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January 13, 1997

SBFEP
Major Licensees
Woodlot Licensees

Dear Licensee:

Enclosed is a copy of the Lakes Forest District Biodiversity Policy which should be used in deriving objectives for biological diversity within Forest Development Plans and specifically determining retention areas within Silviculture Prescriptions. This Policy serves to establish the landscape units, on an interim basis, as drafted by the LRMP table, set the biodiversity emphasis options and formalize the percentages of cutblock areas required as wildlife tree patches (WTPs).

This policy applies to major licence holders, woodlot licence holders and the Small Business Forest Enterprise Program. It is expected that all silviculture prescription draft and final submissions will meet the requirements outlined in this Policy within 4 months of the approval date.

Please contact my Major Tenures/Woodlot Licence staff with any questions or concerns.

Yours truly,

R. A. Murray

Lakes Forest District

Policy -Biodiversity Guidelines

This policy is developed within the context of Section 41 (1) of the *Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act* and Section 15 (7) of the *Operational Planning Regulation*.

Section 41 (1) of the *Act* states:

- "41(1) The district manager must approve an operational plan or amendment submitted under this Part if
- (a) the plan or amendment was prepared and submitted in accordance with this Act, the regulations and the standards, and
 - (b) the district manager is satisfied that the plan or amendment will adequately manage and conserve the forest resources of the area to which it applies."

and Section 15 (7) (a) of the *Operational Planning Regulation* states:

- "15 (7) A person must ensure that a forest development plan describes, for the area under the plan,
- (a) the actions required to achieve the known landscape level objectives, including any biological diversity objectives "

Policy Statement:

"Through this policy, Lakes Forest District establishes that it is in agreement with the principles of biological diversity as outlined in the objectives and recommendations of the Biodiversity Guidebook (September, 1995). The recommendations will apply to holders of forest licences, holders of woodlot licences and the Small Business Forest Enterprise Program. The district manager will evaluate each operational plan on its' own merits and where circumstances warrant (or under exceptional circumstances) may vary from this policy."

Approved:



District Manager

Date: Jan 10/97

Introduction

The overall biodiversity strategies outlined herein were developed using the Biodiversity Guidebook as the primary reference tool. These procedures and tables will provide guidance to licensees with respect to setting and maintaining biological diversity objectives in their plans and operations. It is imperative that the *Guidebook* be used in conjunction with this Policy. These guidelines will build consistency on a District-wide basis for all tenure holders thereby ensuring that Lakes TSA is managing for the maintenance of proper biodiversity levels.

The Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) table is currently striving for Plan completion by March 31, 1997. After this consensus-based document receives cabinet approval, the District will commence landscape unit planning where objectives such as the biodiversity emphasis option will be fully evaluated and refined. This is a lengthy process and not expected to be complete for some time. In the interim, it is recognized that forest managers must ensure biological diversity is properly maintained.

Lakes Forest District is in agreement with the strategies and recommendations contained within the Guidebook. These will apply to major licence holders, woodlot licence holders and the Small Business Forest Enterprise Program. It is expected that all silviculture prescription draft and final submissions will meet the requirements outlined in this Policy within 4 months of the approval date.

This Policy serves to establish the landscape units, on an interim basis, as drafted by the LRMP table, set the biodiversity emphasis options and formalize the percentages of cutblock areas required as wildlife tree patches (WTPs).

Landscape Units

There are no formally designated landscape units in Lakes Timber Supply Area. However, the LRMP has derived landscape units which will likely remain unchanged as the Plan is finalized and forwarded for final approval. For the purpose of maintaining biodiversity objectives for the time period between now and formal landscape unit designation, these landscape units will be used.

Biodiversity Emphasis Option

With respect to applying biodiversity emphasis options to landscape units, Lakes Forest District is directed by the Biodiversity Guidebook which states "If no landscape unit has been designated for an area, or an emphasis option has not been assigned for a landscape unit, the default is that area is managed using the lower biodiversity emphasis option." **For Lakes TSA, the lower biodiversity emphasis option applies.**

Wildlife Tree Patches

Table 20 (b) of the Biodiversity Guidebook was used in establishing the percentage of cutblock area required as wildlife tree patches for each interim landscape unit. District staff used the following data in deriving information about forest inventory, area harvested and netdowns all required for final calculations toward percentage retention for each landscape unit:

- (1) MOF Forest Inventory Information - prior to 1994
- (2) Major Licensee Silviculture Information System (MLSIS) - 1994 - 1996
- (3) Integrated Silviculture Information System (ISIS) - 1994 - 1996

Appendix 1 of this policy shows the various data requirements used in the calculations and provides summaries of each landscape unit.

Chart 1 on the following page establishes the percentages for each landscape unit.

Chart 2 within Appendix 3 depicts the percentage of WTP requirements within each biogeoclimatic subzone for each landscape unit where landscape units have been designated.

Chart 1 - Percentage of cutblock area required for wildlife tree patch retention within each biogeoclimatic subzone for each landscape unit.

	SBS dk	SBS mc2	ESSF
Fleming	No Logging	9%	9%
Babine West	8%	9%	6%
Babine East	6%	9%	6%
Taltapin	11%	11%	8%
Bulkley	10%	10%	8%
Burns Lake West	9%	9%	6%
Burns Lake East	8%	9%	8%
Francois West	10%	11%	7%
Francois East	10%	9%	-
Cheslatta	9%	9%	-
Ootsa	9%	10%	-
Intata	11%	12%	-
Chelaslie	9%	9%	6%
Tetachuk Entiako	7% SBPS 9% SBS dk	8%	-

Notes on calculating figures:

Figures were interpolated from the Biodiversity Guidebook

The biodiversity figures for wild life tree patches were calculated using a combination of MLSSIS data for the years of 1994 to 1996 and forest inventory information for the years before 1994. Although there may be discrepancies with data between agencies, these are relatively small and will not impact on changes in percentage retention within each unit.

Application of Wildlife Tree Patches into Operational Plans

Forest Development Plans

Each forest development plan should generally discuss biodiversity objectives and outline the percentages which will be retained within logical units (ie. block or cutting permit). The following characteristics should be considered in establishing objectives for maintaining biodiversity:

- seral stage distribution
- temporal and spatial distribution of the cut and leave areas "patch size distribution

- old seral retention and representativeness
- landscape connectivity
- stand structure
- species composition

Silviculture prescriptions

It is expected that the characteristics for maintaining biodiversity as outlined above and on page 11 of the Biodiversity Guidebook (September 1995). These characteristics are explained fully in the Guidebook for each natural disturbance type...(NDT3 is the most prevalent natural disturbance type in Lakes TSA.

The percentage to be retained within each cutblock should be identified within each silviculture prescription. The wildlife tree patch will form part of the gross area under the SP and will be specifically identified as a WTP unit within the Ecology section of each SP. In this way, the percentages can be determined. Where an SP straddles two biogeoclimatic subzones and the percentages differ, the area within each subzone should be summed and the percentage of the BGC subzone that forms the majority of the gross area, applies. As an example if an SP within Francois West Landscape Unit contained 15 hectares of SBSmc2 and 5 hectares of ESSF, 11% would be retained as WTPs.

Similarly, where blocks are transitional to another subzone, retention percentages will reflect the majority subzone. For example, an SBS mc2 block to the ESSF. Thus, percentages for the SBS mc2 would prevail.

The map included with the SPs should depict the WTPs. It is not necessary to traverse or ribbon the WTPs that are adjacent to the cutblock boundaries. However, these areas do become non-harvest zones through their definition and licensees are responsible for ensuring that the areas prescribed as WTPs within the SP remain unharvested and are managed to protect/ensure their integrity through in-block measures.

It is recognized that the terrain and forest cover composition will not always allow for good placement of WTPs on a block-by-block basis. It is also recognized that for landscape level biodiversity, it may be more appropriate to apply the retention percentages over several blocks. For tenure holders, harvesting under cutting permits the WTP percentage may be applied over the cutting permit. For example, in the Intata Landscape Unit in the SBSdk, where a cutting permit containing two blocks was such that one block only allowed for 3% WTP, the gross areas of both blocks could be combined and extra WTP area be added to the second block so that the CP totals the 11% requirement.

For the SBFEP where harvesting typically occurs on a licence-by-licence basis, it may be appropriate to apply the percentage over five adjacent blocks.

For establishing the percentage of area that may be occupied by permanent access structures (Section 39 (2) (n) and (p) of Operational Planning Regulation), the gross area will include that area retained as Wildlife Tree Patches.

Tracking

The Wildlife Tree Patches will be tracked using MLSIS and ISIS. The SP data will be entered by the MOF after approval. MLSIS Form C's and Woodlot Licence Annual Reports will then report the WTPs in the area breakdown (Treatment Unit, Non-productive - Unnatural (NP-UNN)). The MOF FS922 Forms will be used to record WTPs within the SBFEP. The WTPs will also be depicted on the maps with each report submission.

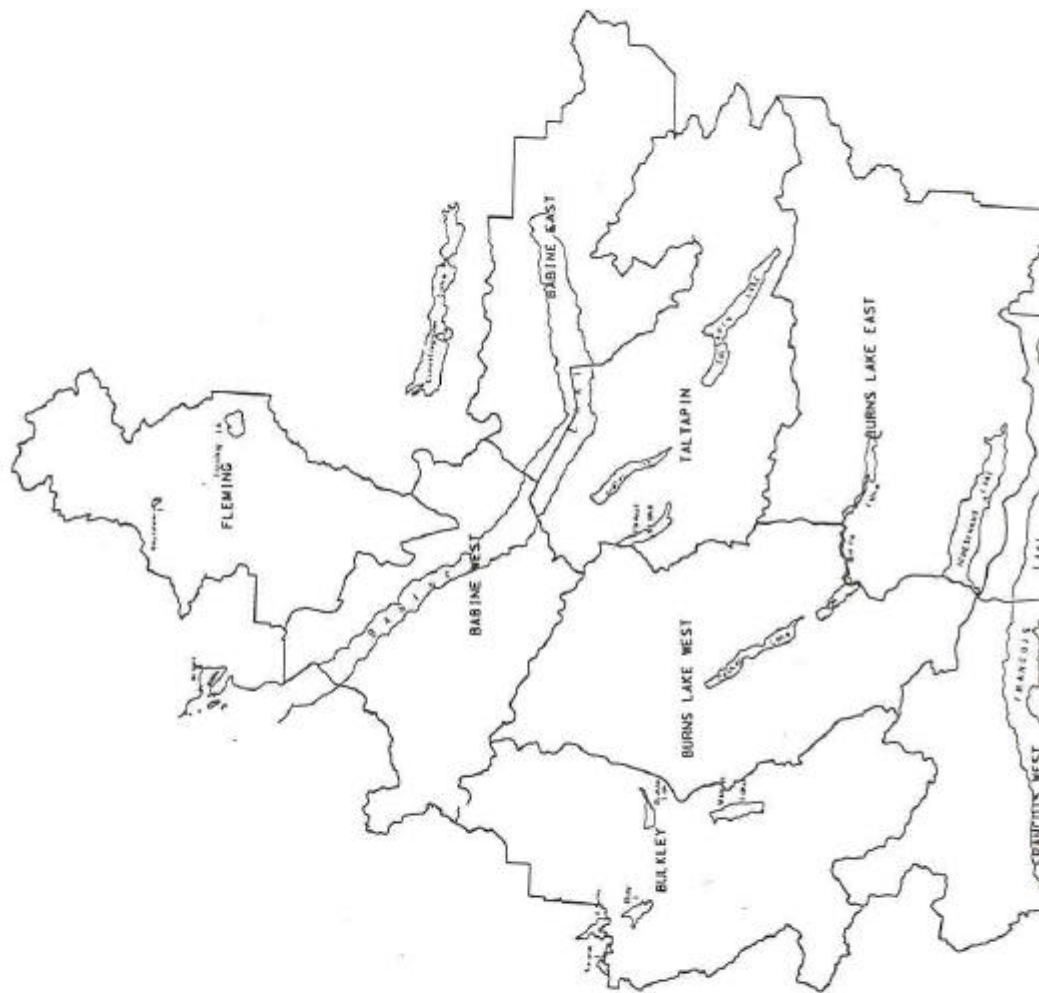
Appendix 1

Calculation and Summary Sheets for Landscape Units

7	BURNS LAKE EAST	585-DA	7479-960	8330-840	42875-040	4186-730	466-930	5936-760	1166-920	1560-600	2847-000	310-3	2837-300	74%	5%
7	BURNS LAKE EAST	585-MC2	25-360	2701-860	38330-360	2683-870	1210-730	877-080	852-560	141-240	4032-120	330-3	4358-420	85%	13%
7	BURNS LAKE EAST	TOTAL SRS	7508-320	11602-960	81136-000	8883-870	1072-640	8893-840	2018-480	1731-920	6889-120		7235-720	77%	11%
7	BURNS LAKE EAST	ESSFrac	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		955-720	74%	12%
7	BURNS LAKE EAST	ESSFrac1	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.000	0.000	0.000
7	BURNS LAKE EAST	ESSFrac2	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.000	0.000	0.000
7	BURNS LAKE EAST	TOTAL ESSF	10454-720	342-760	10104-360	582-240	1368-760	54-810	472-440	0.000	855-720		955-720	76%	12%
8	FRANCOIS WEST	AT	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.000	0.000	0.000
8	FRANCOIS WEST	SBS	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.000	0.000	0.000
8	FRANCOIS WEST	SBS-DR	72459-960	27282-120	18339-480	3081-360	10306-640	3081-000	298-760	19946-320	2528-200	572-2	3498-400	85%	11%
8	FRANCOIS WEST	SBS-MC2	19418-120	245-000	1110-360	549-000	1062-000	680-000	347-000	258-880	2719-440	456-6	3176-040	86%	20%
8	FRANCOIS WEST	TOTAL SRS	91918-080	23112-120	19451-840	5335-130	1579-720	4247-000	545-760	256-760	5645-440		6674-440	86%	14%
8	FRANCOIS WEST	ESSFrac	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		83-320	52%	9%
8	FRANCOIS WEST	ESSFrac1	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.000	0.000	0.000
8	FRANCOIS WEST	ESSFrac2	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.000	0.000	0.000
8	FRANCOIS WEST	TOTAL ESSF	2846-320	0.000	14-240	682-880	6-840	35-400	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.000	93%	0%
9	FRANCOIS EAST	AT	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.000	0.000	0.000
9	FRANCOIS EAST	SBS	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.000	0.000	0.000
9	FRANCOIS EAST	SBS-DR	86559-280	11452-000	19369-400	3978-780	214-690	5420-260	1771-880	1805-560	8873-640	463-2	7137-040	79%	16%
9	FRANCOIS EAST	SBS-MC2	10840-080	45-240	376-840	10418-200	138-880	46-960	778-040	184-920	889-360	142-6	1038-960	81%	12%
9	FRANCOIS EAST	TOTAL SRS	97399-360	11897-240	19748-200	5065-000	353-580	5469-220	2549-920	1991-480	7563-200		8174-000	80%	16%
9	FRANCOIS EAST	ESSFrac	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.000	0.000	0.000
9	FRANCOIS EAST	ESSFrac1	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.000	0.000	0.000
9	FRANCOIS EAST	ESSFrac2	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.000	0.000	0.000
9	FRANCOIS EAST	TOTAL ESSF	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.000	0.000	0.000
1	CHELATIA	AT	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.000	0.000	0.000
1	CHELATIA	SBS	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.000	0.000	0.000
1	CHELATIA	SBS-DR	102614-840	13334-840	14329-360	76988-720	1050-280	1738-320	3128-000	380-880	5505-840	207-8	5777-840	84%	5%
1	CHELATIA	SBS-MC2	17798-080	0.000	16544-180	3048-300	290-040	500-200	0.000	0.000	861-940	710-6	1671-840	77%	13%
1	CHELATIA	TOTAL SRS	120412-920	13334-840	15973-300	82447-800	1380-320	1738-320	3028-400	880-880	6370-880		7449-280	82%	10%
1	CHELATIA	ESSFrac	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.000	0.000	0.000
1	CHELATIA	ESSFrac1	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.000	0.000	0.000
1	CHELATIA	ESSFrac2	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.000	0.000	0.000
1	CHELATIA	TOTAL ESSF	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.000	0.000	0.000
0	DOTSA	AT	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.000	0.000	0.000
0	DOTSA	SBS	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.000	0.000	0.000
0	DOTSA	SBS-DR	27444-320	8122-280	6525-840	14730-260	513-080	1282-080	571-920	450-560	921-520	643-5	1565-420	81%	13%
0	DOTSA	SBS-MC2	3785-880	513-360	2728-120	2963-400	284-120	134-920	0.000	20-960	183-400	287-7	471-100	54%	16%
0	DOTSA	TOTAL SRS	31230-200	8635-640	9283-960	17689-660	542-200	1918-000	571-920	521-520	1103-320		2038-520	83%	12%
0	DOTSA	ESSFrac	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.000	0.000	0.000
0	DOTSA	ESSFrac1	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.000	0.000	0.000
0	DOTSA	ESSFrac2	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.000	0.000	0.000
0	DOTSA	TOTAL ESSF	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.000	0.000	0.000
0	INFATA	AT	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.000	0.000	0.000
0	INFATA	SBS	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.000	0.000	0.000
0	INFATA	SBS-DR	50249-800	1492-680	10983-560	37889-560	1587-840	822-120	2313-040	419-860	7005-400	830-1	7635-560	86%	23%
0	INFATA	SBS-MC2	8222-860	0.000	435-280	7797-480	251-640	0.000	535-880	0.000	1746-840	611-4	2358-240	89%	34%
0	INFATA	TOTAL SRS	58472-660	1492-680	11303-840	45686-240	1839-480	823-120	3154-720	419-860	8752-240		9993-240	86%	23%
0	INFATA	ESSFrac	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.000	0.000	0.000
0	INFATA	ESSFrac1	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.000	0.000	0.000
0	INFATA	ESSFrac2	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.000	0.000	0.000
0	INFATA	TOTAL ESSF	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.000	0.000	0.000
0	CHELASUE	AT	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.000	0.000	0.000
0	CHELASUE	SBS	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.000	0.000	0.000
0	CHELASUE	SBS-DR	76208-160	877-220	15310-840	3077-560	3244-360	1324-360	5509-960	237-240	4724-400	120-6	4345-000	78%	11%
0	CHELASUE	SBS-MC2	34208-320	0.000	2834-540	714-560	2783-460	40-840	4587-840	34-560	1816-280	288-3	2234-560	74%	10%
0	CHELASUE	TOTAL SRS	110412-000	577-320	15205-480	90230-000	3792-120	1265-400	10186-800	271-800	6540-680		7075-560	76%	10%

13 CHEIASUE	ES5fmc	15027.720	0.000	1318.240	13703.480	203.800	5437.440	0.000	1585.280	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	47%	#DIV/0!	0%
13 CHEIASUE	ES5fmv1	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	0%
13 CHEIASUE	ES5fww	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	47%	#DIV/0!	0%
13 CHEIASUE	TOTAL ES5f	15027.720	0.000	1318.240	13703.480	203.800	5437.440	0.000	1585.280	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	47%	#DIV/0!	0%
14 TETACHUK ENTIARQ	AT	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	4%
14 TETACHUK ENTIARQ	SBPS	55159.880	0.000	8925.120	49215.080	1007.840	1554.120	183.160	14103.520	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	88%	0%	0%
14 TETACHUK ENTIARQ	SBS-a8	30824.080	0.000	538.280	1544.120	1177.080	183.280	284.310	1513.760	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	79%	0%	8%
14 TETACHUK ENTIARQ	SBS-MC2	867.640	0.000	92.880	867.640	0.000	0.000	0.000	378.480	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	88%	0%	5%
14 TETACHUK ENTIARQ	TOTAL SBS	21781.720	0.000	548.240	1532.560	1177.080	183.280	284.310	1592.140	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	79%	0%	0%
14 TETACHUK ENTIARQ	ES5fmc	823.750	0.000	16.120	823.750	20.580	20.800	0.000	244.720	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	84%	#DIV/0!	0%
14 TETACHUK ENTIARQ	ES5fmv1	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	0%
14 TETACHUK ENTIARQ	ES5fww	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	0%
14 TETACHUK ENTIARQ	TOTAL ES5f	823.750	0.000	16.120	823.750	20.580	20.800	0.000	244.720	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	84%	#DIV/0!	0%

Appendix 2
Landscape Unit Maps



Appendix 3

Table of percentage of WTP retention within each BGC subzone for each
landscape unit (designated landscape units)

Chart 2 - Percentage of cutblock area required for wildlife tree patch retention within each biogeoclimatic subzone for each landscape unit (where landscape units have been designated).

	SBS dk	SBS mc2	ESSF
Fleming	No Logging	6%	6%
Babine West	5%	6%	3%
Babine East	3%	6%	3%
Taltapin	8%	8%	5%
Bulkley	7%	7%	5%
Burns Lake West	6%	6%	3%
Burns Lake East	5%	6%	5%
Francois West	7%	8%	4%
Francois East	7%	6%	-
Cheslatta	6%	6%	-
Ootsa	6%	7%	-
Intata	8%	9%	-
Chelaslie	6%	6%	3%
Tetachuk Entiako	4% SBPS 6% SBS dk	5%	-

Notes on calculating figures:

Figures were interpolated from the Biodiversity Guidebook

The biodiversity figures for wild life tree patches were calculated using a combination of MLISIS data for the years of 1994 to 1996 and forest inventory information for the years before 1994. Although there may be discrepancies with data between agencies, these are relatively small and will not impact on changes in percentage retention within each unit.

General Forest Development Plan Requirements - Page 3 of Guidebook

This section is revised and should read:

" - Address an area sufficient in size to include all the area affected by the timber harvesting and road construction or modifications to operations being proposed.

- Major Licence holders, SBFEP: cover a period of at least 5 years.
Woodlot Licence holders: cover a period of at least 20 years.

- Provide a written submission of those actions and objectives for the area under the plan that are not shown on maps.

- Map submission consisting of an optional key map (1:250,000 scale); development plan maps (1:50000) and a set of larger scale maps (1:10000 - 1:20000) for specific areas under the plan. (See "Mapping Requirements, page 11)

- Be consistent with any higher level plan that is in effect when the FDP is approved or given effect under the *Forest Practices Code of B.C. Act*. There are no officially designated higher level plans within Lakes Forest District. However, there are local resource use plans and other plans that have been approved by the district manager and should be incorporated into forest development plans and other operational plans. Such plans currently in effect include:

Interim Recreation Management Plan - 1994-1996
Klaytahnkut, Tildesley Riparian Zone Timber Harvesting Guidelines
Management Guidelines for the Tweedsmuir Entiako Caribou Herd
Migration Corridor
Sutherland LRUP Draft Report - June 1990 (endorsed)
Approved Licensee Management Plans

The Attachments and Administration sections apply as outlined in the *Guidebook*.

Referrals

Each licensee will be responsible for referral of their draft Forest Development Plan during the 60 day review and comment period as required by legislation. Agencies/parties to whom the plan should be referred include Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks, Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources (1:50,000 maps only) and First Nations who have interest within the respective area of development. Other agencies should be made aware that the FDP is available for public review. These include Department of Fisheries and Oceans, grazing lease holders, trappers and guides. The person who will be submitting the plan to the district manager must include a copy of each written comment received, how it was addressed and a summary of all revisions made.

Approval

This section applies as outlined in the *Guidebook*.

Streams, wetlands and lakes

The first paragraph of the statement is changed to read:

"The forest development plan must state or show the riparian class for each stream, wetland and lake in the area affected by the proposed operations for **Years 1 and 2 (Woodlot Licence holders: Years 1 - 5)**, and describe the measures taken to protect the water and associated resources within a riparian management area."

The second bullet on page 6 refers to the classification of lakes greater than 5 hectares and that this will be supplied by the district manager. This classification will be supplied to licensees after the release of the *Lakes Classification and Lakeshore Management Guidebook*. Until such time that the district manager supplies the information, licensees should refer to the *Operational Planning Regulation* and use proper judgement in the protection of unclassified lakes.

A chart similar to the one appearing as an example in Figure 1 on page 7 shall be used to provide information on streams, wetlands and lakes on a block-by-block basis.

Cultural Heritage Resources

Aboriginal Rights

This section is revised and should read:

"Address aboriginal rights in the forest development plan through the following actions:

- contact all those affected First Nations whose asserted traditional territories fall within or adjacent to the forest development plan area; provide information about the plan and encourage comment and involvement in preparing the plan regarding aboriginal use
- incorporate information into the plan regarding location of aboriginal rights; this is or will be available from the District Office. Copies of Traditional Use Study maps may be made available through the district office for use in the planning process. This is dependant on the conditions of confidentiality imposed by each First Nation. Lakes District staff should be consulted by each licensee for First Nation information specific to their license area.
- provide documentation to the district office regarding any consultation that takes place with the First Nations regarding aboriginal rights.

Archaeological Sites

This section applies as outlined in the *Guidebook*

The Ministry of Forests will be responsible for conducting archaeological overview assessments (AOA) over the Timber Supply Area. These assessments will help determine where archaeological impact assessments (AIA) need to be carried out. The district manager will inform the Licensee of AIA requirements. It will be the license holder's responsibility to conduct AIA's and incorporate recommendations into the operational plans prior to harvest.

Terrain Stability

This section applies as outlined in the *Guidebook*

Forest Health

This section applies as outlined in the *Guidebook*

With respect to management strategies, licence holders should ensure that strategies are outlined for the high risk forest health problems (i.e. mountain pine beetle) in their respective licence areas. Strategies should include how the problem will be controlled or eradicated and its associated timeframe. Minor forest health problems may be identified and addressed at the stand level or silviculture prescription stage.

Range

This section applies as outlined in the *Guidebook*.

Forest Recreation

This section applies as outlined in the *Guidebook*.

Visual Landscape Management

Page 17 is revised and should read:

"The forest development plan must identify the location of known scenic areas, and describe the measures to be carried out to manage or protect the visual features. When operations are proposed in areas where visual quality objectives (VQO's) have been established as **retention, partial retention and modification** a visual impact assessment (VIA) must be completed. The purpose of the VIA is to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the district manager how the proposed operations will achieve the VQOs for the area. The results of the assessments must be included with the forest development plan.

General objective

- To show how the forest landscapes will be managed to achieve the VQOs set for the area.

Initially, operations in scenic areas must be planned in a sequence as outlined in Figure 5. As well, various site-specific issues raised during the referral and public review processes may require licensees to address visual landscape management issues in the forest development plan.

Visual landscape management concerns should be recognized as early as possible in the planning process to allow for visual impact assessments to be completed and made available for public review before the submission of silviculture prescriptions and road permit applications. The recommended steps and time frame for preparing and reviewing a forest development plan requiring visual landscape management are given in Table 1."

For Forest Licence holders, SBFEP;

"Persons proposing operations in areas with established VQOs are not required to prepare a visual impact assessment for newly proposed blocks or roads in Year 5 of the forest development plan. This assessment is, however, necessary for Year 4, 3, 2 and 1 of the plan. **As a transitional measure, for the period of 2 years after approval of this policy, Lakes Forest District will accept visual impact assessments on those blocks requiring VIAs for Years 3, 2 and 1 only.** The information may be shown on maps or in cutblock summary tables."

For Woodlot Licence holders;

"Persons proposing operations in areas with established VQOs are not required to prepare a visual impact assessment for newly proposed blocks or roads in Year 4 - 20 of the forest development plan. This assessment is, however, necessary for Year 3, 2 and 1 of the plan. **As a transitional measure, for the period of 2 years after approval of this policy, Lakes Forest District will accept visual impact assessments on those blocks requiring VIAs for Years 2 and 1 only.** The information may be shown on maps or in cutblock summary tables."

The remainder of the section dealing with Visual Landscape Management applies as outlined in the *Guidebook*. This includes Figure 5 and Table 1, appearing on pages 18 and 19, respectively. With respect to this Table 1, Woodlot Licence holders should use the Years of the plan as outlined above.

Watershed Management

This section applies as outlined in the *Guidebook*. Lakes Forest District does not contain any community watersheds at this time. The need for any watershed assessments in areas with significant downstream fisheries values or other watersheds will be determined by the district manager.

Biodiversity

This section applies as outlined in the *Guidebook*. District staff are presently reviewing the *Biodiversity Guidebook* and a formal policy will be developed outlining the requirements. Once the Biodiversity Policy is established, these procedures will be revised accordingly. Objectives surrounding biodiversity must be included within the FDP.

Wildlife Management

This section applies as outlined in the *Guidebook*.

As mentioned, the *Managing Identified Wildlife Guidebook* should be referenced when creating forest development plans; however, in its absence, other available information should be researched and incorporated, if applicable. Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks has developed maps depicting biological ecosystem networks for the Lakes TSA. These are available through the Lakes District Office. This BENs mapping contains information about weak and strong wildlife habitat linkages and should be referenced when building forest development plans. At this time, the BENs mapping should be considered as a tool enabling the licensee to identify areas where important wildlife habitat exists and build on these during the stand level prescriptions.

Protection

This section applies as outlined in the *Guidebook*.

Harvesting

Landscape level planning

This section applies as outlined in the *Guidebook*. With specific reference to Green-up, Lakes Forest District will establish a policy surrounding minimum height and adjacency requirements prior to harvest.

Stand level planning

This section is revised and should read:

"Stand level planning should be initiated as soon as possible but **no later than Year 2** of the forest development plan. Stand level planning must build on information collected and decisions made at the landscape level.

Some factors to consider are:

- stand management to maintain biodiversity (refer to *Biodiversity Guidebook*)
- wildlife values (refer to *Managing Identified Wildlife Guidebook*)
- riparian areas and their management
- the results of assessments conducted in accordance with Section 25 to 32 of the *Operational Planning Regulation*
- windfirmness (refer to the *Windthrow Handbook for B.C.*, research paper 9401, 1994, Ministry of Forests Research Branch)
- topography.

Decisions to be made are:

- silvicultural system to be used (refer to *Silvicultural Systems Guidebook*)
- the harvest method to be used
- size and shape of the proposed cutblock to achieve the desired impact
- road, landing locations and block boundaries (silviculture prescriptions or logging plans)
- reserve strategies for biodiversity, wildlife trees and riparian management areas."

Forest Road Engineering

This section applies as outlined in the *Guidebook*. This includes the charts depicted as Figure 9, 10 and 11 on pages 33, 35 and 37, respectively. Although the chart configuration in the forest development plan may be altered according to personal preference, all information should appear.

Community Watersheds

This section is not relevant to Lakes TSA at this time. This section will be revised upon the establishment of community watersheds.

Mapping Requirements

This section is revised and should read:

"The forest development plan maps must provide an accurate visual representation of the existing physical features, the planned harvesting and road constructions, and resource detail that has been collated for the area under the plan. All maps should comply with the Ministry of Forests' cartographic standards, as documented in the *Visual Identifier Standards Guide*.

Key or overview map

This 1:250000 map is optional. See section within *Guidebook* for details.

Development plan maps

The forest development plan maps should use a forest cover map as the base, with a scale of 1:50000 (Woodlot licences - 1:20000). Information tables may be attached to the maps to reduce the number of maps and clutter of information.

Forest development plan maps should be neat, legible and colour coded. The following detail, at a minimum, must be shown on the base maps and/or an overlay system.

- SBFEP and other licensee operating areas within or directly adjacent to the licensee's operating areas. Cutblock locations of other licensees directly adjacent to the licensee's operating area should be mapped (**linear distance of approximately 10 kilometers for Major Licensees, SBFEP; linear distance of approximately 1 kilometer for Woodlot Licensees**)
- licensee's administrative boundaries by operational areas.
- foreshore leases (such as for log dumps and camps)
- main permanent access roads within the operating area
- cutting permit locations
- topography and natural features of the area under the plan
- proposed timber harvesting and road construction or modification operations, and the scheduling, for each area under the plan

- known locations of:
 - areas of aboriginal sustenance, cultural, social, and religious activities associated with traditional aboriginal life. Disclosure of locations should only occur with agreement of the local First Nations.
 - protected areas and deferred areas
 - wilderness areas
 - sensitive areas
 - community watersheds, community water supply intakes, and related water supply infrastructures
 - wildlife habitat areas
 - forest ecosystem networks (when available)
 - scenic areas
 - private property
 - transmission lines, gas and oil pipelines, and railways on Crown land
- forest cover, and whether the harvest areas adjacent to the proposed cutblocks are greened-up and/or free-growing
- location and nature of areas with unstable or potentially unstable terrain
- silvicultural system proposed - i.e. partial cut, clearcut (may appear on a separate table)
- harvest method proposed - i.e. cable, aerial or ground-based (may appear on a separate table)
- location of the existing road access, the location of roads to be constructed or modified in each year of the plan including, where applicable, the linkages to the public road system, processing plants or log dumps, locations of bridges and major culverts. All roads should have an identifier listed on the map which can then be referenced to an accompanying chart (i.e. figures 9,10 and 11 of the *Guidebook*) outlining road status.
- classification of lakes provided by the district manager
- location and extent of deactivation of roads

Appendix 3 of the *Guidebook* shows a sample map legend. A tabular summary, also depicted, is also to be included, detailing information cross-referenced to individual cutblocks.

Detailed block maps

Detailed block-by-block maps are required for Years 3, 2 and 1 of the forest development plan for forest licence holders and SBFEP. Detailed block maps are required for Years 2 and 1 of the forest development plan for woodlot licence holders. These are required since larger scale maps will provide more detailed resolution which will aid in the approval process. These maps should use forest cover maps as the base, with a minimum scale of 1:20000. Existing silviculture prescription (PHSP/SP) maps are good examples. The following detail, at a minimum, must be shown on the maps:

- block boundary and important adjacent features
- topography and natural features
- silvicultural system(s) proposed
- harvest method(s) proposed
- location and classification of each stream, wetland and lake, in or adjacent to the block for Years 1 and 2.

Public consultation and advertising

Advertising

This section applies as outlined in the guidebook

Time frame for advertising

Division 1 (Notice, Review and Comment) of Part 2 of the *Operational Planning Regulation* should be followed

Advertising format

This section is revised and should read:

"It is not necessary to advertise 5 - year silviculture plans and access management plans simultaneously with the forest development plans at this time. This may, however, be advantageous to the licensee.

The newspaper advertisement for forest development plans should contain at least the following information:

- forest licence number, woodlot licence number or Small Business Forest Enterprise Program - district
- geographic location (distance and direction from nearest community)
- purpose of the plan review
- location, date and time of public viewing
- an indication of whether other strategic and operational plans will be available for viewing at the same time
- an indication that a licensee representative will be on to answer questions
- licensee contact name and phone number for more information

Refer to the *Public Consultation Guidebook* for the specific presentation format of an advertisement.

Submission to the district manager

This section applies as outlined in the *Guidebook*

Public Viewing

This section applies as outlined in the *Guidebook*

Consolidating forest development plans

This section is revised and should read:

"The consolidation of all forest development plans will be the responsibility of Lakes Forest District. This TSA consolidated plan will be used for referral processes as required. The district manager will specify format and other requirements for forest development plan submissions."

Appendices

Appendix 1

Use as reference only. The District will not specify an outline format at this time. It is expected, however, that the information shown appear in the document.

Appendix 2

Use as reference

Appendix 3

The Mapping/Design section within Lakes Forest District will provide guidance with respect to depiction of map details. Contact: Land Information Officer or Mapping/Design Technicians.

Colours

Method 2 - Calendar Year as outlined in the Guidebook was chosen as the preferred method.

- A ten year colour scheme has been adopted. A single colour is matched to the last digit of the scheduled year for the planned activity.
- The initial colour scheme with RGB values has been derived by the Mapping/Design Technician. The scheme includes ten colours for each of the ten years. Please contact the Mapping/Design section for the colour scheme.
- Year for the purpose of scheduling will be based on the "break-up" year or the government's fiscal year. As an example, in this system, the year "1996" will be the following calendar days:

1996 Planning Year = April 1, 1996 to March 31, 1997.

Appendix 4

This appendix applies as outlined in the *Guidebook*

Appendix 5

Use as reference.