
City of Kelowna

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 12, 2004
FILE: 5460-09
TO: City Manager
FROM: Transportation Manager
RE: **Logging Operations for South Slopes**

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council approve of an extension of early morning logging (4:00 am instead of 7:00 am bylaw start time) on the City's south slopes to March 31, 2004.

BACKGROUND:

In December, 2003 staff brought forward to Council a request from the logging industry to allow an earlier start time for logging operations working on the burned-out slopes south of the City. The City's Noise Bylaw (6647) restricts these operations on City roads to start no earlier than 7:00 am. The logging industry had requested a 4:00 am start time.

As noted in the earlier Council report, there is a community benefit to removing the trees. Left in place they create an unappealing visual image of the fire impacted area and become another fire hazard. It was therefore in the City's interest to facilitate the logging industry's interests.

The logging licensees have now advised that there is more valuable timber that can be removed and would like to continue their current operations until the end of March. Spring breakup typically occurs during March and load restrictions are placed on truck routes to minimize damage from heavy vehicles. So there would still be periods when logging operations will be restricted. However, the companies would be given some additional time to attempt to complete their work.

Since Council approved of the early morning start time, staff has received two complaints about the operations.

Ron Westlake, P.Eng.
Transportation Manager

John Vos
Director of Works & Utilities