

31-Jan-23

Forest Harvest Plan PU071154





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Report

1.0 Introduction

Alberta – Pacific Forest Industries Inc. (Alberta–Pacific) has prepared a Forest Harvest Plan (FHP) for the harvest of stands within Planning Unit 071154.

The Planning Unit is located within Forest Management Unit (FMU) Lo8 on the north side of Lac La Biche. Primary access to the plan is located off of the "K-Road" heading north on a recently constructed capital road (Gold River / Bat Tail Lake Road) within the Lac La Biche County.

Copies of this Forest Harvest Plan are available on the Alberta–Pacific website, at <u>www.alpac.ca.</u>

2.0 General Planning Unit Information /Design Considerations

This FHP has been validated by a Registered Forestry Professional from Alberta-Pacific.

This FHP includes maps and reports that clearly show and document the planned harvest area boundaries, roads and water crossings within the Planning Unit.

This plan is being submitted for appraisal, for a 5-year FHP approval under the 2022-2023 Alberta-Pacific Annual Operating Plan (AOP).

2.1 Operating Ground Rules

This Planning Unit is designed in accordance with the Timber Harvest Planning and Operating Ground Rules - Northeast Alberta Regional Area-Specific Addendum (OGRs). Alberta–Pacific is requesting certain deviations from the OGRs, due to field verified factors. These requests, along with corresponding information are listed under the section "OGR Deviations".

3.0 Maps

Individual block maps have been included in the submission package, outlining the information pertinent to these blocks. A Planning Unit overview map and a Spatial Harvest Sequence (SHS) Planning Unit map have been included in the submission package. These maps can be viewed in the *Appendices* of this document.

4.0 Block Information

A *Block Summary Table* has been included below outlining the expected volumes of the harvest area.

4.1 Utilization

Deciduous and coniferous stands will adhere to the 15/10 utilization standard

4.2 Field verification

Field verification was conducted to assess the timber quality, potential sensitive and historical sites, operability of the harvest area, and classification of water courses within the Planning Unit boundary. Where applicable, the findings of the layout team have been noted in the corresponding section of this report.

4.3 Understory Assessment

White Spruce understory within deciduous landbase will be protected utilizing high effort understory protection in stands identified as greater than 600stems/ha by the Alberta Vegetation Inventory (AVI), as well as any potential areas found to have understory present that is not identified by the AVI.

There are no Blocks requiring high-effort understorey protection methods in the planning unit. Any deciduous blocks found to have understory amounting to between 400 stems/ha and 600 stems/ha will be protected utilizing the avoidance method.

Block Summary Table

(Values rounded to whole numbers)

<u>Table 1: Block Summary Table</u> This table provides a brief description of the proposed harvest blocks within the Planning Unit.

Deciduous Blocks						
Source ID	Opening Number	Harvest Season (Frozen/ Non- Frozen)	Area (ha)	Deciduous Volume (m³)	Incidental Conifer Volume (m ³)	Total Volume (m³)
FC07114429001	4140712900	Frozen	45.7	9125	4021	13146
FC07114429231	4140712923	Non-Frozen	22.9	2577	1859	4436
FC07114429581	4140712958	Frozen	8.2	1729	452	2181
FC07114430111	4140713011	Transitional	17.5	2442	1473	3915
FC07114430821	4140713082	Transitional	28.6	3378	2571	5949
FC07114431201	4140713120	Non-Frozen	20.9	4832	1212	6044
FC07114432241	4140713224	Transitional	47.7	9813	2984	12797
FC07115415061	4150711506	Frozen	31.3	4405	2387	6792
FC07115415891	4150711589	Frozen	31.4	5622	1903	7525
FC07115422101	4150712210	Transitional	12.4	2855	754	3609
FC07115423221	4150712322	Transitional	15.1	3592	594	4186
FC07115423251	4150712325	Non-Frozen	254.9	51219	12277	63497
FC07115423931	4150712393	Frozen	10.5	1366	544	1910
FC07115424061	4150712406	Transitional	7.8	1206	429	1635
FC07115424111	4150712411	Frozen	28.9	5485	1414	6899
FC07115424571	4150712457	Non-Frozen	129.2	20689	9011	29700
FC07115424851	4150712485	Frozen	13.3	2573	1268	3841
FC07115425311	4150712531	Non-Frozen	13.8	2762	1166	3927
FC07115425481	4150712548	Frozen	36.8	6368	2273	8641

FC07115425511	4150712551	Transitional	14.1	2129	1657	3786
FC07115425841	4150712584	Non-Frozen	22.0	2795	1645	4441
FC07115426031	4150712603	Frozen	7.8	1324	360	1684
FC07115426831	4150712683	Transitional	59.5	10211	3389	13600
FC07115436931	4150713693	Frozen	14.6	2512	1266	3777
Totals	24		894.6	161,011	56,908	217,919

4.4 Structure Retention

For Alberta-Pacific and Commercial Timber Permits, an average of 5% representative of all harvested area at the FMU level by stewardship reporting period will be retained. A harvest area may have zero structure but the FMU average shall be 5%. Non merchantable structure is not to be tracked as part of the 5%. Structure retention will be left in the following methods:

- Laid out patches
- Individual trees
- Small clumps left at the operators' discretion

<u>4.5 Debris Management</u>

The Planning Unit is situated within Alberta's Fire Control Zone number 42 as identified by Alberta Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development (AFRED).

Debris management of the Planning Unit will be accomplished in a manner consistent with the Debris Management Standards for Timber Harvest Operations (AF-FDP-2017-07).

4.6 Camp Location

The companies have identified a camp location for logging operations within this Planning Unit. The campsite will be reclaimed as indicated in Section 2.12.2 of the OGRs.

SourceID	Opening Number	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
FC07115424571	4150712457	55.164191	-112.174952

5.0 Watercourse Protection

Table 2: Watercourse Crossing Summary

During the potential watercourses were identified during preliminary planning using wet areas mapping, LiDAR data, aerial imagery, as well as the available AVI data.

Where harvest blocks are in proximity to any potential watercourses, the field layout team conducted field assessments utilizing the methodology and classification standards outlined in Section 2.17 of the OGRs. Any confirmed watercourses have been buffered in accordance with the OGRs Section 2.17.

Any deviations from the OGRs in relation to the watercourse buffers are noted in this report; please refer to the *OGR Deviations* section of the report for further information.

Road ID	Crossing ID (Road Crossing Number)	Watercourse Classification
LOC942583	2495	Ephemeral
RC07114429001	1939	Ephemeral
RC07114429001	1948	Ephemeral
RC07114429001	1969	Ephemeral
RC07114429001	1989	Ephemeral
RC07114429001	1999	Ephemeral
RC07114429001	2009	Ephemeral
RC07114429001	2911	Ephemeral
RC07114431201	3017	Ephemeral
RC07114431201	3111	Ephemeral
RC07114431201	3112	Intermittent
RC07115415061	1518	Ephemeral
RC07115415061	1688	Ephemeral
RC07115415061	1697	Ephemeral
RC07115415061	1698	Ephemeral
RC07115422101	2212	Ephemeral
RC07115423251	2681	Ephemeral
RC07115423251	2691	Ephemeral
RC07115423251	2771	Ephemeral
RC07115424571	2446	Ephemeral
RC07115425311	2544	Ephemeral
RC07115425481	2529	Ephemeral
RC07115425481	2555	Ephemeral
RC07115425481	2631	Ephemeral
RC07115425481	3613	Ephemeral

Watercourse Crossing Summary Table

A list of road crossings over field verified watercourses within the Planning Unit.

RC07115425481	3621	Ephemeral
RC07115426031	2791	Ephemeral
RC07115426031	2792	Ephemeral
RC07115426031	2793	Ephemeral
RC07115426831	2655	Ephemeral
RC07115426831	2665	Ephemeral
RC07115426831	2673	Ephemeral
RC07115426831	2682	Ephemeral
RC07115436931	3102	Ephemeral

6.0 Road Information

Roads will be constructed, maintained, and reclaimed in a manner consistent with Section 2.15 of the OGRs.

When new access is necessary, reclamation processes will be followed as per applicable legislation. To enable for silviculture activities, all-terrain vehicle (ATV) access may be left throughout the harvest area.

Road Attributes Table

(Values rounded to whole numbers)

Table 3: Road Attributes

Summary of the proposed in-block roads of the Planning Unit.

Road ID	Road Classification	Haul Season	Length, m
LOC942583	Temporary	Frozen	904
RC07114429001	Temporary	Frozen	2373
RC07114429231	Temporary	Non-Frozen	1167
RC07114429581	Temporary	Frozen	548
RC07114430111	Temporary	Non-Frozen	887
RC07114430821	Temporary	Non-Frozen	2164
RC07114431201	Temporary	Non-Frozen	1339
RC07114432241	Temporary	Non-Frozen	3278
RC07115415061	Temporary	Frozen	3057
RC07115415891	Temporary	Frozen	2063
RC07115422101	Temporary	Non-Frozen	1082
RC07115423221	Temporary	Non-Frozen	680

RC07115423251	Temporary	Non-Frozen	11876
RC07115423931	Temporary	Frozen	902
RC07115424061	Temporary	Non-Frozen	548
RC07115424111	Temporary	Frozen	2000
RC07115424571	Temporary	Non-Frozen	4180
RC07115424851	Temporary	Frozen	474
RC07115425311	Temporary	Non-Frozen	856
RC07115425481	Temporary	Frozen	2513
RC07115425511	Temporary	Non-Frozen	452
RC07115425841	Temporary	Non-Frozen	1199
RC07115426031	Temporary	Frozen	1552
RC07115426831	Temporary	Non-Frozen	2387
RC07115436931	Temporary	Frozen	1487

7.0 Land Use Information

A search of the Geographic Land Information Management and Planning System (GLIMPS) and Digital Integrated Dispositions (DIDs) yielded active dispositions within the FHP. Any necessary agreements with the disposition holder will be in place prior to the commencement of harvest operations. None of the dispositions within the FHP will restrict harvest operations in the FHP.

Land Use Summary Table

Disposition Number	Disposition Holder	Disposition Type
DLO062398	ALBERTA-PACIFIC FOREST INDUSTRIES INC.	DLO
PLA054985	ENBRIDGE PIPELINES (ATHABASCA) INC.	Pipeline
PLA110297	INTER PIPELINE LTD.	Pipeline
PLA122006	ENBRIDGE PIPELINES (ATHABASCA) INC.	Pipeline
PLA140717	ENBRIDGE PIPELINES (ATHABASCA) INC.	Pipeline

<u>Table 4: Land Use Summary Table</u> Active dispositions in the Planning Unit The FHP design incorporates pipeline crossings, for temporary roads. The agreements will be in place prior to the construction of these crossings.

8.0 Integration with Other Forest Users

<u>8.1 Integration with Other Harvest Operators</u> This FHP is not an integrated between the FMA and a CTL holder.

8.2 Registered Fur Management Areas (RFMAs)

Notification letter were sent to RFMAs within the FHP who will be affected by operations. Any requests from the RFMA holders have been considered, and, where possible, the harvest design has been planned to accommodate the request.

Trapper Areas Table

Table 5: Trapper Areas Table

RFMA ID	Notification Method
1327	Letter

8.3 Wildlife Management Unit(s) (WMU)

Planning Unit is located within WMU 515. The Guides and Outfitters operating within this unit have been sent notification, via registered mail, on the FHP design, as well as a timeline for the commencement of harvest operations. Any requests from Guides and Outfitters have been considered, and, where possible, the harvest design has been planned to accommodate the request. A table with the active Guides and Outfitters in the WMU is included below.

Guide and Outfitters Table

OG ID	Date	Contact Method
North Point Outfitters Inc.	October 2021	Mail
Sherwood Outfitters Inc.	October 2021	Mail
Grand Slam Hunting Adventures Ltd.	October 2021	Mail
Limb Driven Outfitting Ltd	October 2021	Mail
North Country Outfitting Inc.	October 2021	Mail
Avenir Guiding & Outfitting	October 2021	Mail
Dale McKinnon Alberta Guide & Outfitter Ltd.	October 2021	Mail

8.4 Indigenous Groups

During the General Development Plan (GDP) process, Alberta – Pacific conducts consultations with indigenous groups every year. There have not been any issues identified prior to FHP submission.

8.5 Other Forest Users

There are no forest user groups operating within the Planning Unit area.

8.6 Forest Aesthetics

As outlined in Section 4.2.2.1. of the OGRs, Alberta – Pacific follows the objective to mitigate the impact of timber operations on the visual quality of the forest landscape.

9.0 Species and Areas of Concern

<u>9.1 Woodland Caribou</u> Planning Unit 071154 is not located within Woodland Caribou Range.

9.2 Key Wildlife and Biodiversity Zone (KWBZ)

Planning Unit 071154 is not within a Key Wildlife and Biodiversity Zone.

9.3 Other Species

All known sensitive wildlife sites have been buffered in accordance with Section 2.8.9 of the OGRs.

9.4 Sensitive Sites

A review of the block design and landscape of the FHP was completed by professional archaeologists. Any sites identified as being of high historical significance (historical resource sites) have been removed from the harvest design.

Upon completion of cutblock and road layout, a second review of the harvest blocks, and temporary roads is completed to identify potential conflicts, and to determine if any further changes are required to the Planning Unit.

There were no signs of rare plants, including signs of terrestrial lichen found within the Planning Unit.

If any sites are identified post submission, Alberta – Pacific will take the appropriate action to protect these sites.

<u>9.5 Forest Health</u>

During the field verification, a team evaluated the current state of the forest health in the FHP area, as outlined in Section 2.19 of the OGRs.

If any sites are identified post submission, Alberta – Pacific will take the appropriate action to address these concerns as per Section 2.19.1 of the OGRs.

10.0 SHS Information / Variance Summary

Variances from the Spatial Harvest Sequence (SHS) within the Planning Unit boundary are shown in Appendix 3 - *Spatial Harvest Sequence Summary Table*.

11.0 OGR Deviations

This plan completed field verification and layout in the winter of 2021/22 prior to the revision of the Provincial OGRs at the start of the 2022/23 Timber Year. No OGR deviations have been requested for this Planning Unit.

12.0 Validation by Registered Forest Practitioner

This plan is being prepared and submitted on behalf of Alberta-Pacific Forest Industries Inc.

ALBERTA-PACIFIC FOREST INDUSTRIES INC.

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