

Practice Exam Questions for the 2005/06 FIT Study Group

1) This is a broad-based ethics question but with a specific topic to assist focusing on the 'Precautionary Principle'.

If the Forest Professional's forest management decision was based upon the precautionary principle and a negative impact upon the forest resource (or to society as a whole) was to occur, is the Forest Professional accountable under the ABCFP Code of Ethics?

2) Pine beetle is approaching from the west, and only 100 trees in a ~600 ha stand of pine are infested with beetle. The stand is composed of 150 year old Lodgepole Pine, 40 – 50cm dbh, and is close to Dawson Creek. The knowledge base suggests this stand and the surrounding landscape is ripe for attack.

What actions (or inactions) do you advocate? Provide a rationale for the actions you advocate.

3) Community forest agreements are a mechanism by which the Province transfers decision-making to communities that wish to more fully participate in the stewardship of their local forest resources. Since August 2004, government has provided community forest opportunities for a number of communities across the Province.

Compare the advantages and disadvantages of the community forest tenure relative to other BC tenures.

4) You, as a forest professional with a consulting business, are working on a template for creating strategic plans. Your partner asked you to talk to Bill Ewe about what software to use. You talk to Bill Ewe, and he provided very little information that you could use. Nevertheless, you finish the template and in your acknowledgement section, you mention that Bill Ewe contributed.

Your firm takes this document and sells it to a Logem Forest Products for their use.

You then get a call from the ABCFP informing you that you have been named in a complaint. Bill Ewe asserts that Logem Forest Products and yourself owe him for using his work.

Using this as an example, explain:

1. What grounds under the Forester's Act could Bill Ewe have to support his complaint?
2. What grounds under the Forester's Act could you counter his complaint?
3. Using this example, explain the ABCFP discipline process, starting from when the Association receives a complaint. Make sure you explain all the possible outcomes of the process.

5) An RPF signs and seals an appraisal that indicates that all roads will be gravelled. The building of that road is then supervised by another individual who does not gravel any of the roads. Has the signing RPF broken the code of ethics or the Forest Act? What if the signing RPF knew at the time of signing that the roads were not to be gravelled? How much responsibility does the signing RPF incur for deviations from the original appraisal by others? Is it acceptable to consistently error with the expectation that the roads will be gravelled?

6) The current MPB epidemic is having significant implications on timber and non-timber values. Explain what these implications are.

7) What recommendations do you have to mitigate the negative implications of the MPB epidemic?

8) As a newly hired Registered Professional Forester, you are responsible for planning harvest activities for your company. One of the areas you are responsible for is inhabited by woodland caribou. Up until now management activities in this area have been consistent with the Ungulate Winter Range Objectives which government has assigned to the area. Looking through the files, you also notice the management activities have been guided by and are consistent with the "Mountain Caribou in Managed Forests Document" and by past research with respect to the implications of partial harvesting on woodland caribou.

In the interest of due diligence, you looked into the status of the woodland caribou heard in your area and discover it's population is in decline, a trend that has been occurring for 20 years. Also, you became aware that a caribou recovery team was actively reviewing management options for your area, and direction from this team should be available in about 1 year's time. Members of the recovery team have confirmed that despite existing protection the caribou continues to decline, and that biologists have concluded additional habitat protection will be required. They also provided you with some of the recent research they are reviewing.

This research indicates a likely correlation between increased harvest activities, within 50

kilometers of caribou habitat, to a decrease in caribou populations. It is also apparent that the only area you are responsible for that is available for harvest over the next 5 years is within 50 kilometers of the caribou habitat. How do you proceed with your new responsibilities of preparing harvest plans for your company (specifically, do you solely rely upon the existing direction or do you do what is needed to stop the decline of the caribou)? Provide the rationale for your answer.

9) You are a professional forester working for a forest consultant. The consulting company is responsible for completing a Timber Supply Analysis on behalf of the Defined Forest Area Management (DFAM) group, as part of the Ministry of Forests Timber Supply Review.

A set level of funding is available to the DFAM under the Forest Investment Account (FIA) to cover the costs of preparing the data package for this Timber Supply Review. Preparation costs in excess of the FIA funding limit is to be paid for by the DFAM group. A timber supply analysis was last completed for this unit 4 years ago by the BC Ministry of Forests. The analysis indicated the current AAC could be maintained for 90 years before declining by 12% to the long-term harvest level.

As a Registered Professional Forester, you have been assigned the task of preparing the data package that will be used for this analysis. As you begin this project, the DFAM group advises that you should rely upon the assumptions documented and used in the last Timber Supply Review that was conducted. Do you follow the advice of the DFAM? Explain your response.

10) Consider the new Foresters Act and the implications for a forester working with a forest technologist.

- a. As a measure of due diligence, what must you consider in this working relationship with regard to the qualifications of someone who identifies himself or herself as a forest technologist?
- b. The relationship with a registered forest technologist is new to members of the ABCFP, outline your responsibility as a forester working under the new Act (and related association bylaws) with regard to supervision of an RFT and then of your professional responsibility to that RFT.
- c. What would be an appropriate response to a situation in the future where you, as an RPF, are checking a free growing survey and you notice that the surveyors have failed to collect critical height and age data of a secondary species in the

inventory label as directed by a recent silviculture branch memo. One of the surveyors is a certified silviculture surveyor and one is an RFT.