

# Prince Albert FMA Forest Management Planning Process

## Core Planning Team Meeting Minutes for Dec 18, 2013

**Location:** Forest Service – Birch Room

**Time:** 9:00 – 12:00pm

Pat Mackasey, Forest Service

Michelle Young, Tolko

Doug Braybrook, Edgewood

Ed Kwiatkowski, Carrier Forest Products

Dave Knight, Sakâw

Cam Brown, Forsite (Minutes Author)

### Minutes:

1. Review of Past Action Items
  - a. All past action times were addressed except for the following:
    - i. **Gigi** to send Forsite the species and habitat definitions to track in FMP (**Pat** coordinating). Gigi has decided that the three species to be modeled will be Caribou, Fisher, and Moose.
    - ii. **Forsite** to finalize A density approach with Forest Service
    - iii. **Forsite** to develop assumptions for blowdown regeneration (talk to Rod and Vicki)
    - iv. **Forsite** to propose threshold value for fire impact reanalysis
2. Volume 1 Document
  - a. Cam to finalize edits and submit to Pat.
  - b. Vicki has asked for a map of NSR areas and an updated data table (as per the FMP standards). It was confirmed again that we do not have this data – only the assignment agreement stats that show 178 ha of NSR. We will have some updated stats and spatial blocks when KBM delivers their survey results in Jan. We will postpone resubmission of the Volume 1 until this data is available.
  - c. A public consultation report is being prepared to accompany the final FMP Volume 1 document but almost no comments were received so it will be short.
3. Netdown
  - a. **Forsite** to confirm that **logged blocks are not being netdown** for ‘non-commercial’ reasons.
  - b. Tolko has confirmed that the **Smoothstone subjective netdown area can now be included in the net landbase** – conversations with the lodge owner indicated that logging was expected in the area at some point.
  - c. Forsite to finalize A density assumptions with Forest Service.
4. Caribou Update
  - a. Bob Wyne’s email of Dec 17, 2013 indicated that the FMP process should move ahead without waiting for a map of woodland caribou management habitat from the province. Caribou specific rules will not be included in Forest Estate modeling under the assumption that modeling the NFP rules will deliver an acceptable HVS – and feedback from Fish and Wildlife staff on caribou issues can occur at the tactical plan stage.
  - b. A map may be ready to support the process in the new year but we do not have to include it in modeling.
  - c. A map of disturbed/undisturbed area was provided by Bob and was used to make the point that planning of new events in heavily disturbed areas would not make the map

worse (path of least resistance from a caribou perspective). Map reflected federal buffering rules (500m) for linear features and any stands under 40 yrs of age.

- d. Cam suggested that an early review of model outputs (tactical plan) by fish and wildlife will be important to ensure that expectations can be met without inclusion of caribou rules in the forest estate model. Some level of preplanning will also be helpful where possible.
  - e. Companies need to show they are managing caribou for certification reasons (existing noncompliance issue exists with a certification process). The plan cannot be silent on caribou so a strategy will need to be part of the FMP Volume 2 document.
  - f. **Cam to email** proposed approach to Sakaw and Bob on how the process might work to get caribou considerations into the tactical plan while also getting a caribou management strategy into the Volume 2.
5. NFP
- a. Old seral – MU's based on grouped ecodistricts was proposed as units for assessing old and very old %'s. No objections were raised but the issue of complexity from overlapping more than one shareholders operating area was raised.
  - b. Event size distributions were examined for the PA FMA (based on current inventory condition). They suggest a large % of harvest should be in large events.
  - c. Bob indicated that he would accept assessing event size distributions at the FMA level (not the MU level) because of the improbability of ever meeting the target distributions on subsets of the landbase. He also indicated that his preference would be starting with a blank slate (not current landbase condition) for compiling event size statistics for future harvesting.
6. SGRs – They are complete and ready for submission to FS. **Forsite to send to Vicki for review.**
7. PAG / Volume 1 Roadshow
- a. Meetings were held the week of Nov 18 in numerous communities but were poorly attended by the public. A PAG meeting was also part of the Prince Albert session.
  - b. Naomi Carrier has declined to participate in the Core Planning Team meetings, but Brad Dahl of the SK Wildlife Association accepted this role.
  - c. Susan Carr is still considering running future PAG meetings.
8. Timeline Update
- a. NFP standards are still being finalized with no firm deadline in place. They are close enough that Sakaw can likely decide on how to fill the holes and move ahead – with the exception of the stand level retention issue (still very open ended).
  - b. FMP Standard meetings have been occurring and are focused on NFP.

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

Wed Jan 22, 2014 (930am at Forest Service)  
Wed Feb 12, 2014 (1-4 pm at Forest Service – Cam to call in)  
Wed Mar 19, 2014 (930 am at Forest Service)  
Wed Apr 16, 2014 (930am at Forest Service)  
Wed May 14, 2014 (930am at Forest Service)  
Wed June 18, 2014 (930am at Forest Service)