You suspect they have approved a cutting permit without fully reviewing the field work or cutting permit submission and in addition this work is out of their area of expertise.

What steps do you take to resolve the issue?

**Question Two.**

You run a consulting company and have been given a contract which is outside of your limits of experience and competency and the limits of your employees. How should you handle this situation and is there anything you could do to avoid declining the contract?

**Question Three.**

You work for a major licensee and have been given the responsibility of researching background information that will support the determination of the Timber Supply Review for the Tree Farm License the company holds. How do you handle a situation where your employer may ask you or it is suggested that you compromise your professional principles and bias information to prevent an AAC reduction? Relate your answer to your responsibilities in the ABCFP Bylaws.

**Question Four.**

In the fall during your peer review, you are asked how you remain competent in your field of practice, continually improve your practices and policies affecting the stewardship of forest land. What would you say are the measures you take (and also your employer) to ensure you remain competent in your area of practice and in addition, what do you do to demonstrate due diligence in your daily practices?

**Question Five.**

You are an RFT employed by a major licensee and are doing a field inspection of your company's cruise with another RFT employed by the Ministry of Forests and Range. You have a difference of opinion concerning some technical calls around "check trees" and how they are correctly measured to determine whether they are in or out of the plot. The resulting outcome determines how much stumpage your company pays and you feel that the MOFR employee is incorrect. What would you do to resolve this difference of opinion? If you can't resolve, what is your resulting action?

**Part B:**

**Section I: Generic Questions.** These questions are related to areas of practice common to all practising technologists.

**Section II: Specific Areas of Practice.** These questions are based on four specific areas of practice; Silviculture, Measurements, Operations, and Protection described in the ABCFP Guidelines on Scope of Practice for Registered Forest Technologists.

**Section I; Answer only two of the three following questions;**

**Question One.**

The Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act is being replaced by the Forest and Range Practices Act. As a member of the Association of British Columbia Forestry Professionals (or more specifically as a Registered Forest Technologist) describe how this change in legislation affects your role as an RFT.

**Question Two.**

Recently, the Ministry of Forests and Range has shown their continued support and recognition of the importance of Registered Forest Technologists in various job categories within the organisation.

- a) How do you feel this will affect the management of forestry in British Columbia?
- b) How will this affect the workload and responsibilities of the ABCFP in meeting their strategic goals and objectives?
- c) What challenges do you see the ABCFP having with the inclusion of Registered Forest Technologists?
- d) What challenges do you see the Ministry of Forests and Range having?

**Question Three.**

Describe what professional reliance under the newly developing forest policy regime in British Columbia means to a Registered Forest Technologist.

What is the connection between professional reliance and the Foresters Act, and the ABCFP Bylaws?

Using an example of an operational situation, compare the difference between requirements under the Forest Practices Code of BC Act to that of the requirements under the Forest and Range Practices Act.

**Section II: Answer only five of the twelve following questions;**

**Question One.**

You have been asked by your employer (who is a major licence) to engineer an area for harvesting. You must also engineer the road to access the area. The road you engineer is through various types of terrain including very steep slopes and one large crossing that requires a bridge which will have a span you estimate of 6 meters. Your employer has indicated that this is a rush job and submissions/approvals must be obtained from the Ministry of Forests and Range before the area is inaccessible due to snowy winter conditions. Your employer has also indicated that you will be the signing RFT.

- a) Can you sign and submit this road permit and crossing as an RFT?

- b) What are the professional obligations you should be aware of?
- c) How would you handle this situation if you cannot sign?
- d) State any assumptions.

**Question Two.**

You are working for a forestry consultant and are driving out to finish some final engineering on a few spur roads you previously engineered. It is late spring and a road building crew has started building the mainline into the area which you engineered and submitted for approvals previously. When you come across the work crew, they are installing a corrugated metal pipe drainage structure for an S3 stream and doing instream work with an excavator. No measures have been taken to address the S3 stream.

- a) What actions would you take upon arriving at the scene?
- b) What actions might you take afterwards?
- c) What professional responsibilities are involved with this scenario in terms of you belonging to the ABCFP?
- d) State any assumptions that you feel are required.

**Question Three.**

You are working for the Ministry of Forests and Range and are in charge of check cruising all clients in the district.

- a) List several main things you would check to ensure the plan meets MOFR requirements.
- b) If these items were not as they should be, how would it affect the cruise?
- c) If there were definite errors in the cruise plan, how would you proceed (and list the specific errors or examples) in dealing with the individuals involved?

**Question Four.**

A cutblock your client harvested nine years ago has just received a final brushing treatment.

- a) Can you, as a Registered Forest Technologist sign off and submit the Free Growing Declaration?
- b) Can this cutblock be declared Free Growing immediately after receiving a brushing treatment?
- c) What records may be required to prove due diligence with regards to establishing a Free Growing stand?
- d) State any assumptions in answering your question.

**Question Five.**

You are on a team of RFT's and you are a team leader in charge of doing Free Growing surveys. Your results indicate that the block your team inspected does not meet the Free Growing requirements. As a result, the block will be delayed and will not meet dates set out in the original Silviculture Prescription.

- a) Describe the action that may take place due to the Free Growing delay?
- b) What are your professional obligations in this situation and are there any other members that should be involved?

**Question Six.**

The consulting company that you own and run has been awarded a project to develop a full phase logging operation from pre-harvest duties including engineering, cruising, and Silviculture Prescriptions to post-harvest duties including everything up to the point that Free Growing obligations are met. Describe how you ensure your company practices due diligence?

**Question Seven.**

You are developing a prescribed burning plan for an area within your clients Tree Farm License to burn excess fuel build-up that has occurred due to the historic prevention of naturally occurring forest fires. It is located in a somewhat urban interface area.

- a) What specifics should be addressed in your plan?
- b) Can you sign off on the plan as a Registered Forest Technologist?
- c) How would you defend your plan in a public forum?

**Question Eight.**

What is professional reliance and how can resource professionals develop daily practices to ensure the public and their peers have confidence in relying on their professional judgement and accountability? As an RFT, how do you:

- a) Determine the public and profession's interest to help make operational decisions?
- b) Determine accountability when working with, or relying on, other resource professionals?
- c) Practice due diligence to minimise, eliminate or transfer liability (not intended to represent a due diligence defence against administrative penalties)?
- d) Demonstrate competence and independence and good stewardship?

**Question Nine.**

Can a Registered Forest Technologist sign/seal a Professional Salvage Application on behalf of a client who wishes to obtain a Forestry Licence to Cut for small scale salvage? Is there any difference in requirements for volumes less than 500 cubic meters? 2000 cubic meters? What details should you be aware of if you can sign/seal an application?

**Question Ten.**

You are working for BCTS in the interior and are developing a plan for salvaging a large area that has recently been killed by the Mountain Pine Beetle. A large percentage of the area is red kill. Public review and comment will occur before your plan is approved. The client has requested that the plan be reviewed during a Community Advisory Group. As you are presenting the plan, community members are upset and state strong objections to the type of harvesting you are suggesting and most of your plan to address issue.

- a) How would you explain the technical aspects of your plan?
- b) How would you address their concerns or more specifically how would you defend that the plan contains the best methods for dealing with the issues?
- c) Do you have any professional responsibilities in this situation?
- d) What was done wrong or what is technically wrong?

**Question Eleven.**

As a Registered Forest Technologist, the Foresters Act gives you authority to sign and seal what documents? Refer to and discuss any applicable guidelines or legislation in your answer.

**Question Twelve.**

In general, list the differences between a Registered Forest Technologist registered with the Association of British Columbia Forestry Professionals and a technologist that is not registered with the Association of British Columbia Forestry Professionals?

Do you think that all technologists in British Columbia should be registered? Explain the rationale for your answer.