

# **Management Plan**

## **Lower North Thompson Community Forest Society**

**April 2006**

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**Southern Interior Forest Region  
Kamloops Forest District  
Kamloops Timber Supply Area**

**Prepared by Bondar Forest Planning Inc.**

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

## **Category 3: Management Plan (Forest Stewardship and Management Objectives)**

The Forest Act requires that a management plan be prepared for all timber being developed on Crown Land. The *Forest Act* and the *Forest and Range Practices Act* are the basis for its content. Approval of the management plan represents approval in principle of management's intent but it does not give authority to proceed with specific operational activities. Approval for operational activities of a Community Forest is completed through other processes, such as the Forest Stewardship Plan, Cutting Permit, etc.

This Management Plan provides a clear statement of the proponent's objectives for resource management for the area associated with this Community Forest Agreement. The strategies that will be used to achieve the stated objectives will also be discussed.

### **3.1 Consistency Statements**

This Management Plan is consistent with Community Forest Agreement, the Forest Act and Regulations, and the Forest and Range Practices Act and Regulations. In addition, it is consistent with the Kamloops Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP).

### **3.2 Resource Inventories**

Based upon integrated resource management principles, an inventory of the forest resources has been compiled as part of the Management Plan. The current forest inventory information for the Community Forest Area is that used in the Timber Supply Review 2 (TSR2) data package, but with ages projected to 2005. Harvesting has taken place in the proposed area since TSR2, so updates current to June 2005 were completed using information from Tolko Industries Ltd. As further disturbances occur and silviculture treatments are undertaken on the licence area, this inventory will be updated for the Licence area.

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. This inventory information will be used during all aspects of the planning and development of the Community Forest area. As new information becomes available, the existing inventories will be updated.

### **3.3 Allowable Annual Cut (AAC)**

The short-term Allowable Annual Cut for the Community Forest Agreement is 24,530 m<sup>3</sup>/year. The short-term harvest flow is higher than the license allocation of 20,000 m<sup>3</sup>/year; however, the long-term flow is in line with the Kamloops Timber Supply Area's long-term expectation. The TSA shows a 5% drop to its long-term harvest level, so a 5% drop from the 20,000 m<sup>3</sup>/year allocation is 19,000 m<sup>3</sup>/year. The Community Forest Landbase will therefore support a long-term harvest flow of 19,000 m<sup>3</sup>/year. The short-term flow (24,530 m<sup>3</sup>/year) is a result of the current percentage of mature growing stock within the area.

Forsite Consultants Ltd. has analyzed the forestry cover data and determined that the landbase is capable of supplying a short-term harvest of 24,530 m<sup>3</sup>/year and a long-term harvest of 19,000 m<sup>3</sup>/year. The forest cover information used in this AAC analysis is that used in the Timber Supply Review 2 (TSR2) data package, but with ages projected to 2005. Harvesting has taken place in the proposed area since TSR2, so updates current to June 2005 were completed using information from Tolko Industries Ltd. The complete Timber Supply Analysis report is attached in Appendix 2.

### **3.4 Management Objectives and Strategies**

The objectives of the Lower North Thompson Community Forest will be to manage and protect the following forest resources:

- Timber
- Water and Riparian Areas
- Fish and Wildlife
- Recreation
- Visuals
- Botanical Forest Products
- Range
- Cultural Heritage Resources and Archaeological Sites

#### **3.4.1 Timber Resources**

The primary goal of the Lower North Thompson Community Forest is to generate the maximum revenue and employment opportunities for the communities involved. This is necessary to literally save the local communities from dying, to keep wage earners from leaving to live in larger centres, to keep schools open, and to keep essential services in local communities to support aging seniors. In order to achieve this, the timber volume will be allocated in two different ways.

The first is to sell the harvested logs for profit. The timber resource is clearly the best potential generator of cash flow that will be required to carry out the planning and management of the Community Forest. In addition it will provide

much needed revenues for community enhancement of services and amenities. Logs will be offered for sale to the various major licencees in the surrounding area, including Gilbert Smith Forest Products Ltd., Tolko Industries Ltd., International Forest Products, Canadian Forest Products, and Weyerhaeuser Canada Ltd. Profits will be distributed to the participating communities.

The second is to establish or support a value-added industry in the North Thompson area. Value-added companies will be encouraged to set up in the local communities. Generally, these value-added businesses are small, high labour intensive operations. This will create new sustainable job opportunities for the area and will replace jobs that have been lost.

All operational planning, under this Community Forest Agreement, will be carried out in accordance with the *Forest Act*, the *Forest and Range Practices Act*, the *Heritage Conservation Act*, the *Fisheries Act*, the *Water Act*, the *Wildlife Act*, the *Local Resource Management Plans*, and any other related resource management acts and regulations. The Licencee will be responsible for all associated costs to regenerate those areas harvested under this Licence (up to and including the declaration of free-growing status by the District Manager). The Licencee will pay stumpage under Part 7 of the Forest Act in respect of timber harvested under this Licence.

The licencee will be responsible for all cutblock identification and forest development work on those areas being logged. Operational planning will include preparation of a Forest Stewardship Plan, Site Plans (SP's), Road Permits, and Timber Appraisals. Development will include any of the following: cutblock layout and boundary marking, cruising, road layout and design, and road construction or modification. The Licencee is responsible to carry out all silviculture obligations for areas harvested until the District Manager declares the harvested area a free growing stand.

The timber located within the confines of this Community Forest Licence is composed primarily of Douglas-fir, lodgepole pine, spruce, and western redcedar. A smaller component of balsam, western white pine, and western hemlock is scattered throughout the area. Deciduous species consist of aspen, birch, and cottonwood. Coniferous stands will be the main focus for development; however, deciduous trees may also be harvested if suitable markets are found for the wood. Generally, all coniferous species in grades 1 and 2 will be mandatory utilization. Coniferous species in all other grades, as well as all deciduous species will be optional utilization. Timber harvest specifications will adhere to the current utilization standards set by the Ministry of Forests. Lodgepole pine will be utilized to a minimum dbh of 12.5 cm and a 10 cm top. All other species will be utilized to a minimum dbh of 17.5 cm and a 10 cm top.

In order to minimize impacts on the various forest ecosystems within the Community Forest, various types of silviculture systems will be utilized, including

both even-aged and uneven-aged management. Silviculture activities will include a combination of planting and natural regeneration. Generally, planting will coincide with even-aged management, and natural regeneration will coincide with uneven-aged management. Other silviculture treatments that may be required include site preparation, brushing, and thinning.

Maximizing economic profits from forest development requires a long-term commitment to maintain productivity and to control damaging agents. It is imperative that the selected management strategies for controlling damaging agents do not pilot new or increase damage to other forest health factors. Strategies must employ silviculture systems that will convey full-site occupancy with acceptable species and within acceptable time frames. They must consider all resource values found within the landscape.

### **Root Disease**

Root pathogens are an integral part of forest ecosystems and can be viewed as both detrimental and beneficial to the health, function, and productivity of forests. They can reduce tree growth, lower wood quality and cause early mortality. On the other hand, they are important for nutrient cycling, ecological succession and for biodiversity. Within the Kamloops Forest District, the two main types of root rot disease are *Phellinus weirii* and *Armillaria ostoyae*.

Where required, the Licencee will conduct root rot disease surveys to identify the extent of root disease. When detected, the Licencee will employ a variety of control strategies to reduce the impact upon forest productivity, such as stumping and mixed species planting.

### **Bark Beetles**

Since the population density of bark beetles (pine, fir, and spruce) varies throughout the Kamloops Forest District, the Ministry of Forests undertakes aerial reconnaissance flights and ground surveys to monitor their extent. The Licencee will also complete a general ground reconnaissance of this operating area for beetle activity.

Aggressive actions will be taken when beetle populations are found to exceed normal endemic levels. The focus will be to minimize timber volume losses and to limit population growth of the beetles. Where possible, beetle-infested trees will be removed from the stand. In particular, areas infested with mountain pine beetle will be a priority for harvest. Other management options include trap trees and pheromone baiting.

### **Windthrow:**

A healthy forest contains a diversity of species with the various life stages being present. Periodically, nature sanitizes the forest through windthrow and other events. Windthrow is important in creating coarse woody debris (CWD). It provides high centers of biological interaction and energy exchange. Also, it provides unique habitats that are utilized by a variety of wildlife, especially small

furbearers. Areas most prone to windthrow are wet or exposed sites. The management strategies within the Community Forest will recognize the value of coarse woody debris (CWD) in the forest.

**Fire:**

A key issue in forest protection is to effectively deal with fire management issues. Achieving protection objectives is sometimes complicated by topography and by other resource values. The establishment of good fuel management practices will allow for improved protection of forests and will help reduce wildfire losses. The Licencee's objective is to ensure that all proposed activities will minimize the risk from and the detrimental impact of wildfire.

### **3.4.2 Water and Riparian Resources**

Riparian ecosystems are found in transition zones between aquatic environments and the drier uplands. Often they have higher moisture content and generally they have a different vegetation complex than the upland areas. They contain many of the highest values for non-timber resources and often have the highest number of plant and animal species found in forests. They provide critical habitats, home ranges, and travel corridors for wildlife. In addition, they provide ecological linkages throughout the forest landscape. Organisms are dependent upon these areas; therefore, it is necessary to minimize disturbances within them.

A primary objective for forest management is to ensure that water quality and quantity are maintained. This is critical for local watersheds and for any area where there is domestic consumption of the water resource. There are domestic water licences on several of the streams and lakes within the Community Forest, including Barriere River, East Barriere River, East Barriere Lake, Dixon Creek, Haggard Creek, and Badger Creek.

Scheduling harvest and road building activities during the appropriate season will protect the water and riparian resources. This will minimize the negative impacts upon sensitive soils and it will maintain natural drainage patterns (especially during periods of road construction and deactivation). In addition, it will limit in-stream operations to the appropriate work windows and it will ensure that the appropriate harvesting methods are used on sensitive soils.

The key issues surrounding successful riparian management include: applying the correct riparian classification as well as selecting and communicating a workable prescription to ensure that the riparian area is protected during harvesting and reforestation operations. All harvesting operations will abide by the riparian management guidelines in the *Forest and Range Practices Act*. This should protect water quality as well as critical riparian ecosystems.

### 3.4.3 Fish and Wildlife Objectives

General wildlife measures direct what forest and range management practices will be implemented. They prescribe a level of management appropriate for the conservation of both wildlife and biological diversity. This includes minimizing the effects of harvesting, maintaining a diversity of habitats for the plant and animal species, and protecting the ecosystem processes that occur within the area. The Licencee endeavors to maintain or enhance wildlife values by minimizing the negative impacts and/or promoting positive impacts of development activities.

The Licencee recognizes the importance of wildlife, and therefore, will incorporate habitat protection measures into the proposed development. The most effective management and development activities will consider forest health, silviculture obligations, safety issues and they will strive to minimize changes in the structural component and the landscape component. In addition, they will involve consulting government agencies and other stakeholders on the management of habitat for specific species.

Portions of the operating area are located within critical ungulate winter range, as defined by the Kamloops Land and Resource Management Plan. The objectives for ungulate winter ranges are as follows:

- Ensure that silviculture activities maintain adequate forage. Also, encourage browse species, such as rose, Saskatoon, red-osier dogwood and willow.
- Maintain thermal and visual cover.
- Retain deciduous species.
- For deer, pursue a minimum of two tree species in each forest stand.
- For moose, pursue a mixed forest with similar species distribution that existed prior to harvesting activities.
- Retain a portion of the Douglas-fir vets throughout the Licence area.

A valuable fisheries resource exists in the Community Forest area. The Barriere River, East Barriere River, Haggard Creek, and Dixon Creek provide valuable fish habitat. Fish species are also found in East Barriere Lake, South Barriere Lake, Long Lake, Dixon Lake, Little Dixon Lake, and in many of the tributaries to these major streams and lakes.

The primary goals are to maintain water quality and quantity, to maintain the integrity of the stream channel, to minimize disturbance to understory vegetation and to protect important wildlife values. The following objectives will be adhered to:

- Completing a stream assessment for any creek that may be impacted by harvesting or road building activities.
- Establishing Riparian Reserve and Management Zones on all streams and lakes, consistent with the *Forest and Range Practices Act*.

### **3.4.4 Recreation Objectives**

The Licencee's objective for forest recreation is to maintain or enhance opportunities for a diverse range of recreational values and uses within the Community Forest area. Old roads and skid trails are feasible for all-terrain vehicle (ATV) use, snowmobiling, and horseback riding. The various lakes and rivers in the area provide opportunities for fishing and boating. Hunting is also a popular activity.

The Licencee recognizes the high recreational and aesthetic values of the area and will strive to protect them. Where feasible, the Licencee will assist in the development of any new recreation areas. Any road building activities will improve access and may create recreational opportunities. The proposed forest development activities will be conducted in a manner that will minimize or ameliorate any adverse impacts.

### **3.4.5 Visual Objectives**

Portions of the Community Forest are located within visually sensitive areas. There are viewpoints from East Barriere Lake, South Barriere Lake, Dixon Lake, and Little Dixon Lake. There are also viewpoints from the Barriere Lakes Public Road.

All activities within the Community Forest will abide by the Visual Quality Objectives (VQO's) established for the area. When necessary, landscape design will be utilized to meet the visual quality objectives. Block size, shape, location and vegetative screens will be some of the components used to reduce the contrast in vegetative cover and minimize the visual impact of harvesting activities. Cutblocks will vary in shape and size, and harvesting will utilize various silviculture systems. Where possible, cutblocks will attempt to mimic natural disturbances in the landscape. Any cutblocks located within visually sensitive areas will have visual impact assessments completed prior to harvesting.

### **3.4.6 Botanical Forest Products**

The Lower North Thompson Community Forest Society wishes to become involved in the management of botanical forest products within the area. In 2004, Morel mushrooms were commonly found throughout the Community Forest Area. Morels typically grow where pine forest fires have occurred within the last few years. Since the fire in 2003, morel picking within the Barriere area has increased exponentially. Currently all mushroom picking is unregulated. It is the Licencee's wish to have established guidelines, policies, and possibly legislation around the harvesting of botanical forest products.

### **3.4.7 Range Management**

There are several ranchers that hold grazing tenures within the Community Forest area. The Licencee will schedule and co-ordinate routine range unit meetings with the range users within this operating area. Also, referrals, field trips and informal day-to-day discussions of proposed plans and activities will resolve any potential conflict. If necessary, a Range and Protection Plan (RaPP) will be developed with the appropriate Licencees. Prior to harvesting, discussion of cutblock and road design shall occur with the grazing tenure holders to ensure that design does not have a negative influence upon livestock distribution and that an even flow of forage is available. To further minimize conflict, the Licencee will strive to develop a co-operative action plan that integrates the requirements of both forestry and ranching. Site Plans will address specific range resource values (including weed control measures and range values).

As harvesting progresses, the overall grazing potential of the area is expected to increase. The Licencee will encourage grazing of the area provided that seedling and regeneration quality is not affected significantly. The location, maintenance and installation of range improvements shall be determined through discussions with the range tenure holders. In addition, these discussions will identify potential conflict sites. Those improvements located near logging activities will be protected or properly repaired (to the same condition prior to harvesting) by the Licencee, if damaged. Access to stock trails and stock-watering sites shall not be impeded. Cattle guards will be installed as required. Silviculture activities (site preparation and juvenile spacing), which may damage or reduce available forage for cattle, will be discussed with the Range Tenure Holder. Situations which may result in livestock drift or which may result in livestock damage to tree seedlings shall be discussed with the Range Tenure Holder. The grazing licencee will maintain all other range improvements. All cost responsibilities will be identified and agreed upon with the grazing tenure.

The Licencee will attempt to limit the spread of noxious weeds. Logging truck drivers and other heavy equipment operators will be advised of the necessity to ensure that the undercarriage of their vehicle or equipment is free of noxious weeds when leaving or returning to a site. Also, whenever possible, the location of cutblocks and access roads will avoid relatively large patches of noxious weeds; thereby, lessening the likelihood of their spread.

### **3.4.8 Cultural Heritage Resources and Archaeological Sites**

Cultural heritage resources are defined as objects, sites, or locations of traditional aboriginal societal practices that have historic, cultural, or archaeological significance to the province, a community, or to First Nations people. Where cultural heritage resources are located, the District Manager requires an archaeological impact assessment (AIA) to be conducted. An archaeological impact assessment (i.e. permit, interim report and final report)

must meet the requirements of the Minister responsible for the Heritage Conservation Act. An archaeological impact assessment (AIA) may be required to determine the significance of the artifacts or area. An AIA involves official permitting, subsurface testing and official reporting to the Archaeology Branch.

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. The Licencee will 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.

A four-step archaeological assessment process will be followed for all proposed operations within the Community Forest Agreement. Steps 1 to 4 involve increasing levels of archaeological assessments depending on the level of archaeological potential within the area.

1. Office Review to be completed by First Nations. The findings may indicate that no further work is required or, based on rationale, that second step is required.
2. Preliminary Field Review (PFR) completed by First Nations. Findings may indicate that no further work is required or, based on rationale, that third step is required.
3. Comprehensive Field Survey (detailed assessment) completed by First Nations. Findings may determine that no further work is required. If archaeological evidence is found, mitigation recommendations can be put forward by the First Nations community to avoid the site, or to determine that Step 4 is necessary.
4. Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) completed by an archaeologist.

The Licencee recognizes the importance of archaeological and historical sites. As information becomes known, it will be documented, and information will be forwarded to the appropriate agency. Any heritage values within the vicinity of an area proposed for harvest will be explained in the operational plans. If archaeological significant features or resources are discovered during operations, all forest management practices will cease and the District Manager of the local Ministry of Forests office and Simpcw First Nation will be notified.

Simpcw First Nation is one of the participating communities involved with the Community Forest. They have two members on the board of directors and will be actively involved in setting the overall policies for the licence area.

### **3.5 Road Construction, Maintenance, Rehabilitation, & Deactivation**

According to the Forest and Range Practices Act (Sec 71), a person who constructs or maintains a road must ensure that the road and the bridges, culverts, fords and other structures associated with the road are structurally sound and safe for use by industrial users.

The Licencee understands that public access to this Forest Licence cannot be restricted, and that only the Ministry of Forests has the jurisdiction to authorize closure of Forest Service Roads. All roads, not permanently deactivated, will be accessible to the public. However, due to water bars, a four-wheel drive vehicle is recommended. Permanent roads will be maintained in such a manner as to:

- Protect the structural integrity of the road prism and clearing width.
- Maintain the functionality of the drainage system.
- Provide for industrial user safety.

A Road Permit will be obtained for the construction and maintenance of all roads within this Community Forest Licence. The Licencee will adhere to the permit conditions. All roads, occurring within the licence area, will be built with the same standards and each will have a “secondary road” status. Clearing widths will be the minimum necessary to accommodate the road (generally 15 to 20 m). The road prism will be constructed with a crawler tractor and excavator. A backhoe or excavator will be used for the installation of culverts and construction of water bars or ditches. All roads under permit will be kept in good repair. These roads will be inspected regularly and culverts will be cleaned of debris and sedimentation.

All roads not required for future harvesting or silviculture activities will be deactivated or rehabilitated. Deactivated roads will be grass seeded, barricaded, stabilized, and culverts/bridges will be removed. Appropriate signage will be installed to warn users of the deactivation. Rehabilitated roads will be recontoured and planted.

All road management activities will abide by the *Forest and Range Practices Act and Regulations*.

### **3.6 Measures to Address Stakeholder Concerns**

The area proposed for the Community Forest is 100 percent Crown land. There are no municipal, private, or Indian Reserve lands.

Tolko Industries Ltd. has an existing Forest Licence on the proposed area. Negotiations have taken place between the Lower North Thompson Community Forest Society and Tolko to determine the land base for the Community Forest.

Letters of support from the major licencees in the area, are attached in Appendix 8.

There are several range tenures associated with the Community Forest area. Table 3 lists these individuals:

**Table 3: Range Tenures**

<b>Licencee</b>	<b>Stock Range</b>	<b>Range Unit</b>
Robert & Ruth Black	Chu Chua	East Barriere
Thomas Kempter	Chu Chua	Dixon Creek
Charles & Lois Keller	Squam Bay	Sargent Creek, Dixon Lake, Spapilem, Sunshine, Alex Creek
Herbert Lovgren	Squam Bay	Alex Creek, Spapilem

There is one trap line and one guide management unit associated with the area. Table 4 lists these tenure numbers:

**Table 4: Trap Lines & Guides**

<b>Trap Line Number</b>	<b>Guide Management Unit</b>
TR0337T001	3-38

All proposed harvesting and road building activities will be referred to the above 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 and used to develop a plan that is favourable to all parties.

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. The Ministry of Forests has completed consultation with the above First Nations bands in regard to the area identification for the Community Forest Licence. The Lower North Thompson Community Forest Society will consult with the above bands on the Management Plan (Category 3). The Ministry of Forests will be responsible for consultation on the License offer and License approval. Once consultation is completed, the Licensee will outline how any issues raised from the consultation process will be addressed.

The Licencee will schedule information sessions with the First Nations bands to discuss their concerns and specific interests in regards to this Management Plan approval. 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. They will be addressed through their incorporation into operational plans. All proposed operational activities, including harvesting and road building, will be referred to the bands during the Forest Stewardship Plan and/or cutting permit application.

Simpcw First Nation is one of the participating communities within the Lower North Thompson Community Forest Society. There are two members from Simpcw First Nation on the Board of Directors.

The general public has been informed and invited to comment on the Community Forest Agreement through various meetings and activities. These events are described in detail in Category 1 (Community Involvement). There has been a high level of support shown by all of the involved communities for the Lower North Thompson Community Forest. In total, over 700 letters of support by the business community and individuals are on hand by the society (Appendix 8). These letters of support are included as a separate attachment. Future community participation will be established through the LNTCFS Annual General Meeting.

The general public will be informed of and invited to comment on the operational planning within the Community Forest Agreement, including road and cutblock development, through advertisements within local newspapers. In addition, a minimum of one meeting per year will be held to invite the public to review and comment of the Forest Stewardship Plan for the Community Forest Licence. Any comments that are received from the public will be taken into consideration and used to develop a plan that is favourable to all parties.

### **3.7 Government Objectives**

The Lower North Thompson Community Forest Society has developed several objectives that support the Government objectives for the Community Forest Agreement program:

1. To support a new 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.
2. The Lower North Thompson Community Forest Society will sell 100% of all logs developed in cutting permits to sawmills, plywood plants, and value added plants. The society will not manufacture any lumber products from logs.
3. The Lower North Thompson Community Forest Society will distribute 100% of surplus funds within the five participating communities. The board of directors will be responsible for reviewing funding applications and allocating this money within the five participating communities.

4. Starting in 2007, there will be a minimum of one annual field trip to the Community Forest area for educational information for students, teachers, and/or the general public.
5. There will be a minimum of one public meeting per year where the public is invited to view and review the Forest Stewardship Plan for the Community Forest License.
6. All operational plans will be consistent with the standards set in legislation and in higher-level plans, including the *Forest Act*, the *Forest and Range Practices Act*, the *Heritage Conservation Act*, the *Fisheries Act*, the *Water Act*, the *Wildlife Act*, and the *Kamloops Land and Resource Management Plan*.
7. All operational planning, including cutblock and road development, will be referred to the affected stakeholders (First Nations, ranchers, trappers, guides, water licensees) to invite their comments. The referrals will take place during the Forest Stewardship Plan and/or the Cutting Permit applications.