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INFORMATION BULLETIN – JUNE 22, 2009

Private Managed Forest Land Council finds Galiano Island owner did not meet reforestation requirements

The Private Managed Forest Land Council (Council) has determined that Stephen Garrod and Barbara Coward, owners of MF 167 on Galiano Island contravened section 31 of the *Private Managed Forest Land Council Regulation 2007* (the regulation) by failing to ensure that a portion of a cutblock harvested in 2001 was adequately restocked.

In January 2009 a routine inspection of MF 167 identified potential reforestation issues. The Council initiated an investigation and retained an expert to carry out a stocking survey. The Executive Director prepared an Investigation Report which alleged that the owners had failed to restock the area harvested in 2001 in accordance with section 31 of the regulation.

Section 31 of the regulation requires the owner of private managed forest land to restock harvested areas within 5 years with at least the minimum number of crop trees well distributed across the harvested area. The stocking survey indicated that some portions of the 10 ha cutblock were adequately stocked but that approximately 6 ha had only 57% of the minimum requirements. The Council imposed a \$1 000 administrative fine and ordered that the area be restocked and surveyed by Spring 2010.

The Council is an independent provincial agency established in 2004 under the *Private Managed Forest Land Act* to administer the Managed Forest Program and protect key public environmental values on private Managed Forest land in British Columbia. The mandate of the Council is to encourage forest management practices on private managed forest land, taking into account the social, environmental and economic benefits of those practices including regulating forest practices relating to soil conservation, reforestation, and the protection of water quality and fish habitat.

The Council's investigation report and stocking survey report are posted on the Council's website at <http://www.pmflc.ca>. For more information, contact Stuart Macpherson, Executive Director at (250) 386-5737, or execdirec@pmflc.ca.