

October 8, 2021

Opportunity to Review Draft Forest Operating Plans

Sakaw Askiy is preparing the Forest Operating Plan for the Prince Albert Timber Supply Area (PA TSA) for the next 5-year period. The Operating Plan focuses on the first year of harvesting and road construction (April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023) in detail, and plans for Years 2-5 are outlined more generally. The plan is in draft form, and there is currently an opportunity to provide feedback before it is submitted.

Draft maps for Year 1 of the plan can be found by clicking on the link in the “What’s New” section of the Sakaw website (www.sakaw.ca) and reviewed to see if harvesting is planned in an area of interest to you. **If you wish to discuss the draft plans** please email admin@sakaw.ca as soon as possible, and include:

- the name of the map or the area you would like to discuss
- weekdays and times you are available
- email and phone number where you can be reached.

The appropriate planner will then get in touch to arrange a discussion with you, through:

- a one-on-one phone call or online meeting (for viewing a map together)
- an online meeting with a small group
- a small field tour with appropriate restrictions (such as a maximum of 10 people, with everyone taking their own vehicle and keeping physically distanced).

The Forest Operating Plan will be submitted to the Forest Service on December 1, 2021 for review, along with records of the discussions held. Consultation with Indigenous communities is initiated by the Forest Service upon receipt of the plan. The approved plan and an interactive webmap will be available from the Home Page of Sakaw’s website (sakaw.ca) in April of 2022. The webmap will show double the area that will actually be harvested in Year 1 because contingency areas are included. There is ongoing engagement with other land users throughout the year, even after Year 1 areas have been approved.

Opportunity to Discuss the Long-term Forest Management Plan

There is also a Forest Management Plan (FMP) that provides strategic direction for managing the forests in the Prince Albert Timber Supply Area, for the 20-year period from April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2038. The FMP includes a calculation of the available timber supply and outlines strategies for balancing the use of crown forest lands for economic, social, and cultural benefits, while protecting the long term health of forest ecosystems. As examples, the strategies include maintaining biological diversity (including species at risk, such as boreal woodland caribou), meeting standards for protecting soil and water, and taking non-timber uses into account.

In short, the FMP provides the direction for how this forest area will be managed. It also drives what happens on the ground in the Operating Plans.

A Public Advisory Group for this Timber Supply Area provides input on the development and implementation of the FMP and acts as a forum for information exchange between Sakâw and regional groups and organizations.

The FMP is available from the Home Page of Sakaw's website (www.sakaw.ca) by clicking on the 'Forest Management Plan' link. That link leads to a Saskatchewan Government website (<https://publications.saskatchewan.ca/#/categories/170>) where key documents related to the FMP and FMP amendments can be found.

This includes annual reports on performance against the forest management strategies and targets set out in the FMP. This regular reporting is allowing Sakâw, the provincial government and the public to assess how the FMP is being implemented and whether expected outcomes for the forest are being achieved. Any questions can be directed to gm@sakaw.ca.

We look forward to your comments on these forestry plans and thank you for your time and interest.

Sincerely,



Director, Forest Management

Sakaw Askiy holds the PA FMA on behalf of Shareholders who harvest wood from the area. Shareholders are Agency Chiefs (AC) Forestry, Carrier Forest Products, Edgewood Forest Products (Dunkley Lumber), Meadow Lake Mechanical Pulp, Montreal Lake Business Ventures, NorSask Forest Products, and Tolko Meadow Lake OSB Division. The wood goes to forest products mills located in Meadow Lake, Big River, Glaslyn, Carrot River and various smaller mills run by independent operators.