

Public Notice – Forest Fertilization of Crown Land

This notice is to inform the public that Forest Fertilization will occur in TFL 3 in the Slocan Valley between September and December of 2023. The area being fertilized are blocks previously harvested in the Koch, Hoder, and Little Slocan drainages. The funding is provided by the Provincial Government through the Forest Investment Program of the Office of the Chief Forester in conjunction with CleanBC. The purpose is to increase carbon sequestration from the atmosphere by increasing individual tree growth. This project will help to contribute to the province's Green House Gas (GHG) sequestration targets in order strive to meet the goal of net-zero by 2050.

The fertilizer is a urea compound in the form of pellets that will be applied aerially to the prescribed areas. The application is a highly precise, pilot-controlled system. There will be no fertilizer applied to streams or any standing body of water. Water quality sampling will occur on representative streams with in the Little Slocan watershed before, during and after the fertilization application as per approved guidance.

Fertilization will increase ecosystem carbon between 25 and 57 tonnes of carbon per hectare depending on the site characteristics such as site index and species composition. It is estimated that this project will be on the higher end of that range. Other benefits that can be seen from Forest Fertilization include increased crown growth for ungulate cover, increased understory growth, enhanced green up and visual qualities, and habitat for some species of birds.

Click on this link to view the proposed prescribed treatment areas: Map

For more information on addressing climate change with nature: <u>Addressing Climate Change</u> with Nature

For more information on the Fertilization Program in BC: Fertilization Program Information

For more information, please contact <u>Brent.Ziegler@gov.bc.ca</u>

Brent Ziegler RPF, BSF Forest Carbon Specialist, Forest Investment and Reporting Branch, Ministry of Forests