Ministry of Forests

FIA STANDARDS for applying the "OAF1 survey" to a forest

Effective April 1, 2003

These standards apply, in addition to the General FIA Standards (FS 1001). These standards apply to projects that extend the method described in the OAF1 Project Report #2 to the problem of estimating OAF1 for a population of openings (or a forest). The method described in the OAF1 Project Report #2, termed the "OAF1 survey," pertains to a single opening. The standards described in this document pertain to the broader problem of estimating OAF1 for a population of openings (or a forest).

ARTICLE 1: GENERAL STANDARDS

Definitions

1.1 In this document, the following words shall have the following meanings:

"**OAF1**" means the Type 1 Operational Adjustment Factor for the TIPSY stand growth model.

"**OAF1 Project Report #2**" means the document "OAF1 Project Report #2: Ground-based survey method" (B.C. Ministry of Forests 1998).

"**OAF1 survey**" means the survey procedure described in "OAF1 Project Report #2: Ground-based survey method" (B.C. Ministry of Forests 1998).

ARTICLE 2: STANDARDS FOR PROJECT PLAN

Project plan content

2.1 The Recipient shall prepare a project plan. The project plan shall describe the:

(a) objectives of the survey,

(b) target and sampled populations,

(c) sample selection procedures,

(d) target sample size,

(e) field data collection procedures,

(f) provisions for quality assurance including training, supervising, and checking the work of field crews,

(g) proposed data compilation, analysis, and application,

(h) proposed content of final project report,

(i) key personnel and their roles, and

(j) schedule of work.

Review of project plan

1) 2.2 The Recipient shall subject the project plan to appropriate peer review. Record of the review comments and corresponding decisions on revisions shall be maintained on the project file.

ARTICLE 3: STANDARDS FOR FIELD DATA COLLECTION

General requirements

3.1 Except for deviations that are documented in the project plan, sampling procedures within a polygon shall follow the standards outlined in OAF1 Project Report #2.

Project-specific survey parameters

3.2 The Recipient shall define the following project-specific survey parameters:

(a) a clear description of what is “in” and “out” of the population so that surveyors can determine whether a plot has landed in or out (see OAF1 Project Report #2, Delineate strata, p. 4); and

(b) the criteria for acceptable trees (see OAF1 Project Report #2, Determine criteria for acceptable trees, p 6).

3.3 Field crews shall be provided with written definition of 3.2 (a) and (b) and a record shall be maintained on the project file.

ARTICLE 4: QUALITY ASSURANCE

General requirements

4.1 The document ”Quality assurance for OAF1 projects” (B.C. Ministry of Forests, 2002) shall be reviewed by the project manager.

4.2 Provisions for quality assurance shall be described in the Project Plan (see Article 2, 2.1).

ARTICLE 5: REQUIRED REPORTS AND RECORDS

General requirements

5.1 The Recipient shall maintain on file the key information related to the project including review comments on the draft project plan project plan, decisions taken to revise the draft project plan based on review comments, the final project plan, maps and data sheets from field data collection, results of quality assurance checks, plot data in databases, compilation software, and the final project report.

5.2 The Recipient shall register the final project report on the FORREX Natural Resource Information Network (http://listserv.forrex.org/archives/nrin.html).