

**Lower North Thompson Community Forest Society**

# **Management Plan**

**Community Forest Agreement K1Z  
February 2015**

**File:**

**Southern Interior Forest Region  
Thompson Rivers Forest District**

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**Mike Francis, R.P.F.**

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**Date (yy/mm/dd)**

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## 1.0 Introduction

This Management Plan has been prepared for and in accordance with the requirements of Section 6.00 of Community Forest Agreement (CFA) K1Z, dated August 1, 2010, and held by the Lower North Thompson Community Forest Society (LNTCFS).

The Lower North Thompson Community Forest is located in the Thompson Rivers Forest District, near the community of Barriere, British Columbia (Figure 1). It encompasses a gross area of 8,254 ha, predominately productive forests.

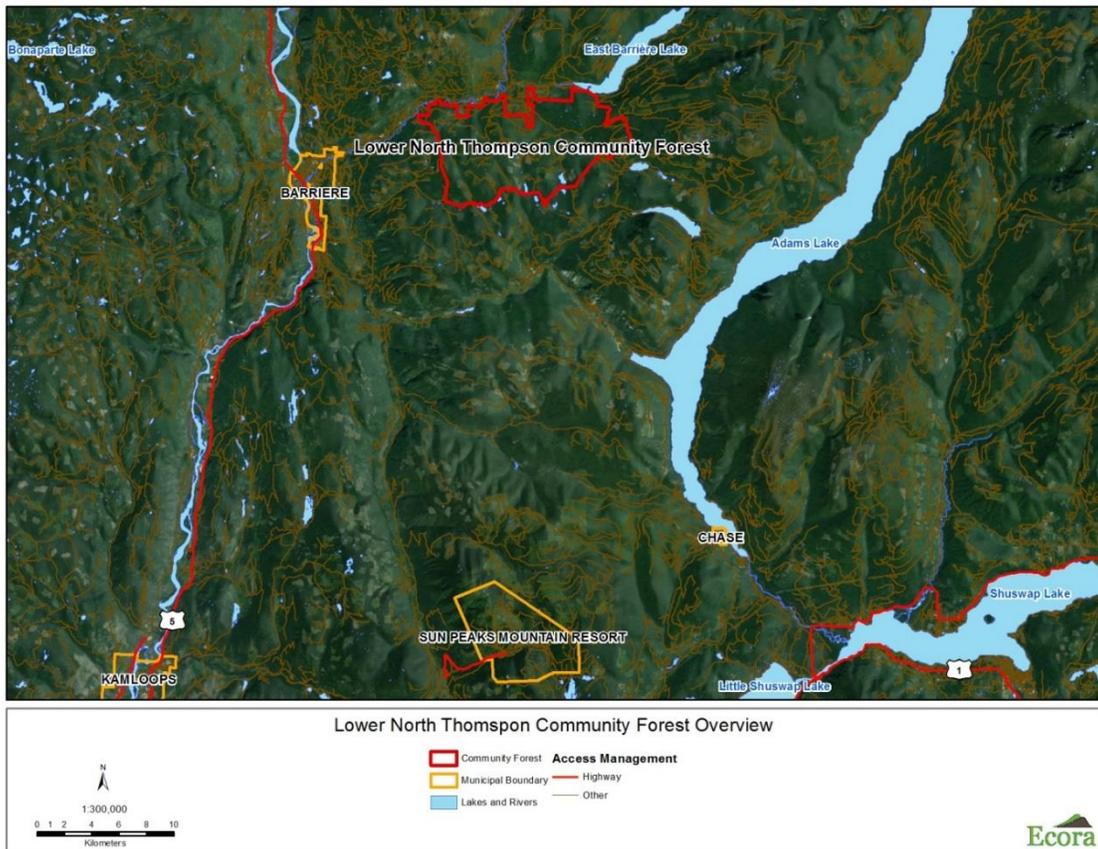


Figure 1.1. Location of Community Forest Agreement K1Z

## 2.0 Consistency Statements

This Management Plan is consistent with Community Forest Agreement K1Z, forestry legislation, and higher level plans under the Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA). In addition, it is consistent with the commitments made in the Community Forest Agreement application package with the exception of the changes and exclusions contained in Appendix 1.

### **3.0 Resource Inventories**

#### **3.1 Vegetation Resource Inventory**

A Vegetation Resource Inventory (VRI) was completed for the community forest area in 2008 by Timberline Natural Resource Group. This updated VRI data replaces the existing forest cover data used in the LNTCFS's 2007 Management Plan.

#### **3.2 Terrestrial Ecosystem Mapping**

Terrestrial Ecosystem Mapping (TEM) was completed for the community forest area in 2012 by Ecora Resource Group. The TEM was completed at a survey intensity level 4, with 15% polygon visitation totaling 138 samples. An accuracy assessment for the TEM was conducted by Biome Ecological Consultants (2012).

#### **3.3 Archaeological Overview Assessment**

An Archaeological Overview Assessment (AOA) was completed for the community forest area in 2009 by Simpcw First Nation.

#### **3.4 Other Inventories**

Other inventories that exist for the community forest area include a landscape inventory, recreation inventory, biogeoclimatic inventory, ungulate winter range inventory, water user inventory, and stream classification inventory.

#### **3.5 Botanical Forest Products and Other Prescribed Products**

No botanical forest products or other prescribed products are listed in Schedule "C" of Community Forest Agreement K1Z (August 1, 2010).

### **4.0 Timber Supply Analysis and Allowable Annual Cut (AAC)**

#### **4.1 Timber Supply Analysis Discussion**

Ecora Resource Group (Ecora) was contracted to complete the timber supply analysis portion of this plan. The complete Timber Supply Analysis report is attached in Appendix 2.

The analysis closely follows to the last Timber Supply Review for the Kamloops TSA and assumptions were kept consistent with the Data Package. Adjustments were made to reflect recent changes, such as updating the vegetation resource inventory (VRI) to 2014 and accounting for harvesting disturbances to the end of 2014.

##### **4.1.1 Netdown**

The netdown process starts with the gross area of a given land base and removes area in a stepwise fashion according to classification criteria. The netdown reduces area that are classified as non-crown, and areas that are unable to grow viable timber to give the total productive area. This productive land base is further classified into areas that are likely to be harvested (THLB) and areas that are unlikely to be harvested (non-THLB). Table 4.1 shows this step-wise classification of the land base for the CF area. This netdown closely follows the netdown classification from the last TSR analysis for the Kamloops TSA.

For more details, refer to the description of each netdown step in Appendix C of the Timber Supply Analysis.

**Table 4.1: Netdown Classification**

<b>Netdown Category</b>	<b>Total Area (ha)</b>	<b>Productive Area (ha)</b>	<b>Area Removed (ha)</b>
Total	8,273.3		
Non-Crown	19.2	-	19.2
Non-Forest	98.5	-	98.5
Existing Road	158.1	-	154.7
Environmentally Sensitive Area	63.9	62.1	61.4
Low Productivity			
Non-Merchantable	18.1	17.8	17.8
Riparian - Stream Buffer	96.6	90.1	90.1
Riparian - Lake Buffer	4.7	4.5	4.5
Riparian - Wetland Buffer	6.1	2.5	2.5
OGMA	534.0	534.0	425.2
<b>Timber Harvesting Land Base</b>	-		7,399.3

#### 4.1.2 Resource Management Zones

Resource management zones (RMZs) are grouped areas that support non-timber resource requirements. Each RMZ has forest cover objectives (either retention or disturbance requirements) which are applied to sub-sets of the land base. They are often overlapping and therefore not additive in area. For detailed modelling information on the RMZs, see Appendix A of the Timber Supply Analysis. The following RMZs occur within the CF area:

- Landscape level biodiversity requirements through Old Growth Management Areas (OGMA);
- Integrated resource management (IRM) areas;
- Visual quality objective areas (VQO).

Table 4.2 shows the area and percentage by RMZ in the Community Forest area.

OGMAs are removed during the netdown classification and therefore did not require further modeling as an RMZ. WTRs are applied as a 7% aspatial netdown to the THLB during the netdown classification; therefore they also do not require further modeling as an RMZ.

The majority of the CF area is in the Barriere landscape unit, but also includes some area within the Adams Lake LU. Table 4.2 shows the area by RMZ in the CF area.

**Table 4.2: RMZ Area Summary**

RMZ	Area (ha)			% of Productive Area
	THLB	Non-THLB Productive	Total Productive	
IRM_AdamsLake_ICHmk2	458.2	0.0	458.2	6.0%
IRM_Barriere_ICHdw3	210.2	0.0	210.2	2.8%
IRM_Barriere_ICHmk2	3336.1	0.0	3336.1	43.8%
IRM_Barriere_ICHmw3	1.2	0.0	1.2	0.0%
IRM_Barriere_IDFmw2	596.2	0.0	596.2	7.8%
VQO_PR_1867	479.0	19.6	498.6	6.5%
VQO_PR_412	21.2	0.0	21.2	0.3%
VQO_PR_429	144.3	17.1	161.4	2.1%
VQO_PR_435	1915.4	150.8	2066.2	27.1%
VQO_PR_523	39.2	2.0	41.2	0.5%
VQO_PR_525	14.9	3.8	18.7	0.2%
VQO_PR_531	69.0	2.8	71.8	0.9%
VQO_PR_536	85.2	26.7	111.9	1.5%
VQO_PR_543	29.1	0.0	29.1	0.4%

#### 4.1.3 Base Case Analysis

The base case timber supply flow includes:

- A THLB of 7,399 ha as described in Section 3 “Landbase Description”;
- RMZs including to address visual quality and integrated resource management;
- Stand yield curves using TIPSy for managed stands and VDYP for natural stands; and
- A non-declining harvest flow and a sustainable long term growing stock.

Ecora has analyzed the forest cover data and determined that the landbase is capable of supplying a short-term harvest of 21,300 m<sup>3</sup>/year for the first 90 years, after which it climbs to the sustainable long-term level of 23,600 m<sup>3</sup>/year. Harvest levels were found to the nearest 500 m<sup>3</sup>/year and include any non-recoverable losses (NRLs). Figure 4.1 shows the THLB harvest level. A 250 year planning horizon was chosen in order to allow growing stock to stabilize and reach a non-declining level, as shown in Figure 4.2.

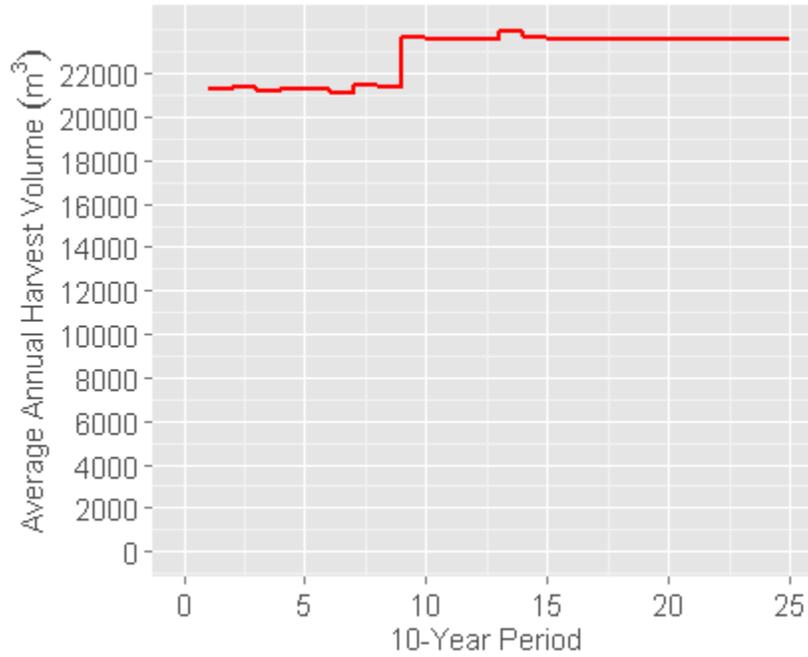


Figure 4.1: Base Case Harvest Level

The growing stock is at its highest level (811,000 m<sup>3</sup>) at the start of the planning horizon. It falls to a minimum level of 565,000 m<sup>3</sup> in period four, before stabilizing at an average level of 565,000 m<sup>3</sup> over the second half of the planning horizon.

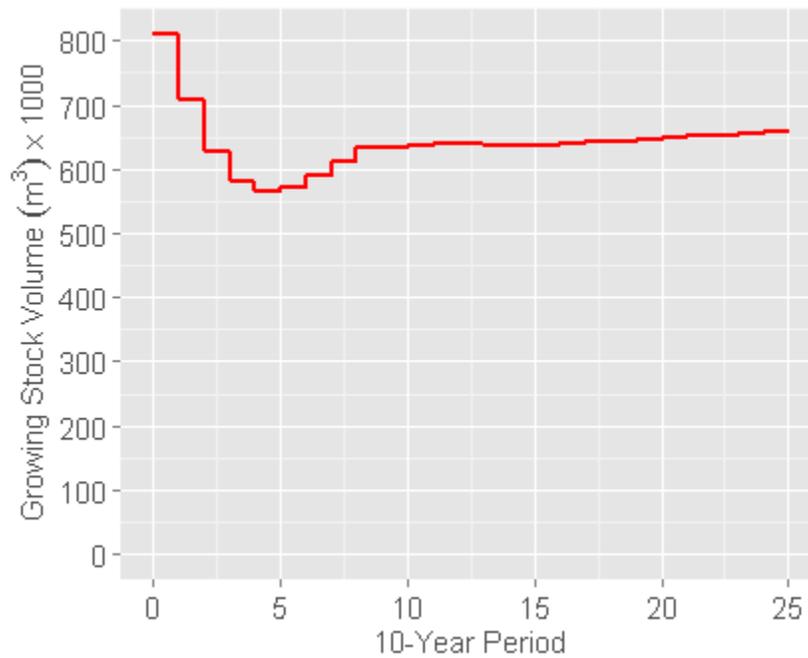


Figure 4.2: Base Case Growing Stock

#### 4.1.4 Non-Recoverable Losses

The calculation of non-recoverable losses (NRL) started with the TSR4 TSA-level estimates for NRL and pro-rated them for net land base area in the Community Forest. This NRL calculation is shown below in Table .

**Table 4.3: Non-Recoverable Loss Calculation**

	<b>Kamloops TSA</b>	<b>LNTCF</b>
THLB (ha)	1,009,305	7,399
% of TSA		
THLB	100%	0.7%
Fire	12,210	90
Insects	41,130	302
Wind	9,250	68
<b>Total</b>	<b>62,590</b>	<b>459</b>

#### 4.2 Allowable Annual Cut

The AAC being proposed for the coming ten-year period is the base case initial harvest level less the NRL's calculated above. The calculated NRL value has been rounded to the nearest 100 cubic metres for this purpose.

Table shows the calculation of the proposed AAC.

**Table 4.4: Proposed AAC Calculation**

Initial Base Case Harvest Level	21,300 m <sup>3</sup> /year
Non-Recoverable Losses	500 m <sup>3</sup> /year
Proposed AAC	20,800 m <sup>3</sup> /year

The recommended AAC for the next 10-year period is **20,800 m<sup>3</sup>/year**.

This harvest level is consistent with the results of the timber supply analysis and the social, economic, and resource management objectives of the LNTCFS.

#### 5.0 Management Objectives: Botanical Forest Products and Other Prescribed Products

No botanical forest products or other prescribed products are listed in Schedule "C" of Community Forest Agreement K1Z (August 1, 2010). As such, there are currently no provisions within the Community Forest Agreement K1Z document for the harvesting, management of, and charging fees for botanical forest products or other prescribed products.

The LNTCFS does not plan to actively manage any of these particular products at this point in time. However, as information and policy on these products and their associated management improves and evolves, the LNTCFS wishes to retain the right to harvest, manage, and charge fees for these products.

## 6.0 Measure to Identify and Consult with Other Users

The LNTCFS will utilize the measures contained in the following subsections to identify and consult with persons using the Community Forest Agreement area for purposes other than timber production or harvesting of prescribed products listed in Schedule “C”.

### 6.1 Trappers, Guide Outfitters, Range Tenure Holders, and other Agreement resource users

All proposed harvesting and road building activities will be referred to the affected stakeholders before approval. This process will generally be completed as part of the Forest Stewardship Plan and/or the cutting permit application. As well, additional field trips and informal day-to-day discussions of plans and activities may occur to inform the interest groups of proposed operations. Any comments that are received from these groups will be taken into consideration. Responses (either written or verbal) will be made to all written concerns within 30 days of receiving the written concern.

There is one trap line and one guide management unit associated with the area. Table 1 lists these tenure numbers:

**Table 6.1: Trap Lines & Guides**

Trap Line Number	Guide Management Unit
TR0337T001	3-38

There are several range tenures associated with the Community Forest area. Table 2 lists these licenses and their associated stock ranges and range units:

**Table 6.2: Range Tenures**

License Number	Stock Range	Range Unit
RAN077239	Chu Chua	East Barriere
RAN077574	Chu Chua	Dixon Creek
Vacant	Chu Chua	Saskum
RAN077498	Squam Bay	Dixon Lake, Sunshine
RAN077518	Squam Bay	Spapilem

There are domestic water licences on several of the streams, springs, and lakes within and adjacent to the Community Forest, including Barriere River, East Barriere River, East Barriere Lake, Haggard Creek, and Bode Spring. Table 3 lists these licenses:

**Table 6.3: Domestic Water Licences**

Stream / Lake Name	License Number
East Barriere Lake	C108001, C109597, C111562, C114618, C120601
East Barriere River	C054267, C054268, C054269, C054384, C054467, C055440, C055441, C103448, C104282, C105778, C121605, C121606
Barriere River	C049274, C054990, C054991, C057611, C058271, C058351, C059800, C061183, C065150, C111466, C111467, C111468, C111471, C122562, C122563, C124720
Haggard Creek	C054263, C054264, C057269, C066936, C066937, C110955
Bode Spring	C115543

These lists will be updated annually and/or confirmed at the time of referral to ensure any changes to tenure or tenure holder are accounted for.

## **6.2 Aboriginal Groups**

This Community Forest Licence falls within the traditional area of the Simpcw First Nation (North Thompson Indian Band), Adams Lake Indian Band, Neskonlith Indian Band, and Little Shuswap Indian Band. All proposed harvesting and road building activities will be referred to the bands before approval using the process approved through the LNTCFS Forest Stewardship Plan. The LNTCFS may also schedule information sessions with the bands to discuss their concerns and to review the proposed activities. Concerns may include archaeological sites, restricted trails, traditional uses and rights, and the general impacts of forest development. Notes regarding concerns, decisions and actions will be created and kept on file for future reference and for the incorporation into operational plans.

Simpcw First Nation is one of the participating communities (Chu Chua) involved with the Community Forest and as such have an opportunity to be actively involved in setting the overall policies for the licence area through membership and the board of directors.

Before initiating First Nation information-sharing, the LNTCFS will confirm and if necessary update the list of aboriginal groups requiring referral.

## **6.3 Community Members, Local Governments, and Government Agencies**

Community members, local governments, and government agencies will be informed of and invited to comment on the operational planning within the Community Forest Agreement through a combination of the following meetings and/or activities:

- An Annual General Meeting (AGM) and/or Annual Public Meeting will provide Society members, stakeholders, and members of the public the opportunity to discuss and review all aspects of the Community Forest Agreement. Discussion with the board of directors regarding all aspects of the Community Forest will be encouraged. The AGM also provides the opportunity for Society members to run for a position on the board of directors. All Director positions are voluntary, ensuring participation is community oriented.
- The LNTCFS will prepare and distribute a newsletter to Society members to keep them updated and informed on the planned and completed activities of the Society.

Stakeholders, Society members, and the public will be invited to submit written comments and concerns at all events. Responses (either written or verbal) will be made to all written concerns within 30 days of receiving the written concern. Copies of comments and responses will be kept on file and will be used to help set direction and policy for the Community Forest Agreement.

## **7.0 Guiding Principles**

The LNTCFS has the following guiding principles:

- To establish local control of dedicated forest resources for the long-term sustainability of the five participating communities: McLure, Louis Creek, Barriere, Chu Chua, and Little Fort
- To secure for these communities an opportunity to be more self-determined
- To engender economic stability in these communities.
- To practice and model exemplary stewardship of this local forest environment

## **8.0 Social, Economic, and Resource Management Goals**

The LNTCFS has several broad social, economic, and resource management goals as outlined below. Detailed resource management objectives, results and strategies are contained in the LNTCFS's approved Forest Stewardship Plan.

1. The Lower North Thompson Community Forest will be sustainably managed for the benefit of all citizens of the Lower North Thompson Valley
2. The LNTCFS will engage the residents, young and old of the Lower North Thompson Valley so that they are knowledgeable about LNTCFS, community forestry, and the benefits of forest and natural resource management.
3. The Lower North Thompson Community Forest will offer opportunities for innovation and research.
4. The Lower North Thompson Community Forest will provide a stable source of revenue and employment for the benefit of all citizens of the Lower North Thompson Valley
5. The LNTCFS will distribute surplus funds within the five participating communities.
6. The LNTCFS will endeavour to provide employment for local contractors for logging, road building, and silviculture.
7. There will be a minimum of one Public Meeting per year where members of the Society, stakeholders, and the public are invited to be informed of, and provide input on, all aspects involved with the Community Forest Agreement.
8. All operational planning, including cutblock and road development, will be referred to the affected stakeholders to invite their comments.
9. All activities within the CFA will be consistent with the standards set in legislation and in higher-level plans.
10. The LNTCFS will abide by the TSA level Sustainable Forest Management Plan (SFMP) reporting process.

## 9.0 Provincial CFA Program Objectives

The Lower North Thompson Community Forest Society has developed and worked towards achievement of several objectives and strategies in support of the Provincial CFA Program Objectives. These objectives and strategies (from Section 8.0 above) are outlined below as follows:

1. *provide long-term opportunities for achieving a range of community objectives, values and priorities*
  - The LNTCFS will distribute surplus funds within the five participating communities.
  - The LNTCFS will provide a stable source of revenue and employment for the benefit of all citizens of the Lower North Thompson Valley
2. *diversify the use of and benefits derived from the community forest agreement area*
  - The LNTCFS will endeavour to provide employment for local contractors for logging, road building, and silviculture.
  - The LNTCFS will provide, enable and/or facilitate natural resource related training and education.
3. *provide social and economic benefits to British Columbia*
  - The LNTCFS will distribute surplus funds within the five participating communities.
  - The LNTCFS will pay stumpage to the Province of British Columbia for all timber harvested under the CFA, as per Part 7 of the *Forest Act*.
  - The LNTCFS will endeavour to provide employment for local contractors for logging, road building, and silviculture.
4. *undertake community forestry consistent with sound principles of environmental stewardship that reflect a broad spectrum of values*
  - All activities within the CFA will be consistent with the standards set in legislation and in higher-level plans.
  - The LNTCFS will abide by the TSA level Sustainable Forest Management Plan (SFMP) reporting process.
5. *promote community involvement and participation*
  - All operational planning, including cutblock and road development, will be referred to the affected stakeholders to invite their comments. The referrals will take place during the Forest Stewardship Plan and/or the Cutting Permit applications.
  - There will be a minimum of one Public Meeting per year where members of the Society, stakeholders, and the public are invited to be informed of, and provide input on, all aspects involved with the Community Forest Agreement.
  - The LNTCFS will provide, enable and/or facilitate natural resource related training and education.

6. *promote communication and strengthen relationships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities and persons*

- Continue to maintain a good working relationships with affected First Nations.
- Simpcw First Nation is one of the participating communities (Chu Chua) involved with the Community Forest and as such have an opportunity to be actively involved in setting the overall policies for the licence area through membership and the board of directors.

7. *foster innovation*

- The LNTCFS will seek to partner with educational institution(s) for research project(s) within the CFA
- The LNTCFS will continue to seek funding through FPIInnovations and other similar organizations

8. *advocate forest worker safety*

- The LNTCFS will advocate for forest worker safety through SAFE Certification under the BC Forest Safety Council and/or other certification scheme containing a safety element.

## **10.0 Annual Reporting**

The LNTCFS will report out annually to the community at their Annual General Meeting and/or Annual Public Meeting their performance in relation to Sections 1.6 (Provincial CFA Program Objectives), 1.7 (Guiding Principles), and 1.8 (Social, Economic, and Broad Resource Management Goals) of this Plan. Notices will be posted in the local newspaper(s) to provide the correct dates and times of the meeting(s) and to invite Society members, stakeholders, and/or the public to attend.

# Appendix 1

## Variations in Consistency with CFA Application

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## **Variances in Consistency with CFA Application Package, Section 2.2 Commitments:**

Several of the commitments made within the CFA application package, and summarized in Section 2.2 (Statement of Goals and Guiding Principles) of the application, are either no longer applicable or require revision in light of the developments made, experience gained, and evolved priorities of the LNTCFS over the past six years, from the time of the original application was prepared and submitted.

The following variances are made to the commitments in the Community Forest Agreement application package:

### **Section 2.2, Commitment #1:**

To support a new local value added plant that employs a minimum of six full time people to be established in Barriere as a result of the offer of the Community Forest Agreement. The Community Forest License is to sell a minimum of 10,000 m<sup>3</sup> to the value added facility for a minimum period of five years (Sec 1.4, 2.2, 2.9).

- Variance: No longer applicable, redundant.
- Rationale: Our five year fibre supply agreement with Barriere Forest Products has now expired. During the term of this agreement, the LNTCFS made available for purchase an annual volume of 10,000m<sup>3</sup> to the value added facility.

### **Section 2.2, Commitment #2:**

To provide employment for a local person as the Executive Director of Operations for the CFA (Sec. 1.4, 2.3).

- Variance: No longer applicable, redundant.
- Rationale: The LNTCFS contract with the Executive Director of Operations had a term from December 3, 2004 to March 2, 2008. During this time, the Director of Operations was provided employment through a contract agreement with the LNTCFS for log marketing and supervision services. With the expiry of this contract, the LNTCFS made the decision to hire a general manager in April 2008 to assume these responsibilities and, as a result, this objective is now redundant.

### **Section 2.2, Commitment #3:**

To provide employment for a local person as the Executive Director of Forestry for the CFA (Sec. 1.4, 2.3). To provide a minimum of two full time local positions in development planning, Site Plans, engineering, timber cruising, timber appraisals, and silviculture activities for a minimum of two years from the issue of the Community Forest Agreement.

- Variance: No longer applicable, redundant.
- Rationale: The LNTCFS contract with the Executive Director of Forestry had a term from September 1, 2004 to August 31, 2009. During this timeframe, the Director of Forestry opened and operated an office in Barriere with 2 to 5 employees through a contract agreement with the LNTCFS for development planning and works on the Community Forest Agreement and Non-Replaceable Forest License areas. With the expiry of this contract, the LNTCFS made the decision to hire a general manager in April 2008 to assume these responsibilities and, as a result, this objective is now redundant.

#### **Section 2.2, Commitment #4:**

To provide employment for local contractors for logging, road building, and silviculture activities (Sec. 1.4). The LNTCFS has a local hiring policy. Each year a local hiring list of contractors will be advertised and created. Contract work will be first offered to the eligible contractors on the Contractors List (Appendix 5).

- Varied Commitment: The LNTCFS will endeavour to provide employment for local contractors for logging, road building, and silviculture.
- Rationale: The LNTCFS has maintained and annually updated a local contractors list and, when available, has first offered contact work to eligible contractors on the contractors list. However, with the implementation of this policy, several issues and shortcomings have been identified and as a result, specifically:
  - The 2008 downturn in the industry led to a reduction in the number of contractors on our list as many medium and small contractors were driven out of business.
  - SAFE certification requirements further reduced the number of local contractors meeting our eligibility requirements
  - Due to limited number of eligible bidders, locally acquired contracting rates were often higher than necessary and/or subcontracted to non-local contractors.
  - Currently the industry is improving and there is now a contractor shortage resulting in lack of contractors interested in bidding on work as most have the ability to negotiate direct award contracts for better rates and reduced uncertainty.

The LNTCFS recognizes the value in hiring local contractors, but have also recognized through experience both the need for flexibility in how contractors are selected as well as the need for a balanced approach between hiring locally and maintaining the viability of the business.

#### **Section 2.2, Commitment #8:**

Starting in 2007, there will be a minimum of one Annual Field Visit to the Community Forest area for educational information for students, teachers, Society members, stakeholders, and/or the general public (Sec 1.5, 2.5, 2.10, 3.6). Responses (either written or verbal) will be made to all written concerns within 30 days of receiving any written concern.

- Varied Commitment: The LNTCFS will provide, enable and/or facilitate natural resource related training and education.
- Rationale: This broadens the commitment to provide additional flexibility in how the LNTCFS achieves educational and training objectives from year to year. Annual Field Visits to the Community Forest area are one strategy towards achievement of this objective, however, the revised commitment provides flexibility to use alternative strategies, such as field trips to other locations and/or classroom presentations.

**Section 2.2, Commitment #12:**

The LNTCFS will abide by the TSA level Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) planning and reporting process.

- Varied Commitment: The LNTCFS will abide by the TSA level Sustainable Forest Management Plan (SFMP) reporting process.
- Rationale: The LNTCFS has, and will continue to, submit annual SFMP reports in order to support the process but wishes to limit operational commitments to those within existing legislation, regulations, higher level plans, and LNTCFS operational plans.

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# Appendix 2

**Community Forest Agreement K1Z  
Timber Supply Analysis  
(February 2015)**

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