



# CRESTON VALLEY FOREST CORPORATION

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## Community Forest Agreement K3D

### Forest Stewardship Plan #782

**2024 - 2029**

June 2024

*Signature of the person required to prepare this plan:*

**Tom Olenczuk, President**

Date: June 2024

*Signature of the preparing Registered Professional Forester:*

**Daniel Gratton, RPF #3785**

'I certify that the work herein fulfills the standards expected of a member of the BC Forest Professionals'

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### Acronym Definitions

AAC	Allowable Annual Cut
FPBC	Forest Professionals BC
BEC	Biogeoclimatic Ecosystem Classification
CVFC	Creston Valley Forest Corporation
CWS	Community Watershed
DBH	Diameter at Breast Height
DWS	Domestic Watershed
DDM	Delegated Decision Maker
ECA	Equivalent Clearcut Area
ERDZ	Enhanced Resource Development Zones
FDU	Forest Development Unit
<i>FPCBCA</i>	<i>Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act</i>
FPC	Forest Practices Code
<i>FPPR</i>	<i>Forest Planning and Practices Regulation</i>
<i>FRPA</i>	<i>Forest and Range Practices Act</i>
FSP	Forest Stewardship Plan

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GAR	Government Actions Regulation
KKTC	Ktunaxa Kinbasket Tribal Council
LRMP	Land and Resource Management Plan
MoE	Ministry of Environment
NRFL	Non-Replaceable Forest Licence
NTFP	Non-timber Forest Product
OGMA	Old Growth Management Area
OGDA	Old Growth Deferral Area
QRP/QP	Qualified Register Professional/Qualified Professional
PoD	Point of Diversion
RMZ	Riparian Management Area
RP	Road Permit
RPF	Registered Professional Forester
<i>RPPR</i>	<i>Range Planning and Practices Regulation</i>
RMZO	Resource Management Zone Objectives
RRZ	Riparian Reserve Zone
RUP	Road Use Permit
SARA	Species at Risk Act
SNRFL	Salvage Non-Replaceable Forest Licence
TFL	Tree Farm Licence
TSA	Timber Supply Area
TSL	Timber Sale Licence
TSR	Timber Supply Review
VQO	Visual Quality Objective
WAP	Watershed Assessment Procedure
WCB	Workers' Compensation Board
WHA	Wildlife Habitat Area

## Interpretation

### Definitions under Acts and Regulations

Unless specifically indicated otherwise, terms used in this Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP) have the same meaning as defined in relevant British Columbia acts and regulations.

### Definitions Specific to this FSP

**FRPA Value** means one or more of the following:

- (a) Soils
- (b) Visual quality
- (c) Timber
- (d) Forage and associated plant communities
- (e) Water
- (f) Fish
- (g) Wildlife
- (h) Biodiversity
- (i) Recreation resources
- (j) Resource features
- (k) Cultural heritage resources

**Fuel Hazard** means the potential fire behaviour, without regard to the state of weather or topography, based on the physical fuel characteristics, including fuel arrangement, fuel load, condition of herbaceous vegetation and the presence of ladder fuel.

**Primary Forest Activities** means any or all of timber harvesting, permanent road deactivation and/or road construction.

**Qualified Professional** means a person deemed by the agreement holder to be qualified, in terms of appropriate levels of education, training, and experience, to conduct the activities described. Where the activities fall within the scope of practice of members of a professional regulatory body this person will be a Qualified Registered Professional.

**Qualified Registered Professional** means a person who:

- (a) In the opinion of the agreement holder has the appropriate education, training and experience to carry out the activity; and
- (b) Is a member of, or is licensed by, a regulatory body in British Columbia that has the legislated authority to regulate its members' performance of the activity.

**Reasonable opportunity for review and comment** is a two part process composed of (1) a written communication (either mailed or sent electronically) from the agreement holder to another party, an article in the CCF community forest newsletter, or a newspaper advertisement which informs the reader of a planned primary forest activities and (2) a specified time frame (generally 30 days) within which the reader can request additional information, request a meeting for discussion, and/or provide written comments on the planned activity which will be considered.

**Retention silvicultural system** is as defined in the Silvicultural Systems Handbook for British Columbia published by the Ministry of Forests, Forest Practices Branch, March 2003.

**Site Plan** means site specific plans and supporting documents as per FRPA S10(2). Site Plans indicate how the Results and Strategies in this FSP will be applied.

**Wildland Urban Interface** is as defined in the RDCK Electoral Areas A, B and C Community Wildfire Resiliency Plans (CWRP), and Town of Creston CWRP which is the zone within 2 km from areas with more than 6 structures per hectare.

### **Objectives, Results, Strategies and Measures**

The Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA) requires that a FSP specify results or strategies in relation to objectives set by government and specify measures related to invasive plants and natural range barriers. Regarding these requirements, the following interpretations have been used in the preparation of this FSP:

**Objective** means an objective that is set by government, in legally established land use plans, in regulation, or enabled through regulation, for managing and protecting forest and range values.

**Result** means a description of measurable or verifiable outcomes for a particular established objective and the situations or circumstances that determine where the outcomes will be applied.

**Strategy** means a description of measurable or verifiable steps or practices that will be carried out to meet a particular established objective, and the situations or circumstances that determine where the steps or practices will be applied.

**Measure** means a course of action taken or planned to achieve a particular purpose. With regards to FSP's, measures must be specified to (1) prevent the introduction or spread of invasive plants and (2) mitigate the effect of removing or rendering ineffective natural range barriers. Measures are intended to be reasonable and appropriate when considering what is likely to be effective and what is practicable.

**Measurable** means with respect to Results and Strategies to be able to be measured, quantified or calculated.

**Verifiable** means with respect to Results and Strategies to be able to be verified, proven, authenticated or demonstrated.

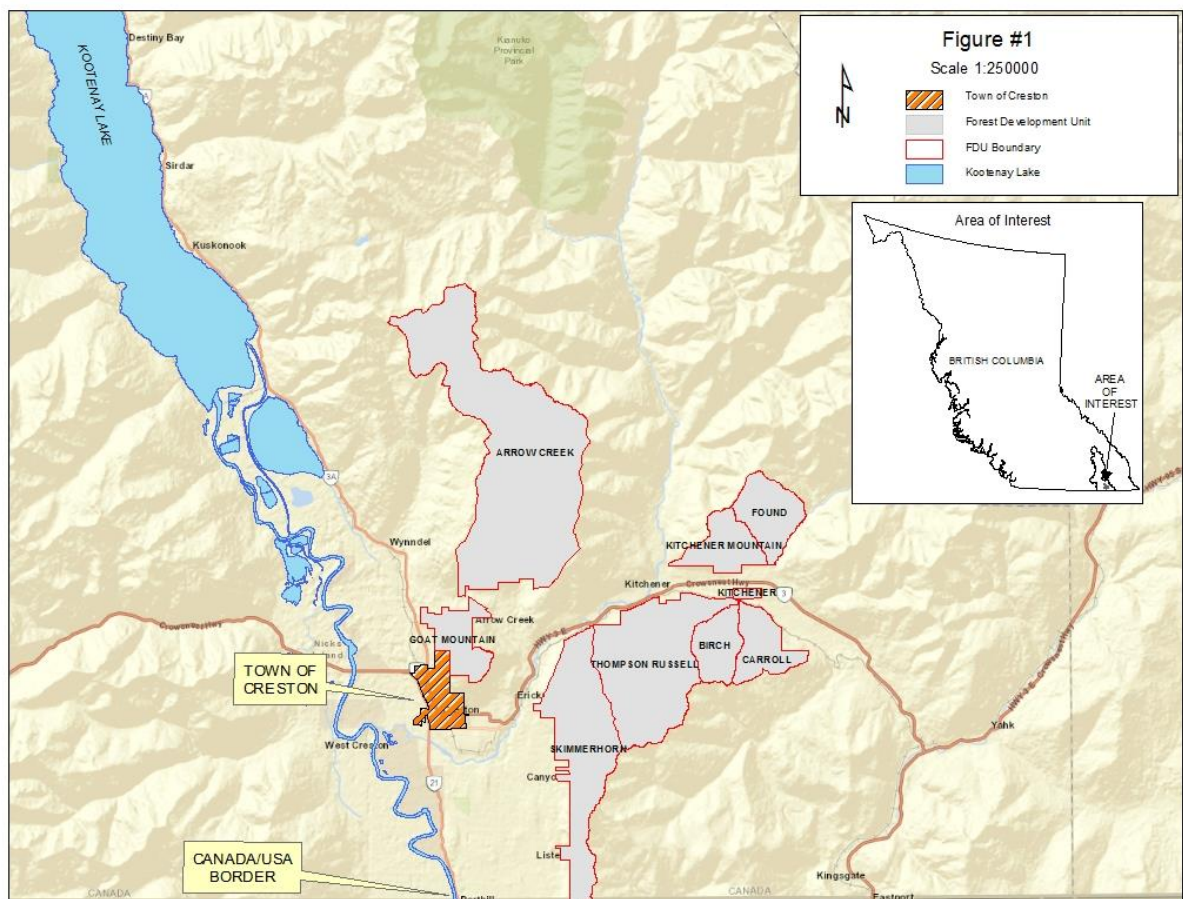
## 1.0 Application of Forest Stewardship Plan # 782

### 1.1 Description of the Forest Stewardship Plan Area

Forest Stewardship Plan # 782 applies to the Creston Valley Forest Corporation's (CVFC) Licence K3D management area (Figure 1).

CVFC's management area measures 21,408 hectares in size and sustains an Allowable Annual Cut of 25,000 m<sup>3</sup>/ year. All of CVFC's management area is situated on Crown land and is not shared by any other major forest licensee, woodlot licence or any other area-based tenure. Licence K3D contains important recreational, scenic and wildlife features along with several Community and Domestic watersheds. The Community Forest's management area is proximal to the Town of Creston making it very accessible to the local public in terms of hiking, berry picking and hunting.

Figure 1





## 1.2 Term of the Forest Stewardship Plan

The term of this Forest Stewardship Plan:

- i) will commence on the day the District Manager grants approval to this document
- ii) will be for 5 years as per Section 6(1)(a) of the *Forest and Range Practices Act*
- iii) may be terminated earlier than 5 years if the Forest Stewardship Plan holder chooses to replace it with another approved Forest Stewardship Plan
- iv) may be extended by the District Manager as per Section 6(2) of the *Forest and Range Practices Act*

## 1.3 Forest Development Units

The Forest Development Units associated with CVFC's management area are listed in Table 1 and are also provided on the FSP maps located in Appendix A of this document.

Table 1 also provides the gross areas of each Forest Development Unit, their respective Landscape Unit and Forest Development Unit name.

Table 1

FDU No.	FDU Name	Timber Supply Area	Landscape Unit	Gross Area (ha)
1	Arrow Creek	13	K-25	8599.8
2	Goat Mountain	13	K-25	976.2
3	Skimmerhorn Range	13	K-25	3464.5
4	Thompson/ Russell Creek	13	K02/ K05	3973.2
5	Kitchener Mountain	13	K05/K06	1034.6
6	Birch Creek	13	K02	947.8
7	Carroll Creek	13	K02	1095.9
8	Found Creek	13	K05	1221.7
9	Kitchener	13	K02/ K05	94.4
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>21,408.1</b>

## 1.4 Collaboration within Shared Management Units

When CFA K3D is operating in a shared landscape unit or community watershed which other Forest License or Agreement Holders have timber harvesting rights, the following strategy will apply:

Agreement Holder Developed Strategy: Collaboration	
Collaboration within Shared Management Units	<p>When timber harvesting is planned within shared landscape units and/or community watersheds, the agreement holder will</p> <p>(a) offer to exchange information on planned activities with other materially affected licence or agreement holders, and</p>

	<p>where this offer is accepted,</p> <p>(b) will endeavor to collaborate with the other affected licence or agreement holder in relation to the following values, where applicable, to ensure that the objectives set by government for managing and protecting the values in legally established land use plans or regulations, or enabled through regulation, will be achieved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Old and Mature Forest</li> <li>ii. Connectivity Corridors</li> <li>iii. Water in Community Watersheds</li> <li>iv. Ungulate Winter Range</li> </ul> <p>If the holders of the multiple Forest Stewardship Plans that overlap the landscape unit or community watershed in question are unable to reach an agreement for sharing the responsibility to obtain results consistent with objectives set by government, a request will be made to the Minister to act under section 9 of the Forest and Range Practices Act.</p>
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### 1.5 Public Review and Comment Period

Practice Requirements	The agreement holder complied with:
Providing Notice re: FSP	FPPR Section 20
Review and Comment re: FSP	FPPR Section 21
<p>Residents of the Creston Valley and surrounding areas were made aware that CVFC's Forest Stewardship Plan was available for review and comment through a notice placed in the Creston Valley Advance newspaper on June 27, 2024.</p> <p>Potentially affected agreement holders were identified using the Integrated Land and Resource Registry and were sent an information sharing letter by email.</p> <p>A copy of the public notice, the standard information sharing letter, and the list of parties who were contacted are included in Appendix B.</p> <p>First Nations with interests in the FSP area were identified from the <i>Contacts for First Nation Consultation Areas Public Map Service</i> and were either sent an information sharing letter by email or the FSP information sharing material was uploaded to the appropriate First Nations portal.</p> <p>A copy of the standard information sharing letter and the list of First Nations who were contacted are included in Appendix C.</p> <p>The Forest Stewardship Plan was made available for public review and comment on the CCF website, at the CCF office, and through meetings arranged with any stakeholders if requested for a two-month period from June 27, 2024 to August 25, 2024.</p>	

**1.6 Public and Stakeholder Comments**

Practice Requirements	The agreement holder complied with:
Responding to Review and Comment re: FSP	FPPR Section 22

**1.7 First Nations Comments**

Practice Requirements	The agreement holder complied with:
Responding to Review and Comment re: FSP	FPPR Section 22

**1.8 Sharing Operating Plans**

This FSP is a landscape level plan that indicates how the agreement holder will be consistent with government objectives for managing and protecting forest and range values.

This FSP does not show operational plans for road construction, harvesting, fuel hazard reduction or ecosystem restoration activities. Information sharing on and discussion of operational level plans will be carried out by the agreement holder as such plans are developed.

Agreement holder developed Measures: Information Sharing of Operating Plans	
Sharing Operating Plans	<p>The agreement holder will share information and provide a reasonable opportunity for review and comment to First Nations, water license holders, adjacent landowners, and potentially affected stakeholders. Information sharing will include written notification with a map illustrating the location(s) of planned forest development.</p> <p>First Nations, water license holders, adjacent landowners, and potentially affected stakeholders will be given at least 30 days to review and comment on planned primary forest activities. All written comments received by the agreement holder regarding operating plans will be addressed prior to conducting primary forest activities.</p> <p>Where practicable, operating plans will be modified to reflect comments and concerns received. The agreement holder is willing to work with First Nations to develop an alternative solution or compromise if comments are not considered feasible.</p>

## 2.0 Other Plans

The Forest Stewardship Plan area is subject to the *Kootenay Boundary Higher Level Plan Order* which came into effect on October 26, 2002 along with subsequent variances to this Order. The *Kootenay Boundary Higher Level Plan Order* Resource Management Zone Objectives (RMZO) have been specifically developed for this region of the Kootenays and takes precedence over objectives set by government under the *Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA)* and the *Forest Planning and Practices Regulation (FPPR)*, where they conflict.

This Forest Stewardship Plan is also designed to be consistent with CVFC's *Management Plan Amendment # 2* approved in September 2015. This document was prepared for CVFC's management area considering the Community Forest's management philosophy. In some situations, CVFC's Management Plan will take precedence over objectives set by the government under *FRPA* and *FPPR*. In other words, CVFC will go above and beyond the legislated requirements to preserve habitat and meet CVFC's mandate.

### 3.0 Values, Objectives, and Practice Requirements

The Government of BC has established objectives for various forest resource values in legislation, regulations or approved higher level plans under the FRPA or other acts that affect land management. To facilitate implementation of these objectives that government has established practice requirements and/or provisions for Results and/or Strategies, or combinations thereof, to be defined with the FSP.

#### 3.1. Soils

Objective Set by FRPA/FPPR for Soils	
<b>Regulation</b>	FPPR Section 5
<b>Objective</b>	Soils The objective set by government for soils is to conserve the productivity and the hydrologic function of soils.
<b>Regulation</b>	FPPR Section 12.1(1) An agreement holder is exempt from the requirement in Section 5 of FRPA to specify results or strategies for soils if the approved FSP includes an undertaking that the person will comply with sections 35 and 36 of FPPR.
<b>Practice Requirements</b>	The agreement holder will comply with:
a) Soil disturbance limits	FPPR Section 35
b) Permanent access structure limits	FPPR Section 36

#### 3.2 Timber

3.2.1 Objectives Set by HLPO for Timber	
<b>RMZO</b>	<b>RMZO 7: Enhanced Resource Development Zones (ERDZ)</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	To support intensive forest management for the purpose of increasing volumes of merchantable timber and to reduce industry costs while maintaining adequate environmental stewardship Enhanced Resource Development Zones – Timber emphasis is assigned.
<b>Regulation:</b>	Enhanced Resource Development Zones overlap CVFC's FDU in this FSP so HLPO RMZO 7 will apply.
<b>Not Applicable:</b>	HLPO RMZO 10 is not applicable to the intent and purpose of this plan.
3.2.2 Objectives Set by FRPA/FPPR for Timber	
<b>Regulation</b>	FPPR Section 6
<b>Objective</b>	Timber The objectives set by government for timber are to: (a) maintain or enhance an economically valuable supply of commercial timber from British Columbia's forests, (b) ensure that delivered wood costs, generally, after considering the effect on them of the relevant provisions of

	<p>this regulation and of the Act, are competitive in relation to equivalent costs in relation to regulated primary forest activities in other jurisdictions, and</p> <p>(c) ensure that the provisions of this regulation and of the Act that pertain to primary forest activities do not unduly constrain the ability of a holder of an agreement under the Forest Act to exercise the holder's rights under the agreement.</p>
<b>Practice Requirements</b>	The agreement holder will comply with:
a) Timber	FPPR Section 12 (8) The FSP holder is exempt from preparing results or strategies for timber.

### 3.3 Wildlife

3.3.1 Objectives Set by HLPO for Wildlife	
<b>RMZO</b>	<b>RMZO 3: Caribou</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	To retain seasonal habitats for mountain caribou to contribute towards maintaining viability of the existing subpopulations according to the forest cover requirements within the caribou habitat areas shown on FSP Map #1.
<b>Not Applicable:</b>	HLPO RMZO 3 was cancelled and replaced with GAR order UWR U-4-012 for caribou winter range in 2009.
<b>RMZO</b>	<b>RMZO 5: Grizzly Bear Habitat and Connectivity Corridors</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	To maintain mature and/or old forests adjacent to important grizzly bear habitat. To maintain mature and/or old forests within connectivity corridors for purposes of regional forest ecosystem connectivity.
<b>Result for RMZO 5:</b>	
<b>Result:</b>	The agreement holder will comply with HLPO RMZO 5. Where applicable, mature forest targets must be used to address RMZO 5 if connectivity corridors and/or grizzly bear habitat have been identified. In addition, old forest targets should be used to address this objective unless other conservation values such as protection of rare or underrepresented old growth forests would be adversely affected. Protected areas must first be used to reduce the mature or old forest targets where available within the biogeoclimatic unit. Objectives 1 and 2 in HLPO RMZO 5 do not apply at this time as they rely on the mapping of important grizzly bear areas, and these have not been mapped.
3.3.2 Objectives Set by FRPA/FPPR and GAR for Wildlife	
<b>Legislation and Regulations:</b>	FPPR Section 7 and Section 70, GAR Sections 9 to 13
<b>Objectives:</b>	<p><b>Wildlife: Species at Risk, Regionally Important Wildlife, Ungulate Winter Range, General Wildlife Measures:</b></p> <p>The objective set by government for wildlife is, to conserve sufficient wildlife habitat in terms of amount of area, distribution of areas and attributes of those areas, for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the survival of species at risk,</li> <li>(b) the survival of regionally important wildlife, and</li> <li>(c) the winter survival of specified ungulate species.</li> </ul> <p>Species at risk that reside in the licence holder's operating area, for which the licence holder will provide special management are listed as Red or Blue by the Ministry of Environment, or as</p>

	<p>Endangered, Threatened or Special Concern (listed on Species at Risk Public Registry Schedule 1) by the committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Schedule 1 can be found at the following website:  <a href="https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-public-registry.html">https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-public-registry.html</a></p> <p><b>Wildlife Habitat Areas</b></p> <p>Wildlife Habitat Area 4-205 (approved in June 2015) is located within a portion of CVFC's FDU # 3 for the benefit of the Western Screech Owl (<i>Megascops kennicotti macfarlanei</i>); a red listed species in British Columbia.</p> <p>CVFC will comply with the FPPR Section 7 and comply with general wildlife measures for the Western Screech Owl which is found on the following website:  <a href="http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wld/documents/wha/WESO_4-205_4-209_Order.pdf">http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wld/documents/wha/WESO_4-205_4-209_Order.pdf</a></p> <p><b>Wildlife Habitat Feature</b></p> <p>An authorized person who carries out a primary activity must ensure that the primary forest activity does not damage or render ineffective a wildlife habitat feature.</p>
<p><b>Preamble:</b></p>	<p>Notices given under FPPR Section 7(2) specify the amount, distribution and attributes of wildlife habitat required for identified species at risk (SAR), regionally important wildlife and ungulate species.</p> <p>Orders under the GAR Sections 9 to 13 establish Wildlife Habitat Areas (WHAs), Ungulate Winter Range (UWR) and Wildlife Habitat Features (WHFs) and specify General Wildlife Measures (GWMs) for specific species.</p> <p>In many cases newer GAR orders establishing WHAs and GWMs have addressed and replaced the requirements of earlier FPPR Section 7(2) notices.</p> <p>The only FPPR Section 7(2) Notice in effect and applicable to the FDUs of this FSP at time of approval is:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Indicators Of The Amount, Distribution And Attributes Of Wildlife Habitat Required For The Survival Of Species At Risk In The Kootenay Lake Forest District, December 30, 2004</b></p> <p>The Notice applies to the Kootenay Lake Forest District, which is now part of the Selkirk Resource District. The species at risk listed in the notice are Coeur d'Alene Salamander and Rocky Mountain Tailed Frog.</p> <p>The GAR Orders in effect and applicable to the FDUs of this FSP at time of approval are:</p>



	<p><b>GAR U-4-001 - UWR - November 28, 2019</b></p> <p>The location of UWRs established per GAR U-4-001 are shown on Maps #1, #2 and #3 of this FSP.</p> <p>This Order establishes an exemption per FPPR S 7(3) from the obligation to prepare a result or strategy in relation to the objectives set out in FPPR 7(1) for Ungulate Winter Range in the West Kootenay area.</p> <p><b>GAR M 213 - Wildlife Habitat Features - May 29, 2018</b></p> <p>GAR M 213 applies throughout all FDU's of this FSP.</p>
<b>Agreement Holder Developed Result for FPPR Section 7(2) and GAR Sections 9 to 13:</b>	
<b>Result for Wildlife:</b>	<p>The agreement holder will carry out primary forest activities only where consistent with the requirements of current or future applicable (i) Notices under FPPR Section 7(2) and (ii) Orders under the GAR Sections 9 to 13.</p>
<b>Agreement Holder Developed Strategy for FPPR 7(2) Species at Risk:</b>	
<b>Strategy for Species at Risk:</b>	<p>There are currently no inventoried occurrences or habitat sites of the species identified in the December 20, 2004 notice within the FDU's in this FSP.</p> <p>The following strategy will be followed to ensure consistency with the notice:</p> <p>Personnel responsible for layout of primary forest activities will receive training<sup>1</sup> of the attributes of SAR habitat per the FPPR 7(2) Notices relevant to the FDU's of this FSP.</p> <p>During operational planning of a primary forest activity, a QRP will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>identify the FPPR 7(2) Notices relevant to the planning area,</li> <li>review existing data of species occurrences, including the BC Species &amp; Ecosystems Explorer, and Conservation Data Center and Wildlife Species Occurrence data sets downloaded from the BC GeoData Warehouse,</li> <li>use available vegetation and terrain information to assess the ecological characteristics of the planning area,</li> <li>create an initial list of species listed in Notices, species at risk and/or ecosystems at risk that may occur in the planning area, and</li> <li>carry out a field reconnaissance of the planning area to assess if species or ecosystems at risk are present or likely present.</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> Training will either be *annual* (for personnel who work for the agreement holder at least once per year) or *prior to commencement of work* for the Agreement Holder (for personnel who work for the agreement holder less than once per year).

	<p>If a species or ecosystem at risk is present or likely present in the planning area:</p> <p>A Qualified Professional Biologist will provide a professional recommendation on whether (i) the primary forest activity can proceed as planned without compromising the persistence of the species or ecosystems at risk, (ii) can proceed with modifications to mitigate impacts on the species or ecosystems at risk, or (iii) should not proceed.</p> <p>If, in the opinion of the Qualified Professional Biologist, the primary forest activity can proceed with modifications, the Qualified Professional Biologist will provide professional recommendations on measures to ensure the persistence of the species or ecosystems at risk. The recommendations will be incorporated in the Site Plan, will be communicated to forestry workers and contractors, and will be followed during primary forest activities.</p> <p>The Qualified Professional Biologist will report any observed occurrences to the B.C. Conservation Data Centre (CDC).</p>
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**Agreement Holder Developed Strategy for FPPR 70(2) / GAR M 213 Wildlife Habitat Features:**

<b>Strategy for Wildlife Habitat Features:</b>	<p>The following strategy will be followed to ensure consistency with the FPPR 70(2) and GAR Order M 213:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Personnel responsible for layout and carrying out of primary forest activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>will receive training<sup>1</sup> on the attributes of wildlife habitat features (WHF) per the Order and per the <i>Field Identification of Wildlife Habitat Features for CCF Operational Workers</i> guide,</li> <li>in case a previously unnoted WHF is found during layout or operations, will follow the CCF Standard Operating Procedures Bird Nest and Wildlife Habitat Features Encounters.</li> <li>will bring any potential WHF they encounter to the attention of the QRP referred to below.</li> </ul> </li> </ol> <p>During the operational planning of a primary forest activity, a QRP will review existing spatial data for known Wildlife Habitat Features from the BC GeoData Warehouse and carry out a field reconnaissance of the planning area to assess if WHF per Order M 213 are</p>
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<sup>1</sup> Training will either be *annual* (for personnel who work for the agreement holder at least once per year) or *prior to commencement of work* for the Agreement Holder (for personnel who work for the agreement holder less than once per year).

	<p>present or likely present.</p> <p>If WHF per Order M 213 are present or likely present in the planning area:</p> <p>A Qualified Professional Biologist will provide a professional recommendation on whether (i) the primary forest activity can proceed as planned without risk of damaging or rendering ineffective the WHF, (ii) can proceed with modifications to ensure that WHF are not damaged or rendered ineffective, or (iii) should not proceed.</p> <p>If, in the opinion of the QRP, the primary forest activity can proceed with modifications, the QRP will provide professional recommendations on measures to prevent damage to and to maintain the effectiveness of the WHF. The recommendations will be incorporated in the Site Plan and will be followed during primary forest activities.</p> <p>Any WHF identified under this strategy will be reported to government per FPPR 86(3)(b).</p> <p>Wildlife Habitat Area 4-205 (approved in June 2018) is located Forest Development Unit #3 for the benefit of the Western Screech Owl (<i>Megascops kennicotti macfarlanei</i>); a red-listed species in British Columbia.</p> <p>General wildlife measures for the Western Screech Owl can be found on the following website:  <a href="http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wld/documents/wha/WESO_4-205_4-209_Order.pdf">http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wld/documents/wha/WESO_4-205_4-209_Order.pdf</a></p>
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### 3.4 Riparian Areas

Objectives Set by FRPA/FPPR for Water, Fish, Wildlife and Biodiversity Within Riparian Areas	
<b>Regulation:</b>	FPPR Section 8
<b>Objective:</b>	<p>Riparian Areas</p> <p>The objective set by government for water, fish, wildlife and biodiversity within riparian areas is to conserve, at the landscape level, the water quality, fish habitat, wildlife habitat and biodiversity associated with those riparian areas.</p>
<b>Regulation:</b>	<p>FPPR Section 12.1(2)</p> <p>An agreement holder is exempt from the requirement in Section 5 of FRPA to specify results or strategies for water, fish, wildlife and biodiversity if the approved FSP includes</p>

	an undertaking that the person will comply with sections 47 to 51, 52 (2) and 53 of FPPR.
<b>Practice Requirements</b>	The agreement holder will comply with:
a) Stream riparian classes	FPPR Section 47 (1-3) (5-8)
b) Wetland riparian classes	FPPR Section 48
c) Lake riparian classes	FPPR Section 49
d) Restrictions in a riparian management area	FPPR Section 50
e) Restrictions in a riparian reserve zone	FPPR Section 51, with the additional purpose listed below.
f) Restrictions in a riparian management zone	FPPR Section 52(2) Note: FPPR 52(2) applies to circumstances where an authorized person fells, modifies or removes trees adjacent to a stream. As all classified streams in the FDUs of this FSP will have a minimum 10 metre riparian reserve zone, the circumstances to which FPPR 52(2) is applicable will not occur.
h) Temperature sensitive streams	FPPR Section 53 Note 1: No temperature sensitive streams have been designated within the FDU in this FSP. The agreement holder will comply with FPPR 53 if a temperature sensitive stream is designated within the FDU. Note 2: FPPR 53 requires protection of overstory trees and understory vegetation adjacent to temperature sensitive streams and direct tributaries. As all classified streams in the FDUs of this FSP will have a minimum 10 meter riparian reserve zone, the circumstances to which FPPR 53 is applicable will not occur.

<b>Agreement Holder Developed Strategies for Water, Fish, Wildlife and Biodiversity Within Riparian Areas</b>	
<b>Regulation:</b>	FPPR Section 12 (3) and 12.3(1)
<b>Objectives:</b>	<p>FPPR Section 12 (3):</p> <p>A person who prepares a forest stewardship plan must specify in it, for the objective set out in section 8, a result or strategy that addresses retention of trees in a riparian management zone.</p> <p>FPPR 12.3(1)</p> <p>An agreement holder who is required to prepare a forest stewardship plan is exempt from FPPR Section 47 (4) if the approved plan includes an intended result or strategy for the objective for water, fish, wildlife and biodiversity set out in section 8 in relation to the areas of primary forest activity under the plan.</p>

<b>Agreement Holder Developed Strategy - Alternative to FPPR Section 47(4)</b>			
<b>Riparian Reserve Zone Strategy for Stream Classification S4, S5 and S6:</b>	The agreement holder will provide enhanced stream protection while carrying out primary forest activities by establishing a Riparian Reserve Zone on stream classes S4, S5 and S6.		
Riparian Class	Riparian Management Area Width (metres)	Riparian Reserve Zone Width (metres)	Riparian Management Zone Width (metres)
S1-A	100	0	100
S1-B	70	50	20
S2	50	30	20
S3	40	20	20
S4	30	<b>10</b>	<b>20</b>
S5	30	<b>10</b>	<b>20</b>
S6	20	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>
All distances are in slope distance			

<b>Agreement Holder Developed Strategy - Addition to FPPR 51(1) Restrictions in a riparian reserve zone:</b>	
<b>Tree removal to address windfirmness in Riparian Reserve Zones</b>	<p><b>Additional purpose for removing trees in the riparian reserve zone of an S4, S5, or S6 stream:</b></p> <p>(j) improving riparian windfirmness by removing up to 20% of the pre-harvest basal area &gt;12.5cm dbh within the RRZ<sup>1</sup>.</p> <p>The rationale for removal of non-windfirm trees within the RRZ must be documented in the FPPR S12(3) <b>Riparian Assessment</b> and consider such factors as described in the section immediately below.</p>
<b>Agreement Holder Developed Strategy per FPPR 12(3) Riparian Management Zones:</b>	
<b>Riparian Management Zone Strategies for all classes of streams, wetlands and lakes:</b>	<p><b>Retention Level</b></p> <p>20% to 100% of the pre-harvest basal area &gt;12.5cm dbh within the RMZ will be retained.</p> <p>The spatial pattern of prescribed retention may vary throughout the RMZ and may include single trees, clumps of trees, and/or reserves or WTRA's.</p> <p><b>Riparian Assessment</b></p> <p>Prior to a primary forest activity in a RMZ, a riparian assessment will be completed by a QRP to inform the RMZ retention levels to be specified in the Site Plan. The riparian assessment will consider such factors as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>tree species composition,</li> <li>soils,</li> <li>windthrow potential*,</li> <li>risk of erosion and/or mass wasting,</li> <li>stream channel stability,</li> <li>wildlife habitat,</li> <li>fish habitat,</li> <li>the role of trees and understory vegetation in conserving biodiversity,</li> <li>visual quality,</li> <li>operational constraints,</li> <li>damage or imminent threats to the stand,</li> <li>the type, timing or intensity of forest practices that can be carried out in the context of riparian management,</li> <li>the role of forest shading in controlling an increase in temperature within a temperature sensitive stream, if the increase might have a deleterious effect on fish or fish habitat,</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> Only (a) hemlock, grand fir, subalpine fir, or spruce; or (b) other conifer trees with a height diameter ratio >90 may be removed.

	<p>forest health factors, and/or</p> <p>other site-specific factors the QRP deems important.</p> <p>* Windthrow potential will be assessed using an approach consistent with the Windthrow Field Cards (FS 712)</p>
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#### Agreement Holder Developed Strategies - Supplement to FPPR 51(1) Riparian Reserve Zones:

<p><b>Primary Forest Activities In or Adjacent To Riparian Reserve Zones</b></p>	<p>The agreement holder will comply with FPPR 51, with the addition of the following strategies.</p> <p><b>Designated Operational Stream Crossings</b></p> <p>Per FPPR 51(1)(c), a stream crossing may be constructed in a riparian reserve zone. When constructing a temporary stream crossing to allow equipment engaged in a primary forest activity to cross a classified stream, the following strategies will be followed:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">The number of designated stream crossings will be kept to a practicable minimum.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">The constructed width of machine trail in the designated stream crossings will be kept to a practicable minimum.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">The approaches to designated stream crossings will be constructed as close to perpendicular to the watercourse as possible to reduce area impacted.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Any overburden or waste soil resulting from construction of designated crossings will be placed in an area that is separated from the stream by a terrain feature, such that the removed material is not likely to re-enter the stream.</p> <p><b>Remove Debris</b></p> <p>If slash or vegetation debris is deposited into a classifiable riparian feature or a riparian reserve zone during a primary forest activity, the debris will be removed as soon as practicable within one year of deposition.</p>
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#### Agreement Holder Developed Strategies - Sediment Management

<p><b>Primary Forest Activities In or Adjacent To Riparian Areas</b></p>	<p>Prior to constructing a road or access structure within the area where surface water flow could transport sediment to a stream, a QRP will develop measures to reduce and/or manage water transport of sediment from the exposed soil associated with the new construction to adjacent streams.</p> <p>The following practices will be applied to reduce the potential transport of sediment into streams when constructing new roads or access structures within the area where surface water flow could transport sediment to a stream:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Minimize exposed soil surfaces to minimize potential sediment yield.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Seed exposed soil surfaces with Grade 1 grass seed as quickly as possible.</p>
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	<p>Reduce potential erosion by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>placing culverts and cross drainage consistent with natural drainage patterns.</li> <li>armouring at culvert outflows.</li> <li>armouring ditches where the ditch line directly connects with a stream.</li> </ul> <p>Where practicable, construct bridges higher than the road grade to prevent water on the road surface from transporting sediment onto the bridge deck and into the stream.</p>
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### 3.5 Fisheries Sensitive Watersheds

Objective Set By FRPA/FPPR for Fish Habitat in Fisheries Sensitive Watersheds:	
<b>Regulation:</b>	FPPR Section 8.1
<b>Objective:</b>	<p>FPPR Section 8.1</p> <p>The objective set by government for fish habitat in fisheries sensitive watersheds is to prevent the cumulative hydrological effects of primary forest activities in the fisheries sensitive watershed from resulting in a material adverse impact on the habitat of the fish species for which the fisheries sensitive watershed was established.</p>
<b>Practice Requirements</b>	The agreement holder will comply with:
Provide for management fish habitat	FPPR Section 8.1

### 3.6 Community Watersheds

There are five Community watersheds in the CCF's management area listed below in Table 2.

Table 2

Community Watershed	Forest Development Unit Number and Name
Arrow Creek	FDU # 1 - Arrow Creek
Sullivan Creek	FDU # 3 - Skimmerhorn
Camp Run Creek	FDU # 3 - Skimmerhorn
Floyd Creek	FDU # 3 - Skimmerhorn
Russell Creek	FDU # 4 - Thompson/Russell

3.6.1 Objectives Set by FRPA/FPPR for Community Watersheds	
<b>Regulation:</b>	FPPR Section 8.2
<b>Objective:</b>	<p>FPPR Section 8.2</p> <p>The objective set by government for water being diverted for human consumption through a licensed waterworks in a community watershed is to prevent, the cumulative hydrological effects of primary forest activities within the community watershed from resulting in:</p> <p>(a) a material adverse impact on the quantity of water or the</p>



	<p>timing of the flow of the water to the waterworks, or</p> <p>(b) the water from the waterworks having a material adverse impact on human health that cannot be addressed by water treatment required under</p> <p>(i) an enactment, or</p> <p>(ii) the licence pertaining to the waterworks.</p>
<b>Practice Requirements</b>	The agreement holder will comply with:
Protecting water quality	FPPR Section 59
Licensed waterworks	FPPR Section 60
Excavated or bladed trails	FPPR Section 61

Agreement Holder Developed Strategy for Community Watersheds:	
<b>Hydrological Assessment Strategy:</b>	<p>Prior to primary forest activity in a Community Watershed, a QRP will calculate the approximate equivalent clearcut area (ECA) of the watershed. If the ECA including planned forest development is expected to exceed 20%, then a watershed assessment will be completed.</p> <p>The <b>Watershed Assessment</b> will follow the joint professional guidance report Watershed Assessment and Management of Hydrologic and Geomorphic Risk in the Forest Sector. It is a professional level analysis, carried out by a QRP, which studies existing and/or future forest development related effects on hydrologic and geomorphic processes in a watershed and includes but is not limited to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Identifying fans and delineating watersheds.</li> <li>2) Identifying elements-at-risk in watersheds and on fans, while taking into account potential climate change impacts.</li> <li>3) Identifying historical and current, hydrologic and geomorphic processes affecting runoff, the frequency and magnitude of peak flows, sediment delivery and sediment transport in a watershed to determine baseline conditions for future comparison.</li> <li>4) Identifying past natural and anthropogenic disturbance.</li> <li>5) A qualitative risk analysis that assesses the sensitivity of the watershed to changes in the magnitude and frequency of flow regime changes, increases in sediment delivery or changes to riparian function.</li> <li>6) Estimate changes in the risk (consequence and likelihood) to elements at risk, given past development/disturbance and future forest development, and their cumulative effects on water quality, quantity and timing of flow.</li> <li>7) Providing input to guide forest management planning at the watershed level.</li> </ol> <p>The Watershed Assessment must include recommendations or establish thresholds for forest management to minimize changes in the risk to elements at risk.</p> <p>Watershed Assessments will be conducted in advance of new forest developments and are intended to provide guidance for: forest planning, harvesting, road construction or permanent deactivation for up to 10 years. Watershed Assessments will be considered relevant and current up to 10 years, or until appreciable<sup>1</sup> change has occurred beyond the limits of recommendations or thresholds established in the original assessment.</p> <p>Planning and implementation of operational activities will be consistent with the recommendations or thresholds of the Watershed Assessment.</p> <p><b>Exception to the Strategy:</b> When there is not a relevant or current Watershed Assessment; a Watershed Assessment of the entire watershed will not be required if the proposed development is less than, or equal to, 2% of the watershed area and the cumulative area harvested or disturbed since the last Watershed Assessment is less than 4% of the watershed area.</p>
	In the absence of a relevant and current Watershed Assessment, ECA will be maintained below 20% and road density will be maintained below 1 km/ km <sup>2</sup> .

<sup>1</sup> Appreciable change is defined as a change to the disturbance level, either natural or unnatural, that could increase the qualitative risk to elements previously identified as at risk and is measured by using Equivalent Clearcut Area as an indicator of cumulative hydrologic change. A Qualified Registered Professional will assess the impacts of the disturbance against the recommendations and thresholds within the assessment to determine if a new assessment is required. If a natural event or proposed development is expected to exceed the current assessment's established recommendations or thresholds for Equivalent Clearcut Area, then a new assessment will be required in advance of further primary activities.

<b>3.6.2 Objective Set by GAR for Community Watersheds</b>	
<b>Regulation:</b>	GAR Section 8
<b>Objectives:</b>	<p>8 (1) The minister responsible for the Land Act by order may designate as a community watershed all or part of the drainage area that is upslope of the lowest point from which water is diverted for human consumption by a licensed waterworks, if satisfied that, to protect the water that is diverted for human consumption, the area requires special management, that is not otherwise provided for under this regulation or another enactment,</p> <p>(a) to conserve the quality, quantity and timing of water flow, or</p> <p>(b) to prevent cumulative hydrological effects that would have a material adverse effect on the water.</p> <p>(2) The minister responsible for the Wildlife Act by order may establish for a community watershed water quality objectives respecting a matter referred to in subsection (1).</p>
<b>Practice Requirements</b>	
<b>None at This Time:</b>	No water quality objectives have been established at date of FSP submission, so no Practice Requirements have been established under GAR.

### 3.7 Consumptive Use Streams

The FDU's in this FSP contains numerous licensed water intakes on streams and springs.

3.7.1 Objectives Set by HLPO for Consumptive Use Streams	
RMZO	RMZO 6: Consumptive Use Streams
<b>Objective:</b>	To reduce the impacts of forest development on streams licensed for human consumption, apply specified stream side management provisions to S5 and S6 streams that meet specified conditions.
<b>Definition:</b>	RMZO 6 applies to the streamside management zone on specified reaches of S5 and S6 streams, which extends from the edge of the stream channel bank or the outer edge of the active floodplain, to a minimum distance of 30 meters on each side of the stream, or to the top of the inner gorge, whichever is greater.
Result and Measures for RMZO 6	
<b>Strategy for RMZO 6:</b>	The agreement holder will follow the HLPO RMZO 6 requirements for specified reaches of S5 and S6 streams on which there is a water intake which is licensed for human consumption.
<b>Measures for RMZO 6:</b>	<p>Prior to carrying out primary forest activities in a streamside management zone identified per RMZO 6, a QRP will develop measures to safeguard water licensed for human consumption for activities in the stream side management zone.</p> <p>The measures specified above will be incorporated in the Site Plan prepared for each primary forest activity and will be followed during primary forest activities.</p>
3.7.2 Objective Set by FRPA/FPPR for Water within Riparian Areas	
<b>Regulation:</b>	FPPR Section 8
<b>Objective:</b>	<p>Riparian Areas</p> <p>The objective set by government for water within riparian areas is to conserve, at the landscape level, the water quality associated with those riparian areas.</p>
<b>Practice Requirements</b>	The agreement holder will comply with:
<b>Protecting water quality</b>	FPPR Section 59
<b>Licensed waterworks</b>	FPPR Section 60

Agreement Holder Developed Strategy: Planning in Domestic Use Watershed	
<b>Planning Process:</b>	<p>Prior to commencement of primary forest activities in a Domestic Use Watershed the agreement holder will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Obtain the current information on water Point of Diversion (POD) locations and status from the BC data catalogue.</li><li>- Obtain the publicly available information on the water licence holders associated with POD(s) that may be affected by the primary forest activity.</li><li>- Contact potentially affected domestic use water agreement holders whose contact information is publicly available to inform them of the planned activities and ask for comments.</li><li>- Ensure that comments from domestic use water agreement holders are considered when planning primary forest activities.</li></ul>

### 3.8 Biodiversity

3.8.1 Objectives Set by HLPO for Biodiversity	
RMZO	RMZO 1: Biodiversity Emphasis
<b>Objective:</b>	To contribute to the conservation of biodiversity through the assignment of biodiversity emphasis to each Landscape Unit (LU).
<b>Result for RMZO 1:</b>	
<b>Result:</b>	The agreement holder will comply with HLPO Resource Management Zone Objective 1. The FDU in this FSP overlaps LU K02, K05, K06 and K025.
RMZO	RMZO 2: Old and Mature Forest
<b>Objective:</b>	To maintain mature and old forests at the level set for each Landscape Unit by the HLPO.
<b>Result for RMZO 2 Old Forest:</b>	
<b>Result:</b>	The agreement holder will comply with HLPO Resource Management Zone Objective 2. The requirements of Objective 2 of the KBHLPO for Old Forest are considered to be fulfilled by the mapped non-legal Old Growth Management Areas (OGMAs) within the Landscape Unit (LU) that the FDU in this FSP overlaps. These OGMAs are shown on the FDU map of this FSP.

Agreement Holder Developed Strategies: RMZO 2 Old Forest	
Strategies for RMZO 2 Old Forest:	<p>Old Forest targets are achieved with Old Growth Management Areas, where the Old Growth Management Areas are used as a surrogate to aspatial Old Forest targets. The entire area of the crown forest land base contained within Old Growth Management Areas is considered Old Forest irrespective of stand age.</p> <p>The Old Forest located outside of Old Growth Management Areas does not contribute to the Old Forest targets, except if the Old Growth Management Areas do not meet the targets. If Old Forest targets are not met by the Old Growth Management Areas then the target deficits will be met aspatially with Old Forest outside of Old Growth Management Areas. The Kootenay-Boundary Higher Level Plan Order Selkirk Reporting Suite will be used for tracking Old Forest targets.</p> <p>The Old Growth Management Area geographic information systems data layer to be used will be the British Columbia Geographic Warehouse, which is updated from time to time.</p> <p>WHSE_LAND_USE_PLANNING.RMP_OGMA_NON_LEGAL_CURRENT_SVW  <a href="https://catalogue.data.gov.bc.ca/dataset/old-growth-management-areas-non-legal-current">https://catalogue.data.gov.bc.ca/dataset/old-growth-management-areas-non-legal-current</a></p> <p>No harvesting will take place in Old Growth Management Areas or Ancient Forests<sup>1</sup>, except:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) for access requirements, if no other alternative location exists, or where another location would result in greater risk to one or more Forest and Range Practices Acts values;</li> <li>b) to carry out wildland urban interface forest fuel reduction treatments;</li> <li>c) to remove damaged timber where an Old Growth Management Area is rendered ineffective<sup>2</sup> by natural damaging agents including wind, fire, insects or disease<sup>1</sup>; or</li> <li>d) for operational or safety reasons<sup>2</sup>.</li> </ul> <p>When timber is harvested from an Old Growth Management Area a Registered Professional Forester will document the decision within a Site Plan or Supporting Document. Additionally, where the harvest area is mappable (greater than 0.25 hectares), a Registered Professional Forester will prepare a written rationale, indicating the reasons for harvesting the timber from the Old Growth Management Area and spatially identify replacement area of at least the same size that provides equal or greater biological value consistent with the requirements of Objective 2 (5) of the Kootenay Boundary Higher Level Plan Order, including the factors identified in footnote k. Other factors the professional will identify and consider:</p>

<sup>1</sup> Ancient Forest Stands defined from the Land Management Handbook #25 as >400 years for NDT 1, 2, 4 and >250 years for NDT 3.

<sup>2</sup> Rendered ineffective means, in the opinion of a Biologist or Ecologist, damaged to a degree that the Old Growth Management Area no longer has the biological value of mature or old forest considering the

	<p>1) Maintaining or improving interior forest habitat conditions, presence and current use of Old Forest attributes and stand and landscape level connectivity.</p> <p>2) Is the best Old Forest identified as Old Growth Management within the relevant biogeolimatic zone subzone/variant of the landscape unit in question?</p> <p>3) Priority for establishing replacement area will focus on Ancient Forests, rare ecosystems<sup>3</sup>, or old stands first.</p> <p>If an amendment or replacement is to be done, and the amendment or replacement is not incidental<sup>4</sup>, it will be assessed by a biologist or ecologist<sup>5</sup>.</p> <p>As part of the information sharing package sent to First Nations, the licence holder will include the written rationale, biologist or ecologist assessment (if applicable), and spatially identified replacement area(s) pertaining to the Old Growth Management Area amendment or replacement.</p> <p>Changes to the boundaries or locations of the Old Growth Management Areas will be updated and tracked within the licence holders feature data sets. Annually the feature data sets<sup>6</sup> will be submitted to Ministry of Forest, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development upon their request.</p>
<b>Result for RMZO 2 Mature Forest:</b>	
<b>Result:</b>	The agreement holder will comply with HLPO Resource Management Zone Objective 2.

factors identified in footnote 'k' of Kootenay Boundary Higher Level Plan Order Objective 2 (5). When evaluating the factors in footnote 'K' the score card found in Appendix B will be used.

<sup>1</sup> Insects or disease as they relate to threatening the sustainability and resiliency of the forested ecosystems within the Old Growth Management Area, where strategies and/or tactics will be implemented to minimize losses from damaging insects and diseases.

<sup>2</sup> This would be related to timber development adjacent to an Old Growth Management Area where there is no other alternative to operationally or safely harvest the timber. This applies to these situations: yarder halos where the tail holds or guy line tiebacks would infringe on an Old Growth Management Area, or for the removal of danger trees. Danger tree means any tree that is a hazard to people.

<sup>3</sup> A rare old forest ecosystem has an unusual composition of species, or structure of forest cover that may be threatened by human activities. It can also be composed of flora that would not normally be found in its bioclimatic domain.

<sup>4</sup> Incidental is considered areas <0.26ha.

<sup>5</sup> Where a professional determines that a forest stand has sufficient biological value to be an Old Forest that professional will be a Biologist or Ecologist.

<sup>6</sup> Feature data sets will include Old Growth Management Area additions and reductions.



Agreement Holder Developed Strategies: RMZO 2 Mature Forest	
Strategies for RMZO 2 Mature Forest:	<p>The agreement holder will use the Higher Level Plan Objectives Reporting Suite application to monitor the area of Mature Forest in relation to the Mature + Old Forest retention targets set by HLPO RMZO 2 in LU K02, K05, K06 and K25.)</p> <p>Primary forest activities on CFA K3D will be constrained:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. To ensure that harvest on CFA K3D does not result in reducing mature forest area to less than the applicable RMZO 2 targets, and</li> </ol> <p>To allocate mature forest retention targets to areas within mapped connecting corridors, per RMZO 5(5).</p> <p>Information on planned primary forest activities in Mature Forest will be shared with other materially affected licence or agreement holders per the Collaboration within Shared Management Units strategy in this FSP.</p> <p>If a recruitment strategy is required for Mature Forest per RMZO 2(5), the agreement holder will share the recruitment strategy with other materially affected licence or agreement holders in the landscape unit. The information shared will include a written rationale and a map of the forest stands to be recruited.</p>
Agreement Holder Developed Strategies for Entering OGMA	
Strategies for Entering OGMA:	<p>The QRP referenced in this Strategy for Entering OGMA will be a biologist or ecologist, or a team of professionals that includes a biologist or ecologist.</p> <p>Primary forest activities will not be carried out in an established OGMA except:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To address safety hazards to adjacent primary forest activities;</li> <li>2. To construct a road or access trail where no practicable alternative option for the road or access trail location exists;</li> <li>3. To reduce fuel hazard within a designated landscape-level fuel break; or</li> <li>4. Where the OGMA has been rendered ineffective due to damaging agents. (For the purposes of this section, 'rendered ineffective' means, in the opinion of a QRP, damaged to a degree that the OGMA no longer has the ecological values of old forest considering the factors identified in footnote K of KBHLPO Objective 2 (5). When evaluating the footnote 'K' factors the score card found in <b>Appendix B</b> will be used).</li> </ol> <p>Where timber is harvested or a road is constructed in an established OGMA under circumstances 1 through 4 above and the harvested area is &gt; 0.2 hectares, a QRP will complete a field review and prepare a written rationale (a) indicating the reasons for harvesting the timber in the OGMA and (b) spatially identifying a replacement area from within the CFA area at least the same size as the harvested areas that provides</p>

	<p>equal or greater biological value consistent with the requirements of KBHLPO Objective 2 (5)<sup>1</sup>.</p> <p>The rationale will consider the following when assessing biological value:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the factors identified in footnote k,</li> <li>maintaining or improving interior old forest habitat conditions,</li> <li>maintaining or improving landscape level connectivity, and</li> <li>prioritizing protection of ancient forests and rare ecosystems (per the Old Growth Technical Advisory Panel definitions).</li> </ul>
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#### Agreement Holder Developed Strategies for Information Sharing and Reporting re: Changes to OGMA's

<b>Strategies for Information Sharing and Reporting</b>	<p>When a change to an OGMA boundary &gt;0.2 hectares is proposed, the information sharing package sent to First Nations by the agreement holder will include the QRP's written rationale per above strategy and spatial data of the identified OGMA replacement area.</p> <p>If an OGMA boundary is changed, the change will be reported to MOF per the <i>Selkirk Resource District Protocol for Managing OGMA Consolidation Mapping</i>.</p>
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#### 3.8.2 Objectives Set by HLPO for Green-up Height

<b>RMZO</b>	<b>RMZO 4: Green-up</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	<p>To establish the green-up height as 2.5 meters for areas adequately stocked and 3.0 meters for areas not adequately stocked, based on the criteria in the regulations, except in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. community watersheds;</li> <li>ii. visually sensitive areas within known scenic areas.</li> <li>iii. Enhanced Resource Development Zones, and</li> <li>iv. fire-maintained ecosystems as identified in RMZO 8.</li> </ul>
<b>Result for RMZO 4: Green-up</b>	
<b>Result:</b>	The agreement holder will comply with HLPO RMZO 4.

#### 3.8.3 Objectives Set by HLPO for Fire-Maintained Ecosystems

<b>RMZO</b>	<b>RMZO 8: Fire-Maintained Ecosystems</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	To restore and maintain the ecological integrity of fire-maintained ecosystems identified on HLPO Map 8.1
<b>Not Applicable at This Time:</b>	HLPO Map 8.1 has not been published, and therefore RMZO 8 is not in effect.

#### 3.8.4 Objective Set by FRPA/FPPR for Wildlife and Biodiversity at the Landscape Level

<b>Objective:</b>	The objective set by government for wildlife and biodiversity at the landscape level is, without unduly
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<sup>1</sup> Replacement area will also consider any small areas rendered ineffective or stranded from the main OGMA due to road construction or other tree removals.

	reducing the supply of timber from British Columbia's forests and to the extent practicable, to design areas on which timber harvesting is to be carried out that resemble, both spatially and temporally, the patterns of natural disturbance that occur within the landscape.
<b>Regulation:</b>	FPPR Section 12.4 An agreement holder is exempt from FPPR Section 64(1) Maximum Cutblock Size if the approved FSP includes an intended results or strategy for wildlife and biodiversity at the landscape level.
<b>Agreement Holder Developed Result for Maximum Cutblock Size:</b>	
<b>Result for Maximum Cutblock Size:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Maximum cutblock size outside of the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) and designated landscape-level fuel breaks must comply with FPPR Section 64.</li> <li>2. Cutblocks greater than 40 hectares within the WUI and designated landscape-level fuel breaks must <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. use the retention silvicultural system,</li> <li>b. include WTRA's that account for at least 20% of the gross block area, and</li> <li>c. implement a prescription that includes fuel hazard reduction.</li> </ol> </li> </ol> <p>Dispersed trees outside of mapped WTRA's can be used to contribute to the wildlife tree retention area targets.</p> <p>The area equivalency of the retained dispersed trees will be determined as the total basal area of the retained trees, measured by a QP, divided by the basal area of the pre-harvest forest type, measured by a QP.</p>
<b>Practice Requirements</b>	The agreement holder will comply with:
Harvesting adjacent to another cutblock	FPPR Section 65, except that the 3 metre minimum height will be changed to 2.5 meters in Sections 65(3)(a) and 65(3)(b)(ii) to comply with HLPO RMZO 4 in areas that RMZO 4 applies to.
<b>3.8.5 Objective Set by FRPA/FPPR for Biodiversity at the Stand Level</b>	
<b>Objective - FPPR 9.1:</b>	The objective set by government for wildlife and biodiversity at the stand level is, without unduly reducing the supply of timber from British Columbia's forests, to retain wildlife trees.
<b>Regulation:</b>	FPPR Section 12.5 An agreement holder is exempt from FPPR Section 66 - Wildlife Tree Retention and Section 67 - Restriction on Harvesting in Wildlife Tree Retention Areas if the approved FSP includes an intended results or strategy for wildlife and biodiversity at the stand level.

<b>Agreement Holder Developed Result for Wildlife Tree Retention:</b>	
<b>Result for Wildlife Tree Retention:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The total area of wildlife tree retention areas (WTRAs) that relate to the cutblocks in a cutting permit is a minimum of 7% of the total area of the cutblocks.</li> <li>2. The total area of wildlife tree retention areas that relate to a cutblock is a minimum of 3.5% of the total area of the cutblock.</li> <li>3. For the purposes of (1) and (2) above, a WTRA may relate to more than one cutblock if all of the cutblocks that relate to the WTRA collectively meet the applicable requirements of this section.</li> <li>4. WTRAs will be identified during harvest planning and will be documented and mapped in the Site Plan prepared for each harvest unit.</li> <li>5. Forest areas with the following attributes will be prioritized for inclusion in WTRAs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• connected to surrounding unharvested forests</li> <li>• large trees, large veteran trees, and large dead trees (compared to average stand height and diameter)</li> <li>• large trees with internal decay, heart rot or stem cavities,</li> <li>• trees with crevices, cracks or loose bark that is suitable for wildlife</li> <li>• trees with large mistletoe brooms</li> <li>• trees or features with active or recent wildlife use, and/or</li> <li>• uncommon tree or vegetation species.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<b>Practice Requirements</b>	The agreement holder will comply with:
<b>Restriction on harvesting</b>	FPPR Section 67
<b>Agreement Holder Developed Strategy for Quantifying Dispersed Wildlife Tree Retention:</b>	
<b>Strategy for Quantifying Dispersed Wildlife Tree Retention:</b>	<p>Dispersed trees outside of mapped WTRA's can be used to contribute up to 50% to the wildlife tree retention area targets.</p> <p>The area equivalency of the retained dispersed trees will be determined as the total basal area of the retained trees, measured by a QP, divided by the basal area of the pre-harvest forest type, measured by a QP.</p>

Agreement Holder Developed Strategy re: Harvesting in Wildlife Tree Retention Areas	
<b>Strategy re: Harvesting in Wildlife Tree Retention Areas:</b>	<p>Timber harvesting will not be carried out within a WTRA except for one or more of the following reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. the trees on the net area to be reforested of the cutblock to which the wildlife tree retention area relates have developed attributes that are consistent with a mature seral condition,</li> <li>4. to remove trees that contain insect populations that constitute a threat to forest health,</li> <li>5. to allow the establishment of tail holds or guy line tiebacks for adjacent harvest operations,</li> <li>6. to remove a safety hazard,</li> <li>7. to construct a road or access trail where no alternative practicable option for the road or access trail location exists, or</li> <li>8. where the trees in the WTRA are damaged because of wind, fire or forest health factors and, in the documented opinion of a QRP, the WTRA is rendered ineffective.</li> </ol> <p>For the purposes of this section, 'rendered ineffective' means altered such that the forest in the WTRA no longer has significant ecological attributes that are valuable to wildlife.</p> <p>For the purposes of this section, ecological attributes that are valuable to wildlife includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>large trees, large veteran trees, and large dead trees (compared to average stand height and diameter)</li> <li>large trees with internal decay, heart rot or stem cavities,</li> <li>trees with crevices, cracks or loose bark that is suitable for wildlife</li> <li>trees with large mistletoe brooms</li> <li>trees or features with active or recent wildlife use, and/or</li> <li>uncommon tree or vegetation species.</li> </ul> <p>If, in the quantified opinion of a QRP, the ecological attributes of the WTRA that are valuable to wildlife are maintained following harvesting carried out for reasons of (1) to (4) above, a rationale for maintaining the WTRA will be provided in the Site Plan.</p> <p>If, in the quantified opinion of a QRP, the ecological attributes of the WTRA that are valuable to wildlife are not maintained following harvesting carried out for reasons of (1) to (4) above, or harvesting is carried out for reason (5), and &gt;0.2 hectares have been harvested, an area of</p>

	<p><b>replacement WTRA</b> that is:</p> <p>(a) equivalent in size<sup>1</sup>, and</p> <p>(b) as equivalent as practicable in ecological attributes valuable to wildlife</p> <p>to the harvested WTRA area will be identified in a location as close as practicable to the harvested WTRA.</p> <p>The replacement WTRA area and the QRP assessments to establish equivalency will be documented in the Site Plan for the harvest unit.</p>
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### 3.9 Visual Quality

3.9.1 Objectives Set by HLPO for Visuals	
<b>RMZO</b>	<b>RMZO 9: Visuals</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	To conserve the quality of views from communities, major waterways and major highways by establishing the areas identified on Map 9.1 as known scenic areas.
<b>Not Applicable:</b>	HLPO RMZO 9 was replaced by a GAR <i>Order for the Establishment of Visual Quality Objectives and Scenic Area for the Kootenay Lake Forest District</i> on December 31, 2005.
3.9.2 Objectives Set per GAR 7(1) and 7(2) for Visual Quality	
<b>Regulations:</b>	FPPR Section 9.2, GAR Sections 7(1) and 7(2)
<b>Objective:</b>	The <i>Visual Quality Objective Order</i> for the Kootenay Lake Forest District established Visual Quality Objectives on March 7, 2014.
<b>Result for Visual Quality:</b>	
<b>Result:</b>	The agreement holder will comply with the <i>Visual Quality Objective Order</i> for Kootenay Lake Forest District, dated March 7, 2014, consistent with the definitions in FPPR S1.1. Completed primary forest activities will comply with the Visual Quality Objectives established by the Order.
<b>Agreement Holder Developed Strategy for Alternate Visual Quality Objectives:</b>	
<b>Strategy: Alternative Visual Quality Objectives – Wildland Urban Interface and established landscape-level fuel breaks</b>	<p>Where a VQO of Retention was established in the Order within the Wildland Urban Interface or within an established landscape-level fuel break, the agreement holder will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Meet a VQO of Partial Retention after completion of road building and harvesting,</li> <li>2. Implement principles of good visual design as per the Visual Impact Assessment Handbook, including</li> </ol>

<sup>1</sup> Replacement area will also consider any small areas rendered ineffective or stranded from the main WTRA due to road construction or other tree removals.

	<p>borrowing from the natural character of the terrain and forest types,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Use the retention silvicultural system, and</li> <li>4. Implement a prescription that includes fuel hazard reduction.</li> </ol>
<b>Agreement Holder Developed Strategy for Alternate Visual Quality Objectives:</b>	
<b>Strategy: Alternative Visual Quality Objectives</b>	Where timber harvesting for salvage, forest health management, or fuel hazard reduction is planned but the established Visual Quality Objective is not achievable due to the circumstances, an alternate Visual Management result and a strategy to achieve the result will be proposed as an amendment to this FSP.
<b>Agreement Holder Developed Strategy to Meet Visual Quality Objectives:</b>	
<b>Strategy: Visual Impact Assessment</b>	<p>The agreement holder will conduct a Visual Impact Assessment (VIA) for planned primary forest activities located in known scenic areas.</p> <p>The VIA will assess the visual landscape from significant public viewpoints and determine potential visual impacts.</p> <p>The results of the VIA will be incorporated into cutblock design.</p>

**3.10 Cultural Heritage Resources**

<b>Objectives Set by per FRPA 10 for Cultural Heritage Resources</b>	
<b>Regulation:</b>	<b>FPPR Section 10</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	<p>The objective set by government for cultural heritage resources is to conserve, or, if necessary, protect cultural heritage resources that are</p> <p>(a) the focus of a traditional use by an aboriginal people that is of continuing importance to that people, and</p> <p>(b) not regulated under the Heritage Conservation Act.</p>
<b>Agreement Holder Developed Strategy for Requesting Information On Cultural Heritage Resources:</b>	
<b>Strategy: Requesting Information</b>	<p>When planning a primary forest activity, the agreement holder will:</p> <p>9. Utilize the BC government First Nation Consultation Areas Public Map Service Consultative Areas Database to identify First Nations with interests in the potentially affected area with whom information on planned primary forest activities should be shared.</p> <p>Share information with First Nations by:</p> <p>providing maps (either mailed or sent electronically),</p> <p>providing spatial data of planned primary forest activities by email or through upload to portal,</p> <p>requesting in writing any information the recipients may wish to share regarding cultural heritage resources (CHR) in the planned primary forest activity area or anywhere in the CFA landbase, and</p> <p>offering in writing to meet through video conferencing to discuss planned activities.</p> <p>The above information sharing process will be initiated at least 60 days prior to conducting primary forest activities.</p>
<b>Agreement Holder Developed Strategy for Response to Information Received on Cultural Heritage Resources:</b>	
<b>Strategy: Responding to Information on CHR</b>	<p>If cultural heritage resources are brought to the agreement holder's attention when planning a primary forest activity, the agreement holder will:</p> <p>10. Respond to First Nation(s) who identified the CHR.</p> <p>11. Work with the First Nation(s) to revise the Site Plan for the planned primary forest activity to the extent required to conserve, mitigate impacts on, or protect the identified CHR, taking into account FPPR Section 10 and Schedule 1(4).</p> <p>Keep a written record of First Nations comments,</p>



	<p>agreement holder responses to First Nations comments, information provided by First Nations on CHR, and changes in Site Plans to minimize potential impacts on CHR.</p> <p>With the exception of the Province of BC, keep any or all shared information on CHR confidential.</p>
<b>Agreement Holder Developed Strategy for Response to Cultural Heritage Resources Identified During Operations:</b>	
<b>Strategy: Response to CHR Identified During Operations</b>	<p>If at any time a cultural heritage resource becomes known while implementing a primary forest activity the agreement holder will:</p> <p>12. Halt operations to the extent necessary to protect or conserve the CHR.</p> <p>Record the location, details of the resource, time and date of the discovery and other relevant information.</p> <p>Share information on the CHR with MOF and ask for their assessment per FPPR Schedule 1(4), and share information on the CHR, the planned activity and the expected outcome of the activity with affected First Nation(s)</p> <p>Work with the First Nation(s) who identified the CHR to revise the Site Plan for the planned primary forest activity to the extent required to conserve, mitigate impacts on, or protect the identified CHR, taking into account FPPR Section 10 and Schedule 1(4).. The measures, if any, that are committed to in the Site Plan will be communicated back to the First Nation in writing.</p> <p>Keep a record of all steps taken regarding the cultural heritage resource.</p>

### 3.11 Archeological Resources

The Heritage Conservation Act governs the protection and conservation of archeological sites and objects in British Columbia. The agreement holder is obligated to comply with the Heritage Conservation Act, and the content of this FSP has no impact on those obligations.

Presented here for information only, the agreement holder uses the following procedures to ensure compliance with the Heritage Conservation Act with regards to archeological sites and objects:

13. Archeological Overview Assessments have been completed for the CFA landbase.

If primary forest activities are being considered in an area that has been identified in the Archaeological Overview Assessment as having a moderate or high archaeological potential, a QRP Archaeologist will be retained to carry out a professional review and provide recommendations. The Archaeologist's recommendations will be followed in any operational activities.

Workers carrying out primary forest activities will receive a briefing on and will be provided with an Archeological Chance Finds standard operating procedure. The key component of the SOP is to stop work in area immediately if a potential archeological feature is found and obtain a QRP review.

**3.12 Resource Features**

<b>Objectives Set by GAR / FPPR for Resource Features</b>	
<b>Regulations:</b>	GAR Section 5, FPPR Section 70
<b>Objective:</b>	<p>A "resource feature" means a resource feature identified under GAR Section 5, and may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) a surface or subsurface element of a karst system;</li> <li>(b) a range development;</li> <li>(c) Crown land used for research or experimental purposes;</li> <li>(d) a permanent sample site used as a snow course by or on behalf of the federal or Provincial government for the purpose of measuring the water content of the snow pack on a given area;</li> <li>(e) a cultural heritage resource that is the focus of a traditional use by an aboriginal people and that is not regulated by the Heritage Conservation Act;</li> <li>(f) an interpretive forest site, recreation site or recreation trail;</li> <li>(g) a trail or other recreation facility referred to in section 57 of the Act that is authorized by the minister or under another enactment;</li> <li>(h) a recreation feature that the minister considers to be of significant recreational value.</li> </ul> <p>FPPR 70 (1) requires that an authorized person who carries out a primary forest activity must ensure that the primary forest activity does not damage or render ineffective a resource feature.</p>
<b>Result for Resource Features:</b>	
<b>Result:</b>	<p>The agreement holder will not damage or render ineffective a resource feature during primary forest activities.</p> <p>At time of submission, there are no Resource Features identified within the FDU of this FSP.</p>
<b>Strategy – karst:</b>	<p>When planning a primary forest activity, the agreement holder will utilize provincial karst mapping to identify karst potential.</p> <p>Where karst features are identified, either during planning or primary forest activities, a QRP will establish an adequate buffer to protect the feature. The location and any measures to protect the feature will be recorded in the site plan.</p> <p>If at any time a karst feature becomes known while implementing a primary forest activity, the agreement holder will halt operations to the extent necessary to protect the feature</p>

**3.13 Special Trees Protection**

<b>Objectives Set by Special Tree Protection Regulation</b>	
<b>Regulation:</b>	Special Tree Protection Regulation
<b>Objective:</b>	A responsible person for a primary forest activity must ensure that, while carrying out that activity, specified trees are not cut, damaged or destroyed, and supporting trees are not felled, topped or destroyed.
<b>Practice Requirements</b>	The agreement holder will comply with the Special Tree Protection Regulation.

**3.14 Recreation**

<b>Objectives Set per FRPA for Recreation Features</b>	
<b>Legislation and Regulations:</b>	FRPA Sections 56, 180 and 181; FPPR 70(1); Forest Recreation Regulation Section 16
<b>Objectives:</b>	Under FRPA, the minister may establish Crown land as an interpretive forest site, a recreation site or a recreation trail and establish objectives for the established feature.  All in respect to an interpretive forest site, a recreation site and/or a recreation trail that were in effect immediately before the effective date of FRPA are continued as objectives under FRPA.
<b>Practice Requirements</b>	The agreement holder will comply with FPPR S70(1).
Lady Slipper Trail, Sullivan Creek Trail, Pack Trail, Thompson Rim Trail, Bonnie Lake Trail	The objective is to manage these trail systems for a forested, creek side and lakeside semi-primitive non-motorized recreational experience.
<b>Agreement Holder Developed Results for Recreation Features:</b>	
<b>Results:</b>	The agreement holder will comply with the following:  14. Primary forest activities within or adjacent to an established recreation feature will be carried out consistent with the established objectives of the recreation site or trail.  Primary forest activities within or adjacent to an established recreation feature will proceed only if authorized by a Recreation Officer.  If additional recreation features with associated tenure holders are established within the FDU of this FSP, the agreement holder will provide the recreation tenure holder with a reasonable opportunity for review and comment.  If a non-motorized recreation trail is crossed by a road, the agreement holder will erect physical barriers

	and/or signage as necessary to control motorized access and/or advise users of trail use restrictions.
<b>Agreement Holder Developed Strategy for Recreation Features:</b>	
<b>Strategy:</b>	<p>Where the agreement holder carries out primary forest activities within or adjacent to an established recreation feature the following measures will be followed, unless otherwise approved or directed by a Recreation Officer:</p> <p>15. where practicable, activities will take place during periods of low recreational use, as determined through consultation with a Recreation Officer;</p> <p>established recreation feature(s) within two tree lengths of active work sites will be closed for as short a period as practicable to manage public safety;</p> <p>safety hazards within the primary forest activity area which could impact the established recreation feature(s) will be removed as soon as practicable and prior to reopening the recreation feature;</p> <p>the running surface of trails within or adjacent to the primary forest activity will be cleared of any debris and re-established as soon as practicable, and no later one month of completion of primary forest activities, or one month after snow-free conditions, or as directed by the Recreation Officer;</p> <p>new access structures will not be constructed across a recreation trail unless there is no other practicable location; and</p> <p>primary forest activities adjacent to established recreation feature(s) will minimize damage to natural understory vegetation, to the extent practicable, within 30 metres of the recreation feature.</p>

### 3.15 Invasive Plants

<b>Objectives Set per FRPA / FPPR for Invasive Plants</b>	
<b>Legislation and Regulations:</b>	FRPA Section 47 and FPPR Section 17
<b>Objectives:</b>	<p>A person carrying out a forest practice must carry out measures that are specified in the applicable operational plan to prevent the introduction or spread of prescribed species of invasive plants.</p> <p>A person who prepares a forest stewardship plan must specify measures in the plan to prevent the introduction or spread of species of plants that are invasive plants under the Invasive Plants Regulation, if the introduction or spread is likely to be the result of the person's forest practices.</p>

Agreement Holder Developed Measures for Invasive Plants:	
Measures:	<p>The agreement holder will comply with the following measures to prevent the introduction or spread of invasive alien plants:</p> <p><b>Training</b></p> <p>Field layout and supervisory staff will be trained annually in identification of priority invasive plants, as described in <i>Best Practices for Preventing the Spread of Invasive Plants during Forest Management Activities, 2013 edition</i>, developed by the Ministry of Forests and the Invasive Species Council of BC.</p> <p><b>Reporting</b></p> <p>Should an invasive plant with a status of Contain, Eradicate or Prevent on the CKISS Invasive Plant Priority List or those listed in the Invasive Plants Regulation be observed outside of known infestation areas, the agreement holder will file a report using the 'Report Invasives BC' app or the CKISS website <i>Report an Invasive Species</i> page within 30 days.</p> <p><b>Practices</b></p> <p>16. The agreement holder will review the Invasive Alien Plant Program (IAPP) data set during operational planning to be informed of known locations of invasive plants near planned operations.</p> <p>17. Priority invasive plants present in or adjacent to proposed operating areas will be identified during the field layout. Where priority invasive plants are found, specific measures to prevent introduction or spread will be incorporated in Site Plans, including the measures listed below.</p> <p>18. Equipment of all staff and contractors will be inspected and washed to remove visible invasive plant parts and seed before entering sites.</p> <p>19. During forestry operations and road maintenance in areas where priority invasive plants are present, infested sites will be avoided for parking and log sorting, and operations will commence in areas with low or no infestation and move towards more infested areas.</p> <p>20. The agreement holder will grass seed exposed mineral soils along new or deactivated/ rehabilitated roads and landings where exposed soil exceeds 0.01 hectares in a contiguous area. Seeding will be completed as soon as practicable within one year of completion of primary forest activities.</p> <p>21. Seeded areas will be monitored the following year to confirm that seeding was successful. Areas will be re-seeded within one year if initial seeding was not successful.</p> <p>22. Seeding will use Canada Common #1 seed.</p> <p>23. The agreement holder will participate in the Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society (CKISS).</p>

**3.16 Natural Range Barriers**

<b>Regulation:</b>	FPPR Section 18
<b>Practice Requirements</b>	<p>Currently there are no range use agreements or grazing activity in the FDUs in this FSP.</p> <p>If a range tenure is awarded within any of the FDUs then this FSP will be amended to specify measures to mitigate the effect of removing or rendering ineffective natural range barriers.</p>

## 4.0 Stocking Standards

Stocking Standards	
<b>Regulations</b>	FRPA 107 and FPPR Sections 16, 44 and 97
	<p><b>Stocking Standards</b></p> <p>The agreement licence holder will comply with the Selkirk Resource District South Columbia default stocking standards and Fire Management / Wildland Urban Interface stocking standards, as amended from time to time, that are in effect on the date of commencement of harvesting operations in any standards unit.</p> <p><b>Early Free Growing Date</b></p> <p>When free growing standards have been achieved the agreement holder may declare achievement of free growing per FPPR 97(5), with due consideration of FPPR 97(6), using the approved variation process in RESULTS.</p>
<b>Applies to FDU</b>	All

The 2018 Selkirk Resource District South Columbia default stocking standards and the 2018 Wildland Urban Interface stocking standards are included in Appendix C and D, respectively, of the FSP.

**Appendix A**

**Forest Stewardship Plan Maps**



## Appendix B

### Public and Stakeholder Review and Comment

The public was informed that CCF's Forest Stewardship Plan was available for review and comment through a notice placed in the Creston Valley Advance on June 27, 2024.



**Creston Community Forest  
Community Forest Agreement K3D  
Forest Stewardship Plan 2024-2029**

The Creston Community Forest (CCF) is proposing an updated Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP) for Community Forest Agreement K3D.

The CCF is a not-for-profit organization governed by a volunteer board of directors, five of whom are representatives of the company's shareholders (Town of Creston, Regional District of Central Kootenay, Wildsight, Trails for Creston Valley Society and the Erickson Community Association).

An FSP is a landscape level plan that establishes objectives, strategies and results for conserving and protecting timber and non-timber resource values in Licence K3D. This FSP has been prepared per the requirements of the Forest and Range Practices Act and the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation. The FSP does not include operational plans for specific harvesting or wildfire risk reduction projects. These are addressed during ongoing community engagement processes.

The purpose of this notice is to provide the public and interested parties the opportunity to review and comment on the FSP. While the review and comment period has a closing date, the public and stakeholders are welcome to contact us with questions, concerns or comments related to our activities.

The FSP is available online at: [www.crestoncommunityforest.com](http://www.crestoncommunityforest.com).

Other means to view the FSP can be arranged by request. The CCF can be reached by phone at 250-402-0070 or by email: [dgratton@crestoncf.com](mailto:dgratton@crestoncf.com).

For comments to be reflected in the final submission of this FSP, please send written submissions by August 27, 2024 to [dgratton@crestoncf.com](mailto:dgratton@crestoncf.com) or to: Creston Community Forest, Box 551, Creston, BC, V0B 1G0.

Stakeholders and potentially affected agreement holders were sent an information sharing letter on June 27, 2024 advising them of the proposed FSP and asking for written comments. This included:

- Woodlot Owner #1461
- Regional District of Central Kootenay
- Trapline TR0406T003

The stakeholder letter states:

The Creston Community Forest (CCF) is proposing an updated Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP) for Community Forest Agreement (CFA) K3D. CFA K3D contains five Community watersheds which includes Arrow Creek, Sullivan Creek, Russell Creek, Floyd Creek and Camp Run Creek. Nine Domestic watersheds are also in the CFA K3D Licence area. Since its inception in November 1997, the CCF has operated as a not-for-profit organization governed by a volunteer board of directors five of which are shareholders represented by the Town of Creston, Regional District of Central Kootenay, Wildsight, Trails for Creston Valley Society and the Erickson Community Association. The CCF's primary land management objectives are to implement ecosystem-based forestry, protect water, address climate change and improve the Creston Valley's resilience in the event of wildfire. The CCF welcomes meeting in person to discuss our FSP or any other questions you may have.

For comments to be reflected in the final submission of this FSP, please send written submissions by August 28, 2024 to [dgratton@crestoncf.com](mailto:dgratton@crestoncf.com) or to: Creston Community Forest, Box 551, Creston, BC, V0B 1G0. The FSP can be viewed at:

[www.crestoncommunityforest.com](http://www.crestoncommunityforest.com).

## Appendix C

### Summary of First Nations Review and Comment

First Nations informed of the FSP were identified using the Contacts for *First Nations Consultation Areas Public Map Service*. First Nations were informed of this FSP on June 28 and 29, 2024 using the Nations Connect and Ktunaxa Connect portals.

The following First Nations were contacted:

- Ktunaxa Nation Council
- Lower Kootenay Band
- Shuswap Band
- St. Mary's Indian Band
- Tobacco Plains Indian Band
- Akisqnuq First Nation

The information letter states:

The Creston Community Forest (CCF) is proposing an updated Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP) for Community Forest Agreement (CFA) K3D. CFA K3D contains five Community watersheds which includes Arrow Creek, Sullivan Creek, Russell Creek, Floyd Creek and Camp Run Creek. Nine Domestic watersheds are also in the CFA K3D Licence area.

Since its inception in November 1997, the CCF has operated as a not-for-profit organization governed by a volunteer board of directors five of which are shareholders directors represented by the Town of Creston, Regional District of Central Kootenay, Wildsight, Trails for Creston Valley Society and the Erickson Community Association.

The CCF's primary land management objectives are to implement ecosystem-based forestry, protect water, address climate change and improve the Creston Valley's resilience in the event of wildfire. The CCF welcomes meeting in person to discuss our FSP or any other questions you may have.

For comments to be reflected in the final submission of this FSP, please send written submissions by August 28, 2024 to [dgratton@crestoncf.com](mailto:dgratton@crestoncf.com) or to: Creston Community Forest, Box 551, Creston, BC, V0B 1G0. The FSP can be viewed at: [www.crestoncommunityforest.com](http://www.crestoncommunityforest.com).

## **Appendix D**

### **Wildland Urban Interface Stocking Standards**

The link to the Wildland Urban Interface Stocking Standards can be accessed at:

[https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/forestry/bc-timber-sales/environmental-stewardship-sustainability/forest-stewardship-plans/kootenay/kootenay-ba-fsp-914/appendix\\_8b\\_selkirk\\_resource\\_district\\_wildland\\_urban\\_interface\\_default\\_stocking\\_standards\\_version1\\_november20\\_2018.pdf](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/forestry/bc-timber-sales/environmental-stewardship-sustainability/forest-stewardship-plans/kootenay/kootenay-ba-fsp-914/appendix_8b_selkirk_resource_district_wildland_urban_interface_default_stocking_standards_version1_november20_2018.pdf)

The CCF will commit to implementing these standards in its management areas identified as the Wildland Urban Interface and Natural Disturbance Type 4.

## **Appendix E**

### **Selkirk Resource District South Columbia Default Stocking Standards**

## Appendix F

### Factors to Consider when Assessing Suitability of Old Forests

Footnote k Factor	Definition and Interpretation	Sources for Additional Information
Stand age	Minimum ages of old and mature forests are listed in the HLPO. Stands are assessed based on the age of the dominant cohort in a stand. Field-based measurements using tree cores take precedence over forest inventory estimated ages. Ancient forests have particularly high conservation value.	HLPO, Biodiversity Guidebook (1995); LMH 25 describes Very Old Forests (structural stage 7b) as >400 in NDT 1,2,4 and >250 in NDT 3. These age classes will be considered ancient forests.
Successional status	Describes the stand development status of a forest, including factors such as tree species composition and canopy complexity. Older successional stands with greater structural diversity, more large structures and greater canopy complexity have greater conservation value.	LMH 25 (2010) describes both Successional status and Structural stages
Presence of old growth attributes	Old forest attributes differ between ecosystems. Typical old forest attributes include: large live trees (for the BEC unit), large snags and CWD in a range of decay classes; wildlife trees; multiple canopy layers (from regen to dominants); canopy gaps; and well-developed plant communities.	The size of “large” and density of expected large attributes is described in a series of research projects that were completed in the Kootenay Boundary Region (1999-2006). These “index of old growthness” reports will be used to inform a professional rationale.

Size of stand	<p>Larger stands of old forests are preferred because they provide more habitat, more interior habitat conditions, and less edge habitat.</p> <p>The minimum legal size of an OGMA is 2 ha, but larger patches are encouraged, and the intention is to maintain or increase patch size where possible.</p> <p>Large OGMAs are intended to maximize the inclusion of old forest and should only include mature or younger forest where (1) recruitment is required or (2) conservation benefits have been assessed and old forest biodiversity values are captured equally or better than would be achieved through inclusion of different patches of old forest.</p> <p>In many landscapes, large old forest patches with interior habitat are uncommon, and the overall quanta of old forests is low.</p>	Guidance on expected patch size, by BEC and NDT (Holt 2000) <sup>1</sup>		
		<b>Natural Disturbance Type</b>	<b>Percentage of OGMAs on Landscape</b>	<b>Patch Size</b>
		NDT1	40 - 100% 40% 15% 5%	> 1000 ha 250 - 1000 ha 50 - 250 ha < 50 ha
		NDT2	35% 35% 25%	> 500 ha 250 - 500 ha 50 - 250 ha
Amount of human impact	<p>Human impacts such as historic (or recent) selective harvesting, roads, trails, linear corridors, etc. reduce the value of old forest stands.</p> <p>These impacts will be considered when identifying replacement old forest areas.</p>	NDT3 (ICH / ESSF)	20% 40%	> 500 ha 250 - 500 ha
		NDT4	30% 10%	50 - 250 ha < 50 ha
Dispersion/connectivity of the stand	<p>Landscape level connectivity allows for the flow of species, genes, and populations. Old forest retention planning should avoid fragmentation and creation of isolated patches. However, smaller stands may have high old forest conservation value where old</p>	The Biodiversity Guidebook provides information on landscape connectivity.		

<sup>1</sup> Holt. 2000. An index of Old-Growthness for the ESSFwm BEC unit in the Nelson Forest Region. Prepared for the Inter-Agency Management Committee, Min. Env., Lands and Parks.

	<p>forest is uncommon or where forests are very old.</p> <p>Riparian areas, low passes between mountains, and areas that support movement from low to high elevation provide increased connectivity value.</p>	
Rarity of the stand	<p>The range of ecosystems in a geographic area should be included in a network of OGMA.</p> <p>Old forests in ecosystems with few remaining old forests and/or stands with uncommon structures (e.g., very old/ancient forests or very large remnant/veteran trees) are often prioritized in OGMA selection.</p>	<p>The Conservation Data Centre's Ecosystem Explorer provides lists of Ecosystems at Risk based on plant communities (e.g., site series level); these are currently being reviewed and updated with incorporation of new BEC.</p>
<b>Other Factors</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>	<b>Sources for Additional Information</b>
Old Growth Technical Advisory Panel	<p>The April 2020 Gorley and Merkel report and subsequent mapping and analysis work by the Old Growth Technical Advisory Panel (OGTAP) led to a proposed voluntary deferral of harvesting in a set of old forests in November 2021.</p> <p>The OGTAP identified a minimum stand age, height and quadratic mean diameter which, when used to filter the current VRI inventory data in each landscape unit and BEC subzone combination, identified a set of VRI polygons that appear to meet the target set for old growth protection in that analysis unit.</p> <p>The parameters were used to create initial maps showing areas proposed to be deferral from harvesting. However, FLNRORD stresses that the maps themselves are not the end product; the parameters are the product. The VRI data used to make the maps is</p>	<p>A NEW FUTURE FOR OLD FORESTS A Strategic Review of How British Columbia Manages for Old Forests Within its Ancient Ecosystems, Gorley and Merkel, April 2020</p> <p>Priority Deferrals An Ecological Approach, Old Growth Technical Advisory Panel – October 2021</p> <p>OG TAP Old Growth Deferral: Background and Technical Appendices</p>

	<p>known to have errors. If a stand is captured by the parameters, based on actual stand attributes and not inventory data, it should be deferred, regardless of the map.</p> <p>Guidance on field based assessment processes is being prepared.</p> <p>The provincial old growth forest initiative is a work in progress. Parameters to be considered and deferral status of any particular area may change.</p> <p>The holder will consider the current OGTA stand age, height and quadratic mean diameter parameters when assessing any replacement old forest area.</p>	
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