

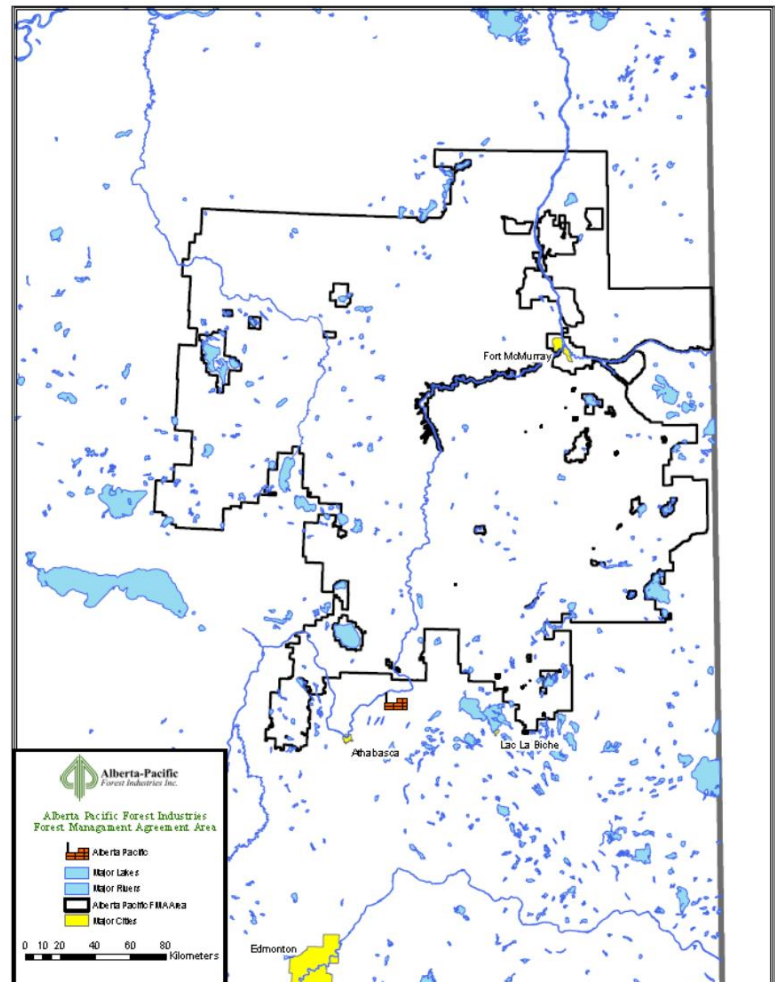
Alberta-Pacific Forest Industries Inc.

Monitoring Report- Cultural Values and Resources

Alberta-Pacific Forest Industries Inc. (Al-Pac) is North America's largest single-line producer of high-quality kraft pulp. The majority of wood fibre for this pulp originates from Al-Pac's Forest Management Agreement (FMA) area located in northeastern Alberta. Through the company's FMA the Government of Alberta grants Al-Pac stewardship of 6.4 million hectares of forest land to sustainably harvest, establish, and grow timber. Integral to these operations is the work that Al-Pac carries out with communities, trappers and other stakeholders to protect cultural values and forest resources important to them.

Al-Pac is not the only forest company with active timber harvest operations within the FMA area. There are seven other forest companies that hold coniferous timber quotas to harvest timber. These companies are referred to as quota holders. The largest

embedded quota holder within Al-Pac's FMA area is Northland Forest Products Ltd. (NFPL). In 2016 Al-Pac and NFPL signed a Memorandum of Understanding to begin the integration of their Woodlands operations. This integration will improve practices and create efficiencies in forest planning and operations, which is good news for the environment, as well as the communities and stakeholders affected by our operations. Today, consultation, operational planning, trapper engagement and Indigenous relations are integrated and managed by Al-Pac.



Consultation

In 2014, Al-Pac began consultation on the Alberta-Pacific FMA Area 2015-2025 Forest Management Plan (FMP). After over four years of consultation with affected communities, the FMP was approved by the Government of Alberta in May, 2018. As the FMA holder Al-Pac was responsible for the development and maintenance of the FMP, including Indigenous consultation and stakeholder engagement. The FMP

is the first step in the forest management planning process. This important document considers how to maintain a sustainable forest over the long term. Once completed, the FMP becomes the guide to forest stewardship on the FMA area for a period of 10 years, providing the base from which more detailed planning documents are developed. As a quota holder, NFPL has input into the development of the FMP. Both companies are bound by the conditions of the FMP.

AI-Pac and NFPL have also consulted annually on their General Development Plan (GDP). The GDP projects harvest and road building activities for a five-year period. The GDP is a rolling plan, meaning that, although it covers a five-year period, it is updated and consulted on annually. AI-Pac and NFPL began developing Integrated GDPs in 2017. For AI-Pac and NFPL, consultation and community engagement is a necessity for GDP development. The companies gather input from First Nations, Métis, trappers, communities and stakeholders to incorporate into operational planning whenever possible.

Forest Harvest Plans and Archeological Assessments

The document or plan that links the higher level plans to what happens on the ground is the Forest Harvest Plan. A few years prior to an area being harvested, forest planners will initiate the Forest Harvest Plan. The first step is to consider all of the information they have for the area planned for harvest. This includes vegetation maps for the area, air photos, topographic information and information provided by communities and stakeholders. With this information they will begin the process of establishing or drawing the boundaries of the harvest areas, as well as the road network needed to get from the permanent roads to those harvest areas.

AI-Pac and NFPL acquire the services of archaeological consultants to complete Historical Resources Reviews for Forest Harvest Plans. The reviews include field investigations to identify heritage resource sites so they can be avoided. In addition, field crews are trained to assess, document and report on all cultural features they may happen upon while traversing in the field.

Trappers

AI-Pac's and NFPL's forest operations do have the potential to disrupt or hamper a trappers' ability to be successful. The companies have a responsibility to mitigate or lessen their impact on other resource users. To make sure they are working with their trapping neighbors, the companies utilize a Trapper Coordinator who works directly with the area's trappers.

Early in the forest management process, before a single ribbon is tied in the forest, the Trapper Coordinator will contact trappers that may be affected by the forest operations with a letter and a map. Then the Trapper Coordinator typically follows up with a phone call, visits and, often, a trapline tour of the proposed timber harvest area

Not only does the process followed by the Trapper Coordinator enable AI-Pac and NFPL to share knowledge about the forest operations, it allows the trapper to share knowledge, such as:

- Location of traplines, cabins, trails and other values that are important to the trapper
- Areas and times of the year that are important to trapping success and where forestry operations should be adjusted

The notification process helps the Trapper Coordinator and trapper find ways to minimize or resolve potential implications of timber harvest on the trapline's success. The information collected by the

Trapper Coordinator is relayed to the forest planners and layout crews to ensure that any modifications to harvest or other mitigative measures needed are incorporated early in the process.

Relationships

In addition to formal consultation, archeological assessments and trapper engagement, AI-Pac works with Indigenous communities to build relationships that allow for the further sharing of knowledge and information through data sharing agreements and traditional land use studies.

High Conservation Values

Within the forest in which AI-Pac and NFPL operate there are areas that have been identified as having high environmental, social or cultural importance which may require special management. Many areas and values are already protected in some way, whether in river valleys or around lakes, or in Operating Ground Rule buffers and deletions from harvest.

This concept of High Conservation Values (HCVs) within the forest is part of responsible forest management. Within the FMA area there may be High Conservation Values related to cultural values. These values are recognized and supported through consultation and engagement, and by the building of long-term relationships with Indigenous communities.

Cultural Value Protection

While AI-Pac and NFPL work to incorporate all cultural values provided into the companies' forest management planning, information pertaining to cultural values is confidential in nature.

To view our forest management plans from the overarching Forest Management Plan down to the Forest Harvest Plans [click here](#).

If you have question or would like to provide input related to cultural values or resources, please [click here](#).