

Forest Tenure Online

The Project

THE BRITISH COLUMBIA FOREST SERVICE (BCFS) contracted Pacific GeoTech Systems to put its forest tenure permit application process online. In the province of British Columbia, most forest land is government-owned. Forestry

companies require government cutting permits for logging on Crown land. The manual system in place was time-consuming, inefficient and error-prone. Its use tied up significant government resources.



The Solution

Pacific GeoTech conducted a business analysis for BCFS to determine how to automate the forest tenure system. The goal was to let licensees apply for forest tenure cutting permits online while creating a system that would support existing BCFS rules and regulations, and work with existing BCFS business systems. Once the consultation process was complete, Pacific GeoTech proposed **Forest Tenure Online**, a *true*PERMIT-based solution.

With **Forest Tenure Online**, forest district managers can track permit applications online. The system allows them to better monitor, schedule and prioritize cutting permits. The application provides robust, secure and powerful geo-spatial capabilities in an easy-to-use ArcIMS, Java and XML technology. The entire application is web-based, making it accessible to anyone with a standard web browser.

The system allows licensees to make cutting area map selections interactively online. Once they have selected their cutting area, they fill in and submit their application via a secure Internet form. Licensees can save GPS/digital data, select and display geo-spatial data, and zoom, pan and perform other map functions. They can create powerful reports and create application plot templates. Because licensees have direct access to map data, and the forms they fill in are automatically checked for errors, forest district staff no longer has to dedicate time to verify the correctness of data.





The Results

Forest Tenure Online has reduced the permit application processing time from several weeks down to a matter of minutes. Incorrect submissions have been eliminated because licensees directly access the BCFS map databases during the application process. Administration requirements have been reduced, service has been dramatically improved and forest district staff have been freed up for other tasks. Managers can track permits online and use a variety of high-level reporting tools to better monitor the whole process.



The Technology

The Forest Tenure Online application is built using the following technologies:

- J2EE and Jakarta Struts Framework
- XML
- ESRI's ArcIMS web-based engine
- SAFE FME
- Oracle 8.1.7



For more information on Forest Tenure Online or any other Pacific GeoTech services, please phone or email us.