

**Prince Albert FMA  
Forest Management Planning Process**

**Core Planning Team Meeting Minutes for Dec 17, 2014**

**Location:** Forest Service – Birch Room

**Time:** 9:30 – 1230

Pat Mackasey, Forest Service	Rod Pshebnicki, MLOSB
Dave Knight, Carrier (partial attendance)	Doug Braybrook, Edgewood
Shawn Meisner, Carrier (phone)	Narayan Dhital, Forest Service
Darryl Sande, Forsite	Cam Brown, Forsite (Minutes Author)
Xianhua Kong, Forest Service	

**Minutes:**

1. Review of Past Action Items:
  - **Cam** to develop a map showing caribou habitat ratings, actual caribou population use, and old/very old stand retention areas so that planners can assess where these deferral areas might be located – waiting for caribou map – waiting for **Bob's** approval.
  - **Pat** to get Development Report (G&Y) approved
  - All other past action items were addressed.
2. Tactical Plan Issues
  - a. Updated Old seral retention planning tools presented by Cam. Planners are working on finalizing the old seral reserves. High value areas such as Lather Creek/Lake where walleye spawning occurs are good candidates.
  - b. Cam sent Bob an email requesting the option of using an objective based Tactical Plan in place of a hard spatial one with deviation limits. No reply received to date.
3. Timelines
  - a. Working to get modeling and tactical plan done by end of Feb 2015 but still need **Pat/Dave L** to get Development Report approved.
  - b. Forest estate modeling report to be submitted by the end of March (reviewed by FS in April-May)
  - c. Forest Estate Modeling outputs produced in Jan (partial) to be included in the AOP roadshow tour week of Jan 19.
  - d. Amended FMP workplan submitted for approval. **Pat** indicated he was going to send some comments on the doc.
  - e. Aiming for Oct 2015 approval by the Minister (to apply retroactively to April 1).
  - f.

#### 4. Forest Estate Modeling

- a. **Cam** to ensure visuals modeling is consistent with modeling assumptions document. Also to add lakes to VSA constraint based on list that **Rod** is compiling and sending to Cam (e.g. Jet Lake). Volume 2 will capture this change.
- b. **Cam** to ensure SGR's are consistent with modeling assumptions that all stands revert to the same stand type – and that no erosions of SWD regeneration is occurring relative to what is assumed in the yield curves.
- c. Min Harvest Ages are going to remain as documented but a sensitivity analysis with older ages will be completed.
- d. Reanalysis threshold is likely to be 10% but **Narayan** has done some work that he will share on fires disturbance levels over the last 60 yrs in the FMA.
- e. **Cam** to confirm if forested areas around exclusions (buffers) are contributing to old forest targets.
- f. Events size targets (patch sizes in model) should be examined to see if it would be more appropriate to increase the amount of small patches (**Cam**).
- g. In-block retention to be modeled at 9% - with a sensitivity looking at a lower percentage where some of the 9% is met with non-merchantable or otherwise reserved stands.
- h. Official comments on these issues are coming ASAP from the Forest Service (**Dave L**) in the Technical Review of Modeling Assumptions document.
- i. Scenarios to be modeled:
  - i. Unconstrained Timber Harvesting
  - ii. NFP Management (Nov 2014 version)
  - iii. NFP Management + Short Term Caribou Exclusions
  - iv. NFP + Caribou + Managed Stand Yield Gains (SWD only +10%)

#### Sensitivity Analysis (Based off of #4 above)

- i. Prov Full Utilization (5 cm top but no TL vol)
- ii. Higher pulp proportion (downgrade a % of small sawlog volume)
- iii. Volume estimates lower/higher by 10%
- iv. Increase MHA's by 10 years
- v. Increase/decrease regen delays (1 yr for Hwd, 2 yrs for Swd)
- vi. Exclusion of stands with high pulp content (consider eastside hwd issue too)
- vii. 4.5% Inblock retention (more flexible definition of what can be used to meet the target)
- viii. H and HS types regen with less SWD volume
- ix. HS shifts to SH, and SH shifted to S types

5. VOITS/FMP Registry

- a. 1999 FMP/EIS approval condition's and commitments were reviewed to determine which ones could be dropped and which would be carried forward in some way into the new plan. **Pat** has been provided a table with Sakaw's recommendations and he is working to respond.
- b. New draft FMP planning standard VOITS were released this week and a meeting to discuss them is occurring on Dec 19. They largely align with our current VOIT package but differences do exist. Pat indicated that if it was a 'performance' based VOIT then it would likely be ok to continue to use ours if the intent was similar. Compliance VOITs were mandatory so we would need to adopt those. However, they are currently draft and may not get finalized before we have to finish the FMP.

6. Caribou

- a. Gigi has provided data to Forest Service so it is now waiting for Bob to approve its release.

**Subsequent meetings:**

Wed Jan 21, 2015 (930am at Forest Service)

Wed Feb 25, 2015 (930am at Forest Service)

Wed Mar 18, 2015 (930am at Forest Service)