

June 23, 1998

To Major Licensees

Re: Implementation of Lakes Land and Resource Management Direction Report

The final meeting of the Lakes LRMP resource council was held on November 22, 1997. The purpose of the meeting was chapter by chapter review of the draft plan, focusing on new language that council members had not seen in previous drafts. All issues discussed during the meeting are incorporated in the "Lakes District Land and Resource Management Direction Report" (Draft Dec 1997). That meeting concluded the public participation component of the Lakes LRMP process.

Over the past year it has been my observation that operational plans submitted for approval in the Lakes Forest District have incorporated some of the LRMP zoning and associated management direction. I would like to commend your proactive efforts in recognizing the important contributions of the LRMP process to forest management. Your efforts will ease future implementation and transitional aspects of the plan.



As of June 22, 1998 certain components of the "Lakes District Land and Resource Management Direction Report - December 1997" (with maps) will be considered known information. This designation is consistent with the Operational Planning Regulation section 1(3b) and Policy 18-1 (Scheduled Change). These components of the plan will provide interim strategic guidance for operational planning, which will continue until all or portions of the Direction Report are declared a higher level plan by government.

The Direction Report will be implemented as follows:

1. The following subzones and inventories will be recognized as known :

- Backcountry Lakes
- Recreation Areas
- Caribou Migration Corridor
- Ungulate Winter Range
- Scenic and Visually Sensitive Areas
- Intensive Timber Management Areas
- Landscape Connectivity (strong links)

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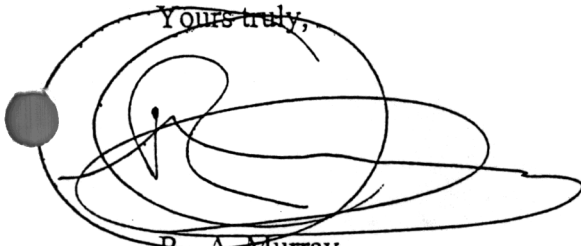
2. Operational planning and subsequent harvesting within these sub-zones will be guided by objectives and strategies appurtenant to these sub-zones or inventories.
3. Areas recommended for protection (Chapter 4 section 4.5) will be temporarily deferred from harvest planning except for meeting Mountain Pine Beetle protocols.
4. The Tweedsmuir Recreation Area (Chapter 4 section 4.61) will remain a Recreation Area until government decides on a new area or designation and will not be included in this letter.

While zones and sub-zones not listed above are not considered known information, I hope that you will attempt to meet the intent of Chapter 3 and Chapter 4.

A meeting will be held in early August to discuss the interpretation of this letter. Please provide me with your interpretation questions, in writing, by July 17, 1998. My intent is to assemble all questions and have planning staff co-ordinate a review and interpretation of Land and Resource Management Direction Report intent. Your questions will be addressed at the meeting.

I will keep you informed regarding plan approval and the development of the implementation and monitoring strategy. Please call me if you have any further questions.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'R' followed by a horizontal stroke and a loop.

R. A. Murray
District Manager
Lakes Forest District

cc Mike Watson (Senior Forester - SBFEP)
Mark Vieweg (Senior Forester - Major Tenures & Woodlot Licenses)