

# Prince Albert FMA Forest Management Planning Process

## Core Planning Team Meeting Minutes for Apr 15, 2014

**Location:** Forest Service – Birch Room and Conf Call

**Time:** 1:00 – 5 pm

Chris Brown, Forest Service

Dave Knight, Sakâw

Michelle Young, Tolko

Shawn Miesner, Carrier Forest Products

Pat Mackasey, Forest Service

Cam Brown, Forsite (Minutes Author)

Xianhua Kong, Forest Service

Garnet Mierau, Forsite

Dave Harman, Paper Excellence

Paul Orser, Paper Excellence

### Minutes:

1. Review of Past Action Items
  - a. Cam still to update Volume 1 document and send to Pat.
  - b. Pat indicated that Perry Vermett would like to be part of the planning team as a independent operator rep. **Dave** was to contact him to attend PAG meetings. **Pat** was also to contact him.
2. PAG
  - a. Info was distributed to PAG on riparian issues and Shawn/Rod have prepared a set of notes for the next PAG meeting (April 30<sup>th</sup>) which will have a riparian discussion as an agenda item. **Dave** was asked to distribute these notes to this group. He indicated that the riparian concerns may be more linked to visual concerns than riparian values.
  - b. Susan Carr has agreed to be the PAG facilitator and the number of people looking to attend the group is increasing.
3. Volume 1
  - a. **Cam** to make suggested edits and resubmit.
4. Planning File / Assumptions Document
  - a. Planning file is approved.
  - b. Modeling assumptions document is still undergoing review by govt. The issues noticed to date are: minimum harvest ages seem young, more than one set of MU's, potentially low pulp volumes. **Pat/Xianhau** to provide detailed comments in the coming weeks.
5. Growth and Yield report
  - a. All edits stemming from the review have been submitted to Phil. Approval pending.
6. Initial Modeling Results
  - a. Cam presented modeling results for a scenario in which the net landbase was used to schedule harvesting but no other constraints were applied. Issues like riparian mgmt, and in-block retention were included but old growth retention was not.
  - b. The point of the runs was to illustrate the range of options for harvest flows in the short term and their consequences on long term flow, losses to succession, and age class

structures. In general, the existing age class structure is older than it will be in the future and the associated volume on the landbase can support higher levels of harvest in the short term without impacting long term harvest levels (in fact it improves it). **Key graphs shown are provided at the end of this document.**

- c. A high initial flow and a non-declining flow were shown.
- d. Initial impacts of applying old growth retention targets showed higher levels of impact on the hardwood cut. This is likely due to the shorter lifespan of these stands and the need to continually recruit younger stands to fill the voids left by older stands as they go through succession.
- e. Additional scenarios were discussed:
  - i. Controlling piece size and/or minimum harvest age (related)
  - ii. Increasing managed stand yields as a result of site index shift, density control, less regen delay, and planting seed from plus trees.
  - iii. Rigid patch size requirements
  - iv. Extended breakup ages
  - v. Prevent any stand type transitions to hardwood

#### 7. VOITS

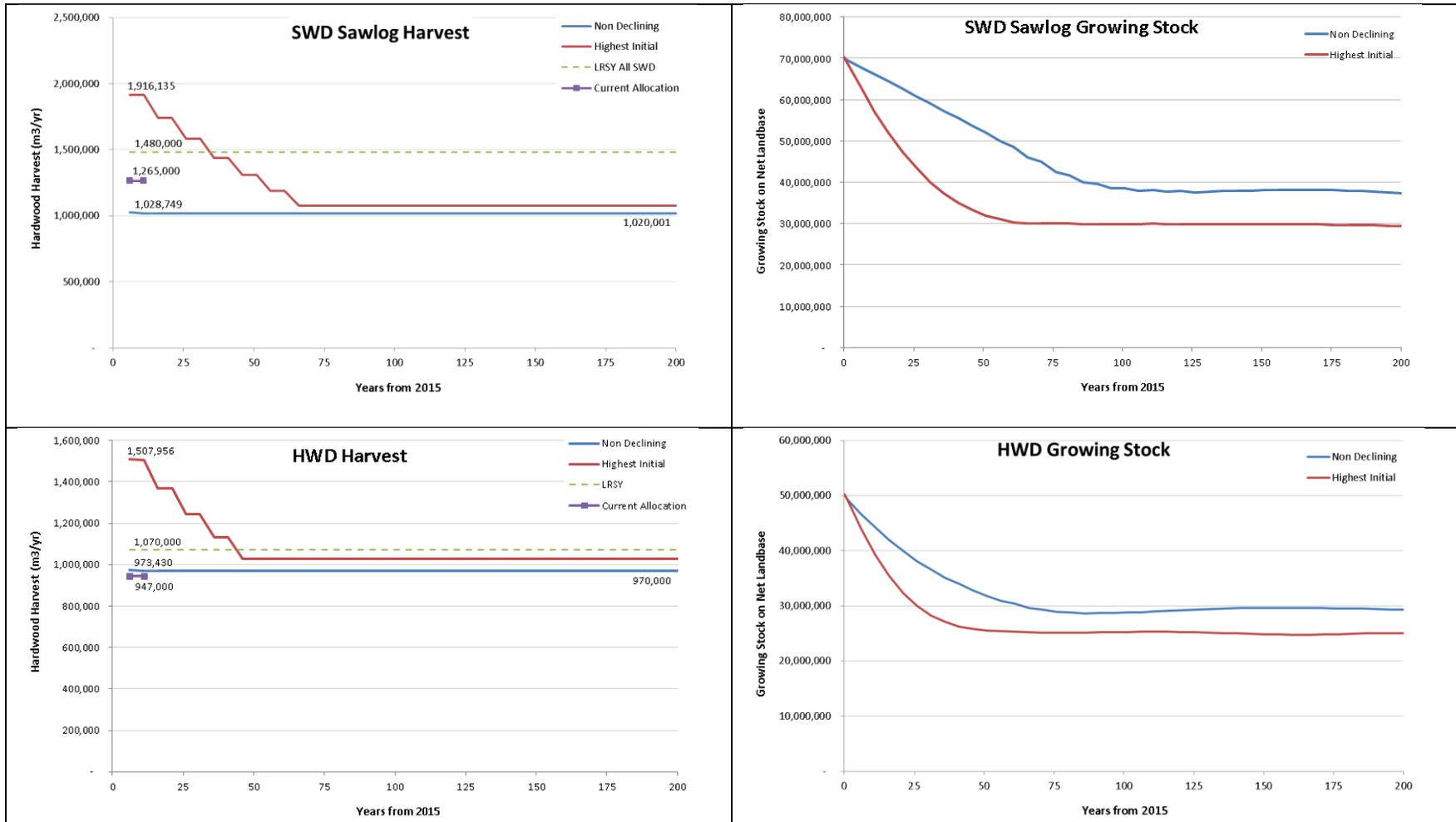
- a. Change #3 to focus on regen of softwood type as per NFP doc. Intent is to follow SGR's. Reporting to occur annually but be assessed at 5 years.
- b. Interior Old #5 need to have a target proposed based on current condition and expected outcomes from harvesting over time (from model) Could use spatial allocation of these areas in tactical plan to shown compliance.
- c. Change event sizes (#6) to use the size buckets/%'s in the model but treat it as a reporting VOIT only (non for compliance).
- d. Indicate for all VOITS whether they are for compliance or simply reporting

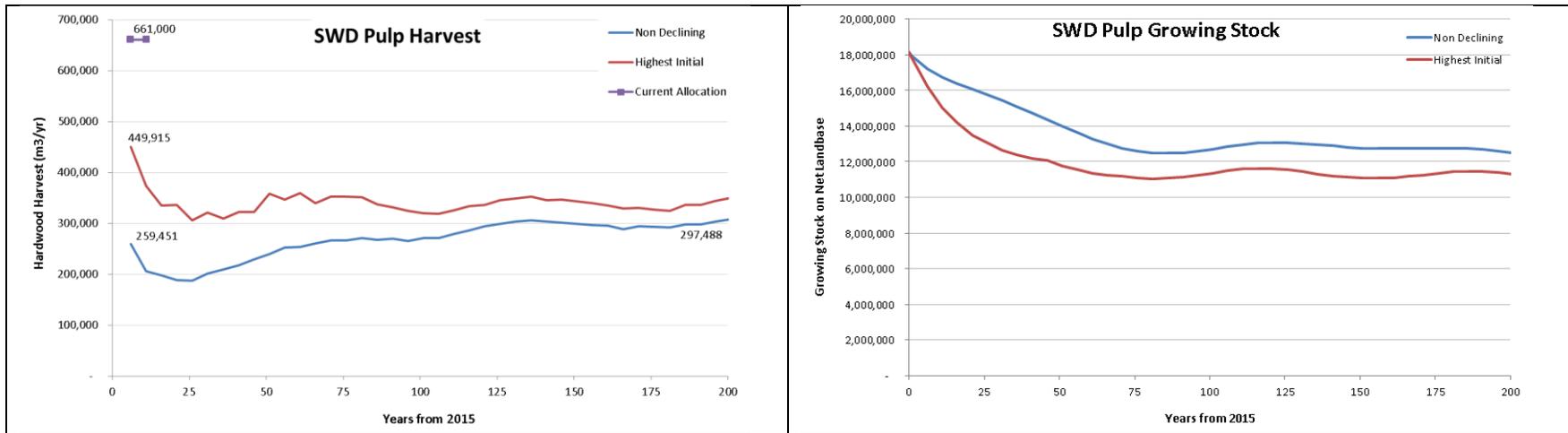
#### **Subsequent meetings** (to be sent out as outlook meeting requests):

Wed May 14, 2014 (930am at Forest Service)  
Wed June 18, 2014 (930am at Forest Service)

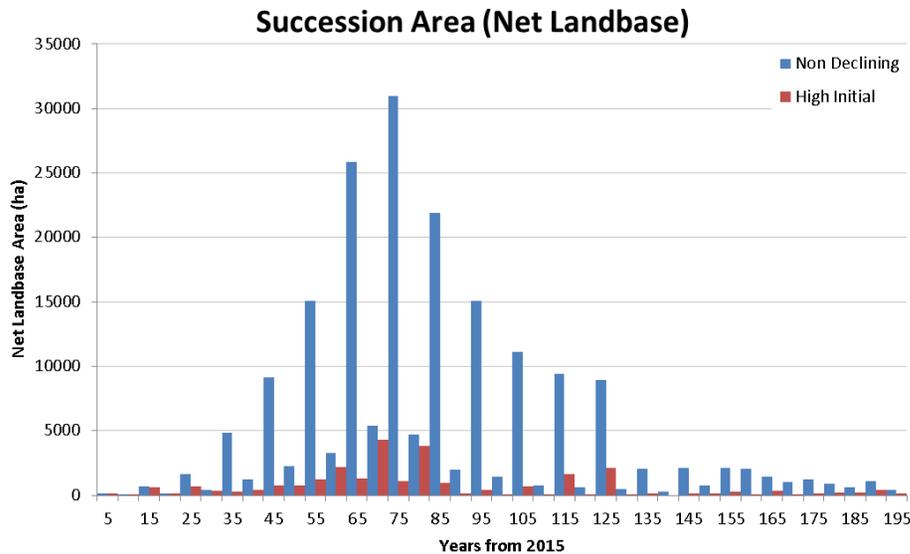
## Initial Timber Supply Modeling Results (April 15, 2014)

Reflects harvesting on net landbase with no additional constraints (i.e. only landbase issues like riparian, cabin buffers, steep slopes, stand level retention included). These runs are meant only to illustrate the tradeoffs between harvest flow choices (non declining vs setup down) and their implications on succession rates. [FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY]





Long term harvest levels were set based on achieving a flat long term growing stock (growth = harvest). Merch growing stock (old enough to harvest) shows a similar trend in the long term but shows a much larger reduction relative to its starting condition.



Graphs show that if an increased harvest level is used in the short term, it is able to capture significant volumes that would otherwise be lost to succession/old age or disturbance. There is no negative consequences from this flow in the long term—in fact the long term harvest is actually higher in a 200 year window.

Full run details for each scenario will be posted to a private project website shortly.