

**Morice and
Lakes
Timber
Supply
Areas**

Morice Sustainable Forest Management Report

(Reporting Period: April 1, 2010 – March 31, 2011)



March 14, 2012



Sustainable Forest Management Report

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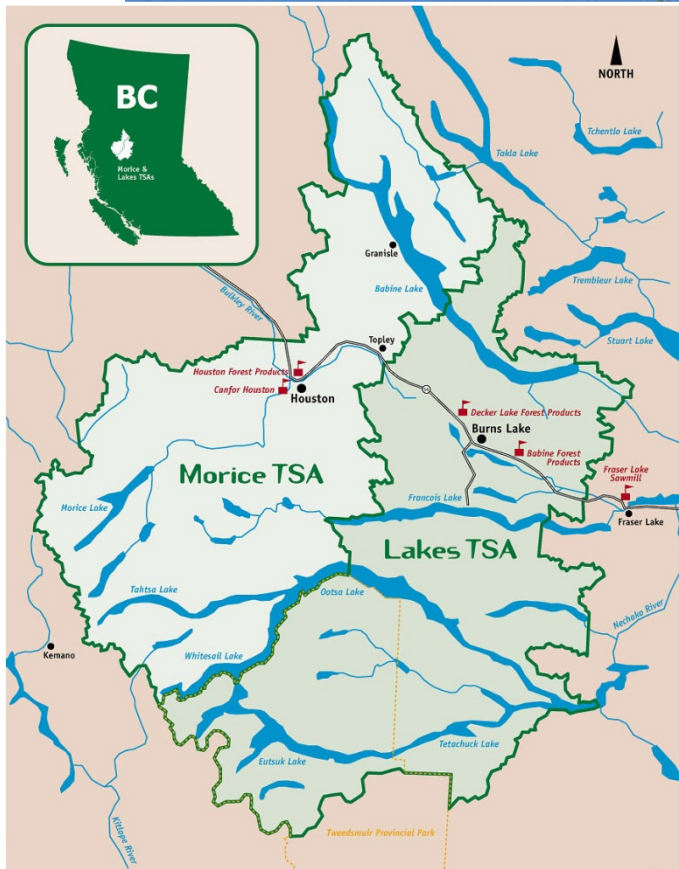
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Morice Timber Supply Area

British Columbia
Canada

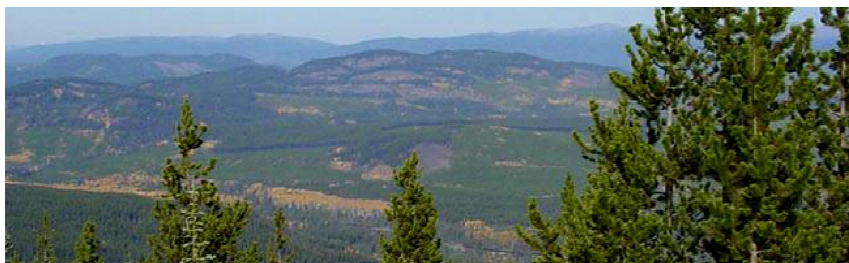


Introduction

This document is the eighth annual **Sustainable Forest Management Report** for the **Morice & Lakes Innovative Forest Practices Agreement** (M&L IFPA) and addresses eight years of reporting **sustainable forest management (SFM)** indicators for the Morice Timber Supply Area (TSA).



A substantial amount of investment and effort has gone into the development of an *SFM Plan* for the TSA. With implementation of the SFM Plan now underway, a significant amount of work is required to ensure that the forest management methods and practices being used are aligned with the SFM Plan and that they are performing as expected.



The SFM Plan outlines SFM performance indicators and targets that the partner licensees of the M&L IFPA have oriented with their forest management operations. An important aspect of SFM is continual improvement, and the monitoring and reporting of measurable SFM indicators is a critical element in evaluating the overall SFM system being used and seeking opportunities for its improvement.

This summary document provides an overview of the M&L IFPA process to date and presents a synopsis of the results of indicator monitoring and reporting from April 1st, 2010 to March 31st, 2011.

The Morice & Lakes Innovative Forest Practices Agreement

The M&L IFPA was awarded in 1999 and is a partnership between six regional forest licensees (Babine Forest Products, Canadian Forest Products, Decker Lake Forest Products, Fraser Lake Sawmills, Houston Forest Products, and L&M Lumber) and BC Timber Sales operating in both the Morice and the Lakes Timber Supply Areas. The overall IFPA program was designed by the Province of British Columbia to support licensees in exploring new forest management ideas within an operational setting – with the intent to enhance timber supplies, improve community stability, and better integrate social and environmental values.

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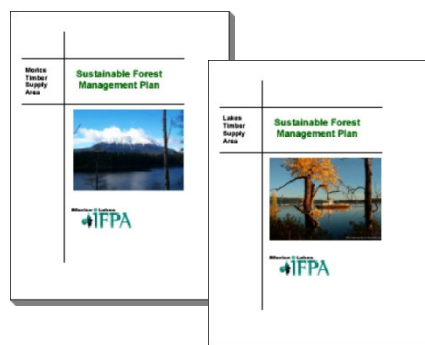
Sustainable Forest Management and the M&L IFPA



The principle behind sustainable forest management is to manage the forest ecosystem towards achieving a balance between social, ecological and economic values; doing so in a manner that satisfies current needs while still allowing future generations to enjoy similar benefits means planning responsibly – with insight, innovation and adaptability.

In Canada, a national framework for SFM has been developed by the *Canadian Council of Forest Ministers* (CCFM) that outlines six national criteria for SFM in Canada. In order to be applicable in the diverse local conditions and situations found across Canada, local-level values, objectives, indicators and targets are developed based on the CCFM criteria.

Developing and implementing SFM Plans for both the Morice and the Lakes TSAs is the central purpose of the M&L IFPA. These SFM Plans have been developed using enhanced approaches to public involvement, forest productivity, and natural disturbance-based management, and they are the instruments that enable the achievement of the M&L IFPA's goals.



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Biological Diversity

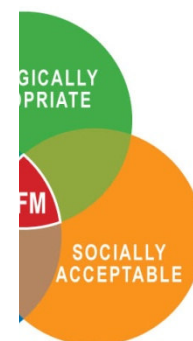
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M&L IFPA Public Involvement Process

The Morice & Lakes IFPA includes a significant public involvement component. In developing the SFM Plans for the two TSAs, over 100 meetings were held with local participants who represented a wide range of stakeholder interests. Well over 200 people with an interest in how local resources are managed have contributed their knowledge and expertise to the development of the SFM Plans; these dedicated volunteers from the public have helped develop the goals, objectives and indicators needed to deliver the M&L IFPA SFM Plans.

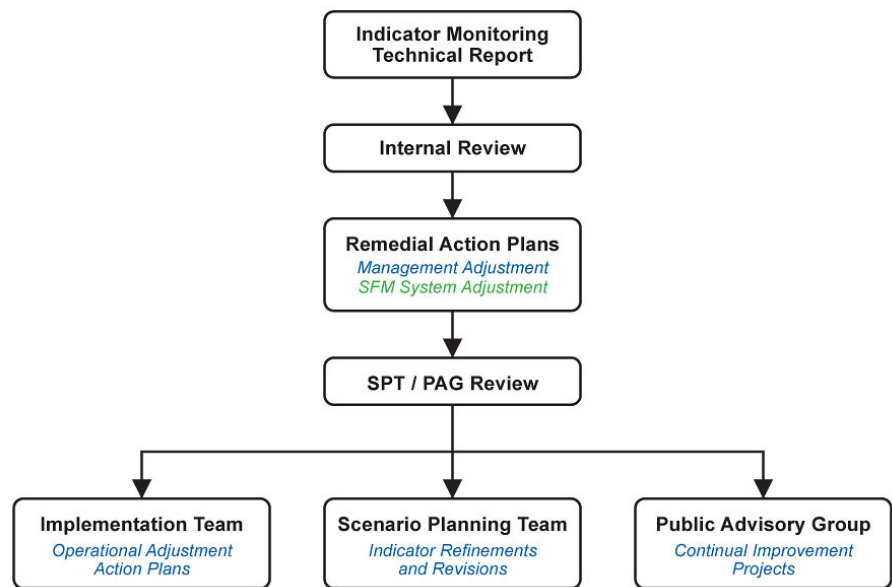


M&L IFPA Continual Improvement Process

Continual improvement includes the incorporation of new information and knowledge as well as modifications to the SFM system as a result of what is learned from indicator monitoring. Indicator results provide a means to evaluate how well management objectives are being met, and determine whether desired values are being achieved. The continual improvement process may also reveal unforeseen issues with the SFM system being used. Addressing those issues may require adjusting the SFM system in part, or as a whole.

As part of the M&L IFPA continual improvement process (flowchart at right), a Technical Indicator Report is prepared to support each SFM Plan in terms of indicator monitoring, reporting and continual improvement.

The Technical Indicator Report compiles updated information in order to observe how management and practices are performing in relation to the indicator targets that have been established. This provides feedback to evaluate whether management and practices have been effective in achieving the indicator targets or whether adjustments are needed.



Once assembled, this information is reviewed with the Public Advisory Group(s) for their input and feedback. To ensure indicator monitoring consistency and enable year-to-year comparisons of current status results, the licensees – and the M&L IFPA – report indicator results adhering to Standard Operating Procedures established for indicator reporting. In addition, comments and recommendations are provided by the licensees and the PAG that assist the M&L IFPA in evaluating each indicator and making any changes that may be required. This information supports the M&L IFPA in making improvement recommendations for each indicator. Such recommendations can include operational adjustments, refinements to indicators, and continual improvement projects.

Beginning in February 2011, the PAG has helped to transition the Morice SFMP to the CSA Z809 -08 standards. This annual report (see Table 1) provides a linkage to the new and old indicators that were in the previous SFMP and the status of the indicators under the new plan. This will enable the plan proponents to implement the new plan in a shorter time frame.

Applications of the M&L IFPA SFM Plans

Given the significant amount of investment and stakeholder involvement in their development, the SFM Plans for the M&L IFPA have been built to suit multiple applications and requirements. As such, the SFM Plans are linked to the following programs and processes:

IFPA Requirements

The primary purpose of the SFM Plans (and accompanying documents) is to provide a strategic and supporting role for the Forestry Plan required for Innovative Forest Practices Agreements under Section 59.1 of the Forest Act.

BC Forest and Range Practices Act

Under the BC Forest and Range Practices Act, these SFM Plans can be used to support results and/or strategies contained in Forest Stewardship Plans (FSP's) that are submitted by forest licensees.



Forest Certification Requirements



These SFM Plans have been developed to be “certification enabling”. As such, they follow the nationally recognized Canadian Council of Forest Ministers (CCFM) framework for SFM. M&L IFPA licensees have been able to take the SFM Plans and utilize them – as a whole, or in part – to meet voluntary forest certification standards (e.g. CSA SFM Z809-2002). To date, three of the M&L IFPA licensees have achieved certification under voluntary and independent SFM forest certification processes.

Bark Beetle Management Strategies



Given that the landscapes within the M&L IFPA have been severely impacted by bark beetles, the SFM Plans have integrated Bark Beetle Management Strategies for the M&L IFPA area. The Plans include specific indicators and targets to address sustainable forest management in the midst of significant bark beetle infestations.

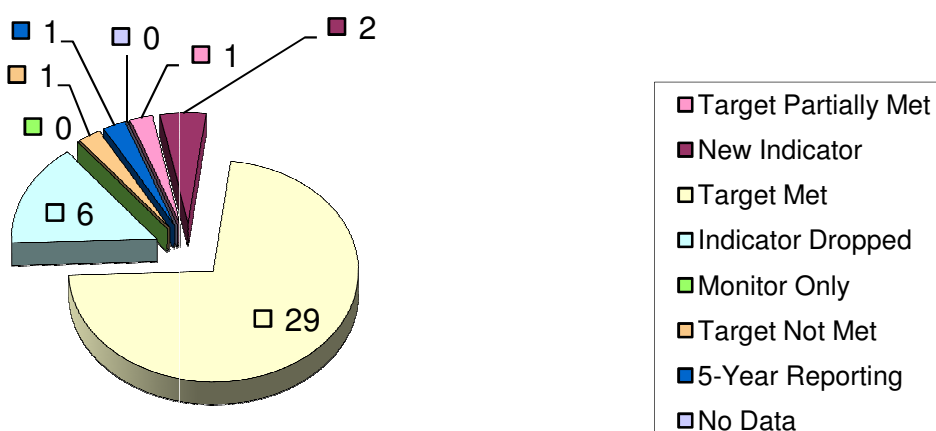
Indicator Reporting for the M&L IFPA

This is the eighth document prepared which summarizes the annual M&L IFPA indicator reporting results. The direct application of SFM in the M&L IFPA supports ongoing efforts to make improvements in the reporting process as more information is gained and understood about SFM performance monitoring using indicators.



Summary of Reporting Results – Morice TSA

Morice TSA - Indicator Current Status Results



Figure

1. SFM Indicator Reporting Results (Morice TSA)

The categories listed on the charts are as follows:

“Target met” – This refers to the number of indicators where the targets have been met (as specified in the SFM Plan).

“Target Partially Met” – This refers to the number of indicators where at least one licensee has not met the target (as specified in the SFM Plan). However, the majority of licensees have met their targets.

“Monitor Only” – This refers to the number of indicators where targets are not required. These indicators are reported for general interest only and performance assessments are not completed.

“No Data” – This refers to the number of indicators where data were not available in order to generate the modeling results (e.g. roads updates). It is anticipated these data will be in available for the next reporting period.

“5 Year Reporting” – This refers to the number of indicators that are being reported every 5 years.

“Target Not Met” – This refers to the number of indicators where the targets have not been met (as specified in the SFM Plan).

“New Indicator” – This refers to the number of new indicators that have been added during this reporting period. As such, monitoring results for new indicators will be reported in the next period.

“Indicator Dropped” – This refers to the number of new indicators that have been dropped during this reporting period. As such, monitoring results for dropped indicators will not be reported in the future.

Tables 1 shown on the subsequent pages below relate to the above chart (Figure 1) and summarize the reporting results for each of the SFM indicators (in the categories described above) as well as any associated comments and/or recommendations. The first two columns identify the new indicators and the last two columns link the indicators from the old plan.

Table 1. Morice TSA Indicators

New Indicator Number	New Indicator	Targets Met?	Comments / Recommendations	Old Indicator Number <i>M = Morice TSA</i>	Old Indicator
6.1.2	Evidence of best efforts to obtain acceptance of management plans based on Aboriginal communities having a clear understanding of the plans	Yes	These targets have been met. No further recommendations. M02 Replaced	M02	Number of communications by licensee
6.4.2	Number of educational opportunities for information/training that are delivered to the PAG	Yes			
5.2.4	Number of opportunities for Aboriginals to participate in the forest economy	Partially	M04 replaced. The target for the new indicator has not been met. <u>Action CFP:</u> Create more opportunities for Aboriginals and implement tracking system to document aboriginal participation opportunities BCTS met the target	M04	Number of participation opportunities by opportunity type

New Indicator Number	New Indicator	Targets Met?	Comments / Recommendations	Old Indicator Number <i>M = Morice TSA</i>	Old Indicator
6.1.2	Evidence of best efforts to obtain acceptance of management plans based on Aboriginal communities having a clear understanding of the plans	Yes	These targets have been met. No further recommendations. M05 replaced	M05	Number of aboriginal participation opportunities by licensee
6.2.1	Percent of identified Aboriginal forest values, knowledge and uses considered in forestry planning processes	Yes			
5.2.1	Investments in local communities	Yes	M06 Replaced. The targets have been met. No further recommendations.	M06	Number of continual improvement–related projects in the DFA by licensee
6.4.2	Number of educational opportunities for information/training that are delivered to the PAG	Yes			
6.5.1	The number of people to whom educational opportunities are provided	Yes			
3.2.1(b)	Percentage of high hazard drainage structures in sensitive watersheds with identified water quality concerns that have mitigation strategies implemented	Yes	There were no SCQI surveys conducted in during the reporting period.	M07	Percentage of identified high hazard structures with action plans implemented by Licensee
1.1.4	Number of non-conformances where forest operations are not consistent with riparian management requirements as identified in operation plans	Yes	This target has been met. No further recommendations.	M10	Percent of cut blocks harvested that are consistent with riparian management commitments by licensee

New Indicator Number	New Indicator	Targets Met?	Comments / Recommendations	Old Indicator Number <i>M = Morice TSA</i>	Old Indicator
5.1.1	Conformance with strategies for non-timber benefits identified in plans	Yes	M11 was replaced and amalgamated into 5.1.1 This target has been met. No further recommendations.	M11	Percent of area less than VEG by recreation class by licensee.
5.1.1	Conformance with strategies for non-timber benefits identified in plans	Yes	M12 was replaced and amalgamated into 5.1.1 This target has been met. No further recommendations.	M12	Percentage of Blocks and Roads Harvested Annually by Licensee that are Consistent with the Visual Quality Objective (VQO)
5.1.1	Conformance with strategies for non-timber benefits identified in plans	Yes	M13 was replaced and amalgamated into 5.1.1 This target has been met. No further recommendations.	M13	Percent area in suitable forage opportunity class by LU by licensee
NA	Not applicable	Dropped	M14 dropped This indicator has a 5-year reporting interval; therefore, the next reporting period for this indicator is April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014.	M14	Percent area of the THLB and non-contributing forest by beetle hazard type (extreme and high) by licensee
1.1.4	Percent of stand structure retained across the DFA in harvested areas	Yes	This target has been met. No further recommendations.	M15	Percent area retained in WTR by licensee annually
1.1.1	Percent representation of ecosystem group across the DFA	New	New indicator. Current status in SFMP.	NA	NA
1.1.5	Same as old.	Yes	These targets have been met. No further recommendations.	M17	Percent forest in each patch type by patch size class by BEC Variant by licensee

New Indicator Number	New Indicator	Targets Met?	Comments / Recommendations	Old Indicator Number <i>M = Morice TSA</i>	Old Indicator
5.1.1	Conformance with strategies for non-timber benefits identified in plans	Yes	M19 was replaced and amalgamated into 5.1.1 The target has been met. No further recommendations.	M19	Percent seral stage distribution by non-timber tenure license by forest licensee
2.2.2	Percentage of volume harvested compared to allocated harvest level	Yes	These targets have been met. No further recommendations. 5.2.3 Direct and indirect employment is a new indicator	M20	Percentage of AAC harvested by licensee
5.1.1	Percentage of volume harvested compared to allocated harvest level	Yes			
5.2.3	Level of direct and indirect employment	New			
5.1.1	Percentage of volume harvested compared to allocated harvest level	Yes	M21 was replaced. The target has been met. No further recommendations.	M21	Ratio of annual mill consumption to AAC apportionment harvested by licensee
5.2.3	Level of direct and indirect employment	Yes	See comments M20 above.		
3.1.1	Percentage of harvested blocks meeting soil disturbance objectives identified in plans	Yes	The target has been met. No further recommendations.	M23	Percentage of blocks meeting NAR disturbance objectives by licensee
5.2.1	Investments in local communities	Yes	The target has been met. No further recommendations.	M24	Percentage of total goods and services provided by local vendors by licensee
2.2.1	Percent of gross forested landbase in the DFA converted to non-forest land use through forest management activities	Yes	This target has been met. No further recommendations.	25	Percent of gross forest area converted to permanent access by licensee

New Indicator Number	New Indicator	Targets Met?	Comments / Recommendations	Old Indicator Number <i>M = Morice TSA</i>	Old Indicator
1.4.2 and 6.2.1	Percent of identified Aboriginal forest values, knowledge and uses considered in forestry planning process	Yes			
5.1.1	Conformance with strategies for non-timber benefits identified in plans	Yes	M27 Replaced These targets have been met. No further recommendations.	M27	Percentage of forest management commitments completed on time resulting from consultations regarding non-timber features and interests by licensee
5.2.1	Investments in local communities	Yes			
5.2.1	Investments in local communities	Yes	M28 replaced The target has been met. No further recommendations.	M28	Ratio of capital expenditures to depreciation by licensee
1.4.1	Percent of forest management activities consistent with management strategies for protected areas and sites of biological significance	Yes	M31 replaced. The target has been met. No further recommendations.	M31	Percent seral stage distribution by ecosystem and wildlife value class by licensee
1.1.3	Percent late seral distribution by ecological unit across the DFA	Yes	This target has been met		
4.1.1	Maintain the retention of existing (or replacement of) old forest retention area	Yes	Action: Future reports to include early, mid, and mature , and old seral stages	M32	Percent Seral Stage Distribution by LRMP Biodiversity Emphasis Area / BEC Combination by licensee

1.1.2	Percent distribution of forest type (treed conifer, treed broad leaf, treed mixed) >20 years old across DFA	5 year	M33 replaced Both CFP and BCTS meet this indicator.	M33	Percent Species Composition by BEC by licensee
2.2.2	Percentage of volume harvested compared to allocated harvest level	Dropped	M 35 dropped The target has been met. Action: species composition will be reported under 2.2.2, however there is no volume target by species.	M35	Percent species composition of harvest volume by licensee
NA	NA	Dropped	M36 dropped. This is a monitor only indicator. This indicator also has a 5-year reporting interval; therefore, the next reporting period for this indicator is April 1, 2012 to March 31, 2013.	M36	Percent area in Aspen Leading Stands within Existing and Potential Range by LU by licensee
1.2.2	Percent of forest management activities consistent with management strategies for Species of Management Concern	Yes	M37 replaced. These targets have been met. No further recommendations.	M37	Total area by wildlife value class by licensee
1.4.1	Percent of forest management activities consistent with management strategies for protected areas and sites of biological significance	Yes			

5.1.1	Conformance with strategies for non-timber benefits identified in plans	Yes	Indicator Replaced. Amalgamated into 5.1.1 This indicator has a 5-year reporting interval; therefore, the next reporting period for this indicator is April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014.	M42	Area of arable land (Ha/5yr.) within contributing and non-contributing forest converted to agricultural lease by agricultural unit in licensee operating area
5.2.1	Investments in local communities	No	The target has not been met. CFP action: Review with management and present modified indicator to PAG.	M43	Benefits directed into local communities by licensee
3.2.1(a)	Sensitive watersheds that are above Peak Flow targets will have further assessment	Yes	M45 replaced. 3.2.1(a) is annual reporting This indicator has a 5-year reporting interval; therefore, the next reporting period for this indicator is April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014.	M45	Equivalent clear cut area (ECA) by Sensitive watershed by licensee
1.4.1	Percent of forest management activities consistent with management strategies for protected areas and sites of biological significance	Yes	M46 replaced. The target has been met. No further recommendations.	M46	Road density by ecosystem and wildlife value class by licensee
5.1.1	Conformance with strategies for non-timber benefits identified in plans	Yes	M47 amalgamated and replaced into 5.1.1 The target has been met. No further recommendations.	M47	Road density by recreation class by licensee

	NA	Dropped	Indicator dropped. These indicators have a 5-year reporting interval; therefore, the next reporting period for this indicator is April 1, 2013 to May 31, 2014.	M49	Area Weighted Average Minimum Harvest Age Mean Annual Increment (m ³ /ha/year) by BEC by licensee
6.4.1	PAG established and maintained and satisfaction survey implemented according to Terms of Reference	Yes	The target has been met. No further recommendations.	M50	Public Advisory Group established and maintained according to approved Terms of Reference
3.2.1	Sensitive watersheds that are above Peak Flow targets will have further assessments	Dropped	M52 Dropped. Action: Road area will be reported with 3.2.1 but no target set.	M52	Road density index (RDI) by sensitive watershed by licensee
1.1.4	Percent of blocks meeting dispersed retention levels as prescribed in the site plan/logging plan	Yes	M53 replaced. These targets have been met. No further recommendations.	M53	Percent of Harvesting by Licensee where Recommended Operational Guidelines have been applied to Retain Structural Habitat Elements
1.2.1	Percent of forest management activities consistent with management strategies for Species of Management Concern	Yes			
3.1.2	Percent of cutblocks reviewed where post harvest CWD levels are within the targets contained in Plans	Yes			

New Indicator Number	New Indicator	Targets Met?	Comments / Recommendations	Old Indicator Number <i>M = Morice TSA</i>	Old Indicator
6.1.3	Percent of forest operations in conformance with operational/site plans developed to address Aboriginal forest values, knowledge and uses	Yes			
6.4.2	Number of educational opportunities for information/training that are delivered to the PAG	Yes	M54 replaced. These targets have been met. No further recommendations.	M54	Percentage of comments receiving response by type by licensee
6.4.3	Evidence of best efforts to obtain acceptance of management plans based on Aboriginal communities having a clear understanding of the plan	Yes			
6.5.1	The number of people to whom educational opportunities are provided	Yes			
5.1.1	Conformance with strategies for non-timber benefits identified in plans	Yes	M56 replaced and amalgamated into 5.1.1 The target has been met. No further recommendations.	M56	Percent of Fires Burning During Poor or Fair Air Quality Conditions by Licensee
4.1.1	Maintain the retention of existing (or replacement of) old forest retention area	Dropped	Indicator M 57 dropped.	M57	Ecosystem Carbon Storage by tonnes/ha. by Licensee
5.1.1	Conformance with strategies for non-timber benefits identified in plans	Yes	M58 dropped. The target has been met. No further recommendations.	M58	Percent of harvest area in Mountain Pine Bark Beetle attacked stands by licensee

This report provides summary information on our sustainable forest management plans and monitoring systems. Detailed indicator performance monitoring reports and recommendations for both the Morice and Lakes SFM plans can be viewed by contacting the IFPA General Manager.

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