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Forest Harvest Plan

PU071134a



**ALBERTA
PACIFIC**
FOREST INDUSTRIES INC



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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 071134a

The Planning Unit is located within Forest Management Unit (FMU) L01 east of the “Old Conklin Road” and south of the “Sucker Lake Road”.

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

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 600 stems/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. Any deciduous blocks found to have understory amounting to between 400 stems/ha and 600 stems/ha will be protected utilizing the avoidance method.

Blocks requiring understory protection or understory avoidance are noted within the *Block Summary Table*.

Block Summary Table

(Values rounded to whole numbers)

Table 1: Block Summary Table

This table provides a brief description of the proposed harvest blocks within the Planning Unit.

Deciduous Blocks						
<i>Source ID</i>	Opening Number	Harvest Season (Frozen/ Non-Frozen)	Area (ha)	Deciduous Volume (m³)	Incidental Conifer Volume (m³)	Total Volume (m³)
FC07013433771	4130703377	Non-Frozen	9	1,812	285	2,097
FC07113403531	4130710353	Non-Frozen	128	29,573	3,712	33,285
FC07113411091	4130711109	Non-Frozen	140	26,970	6,350	33,320
FC07113414371	4130711437	Non-Frozen	70	15,354	2,040	17,394
FC07113415041	4130711504	Non-Frozen	34	6,194	931	7,125
FC07113415671	4130711567	Non-Frozen	22	5,238	1,095	6,333
Totals			403	85,141	14,413	99,554

*Understory Block: White Spruce understory within deciduous landbase will be protected utilizing high effort understory protection in stands identified as greater than 600 stems/ha. Any blocks found to have understory amounting to between 400 stems/ha and 600 stems/ha will be protected utilizing the avoidance method.

Coniferous Blocks						
<i>Source ID</i>	Opening Number	Harvest Season	Area (ha)	Conifer Volume (m³)	Incidental Deciduous Volume (m³)	Total Volume (m³)
FC07013433511	4130703351	Frozen	12	1,367	302	1,669
FC07013433651	4130703365	Non-Frozen	35	3,347	1,191	4,537
FC07013433851	4130703385	Frozen	12	881	308	1,189
FC07113402301	4130710230	Frozen	32	2,340	1,638	3,978
FC07113411531	4130711153	Frozen	15	1,961	535	2,496
FC07113413401	4130711340	Frozen	27	3,337	719	4,056
FC07113414841	4130711484	Frozen	7	868	814	1,683
Totals			140	14,101	5,507	19,609

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

4.5 Debris Management

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.

Source ID	Opening Number	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
FC07113415041	4130711504	55.14348	-111.935122

5.0 Watercourse Protection

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.

Watercourse Crossing Summary Table

Table 2: Watercourse Crossing Summary

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

<i>Road ID</i>	<i>Crossing ID (Road Crossing Number)</i>	<i>Watercourse Classification</i>
LOC002386	0329	Ephemeral
LOC002386	0339	Ephemeral
LOC002386	1021	Ephemeral
LOC002386	1572	Ephemeral
RC07113403531	0319	Ephemeral
RC07113403531	0366	Ephemeral
RC07113403531	0971	Beaver Pond
RC07113411091	1113	Intermittent
RC07113411091	1126	Ephemeral
RC07113411091	1137	Transitional
RC07113411091	1148	Ephemeral
RC07113414371	1405	Ephemeral

6.0 Road Information

Overview maps have been attached showing roads in accordance with Section 4.1.3.7. of the OGRs; all spatial data requirements have also been included with this submission.

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 inter-block roads of the Planning Unit.

Road ID	Road Classification	Haul Season	Length, m
LOC002386	Temp	Non-Frozen	2,789
RC07013433511	Temp	Non-Frozen	1,297
RC07013433651	Temp	Frozen	1,730
RC07013433771	Temp	Non-Frozen	456
RC07013433851	Temp	Non-Frozen	231
RC07113402301	Temp	Frozen	4,574
RC07113403531	Temp	Non-Frozen	7,380
RC07113411091	Temp	Non-Frozen	9,331
RC07113411531	Temp	Non-Frozen	1,142
RC07113413401	Temp	Frozen	1,039
RC07113414371	Temp	Frozen	4,967
RC07113414841	Temp	Non-Frozen	738
RC07113415041	Temp	Frozen	672
RC07113415671	Temp	Non-Frozen	848

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

Table 4: Land Use Summary Table
Active dispositions in the Planning Unit

Disposition Number	Disposition Holder	Disposition Type
CANADIAN NATURAL RESOURCES LIMITED	LOC002386	LOC
CANADIAN NATURAL RESOURCES LIMITED	LOC962520	LOC
CANADIAN NATURAL RESOURCES LIMITED	LOC002333	LOC
CANADIAN NATURAL RESOURCES LIMITED	LOC942231	LOC
ALBERTA-PACIFIC FOREST INDUSTRIES INC.	DLO960923	DLO
CANADIAN NATURAL RESOURCES LIMITED	PLA003138	PLA
CANADIAN NATURAL RESOURCES LIMITED	PLA003139	PLA
CANADIAN NATURAL RESOURCES LIMITED	PLA010529	PLA
CANADIAN NATURAL RESOURCES LIMITED	PLA010106	PLA
CANADIAN NATURAL RESOURCES LIMITED	PLA010025	PLA
SPOKE RESOURCES LTD.	PLA011134	PLA

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

8.1 Integration with Other Harvest Operators

This FHP is not an integrated plan between the FMA and a CTL holder.

8.2 Registered Fur Management Areas (RFMAs)

Notification letters 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
1323	Mail
1866	Mail
2639	Mail

8.3 Wildlife Management Unit(s) (WMU)

Planning Unit 071134a 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

Table 6: Guide and Outfitters

OG ID Number	Date	Contact Method
North Point Outfitters Inc.	18-May-22	Registered Mail
Sherwood Outfitters Inc.	18-May-22	Registered Mail
Grand Slam Hunting Adventures Ltd.	18-May-22	Registered Mail
Limb Driven Outfitting Ltd	18-May-22	Registered Mail
North Country Outfitting Inc.	18-May-22	Registered Mail
Avenir Guiding & Outfitting	18-May-22	Registered Mail
Dale McKinnon Alberta Guide & Outfitter Ltd.	18-May-22	Registered 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 known 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.

This FHP is not adjacent to any park or recreational areas, and no other aesthetics concerns have been noted to date by other forest users.

9.0 Species and Areas of Concern

9.1 Woodland Caribou

Planning Unit 071134a is not located within Woodland Caribou Range.

9.2 Key Wildlife and Biodiversity Zone (KWBZ)

Planning Unit 071134a is within a Key Wildlife and Biodiversity Zone. All operations will be in accordance with the OGRs.

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.

9.5 Forest Health

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*. There were several deciduous and mixed woods stands added into the plan outside of the SHS due to the risk of isolation.

11.0 OGR Deviations

Table 7. Temporary Roads requested to be within 200m of lakes >4a.

Road ID	Opening Number	Block Area (ha)	Harvest Season (Frozen/ Non-Frozen)	Buffer Deviation	Buffer Deviation Reason
RC07013433511	4130703351	12	Frozen	Lake	Skidding limitations from buffered block edge
Rc07113402301	4130710230	32	Frozen	Lake	Skidding limitations from buffered block edge
Rc07113403531	4130710230	32	Frozen	Lake	Skidding limitations from buffered block edge
Rc07113411531	4130711153	15	Frozen	Lake	Skidding limitations from buffered block edge
Rc07113415041	4130711504	34	Non-Frozen	Lake	Skidding limitations from buffered block edge

12.0 Validation by Registered Forest Practitioner

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

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