FSP Tracking System News -November 2006

The FSP tracking system project is jointly sponsored by the Provincial FRPA Implementation Team and the Resource Tenures and Engineering Branch of the Ministry of Forests and Range.

Current State of the Project

- Launch Date: The system has been delayed somewhat from the launch date projected in the earlier newsletter. FSPTS has been held back by some internal project delays and some delays in related initiatives. The FSP tracking system is still expected to be ready for use in mid December.

- Testing: As of the start of November the system is in the process of being tested in the ministry environment. November will be taken up with testing the system to ensure that it both works technically and has achieved the business needs of the end users. User Acceptance testing is scheduled for November 20th and 21st, 2006 in Victoria with about 6 to 8 users.

- Training: Starting at the end of November there will be training available for licensee and ministry staff.

- Loading Approved FSPs: The project team will be loading the approved FSPs into the system over the next month so that when the system goes live most of the data will be available to users.

- Future Release: Work is beginning on what should be added to FSPTS for the next release. Your input into this is encouraged.

Loading FSPs into the system before launch date

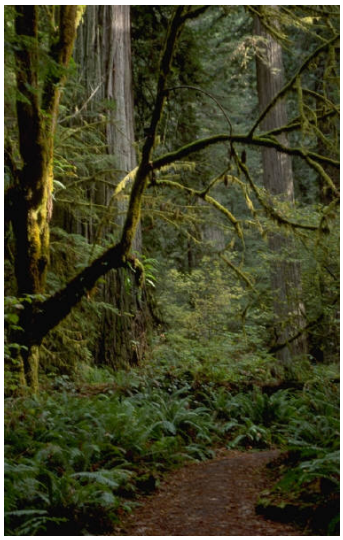
The FSPTS project team has made it a top priority to load as much approved FSP data into the system as possible prior to the FSPTS going live. We will do this by making use of two contractors.

The first phase will be coordinated by Joanne Pickford, a consultant under contract to the Forest Practices Branch. She will be contacting all the districts to obtain copies of the approved FSP data other than the digital line work related to the Forest Development Units

The second phase will be coordinated by Doug MacDonald of Vivid Solutions under contract to the Integrated Management Group of the Ministry of Forests. Doug will be contacting each licensee and BCTS business unit who have an approved FSP to obtain the FDU digital line work data. We have chosen this route since the required line work files are not in district offices but held by the licensees.

As data comes in for both phases of this process, Vivid Solutions will be loading it into the FSPTS so that it will be available to you when the system goes live.

If you have any questions on this process, please forward them to Bill Beard at the Resource Tenures Engineering Branch. Questions specific to the loading of stocking standards to RESULTS should be submitted to Denise McGowan at the Forest Practices Branch 250 387 4768



Early Adopters

The FSPTS has been expressed as a priority project by industry and government through the joint Provincial FRPA Implementation Team(PFIT). The members of PFIT are convinced of the benefits and efficiency the system will bring to forest planning in BC.

With the publication of the schema for the project, IT providers to the forest industry are beginning the modifications to their systems to allow for licensees to make full use of all of the functionality of the FSP tracking system. As more of the providers update their software, it is expected that FSPs will be submitted electronically via the Electronic Submission Framework. As this happens, industry and ministry staff will see an improvement in the staff time it takes to submit and approve an FSP.

This transition to electronic submission of FSPs and electronic storage of the approved plans will once again show the world that the BC forest industry is at the forefront of electronic technology.

The schema for the FSP tracking system project can be found at this link.

Future Releases

The project team is aware that the first version of the FSPTS will not address all the functionality that the end users would like to have. With the impending date for the shift to FSPs, the FSPTS project has been initially built to address the major requirements to allow for the electronic submission and retrieval of the FSP documents. Future releases will address what the expanded capabilities of the system should be.

Work has begun on the future releases already. This work starts with the many requirements that users have raised over the last few months. Starting in November, the project team will be developing the business requirements for the next release. March 31 2007 is tentatively set as the date for the completion of the requirements of the next release. We welcome your input on this.
Please contact:
John Gallimore or
Bill Beard.

Training

Getting Started with FSPTS" sessions are designed to explain and demonstrate how to use the Forest Stewardship Tracking System to submit an FSP and administer a received FSP.

Topics will include:

- How to submit an FSP using the FSPTS;
- How to review an FSP using the FSPTS; and
- How to search and view an approved FSP in the FSPTS.

Target Audience:

"Getting Started with FSPTS" sessions are intended for:

- Licensee representatives, including BCTS representatives, who submit an FSP or FSP amendments; and
- MOFR staff (Tenures, Stewardship, C&E, District Managers) who participate in the FSP review and approval process
- and/or view approved FSPs as part of their day-to-day activities.

Course Session Schedule:

Session Date	Session Time	Course Number
November 27, 2006	9:00am-11:00am	FSPTS_S01
November 27, 2006	1:30pm-3:30pm	FSPTS_S02
November 29, 2006	9:00am-11:00am	FSPTS_S03
November 29, 2006	1:30pm-3:30pm	FSPTS_S04
December 13, 2006	9:00am-11:00am	FSPTS_S05
December 13, 2006	1:30pm-3:30pm	FSPTS_S06
December 14, 2006	9:00am-11:00am	FSPTS_S07
December 14, 2006	1:30pm-3:30pm	FSPTS_S08
January 10, 2007	9:00am-11:00am	FSPTS_S09
January 10, 2007	1:30pm-3:30pm	FSPTS_S10

Course Session Pre-requisite:

The document FSPTS Primer is a pre-requisite for all "Getting Started with FSPTS" training sessions. Please review this short document at least one day prior to the start of your training session.

Course Session Details:

Follow this link to download the FSPTS Participant Guide.
"Getting Started with FSPTS" sessions will be delivered using the LearnLinc Online Classroom. Please register Early. Seats are limited, and registration closes a week before each session is delivered.

To register, please visit the MOFR Learning e-Store. This will require you logon to the website using your email address and a password (the default password is NOT the same as your idir password – once you logon you may change your password).

Search for the course using "**FSPTS**" in the keyword Search, or use "**Stewardship/Silviculture**" from the Topic Search list. Once you have found a session that fits your schedule click the 'Sign Up' button to register for the session you would like to attend.

All MOFR refreshed workstations have LearnLinc installed. If you are not on a refreshed workstation, you may need LearnLinc installed. You will need a computer headset with microphone. LearnLinc uses Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) so no phone will be required.

If you have any enquiries or registration problems please contact Liz Reading

Focus Group

A focus group has been created with members from the government and industry to ensure that the FSP tracking system will function in a manner that serves the needs of the end users. They represent a cross section of business areas that have interests in FSPs.

The focus group will be involved with User Acceptance Testing during November.

Focus Group Members are:

Name	Location	Company or Ministry of Forests Business Unit	Role
Blake Foster	Williams Lake	Central Cariboo Forest District	Tenures Forester
Blake Fougere	Powell River	Sunshine Coast Forest District	Compliance & Enforcement Forester
Larry Hanlon	Kamloops	Southern Interior Region	Stewardship Forester
Elizabeth Hunt	Dawson Creek	Peace Forest District	Stewardship Officer
John Huybers	Prince George	Northern Interior Region	Acting Stewardship Team Leader
Carl Pollard	Fort St James	Fort St James Forest District	Zone Officer, Tenures
Lucy Stad	Chilliwack	Chilliwack Forest District	Stewardship Forester
Len Stratton	Prince George	BC Timber Sales	Area Forester
Kevin Bedford	Prince George	Carrier Lumber	
Brian Westgate	Vernon	Okanagan Shuswap Forest District	Tenures Forester
Craig Wickland	Nanaimo	Coast Forest Region	Regional Silviculturist

FSPs "In the System" to Date

Paper FSPs are being submitted to the ministry district offices for approval in a consistent and steady rate. Over 75% of the provincial AAC is now either under an approved FSP or in one that is in the approval process. The approved and 'in the system' licenses within FSPs total just over 230 out of 416 possible. At this rate the bulk of the shift to FSPs will be complete before the end of 2006.

FSP Tracking System Project Contacts:

John Gallimore	Project Manager	MoF - Information Management Group	250 356-6986
Bill Beard	Project Business Lead	MoF - Resource Tenures & Engineering	250 387-8725
Charlie Western	Project Sponsor	PFIT - Resource Tenures & Engineering	250 387-8306
Jim Langridge	Project Sponsor	MoF - Resource Tenures & Engineering	250 387-8300