

Prince Albert FMA Forest Management Planning Process

Core Planning Team Meeting Minutes for Feb 12, 2014

Location: Forest Service – Birch Room and Conf Call

Time: 1:30 – 3:30pm

Chris Brown, Forest Service

Xianhua Kong, Forest Service

Michelle Young, Tolko

Shawn Miesner, Carrier Forest Products

Dave Knight, Sakâw

Cam Brown, Forsite (Minutes Author)

Pat Mackasey, Forest Service

Minutes:

1. Review of Past Action Items
 - a. All past action times were addressed.
2. Planning File / Netdown
 - a. Review comments on the Planning File were discussed:
 - i. Riparian buffering needs to be updated because current approach assumed a 25m Limited Harvest Zone when it should be 30m for Category 1 features. This now translates into a 17.5m buffer (10m + 25% of 30m). It was also decided that an extra 0.5m would be added to this buffer (and applied to Cat 1 features) to address retention on Cat 2 and 3 features. **Action – use 18m buffer on Cat 1 riparian.**
 - ii. There was a question on my 50 years was assumed for full build out of permanent roads on the FMA. It was felt to be a conservative guess and the group felt it was appropriate.
 - iii. Need to be able to reflect harvesting of HVS (depletions) in the modeling work. Could guess at which areas are going to be logged and put it in the planning file but it was proposed that the model contain a one year period representing 2014 and then a set of 5 year periods representing the FMP term. This will allow the model to easily select the areas to achieve the HVS for 2014 (using the AOP blocks as a starting point – only a subset is needed).
 - iv. Some older fires that are not in the inventory need to be added. **(Forsite to add)**
 - v. TLE's will be left out of the landbase for modeling but are not legally removed from FMA.
 - b. New planning file to be submitted by end of Feb.
3. Volume 1 Document
 - a. Version 3 of the doc and supporting maps have been submitted and are posted on www.sakaw.ca
 - b. Public consultation doc needs to be flushed out to include more of the commentary heard at the public meetings. **Dave/Forsite to add to doc.** (e.g. Cutting too close community, cuts too big, mushrooms, FN traditional use/jobs/compensation) **Pat** to pass along any info he has (i.e. Mushroom comments from Tom Clark)
4. SGR's
 - a. Vicki completed her review and had no issues or concerns (left transitions to modeling assumptions review process).

5. Development Report
 - a. All information submitted to Phil for review.
 - b. Issues such as minimum harvest ages and transitions will be documented in the modeling assumptions report. These were reviewed with the group and no issues were raised with the approach.

6. VOITS
 - a. Ministry (Nadine) starting to focus on these now and will be scheduling meetings. Cam also starting work in parallel. **Cam** to provide example set of VOITS for review for next planning team meeting.
 - b. Pat made it clear that the past FMP approval conditions / commitments should be used for guidance (one of many sources).

7. NFP
 - a. Nadine has NFP draft almost ready to be circulated. To then be finalized after modeling work has provided some feedback.

8. Other
 - a. Indication is that the new code will not be proclaimed until next year.
 - b. Caribou modeling approach to be used in Patchworks was discussed and no issues came forward:
 - i. Goal is to be proactive and guide model harvest areas toward ones that are more likely to be acceptable to F&W when reviewing the tactical plan.
 1. Where possible without impacting HVS, target harvesting into already disturbed areas.
 2. Attempt to maintain older forest in larger patches (>100 ha).

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

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)