

## ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS

**Report:** 19. Peace River Site C Hydro Project - Stage 2 Preliminary Clearing Considerations

**Prepared by:** Industrial Forestry Ltd.

**Summary:** The report focused on developing a baseline clearing and access plan that could predict wood extraction methods that could be used if the Project were to proceed to construction. These preliminary clearing considerations were intended to be as efficient as possible from a logging industry perspective. If the project were to proceed to the next stage, this forestry-focused baseline would be used to develop a more integrated Reservoir Preparation Plan that would consider potential socio-economic impacts, heritage resources, air quality, wildlife, and aquatic habitat.

These clearing considerations assumed that all vegetated areas in the Project footprint would need to be cleared down to stump height. This included all areas within the proposed reservoir, the highway #29 alignments, dam construction site and within the proposed new transmission line right-of-way.

It is estimated that within the project area there would be roughly 1,000,000 cubic metres of merchantable timber that could be harvested and approximately 550,000 cubic metres of waste vegetation. It is expected that mills in the region could handle the timber volumes over multiple years without significantly affecting operations.

Harvest plan maps were created to identify and describe proposed clearing units, existing access routes, roads that may need upgrades, potential new access routes for clearing, proposed heli-log areas, proposed log landings and waste wood disposal locations.

The clearing methods proposed were selected with consideration for worker safety, operational feasibility, minimizing soil disturbance and preserving the integrity of the forest floor.