

# Forest Industry Perspective



## Developing harvest opportunities.

- A few assumptions
- Management Requirements –Legal & non-legal
- Planning actions – office & field
- Operational Considerations
- Challenges

## A few assumptions:

- Timber Supply Analysis has determined the appropriate rate of harvest, considering all objectives (Water, Wildlife, Future Timber Supply, Community stability, etc)
- Current harvest levels will be dropping in the foreseeable future. (2.4 million m<sup>3</sup> down to ??)
- Forest professionals are striving to ensure sustainability of all Natural Resources through sound management practices.

# Management Requirements

## Legal

- Forest Act
- Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA)
- Forest and Range Practices Regulations (FPPR)
- Foresters Act
- Water Act
- Fisheries Act

# Management Requirements

## Non-Legal

- DFO – Guidelines and Planning tools
- DFO – Operational Statements
- Chief Forester Guidance on Understory Retention
- Certification Standards (EMS ISO 14001, CSA Z809, SFI, FSC)
- ‘Known Information’ (Science, local knowledge, First Nations Knowledge and recommendations)
- District Policies

# Planning Harvesting Opportunities

Office – Analyse the data

- What is my objective – addressing forest health, managing interface, managing for a specific product (chip/pulp/saw log/peeler)
- What is the forest cover, topography?
- What exists currently in regards to infrastructure?
- Proximity to private land/communities.
- Who else holds interests on the area (FN, rec, trappers, guides, range tenure holders, Water license holders – domestic use or for irrigation) What are there concerns?
- Any special management concerns – i.e. community watershed, WHA's etc.
- Existing and planned development in the area of interest
- Spatial and temporal distribution of the existing/planned
- Equivalent clearcut area within a landscape unit (30-35%)
- Proximity to streams/lakes/swamps.

# Planning Harvesting Opportunities

## Field

- Confirm timber types – species %'s, Beetle attack %'s live/dead, other forest health issues.
- What is the understory like – densities, form/vigor, species, and distribution? Opportunity to leave this area for natural regeneration.
- What are the soil types?
- Slope stability?
- Do I need a specialist to help me determine risk factors?
- What is the state of the infrastructure – roads well maintained, ditches working, adequate culvert sizes, located and positioned correctly – and clean.
- Am I in the right area? Grey – Green, does the stand can meet my planned objective, is it economical economical.
- Can I effectively mitigate other stakeholders concerns.
- What am I doing after the site is logged – rehab/deactivation/site prep/seedling type/species/stocking

# Operational Considerations

- Location and distribution of retention, densities and operability. (workable for equipment)
- Location of the proposed development – proximity to streams/lakes/wetlands. (do I need to take any special measures when working)
- Timing of harvest to reduce impacts to soil structure, movement of soil into watercourses.
- Harvest Method, conventional versus cable.
- Clearcut versus selective cutting.

# Challenges

- Weather – Break-up seems to vary more each year
- Administrative boundaries don't usually coincide with landscape boundaries.
- Information Sharing – Data management
- Cumulative impacts –  
Range/Forestry/Mining/Hydro/Gas lines
- More watersheds are approaching or exceeding ECA thresholds. Assessments are required to identify risks prior to making decisions.
- Erosion control / Controlling Water movement

## Challenges con't.

- The science is evolving, and we use the best info at this point in time.
- Effects of decisions made today may not be felt for a long time.
- Balancing for all the demands of the land base.
- Moving to greener stands of timber - managing stands that have good 'roofs'.