

Mackenzie Landscape Objectives Working Group (MK LOWG)
Data and Cost Sharing Agreement
With Respect to Landscape Biodiversity Analyses
In the Mackenzie Timber Supply Area

PREAMBLE

Old and Old Interior Forest Condition

In the Mackenzie Timber Supply Area landscape level biodiversity objectives have been legally endorsed via the *Order Establishing Non-Spatial Landscape Biodiversity Objectives in the Mackenzie Forest District* (<http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/tasb/slrp/srmp/north/mackenzie/>).

Complementary to this aspatial order, the *Spatial Land Use Objectives for part of the Mackenzie Forest District Area* created spatial Old Growth Management Areas (OGMA's) in seven landscape units (LU)/landscape unit groupings. (http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/tasb/slrp/pdf/srmp/signed_mackenzie_OGMA_order_20100923.pdf). It is anticipated that more LU/LU groupings will have spatial land use objectives applied through legal means in the future. These orders provide targets relative to old and old interior forest condition as well as spatially defined OGMA's whereby all forest managers in the MK TSA must respect, attain and manage toward achieving while planning and conducting forest operations.

Young Forest Patch Size Distribution

Signatories to this agreement are responsible for achieving and/or trending toward young forest patch size targets as defined by results and strategies in Forest Stewardship Plans and/or indicators defined in licensee's forest certification systems (e.g. CSA; SFI). Young forest patch size targets are stated in the Mackenzie LRMP (<http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/tasb/slrp/lrmp/princegeorge/mackenzie/plan/files/assessments/>) and address Objectives Set by Government for Wildlife and Biodiversity at the Landscape Level; refer to Forest Planning and Practices Regulation Sections 9 and 12.4.

AGREEMENT OBJECTIVE

1. To facilitate the collaboration of Signatories in meeting landscape objective targets for the amount of old forest, interior forest, and young forest patch size distribution in the MK TSA;
2. To ensure that forestry activities conducted by Signatories respect the boundaries of current and future Old Growth Management Areas;
3. To provide evidence to government that MK TSA Licensees and BC Timber Sales, Prince George Business Area are working together to achieve the objectives as described and referred to in the preamble.

PRINCIPLES

The undersigned MK TSA Licensees (Signatories) agree to:

1. Collective management of the old forest and old interior forest condition in the LU/LU Groupings where the aspatial order applies;
2. Collective management of current and future young forest patch size targets;
3. Collective management of joint recruitment strategies, where old forest and/or old interior forest targets will not be met in the short term;
4. Individual Signatory responsibilities to maintain the amount of old forest, old interior forest, or recruitment thereof, as agreed between the Signatories and as described in the biodiversity order;
5. Roles and responsibilities in working collaboratively to meet landscape objective targets for old forest, old interior forest, and young forest patch size distribution in the MK TSA, and;
6. Individual Signatory responsibilities to respect the boundaries of current and future Old Growth Management Areas (OGMA's).

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Each Signatory has the following responsibilities:

1. To provide a representative to participate in the MK Landscape Objectives Working Group (MK LOWG);
2. To submit, as requested by MK LOWG, an update of planned blocks, roads and reserves; and blocks that have been harvested, roads developed and managed reserves (e.g. Wildlife Tree Retention Areas or WTRA's);
3. To prepare plans that maintain old forest and old interior forest targets, respect the boundaries of current and future OGMA's and trend positively toward meeting young forest patch size distributions, wherever possible;
4. As requested by other Signatories, to collaborate in the planning of old forest and/or old interior forest conditions within common licensee operating areas and along operating area boundaries;
5. As requested by other Signatories, to collaborate in planning recruitment strategies where old forest or old interior forest targets cannot be met in the short term, and;
6. To support the MK LOWG by providing appropriate funding and/or resources for projects that have been approved by the Signatories, to facilitate implementation, monitoring and adaptive management of the landscape objective targets.

7. The LOWG will meet at least once per year to review the budget and cost sharing for the project as well as the roles and responsibilities of the Signatories.
8. Signatories may leave the LOWG upon providing ninety (90) days written notice to the LOWG.

NON-PARTICIPATING FOREST LICENSEES

1. Non-signatory licensees are not managed through this Agreement. Area based tenures are not part of the MK TSA, and community forest licensees are not subject to meeting landscape objectives.
2. As **new volume based licenses** are allocated in the MK TSA, the relevant agency will be invited to become a Signatory to this agreement and participate in the MK LOWG. New licensees will be expected to seek direction from the MK LOWG specifying the amount or location of old and old interior forest to be retained to meet the Principles of the MK LOWG.
3. Where **two or more Signatory licensees operate in the same area**, they must collaborate in meeting the requirements for old and old interior forest retention for the area. These Signatories will apportion, or spatially assign, the old and old interior forest retention to be met for the area. The MK LOWG expect that government will withhold approval for a non-signatory licensee's plans that do not meet the reasonable expectations of Signatories for apportioned old and old interior forest.

IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

The MK LOWG will meet as required to fulfill the following objectives:

1. to update the current old and old interior forest condition (update harvested blocks and roads, newly planned blocks and roads, reserves – WTRA's, aging of forest, licensee operating area changes);
2. to assess current performance of the Signatories in meeting old forest, old interior forest and young forest patch size targets;
3. to amend this Agreement, as needed and agreed upon between the Signatories.
4. to recommend changes to the landscape objective targets or their implementation, to the relevant agency.

TIMELINES FOR DATA EXCHANGE AND SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

By **April 10** of each calendar year, MK LOWG representatives will submit the following information

1. Planned cutblocks, roads and reserves (WTRA's) forecasted up to 5 years;
2. Cutblocks, roads and reserves (WTRA's) developed between April 1st and March 31st of the previous year.

3. Cutblocks, roads and reserves (WTRA's) developed within the last 20 Years required for young forest patch analysis. Denuded areas older than 20 years are not part of this analysis.

Due to the complexity of these analyses, Signatories are strongly encouraged to submit this information as early as possible in the calendar year.

Spatial data must conform to the following formats, naming conventions and standards:

1. Format: File Geodatabase (FGDB) is the preferred method and where this is not possible shapefiles are satisfactory.

2. Projection:

BC Albers Standard Projection:

The projection is Albers Equal Area Conic, with parameters of:

Central meridian: -126.0° (126°00'00" West longitude)

Latitude of projection origin: 45.0 (45°00'00 North latitude)

First standard parallel: 50.0° (50°00'00" North latitude)

Second standard parallel: 58.5° (58°30'00" North latitude)

False easting: 1000000.0 (one million metres)

False northing: 0.0

Datum: NAD83, based on the GRS80 ellipsoid.

3. Metadata: Spatial data must be accompanied by metadata. The metadata must document and detail each attribute field of a particular dataset, as well as the codes/values used to populate it. Metadata must also make note of the source of the data used in the compilation of each dataset as well as the person who compiled it (including contact details), and the date of data compilation. The metadata standard is FGDB and the preferred submission file format is .txt or .xml.

4. Other Documentation: Please be sure to document and include all methodology used in the compilation of each dataset, as well as a short description of what each dataset represents.

5. Naming Conventions:

If providing FGDB, naming conventions must adhere to the following standard:

FGDB: <Licensee>_<AbbreviatedProjectFolderName>

For example: MKFibre_MKLOWG2011.gdb

Feature layers should be named in accordance with the values given in Table 1.

The name should be descriptive as to the data it represents. This standard must also be applied on all supporting documents including paper maps.

6. Submission: The preferred method for data submission is a file geodatabase (FGDB). Where it is not possible to submit a FGDB then data should be submitted as shapefiles and compressed into a single ZIP file.

The zip file must adhere to the following standard:

<Licensee>_<AbbreviatedProjectFolderName>.zip

For example: MKFibre_MKLOWG2011.zip

Submissions should be made through BCTS's FTP incoming website. Where this is not possible please submit the data by DVD to the **Planning Forester; Mackenzie, BC Timber Sales, 2000 South Ospika Boulevard, Prince George BC, V2N 4W5.**

Please note: Spatial data submissions to BC Timber Sales will be evaluated against these criteria. Landscape Analysis will not proceed and final approval of the report and data sharing will not be released until all of these criteria are met.

Table 1: Data Required

Data should be posted at the following FTP website and an Alert sent to the BCTS Representative when the data is posted as this site is cleaned periodically. Please refer to Table 1 which summarizes the data required for compilation before the Landscape Analyses exercise can be completed. A standard geodatabase and shapefile template is available on this FTP website:

\\mitten.dmz\ftp\TPG\external\incoming\MK_LOWG

Table 1: Data required in preparation for Landscape Analyses

Data Layer	Description	Attributes	Frequency
Blocks_Historical	Harvested cutblocks from the previous 20 years	LICENSEE LICENCE PERMIT BLOCK STATUS DISTURBANCE_CODE HARVEST_DATE SOURCE GEOMETRY_LENGTH GEOMETRY_AREA	Once every 5 years unless data changes substantially
Roads_Historical	Permanent roads built from the previous 20 Years, road buffers in meters	LICENSEE NAME STATUS TYPE DATE_BUILT LENGTH_KM BUFFER SOURCE	Once every 5 years unless data changes substantially
Reserves_Historical	WTRA's developed from previous 20 Years	LICENSEE LICENCE PERMIT BLOCK STATUS HARVEST_DATE SOURCE GEOMETRY_LENGTH GEOMETRY_AREA	Once every 5 years unless data changes substantially
Blocks_Year	Harvested cutblocks from the previous calendar year	LICENSEE LICENCE PERMIT BLOCK STATUS DISTURBANCE_CODE HARVEST_DATE SOURCE GEOMETRY_LENGTH GEOMETRY_AREA	Annually
Roads_Year	Permanent roads built from the previous calendar year, road buffers in meters	LICENSEE NAME STATUS TYPE DATE_BUILT LENGTH_KM BUFFER	Annually

		SOURCE	
Reserves_Year	WTRA's developed from the previous calendar year	LICENSEE LICENCE PERMIT BLOCK STATUS HARVEST_DATE SOURCE GEOMETRY_LENGTH GEOMETRY_AREA	Annually
Planned_Blocks	Planned cutblocks forecasted for the next 5 years	LICENSEE LICENCE PERMIT BLOCK STATUS DISTURBANCE_CODE HARVEST_DATE SOURCE GEOMETRY_LENGTH GEOMETRY_AREA	Annually
Planned_Roads	Planned permanent roads forecasted for the next 5 years, road buffers in meters	LICENSEE NAME STATUS TYPE DATE_BUILT LENGTH_KM BUFFER SOURCE	Annually
Planned_Reserves	Planned WTRA's forecasted for the next 5 years	LICENSEE LICENCE PERMIT BLOCK STATUS HARVEST_DATE SOURCE GEOMETRY_LENGTH GEOMETRY_AREA	Annually

If you require any assistance regarding spatial data, please contact the BC Timber Sales MK LOWG representative and help will be arranged.

BUDGET AND COST SHARING

Prior to undertaking contract projects, the Signatories must agree to the budget and cost allocation of the project. If project costs are forecasted to exceed the budget estimate that is agreed to, the LOWG group will review the project costs and come to an agreement with how to proceed with completing the project.

Analysis will be completed by BC Timber Sales. All costs associated with MK LOWG, not deemed eligible for external funding, are to be split between MK LOWG Signatories based on the following:

- A. 50% Total Cost: Split equally among Signatories.
- B. 50% Total Cost: Pro-rated to all Signatories based on total annual depletion area.

$$\text{Step 1. } \frac{50\% \text{ Total Cost}}{\text{*total annual depletion area (ha)}} = \$/\text{ha}$$

$$\text{Step 2. } (\$/\text{ha}) * (\text{Signatory depletion area}) = B$$

*Total annual depletion area is based on forestry activities completed between April 1st and March 31st each year.

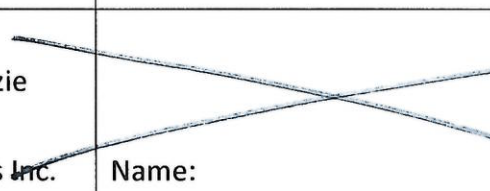
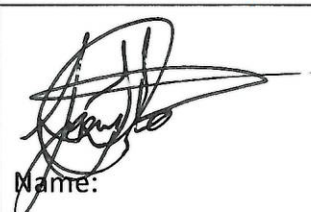
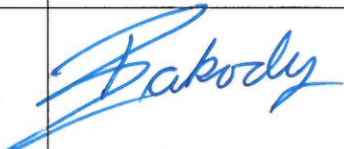
- C. Total Cost per Signatory = A + B

DELIVERABLES

Deliverables from these Landscape Analyses will include the following:

1. Maps of the Mackenzie TSA representing current old and old interior forest condition.
2. Tables representing current old and old interior forest condition compared against established targets.
3. Maps of the Mackenzie TSA representing current young forest patch size distribution.
4. Tables representing current and future young forest patch size distribution compared against established targets.
5. A shared spatial dataset which includes the latest population of denuded and planned blocks, roads and managed reserves (WTRA's).

SIGNATORIES

Signatory	Signature	Tenures	Contact Info
Conifex Mackenzie Forest Products Inc.	 Name:	A15385	Attention: Planning Superintendent P.O. Box 250, FFI Road Mackenzie, BC V0J 2C0 Phone: (250) 997-2772
Canfor	 Name: Jason Neumeier.	A15384	Attention: Planning Forester Canadian Forest Products Ltd. Mackenzie Division Box 310 Mackenzie, BC V0J 2C0 Phone: (250) 997-3271
BC Timber Sales – Prince George Business Area	 Name:	N / A	Attention: Planning Forester 2000 S. Ospika Blvd. Prince George, BC V2N 4W5 Phone: (250) 614 – 7400
Mackenzie Fibre	 Name: Mark Balogh	A87345	Attention: Forestry Superintendent Mackenzie Fibre Box 2442; 128-403 Mackenzie Blvd. Mackenzie, BC, V0J 2C0 Phone: (250) 996-3380
Three Feathers GP Ltd.	 Name: Patience Rakochy	A86661	Attention: Board Member General Delivery McLeod Lake, BC V0J 2G0 Phone: (250) 750-4415
Chu Cho (Tsay Keh Dene)	 Name:	A62375 A90832 A90829	Patience Rakochy See Bus. Card. ↑

SIGNATORIES

Signatory	Signature	Tenures	Contact Info
Conifex Mackenzie Forest Products Inc.	 Name: <i>Kelly Farron</i>	A15385	Attention: Planning Superintendent P.O. Box 250, FFI Road Mackenzie, BC V0J 2C0 Phone: (250) 997-2772
Canfor	Name:	A15384	Attention: Planning Forester Canadian Forest Products Ltd. Mackenzie Division Box 310 Mackenzie, BC V0J 2C0 Phone: (250) 997-3271
BC Timber Sales – Prince George Business Area	Name:	N / A	Attention: Planning Forester 2000 S. Ospika Blvd. Prince George, BC V2N 4W5 Phone: (250) 614 – 7400
Mackenzie Fibre	Name:	A87345	Attention: Forestry Superintendent Mackenzie Fibre Box 2442; 128-403 Mackenzie Blvd. Mackenzie, BC, V0J 2C0 Phone: (250) 996-3380
Three Feathers GP Ltd.	Name:		Attention: Board Member General Delivery McLeod Lake, BC V0J 2G0 Phone: (250) 750-4415
Chu Cho (Tsay Keh Dene)	Name:		