

Forestry Permits Continued

4. **Firewood Permits:** Obtainable upon request at forestry office only when the tribe has designated open cutting areas or when a landowner has downed wood on their property. Fines for cutting firewood without a permit range between \$50 and \$2,000 and a loss of all firewood permit privileges for 1 year. The Washington Department of Natural Resources also issues firewood permits to tribal members when sites are available. Inquire at the Sedro-Woolley office or call 360-856-3500.

Timber Cutting Permit Steps

Landowners are often surprised at the amount of time it can take to obtain a valid Timber Cutting Permit. To provide you with an understanding of all the field and office work involved, the checklist used by the Forestry Division to ensure compliance with all tribal and federal rules is provided below. Once all of these steps are completed and all requirements are met, we are then able to issue a valid BIA approved Timber Cutting Permit.

1. Obtain Land Use Application
2. Verify Ownership
3. Preliminary Reconnaissance
4. Property Line Survey
5. Environmental & Biological Assessment
6. Timber Cruise, Road Layout & Harvest Design
7. Timber Appraisal & Marketing
8. Forest Officer's Report or Narrative
9. Sale Advertisement & Prospectus
10. Timber Cutting Permit or Timber Sale Contract
11. Pre-logging Conference
12. Contract Execution and Compliance
13. Site Preparation
14. Statement of Completion
15. Reforestation

1. STANDING TIMBER



2. PERMITTING



3. TIMBER HARVEST



4. REFORESTATION



If you have any questions or concerns about Lummi Nation timberlands, please contact Zach Dewees, Forest Manager at 360-384-2228 or via email at zacharyd@lummi-nsn.gov

LUMMI NATION Natural Resources Department Forestry Division



Mission Statement: To enhance, utilize, and protect forest resources within the exterior boundaries of the Reservation, Madrona Point, Portage Island, and the Arlecho Watershed into perpetuity for the benefit of the Lummi People.



Forestry Division

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Purpose

The intent of this brochure is to familiarize Lummi tribal members and residents of the Lummi reservation with the role of the Forestry Division, its policies, procedures, and the timelines involved in applying for and receiving Forestry Permits. Additionally, we hope that this brochure provides you with a basic understanding of Forest Management and the benefits of actively managing this valuable resource.

Background

The Lummi Nation holds approximately 6,379 acres of timberlands within the exterior boundaries of the reservation, 2,126 acres of timberlands in the Arlecho Creek Watershed, and 26 acres at Madrona Point. These timberlands hold great cultural, environmental, and economic value to the Lummi people. Accordingly, the Forestry Division takes great care to manage these resources in a responsible and professional manner to ensure that they will be available for generations to come.

Although the Lummi Nation is a self-governing tribe, we still must comply with federal regulations. This means that the tribe must manage their forest lands according to the principles and regulations established in the National Indian Forest Management Act. As stated in this Act, the Bureau of Indian Affairs has final approval authority on all timber harvest permits for trust and allotted lands of the Lummi Indian Reservation

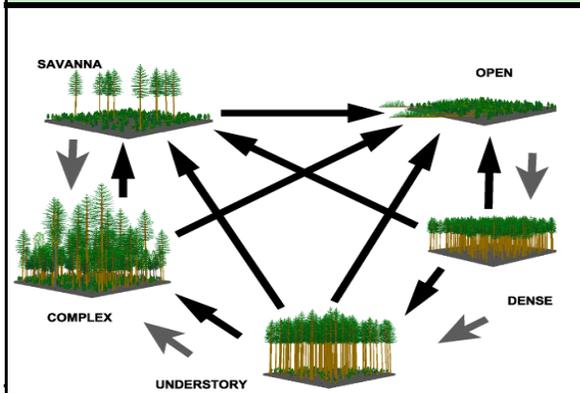
Forestry Division Responsibilities

- Provide Forest Management knowledge and expertise to landowners and other departments.
- Ensure proper management and protection of Forest Resources.
- Provide responsible and timely forest permitting.
- Maximize forest revenue and economics.
- Manage tribal conservation areas.
- Recruit wood for the Elder's firewood program.

What is Forest Management?

Forest Management is the art and science of manipulating trees to produce a desired condition or product that benefits the landowner while protecting wildlife and aquatic resources and ensuring a viable timber resource in the future. It is the Forestry Division's goal to manage Lummi forests according to the above definition. To achieve this goal, some essential forest management techniques need to be done throughout the life of a stand. For example, following reforestation, it is essential to conduct at least one "release treatment" to ensure planted seedlings are not out-competed and killed by invading brush species. A release treatment involves eliminating all grass and brush species growing within a 5-10 foot radius of each seedling and may be done manually or with herbicides. This ensures that the seedling will get all the water and light it needs to grow. As these seedlings continue to grow into larger trees, they will begin to compete with each other for light and water. To reduce this competition and maintain maximum growth rates, a pre-commercial thinning (PCT) will be required around age 10-15. A PCT involves cutting out all the smaller, less competitive trees so that growing space is given only to the best, fastest growing trees. At around age 65, these trees will be big enough to produce commercial forest products which can provide significant income. Below, you will find a helpful diagram that shows the various stages of forest development. As you can see, there are 5 distinct stages with many different development pathways. Which one do you have on your property?

Stages of Forest Development



Forestry Permits

The Forestry Division issues 4 types of permits: Timber Cutting Permits, Burning Permits, Beachwood Permits, and Firewood Permits. Below you will find an expected timeframe for obtaining each type of permit along with the fines and penalties for operating without a valid Forestry permit. As mentioned earlier, the Lummi nation is required to comply with the federal regulations outlined in the National Indian Forest Management Act. Because of this, Title 10 of the Lummi Nation Code of Laws states that *"it shall be unlawful for any person to harvest or assist in the harvest of any standing green timber, including Christmas trees, or any downed firewood or other forestry product on any lands or beaches within the exterior boundaries of the Lummi Reservation without a permit from Lummi Natural Resources Department."*

1. **Timber Cutting Permits:** Can take as little as 2 weeks (clearing for a homesite) or up to 1 year (Large-scale timber harvest). **Harvesting timber on trust or allotted lands without a BIA Timber Cutting Permit can result in severe penalties. The landowner not only forgoes the money he or she would have received for the harvested timber but also is liable for a fine from the BIA of triple the value of the harvested timber. In addition, the Lummi Nation may issue a fine ranging between \$500 and \$10,000.**
2. **Burning Permits:** Obtainable upon request at forestry office. Seasonal constraints are placed on these permits and absolutely no burning is allowed when a county-wide burn ban is in effect. Fines for burning without a permit range between \$50 and \$2,000. Also if the fire escapes, the landowner is financially responsible for all suppression and containment costs.
3. **Beachwood Permits:** Obtainable upon request at forestry office. Fines for cutting beachwood without a permit can range between \$50 and \$2,000 and a loss of all beachwood permit privileges for 1 year.