

File: 280-30

June 11, 2012

To: District Resource Managers

From: Jim Sutherland
Director, Resource Practices Branch/Deputy Chief Forester

Re: Issuance and Use of TSA Tree Species Monitoring Reports

Species diversity is a very important consideration in forest management in British Columbia and is a fundamental climate change adaptation strategy. Previous direction has been stated within memos from the Chief Forester regarding the need to manage for resiliency and species diversity at both the landscape and stand levels. Recent Auditor General and Forest Practices Board Reports continue to question how well we are meeting our species diversity goals.

Attached are **Species Monitoring Reports** and data packages which summarize key information with regard to tree species in your TSA. Please share this information with your local licensees, BCTS and FLNRO staff. We envision three primary uses for these reports and information:

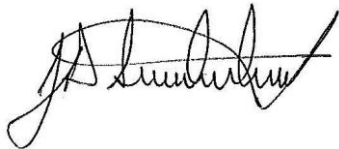
- 1) To assist Resource Managers in their strategic approach to managing species diversity. For example, this information should be considered:
 - a. In planning harvesting, planting and stand management activities within TSA's including FFT operations;
 - b. When FSPs are being reviewed, developed, extended or amended;
 - c. In developing climate change adaptation strategies consistent with the Ministry's Forest Stewardship Action Plan for Climate Change Adaptation.
- 2) To monitor and report on species diversity trends. These reports will inform the ministry executive and ongoing policy development as well as provide information to external audiences such as the public, Auditor General, and Forest Practices Board.
- 3) To assist in setting species diversity targets at the TSA level (e.g. as part of a Type 4 Silviculture Strategy).

Each TSA “**Species Monitoring Report**” contains the following information:

- Pre-harvest tree species composition;
- Species composition that was harvested;
- Species composition that was planted;
- Amount of diversity of the planted species;
- Species composition at 7 years of age or older (the equivalent to Free Growing species mixes);
- Amount of diversity in these “Free Growing stands”;
- Amount of monocultures before harvesting, after planting and when the stand is stocked with trees 7 years or older – Free Growing; and
- Complete data package in Excel of original source data for further district analysis – e.g. BEC subzones, etc.

Feedback and dialogue regarding the content and design of these reports is welcomed and encouraged. These species reports are one component of the ministry’s approach to managing species diversity. Further information regarding other components will follow shortly.

Please do not hesitate to contact Dave Weaver or Kevin Astridge at the Resource Practices Branch (RPB) if you have any questions or feedback regarding this information.



Jim Sutherland
Director, Resource Practices Branch/Deputy Chief Forester

Attachment(s): Species Monitoring Reports and Data Packages

pc: Chief Forester
ADM Resource Stewardship Division
REDs
COFI
CFPA
Tolko Industries Ltd.