

2020 – 2025 Operating Plan

Prince Albert Forest Management Agreement Area

Updated: March 19, 2020
with reconciled 2019 harvest volumes and 2020 silviculture treatments

(Original Submission: December 1, 2019)

Prepared for:

Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment
Forest Service Branch
201 - 1061 Central Avenue
Prince Albert, SK S6V 6G1

By:

Sakâw Askiy Management Inc.
219 - 1061 Central Avenue
Prince Albert, SK
S6V 5T3



This plan was prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Code, the Prince Albert Forest Management Agreement (FMA) and FMA Side Agreement, approved Forest Management Plan, and the Harvest Volume Schedule and associated utilization standards.

*Diane Roddy, R.P.F.
General Manager, Sakâw Askiy Management Inc.*

A Fully Integrated Plan (as defined in Operating Zones Agreement dated effective January 1, 2012 (the "OZA ')) has been developed for the Tolko, Carrier, and Edgewood Planning Areas. Such Fully Integrated Plan complies with the OZA and includes an integrated harvest design that incorporates the species group and harvest design interests of parties holding an Allocation in the Planning Area. To the extent reasonably possible in the circumstances (but, for greater certainty, without in any way changing or modifying the rights or obligations of Allocation holders as set forth in the OZA or otherwise (including, without limitation, those set out in Section 5.5 of the OZA)), Incidental Timber in the Planning Area (that forms part of the allocation of another party) is being fully planned for utilization in a manner consistent with the requirements of the OZA.

Michelle Young, R.P.F.
Woodlands Manager, Tolko Industries

Ed Kwiatkowski, R.P.F.
Woodlands Manager, Carrier Forest Products

Doug Braybrook, R.P.F.
Forestlands Operations Manager, Dunkley Lumber (Edgewood Forest Products operations)

Table of Contents

Table of Contents	iii
List of Figures	iv
List of Tables	iv
Glossary.....	v
1 Introduction	1
2 Variances from the FMP, Operating Plan Standard, Licence, HVS	2
2.1 Variances from FMP (at the Dec. 1, 2019 submission)	2
2.2 Variances from Forest Operating Plan Standard	5
2.3 Variances from FMA and HVS	6
3 Engagement and Information Sharing.....	6
3.1 Activities Undertaken.....	7
3.1.1 Letters and Emails	7
3.1.2 Public Information Sessions	7
3.1.3 Advertising	8
3.1.4 Sakâw Website	9
3.1.5 Concerns Raised	9
3.1.6 Trapping and Outfitting Maps.....	9
3.2 Adjustments to Plans	10
3.3 First Nation and Metis Communities	10
3.4 Further Details	12
4 Proposed Forest Operations	13
4.1 General.....	13
4.1.1 Operations Standards	13
4.1.2 Contractor Management	13
4.1.3 Ribbon Colour Scheme / Boundary Tolerances	13
4.1.4 Temporary Work Camps	14
4.1.5 Heritage Resource Surveys	14
4.2 Harvesting	15
4.2.1 Harvesting Methods.....	15
4.2.2 Excess Hardwood Retention	15
4.2.3 Utilization Standards.....	15
4.2.4 Proposed Year 1 Harvest Volumes and Attributes	16
4.2.5 Staging and Storage of Wood	17
4.2.6 Silviculture Systems and Stand Level Retention	17
4.2.7 Riparian Area Harvesting	17
4.2.8 Visually Sensitive Areas.....	18
4.2.9 Third-Party Operators	18
4.3 Roads and Crossings.....	18

4.3.1	Proposed Roads and Watercourse Crossings	18
4.3.2	Road Closures.....	19
4.3.3	Road Deactivation.....	19
4.3.4	Road Reclamation	19
4.4	Renewal	19
4.4.1	Silviculture Ground Rules.....	19
4.4.2	Planned Year 1 Renewal Activities.....	19
4.4.3	Regeneration Assessments	20
5	Forest Protection	20
5.1	Fire Protection and Suppression.....	20
5.2	Insect and Disease Protection.....	20
6	Reporting and Self-Inspections.....	20
7	Amendments.....	21
Appendix A	Variances from FMP	22
Appendix B	Engagement and Information Sharing.....	23
Appendix C	Harvest Areas and Volumes	24
Appendix D	Roads, Watercourse Crossings, Closures.....	25
Appendix E	Renewal Activities	26

List of Figures

<i>Figure 1 Planning Areas and Facilitators</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Figure 2: FMA Planning Units (West, Central, East, North)</i>	<i>15</i>

List of Tables

<i>Table 1 Sakâw Public Information Sessions</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Table 2 Standard Flagging Tape Colours</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>Table 3 Utilization Standards in 2018-2038 FMP.....</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Table 4 Shareholder Allocations and Proposed Harvest Volumes.....</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>Table 5 Riparian Management - Variable Retention System</i>	<i>17</i>

Glossary

AHPP	Aquatic Habitat Protection Permit	ha	hectare
FMP	Forest Management Plan	m	meter
FMA	Forest Management Agreement	m ³	cubic meter
GPS	Global Positioning System		
HCB	Heritage Conservation Branch	BP	Balsam Poplar
HVS	Harvest Volume Schedule	BS	Black Spruce
IBR	Improved Bush Road	JP	Jack Pine
IHS	Integrated Harvest Schedule	TA	Trembling Aspen
IWR	Improved Winter Road	TL	Tamarack
OP	Operating Plan	WS	White Spruce
OSB	Oriented Strand Board		
PHSP	Pre-Harvest Site Prescription		
RMA	Riparian Management Area		
RPF	Registered Professional Forester		
TPO	Third Party Operator		
AC Forestry	Agency Chiefs Forestry		
Carrier	Carrier Forest Products		
Edgewood	Edgewood Forest Products		
MLBV	Montreal Lake Business Ventures		
MLMP	Meadow Lake Mechanical Pulp		
Tolko	Tolko Meadow Lake OSB Division		
NorSask	NorSask Forest Products		

1 Introduction

This Operating Plan has been prepared in accordance with the Forest Operating Plan Chapter and Standard of the Saskatchewan Environmental Code, and the Amended and Restated Prince Albert Forest Management Agreement (PA FMA) and accompanying PA FMA Side Agreement. It is also aligned with a strategic 20-Year Forest Management Plan (FMP) for the PA FMA area that came into effect on April 1, 2018. The FMP was prepared under a hybrid of the requirements in the Forest Management Planning Document (August 2007) and the Forest Management Planning Standard (September 2017).

The plan is being submitted by Sakâw Askiy Management Inc. (Sakâw), the corporation that holds the PA FMA on behalf of seven shareholders, to gain approval for consumptive and non-consumptive activities on the FMA landbase. These activities include harvesting (including the staging or storage of wood), road construction, maintenance and reclamation, and renewal (tree planting, scarification, regeneration assessments). The seven shareholders are AC Forestry, Carrier Forest Products, Dunkley Lumber (Edgewood Forest Products operations), Meadow Lake Mechanical Pulp, Montreal Lake Business Ventures, NorSask Forest Products and Tolko Industries Ltd. (Meadow Lake OSB Division).

The operating plan covers the five-year period from April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2025. The draft maps submitted on December 1, 2019 were posted on the Sakaw website at www.sakaw.ca people who provided input to the development of the plan can see the maps submitted. Upon approval, the final maps and documents that make up the plan will be made available on the Sakâw website.

Each of Sakâw's shareholders (allocation holders) contributed to the development of this operating plan following a process outlined in Sakâw's Operating Zone Agreement. The FMA area is partitioned into operating zones, within which a shareholder has been allocated the hardwood volume and a shareholder has been allocated the softwood volume. These operating zones are combined to form three planning areas.

Shareholders collaborated on preparing local-level operating plans under the direction of Planning Area Facilitators, who were responsible for turning those plans into a fully integrated operating plan for their planning area, then submitting it to Sakâw's General Manager for incorporation into the Sakâw Operating Plan. Planning Area Facilitators are currently Michelle Young, R.P.F. (Tolko Meadow Lake Division), Ed Kwiatkowski, R.P.F. (Carrier), and Doug Braybrook, R.P.F. (Dunkley Edgewood Division). Figure 1 shows the planning areas managed by each facilitator.

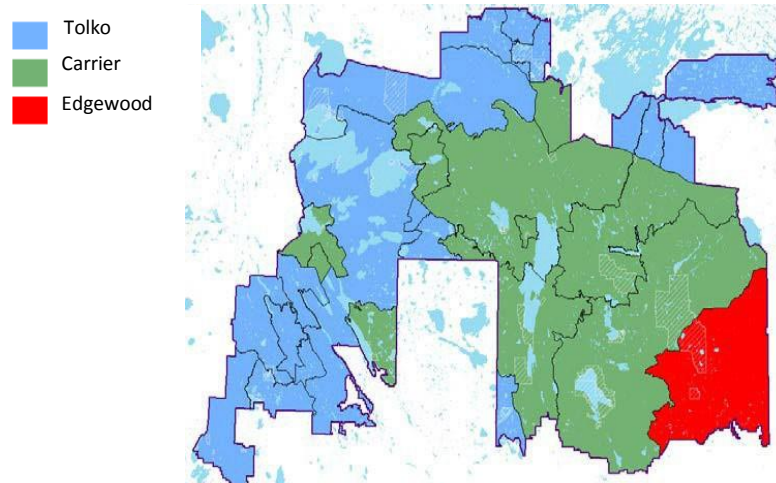


Figure 1 Planning Areas and Facilitators

Responsibility for the harvesting, road, and renewal activities in the proposed harvest areas is identified in tables in the Appendices that are part of this plan.

2 Variances from the FMP, Operating Plan Standard, Licence, HVS

2.1 Variances from FMP (at the Dec. 1, 2019 submission)

This operating plan is aligned with the 2018-2038 Forest Management Plan (FMP) for the PA FMA area which came into effect on April 1, 2018. Operating plan variances from approved FMP strategies and commitments are monitored, reported on, and reviewed annually by an FMP Management Implementation Team (MIT).

A list of FMP variances to report on in this operating plan under section 1-3(1)(b) of the Forest Operating Plan Standard was developed by the Forest Service, and that report follows.

1. Proposed blocks occurring outside of tactical plan areas (FMP Indicator 15)

There are 6,577 ha in 212 operating plan blocks that fall outside of the FMP tactical plan area boundaries with 2 times the expected harvest volume included in the plan. (roughly 3,288 ha at 1X harvest volume). This works out to 7.7% of the planned area being outside of the Tactical Plan, and the allowable variance is up to 15%. Those blocks and areas are listed in Appendix A.

The reasons for this variance include but are not limited to:

- Portions of this area may have been previously planned and approved
- Blocks are being resubmitted to complete partial harvest, complete road deactivation, or to fully use the planned road system.
- The forest inventory for the FMA is approximately 17 years old. This was recognized when developing the tactical plan and historic knowledge of the area was used when possible. Sakaw planners are finding inaccuracies at the ground level. For example 15-18 meter wood is often labelled incorrectly on the west side of the FMA, areas that are typed as “merchantable” are found to be non-merchantable. In addition, there are major areas of blowdown from 2007, 2011, and 2012 that are only partially located, snow press over the last few years and flooding have removed many areas, and stands have had challenges with decadence and mistletoe that make yields far less than planned.
- We are in the 3rd year of a wet cycle. Areas that were marginal for summer operations historically are challenging in terms of summer operability. This has meant adjustments to areas originally thought to be accessible in the Tactical Plan.
- An elevated level of stakeholder pushback has resulted in harvesting being getting deferred until agreements can be reached. This often drives us to plan in areas where stakeholder certainty is greater

Collectively all these factors are contributing to needing to explore options outside of the tactical plan. The variances from the plan this year were greater than last year. Sakaw will continue to monitor and report at the FMP MIT.

2. Proposed blocks impacting old seral deferral areas (FMP Indicator 2)

There are 9,338 ha of old seral deferral areas that are impacted to some degree by the operating plan blocks. Those blocks are listed in Appendix A. The areas within harvest blocks will, for the most part, be excluded from logging and be incorporated into retention patches.

Modifications to the deferral areas can be made under the circumstances described in Indicator 2 and will be managed and tracked during the operating year. Suitable replacement deferral areas will be identified in the annual report on FMP implementation and reviewed with the FMP Management Implementation Team (MIT).

3. Deviations from the FMP approved utilization standard being requested in operating plan.

No deviations are being requested in this operating plan.

4. Blocks where the practice of excess hardwood retention will be used

Refer to section 4.2.2

5. Proposed blocks (area) with the potential to exceed the 5-year maximum harvest area targets (by planning unit and species grouping) by more than 5% or 100 ha, whichever is greater. (Indicator 24)

Planned areas summarized by the 12 stratum (4 species groups in each of 3 geographic areas), are shown in Appendix A.

The planned areas are not designed to match the targeted harvest areas, for the following reasons:

- The targets do not include contingency area that amounts to 2 times the expected harvest volume
- The planned blocks are maximized in the high value areas (most desirable wood sources) to their sustainable limit.
- Caribou Tier 2 habitat areas are purposely being cleaned up in the first 10 years of the FMP.
- The planned blocks are weighted towards mixedwood areas and summer ground to provide options for summer harvesting.

The harvest distribution targets will be managed for throughout the operating year. A post-harvest evaluation of performance against them will show the actual variances and be included in the annual report on FMP implementation.

6. Blocks occurring in Caribou Habitat Management Zone 1

There are no blocks planned in the Tier 1 Areas used in the approved FMP.

However the SK2 Caribou Range Plan, released in June 2019, increased the hectares of Tier 1 habitat areas by 42% in the PA FMA area. Now 2.8% (22,439 ha) of FMP Tactical Plan areas (was .2%) and 5% (11,594 ha) of Operating Plan areas (was .1%) fall in Tier 1 areas.

In this plan there are 80 blocks totaling 5,492 ha, and 199 km of associated Class 3 and 4 road construction, in areas that overlap with four new Tier 1 additions. Most of those blocks are in tactical plan areas. Those

that are not in tactical plan areas (848 ha) are included in the 7.7% of the area outside of the tactical plan, discussed under #1 above.

The blocks planned in Tier 1 areas, the percent disturbance planned in each Tier 1 area, and total disturbance in all Tier 1 areas are listed in Appendix A.

Work on determining mitigation and impact offsets for those blocks that are now in Tier 1 areas has started, with the goal of having mitigation and/or offset strategies agreed to and in place for implementing starting April 1, 2020. Sakaw is aiming to submit a mitigation plan for the harvesting proposed in Tier 1 blocks by mid-January 2020.

7. Blocks occurring in an event that will cause event to go beyond 10 years.

None. It is expected that in general, harvest events will be identified after blocks in an area are completed.

8. Blocks with forest health concerns preventing insular retention

Blocks with mistletoe (SM) have been identified in the plan. When mistletoe is identified a request for an amendment will be submitted to declare the block as a salvage mistletoe (SM) block.

9. Identify if the operating plan is expected to result in variance greater than 25% of the annual limit of Managed Forest Land Base (MFLB) converted to other land uses (Indicator 10a)

The operating plan is not expected to result in the conversion of more than the annual limit of the MFLB to other land uses. The annual limit is <300 ha, with a 25% variance. The construction of 46.5 km of Class 1 Roads, and 15.3 km of Class 2 Roads (71.1 ha, as calculated under FMP Indicator 10a) is proposed.

10. Identify blocks within a natural disturbance event >100 ha (a largely contiguous area of stands with >50% stand mortality covering at least 100 ha) where less than 20% of the disturbance area will remain unharvested. (Indicator 12)

No salvage harvest blocks are planned in this operating plan.

11. Identify blocks within 1 ha area where a known listed plant buffer will be established or where a known listed plant is known to exist but will not be buffered, and why. (Commitment carried forward from previous FMP).

If a listed plant is reported through the processes described in #12 below, the Saskatchewan Conservation Data Center (CDC) will be contacted and the direction they provide for that specific species followed. The appropriate action may involve establishing a buffer with a 50 m radius buffer around the plant, or no buffer may be required if the plant is in a winter harvest area and unlikely to be damaged.

12. Identify blocks where a known CDC listed species will be impacted and a management strategy has been developed, or impacted CDC listed species will be impacted but no management strategy developed, and why. (Commitment carried forward from previous FMP).

All shareholders are certificated to the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) standard and meet requirements for developing a program to address conservation of known sites with viable occurrences of significant species of concern. Species at Risk training is provided through mechanisms such as annual reviews, contractor orientations, contractor manuals, and EMS booklets. Contractors and employees report any sightings to shareholders and ensure reports are completed and entered according to the shareholder's EMS process. These reports are then communicated back to the SK CDC. The SK Co-operative Wildlife Management Survey is also used by some field staff to report sightings.

The status of shareholder certification to the SFI standard will be reported on each year in the annual report to the MIT.

13. Identify blocks within the traditional territory of an Aboriginal community where an opportunity to review operating plan has not occurred (Indicator 25)

None. Advertising and letters about the opportunity to review draft forestry plans reached all areas within and adjacent to the PA FMA area, including the indigenous communities for which the province's duty to consult is triggered by this proposed project.

14. Identify blocks where a known culturally significant aboriginal site exists but was not given consideration under the operating plan (Indicator 26)

None

15. Identify if the operating plan will not be posted to the Sakâw.ca website (Indicator 24)

The operating plan will be posted to sakaw.ca once approved, in the form of an interactive "webmap".

New this year, the draft maps submitted for review will be posted on the Sakaw website shortly after they are submitted. This is being done so people who provided input during development of the plan can see the plans submitted.

2.2 Variances from Forest Operating Plan Standard

Alternative solutions and interim policy direction to requirements in the Forest Operating Plan Standard (FOPS), used in preparing this operating plan, are listed below. These alternatives, interpretations and clarifications stem from a meeting held in the summer of 2018 and correspondence specific to this plan in October and November 2019. Long term changes and alignment with the Forest Management Plan Standard are to be addressed through revision of the Forest Operating Plan Standard.

Alternative solutions and interim policy direction

- As opposed to submitting a complete paper copy and digital copy of this plan at time of submission (*FOPS section 1-1(3)*), digital copies of all required maps at all scales will be submitted at time of submission. After a cursory review of the submitted plan, paper copies will be submitted for 1:300,000 and 1:50,000 scale harvest maps. By March 15, 2020 once plan review nears completion and maps have been updated to

reflect any changes, paper copies of maps at all scales (1:300,000, 1:50,000 and 1:15,000) will be submitted for final approval.

- Maps submitted initially will show blocks that are intended to be harvested in the 2019-20 operating year, that may however, not get completed and carried over into the 2020-21 operating year. Those blocks will be shown using a lighter grey depletion colour and the planned block boundary. The volume tables will show zero volume for those blocks.
- Any of those blocks not anticipated to fully harvested by March 31, 2020 will be added back onto updated map, and the volumes remaining will be added back into tables, for submission by March 15, 2020 for approval. Completed blocks will be changed to normal grey depletion. Blocks with similar volumes will be removed from the plan to keep volumes within the maximum of two times the HVS.
- Planner estimates of planned block volume may be used (instead of inventory volumes) where there is justification to do so. The justification will be provided in the area write up (e.g. blowdown, flooding, inventory errors). The source of the volume will be indicated in the volume tables as either (i) for forest inventory or (p) for planner estimate.
- Instead of summarizing total volume planned by species (*FOPS section 1-3 (1)(ii)(C)*), the harvest area will be summarized by the planning units and species groupings used in FMP Indicator 24.
- Area write-ups at the operating area level will have a stakeholder section that summarizes the engagement done for every block, and the outcomes at the block level if applicable.
- This can be done with a stakeholder section in the area write-ups that summarizes the engagement. Write-ups will address areas where stakeholders have indicated they have no concerns with the entire area and identify circumstances where no stakeholder engaged the shareholders (e.g. no one responded to letters or no one engaged at open houses). For blocks where concerns were raised any commitments made will be identified in the write-up.
- Volumes in tables will be reduced by 9% to reflect retention being left. They will be submitted in excel format to facilitate analysis by the Ministry, and the outcomes will be discussed with the FMP Management Implementation Team.
- A mitigation proposal that identifies how risk will be mitigated for blocks planned in Tier 1 caribou areas will be submitted for review and approval.

2.3 Variances from FMA and HVS

This operating plan is aligned with provisions in the PA FMA and the approved HVS. Specifically,

- *FMA Section 10.2 – Operating Plan* is being complied with
- Consultation with third party operators and the integration of shareholder and third party operations is occurring where feasible as outlined under *FMA Article 6 – Third Party Operators*, and
- Planned area at 2 times volume is consistent with the shareholder allocations outlined in *FMA Schedule F* and the HVS in the approved FMP.

3 Engagement and Information Sharing

The FMA area supports the activities of many forest users who contribute to the economic and social

sustainability of at least 30 communities in and around the FMA area. Year-round residents of these communities benefit from the income generated by timber production, special forest products gathering, tourism, trapping, outfitting, commercial fishing, and wild rice production. The forest is also an important source of recreation, food, and cultural identity associated with the traditional pursuits of hunting, fishing and gathering. Local populations as well as visitors from other parts of the province participate in outdoor recreation that includes sport hunting and fishing, cottage visits, camping, picnicking, swimming, wildlife viewing, and snowmobiling. Nearly all this activity is concentrated on road-accessible portions of the FMA area.

These other land users and members of the public have an interest in the forest management activities being planned for the PA FMA area, and engagement with them is a continuous process aimed at developing mutually acceptable operating plans and activities. Communication and information sharing mechanisms are continually being modified and adjusted to meet people's needs and expectations, and legal requirements. The goal is to reach interested people and communities in whatever manner is most effective.

Engagement and information sharing activities that occurred during the development of this operating plan are outlined below. A general description of the type of adjustments that are made to draft plans to address interests and issues is also provided.

3.1 Activities Undertaken

In preparing this operating plan Sakaw shareholders contacted, met with and incorporated feedback from rural and urban municipalities, First Nations and Métis communities and individuals, cabin owners, trappers, outfitters, other forest industry operators, municipalities, politicians, business owners, and other interested people.

3.1.1 Letters and Emails

Letters and emails informing people of the opportunity to review draft forestry plans for the PA FMA area, for a 5-year period starting in 2020, were sent to approximately 660 contacts. This was done in three mailings between August 8 and September 4, 2019.

The mailings were sent to contacts in a database kept by Sakâw, as well as to a government list of disposition holders and registered trappers in furblocks with the FMA area (with the overlapping contacts removed).

Through these mailings and emails, information about the opportunity to review draft forestry plans reached all areas within and adjacent to the PA FMA area, including the indigenous communities for which the province's duty to consult is triggered by this proposed project. The letters included a schedule for public information sessions being held across the FMA area, indicated that draft maps would be available at the offices of all Sakâw shareholders, and provided contact information for area planning staff.

3.1.2 Public Information Sessions

The public information sessions listed in Table 1 were held to seek comments on draft maps in August and October of 2019. At these sessions draft operating plan maps were available to discuss with shareholder planning and operations staff in an open house format. Roads and harvest blocks proposed

for Year 1 of the plan were outlined on the maps in detail, and more generally for Years 2-5. As people discussed where their activities or other specific values occur, the locations were marked on the maps with accompanying notes and contact information.

Table 1 Sakâw Public Information Sessions

<u>Community</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Friday, August 30, 2019		
Dore Lake	9:30 – 11:30 am	Dore Lake Town Office
Monday September 30, 2019		
Chitek Lake	12 – 2 pm	Chitek Lake Community Hall
Big River	5 – 8 pm	Big River Community Centre, Main Hall
Tuesday October 1, 2019		
Emma, Anglin, Christopher Lakes	9 – 11 am	Lakeland RM Office, Christopher Lake
Little Red River, La Ronge Band	1 – 3 pm	Little Red River Band Office / Arena
Wednesday October 2, 2019		
Candle & White Swan Lake(s)	1 – 3 pm	Candle Lake Hall
Prince Albert	6 – 8 pm	Coronet Hotel, Coronet Room (upstairs)
Thursday October 3, 2019		
Weyakwin	9 – 11 am	Weyakwin Fire Base (Maintenance Shop)
Montreal Lake	1 – 3 pm	Montreal Lake Arena
Friday, October 4, 2019		
Hall Lake	10 – 12 am	Hall Lake Band Office

Meetings were also held with:

- Nesslin Lake Campground (staff, campers, area residents) on September 2, 2019
- Lac La Ronge Indian Band, Lands and Resource Management Board on October 25, 2019, and
- Big River RM and Council on November 19, 2019

At meetings with larger turnouts there was a sign-in table at the door staffed by someone explaining what was going on in the room and who was present to talk to about draft plans. Handouts at the front table included comment sheets, highlights of the FMP strategies that drive where harvest occurs in the Operating Plans, and information on how to use the webmap on the Sakaw website to view the currently approved harvest plans.

3.1.3 Advertising

Advertising for the information sessions reached communities within and adjacent to the PA FMA area up to two weeks in advance, as well as the days leading up to, and the day of, the sessions. The following media were used:

- Newspapers: Shellbrook Chronicle and Spiritwood Herald weekly papers, for 1 week each
- Online News Pages and Billboards:

- paNOW and MeadowlakeNOW for 2 weeks each. Splash page banners about an *Opportunity to Review Draft Forestry Plans* linked to a poster with the schedule for the information sessions.
- Radio:
 - CKBI – 10 radio spots/day for 5 days. These ads ran the day prior to, and the day of, each session.
CKBI is based in Prince Albert and heard over south central Canada.
- Sakâw Website: An “Opportunity to Review Draft Forestry Plans” was highlighted on the “What’s New” section of the website, that linked to a poster about the public information sessions being held.

3.1.4 Sakâw Website

Communications emphasized the availability of information on the Sakâw website (www.sakaw.ca). This website is kept up to date as new information on forestry plans is available. Approved operating plans can be viewed on the website through an Operating Plan Web Map, where users can select a base layer for the map (e.g. satellite images, topographic map) as well as the top layers they want to show (e.g. harvest blocks, roads). People can zoom in to look at areas in detail or zoom out to see the landscape.

A document highlighting FMP strategies was posted on a “Checking the facts” section of the website homepage, along with key facts about the area harvested, dues paid on timber harvested, and deforestation versus forest harvesting. These can be found in Appendix B.

3.1.5 Concerns Raised

Landscape level topics and concerns were raised at the public information sessions Big River and Prince Albert open houses, about forest management in Saskatchewan in general, as well as practices on the PA FMA area specifically. Topics included climate change, harvest rates and logging practices. A group protested outside at the public information session in Prince Albert, then moved into the meeting room to discuss their concerns with Sakaw, Sakaw shareholders, and Forest Service staff that were there.

Members of communities around Whiteswan and Nesslin Lakes actively voiced concerns and contacted government officials about the impact of harvesting on high water levels that are already flooding beaches and threatening cottages.

Social media (Facebook) was used to share concerns and comments about forestry activities with a wide audience.

Various articles in PA Daily Herald, PANOW, the Saskatoon Star Phoenix and the Shellbrook Chronicle covered the information sessions and discussed the concerns being raised. CBC’s Blue Sky radio did a noon hour show on forestry in the province in which Sakaw participated.

3.1.6 Trapping and Outfitting Maps

Hard copies of maps submitted with this operating plan were mailed to the chairs of trapping furblocks and contacts for outfitting associations for the areas they use, in mid-December 2019, with a request that they be shared with the group’s members. Maps were also available to be sent to each of the group’s members if requested by the chairperson and member contact information was provided.

Trapping or outfitting boundaries were shown on the maps, and unnecessary information that detracts from the focus of showing overlapping land uses was removed.

3.2 Adjustments to Plans

Plans and maps were revised to incorporate the input received from other land users to the best extent possible. Changes to the draft plans included but were not limited to retaining high value trapping habitat within harvest areas, maintaining traditional access to areas, adjusting harvest areas or the timing of harvest, and leaving green tree retention in specific locations (such as high value habitat or sensitive sites).

Some of the adjustments made were general and aspatial in nature, such as shutting down the wood haul trucks for a long weekend or not burning slash piles during deer hunt season. Others were specific to a location and can be shown on a map, such as leaving an unharvested buffer around a cabin, leaving a visual buffer around a lake, or moving the location of a road.

This operating plan is a living document informed by on-going discussions with stakeholders and Indigenous people. While input into the development of this plan is complete, if new information becomes available during the life of the plan which needs to be considered during operational activities, Sakaw shareholders will submit requests to amend the plan as appropriate.

3.3 First Nation and Metis Communities

The Saskatchewan government has a duty to consult with First Nations and Metis communities about the impact of this operating plan on their ability to exercise Treaty and Aboriginal rights, before approving the plan. The people Sakaw solicited input from on the initial drafts of this plan included the First Nations and Metis community leaders in and adjacent to the PA FMA area.

Feedback received has enabled Sakaw to adjust the plan to avoid, mitigate or minimize adverse impacts on the ability of indigenous communities and individuals to hunt, fish and trap for food on unoccupied Crown lands, gather plants for food and medicine, and carry out traditional ceremonial and cultural practices.

Information about Sakaw's engagement, and the adjustments made to harvesting plans and the formation of this operating plan, is being provided to the Government of Saskatchewan for each of the following First Nations and Metis communities contacted, to help inform the government's consultation process.

First Nation Community

Ahtahkakoop First Nation
Big River First Nation
James Smith Cree First Nation
Lac La Ronge Indian Band

Montreal Lake First Nation
Muskoday First Nation
Pelican Lake First Nation
Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation

Sturgeon Lake First Nation
Wahpeton Dakota First Nation
Witchehan Lake First Nation

Metis Local Name

Nipawin (#134)

Dore/Sled Lake (#67)

Fish Lake (#108)

La Ronge (#19)
Weyakwin (#16)
Timber Bay (#20)
Beauval Sipishik (#37)
Green Lake (#5)

Leoville (#64)
Chitek Lake (#97)
Spiritwood (#136)
Prince Albert (#7)

Debden (#61)
Timberland (#121)
Big River (#59)
Shell Lake (#81)

There is also ongoing engagement with individual trappers and trapper associations, Chief and Council, committees or boards and band members throughout the year, that continues to be effective in avoiding or minimizing adverse impacts on traditional land uses.

Potential impacts from the proposed forest operations (harvesting, constructing, maintaining and reclaiming roads, and renewing the forest) on the ability to hunt, trap, fish and carry out traditional uses, and steps that are taken to avoid negative impacts, are described below.

- The harvest disturbance impacts the availability of vegetation for different wildlife species. The forest growth cycle is reset to the beginning, and a young forest starts to grow back.

Measures to mitigate the impact on trapping activity include keeping high value trapping habitat within and between proposed cutblocks, maintaining traditional access to trails and cabins used for trapping, adjusting harvest areas or the timing of harvest, and leaving green tree retention in strategic locations such as valuable habitat or sensitive sites.

- Building roads and carrying out some types of mechanical treatments to promote forest renewal can impact archaeological or culturally significant sites.

Forest planners work with communities and individuals to identify and avoid the location of such sites during development of the operating plan. Once approved, the operating plan is also submitted to Saskatchewan's Heritage Conservation Branch (HCB) for screening. Areas of moderate or high heritage potential where activities will exceed minimum ground disturbance levels are surveyed by an archaeologist. If heritage resources are found adjustments are made to planned activities to avoid disturbing the site.

- Constructing, maintaining and reclaiming watercourse crossings can affect fish populations and water quality, and restrict the passage of water and fish.

Federal and provincial permits stipulate requirements that protect water and aquatic habitat when constructing water crossing. These include controlling erosion and sedimentation, storing fuels away from the water, inspecting crossings twice a year (spring and fall), and carrying out maintenance and prevention work. Crossings are removed when they are no longer needed, and the sites are restored.

Highlights of some of the changes made during development of this operating plan as a result of feedback received, were:

- Through discussions and field visits with Agency Chiefs Tribal Council and Pelican Lake First Nation the planned route for the Junor Cut-Across road on the west side of the PA FMA area was changed so it did not provide access to a key traditional area. It was also agreed that gates would be put at both ends of the road to prevent access to a lake that had not been accessible previously. A

gravesite was located and the location removed from future plans. Three small wetlands with salt licks used by moose were also protected. To manage moose hunting, sight lines from roads and within blocks will be broken up using a combination of non-permanent buffers, retention adjacent to roads, shallow cuts, and topography.

- A trapper from the Lac La Ronge Indian Band expressed some concerns with the planned harvest around the Crean River Operating Area and MacLennan River. He has a cabin near one of the planned harvest areas and uses the area to teach youth about traditional hunting. Two forest planners walked his trapline and numerous bait stations and hunting areas with him. A commitment was made to leave strategically placed retention in large groupings for use by wildlife in 3 of the harvest areas, to ensure that harvest can occur and the area can still be used for sustenance trapping, hunting, gathering and teaching. The harvesting of 4 other areas was moved to the year 2023 as the area to the south will be heavily harvested. Maps of the areas where these commitments were made were provided to the trapper in digital format.
- Meetings with the Lac La Ronge Indian Band's Land and Resources Management Board were held in February and October 2019. Issues discussed included communication (forestry maps not being passed along furblock members and confusion about which Sakaw shareholder was doing the harvesting), game corridors, making contributions to the band's Heritage Trust Fund (used to train trappers and others on fire arm safety, outdoor living etc.) and making firewood available instead of burning it in slash piles. It was agreed that the Board would be notified when harvesting starts and the details about an opportunity to gather firewood would be worked out at that time. Three boxes of seedling were provided to give away for planting during Treaty Days (held annually to commemorate the signing of Treaty 6 in 1889), and a commitment was made to provide a response to the donation request.
- During a field visit with a Lac La Ronge Indian Band Councillor from Hall Lake, a chanterelle mushroom patch was located and surveyed with a drone to determine the extent of it. An agreement was made to protect the patch with a no harvest zone of approximately 20 ha. The location of the mushroom patch as well as some previously unknown cabins identified by the Councillor were tagged in Sakaw's forest information (GIS) system.
- Forest planners attended sessions at the Lac La Ronge Indian Band communities of Hall Lake and Little Red, and at the Metis community of Chitek Lake, to review draft operating maps. Planners also presented the draft operating plan at the P36, P65 and P69 trappers meetings in October 2019. Draft maps were also sent to a meeting of trappers who are members of the N5 furblock for review.
- Following discussions and a field visit to map out graves and historic sites with Montreal Lake Cree Nation's Kitaskinaw Steering Group and trappers, a commitment was made to avoid harvesting in those areas. The general extent of the sites was mapped in Sakaw's forest information (GIS) system and will be refined once some more exact locations are determined.

3.4 Further Details

The PA FMA area is a large landscape that encompasses roughly 3.4 million hectares. Information from the many conversations about forestry operations and their impacts, including commitments and adjustments made, is entered into a database on an ongoing basis. Information exported from that

database from January 2012 to mid-March 2020 is provided in Appendix B in an excel format that can be sorted and searched by name, operating area, keyword etc. A report on communications from April to mid-March 2020 (in pdf format) is also provided in Appendix B.

Appendix B also contains the letter sent to communities and individuals about the opportunity to review draft plans, copies of the advertising done for the public information sessions, attendance lists (sign-in sheets), and the communication form used to record input received.

4 Proposed Forest Operations

The operational activities that will be carried out under this operating plan involve:

- Forest harvesting (including felling, skidding, processing, log hauling and storing and staging of wood)
- Road construction, maintenance, and reclamation
- Forest renewal

4.1 General

4.1.1 Operations Standards

Activities carried out under this operating plan will follow requirements outlined in the Forest Operations Standard (effective May 15, 2019).

4.1.2 Contractor Management

Harvesting, road construction and maintenance, and renewal activities are carried out by independent contractors. Contractors must meet all operational and safety and health standards that apply to the operation they are responsible for. This includes:

- Providing direct supervision of their employees
- Ensuring safe working conditions for employees
- Adhering to each Shareholder's Environmental Policy, Environmental Management System, and forest practices certification requirements, as applicable
- Meeting the requirements of all applicable Saskatchewan Acts and Regulations
- Being familiar with Sakâw's forest management objectives and carrying out operations in a manner that is consistent with them
- Ensuring that employees comply with all forest regulations and contract provisions
- Working with the public, stakeholders and other users of the forest who may have leases, cabins, trails or other interests that need protecting within the operating area.

4.1.3 Ribbon Colour Scheme / Boundary Tolerances

Where practical distinct features such as roads or muskegs will be used to designate area boundaries.

Several contractors have GPS equipped bunchers or site preparation machinery, and when that technology is on-board no physical boundaries and road centerlines are ribboned.

Otherwise, boundary lines will be marked with flagging tape. Table 2 lists the standard flagging tape colours that will be used where needed, to mark boundaries or lines for proposed forestry activities.

Table 2 Standard Flagging Tape Colours

Ribbon Colour	Use
Pink "Harvest Area Boundary"	Harvest area boundary locations and sensitive sites where harvesting will not occur
Orange "Road Line" or "Road Centerline"	Road location
Day-glo Green "Machine Free Zone" (Carrier uses Yellow "Machine Free Zone")	Areas where equipment is not permitted to travel
Yellow "Special Management Zone"	Areas with special management conditions (i.e. no harvest zones in riparian management areas)
Yellow	Planting boundaries

4.1.4 Temporary Work Camps

As has been past practice, Sakâw requests a blanket Temporary Work Camp Permit (TWCP) to cover all forestry activities carried out on the FMA area during the 2020-2021 operating year.

Harvesting camp locations by responsible Shareholder will be kept updated in the reporting spreadsheet that is made available to the Ministry of Environment Forest Ecosystem Protection Specialist on an ongoing basis.

Renewal camp locations will be emailed to the Area Forester by the responsible Shareholder.

Sakâw also requests that as in previous years section 6.2.2.1 of the TWCP, "Conditions for the Establishment and Operation of Temporary Work Camps", be waived.

4.1.5 Heritage Resource Surveys

Maps and operating information, including pre-harvest site prescriptions, will be provided to the Heritage Conservation Branch (HCB) of the Saskatchewan Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport, for all areas included in Year 1 of this operating plan. HCB screens all proposed harvest areas and roads for heritage resource potential based on location, topography, known heritage resource information and professional judgement. Each site is rated for heritage potential. A qualified professional archaeologist is contracted to carry out field surveys on sites where the heritage potential is moderate or high and the roads or renewal methods involved are expected to exceed specified minimums for ground disturbance. If heritage resources are found during the survey planned forestry activities are modified to avoid disturbing the sites.

In addition to the HCB annual review, sites of archaeological or cultural significance may be identified during the operating plan engagement process or during forestry activities. They will be reported to the HCB in accordance with provincial requirements and appropriate management actions identified.

4.2 Harvesting

4.2.1 Harvesting Methods

Mechanical harvesting systems are used to process all wood harvested on the FMA landbase. Typically, a mechanical system consists of a tracked feller-buncher used to cut standing trees and lay them in orderly piles (drags). A grapple-skidder collects the drags of wood left distributed throughout the harvested area by the feller-buncher and skids them to roadside or into rows within the cut block to facilitate the use of a processor to remove tree branches and tops. The processor operator sorts the processed logs into three basic products: sawlogs, softwood pulp and hardwood.

There are also operations where timber is felled, processed at the stump, and forwarded to roadside.

4.2.2 Excess Hardwood Retention

There is potential for up to 2,250 ha of excess hardwood retention to be left within the North, Central or East Planning Units (Figure 2) over the 5 year period from April 1 2020 to March 31, 2025, under accounting conditions outlined in approval conditions for the 2018-2038 FMP Amendment.

Notification will be sent to the Area Forester prior to harvest for all blocks where excessive hardwood will be left.

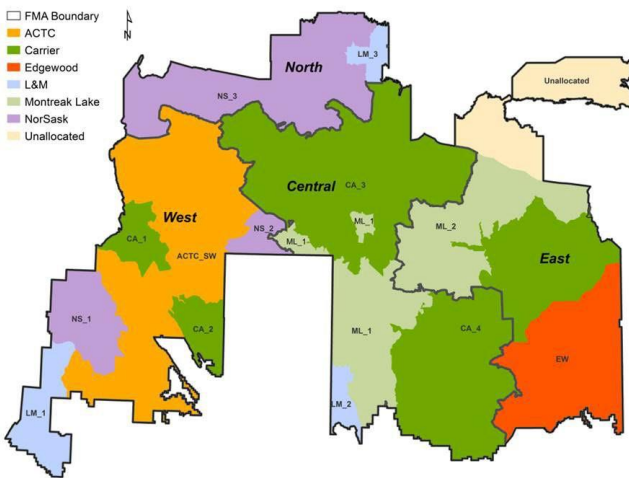


Figure 2: FMA Planning Units (West, Central, East, North)

4.2.3 Utilization Standards

The utilization standards approved in the 2018- 2038 Forest Management Plan, shown in Table 3, will be followed in this plan.

Table 3 Utilization Standards in 2018-2038 FMP

Product	Fibre Leaves forest	Stump Height (cm)	Minimum Top Diameter inside Bark (cm)	Minimum Merchantable Height (m)	Log Length (m)
SWD Sawlog	CTL	30	10	5.35	2.6
SWD Pulp	Tree length	30	8	5.35	2.4
Hardwood	Tree length	30	8	5.35	Full tree

4.2.4 Proposed Year 1 Harvest Volumes and Attributes

This operating plan includes the Year 1 harvest volumes shown in Table 4, updated to reflect reconciled 2019 harvest volumes as of March 18, 2020. The volumes shown are 2 times the annual allowable harvest, which includes contingency harvest areas. This provides flexibility to move harvest locations since weather, markets, wildfires, contractor and equipment availability, stakeholder concerns etc. change even the best laid plans. Despite this additional volume being included in the plan, harvesting will not exceed the HVS over a five-year cut control cycle so there is no risk of unsustainable harvest.

Table 4 Shareholder Allocations and Proposed Harvest Volumes

Shareholders	Allocation (m ³ /yr)	Year 1 Proposed Volume (m ³)	Years of HVS Proposed
<u>Hardwood</u>			
A.C. Forestry	200,000	377,941	1.9
MLBV	40,000	67,355	1.7
MLMP	95,000	172,846	1.8
Tolko	600,000	1,201,782	2.0
<u>Softwood</u>			
A.C. Forestry	200,000	453,963	2.3
Carrier	375,000	784,114	2.1
Dunkley / Edgewood	75,000	106,633	1.4
MLBV	200,000	377,160	1.9
NorSask*	250,000	482,882	1.9
Total	2,035,000	4,046,428	2.0

*Includes the former L & M allocation

For greater certainty, nothing in this Operating Plan shall obligate Sakâw or any of its shareholders to harvest any minimum volume of timber, and it is recognized that operational flexibility is needed to address factors such as changing market conditions, stakeholder (including shareholder) issues, and other operational factors from time to time.

Appendix C contains a complete list of proposed harvest areas and their attributes, including the shareholder with harvesting responsibility for each block, submission maps, and unit volume summaries.

Writeups have been provided for each operating area describing stakeholder concerns and how they were addressed, and any specific prescriptions or strategies made in light of wildlife, forest health or other considerations. These are also provided in Appendix C.

4.2.5 Staging and Storage of Wood

As part of the harvesting process shareholders may stage or store wood before delivering it to the mills. Staging wood is when it is left at roadside in the block it was harvested in and not hauled until the next operating year. Storing wood is when it is moved out of a harvest block to a storage site before it is hauled to a mill.

Staging and storing wood is a critical strategy for managing wood moisture content in some shareholder mills. Sakâw shareholders store wood at locations along all-weather roads where they can access it when they need to deliver it to mills or get wood out of harvested areas so the roads can be reclaimed and the area reforested.

The locations of proposed storage sites and the potential staging of wood in all Year 1 harvest blocks was discussed in conversations during the operating plan development process. People were asked to identify any specific blocks or stockpile sites they felt they would be impacted by, or have a concern with, so that could be understood and addressed.

Sakâw requests approval for the 2020-2021 operating year to:

- Exceed the 90-day time frame and allow all forest products to be removed from the harvest area anytime throughout the operating year until March 31, 2021 under Section 39(1) of the Forest Resources Management Regulations, and
- Leave wood in the staging areas and storage sites listed in Appendix C beyond March 31, 2021. These lists will be amended in January 2021 as the locations needed to store wood in the forest beyond the end of the operating year becomes clearer.

4.2.6 Silviculture Systems and Stand Level Retention

The primary silviculture system used is to cluster the harvest of trees in a harvest event, in which an average of 9% of the area (a range of 3 – 15% by cutblock) inside or between the harvested areas, is left uncut (clearcut with retention). The rationale behind this target can be found in Appendix D of the FMP.

Management to control dwarf mistletoe involves harvesting infected trees and overrides the requirement to leave any uncut areas (clearcut).

4.2.7 Riparian Area Harvesting

Harvesting and silviculture activities in riparian areas will comply with requirements in the Forest Operations Standard (2019) for riparian management, summarized in Table 5.

Table 5 Riparian Management - Variable Retention System

Waterbody Type	Category	Riparian Prescription
Large (>5 ha) Lakes, Rivers, Streams	1	10m No Harvest/No Equipment zone, plus a 30m limited harvest zone (can be partially harvested)

High Slope (>15%) Areas on Small (<5 ha) Lakes or Ponds	2	Limited harvest zone to the top of the slope (max 40m) with no equipment in the first 10m adjacent to the waterbody.
Low Slope (<15%) Areas on Small (<5 ha) Lakes or Ponds	3	10m limited harvest zone with no equipment allowed within this zone.
Intermittent Streams	4	Leave single of clumped leaf trees adjacent to the stream and ensure no equipment enters the stream channel. Crossings can occur on frozen ground or with appropriate crossing structures.
Ephemeral Streams and Wetlands	5	Do not obstruct or impede surface or subsurface flow.

4.2.8 Visually Sensitive Areas

Some harvest areas in this operating plan fall within visually sensitive areas that can be seen from communities, public recreation areas, major highways, and high value recreational-use lakes and rivers. Harvest strategies for those areas take into consideration aesthetic values and stakeholder concerns, which may include limiting the extent of disturbed forest, reducing the size of openings, using irregular block boundaries, or using retention to act as a visual screen.

4.2.9 Third-Party Operators

Independent third party operators collectively have rights to harvest 150,000 m³/year of softwood sawlogs and 12,000 m³/year of hardwood from the PA FMA area. Shareholders and third-party operators work together wherever possible to plan operations and integrate the location of harvest areas, use of roads, and utilization of products from the area.

4.3 Roads and Crossings

Shareholders are responsible for the construction and maintenance of Improved Bush Roads (IBRs) and all other lower class roads used to access harvest operations.

The softwood and hardwood operators share responsibility for the roads and crossings in an area, as listed in the roads and crossings tables in Appendix D.

Roads are constructed, maintained and reclaimed as required under the Forest Operations Standard (2019).

Watercourse crossings are constructed, maintained and reclaimed according to conditions specified in Aquatic Habitat Protection Permits (AHPPs). Sakâw requests that a blanket Aquatic Habitat Protection Permit be issued under *the Environmental Management and Protection Act* to authorize the construction, maintenance, and remediation of road crossings and the removal of beaver dams, at water crossings approved under this operation plan.

4.3.1 Proposed Roads and Watercourse Crossings

Proposed Year 1 road construction is summarized in Appendix D by operating area, zone, and the licence area.

Watercourse crossings are also listed in Appendix D, by location and type.

The roads and crossings have been planned for 2 times the harvest volume and exceed what is expected to be constructed.

4.3.2 Road Closures

Temporary and permanent road closures align with provincial resource protection methods. They are used to restrict vehicle access to help prevent overfishing or overhunting of an area, protect road infrastructure, and reduce liability. Berms and gates proposed for installation in Year 1 are listed in Appendix D.

The ability to install some short-term, temporary closures that don't block access to a large area may also be requested, particularly in the fall during hunting season. The purpose of those closures would be to help secure camps and equipment from vandalism and theft, and prevent damage to newly developed roads.

Sakâw requests approval to access any closed roads within the FMA area to conduct approved forest management activities. Once those activities are completed the roads will be closed again.

4.3.3 Road Deactivation

Deactivating roads involves removing watercourse crossings and leaving the road surface intact for future use. No major roads (Classes 1 or 2) are planned for deactivation in the 2020/21 operating year.

4.3.4 Road Reclamation

Roads no longer needed for forest management purposes are generally reclaimed and returned to productive status. Road reclamation will be carried out in the manner specified in the Forest Operations Standard (effective May 15, 2019). Slash piles will be burned, and in-block roads reclaimed, within two years of harvest completion.

4.4 Renewal

4.4.1 Silviculture Ground Rules

Silviculture Ground Rules (SGRs) that outline the operational treatments that can be used for a given forest type (i.e., harvest, renewal and stand tending) are followed. These are found in the 20-Year Forest Management Plan (FMP) for the PA FMA area (April 1, 2018).

4.4.2 Planned Year 1 Renewal Activities

Tables that identify blocks planned for initial treatment, retreatment, or that won't be retreated due to mitigating circumstances, were updated to reflect reconciled 2019 harvest areas as of mid-March 2020. The tables are included in Appendix E along with a map of the activity locations. The activities include areas harvested by third party operators on the FMA area and areas with outstanding silviculture obligations.

No herbicide or insecticide treatments are planned for the 2020-2021 operating year.

4.4.3 Regeneration Assessments

Regeneration assessments that will be done in 2020/21 involve:

- Establishment surveys on areas harvested in 2013/14, by shareholders or third party operators.
- Free to Grow (FTG) surveys on areas harvested in 2006/07, where Sakâw is responsible for legacy silviculture obligations as outlined in Schedule A of the PA FMA Assignment and Assumption Agreement.
- Blocks missed in previous years will be included with these surveys.

5 Forest Protection

5.1 Fire Protection and Suppression

Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment is responsible for the prevention, detection and suppression of forest fires where identified values, including tracts of valuable timber, are at risk. The Wildfire Act and Regulations provide legislative requirements for industrial and commercial operators related to wildfire preparedness and response. Sakâw will submit a Wildfire Prevention and Preparedness Plan by March 31, 2020 to the Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency (former Wildfire Management Branch). Each shareholder will ensure their operations comply with that plan and the requirements of the Wildfire Act.

5.2 Insect and Disease Protection

Protection strategies are incorporated into planning and operations to minimize the loss of timber from forest insects and disease.

Efforts to control the spread of jack pine dwarf mistletoe are focused on reducing the chance of current infestations becoming established in new regenerating stands. Strategies used include ensuring that retention (including in riparian areas) is made up of species not susceptible to mistletoe and sanitizing areas adjacent to the block.

Strategies that can be used to control building populations of sawyer beetles, protect in-block retention, and protect harvested timber from being degraded include:

- Sanitation. Burn slash piles as soon as possible to get rid of habitat for the beetles. Haul log piles out of the area as soon as possible. Avoid storing fresh cut logs close to fire-killed timber (in the forest or in the mill yard).
- Leaving retention in large clumps (not single trees) so there is proportionately less edge and more protection for interior trees.

6 Reporting and Self-Inspections

The following reporting will be done during the implementation of this plan:

- Harvest Operations. A common report on shareholder harvest operations in the PA FMA area, in the form of a shared worksheet that is continuously updated as changes happen, is made available to the

Ministry of Environment Forest Ecosystem Protection Specialists (FEPS) on an ongoing basis. Alerts are automatically sent to the FEPS when a row in the report changes.

- Harvest Camp Location. A common list of harvest camp locations for all shareholders is also reported to the FEPS through a shared worksheet that can be checked at any time.
- Renewal Camp Location. The location of renewal camps (usually for tree planting) is emailed to the Area Forester by each shareholder.
- Crossings. A monthly crossings report outlining where active construction or maintenance work on crossings has occurred is emailed to the Area Forester by each shareholder.
- Cutover Summary. A cutover summary report on areas harvested is submitted within 2 years of harvest completion, by May 31st.
- Operational activities monitoring will summarize the area harvested, the areas of reforestation activities, and the amount of roads built and reclaimed. Activities will be summarized and submitted annually under the Forest Data Submission of the Saskatchewan Environmental Code.

Sakâw Shareholders self-inspect their activities on the landbase as required under section 32(e) of the Forest Resources Management Regulations, terms of the Prince Albert FMA Side Agreement, and voluntary certification to the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) standard.

The following self-inspection and self-reporting procedures will be followed by Sakâw's Shareholders:

- Before operations begin a start-up checklist will be completed with the contractor. This pre-work form details specific requirements for the operation, such as how a harvest area will be developed and key standards to be met.
- A post-work inspection will be done and documented once operations are complete.
- Non-compliances will be reported by e-mail or letter to the appropriate FEPS as soon as practical after they are discovered and verified. The notice will contain the location and the specifics around the non-compliance as well as the action plan to be taken to correct the issue, if applicable.
- Measures to correct non-compliances will follow each Shareholder's non-compliance, preventative and corrective action process.
- Pre- and post-work reports will be made available to Forest Officers on request.

7 Amendments

Request for amendments to this operating plan will be submitted by email or letter to the Area Forester. Where it is deemed there may be impact to stakeholders, engagement will normally be done before the request is submitted and information about the outcome of the discussions will be included with the amendment request. If this is not the case, the submission will indicate this.

Appendix A Variances from FMP

See files or folder titled:

Proposed blocks impacting old seral deferral areas (FMP Indicator 2)

Sakaw_Operating_Plan_Year 1-2020-Blocks containing OSD Areas Final.xlsx

Proposed blocks occurring outside of tactical plan areas (FMP Indicator 15)

Sakaw_Operating_Plan_Year 1-2020-Blocks outside Tactical Plan Final.xlsx

Proposed blocks versus the 5-year maximum harvest area targets (FMP Indicator 24)

Sakaw_Operating_Plan_Year 1-2020-Blocks-Profile Analysis Planning Zones Final.xlsx

Proposed blocks and roads in New Caribou Tier 1 Areas

Sakaw_Operating_Plan_Year 1-2020-Blocks inside Caribou Tier 1 Final

Sakaw_Operating_Plan_Year 1-2020-Roads inside Caribou Tier 1 Final

Appendix B Engagement and Information Sharing

See files or folder titled:

Public Info Sessions Sign-in (folder) *Advertising & Information.pdf*

Commitment_Communication_Masterlist.xlsx

CommunicationsWithCommitmentsReport_(April_2019_March_2020).pdf

Letter - Public Info Sessions 2020 Plan

Sakaw Stakeholder List Query – March 2020.xlsx

Stakeholder Communication Form fillable.pdf

Appendix C Harvest Areas and Volumes

See files or folder titled: Area

Writeups 2020 (folder)

Submission Maps 2020 (folder)

- 15K_Submission v2
- 50K_Submission v2
- 300K_Submission v2

Unit Volume Summaries 2020 (folder)

- Unit 01 – 28, 42 Volume Summary 2020 v2.pdf

Sakaw_Operating_Plan_Proposed_Harvest_Tables_Year 1-2020- to Year 5-2025- Detail Final v2

Staging Areas 2020-21

Stockpile Sites 2020-21

Appendix D Roads, Watercourse Crossings, Closures

See files or folder titled:

Sakaw_Operating_Plan_Proposed_Crossing_Locations_2020_2025_Final_v2.xlsx

Sakaw_Operating_Plan_Proposed_Road_Access_Control_GATES_BERMS_2020_2025_Final_v2.xlsx

Sakaw_Operating_Plan_Proposed_Road_Construction_2020_2025_Final_v2.xlsx

Appendix E Renewal Activities

See files or folder titled:

50K_Renewal_Maps (folder)

Sakaw_Ops_Plan_Proposed_Scarification_Tree_Planting_LFN_NSR_2020_2025_Final v2