

Prince Albert FMA FMP Core Planning Team Meeting

Meeting Minutes for March 28, 2017

Location: Forest Service – Birch Room

Time: 9 – 1100am

Mark Doyle, Forest Service	Nadine Penney, Forest Service
Michelle Young, MLOSB	Amy Slack, Forest Service
Ed Kwiatkowski, Carrier	Tom Perry, MoE
Robert Follett, NorSask	Cam Brown, Forsite (Minutes Author)
Chris Brown, Forest Service	Matthew Burtney, Forest Service

Bold names indicate responsibility of action items.

Minutes:

1. Brief review of FMP timeline since last Planning Team meeting:
 - Jun 2015 - Planning team meeting was held with no additional meetings scheduled. At that time, the expectation was for a draft to be ready by Sept, followed by public meetings that month, and submission of the final Vol 2 document in Nov.
 - Jun 2015 - PAG most recent meeting was held.
 - Oct 2015 – Letter received from Bob Wynes asking for 600,000 m³/yr of pulp to be included in the Preferred Scenario, 300,000 of which to be from dedicated stands. There was also a request to directly address the concern over small wood harvest while the smallwood market on the FMA is limited.
 - FMP Standard revisions/discussion occur through 2016. Sakâw GM does not want to progress the FMP work until the Standard has stabilized, and sends a letter (Sept 15, 2016) to the Exec Director asking for changes to the Standard. Exec Director sends a letter (Sept 20, 2016) stating that the concerns will be addressed after the economic assessment work is completed.
 - Forsite delivers an Economic Assessment of the FMP Standard in late Nov 2016
 - Dec 2016 - Sakâw submits a new Workplan extending the plan approval date to Aug 31, 2017.
 - Jan-Feb 2017 - Timber Supply work looking at meeting the pulp harvest target is initiated. Discussions around utilization levels for sawlogs occur inside Sakaw.
 - Feb 2017 – Scheduled Planning Team meeting is canceled by Sakaw.
 - Mar 2017 – Exec Director sends letter requesting a summary of work completed, work left to be done, and a meeting agenda for the next planning team meeting scheduled for March 29 (subsequently moved to March 28). The letter states that if the new FMP is not completed as per the approved Workplan, the ministry will consider using Article 4 of the Memorandum of Agreement (Default Section) to address the situation (amend, vary, suspend, revoke Allocations).

2. Roles/responsibilities

- a. Mark indicated that FMP work now falls under Dave Stevenson's new group (Planning, Policy, Protection) instead of Dave Linden's group – which still retains the inventory and G&Y tasks. Dave Stevenson will be the signatory on all FMP related documents, with the exception of revisions to Workplans, Terms of Reference and Public Engagement Plan where the Executive Director will remain the signatory
- b. Ian MacIver is no longer Sakaw's GM and the board has asked Cam to lead the FMP work while Diane Roddy will be the primary point of contact for other Sakaw business while they look for Ian's replacement.

3. Update on current status of work

- a. Cam circulated a document listing the tasks that had been completed, those that require updating, and those still incomplete (see end of this document).
- b. In general, Sakaw was very close to submitting the draft plan to government and going out for Public Engagement in 2015 but several issues did not get resolved:
 - i. Concern over the spatial/species distribution targets in the Draft FMP (52 unique area targets for stand types and geographic area). [Note – the FMP standard has now addressed this issue]
 - ii. Concern with the Forest Service's request for a higher pulp volume to be provided. Sakaw felt this was not their responsibility and it had the potential to impact sawlog HVS. [Sakaw is actively exploring options to address this issue.]
 - iii. Concern over the economic impact of the default NFP retention conditions (inblock and old/veryold seral). [Sakaw is actively exploring options to address this issue.]
 - iv. Concern over the economic impact of small piece size wood (min top size utilization standard). [Sakaw is actively exploring options to address this issue.]

4. Outstanding issues / work to complete

- a. **Forsite** to finalize planning inventory changes (fires, harvesting, and growth since 2013).
 - i. Mark indicated that the ministry wants this to occur, because it is undesirable to submit a FMP with an planning inventory that has aged 4 years combined with the fact that the replanning threshold would be less likely to be compromised by disturbance during the FMP term. The 2015 fires were estimated as a 4% impact on the net landbase. Mark indicated that if this work impacts timelines, it is still desirable to do.
- b. **Forsite** to develop a set of yield curves to reflect a 12.5 cm top utilization options for sawlogs.
 - i. Cam is to work with Phil and Lane to come up with an acceptable approach to creating these yield curves. Mark, advised that if periodic shifting of utilization specs was expected to be the norm that new yield

- curves vs adjusting the current set which are based on 10cm top utilization for sawlogs would likely be the only acceptable approach
- ii. Sakâw would like the FMP to reflect both utilization levels so that companies can choose an appropriate utilization level and associated HVS relative to economic conditions and sawmill equipment.
- c. Sakaw to reach an agreement with the Forest Service around approach / rationale for NFP issues:
 - i. Mark indicated that the previously submitted position (Sept 2015 letter) was unlikely to be acceptable without strong rationale.
 - ii. **Cam** is to prepare a proposal for retention targets and a supporting rationale for review. (Inblock retention and Old and Very Old Targets)
 - d. **Mark** to provide clarity around pulp volume requirement from gov't (amount and proportion from whole stands).
 - i. 2015 letter from Bob Wynes say 600,000 m³/yr with 300,000 coming from dedicated pulp stands. A more recent letter from Aaron Kuchika (Sept 20, 2016) says 661,000 m³/yr with no reference to dedicated pulp stands. The existing preferred scenario already provides 340,000 m³/yr of pulp and if the sawlog utilization is moved to a 12.5 cm top, an even larger volume will be available – suggesting 300,000 m³/yr of dedicated stands it too high.
 - ii. Sakaw questioned why any stands need to be dedicated to pulp if a clause is put into the pulp mill's tenure allowing them to log on the landbase if they are unable to acquire sufficient sawmill residuals. It was also suggested that any years the pulp mill is not running (e.g. 2017-2020) will accrue extra volume/stand area that could be used to fill any gaps.
 - e. Sakâw to finalize and get feedback from MoE on Caribou Strategy
 - i. **Cam** to package up and send the Caribou strategy to Tom.
 - ii. **Tom** has agreed to review the current caribou strategy and provide feedback to the planning team within a month.
 - iii. It is possible that the range plan may be available in May or June so there may no longer be a need for an interim strategy, but the group agreed to continue perusing it because the approval timeline for final 'legal' guidance around caribou could still be a long way off.
 - f. **Cam** to finalize VOITS
 - i. Determine what should be used for a caribou habitat VOIT
 - ii. Finalize a harvest distribution area VOIT with Sakâw and bring it to the Planning Team.
 - iii. Update text to reflect new Draft Standard where it makes sense (VOITS as a performance assessment tool vs compliance issue).
 - g. **Forsite** to update timber supply modeling scenarios and update report

- i. Once final assumptions for a preferred scenario are agreed upon, new model runs will be completed to develop HVS's for the two sawlog utilization levels while meeting the pulp requirements.
- ii. **Mark** to confirm whether the pulp requirements are meant to be in the preferred scenario or just in a sensitivity analysis.
- h. **Forsite** to update Tactical Plan to new Draft Standard
 - i. This is expected to be relatively simple as the amount of area encompassed by the tactical plan areas is no longer of significant concern. Thus the existing tactical plan can be generalized and adapted to the new model runs.
 - ii. The development of a spatial set of old/very old seral retention areas will likely need to be redone at this time.
- i. **Forsite/Sakaw** to updated/Finalize FMP Vol 2 text and then complete the Public Review and Comment process.

5. Provincial Baseline Scenarios

- a. Mark/Nadine indicate that Economy would like to see provincial baseline scenarios included in the FMP standard and run for Sakâw. This request will come out as a question with the next release of the FMP standard.
- b. Group did not feel that additional utilization scenarios were of any benefit once the pulp and utilization issues were addressed. In addition, a "Provincial Full Utilization" scenario has already been run and published in the Forest Estate Modeling report (5cm top, tamarack included).

6. PAG / Public Engagement

- a. There has been no interaction with the PAG for over a year so we need to re-engage and determine their willingness to continue as a PAG members. Diane could possibly take over for Susan in this role. **Forsite** to explore options and ensure the PAG is contacted prior to the next planning team meeting.
- b. It would be preferred if we could get a PAG member to attend planning team meeting. **Cam or Michelle** to ask Gord Vaadeland if he will attend.
- c. Public engagement will not be redone for the timber supply work but will be completed one last time for the full FMP product. This will include discussion of the HVS and tactical plan.

7. Timelines / Workplan update

- a. The current workplan contains the following dates:

Deliverable	Submission Date	Response Date
Terms of Reference & Work Plan	March 8, 2013	March 8, 2013 (Approved)
Public Consultation Plan	March 8, 2013	March 8, 2013 (Approved)

Final FMP Volume I	May 6, 2014	Aug 28, 2014 (Approved)
Forest Estate Modeling Report	March 31, 2015	May 31, 2015
Draft FMP Volume II	June 1, 2017	June 30, 2017
Final FMP Volume II	July 15, 2017	July 31, 2017
Minister Approval (Target date)		August 31, 2017

- b. **Cam** is to evaluate the scope of work discussed above and prepare an updated work plan. It appears unlikely that the Draft FMP Vol 2 will be ready for June 1 – more likely by early fall.
- c. Regular Planning Team meetings will be restarted. See meeting schedule for the next several months below. A full slate of meetings to project completion will be outlined in the updated Workplan.

Subsequent meetings:

Wed April 26, 2017 (Birch Room, PA Forest Service Office)

Wed May 31, 2017 (Birch Room, PA Forest Service Office)

Wed July 5, 2017 (Birch Room, PA Forest Service Office)

PA FMA (Sakâw) FMP Status Update
 March 27, 2017

Work Completed to Date:

Phase	Completed?
Terms of Reference	Y
Workplan and Public Consultation Plan	Y (needs updating)
Establishment of a Public Advisory Group (PAG)	Y
FMP Background Information (Volume 1)	
Production of Draft FMP Vol 1 Document	Y
Public Review and Comment	Y
Summary Report on Public Consultation	Y
Finalize FMP Volume 1	Y
Assessing Sustainability:	
Develop Values, Objectives, Indicators, Targets (VOITs)	90% Complete
Silviculture Practices (Ground Rules)	Y (minor edits still)
Silviculture Strategy for Naturally Disturbed Areas	Y
Define Forest Management Strategies (Alternatives to Explore)	Y
Forest Estate Modeling	
Inventory and Net Landbase Development	Completed April 2015 but may now need to be updated for new depletions, new NFP, change in sawlog utilization, and pulpwood HVS requirement.
Growth and Yield Curve Development including Succession	
Modeling Assumptions Development/Documentation	
Modeling Building, Scenario Forecasting, and Results Generation	
Presentation of Results to Planning Team and PAG	
Select Preferred Management Strategy (SMS)	
Tactical Plan Development (Output from Patchworks)	
Forest Estate Modeling Report	
Public Review and Comment (Forest Estate Modeling)	Y
Summary Report on Public Consultation	Y
Forest Management Plan Reporting (Volume 2)	
Highlights of Modeling Report,	A draft Vol 2 is largely written but will need to be updated to reflect issues mentioned above, a new Tactical Plan will need to be developed ('blobs' and old retn areas),
Tactical Plan,	
Integration with Non Timber values,	
Fire/pest/disease management strategies,	
Implementation Plan	
Monitoring Plan Development	
Draft FMP Volume 2 Document Production	
Public Review and Comment (FMP Vol2)	N
Summary Report on Public Consultation	N
Finalize FMP Volume 2	N
Minister of Environment Approval	N