

DRAFT -- July 27, 2004

**Resource Stewardship Monitoring Pilots:
Measuring our Success (meta-evaluation)**

Meta-evaluation-- why do it?

The objectives of the Resource Stewardship Monitoring Pilot Project are to:

1. Test the proposed model for integrating Resource Stewardship Monitoring with the provincial FRPA Resource Evaluation Program (FREP); including
 - Routine/extensive indicators and protocols
 - Site selection criteria
 - Quality assurance, including training; and,
 - Data collection and analysis (at the district, region and provincial-levels)
2. Test ease of monitoring data collection (protocols) and analysis at the district-level; region and provincial levels, and
3. Test whether the monitoring approach meets district and region Forest Stewardship Plan monitoring needs along with identifying resource value status, trends and implementation issues
4. Continuous improvement of indicators and protocols to ensure they adequately assess whether resource value objectives are being met.

The Resource Stewardship Monitoring Pilots provide a valuable opportunity to test whether the proposed monitoring approach is practical, affordable and accepted by stakeholders. The meta-evaluation process presented here is a way of measuring whether we achieved the pilot objectives and to document and make modifications based on lessons learned. The meta-evaluation will answer four key questions related to the pilots:

1. How effective are the monitoring indicators and protocols?
2. How effective is the training and quality assurance program?
3. How well does the data collection process work?
4. How valuable is the data collected and reports generated to the stakeholders?

1. How effective are the monitoring indicators and protocols?

Evaluation question	How this will be measured	When?	By who?
Are indicators and protocols <i>cost/time efficient from the perspective of</i> ODMT, FSDMT, regional managers and district managers?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Field staff record the time it takes to complete the various monitoring protocols Compare the “cost” of data collection and analysis with the value of the information generated. 	Sept 6 to Dec 31	Field staff Frank and Peter
Are indicators and protocols <i>cost/time efficient</i> in the eyes of field staff?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal feedback from the pilot team at the bi-weekly conference calls. Formal feedback through a post data collection feedback form 	Sept – Dec 31	RSMPT Field staff Shawn Morford – in design of feedback form content
Is the information derived from data analysis likely to provide sufficient information to direct more detailed evaluation activities (e.g., identification of red flags) and/or decision-making related to policy change?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of data analysis by FREWG and JMC 	Nov – Jan 31	RSMPT Peter and Frank FREWG
Are district staff likely to get the information needed to improve local-level decision making and continuous improvement (e.g., improved plans and field practices)?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal feedback from the pilot team at the bi-weekly conference calls. Formal feedback through a post data collection feedback form 	Sept. – Dec 31	RSMPT Field staff Shawn Morford – in design of feedback form content

2. How effective is the training and quality assurance program?

Evaluation question	How this will be measured	When?	By who?
As a result of the training, did staff perceive that they had the knowledge and skills required to conduct field assessments and complete the monitoring forms accurately?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> End-of-training questionnaires to measure perceptions of staff about the adequacy of the training in terms of enhancing knowledge and skills Follow up questionnaires or interviews of staff once data collection has been completed in order to assess perceptions of knowledge and skill -- using the post data collection feedback form 	Sept-Oct (end of training) Dec 31 (follow up)	Instructors RSMPT Frank and Peter
As a result of the training, do field staff demonstrate adequate skills for collecting accurate data?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By observation during the training (can staff perform monitoring and data recording correctly?). 	Sept-Oct (during/ end of training)	Instructor

3. How well does the data collection process work?

Evaluation question	How this will be measured	When?	By who?
Is the data being collected operationally practical and understandable?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal feedback from the pilot team at the bi-weekly conference calls. Formal feedback through a post data collection feedback form 	Sept-Oct (end of training) Dec 31 (follow up)	Field staff RSMPT Frank and Peter Shawn Morford – in design of feedback form content

Are the monitoring protocols easy to use and lay out efficiently?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal feedback from the pilot team at the bi-weekly conference calls. Formal feedback through a post data collection feedback form 	Sept-Oct (end of training) Dec 31 (follow up)	Field staff RSMPT
Are additional indicators or fields needed in the forms from the perspective of field staff?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal feedback from the pilot team at the bi-weekly conference calls. Formal feedback through a post data collection feedback form 	Sept-Oct (end of training) Dec 31 (follow up)	Field staff RSMPT
In terms of filling out the forms, is there consistency between districts? If not, why not?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analysis of QA site visits Analysis of completed field forms during data entry 	Sept-Nov	QA Team(s) Peter and Frank
Is the entire checklist being filled out? If not, why not?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analysis of completed field forms during data entry (need to identify ASAP) Formal feedback from the pilot team at the bi-weekly conference calls. Formal feedback through a post data collection feedback form 	Sept-Nov	QA Team(s) Peter and Frank

4. How valuable is the data collected and reports generated to the stakeholders?

Evaluation question	How this will be measured	When?	By who?
Is the data and analysis generated through the monitoring program likely to be valuable to those doing the fieldwork?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal feedback from the pilot team at the bi-weekly conference calls. Formal feedback through a post data analysis feedback form (web-based survey 	Nov-January	Field staff RSMPT Shawn Morford – in design of web-based survey tool

	tool)		
What is the overall attitude toward the monitoring program among: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field staff • District and region management • Executive? 	an online survey - for field staff after training the resurvey after QA and debriefing of 10 blocks staff do on their own	Benchmark at start of pilot and at end	RSMPT FREWG
What are the perceived barriers to implementing a successful monitoring program?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formal feedback from the pilot team at the bi-weekly conference calls. • Formal feedback through a post data analysis feedback form (web-based survey tool) 	Sept—Dec.	RSMPT

Next Steps:

1. Develop bi-weekly conference call feedback questions
2. post data collection feedback form on RSM web page
3. post data analysis feedback form (web-based tool)
4. develop tool/survey for determining overall attitudes