



**219 - 1061 Central Ave.  
 Prince Albert SK S6V 4V4  
 Phone: (306) 953-2021**

October 7, 2024

## Opportunity to Review Draft Forest Operating Plans

Sakaw Askiy is preparing the Forest Operating Plan for the Prince Albert Timber Supply Area (PATSA) for the next 5-year period. The Operating Plan focuses on the first year (April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026) of harvesting and road construction in detail. Plans for Years 2-5 are outlined more generally. The plan is in draft form, and there is an opportunity to provide feedback before it is submitted.

Draft maps for Year 1 of the plan will be posted online after October 21, 2024. You will be able to click on the link in the “What’s New” section of the Sakaw website ([www.sakaw.ca](http://www.sakaw.ca)) and review the draft maps 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](mailto: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, or
- a field visit.

This method of providing input works well. You can review the maps in your own time and have a targeted discussion with the appropriate planner or Sakaw when it is mutually convenient.

There will also be information sessions on the draft forest plans where the draft maps will be available to discuss with Planners in an open house format. The schedule for these sessions is as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Community</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Mon., Oct. 21, 2024	Candle/Whiteswan Lakes	1 – 3 pm	Candle Lake Hall
Fri., Nov. 1, 2024	Prince Albert	11:30 – 1:30 pm	Coronet Hotel
Mon., Nov. 4, 2024	Ness Creek	10 am – 12 pm	Jack Milliken Centre
	Big River	1:30 – 3:30 pm	Big River Metis Hall
TBD	Montreal Lake	TBD	Band Office
TBD	LLRIB	TBD	Band Office
TBD	Weyakwin	TBD	Community Hall

The Forest Operating Plan will be submitted to the Forest Service on December 15, 2024 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](http://sakaw.ca)) in late April or early May of 2025.

It is important to know that the webmap will show double the area that will actually be harvested in Year 1 because contingency areas are included. Also, 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 an opportunity to discuss the 20-year Forest Management Plan for the entire landscape. The Forest Management Plan (FMP) 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. It 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.

Public review periods are held during the development of an FMP. A Public Advisory Group for this Timber Supply Area also 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](http://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. These key documents include 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 landscape are being achieved. Any questions can be directed to [gm@sakaw.ca](mailto:gm@sakaw.ca).

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

Sincerely,



James Fischer, General Manager

*Sakaw Askiy holds the PA FMA on behalf of Shareholders who harvest wood from the Prince Albert Timber Supply Area. Shareholders are Big River Forestry Products LP, Carrier Forest Products, Edgewood Forest Products (Dunkley Lumber), Mistasini Timbers LP, Mitosak Askiy Holdings Inc., Montreal Lake Business Ventures, NorSask Forest Products and Tolko Meadow Lake OSB Division. The wood from this Timber Supply Area goes to forest products mills located in Meadow Lake, Big River, Glaslyn, Carrot River and various smaller mills run by independent operators.*