

Appendix 2 – Acronyms & Abbreviations

Planters will often see acronyms that they don't understand immediately. Here's a list of some common ones and what they stand for or refer to.

1075 – Propane. This is the WHMIS category/designation for propane fuel.

1202 – Diesel. This is the WHMIS category/designation for diesel fuel.

1203 – Gasoline. This is the WHMIS category/designation for gasoline fuel.

2BT – 2 Billion Trees. A major project overseen by NRCan to support the planting of two billion additional [non-obligation] trees throughout Canada between 2021 and 2031.

2WD – Two Wheel Drive. Self explanatory.

4WD – Four Wheel Drive. Self explanatory.

4X2 – Four by Two. Two wheel drive.

4X4 – Four by Four. Four wheel drive.

A&G – Akehurst & Galvani. One of the few planting companies that is usually referred to by its initials.

ABC – Airway, Breathing, Circulation. An extremely important checklist in first aid courses.

AFS – Alberta Forest Service. This provincial agency was Alberta's equivalent of the British Columbia Ministry of Forests, although their involvement in reforestation and forest management in Alberta is much less than that of the MOF in BC. They're now known as SRD.

AKA – Also Known As. Used to list synonyms for a word or phrase.

ATOP – At Time Of Planting. Used in sets of instructions sometimes, ie. "This bridge might be pulled ATOP."

ATV – All-Terrain Vehicle. This is a type of vehicle that is designed for use in areas where roadways may not exist. The most common example of an ATV would be a quad or four-wheeler.

BBI – Browse Barrier Installation. Putting new cones & stakes into place over freshly planted seedlings.

BBM – Browse Barrier Maintenance. Fixing degraded stakes and cones that are protecting trees which have not yet reached a height at which they are able to survive on their own (typically around 1.5 meters).

BBR – Browse Barrier Removal. Removing stakes and cones from trees that have reached a height at which they should be able to survive without further protection.

BCFS – British Columbia Forest Service. This is the old name for the Ministry of Forests. You may occasionally see it on old maps and logos.

BCTS – British Columbia Timber Sales. This is the name for the branch of the Ministry of Forests that interacts with the public by being in charge of reforestation of land logged by small and medium sized logging contractors. BCTS is in charge of a fairly significant portion of the logging throughout British Columbia.

BDF – BioDegradable Flagging. A type of flagging tape, usually made of corn or starch, that biodegrades much more quickly and efficiently than polyethylene, and in a manner that is not harmful to the environment.

BEC – Biogeoclimatic Ecosystem Classification. BC uses a system of biogeoclimatic zones throughout the province to define various ecosystems.

BGC – Biogeoclimatic. The BEC system takes biology, geography, and climate into consideration when dividing the province into BEC zones.

BMP – Best Management Practices.

CAR – Corrective Action Register. A chart or ledger used to record any deficiencies found within the workplace, and other supporting details (what could be done to fix it, who is responsible, due date, and whether the issue has been acceptably addressed yet).

CAT – Caterpillar. A manufacturer of many types of heavy equipment, including bulldozers, graders, excavators, and other machines.

CB – Citizens’ Band. An old 40-channel system of radio public VHF radio communications, commonly used by truckers.

CBST – Climate Based Seedlot Transfer. A system used by foresters to match seedlots to planting sites based on climate information, using models to define zones or to calculate transfer limits according to various projected future climatic conditions. CBST is slowly replacing geographic based seedlot transfer restrictions.

CBT – Cognitive Behavioral Therapy. A form of mental health treatment that people are becoming increasingly aware of as the planting industry increases the recognition of mental health challenges within the workforce.

CMT – Culturally Modified Tree. An object which has been historically modified by First Nations or other historical occupants of an area. Possible examples could include cedar trees that had bark strips removed for use in canoes, old surveyor blazes, grave markings, markings to indicate ceremonial sites, and many more. We sometimes see just CM for culturally modified.

CO – Conservation Officer.

COC – Chain Of Custody.

COR – Certificate Of Recognition. A specific type of occupational health and safety certification within Canada. The COR certification program verifies that a company has a fully-implemented health & safety program that meets a certain national standard.

CP – Cut Permit. Every licensee has to get a cutting permit from the provincial government, which gives permission to cut timber within a certain area. In BC, most cut blocks have a specific unique block number which associates with the cutting permit number.

CRC – Container Rooted Cutting. A plug seedling which was produced from a cutting rather than from a seed.

CSA – Canadian Standards Association. This association regulates products sold in Canada, and provincial legislation or WCB regulations often specify that certain types of work equipment must meet certain CSA standards. An example would be Kevlar chain saw pants, because only certain types of pants are deemed acceptable for work use as defined by WCB and the CSA.

CTL – Cut To Length. A type of logging approach where logs are cut into smaller pieces before being shipped to mills, as opposed to full tree-length shipping.

CTR – Crop Tree Release. A silviculture treatment (such as manual brushing) aimed at reducing competition from competing vegetation, so the remaining good crop trees have more space and access to sunlight, water, and other necessary resources.

CWD – Coarse Woody Debris. Slash/logs, without smaller branches or fines. This term is often used in reclamation work.

D&A – Drugs & Alcohol. Often sounds like “DNA” when being pronounced. Usually used in the context of D&A testing, with respect to potential impairment on a worksite.

DEET - Diethyl-meta-Toluamide. A chemical compound that was originally discovered and developed by the U.S. Army, and is now commonly used in the most effective insect repellents. All major brands of bug dope (Muskol, Deep Woods Off) use DEET as the main active ingredient, for repellents in both liquid and aerosol spray forms. Interesting trivia: Scooter grew up in Truro, Nova Scotia, living two doors away from Charles Coll, the world-famous “inventor” of Muskol (Charles just bought the patent from the US military and commercialized it).

DEI – Diversity, Equity, Inclusion. Policies that certain companies embrace in order to be supportive of different groups of individuals, including people of different races, ethnicities, religions, abilities, genders, and sexual orientations.

DFR – Debris Flow Risk. An indication of the potential for mudslides or rock slides.

DIB – Diameter Inside Bark. The diameter of the woody trunk of a tree, excluding bark.

DIPO – Disc, Power On. A type of disc trenching.

DMP – Dwarf Mistletoe, Pine. A type of dwarf mistletoe (a flowering plant which is a parasite to conifers) which attacks pine. Other types attack hemlock, larch, and Douglas fir.

DMS – Degrees, Minutes, Seconds. Used in latitude/longitude. Degrees decimal is an alternative format.

DONM – Donaren Mounds. This type of treatment is made by a skidder with donaren moulder attachments. As the skidder drives around the block, a pair of scoops (one behind each rear wheel of the skidder) repeatedly take scoops of dirt out of the ground and flip them over. The planters are then required to put a tree on each of these mounds. Donaren mounds are generally the easiest type of mounds to plant, as they are typically smaller than excavator mounds, and occur in moderately straight parallel rows.

DRSF – Drag (Shark Fin) Scarification. This is a certain type of site treatment whereby a skidder drives all over a block and drags a large metal drum or rollers (usually filled with water) behind it,

which crushes most of the debris left behind from logging, and spreads out the cones. Areas that have been dragged are typically replanted at lower densities than normal ground, under the assumption that the cones have been spread out sufficiently to allow for more successful natural regeneration (which will complement the planted seedlings).

DWB – Decay, Waste, and Breakage. A reference used in timber cruising to refer to the loss in net volume of wood due to wood decay, firmwood waste, and harvesting damage.

EFP – Environmental Field Procedures. Standard operating protocols in the field, with respect to an Environmental Management System.

EHT – Employer Health Tax. An annual tax in British Columbia that is applied to all companies. The EHT is based upon the total compensation that a company pays to employees. It was brought into effect in 2019, to help fund the provincial health care system. Companies that pay less than \$500,000 in total annual remuneration to employees are exempt. Companies paying over \$1,500,000 in total annual remuneration to employees are taxed at a rate of about 1.95% of payroll.

EIIR – Employer Incident Investigation Report. This is WorkSafeBC form 52E40, which is a specific report that employers are required to fill out and submit to WorkSafeBC after certain types of incidents or near misses. Categories of incidents where this report becomes mandatory include serious injuries, potential for serious injury, incidents requiring medical treatment, major structural failure or collapse, and major release of hazardous substances. The medical treatment category means that this form is required more frequently than some people assume.

ELT – Emergency Locator Transmitter. An electronic GPS and radio transmitter located in all helicopters, which sends out an emergency distress beacon after a crash.

EMS – Environmental Management System. This is a set of rules and practices that a mill or a planting contractor follows in order to protect the environment while carrying out all work.

EOP – Environmental Operating Plan. The defined plan that specifically focuses on environmental aspects of operations.

ERP – Emergency Response Plan. A document which outlines what is supposed to happen to response to various types of emergency situations. An ERP usually specifies how workers should react (ie. meet at a specific “muster point” for instructions), who to contact (list of communication numbers), and other specific instructions.

ESG – Environmental, Social, and Governance. A set of practices and metrics used to evaluate a company behind simply its financial performance.

ESM – Emergency Scene Management. A common acronym in first aid and incident response training.

ETA – Estimated Time of Arrival. Used to designate when someone is estimating that something is going to happen (not necessarily “arrive”). For example, you can have an ETA of predicted departure time, or ETA of when a block might be finished.

ETV – Emergency Transport Vehicle. This is the vehicle on a work site that is designated for use in safety situations or emergencies. Presumably, the ETV will contain the first aid equipment and have room to accommodate a stretcher for transportation of seriously injured workers.

EXMD – Excavator Mounds. (Aka. Hoe mounds). This type of treatment occurs when an excavator (construction site slang for a backhoe) digs holes all over a block and dumps the dirt from these holes in piles all over the block. The planters then are required to plant one tree on each mound. Excavator mounds can be fairly large at times, and are commonly found in wetter areas, where minimal disturbance to nearby watercourses is a priority.

FAC – Firearms Acquisition Certificate. In previous years, persons needed to possess a valid FAC in order to be allowed to purchase firearms or ammunition in Canada. This certificate has been replaced by the PAL.

FCI – Federal Carbon Initiative. A BC government program launched in 2017, funded by the federal government, as a key element of BC’s commitment to take action on climate change. The FCI program has worked on projects together with the BC Forest Enhancement Society, BCTS, and the FFT program. FCI manages forest carbon by investing in a wide variety of projects throughout the province.

FESBC – Forest Enhancement Society of BC. An organization that advances environmental and resource stewardship within British Columbia. This is a major organization that implements projects to reduce greenhouse gases, protect communities from wildfire, improve wildlife habitat, and protect jobs.

FFT – Forests For Tomorrow. A BC government-sponsored program that facilitates special planting projects that aren’t part of the typical post-harvest cycle. A lot of wildfire restoration work and work after insect damage is funded through the FFT program.

FIRB – Forest Investment & Reporting Branch [of BC]. Don’t confuse this acronym with BC’s other FIRB, the Farm Industry Review Board. Our FIRB is part of the Office of the Chief Forester in BC, and oversees funding for a significant amount of tree planting within the province. Their initial goals were to manage the annual planting of about 20 million FFT trees and 25-30 million trees from the “2 Billion Tree” program. Therefore, this department may end up being responsible for nearly twenty percent of all the tree planting in British Columbia.

FIST – Forest Industry Seedling Transport. This is a large insulated fiberglass storage unit which is mounted on the back of a pickup truck. The purpose of the FIST is to allow for a greater number of boxes to be carried than in an open pickup (perhaps fifty to sixty average sized boxes), and allows for the trees to remain significantly cooler than a wooden box frame

FLNRO (or MoFLNRORD) – [the former] Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development. For a while, this mouthful was the new namesake of the original MOF. There was a period where they kept adding an extra letter or two every few years. Thankfully, after years of continued criticism, 2022 saw yet another name change. In February of that year, the Ministry of Land, Water, and Natural Resource Stewardship became a thing, but thankfully, the rest of FLNRORD went back to being the Ministry of Forests. MOF is easy to use. Let's hope it sticks this time.

FMA – Forest Management Agreement. A Forest Management Agreement (FMA) is an area-based agreement between the Province [of Alberta] and a company that gives the company the rights to establish, grow, harvest and remove timber from a particular area of land. Like Timber Quotas, these agreements are also granted for 20-year periods with options for renewal. Forest Management Agreements require the company to be very involved in all aspects of forest management. Unlike Timber quotas or timber permits, Forest Management Agreements require long-term forest management planning and public consultation by the companies. The FMA holder takes the lead in planning and works with any quota holder or permit holder within their FMA. In return for an FMA, companies take on greater responsibility and accountability for forest management planning. The government approves the companies' management plans. Under FMAs, there is no transfer of land ownership to a private company.

FN – First Nations. Self explanatory.

FNB – Fall & Burn. The "Control" portion of beetle eradication work, cutting and destroying trees with infestations.

FNB – Felled & Bucked. Trees that have been cut down and had their branches removed.

FOPS – Falling Object Protective Structure. A system or structure designed to protect an operator of heavy equipment in the event that the cab of their equipment is struck by a heavy falling object (such as a tree).

FPIC – Free Prior and Informed Consent. This is a component of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. It ensures that Indigenous Peoples have the right to make decisions about activities affecting their lands, territories, resources, and rights.

FRPA – Forest Range & Practices Act. Legislates forestry-related practices in BC.

FRPR – Forest Planning and Practices Regulation. Specific regulations, part of the FRPA.

FS 704 – Forest Standard 704. This is the BC Ministry of Forests form which is used to record and calculate planting quality. Checkers will record their plots in books of FS 704's.

FSCBC – Forest Safety Council of BC. The former name of the organization which now calls itself BC Forest Safety.

FSR – Forest Service Road. The official designation for a logging road within British Columbia.

FTG – Free To Grow. Once a stand has reached free-to-grow status, it has reached the stage at which acceptable well-spaced trees have met the criteria for free-growing declaration as described in the standards unit. Basically, this means that the trees are at the point where active forest management no longer needs to be performed, and they can be left to grow to maturity by themselves.

GBA – Gross Block Area. Total area of a block including any sections that may not have been harvested or which may not be planted for various reasons (such as wildlife tree patches or riparian management zones).

GBST – Geographic Based Seedlot Transfer. A traditional system that foresters can use, using geographically defined seed zones to determine where seedlots should be planted. These systems traditionally assumed that climates were going to be stable over the long term. In recent years, GBST is often being replaced by climate based seedlot transfer guidelines.

GHS – Global Harmonized System. A system used in the classification and labelling of chemicals.

GOA – Government of Alberta. The provincial government of Alberta.

GPS – Global Positioning System. The global positioning system is a series of satellites that transmit data to handheld GPS units, which allow a person to know their exact position (latitude and longitude) anywhere on earth, within a couple meters of accuracy. Blocks are often “GPS'd” which means their size is measured by these units, giving a very accurate description of how large the area is.

HMS – Hours, Minutes, Seconds. Used in time/chronology.

HNC – Hole Not Closed. An abbreviation used by checkers to indicate one of two types of air pocket faults, when the hole that the planter placed the seedling in was not completely kicked shut, and therefore the seedling's roots are still exposed to air.

HSE – Health, Safety, and Environment. This acronym covers three separate topics which are often lumped into the same area of responsibility at certain smaller corporations. It can also stand for Health & Safety Executive.

ICH – Interior Cedar Hemlock zone. A geoclimatic zone with a continental, cool to warm temperate climate. The majority of this zone is found in the southeastern part of British Columbia. This zone doesn't get a lot of precipitation.

IDF – Interior Douglas Fir zone. A geoclimatic zone that dominates the low to mid elevation landscape of south-central Interior British Columbia.

IMT – Incident Management Team. A group of trained personnel responsible for managing emergency incidents. They operated within the Incident Command System (ICS) framework, which is commonly used in things like wildfire suppression.

IRL – Industrial Reproductions Limited. One of the main suppliers for planting and forestry equipment in Prince George, located near the bridge on the Hart Highway heading north from town.

ISO – International Standards Organization. This international body has a whole bunch of different sets of standards for governments, corporations, and different entities. Each standard is basically a set of rules or guidelines or targets. If an organization meets that standard, then someone else can be assured that the organization complies with the rules or targets outlined. Basically, it's a way to measure an entity's quality in certain ways. There are certain ISO standards (identified by number) which are common in different industries. For example, a forestry company or mill might boast that it complies with the "ISO 14000" or "ISO 9001" standard. Look it up online for more information.

ITD – Inter Tree Distance. The distance between two planted seedlings.

KPI – Key Performance Indicators. Measurable values that track progress, or demonstrate how effectively a company is achieving key business objectives. For example, one KPI for a crew could be average daily production.

KML – Keyhole Markup Language. This is a type of file format (based on the XML internet standard) used to display geographic data in an Earth browser such as Google Earth. KML files can contain GPS data points, such as tracks and points and lines, and can also hold text and multimedia information. The well-known Avenza Maps app stores layer information in KML files, which can be exported to other users, and opened in a lot of different types of GIS and mapping apps.

KMZ – Keyhole Markup Zipped. This is simply a zipped version of an underlying KML file. As it is zipped, it is smaller and therefore easier to share, with faster upload/download speeds. In theory, everyone should always be using KMZ's instead of KML's because they're more efficient. However, even though most common major platforms (such as Google Earth and Google Maps) can easily

understand KMZ files, there are some other apps that don't know how to extract data from a KMZ into KML format. Therefore, for maximum compatibility with recipients using unknown software, you're probably safest to use KML's.

LACES – Lookouts, Anchor Points, Communications, Escape Routes, Safety Zones. Taught in some wildfire suppression safety systems.

LAD – Logging ADministration. The name of a group of radio channels (LAD1, LAD2, LAD3, LAD4) commonly used by truckers and the general public. I always assumed that it meant "Local Area Discussion," but others seem to disagree with me. However, it's in common use by many industries other than just forestry. If you're in trouble and trying to reach someone for help, and nobody is answering on the road channel or your company chat channel, try calling on the LAD channels, especially LAD1. LAD1 is also good to monitor on the highways, because the truckers will keep you updated about police, accidents, and other problems.

LD – "Loaded". An abbreviation seen on some forestry road kilometer markings, to remind vehicles that they are travelling in the "loaded" direction (down the mountain, toward the mill).

LF – Lower Foothills. An elevation range classification used in Alberta.

LFH – Litter, Fermenting, Humic. This stands for the layers of organic material that general exist on the forest floor, from the surface (litter) down to the humic, which is the layer generally found on top of the underlying mineral soil or rock.

LPT – Life Pro Tip. Slang from Reddit for the layman's version of "best practices."

LTA – Lost Time Accident. An accident or incident that causes an employee to miss productive time from work.

LZ – Landing Zone. A designated landing area for a helicopter. The main LZ is always "Staging." I think most planters refer to helicopter touch-down points on blocks as drop-points.

MD – Municipal District. Often used when describing certain types of communities.

MEC – Mountain Equipment Co-Op. This chain of outdoor clothing and equipment stores is a good source for camping supplies. Their popularity is based upon the quality of the goods that they sell, at a reasonable price and with excellent customer service. Most knowledgeable planters highly prefer MEC to other places like Eddie Bauer and Land's End for outdoor clothing. Other budget-conscious planters usually shop at Value Village or the Salvation Army.

MFZ – Machine Free Zone. Heavy equipment is not allowed in these areas. Frequently used in sensitive environments, ie. alongside creeks, etc.

MIR – Medical Incident Rate. A metric often used in analyzing the effectiveness of safety programs.

MITD – Minimum Inter-Tree Distance. This is the minimum spacing permitted on a contract. Often might be 1.0m, 1.5m, 1.6m, or 2.0m, but can also be other distances.

MODO – Mounds, Donaren. A site prep abbreviation used by quite a few Alberta mills.

MOEX – Mounds, Excavator. A site prep abbreviation used by quite a few Alberta mills.

MOF – Ministry of Forests (British Columbia). This provincial agency regulates licensees throughout the province, and also is responsible for overseeing a fair amount of reforestation contracts in the province.

MOTT – Mounding, Terra Trencher. I think this is a specific type of mounding site prep, sort of like donaren mounding, but I'm not positive.

MPB – Mountain Pine Beetle. A pest which has caused billions of dollars of damage to pine stands throughout western Canada. The pine beetle has been around for centuries, but did not usually cause a big impact on stands in BC and Alberta. However, after about 2000, the MPB population exploded throughout BC, and wiped out a large percentage of pine stands. The problem is migrating eastward into Alberta with about a five to ten year lag time since it really became a problem in BC. Many mills have been targeting pine logging since the problem became widespread, to try to recover a lot of the pine wood before the MPB killed it and it became rotten and useless. If you see large areas of grey/dead trees which look sort of similar to a forest fire, the cause was probably MPB.

MSDS – Material Safety Data Sheet. An MSDS sheet is a document which lists a number of important types of information about a potentially hazardous material. For example, an MSDS sheet might have information about the chemical composition of a substance, its intended use, dangers associated with its use, recommended first aid procedures in case a person accidentally comes into contact with the material, etc. Companies in BC are required to have MSDS sheets on site for all hazardous materials present within the work site. For example, in a planting camp, there will probably be a binder in the first aid tent which has MSDS sheets for items such as gasoline, diesel, propane, kerosene, oven cleaner, bleach, etc. MSDS sheets can be found quite easily on the internet for thousands of different potentially hazardous materials. An MSDS sheet must have been printed within the past three years in order to be considered acceptable. Incidentally, these are now simply referred to just as SDS documents.

MSP – Management System Procedures.

MSP (or MSIP) – Mechanical Site Prep. Any site prep work done by machinery or heavy equipment.

MSSp+a – Minimum Stocking Standard, Preferred & Acceptable. A stocking standard measurement.

MT – “Empty”. An abbreviation seen on some forestry road kilometer markings, to remind vehicles that they are travelling in the “empty” direction (up the mountain, away from the mill).

MTC – Mobile Treatment Center. This is the vehicle on a work site that is designated for use in safety situations or emergencies. Presumably, the MTC will contain the first aid equipment and have room to accommodate a stretcher for transportation of seriously injured workers. Often called an ETV, for Emergency Transport Vehicle.

MWD – Modified Work Duty. When a planter is injured in the workplace, perhaps through something accidental (such as a broken foot), or through a “wear and tear” process over time (such as tendonitis), some companies will keep that person on the payroll temporarily on a moderate day-rate, in an effort to give the injury time to heal, and therefore, accommodate the need to bring the employee back to full productive capacity in the most efficient manner possible. Persons on MWD are typically asked to do useful work around the camp or work sites that does not aggravate their injury, but allows them to feel like they are making a positive contribution to productivity of their work group. Modified work duty programs are not a sustainable expense in the reforestation industry, where compensation is based on piece-rate work, but if the system is not abused by employees, it can be an effective way of retaining the strength of the work-force in the long term, and building employee loyalty.

NAR – Net Area to Reforest.

NCC – Non Clear Cut. An area, on a clear-cut block, which was not clear-cut.

NCW – Non Classified Wetlands. A common mapping designation in western Canada.

NGR – Next Generation Reforestation. One of the few planting companies that is usually referred to by its initials.

NMSP – No Mechanical Site Preparation. This means that an area has not been treated, and is therefore “raw” or “plant as is” ground.

NP – Non Productive. Land which is not productive, such as swamp or rock.

NPBr – Non Productive Brush. Non-productive land which is covered in brush.

NSR – Not Satisfactorily Restocked. Also called Not Sufficiently Reforested.

OGR – Operating Ground Rules. Another set of rules governing what is to be done and what is not to be done when performing work activities.

OHS – Occupational Health & Safety. Relates to health, safety, and welfare issues within a workplace.

OHV – Off Highway Vehicle. A vehicle that doesn't need pavement. Includes things such as quads, four-wheelers, but also larger multi-seat ATV's, and larger equipment like rolligons, haglunds, etc.

OPD – Overflow Protection Device. An example would be a spit valve on a propane tank, which prevents the tank from becoming over-filled and exploding.

OTR – Option To Renew. When a publicly tendered contract is issued for a single year, but may be renewed for an additional year (or more) without being publicly tendered again, so long as both parties agree to renew.

PAI – Plant As Is. This means the same as NMSP (no method of site preparation). The area has not been treated or site prepped in any way, therefore, it is to be planted as you find it.

PAL – Possession and Acquisition License. The current name for the Canadian license for persons who are permitted to buy/sell/use firearms.

PB – Personal Best. Some sort of personal record, such as “most trees in a day” or “fastest box” or “biggest money day.”

PBJ – Peanut Butter & Jelly. You know this from childhood, but you still might be making PBJ's (peanut butter & jelly sandwiches) for lunch occasionally.

PCT – Plug Copper Treated. A seedling plug which is grown in a styroblock which has been treated with a copper-containing compound that affects the way the roots developed. Effectively, this results in chemical root pruning.

PCT – Pre-Commercial Thinning. A stand management technique whereby semi-mature trees are cut out of the stand in order to leave more spacing for remaining crop trees. This allows the remaining trees to mature with better wood volumes. With pre-commercial thinning, the fibre is generally salvaged and used (perhaps sold for pulp), as opposed to a juvenile spacing program where cut trees are simply left where they are to decompose.

PDR – Petroleum Development Road. A bush road, sometimes used jointly as a forestry road, but built and actually owned by an oil & gas company. They own the rights to the road, which is a private road, and other users need permission to drive on the road.

PE% – Percentage Excess. A measurement in quality assessment systems in western Canada. This represents an estimate of how many excess trees occurred in a plantation, measured as a percentage of the overall planting total in the plantation.

PHSP – Pre-Harvest Silviculture Plan. Before a block is even cut, a PHSP is written up, which details all activities to be carried out on the block, from the period before harvest to the eventual attainment of “free-to-grow” status many years after logging. Once the designated forester for the region is satisfied with the terms and plans outlined in the PHSP, he/she will sign off on it, and the harvesting and reforestation process is allowed to begin. For planters, the important thing to note is that the PHSP will contain information about planned reforestation of the block, such as species and density prescriptions, etc. These items may sometimes be amended during the planting process, depending on conditions and approval of changes by the forester.

PITA – Pain In The Ass. Self-explanatory.

PLRP – Plow, Ripper. A type of site prep where a tooth, wedge, or blade is dragged behind a piece of heavy equipment to create “rips” across the block. This is somewhat similar to disc-trenching, although rips are usually (but not always) less deep and less defined than trenches.

PM – Project Manager. A person in charge of a planting project. Sometimes equivalent to a camp supervisor, sometimes higher in the chain of hierarchy. In some companies, they are referred to as Project Coordinators.

PNG – Persona Non Grata. A person who is not welcome, ie. “James got PNG’d from being allowed to come back to camp this year, because his quality was so poor last year.”

POC – Point Of Commencement. The starting point for a series of plots on a block. I’ve also seen this referred to as the Point Of Control and the Point Of Center.

PP% – Percentage Payment. A measurement in quality assessment systems in western Canada. This represents the recommended payment percentage for a plantation, as derived from a formula based upon the PQ% of the block.

PPE – Personal Protective Equipment. This refers to personal safety items such as hard hats, quad helmets, steel-toed boots, safety glasses, high-visibility vests, sunscreen, etc.

PQ% – Percentage Quality. A measurement in quality assessment systems in western Canada. This represents an estimate of what percentage of trees on a block were planted with acceptable quality.

PRP – Plot Reference Point.

PSB – Plug Styroblock. A type of container (plug) seedling which is grown in styroblocks. Sizes are listed as a three digit number, with the first digit representing the plug width in centimeters, and the next two digits representing the plug length in centimeters. For example, a 415 PSB plug would be 4 centimeters wide and 15 centimeters long.

PSP – Permanent Sample Plot. A special type of plot, registered with the government, which is assessed repeatedly at intervals of several years, to study very long-term growth data. This type of plot is usually much larger than a quality plot taken during planting. A typical PSP may be circular or square, and may contain hundreds of trees of various species. These trees will be categorized and measured repeatedly, perhaps once every five to seven years, but the PSP will be an “actively” sampled area for many decades.

PTT – Push To Talk. The microphones on the headsets in some helicopters are not voice-activated (VOX) and in order for other people in the helicopter to hear you, you must hold a button that activates your microphone. Sometimes, this is on the cord of the headset, and sometimes it is within the frame of the helicopter, usually a few inches away from the jack that your headset is plugged into. Also, any conversation on the headsets within the helicopter is not broadcast outside the machine. Usually, the only passenger who is able to talk to people on the ground is the person riding in the front seat. The pilot will usually point out a switch or button on the control panel of the helicopter that lets this person’s speech be broadcast outside the machine, rather than just to the other headsets inside. This button/switch is usually labelled PTT, but don’t start pressing buttons on the control panel without asking the pilot first.

PU – Planting Unit. A map designation to delineate a specific area of a block for planting.

PV – Personal Vehicle. A car, truck, van, or SUV owned personally by a planter.

PW – Plant Wizard. A software package commonly used in reforestation, that facilitates tracking of seedling orders, deliveries, block allocations, plot databases, and similar information.

QC – Quality Control. Self-explanatory.

RCO – Coast Forest Region. The official BC provincial designation for the coastal areas (head office in Nanaimo).

RCP – Radio Call Point. A sign on a radio-controlled logging road that indicates the driver must call their location.

RGD – Regen Delay Date. The date by which a block must pass official regen surveys.

RMA – Riparian Management Area.

RMZ – Riparian Management Zone.

RNI – Northern Interior Forest Region. The official BC provincial designation for the Northern Interior (head office in Prince George).

RODE – Road, Deactivated. A site prep abbreviation used in some regions.

ROPS – Rollover Protection System. A system or structure intended to protect tractor and heavy equipment operators from injuries caused by vehicle overturns or rollovers.

ROW – Right of Way. Self-explanatory.

RSI – Southern Interior Forest Region. The official BC provincial designation for the Southern Interior (head office in Kamloops).

RTC – Rapid Transport Category. A first aid acronym referring to a patient/victim who is in the most serious treatment category (potentially fatal injuries/condition). The patient needs to be transported to a proper medical facility as quickly as possible in order to increase the chance of survival.

Rx – Receive. This abbreviation came from Morse Code telegraph shorthand.

S-100. A type of basic wildfire suppression training certification.

SA – Sub-Alpine. An elevation range classification used in Alberta.

SAR – Species At Risk. Any species of plant or animal that is endangered.

SDS – Safety Data Sheet. A more modern name for a Material Safety Data Sheet, as per the Global Harmonized System (GHS) for classification and labelling of chemicals.

SFI – Sustainable Forestry Initiative. This is an American initiative, sort of a system of standards similar to the ISO standards.

SFM Plan – Sustainable Forestry Management Plan. This is a document or plan that a forestry company might adapt to guide their operating practices, with the goal of long-term sustainability of their operations.

SIN – Social Insurance Number. The Canadian social insurance tracking number, unique to all individuals. All persons employed in Canada must legally be in possession of a valid SIN. This nine digit number can also be assigned to foreigners with temporary work visas. Typically, SIN numbers for this category of worker begin with the number 9.

SOP – Standard Operating Procedure. A lot of corporations will designate a list of SOP's for various activities. As an example, if you're refueling a quad in the field, a few of the SOP's might be to check that there is a fire extinguisher on the quad, and ensuring that you are more than 100m from any running water, before starting to transfer fuel into the quad.

SP – Site Preparation. The method of site preparation for a block.

SP – Silviculture Prescription. The document outlining the forester's assessment of reforestation requirements for a block.

SPE – Safety and Performance Evaluation. A review of an employee's on-the-job performance with respect to following safety protocols, and other performance measures.

SPF – Spruce Pine Fir. A generic designation for some dimensional lumber.

SPFN – Site Prep For Naturals. Site preparation that is designed to enhance the number of germinants coming up from seeds in cones on the block.

SPH – Stems Per Hectare. An estimate of the average number of living trees per hectare in an defined area. This is usually either determined statistically through surveys, or sometimes estimated when "accurate" numbers are not required.

SR – Satisfactorily Restocked. An area that has been satisfactorily restocked.

SRD – Sustainable Resource Development. Alberta's provincial forestry government branch.

SSV – Side-by-Side Vehicle. A type of all-terrain vehicle which allows more than one person to ride together in some sort of bench seating arrangement.

STARS – Severe Trauma Air Response Service. This is the Alberta Air Ambulance service.

SU – Silviculture Unit. A mapping designation.

SU – Stocking Unit. Another mapping designation. Yeah, this gets confusing.

SWP – Safe Work Procedure. Another safety acronym.

SxS – Side By Side. This refers to a special type of ATV that has a roll bar/cage, and is allowed to carry passengers. There are tons of different styles available, but I'm most familiar with the Honda "Big Red" side-by-sides, which typically seat a driver, a front seat passenger, and three in the bench back seat. It's possible to pull out the driver's seat and the front passenger seat, and replace them

with a bench seat, which allows the ATV to carry a total of six people including the driver. This makes it a much better transportation fit with the crew cabs which are in common use in our industry. The name “Side-by-Side” refers to the fact that people can sit beside each other, rather than a passenger piggybacking [illegally] on a normal quad.

SYP – Southern Yellow Pine. More of an American lumber reference than anything else.

TD1 – Tax Declaration Form 1. This form is filled out by all employees in Canada once per year, to determine taxation status on employment earnings. Full-time workers in companies that offer year-round employment often neglect to have employees re-submit forms on an annual basis, but in planting companies with seasonal work, you’ll probably have to fill one of these out for every company that you work for (unless you work as a sub-contractor).

TEK – Traditional Ecological Knowledge. The accumulated body of knowledge and practices pertaining to relationships between living entities in any specific ecosystem. Indigenous peoples build upon this evolving ecological knowledge, and pass it down from generation to generation.

TFL – Tree Farm License. A tree farm license (TFL) is a license a company can purchase from the government to gain forest management rights to a selected area of crown land for a period of 25 years, which includes exclusive harvesting rights. The owner of a TFL is responsible for resource inventories, operational and strategic planning, reforestation, and road building.

TIL – Today I Learned. Slang from Reddit, used to indicate a “light bulb moment” or newly learned and interesting information.

TITD – Target Inter-Tree Distance. This is a specific calculation/definition of the average spacing needed to attain the correct density on a block or contract. For example, if the prescribed density is 1400 stems/Ha, the TITD (average spacing) needs to be 2.9m between trees. This is more commonly called the “Contract Spacing.”

TSL – Timber Sale License. This grants the right to harvest timber from a specified area of Crown land within a timber supply authority or TFL area. This is mostly performed by Small Business Forest Enterprise Program (SBFEP) participants. The Ministry of Forests is responsible for operational planning, road building, and reforestation on timber supply authority sold under the SBFEP. The Licensee must maintain the manufacturing facility if required in the original license. Typically lasts for anywhere from six months to five or ten years, mostly non-replaceable. Typically used by small to medium sized operations.

TSS – Target Stocking Standards. The number of well-spaced preferred and acceptable trees per hectare that will produce a free-growing crop.

TU – Treatment Unit. If there are various types of site preparation used on a block, they may be designated as being different Treatment Units on a block. For example, a block might have a TU1, which is excavator mounding intended to be planted at 1200 stems/Ha, and TU2, which is disc trenching intended to be planted at 2000 stems/Ha.

Tx – Transmission. This abbreviation came from Morse Code telegraph shorthand.

UF – Upper Foothills. An elevation range classification used in Alberta.

UNDRIP – United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. A universal framework of minimum standards relating to the survival, dignity, and well-being of the indigenous peoples of the world. This framework was adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2007.

UTM – Universal Transverse Mercator. Used for location references. The Universal Transverse Mercator is an international plane (rectangular) coordinate system developed by the U.S. Army. The UTM divides the world into 60 zones of 6 degrees longitude. Each zone extends 3 degrees east and west from its central meridian and are numbered consecutively west to east from the 180-degree meridian. Transverse Mercator projections may then be applied to each zone.

UTV – Utility Terrain Vehicle. Basically, another type of ATV or All Terrain Vehicle. I think that people generally think of more rugged work vehicles (such as side-by-sides) when they think of UTV's, and ATV's are more commonly thought of as recreational vehicles. But of course, the tree planting industry uses ATV's quite extensively too.

WCB – Workers' Compensation Board. The former name for the provincial government regulatory agencies that protect the rights of all employees in the province in terms of health and safety issues. Persons considered to be employees are eligible for workers' compensation under the appropriate conditions, if an injury occurs, whereas sub-contractors usually are not eligible. In BC, this agency is now known as WorkSafe BC. Alberta and Nova Scotia still refer to their organizations as the WCB.

WEK – Western Ecological Knowledge. Ecological knowledge gathered by non-indigenous persons, usually based on scientific data or study.

WHMIS – Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System. A federal labelling and management system for hazardous materials.

WOG – Work Order Guidelines. Suggested steps for performing certain types of tasks.

WOI – Work Order Instructions. Mandatory/required steps for performing certain types of tasks.

WS – Wide Spacing. An abbreviation usually found on plot card comments.

WS – Well Spaced. Refers to crop trees which are of sufficient inter-tree distance to be considered valid for silviculture stocking surveys.

WSBC – WorkSafeBC. This is the BC WorkSafe organization. Other provinces have their own provincial WorkSafe organizations, although most provinces have different names. Alberta and Nova Scotia still refer to their organizations as the Workers' Compensation Board (WCB). Ontario calls their organization the Workplace Safety & Insurance Board (WSIB). BC and Saskatchewan and New Brunswick have all switched to WorkSafe.

WTP – Wildlife Tree Patch. This is often seen on block maps where a patch of the block is shaded in, and it refers to a stand that has been purposely avoided during harvest to allow for a varied ecosystem for animals, birds, and insects.

Wx – Weather. This abbreviation came from Morse Code telegraph shorthand.

Tree Species Abbreviations

These abbreviations are usually based upon the Latin names of each species. They're usually fairly easy to figure out, you just have to reverse the order of the words in the species name. Technically speaking, only the first letter is usually capitalized, although you'll often see them in all-caps on the stickers on the side of tree boxes, or on shipment invoices.

Act – Black Cottonwood.

At – Trembling Aspen.

Ba – Amabilis Fir.

Bg – Grand Fir.

Cw – Western Red Cedar.

Dr – Red Alder.

Ep – Paper Birch.

Fd – Douglas Fir (generic).

Fdc – Douglas Fir (coastal).

Fdi – Douglas Fir (interior).

Hm – Mountain Hemlock.

Hw – Western Hemlock.

Lt – Tamarack.

Lw – Western Larch.

Mb – Bigleaf Maple.

Pa – Whitebark Pine.

Pl – Lodgepole Pine (generic).

Plc – Lodgepole Pine (coastal).

Pli – Lodgepole Pine (interior).

Pw – Western White Pine.
Py – Yellow Pine.
Sb – Black Spruce.
Se – Engleman Spruce.
Ss – Sitka Spruce.
Sw – White Spruce.
Sx – Hybrid Spruce.
Yc – Yellow Cedar.

Biogeoclimatic Zones of British Columbia

The Biogeoclimatic Ecosystem Classification (BEC) system used in BC consists of the following fourteen classifications:

AT – Alpine Tundra
SWB – Spruce Willow Birch
BWBS – Boreal Black and White Spruce
SBPS – Sub-Boreal Pine-Spruce
SBS – Sub-Boreal Spruce
MH – Mountain Hemlock
ESSF – Englemann Spruce Subalpine Fir
MS – Montane Spruce
BG – Bunchgrass
PP – Ponderosa Pine
IDF – Interior Douglas Fir
CDF – Coastal Douglas Fir
ICH – Interior Cedar Hemlock
CWH – Coastal Western Hemlock

For more information about this system, refer to the following two links:

<http://cfcg.forestry.ubc.ca/resources/cataloguing-in-situ-genetic-resources/about-bec-and-bgc-units/>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biogeoclimatic_zones_of_British_Columbia

BC Timber Sales Business Areas

You may recognize some of these abbreviations from being in the middle of request keys on box-end stickers.

TBA – **Babine Timber Sales Office.** Covers Burns Lake, Houston, Smithers.

TCC – **Cariboo/Chilcotin Timber Sales Office.** Covers Williams Lake, Quesnel.

TCH – Chinook Timber Sales Office. Covers Chilliwack, Queen Charlotte City.
TKA – Kamloops Timber Sales Office. Covers Kamloops, 100 Mile House, Clearwater, Merritt.
TKO – Kootenay Timber Sales Office. Covers Nelson, Castlegar, Cranbrook, Grand Forks.
TOC – Okanagan/Columbia Timber Sales Office. Covers Vernon, Revelstoke.
TPL – Peace/Liard Timber Sales Office. Covers Dawson Creek, Fort Nelson, Fort St. John.
TPG – Prince George Timber Sales Office. Covers Prince George, Mackenzie.
TST – Seaward/Tlasta Timber Sales Office. Port McNeill, Price Rupert.
TSK – Skeena Timber Sales Office. Covers Terrace, Hazelton.
TSG – Strait of George Timber Sales Office. Covers Campbell River, Port Alberni, Powell River.
TSN – Stuart/Nechako Timber Sales Office. Covers Vanderhoof, Fort St. James.

BC Forest Region and District Boundaries

Southern Interior Forest Region (headquartered in Kamloops):

DMH – 100 Mile House Forest District. Covers 100 Mile House.
DAB – Arrow Boundary Forest District. Covers Castlegar, Grand Forks, Nakusp.
DCS – Cascades Forest District. Covers Merritt, Lillooet, Princeton.
DCC – Central Cariboo Forest District. Covers Williams Lake, Horsefly, Likely.
DCH – Chilcotin Forest District. Covers Alexis Creek.
DCO – Columbia Forest District. Covers Revelstoke, Golden.
DHW – Headwaters Forest District. Covers Clearwater, McBride.
DKA – Kamloops Forest District. Covers Kamloops.
DKL – Kootenay Lake Forest District. Covers Nelson.
DOS – Okanagan Shuswap Forest District. Covers Vernon, Penticton, Salmon Arm.
DQU – Quesnel Forest District. Covers Quesnel.
DRM – Rocky Mountain Forest District. Covers Cranbrook, Invermere.

Northern Interior Forest Region (headquartered in Prince George):

DFN – Fort Nelson Forest District. Covers Fort Nelson.
DJA – Fort St. James Forest District. Covers Fort St. James.
DKM – Kalum Forest District. Covers Terrace.
DMK – Mackenzie Forest District. Covers Mackenzie.
DND – Nadina Forest District. Covers Burns Lake, Houston.
DPC – Peace Forest District. Covers Dawson Creek, Fort St. John.
DPG – Prince George Forest District. Covers Prince George.
DSS – Skeena Stikine Forest District. Covers Smithers, Dease Lake, Hazelton.
DVA – Vanderhoof Forest District. Covers Vanderhoof.

Coast Forest Region (headquartered in Nanaimo):

DCR – Campbell River Forest District. Covers Campbell River.
DCK – Chilliwack Forest District. Covers Chilliwack.
DNC – North Coast Forest District. Covers Prince Rupert.
DIC – North Island Central Coast Forest District. Covers Port McNeill, Hagensborg.
DQC – Queen Charlotte Islands Forest District. Covers Queen Charlotte City.
DSI – South Island Forest District. Covers Port Alberni, Duncan.
DSQ – Squamish Forest District. Covers Squamish.
DSC – Sunshine Coast Forest District. Covers Powell River, Sechelt.

Conclusions

An excellent additional reference for forestry and silviculture related terms, in case you can't find a specific definition above, is at the Ministry of Forestry website's glossary page, found at <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfd/library/documents/glossary>