

**SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN  
2008/09 ANNUAL REPORT  
Vanderhoof Licensee Team  
Vanderhoof Defined Forest Area**



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**List of Acronyms**

AAC	Allowable Annual Cut
AMP	Access Management Plan
BCTS	British Columbia Timber Sales
COSEWIC	Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada
CSA	Canadian Standards Association
CWD	Coarse Woody Debris
DLMP	Draft Lakeshore Management Plan
EMS	Environmental Management System
DFA	Defined Forest Area
FIA	Forest Investment Account
FPC	Forest Practices Code
FRPA	Forest and Range Practices Act
FSP	Forest Stewardship Plan
GSA	Grouped Site Associations
ILMB	Integrated Land Management Bureau
LOWG	Landscape Objectives Working Group
LLOWG	Licensee Landscape Objectives Working Group
LRDW	Land and Resource Data Warehouse
LT	Licensee Team
MOFR	Ministry of Forests and Range
MPB	Mountain Pine Beetle ( <i>Dendroctonus ponderosae</i> Hopk.)
Mm3	Million cubic metres
NDU	Natural Disturbance Unit
NHLB	Non Harvesting Land Base
NIVMA	Northern Interior Vegetation Management Association
PAG	Public Advisory Group
SAR	Species at Risk
SFMP	Sustainable Forest Management Plan
SP	Site Plan or Silviculture Prescription
SU	Standard Unit
S6	Stream classification designation (average channel width 3m)
THLB	Timber Harvesting Land Base
TOR	Terms of Reference
TSA	Timber Supply Area
TSL	Timber Supply License
TSR	Timber Supply Review
UBC	University of British Columbia
VQO	Visual Quality Objective
VRI	Vegetation Resource Inventory
WTP	Wildlife Tree Patch

<Insert List of Tables and Figures Here>

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

This is the fourth annual report of the Vanderhoof Sustainable Forest Management Plan (SFMP) and covers the reporting period of April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009.

Four licensees operating in the Vanderhoof Forest District initially participated on the development of this SFMP:

Canadian Forest Products Ltd.  
Lakeland Mills Ltd.  
L&M Lumber Ltd.  
BC Timber Sales, Stuart-Nechako Business Area

These four licensees comprised the Licensee Team (LT) as signatories to the SFMP, which began implementation in the winter of 2005. Canadian Forest Products Ltd. (Vanderhoof), L&M Lumber Ltd. and the Stuart-Nechako Business Area of BC Timber Sales have achieved SFM certification under the CSA Z809-02 standard. Lakeland Mills choose not to pursue CSA certification of their Vanderhoof operations.

As announced at the March 5, 2009 PAG meeting, L&M Lumber Ltd. is now pursuing another SFM certification initiative (including Lakeland Mills Ltd.) and have withdrawn from this CSA initiative

West Fraser Timber Co. Ltd. (Fraser Lake Sawmills) is registered under another SFM initiative and has previously reported (voluntarily) on those measures where data was commonly collected. Given the abovementioned change to the LT signatories, West Fraser was not asked to submit data for this reporting period. West Fraser harvested approximately 11% of the volume within the DFA and although they did not contribute data directly to the SFMP, they did provide data for the landscape level analysis contributing to results for the old forest and other biodiversity measures.

Canfor and BC Timber Sales are currently making a decision on changes to the Defined Forest Area (DFA) with respect to this SFMP.

This annual report contains the 2008/2009 performance results, relative to the Vanderhoof SFMP and associated DFA, of Canfor, BC Timber Sales and L&M Lumber Ltd.

The SFMP is an outline of how the Licensee Team conducts operations in order to meet the CSA standard. One requirement of the standard is public involvement in the plan. The primary public participation method proposed in the CSA SFM standard is a Public Advisory Group (PAG), which allows continual local input from a broad range of interested parties. The Vanderhoof SFMP PAG originally

assisted in identifying quantifiable local level indicators and objectives. This annual report summarizes the status of the 65 measures and objectives that were identified through the PAG process and established under the SFMP. For clarification of the intent of the indicators, objectives or the management practices employed, refer to the Vanderhoof Sustainable Forest Management Plan document available for public viewing online at two locations (see measure 7-2.1, pg. 17).

The Vanderhoof SFMP is continuously evolving as data sources are refined and the intent of measures are further researched and adjusted according to DFA landscape conditions. Given the severe impact Mountain Pine Beetle has had within the DFA, it should be expected that some measures initially established in a green forest condition, may be rendered ineffective as a measure of sustainability.

Current landscape conditions, evolving science, underestimation of project scope and complex data collection methodologies have left some measures still in the development stage. These measures are listed in Table 1 as “in progress” and identified timelines, or outlined action plans have been reported on. There are 3 measures that have yet to be defined and during the 2009 KPMG external audit for both Canfor and BCTS, these measures and the lack of a defined measure were deemed minor non-conformances to the SFMP.

The SFMP is not intended to be a static document, but rather in a state of continual improvement, adapting to changes in the environment, forest management practices, research findings and public values. The Licensee Team has not updated the SFMP since 2006 and realizes this is an overdue action. However given the change in signatories, potential revision to the DFA, planned update from the Slocan Framework and the complete review of measures planned for the winter of 2009/10 this will not be undertaken until March 2010.

Of the 65 total measures currently in the SFMP, 5 measures are in progress and 56 measures (56/60 = 93%) met their objectives during this reporting period. The following table summarizes the results of the current reporting period.

**Table 1: Summary of Indicator/Objectives Status  
April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009**

Indicator	Objective		
	Achieved	In Progress	Not Met
Distinct Habitat Types		X	
Snags & Live Trees Retained in Managed Areas	X		
Average Amount of Coarse Woody Debris per Ha	X		
Riparian Reserves	X		
Proportion of Shrub Habitat by NDU	X		
Deciduous Tree Species	X		
Minimum Proportion of Late Seral Forest in the DFA	X		
Patch Size	X		
Plant Diversity Index			X
Average Stand Level Retention for Harvested Blocks	X		
Develop Management Strategies for Riparian Sensitive Species		X	
Stream Crossing Density by Watershed	X		
Quality of Steam Crossings (2 measures)	X X		
Amount of Permanent Access within the DFA	X		
Conformance with the Access Management Plan	X		
Effectiveness Monitoring Plans to Improve Access Points		X	
Effectiveness Monitoring Plans for Indicator Species		X	
Management Strategies for Species at Risk	X		
Coniferous Seeds and Seedlings Planted in the DFA	X		
Site Index	X		
Landslides	X		
Soil Conservation	X		
Regeneration Delay Date	X		
Free Growing Date	X		
Active Research Plots Protected from Forestry Activities	X		
Total Forest Land and Water Bodies (2 measures)	X X		
Development of a Carbon Monitoring Plan		X	
Utilization of Residual Wood	X		
Annual Volume Harvested by Licensee Team within DFA	X		
Total Projected Long Term Timber Supply	X		
North Central Interior Economic Contribution to Forestry in DFA	X		
Forest Road Maintained for Public Use	X		
Support Opportunities in the DFA			X
Business Opportunities with First Nations			X
DFA Managed Under a Fire Preparedness Plan	X		
Accidental Forest Industry Related Fires	X		

	Achieved	In Progress	Not Met
Management Strategies for Damaging Agents	X		
Conservation of Cultural Features (2 measures)	X X		
Conservation of Range Resources (2 measures)	X X		
Conservation of Riparian Values (2 measures)	X X		
Visual Quality Objectives and Conservation of Scenic Areas (2 measures)	X X		
Local Business Relationships and Available Opportunities	X		
Research and Development Projects or Partnerships within the DFA	X		
Number of Different Forest Products Produced within the DFA	X		
Number of Public Advisory Group Meetings per Year	X		
The Level of Satisfaction of the Public Advisory Group	X		
Maintenance and Review of the PAG Terms of Reference	X		
Percent of Timely Responses to Written and Documented Concerns	X		
The Level of Stakeholder Satisfaction with Forest Management	X		
Opportunities for Proactive Public Involvement in Planning Processes	X		
Public Review of SFM Plan	X		
SFM Extension Activities	X		
Increase the Level of Understanding of SFM	X		
Opportunities for First Nations to be Involved in the Planning Process	X		
Review of PAG Terms of Reference to Recognize Treaty Rights	X		
Number of Socio-economic Opportunities Available to First Nations			X
Number of Forestry Management Operation Lost Time Accidents	X		
Forest Road Inspections that Meet Defined Safety Standards	X		
DFA Prescribed Burns that Follow Smoke Management Guidelines	X		
<b>Total</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>

## 2.0 SFM INDICATORS AND OBJECTIVES

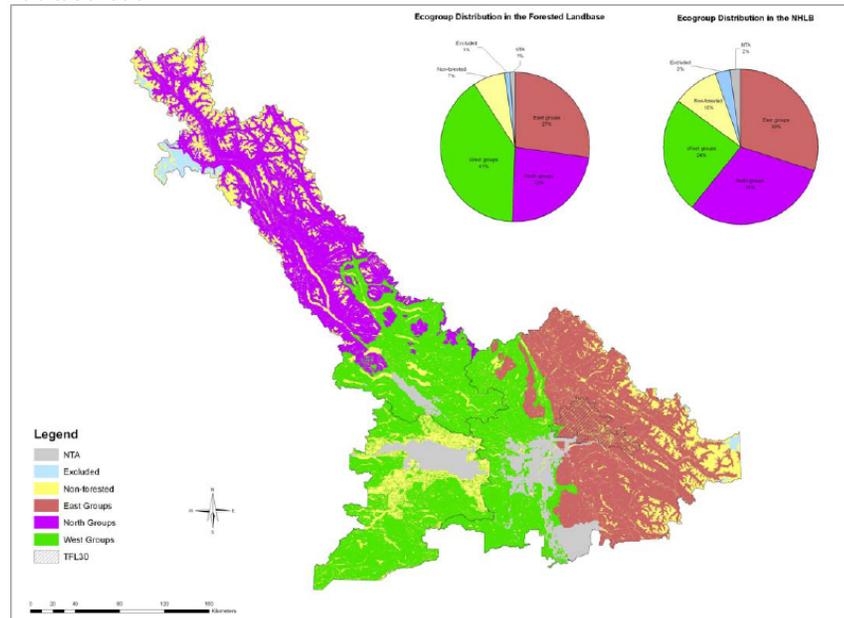
### Distinct Habitat Types

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
<b>1-1.1, 1-5.3</b> The percentage area of distinct habitat types in the DFA	Sustain the percentage area of distinct habitat type. Reporting out every 5 years starting 2010.

Was the Measure and Target Met?	In progress
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Maintaining a representation of a full range of ecosystem types is a widely accepted strategy in conserving biodiversity. Ecosystem representation is a coarse filter approach intended to ensure proportions of ecologically distinct ecosystem types are maintained across the land base.

During the previous reporting period, The 'Ecosystem Groupings for Ecosystem Representation in the Northern Interior Forest Region' project was depicted. Since that time, work has been completed to look at a larger geographic scale with respect to the ecosystem groupings. A larger geographic area will allow for better understanding of how management activities will (or will not) impact those habitat areas.



**Figure 1.** Represents the updated groupings for the PG TSA – DVA falls entirely within the West Groupings.

As the ecosystem groupings have changed, there is no ability to compare the new data against the old data to identify trends. It should also be noted that more work regarding ecosystem groupings is still under way, which will now compare the updated ecosystem groupings to the TSR IV data set and the TSR IV newly defined THLB and NHLB. The biggest change involves the scale at which the groupings are being created. This work is scheduled to be complete once the TSR IV data set is ready for release and will be rerun every 5 years.

### Snags and Live Trees Retained in Managed Areas

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
<b>1-2.1, 5-1.2</b> The number of snags and/or live trees per hectare over a prescribed area.	Annually sustain an average of $\geq 8$ snags and/or live trees per hectare after harvesting. Sustain an average of $\geq 4$ snags and/or live trees per hectare at free growing age. (-2 variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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A snag is defined in the SFMP as a standing dead tree, or part of a dead tree, found in various stages of decay. Snags and/or live trees retained in managed stands can provide important habitat for a wide variety of animals during portions of their life cycles.

Currently the target is being reported through the use of clumped retention methods, based on either VRI or cruise plot extrapolation. During this reporting period, the stand level retention of harvested blocks was assessed via ground sampling or VRI analysis. Data indicates that an average of 100 snags and/or live trees per hectare, are being retained after harvest through clumped retention.

Continual improvement will examine the relevance of this measure considering percent stand level retention is already measured and reported.

### Average Amount of Coarse Woody Debris per Hectare

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
<b>1-2.2, 5-1.1</b> The average amount of coarse woody debris per hectare on prescribed areas.	Sustain $\geq 4$ logs per hectare after harvesting. This will be monitored annually. (0 logs per hectare variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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Coarse woody debris (CWD) is sound or rotting logs and branches resting on the forest floor that provide habitat for plants, animals and insects. CWD can also provide vertical and horizontal structure utilized by wildlife for perching and as runways above the forest floor. It is a source of nutrients for soil development and helps to promote higher biodiversity levels in managed areas.

The target for CWD in the Vanderhoof DFA is based on Section 68 (1) of the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation of the Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA). This target will continue to be used as a default value until a localized target for the DFA can be produced. A standardized data collection and monitoring process also needs to be developed for the DFA in order to ensure more consistent reporting.

CWD targets vary amongst the licensees (due to business/operational processes), but generally CWD targets are confirmed during post harvest inspections. Present licensee reporting indicates the average amount of CWD exceeds 4 logs per hectare.

Continual improvement will involve establishing DFA specific baseline targets and viable data collection methodologies.

#### Riparian Reserves

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
1-2.3, 1-4.1 The percentage conformance with Riparian Reserve Zone (RRZ) strategy/standards.	Annually, 100% conformance with riparian reserve zone strategy/standards. (-5%variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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Riparian areas occur next to the banks of streams, lakes and wetlands and include both the area with continuous high moisture content, and the adjacent upland vegetation. Riparian areas play an important role in the biodiversity of flora and fauna and provide critical habitat, home ranges and travel corridors for wildlife. They also play an important role in conserving water quality, by reducing the risk associated with forestry activities. All streams, wetlands and lakes in or immediately adjacent to a planned harvest area are classified during site level plan preparation, based on approved Forest Stewardship Plans. Riparian management objectives are established and described within the Site Plan or road design for the proposed harvest area.

Riparian Management has been a focused discussion over the last 3 PAG meetings – March 13, 2008, November 27, 2008 and March 5, 2009. Current practices, Licensee Results and Strategies and Provincial Legislation have all been discussed at length. During the March 5, 2009 PAG meeting, PAG members were solicited for recommended changes to the SFMP development matrix (measures and targets). PAG members brought forward three items, one of which was focused around the implementation of the Vanderhoof District Draft Lakeshore Management Plan (DLMP). The LT was tasked with drafting a measure. The LT has alternatively agreed to include the DLMP as a Management Strategy within the existing measure 1-2.3 & 1-4.1 Percentage conformance with Riparian Reserve Zone strategy/standards. The LT will commit to the following:

**Annually provide the number of blocks harvested where the Riparian Reserve Zone strategies are consistent with the DLMP RRZ strategy. Where the Licensee or BCTS are not consistent with the DLMP RRZ strategy, rationale will be provided in order to address how values such as recreation opportunity, wildlife, visual quality, and biodiversity have been considered.**

A review of all Site Plans and post harvest inspections completed for blocks harvested within the DFA between April 1, 2008 and March 31, 2009 reported 100% conformance with riparian reserve zone strategies/standards (See Table 2).

**Table 2: Riparian Reserve Zone (RRZ) Strategy/Standards:**

April 1, 2008 and March 31, 2009	
Harvested Blocks with RRZ Strategies	73
Harvested Blocks in Conformance with RRZ Strategies	73
<b>% Conformance in DFA</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 3: Riparian Reserve Zone (RRZ) Strategies within the Draft Lakeshore Classification Plan**

Harvested Blocks within the DLMP RRZ	BCTS –5 Canfor - 10
Harvested Blocks consistent with DLMP RRZ Strategies	BCTS –5 Canfor –7
<b>% Conformance in DFA</b>	<b>80%</b>

#### Blocks harvested where RRZ strategy is not consistent with DLMP RRZ Strategy:

Canfor CP 47A Block 47A001 – 0.1 ha harvested within the DLMP RRZ of Duten Lake (L1-B). Visual Quality Objective is Modification and the visually altered landscape meets this definition. Species composition of this area is heavy to Pine and grey MPB attacked. Stand level retention on this block is 10.3%. Boundary is located whereby minimizing the high windthrow hazard.

Canfor CP52A Block BOBA43 0.6 ha harvested within the DLMP RRZ of Unnamed lake (L1-C). No resource users known to actively use these lakes for recreation (small narrow lake). Species composition of this area is heavy to Pine and grey MPB attacked. Stand level retention on this block is 10.5%. Boundary is located whereby minimizing the high windthrow hazard.

Canfor CP 57B Block BOBB16 0.1 ha harvested within the DLMP RRZ Foot Lake (L1-C). Stand level retention on this block is 10.0%. 50 meter area where boundary extends into the RRZ area. Windthrow hazard was moderate.

### Proportion of Shrub Habitat by NDU

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
<b>1-2.4</b> The proportion of shrub habitat (%) by Natural Disturbance Unit (NDU)	Sustain 5.7% shrub cover by NDU. This will be monitored every 5 years as per SFMP. (-0.5 % variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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Shrubs are perennial, woody, multi-stemmed plants that occur naturally in forested areas. Shrubs contribute to overall biodiversity, nutrient cycling, soil stability and provision of habitat.

The target for the proportion of shrub habitat is based on naturally occurring areas and all forested areas less than 20 years old within the DFA. The reporting period for this measure occurs every 5 years, and as such it is not scheduled for reporting until 2009/10 as per the SFMP.

Continual improvement will examine the relevance of this measure, given that the Vanderhoof DFA is in transition to early seral, due to catastrophic MPB mortality.

### Deciduous Tree Species

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
<b>1-2.5</b> The proportion of deciduous species (%) by NDU	Sustain 4.9% deciduous species by NDU. Monitor every 5 years as per SFMP (-0.5% variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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Deciduous tree species are not currently considered to be of economic importance within the DFA, however their role in providing biodiversity, foraging sites, nesting sites and substrates for invertebrates is recognized. This measure indicates the proportion of deciduous forest land base within the DFA. The Vegetation Resources Inventory (VRI) is utilized as the analysis data source. This measure is reported on a periodic basis, the next report occurring in 2009/10.

Continual improvement will examine the relevance of this measure given that harvest efforts are (and will be for some time) focused on the salvage of dead pine, not deciduous species.

### Minimum Proportion of Late Seral Forest in the DFA

Statement of Measure	Management Objectives
<b>1-2.6</b> The minimum proportion of late seral forest (%) by NDU	Sustain proportions of late seral forest percentage by NDU as per SFMP.

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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This measure is considered a "state of the forest" measure as it portrays the percentage of forested land that contains older age classes (late seral: >120 years) for the DFA. A landscape with different seral and structural stages over space and time is recognized as being vital to biodiversity.

The Landscape Objective Working Group (LOWG), which has representation from the Integrated Land Management Bureau (ILMB), the Ministry of Forests and Range (MOFR, Timber Licensees and BC Timber Sales, has developed landscape biodiversity objectives and old forest retention requirements for the Prince George Timber Supply Area, which includes the Vanderhoof DFA. The Licensee LOWG (LLOWG) collected information relating to more specific DFA data at the TSA level. Table 4 shows the current status for each Natural Disturbance Unit and the related target.

**Table 4: Late Seral Forest in the DFA and Associated Targets:  
April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009**

Natural Disturbance Unit	Merged Biogeoclimatic Units	Current Status as of March 31, 2009	Target (%)
D1 Moist Interior Mountain	ESSF mv1, ESSF mvp1, ESSF xv1	48%	>29%
D2 Moist Interior Plateau	SPBS mc	51%	>17%
D3 Moist Interior Plateau	SBS dk	32%	>17%
D4 Moist Interior Plateau	SBS dw2	34%	>12%
D5 Moist Interior Plateau	SBS dw3	33%	>17%
D6 Moist Interior Plateau	SBS mc2, MS xv	39%	>12%
D7 Moist Interior Plateau	SBS mc3	36%	>12%

\*The current status is from the LOWG Analysis Project (Nov 2009)

### Patch Size

Statement of Measure	Management Objectives
<b>1-2.7</b> The percentage area by patch size class by NDU	Achieve and sustain patch size targets by NDU as per SFMP.
Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes

A patch is defined in the SFMP as a particular unit with identifiable boundaries and different vegetation from its surroundings. Variability of patch size contributes to landscape diversity essential for meeting a variety of habitat requirements.

Patches often consist of even aged forests, resulting from natural and/or man-made disturbances.

The LOWG has developed landscape biodiversity objectives and old forest retention requirements for the Prince George Timber Supply Area, which includes the Vanderhoof DFA. Information relating to more specific DFA data was collected at the TSA level by the LLOWG. Patch size will be reported out every 5 years by the LLOWG, and the next expected report on patch size is scheduled for 2009/10.

Continual improvement will focus on the relevance of this measure given that patch size has been dictated by MPB mortality and salvage efforts are being undertaken to reduce non-recoverable losses. Current patch size targets are based generally on historic fire events, not catastrophic beetle mortality.

#### Plant Diversity Index

Statement of Measure	Management of Objective
<b>1-2.8, 1-5.2</b> The Plant Diversity Index for site association groups above the baseline target on the THLB.	Sustain the Plant Diversity Index consistent with the values identified as per SFMP

Was the Measure and Target Met?	No
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A plant diversity index is defined in the SFMP as a mathematical measure of species diversity in a plant community. Diversity of plant species directly correlates to genetic diversity within plant communities. Plant diversity indices measure the number of different species, the abundance of each different species and how rare they are.

The Plant Diversity Index (PDI) indicator originated from the need to demonstrate that forest management activities were not reducing vegetation diversity on the landbase. The program has been underway for the past eight years within the PG TSA and has evolved significantly from when it was first introduced. Until 2007, the objective of the PDI program was to evaluate whether managed stands within eight Grouped Site Associations (GSAs) were as floristically diverse as naturally regenerating stands. Past reporting has shown that, on the whole, managed stands seem to be as floristically diverse as natural stands.

Based on the previous years' data, the objectives of the 2008 PDI program were modified to evaluate the floristic diversity of three GSAs instead of the original eight. In addition, trends in harvesting and silviculture practices were investigated and their potential impacts on species diversity were examined.

**Table 5. Status of Plant Diversity Index on the DFA, as of March 31<sup>st</sup> 2009\***

Grouped Site Association (GSA)	Mean Shannon-Wiener Index (2008) 2009	New Shannon-Wiener Target*	Mean Simpson's Index (2008)	New Simpson's Target*	Mean Species Richness (2008) 2009	New Richness Target*
Bl – Oak fern	(2.578)	>2.198	(0.137)	<0.187	(37)	>31
Sb – Feathermoss	(2.618)	>1.469	(0.12)	<0.378	(36)	>21
Sxw – Devil's club	(2.699)	>2.282	(0.127)	<0.165	(46)	>34
Sxw – Horsetail	2.505	>2.239	0.135	<0.186	33	>39
Sxw – Huckleberry	2.318	>1.720	0.158	<0.276	31	>33
Sxw – Oak fern	(2.673)	>2.203	(0.121)	<0.185	(41)	>32
Sxw – Twinberry	2.447	>2.191	0.131	<0.179	32	>29
SxwFd – Princes Pine	(2.476)	>1.963	(0.146)	<0.229	(35)	>23

**For GSAs not monitored during the 2008 field season, a mean for combined 2006-2008 years was reported in brackets.**

\* Targets based on "Monitoring for Native Plant Diversity in the Prince George TSA – 2008" prepared by Timberline Natural Resource Group.

**What Happened?** The three GSAs sampled during the 2008 field season were chosen based on plot analysis suggesting that the individual plots contained in these three GSAs were relatively less diverse in managed stands than in naturally regenerating stands. The three GSAs sampled in 2008 met the Shannon-Weiner Index and the Simpson's Index target. Two of the GSAs did not meet the species richness target, as shown in the table below.

**Root Cause:** As the work around this indicator has evolved, so has a greater body of literature regarding ecosystem resilience. It has been recommended that Canfor continue with the PDI program but look at modifying the indicator to tie into the newly released CSA-Z809 standard core indicators for either ecosystem resilience or rare plants.

**Action Plan:** Until a decision has been made on how to move forward with this indicator and keep it relevant to both forest management practices and the CSA standard, Timberline has recommended that GSA monitoring be reduced to every two years to ensure that this program remains cost effective and contributes useful data on the relative plant diversity of the GSAs.

### Average Stand Level Retention for Harvested Blocks

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
1-2.9 The average stand level percentage retention for all harvested blocks by NDU.	Achieve and sustain >10% retention at the stand level by NDU as per SFMP. (0% variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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Stand level retention consists primarily of Wildlife Tree Patches (WTPs), which are defined as forested areas of timber within, or immediately adjacent to, a harvested cutblock. Residual patches of timber are generally retained for their value in providing a source of habitat, local genetic diversity, or the protection of important features. WTPs in managed stands also contribute to a landscape level, natural disturbance pattern, which mimics wildfires. A baseline target of 10% stand level retention by NDU was established for this measure.

Sources for calculating and monitoring this measure include Site Plans, EMS pre-work forms, EMS harvest inspection forms, and various licensee information tracking systems such as Genus Resources. The Vanderhoof DFA is comprised of the Moist Interior NDU, which contains the mountain sub unit and the plateau sub unit. A review of LT data demonstrates that retention at the stand level for the Moist Interior NDU is 12.2% for this reporting period, which meets the management objective.

### Develop Management Strategies for Riparian Sensitive Species

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
1-2.10 Develop "Management Strategies" for riparian sensitive species to achieve early seral deciduous conditions.	Management strategies will be developed by March 31, 2010 (+3 month variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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Timber harvesting affects the temporal and spatial distribution of seral stages. Current regulations and forest management practices within the DFA lean towards retaining areas adjacent to wetlands and riparian areas, thereby allowing for an over representation of late seral forest types. Limiting the diversity of riparian habitat through this practice could potentially diminish the abundance of riparian sensitive species. Pierre Beaudry and Associates developed a report entitled "*Management Strategies for Riparian Sensitive Species*" for the LT in March 2006. The LT through FIA, implemented phase II of the project, which involves a field analysis and sampling plan. Over the 2007 and 2008 field season sampling of the wetland riparian areas was conducted and the results of the project were presented at the March 5, 2009 PAG meeting.

The expectation of this report was that Species Diversity and abundance would be greatest in the wetlands with the largest riparian reserve. Ultimately, the results of the project were inconclusive with recommendations to no longer collect data on retention areas adjacent to wetlands. The LT has spent considerable time & FIA funding on this project but have not achieved the basis for strategy development.

The LT will propose to remove this measure from the SFMP and assign it to a continual improvement matrix.

### Stream Crossing Density by Watershed

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
1-2.11, 1-4.2 Stream crossing density by watershed. ( measured every 5 years)	Achieve and sustain ≤0.46 stream crossings per kilometer of road by watershed in the DFA (+10% variance).

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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This measure was designed to monitor the number of stream crossings in the DFA broken down by watershed. Limiting the number of stream crossings decreases the risk of water quality degradation. Water quality and conservation of aquatic habitat is fundamental to sustaining biological richness.

The LT has developed a DFA coverage to monitor and report on this measure. At the November 27, 2008 PAG meeting a Stream Crossing Analysis Update report was presented. This document compared the initial baseline targets derived in 2003 with the most current data and concluded that the initial target of stream crossings/ km of road was underestimated. The update report recommended that a new target and reporting frequency be adopted to better reflect the baseline condition within the DFA. These recommendations were accepted by the PAG with a new target of ≤0.462 (+10% variance) and reporting period of every 5 years was established. As this measure was reported out in 2007/08. There is no new data to report for this reporting period. It is anticipated that it will be reported out in 2012/13.

### Quality of Stream Crossings

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
1-2.12, 1-4.3 The percentage of stream crossings planned and installed to design/standard.	Annually, 100% of planned stream crossings will be installed as per design or prescribed standard. (-10% variance)
1-2.13, 1-4.4 The percentage of stream crossing inspections and resultant mitigation measures completed according to schedule.	Annually, 100% of mitigation measures resulting from stream crossing inspections will be completed according to schedule.(-10% variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes / Yes
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Forestry roads can have a large impact on water quality and quantity when they intersect with streams, including increasing sedimentation into water channels. The first measure involves a process to ensure stream crossings (S6 or greater) within the DFA are installed according to design or prescription standard. The second measure involves the tracking of inspections of stream crossings and the resulting mitigation measures identified. Ensuring these mitigation measures are carried out in a timely manner is important. The monitoring process for these measures includes inspections during and after installation as well as part of routine maintenance during the life of the structure. During this reporting period, a 95.8% and 91% conformance were respectively achieved for both criteria (refer to Table 6).

**Table 6: Quality of Stream Crossings in Vanderhoof DFA:  
April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009**

<b>Total Crossings Installed</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>Total Crossing with Mitigation Measures</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Total Installed to Design/ Standard</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>Total Mitigation Completed on Schedule</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>% for DFA</b>	<b>96%</b>	<b>% for DFA</b>	<b>91%</b>

**Amount of Permanent Access within the DFA**

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
<b>1-2.14, 1-4.5, 2-2.2</b> The percentage of area within the THLB with permanent access.	Every 5 years, sustain <4.2% of area within the THLB in permanent access (+1% variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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As defined in the SFMP, permanent access structures include roads, bridges, landings, gravel pits, or other similar structures that provide access for timber harvesting. Without rehabilitation work, these structures can remove area from the productive forest land base and may negatively affect water quality and quantity. The reporting for this measure is undertaken through an updated roads and landings coverage pertaining to the Timber Harvesting Land Base (THLB) of the Vanderhoof Forest District. A FIA project was completed in 2007, which updated the original 2003 roads and landings coverage utilizing 2006 data with an associated ortho-photography support layer. Applying the calculated non-productive area for roads, trails and landings to the THLB resulted in a current net down of 3.67%. Estimates of future roads, trails and landings were calculated to be 2.68%. There is no new data to report for this reporting period. It is anticipated that it will be reported out in 2012/13.

**Conformance with the Access Management Plan**

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
<b>1-2.15, 5-1.3, 9-1.3</b> The percentage conformance with the Access Management Plan	Annually, achieve 100% conformance with the Access Management Plan. (-10% variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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A new Access Management Plan was released by ILMB in March of 2008. Subsequent meetings were held between the MOFR, Licensees and BCTS over the 2008/09-year to formulate an implementation strategy. The outcome of this process was the establishment of Access Management Plan Implementation Principles. The implementation strategies contained within present an operationally feasible approach at access management. The strategies are essentially focused around communication with stakeholders as operations impact specific AMP polygons. The licensees have focused attention on the non-motorized and functionally non- roaded polygons, as well as on access control points. Table 7 identifies 100% conformance to the Access Management Plan polygons where Licensees have been actively operating.

**Table 7: Access Management Plan Conformance:  
April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009**

Access Management polygons where active operations occurred	4
Total Conformance to these Access Mgmt Polygon areas	4
Access Control Points removed and replaced	0
<b>Percentage Access Areas in Conformance in DFA</b>	<b>100%</b>

Of the 72 blocks that Canfor harvested this year, 6 different blocks landed within 3 access management polygons as identified within the new AMP.

Of the Access Control Points (11) within the Vanderhoof Forest District, no points were opened by Canfor during this period.

BCTS conducted silviculture activities within 1 SPNM polygon and harvest activities within 1 SPM polygon (only the former was reported, but operations were consistent with the plan.

**Effectiveness Monitoring Plans to Improve Access Points**

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
<b>1-2.16, 5-1.4, 9-1.2</b> Monitoring plans are developed and implemented for selected access management areas to continually improve access points.	Establish a timeline once the plan has been approved by government

Was the Measure and Target Met?	In progress
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Licensee, BCTS and Government staff are collectively reviewing the new access management plan and developing implementation strategies. Discussions have focused on obtaining objective clarity, assigning of responsibility and development of effectiveness monitoring. A timeline for this measure will be established once some form of consensus can be reached on the implementation plan. A website has been created, which allows for comments to be collected regarding the effectiveness (or ineffectiveness) of the various closure points throughout the district. MOFR staff will be responsible for maintaining this site.

#### Effectiveness Monitoring Plans for Indicator Species

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
1-3.1 Effectiveness Monitoring Plans (wildlife) are developed and implemented for selected indicator species to test management targets developed for indicators 1-1 and 1-2	Develop Effectiveness Monitoring Plans for March 31, 2011 (+3 month variance).

Was the Measure and Target Met?	In progress
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This measure is used to determine if productive populations of selected wildlife species are present and well distributed throughout their habitat within the DFA. The steps involved with developing an Effectiveness Monitoring Plan are described on pg 94 of the Vanderhoof SFMP – July 2006. (*ie: Identification of representative species, development of monitoring process, establishment of credible baseline population data, monitoring long term population changes, monitoring and sample plans, identification of logistical and statistical sampling problems, etc.*) In reviewing these steps, it is apparent to the LT that the information required in making correlations between indicator species and forest practices just does not yet exist. It is possible that this may take years to complete a project of this magnitude. The LT is committed to working towards this Effectiveness Monitoring Plan, however will propose to remove this measure from the SFMP and assign it to a continual improvement matrix.

#### Management Strategies for Species at Risk

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
1-3.3 The percentage of Species at Risk "Management Strategies" being implemented as scheduled	Annually 100% (+/-5%)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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These measures will ensure that specific management strategies are developed and implemented in order to conserve and manage specific habitat needs for all identified Species at Risk as defined by COSEWIC (Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada). Alpha Wildlife Research & Management Ltd. and Timberline Natural Resource Group Ltd. completed a report titled, *Management Guidelines for Species and Plant Communities at Risk: PG TSA – 2007*. LT members are utilizing this report and other developed planning processes to implement SAR strategies in their planning processes. Performance over the 2008/09 reporting period indicated 100% of the SAR strategies were implemented where SAR were identified.

#### Coniferous Seeds and Seedlings Planted in the DFA

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
1-5.1 The percentage of seed for coniferous species collected and seedlings planted in accordance with the Forest and Range Practices Act.	Annually, sustain 100% of seed for coniferous species collected and seedlings planted in accordance with the Forest and Range Practices Act. (-5% variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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Sustainability of genetic diversity is an important forest management consideration because harvesting and regeneration activities can interrupt the natural patterns of plant reproduction. Assurance of genetically diverse seedlings for reforestation in the Vanderhoof DFA is delivered through the requirements of legislation that regulate the forest industry's use of tree seed and planted seedlings. This measure relates to seed and seedlings used under the guidance of the Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA). Licensees are currently planting areas that fall under the guidance of both the Forest Practices Code (FPC) and FRPA. Between April 1, 2008 and March 31, 2009, 99.5% of the seedlings and seeds planted under FRPA were planted in accordance with the Chief Forester's Standards for Seed Use.

#### Site Index

Statement of Measure	Management of Objectives
2-1.1 Site index for managed stands within the THLB at the subzone level is sustained.	Sustain site index for managed stands within the THLB at the subzone level as outlined in SFMP.

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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Site index is defined in this SFMP as the height of a tree at 50 years of age. Site index is used in timber supply planning to predict future stand volume and to predict site productivity in silviculture planning. The Licensee Team will develop

procedures to extract the required data from Genus or RESULTS (MOFR corporate database) and conduct the necessary analysis to report on this measure. As the reporting period for this measure is every 5 years, there is no data to report this period and the measure will be re-visited in 2009/10.

#### Landslides

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
2-1.2 The number of hectares of landslides resulting from forestry practices.	Annually, landslide areas will be <20 cumulative hectares across the DFA.

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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As defined in this SFMP, a landslide includes a wide range of ground movement, such as rock falls, deep failure of slopes, and shallow debris flows. For the purposes of the SFMP and this measure, landslides are considered as the mass movement of soil or debris covering an area of at least 0.10 hectares in size. Maintaining a sustainable, productive forest requires that the impacts of timber harvesting do not create conditions that may initiate landslides.

During this reporting period there was no loss of area due to landslides associated with forest management activities, which meets the identified target.

Continual improvement will focus on the relevance of this measure, given the topography of the Vanderhoof Forest District and the lack of previous landslide occurrence.

#### Soil Conservation

Statement of Measure	Management Objectives
2-1.3 The percentage of blocks meeting soil conservation targets after harvesting and silviculture activities.	Annually, 100% of blocks will meet soil conservation targets after harvesting and silviculture activities. (-5% variance).

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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Some degree of soil disturbance is expected during forestry activities. However, site disturbance limits established when developing individual Site Plans ensure the disturbance is minimized. Data for this measure was collected from each Licensee Team member's Site Plans and post harvest inspection forms. During the reporting period there was 100% (post-harvest) and 100% (post-site prep) conformance to soil disturbance limits, which is within the acceptable variance level (See Table 8).

**Table 8: Soil Disturbance Targets Met After Forestry Activities:**

#### April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009

Activity	Total Number	Achieved Soil Disturbance Limits	% in DFA
Harvested Blocks	111	111	100%
Site Preparation Blocks	38	38	100%

#### Regeneration Delay Date

Statement of Measure	Management Objectives
2-3.1, 4-1.3 The percentage of harvested Standard Units meeting the regeneration delay date.	Annually, sustain 100% of harvested blocks meeting the regeneration delay date. (-5% variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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Regeneration delay is defined in the SFMP as the time allowed between the start of harvesting in an area and the date the associated Site Plan requires a minimum number of acceptable, well spaced trees per hectare to be growing in that area. Licensee Team members have reviewed all the blocks that have their regeneration commitment dates falling within this reporting period (Table 9). Milestone declarations are recorded by Standard Unit (SU), therefore data collection was changed to record the SUs that had achieved Regeneration Delay during the reporting period. The percentage of harvested SUs within the DFA meeting the regeneration delay date is 99.8 %, which is within the variance limit.

**Table 9: Regeneration Delay Date Achievement:  
April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009**

Total SUs Surveyed with Regeneration Delay Due	528
Total SUs Meeting Regeneration Delay Target	527
<b>% Blocks Meeting Regeneration Delay Target</b>	<b>99.8%</b>

#### Free Growing Date

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
2-3.2,4-1.4 The percentage of harvested Standard Units meeting the free growing assessment date.	Annually, sustain 100% of harvested blocks that meet the free growing assessment date. (-5% variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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A free growing stand is defined in the SFMP as a stand of healthy trees of a commercially valuable species, the growth of which is not impeded by competition from plants, shrubs or other trees. Once harvested areas reach the free to grow

standard, the area reverts back to Crown land and Licensee obligations are considered complete. Achieving free to grow status demonstrates the LT's efforts to sustain the productive capability of forest ecosystems. Table 10 summarizes all harvested areas within the DFA that had a free growing due date between April 1, 2008 and March 31, 2009. Milestone declarations are recorded by Standard Unit (SU), as such, the data collection was changed to record those SUs achieving Free Growing status during the reporting period. In total, 95.7% of harvested areas achieved free to grow status within the specified timeline, which meets the management objective for this measure.

**Table 10: Harvested Areas Meeting Free Growing Status Assessment Date: April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009**

Number of SUs with Free Growing Due Dates	223
Number of SUs Achieving Free Growing Status	233
<b>Total Overall Percentage in DFA</b>	<b>95.7%</b>

10 standard units within 5 different blocks within Canfors operating area missed the late free growing date, however these blocks have plans in place for brushing, restocking, and resurveying.

**Active Research Plots Protected from Forestry Activities**

Statement Of Measure	Management Objective
<b>2-4.1</b> The percentage of active research plots protected from harvesting and silviculture activities.	Sustain 100% of established, active research plots protected from harvesting and silviculture activities. (-10% variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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Research and development is important to the maintenance of the long-term capacity of forest ecosystems within the DFA. Harvesting and other forest management activities can impact forest research projects. This measure was designed to ensure the protection of established research plots by spatially identifying their locations and excluding them from forest management planning areas.

The Forest Analysis and Inventory Branch of the MOFR have created digital coverage, indicating the location of permanent and temporary research plots within the DFA. This research plot coverage has subsequently been added to each licensee's planning platform and is utilized to mitigate potential impacts from harvesting, road building and silviculture activities. The Integrated Land Management Bureau's Land and Resource Data Warehouse (LRDW) is the custodian to this layer and it serves as an accessible update source.

For the reporting period of April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009, 100% of the active research plots established in the DFA have not been impacted by the LT.

Continual improvement will focus on the relevance of this measure given that MOFR will not process harvest authorities in conflict with research plots.

**Total Forest Land and Water Bodies**

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
<b>3-1.1</b> The percentage area change of total forested land	Sustain 0% area change of total forested land. This will be measured at each Timber Supply Analysis period. (+/- 2% variance)
<b>3-1.2</b> The percentage area change of water bodies	Sustain 0% area change of water bodies. This will be measured at each Timber Supply Analysis period. (+/- 2% variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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The first measure determines the area that is physically converted from forested land and removed from the THLB as a result of permanent access or other development. The second measure addresses the change in water bodies across the DFA and helps to ensure that water features are sustained over time. Poor management of forest land adjacent to water bodies could potentially affect the size of water bodies. As the reporting period for each of these measures is every 5 years, there is no new data available for this reporting period. These measures will be reviewed in conjunction with a new Timber Supply Analysis, which is to be completed in the fall of 2009/10.

Continual improvement will focus on the relevance of these measures given that % permanent access is already reported and additional deletions to total forested lands and changes to water bodies are outside the control of the LT.

**Development of a Carbon Monitoring Plan**

Statement of Measure	Management of Objective
<b>3-2.1</b> Carbon Monitoring Plan is developed and implemented for forest ecosystem biomass and carbon pools.	Develop and implement a Carbon Monitoring Plan by December, 31, 2009 (+3 month variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	In progress
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The capability of the forest to sequester carbon is an important environmental value and relates to two CSA SFM elements (Carbon Uptake & Storage and Forest Land Conversion).

The LT has yet to develop a Carbon Monitoring Plan within the DFA, however both Canfor and BCTS are actively involved in developing corporate carbon models and taking steps towards mitigating the impacts of climate change.

The DFA is experiencing unprecedented pine mortality due to MPB infestation and instead of acting as a carbon sink, its pine dominated forests will soon become carbon sources through decomposition. Thus the LT deems it more appropriate to assess forest carbon uptake and storage through indirect measures, as opposed to complicated direct measurements warranted through complex monitoring plans.

The LT will recommend that this measure as it is written is removed from the SFMP and replaced by three indirect measures pertaining to carbon uptake and storage already within the plan (2-3.1, 2-3.2, 1-2.14).

#### Utilization of Residual Wood

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
<b>3-2.2</b> The percentage of blocks where a portion of the residual wood is utilized or left on block to contribute to other values.	Sustain $\geq$ 5% of blocks where a portion of the residual wood is utilized or left on block. (-5% variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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This measure was designed to promote the utilization of residual post harvest wood fiber. Examples of utilization include CWD piles left onsite for small mammal habitat, firewood and production of other forest products such as fence posts or biomass for wood pellets. Strategies for residual wood use or strategies for residual wood to be left on site are contained in Site Plans. Post harvest inspections are then utilized to ensure Site Plan objectives are met on all harvested blocks. During the April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009 reporting period, 0.9% of the total blocks harvested had a portion of the residual wood utilized or left on site to contribute to other values (See Table 11). BCTS had one block that was harvested, piled and chipped. This volume of chips was delivered to Prince George Pulp Mills.

**Table 11: Proportion of Blocks Harvested with Residual Wood Utilized: April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009**

Number of Blocks Harvested	111
Number of Harvested Blocks with CWD piles retained for residual wood utilization or left to contribute to other values	1
<b>Total Overall Percent in DFA</b>	<b>0.9%</b>

#### Annual Volume Harvested by Licensee Team

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
<b>4-1.1, 4-4.1</b> Annually, total volume (m3/ha) of timber harvested in the DFA (Actual)	Sustain a harvest volume of 3,500,000 m3/year until 2009. (+/-1,000,000 m3 /year variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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To be considered sustainable, harvesting a renewable resource cannot deteriorate the resource on an ecological, economic or social basis. In the summer of 2004 the Chief Forester completed an expedited Timber Supply Review (TSR) to re-determine the Allowable Annual Cut (AAC) for the Prince George TSA, which includes the Vanderhoof Forest District. This review was initiated in order to address the severe mountain pine beetle infestation that currently exists. The actual recorded cut for the Vanderhoof DFA during the current reporting period is 2,802,830 m3, which meets the management objective for this measure.

The total stumpage paid within the Vanderhoof Forest district in this reporting period is \$4,894,444, including all tenure types (MOFR report).

#### Total Projected Long Term Timber Supply

Statement of Measure	Management Objectives
<b>4-1.2, 4-4.2</b> Total projected timber supply (m3/year)	2,570,000 m3/year (+/- 257,000m3/year variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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Initial data for this measure was produced through the forecasting process developed by Forest Ecosystem Solutions Ltd. An updated harvest forecast was completed in January 2008. The 2008 analysis incorporated the updated depletions and utilized mountain pine beetle data and projections (version BCMPBv4, 2007). The harvest forecast predicts the initial harvest level of 5.5M m3/year can be maintained for only 5 years and then it must be reduced to 1.6M m3 at year 6 and to 1.3M m3 at year 11. This harvest level will be maintained for 80 years and then increase to the long-term harvest level of 2.6 M m3/ year.

The LT will recommend that this measure is removed from the SFMP, since it is out of their control to determine AAC. It will be reported out for information purposes only under 4-1.1.

#### North Central Interior Economic Contribution to Forestry in DFA

Statement of Measure	Management Objectives
<b>4-2.1</b> The percentage of money spent on forest operations and	Annually, sustain $\geq$ 80% of the money spent on forest operations and

management on the DFA provided from the suppliers of the North Central Interior (NCI). (stumpage is not included)	management from the North Central Interior. (-5% variance)
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Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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This measure is calculated through a comparison of the dollar value of goods and services invested locally to the total dollar value of goods and services invested. Forest management activities provide substantial socio-economic benefits to local communities. As such, local forest related businesses should be able to benefit from the work that is required in the management of the forest resource in the DFA. The percentage of money spent on forest operations within the North Central Interior (NCI) when weighted by the volume harvested by licensee was 96%, by those LT members who collected the data for this reporting period, which achieves the target for this measure.

**Forest Road Maintained for Public Use**

Statement of Measure	Management Objectives
<b>4-2.4, 9-1.4</b> The number of kilometers of forest road maintained annually for public use.	Maintain $\geq$ 300 km of forest road for public use. (-30km variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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This measure is a general indicator of the amount of forest road maintained that provides public access benefits to the DFA forest resource. A balance must be met between the value of access to the forest resource, the social cost or benefit, and the ecological cost or benefit. Each year, the Licensee Team members review active forest roads to ensure they are in good working condition. A summary from Licensees indicates 335 km of mainline forest road was maintained during the reporting period, which achieves the stated target for this measure.

**Support Opportunities in the DFA**

Statement of Measure	Management Objectives
<b>4-2.5, 6-1.5, 9-5.1</b> Annually, the number of support opportunities provided in the DFA.	Annually, sustain $\geq$ 100 support opportunities in the DFA (-25 variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	No
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This measure indicates how the Licensee Team members provide economic and social benefits to the public over and above wages, taxes and stumpage fees. Support opportunities for this reporting period were tracked by each Licensee Team member and are recorded in Table 12. A total of 23 support opportunities were provided, which is well below the target for this measure. The LT reviewed the target for this measure and the variance was adjusted to -25 at the November 27, 2009 meeting.

<b>What Happened?</b> Licensees and BCTS are not in a financial position to offer extensive donations, nor are they able to extend staff and product resources to the community at this time. Of the 23 donations recorded at this time, the amount of some of these donations is considerable.
<b>Root Cause:</b> Lumber market conditions.
<b>Action Plan:</b> The LT will recommend review of this target, given the change in SFMP signatories.

**Table 12: The Number of Support Opportunities Provided in the DFA:**

**April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009**

Support Opportunity	Number of Opportunities
Cash Donations	8
Product Donations	2
Resource and Worker Donations	4
Employee Donations	1
Community Events	8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23</b>

**Business Opportunities with First Nations**

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
<b>4-3.1</b> Annually, the number of business relationships and opportunities made available and taken up.	Sustain $\geq$ 20 business relationships or opportunities annually (-10 variance).

Was the Measure and Target Met?	No
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Business relationships, opportunities and cooperative working arrangements with local Aboriginal people provides mutual social, cultural and economic benefits and is an important component in the success of the SFMP. A business relationship, in the context of this measure, is defined as a financial arrangement between a

local First Nation, or a person from a local First Nation and a member of the Licensee Team. It was agreed at the November 27, 2008 PAG meeting to adjust the target and variance for this measure. A total of 6 business relationships and 1 business opportunities with local First Nations were recorded during April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009. This does not meet the target for this measure (See Table 13).

**Table 13: The Number of Business Relationships and Opportunities Made Available and Taken Up by First Nations: April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009**

Business Type	Number of Business Relationships	Number of Business Opportunities	Total
Forest Management	1	0	
Silviculture	1	1	
Harvesting	4	0	
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>

**What Happened?** Canfor deferred a number of its planting and brushing contracts for a year as a cost deferral measure. As such, the number of business opportunities is way down from previous years. BCTS excludes competitively advertised Timber Sales Licences and Contract Opportunities from this measure.

**Root Cause:** Lumber Market Conditions

**Action Plan:** The LT recommend that this measure and the associated target be re-examined, given the change in SFMP signatories.

**DFA Managed Under an Emergency Response Plan**

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
<b>4-5.1, 9-4.3</b> The percentage of the operating area managed under an Emergency Response Plan.	Annually, sustain 100% of the operating area managed under an Emergency Response Plan. (-5% variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met? Yes

Although fire is part of the natural disturbance pattern in the Vanderhoof DFA, fires that burn out of control have the potential to negatively impact the forest industry, local economy, community stability and other resource values. Current certification systems require Licensees harvesting within the DFA to complete an Emergency Response Plan, which ultimately contains the equivalent of a Fire Preparedness Plan. Of the licensees reporting during this reporting period, all of their operations were managed under an Emergency Response Plan.

Continual improvement will evaluate the relevance of this measure, given that an Emergency Response Plan is a mandatory component of an Environmental Management System.

**Accidental Forest Industry Related Fires**

Statement of Measure	Management Objectives
<b>4-5.2</b> The number of hectares of accidental forest industry operational related fires.	Annually, sustain < 100 cumulative hectares of accidental forest industry operational related fires. (+ 10 hectare variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met? Yes

This measure accounts for losses attributed to accidentally caused industrial forest fires. The Licensee Team has discussed the tracking of this DFA measure with the Ministry of Forests and Range Protection Branch in Vanderhoof. Currently, forest protection maintains a database that tracks all fires within the DFA in detail. It was decided that this dataset offers the most consistent method of reporting industrial caused fires within the DFA. For the reporting period of April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009, 9.3 hectares of timber or plantation were lost due to accidental forest industry related fires. This is within the measures target.

**Management Strategies for Damaging Agents**

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
<b>4-5.4</b> The percentage of management strategies in place and implemented to reduce the impact of damaging events or agents (i.e. annual harvest targeted toward MPB)	Implement 100% of management strategies developed to reduce the impact of damaging events or agents. (0% variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met? Yes

Damaging agents can be considered as biotic or abiotic factors (e.g. fire, wind, and insects) that reduce the value of commercial stands of timber. Within the DFA, mountain pine beetle impacts far outweigh the combined losses caused by all other damaging agents. Control efforts to address this destructive pest are not practical at this stage of the epidemic. A range of management strategies to mitigate the impact of standing timber mortality has been developed by the LT.

It is not expected that all Licensees within the DFA will implement all management strategies. Licensees will have to assess those that are applicable based on operating area, stage or incidence of infestation on the landscape, business practices, etc. Thus, reporting on this measure reflects the percentage of

applicable management strategies implemented by the various licensees, which for the current reporting period is 100%.

### Conservation of Cultural Features

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
<b>5-1.5, 9-3.1</b> The percentage of Site Plans conserving unique or significant identified cultural features.	Annually, sustain 100% of the Site Plans that conserve unique or significant cultural features when they are identified. (0% variance)
<b>5-1.6, 9-3.2</b> The percentage of forest management operations consistent with the conservation of unique or significant identified cultural features	Annually, sustain 100% consistency between forest management operations and the strategies identified in the Site Plan to conserve cultural or significant features (-5 variance).

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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The protection and maintenance of culturally unique or significant features gives assurance that these values will be identified, assessed and archived for future generations. These measures ensure that all Site Plans have identified such features and have strategies that are implemented to ensure features are conserved. A review of all Licensee Team Site Plans with identified cultural features revealed 100% conformance to both measures during the reporting period.

The LT will recommend that measure (5-1.5 and 9-3.1) is removed from the plan.

### Conservation of Range Resources

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
<b>5-1.7</b> The percentage of Site Plans conserving range resources for those areas that have been identified range resources.	Annually, sustain 100% of the Site Plans that conserve range resources when they are identified. (0% variance)
<b>5-1.8</b> The percentage of forest management operations consistent with the conservation of range resources identified in Site Plans.	Annually, sustain 100% consistency between forest management operations and the strategies identified in the Site Plan to conserve range resources. (-5% variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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Range resources can include grazing or hay cutting permits, or areas with potential for these ventures. These measures ensure that range areas are

identified, have Site Plan strategies developed and that these strategies are adhered to. The data for these measures was collated and reported by each Licensee Team member. During the reporting period of April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009 the management objectives were achieved on both measures (100%).

The LT will recommend that measure 5-1.7 is removed from the plan.

### Conservation of Riparian Values

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
<b>5-1.9</b> The percentage of Site Plans conserving riparian values for those areas that have identified riparian values.	Annually, sustain 100% of the Site Plans that conserve riparian values when they are identified in the plan. (0% variance)
<b>5-1.10</b> The percentage of forest management operations consistent with the conservation of riparian values identified in the Site Plan.	Annually, sustain 100% consistency between forest management operations and the strategies identified in the Site Plan to conserve riparian values. (-5% variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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Riparian values can be important to ecological values such as vegetation, water quality, soil protection and wildlife habitat. Riparian areas are identified within the Site Plan and strategies are developed therein. There is a legal obligation to adhere to the strategies listed in the Site Plan with inspections occurring during harvesting and silviculture activities to document this. During this reporting period there was 100% conformance to SPs conserving riparian values and there was 100% conformance to harvest operations being consistent with the Site Plan's riparian strategies

The LT will recommend that measure 5-1.9 is removed from the plan.

### Visual Quality Objectives and Conservation of Scenic Areas

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
<b>5-1.11, 9-2.1</b> The percentage of Site Plans within a scenic area that meet Visual Quality Objectives (VQOs)	Annually, sustain 100% of the Site Plans that are within a scenic area and meet Visual Quality Objectives (0% variance)
<b>5-1.12, 9-2.2</b> The percentage of forest management operations which are consistent with the conservation of Visual Quality Objectives identified in the Site Plan	Annually, sustain 100% consistency between forest management operations and the strategies identified in the Site Plan to conserve Visual Quality Objectives. (-5% variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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Visual Quality Objectives (VQOs) are defined in the SFMP as resource management objectives that have been established by the District Manager, or are contained in higher level plans.

Data summaries of Licensee Team Site Plans and a summary of the number of forestry management operations that were consistent with the VQO strategies were collected. 100% of the Site Plans had strategies to meet related VQO objectives and 100% of the forest management operations were consistent with the Site Plan objectives for the VQO. Two cut blocks were developed prior to the scenic area designation and thus related Site Plans did not contain strategies to meet the subsequent VQO.

The LT will recommend that measure (5-1.11 and 9-2.1) is removed from the plan.

#### Local Business Relationships and Available Opportunities

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
<b>6-1.3</b> Annually, the number of business relationships and opportunities made available and taken up within the DFA.	Sustain > 100 business relationships or opportunities annually within the DFA. (-20 variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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A business relationship, in the context of this measure, is defined as a financial arrangement between a local business, or a person from a local community and a member of the Licensee Team. An opportunity is defined as a reasonable chance to form a business relationship. A business relationship does not directly relate to the number of contracts administered, as one particular business relationship may be facilitated through a number of contracts covering a variety of projects. To monitor and report on this measure, the Licensee Team members tallied the number of business relationships and opportunities that were formed with local residents or businesses between April 1, 2008 and March 31, 2009. The Licensee Team is within the target and variance for this measure (See Table 13).

**Table 13: The Number of Local Business Relationships and Opportunities Made Available and Taken Up: April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009**

Type of Business or Opportunity	Number of Relationships	Number of Opportunities	Total for Measure
<b>Forestry Management</b>	16	10	26
<b>Silviculture</b>	4	12	16
<b>Harvesting/ Road</b>	18	26	44

<b>Construction</b>			
<b>Total</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>86</b>

#### Research and Development Projects or Partnerships within the DFA

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
<b>6-1.4</b> The number of research and development projects and/or partnerships completed within the DFA	Annually, sustain $\geq 3$ research and development opportunities within the DFA (-1 variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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SFM system requirements are based on adaptive management and continual improvement, which can both be guided through the specific results of research and development projects or partnerships conducted within the DFA. Research and development initiatives also provide direct economic benefits to communities within the DFA. The target for this measure was achieved for the collaborative Licensee Team during this reporting period (See Table 14).

**Table 14: The Number of Research and Development Projects and/or Partnerships within the DFA: April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009**

Research and Development Projects	Total Number
<b>Biodiversity Projects</b>	6
<b>Silviculture Projects</b>	0
<b>Forest Product Research and Development</b>	2
<b>Total Number</b>	<b>8</b>

#### Number of Different Forest Products Produced within the DFA

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
<b>6-1.7, 9-5.2</b> The number of different forest products produced within the DFA	Annually, sustain $\geq 9$ different forest products produced within the DFA. (-2 variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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Diversification of forest products improves any local economy through increased employment and decreased dependence on a single market. The ability of a value added manufacturer to sustain operations is often dependent upon the availability of raw material from dimensional lumber mills. Licensee Team members provide dimensional lumber products and help to supply value-added manufacturers with raw materials for production. These provisions maintain stability and sustainability of socio-economic factors within the DFA. Licensee Team members have

reported the production of 16 different products from April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009. There is no change from the previous reporting period.

**Number of Public Advisory Group Meetings per Year**

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
7-1.1 The number of Public Advisory Group (PAG) meetings per year.	Annually, sustain $\geq 2$ PAG meetings per year. (-1 variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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The Vanderhoof PAG members represent diverse interests, values and specific uses of the forest resource within the DFA. The PAG provided initial input into the development of the SFMP by identifying local issues and values to consider during management and planning processes. The PAG will continue to provide guidance, input and evaluation throughout the life of the SFMP. This measure provides information regarding how often the Licensee Team provided the opportunity for the PAG to meet. The PAG met 2 times during the reporting period, which meets the identified target (See Table 15).

**Table 15: Vanderhoof Sustainable Forest Management Plan  
Public Advisory Group Meetings: April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009**

Date	Location
November 27, 2008	Village Inn
March 5, 2009	Village Inn
<b>Total Number of Meetings</b>	<b>2</b>

**The Level of Satisfaction of the Public Advisory Group**

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
7-1.2 Measure the level of satisfaction of the PAG members with the SFMP process, annually.	Annually, sustain a satisfaction index level of $\geq 4$ (-0.5 variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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As mentioned in the previous measure, the PAG is one of the key elements for public involvement in the sustainable forest management process. This measure provides the Licensee Team with an analysis tool to gauge how well the public participation process is working. On March 5, 2009 four members of the PAG completed the satisfaction survey. The average level of satisfaction was 4.1, which meets the target for this measure.

**Maintenance and Review of the PAG Terms of Reference**

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
7-1.3 Maintain and review the SFM plan PAG Terms of Reference (TOR) every 2 years to ensure a credible and transparent process.	The PAG TOR will be reviewed every 2 years to ensure a credible and transparent process. This will be monitored every 2 years. (0% variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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Each member of the PAG must be able to have effective and fair interaction or communication with one another and the Licensee Team members to ensure all identified values receive sufficient input from the PAG representatives. The PAG Terms of Reference underwent review over the course of this reporting period with the Public Advisory Group and the Licensee Team both approving the Terms of Reference on November 27, 2008.

**Percent of Timely Responses to Written and Documented Concerns**

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
7-1.4 Percent of timely responses to written public concerns regarding forest management planning and related practices.	Annually, sustain 100% of timely responses to all written and documented concerns. (-10% variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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Members of the Licensee Team solicit feedback on all public plans and receive ongoing general feedback regarding forest practices and management of the DFA. Public involvement is an important aspect of the SFM process, therefore it is the Licensee Team's responsibility to provide meaningful and effective opportunities to incorporate public input into the SFMP and respond to public concerns. A review of questions raised with regard to public plans and the number of responses put forth by members of the Licensee Team was analyzed for the reporting period and 100% of responses were completed in a timely fashion (i.e. within 30 days).

**The Level of Stakeholder Satisfaction with Forest Management**

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
7-1.5, 8-1.3 Through an ongoing survey (at least every 3 yrs) measure the level of satisfaction of residents, stakeholders and Aboriginal groups with the forest management processes and outcomes.	Sustain a satisfaction index of $\geq 4$ (-0.5 variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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A survey to measure resident, stakeholder and First Nation satisfaction was adopted from UBC entitled the “Sustainable Forest Management Public Opinion Survey”, with the results of the survey summarized in the March 31, 2007 report, which demonstrated that the target for this measure had been met. On November 27, 2008 Howie Harshaw of UBC, presented the results of the late fall 2006 Public Opinion survey. It was recommended by the PAG, that this survey be re-issued and results compared from 2006 to 2009. The FIA project to re-issue the survey was completed in March 2009 and the continuing project to compare and contrast these survey results will be completed as FIA deliverables in March 2010. The results of the survey and related analysis will be reported out to the PAG at that time. This measure is to be reported every three years.

Continual improvement will examine the intent of this survey and its related target. The nature of the survey, analysis and rollout is not consistent with a numerical satisfaction index. The LT envisions this survey as a means of assisting the PAG to focus and prioritize continual improvement within the DFA.

#### Opportunities for Proactive Public Involvement in Planning Processes

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
7-1.6 The number and variety of effective opportunities and rate of responses given to the residents and stakeholders to express forestry related concerns and be proactively involved in the planning processes (i.e. FSP, harvest and road schedules).	Annually, sustain $\geq$ 24 opportunities (-4 variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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The Licensee Team considers public values, interests and uses in all aspects of forest management. Providing effective opportunities for public input in the forest management process ensures that information is exchanged between Forest Licensees and members of the public. Each Licensee Team member compiled data for this measure for the period of April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009. Table 16 provides a summary of this measure, demonstrating conformance with providing opportunities. The Licensee Team has accounted for the number of responses with respect to the number of opportunities provided. The rate of responses varied across the opportunity types.

Continual improvement will examine the LT performance relative to this target and recommend revision to the target if warranted.

**Table 16: Effective Opportunities Given to the Public to Express Forestry Management Concerns: April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009**

Description of Opportunity	Opportunities (Responses)
Open Houses	0
Individual Meetings	9
Letters	43
Newspaper Advertisements	3
Other	28
<b>Total</b>	<b>83</b>

#### Public Review of SFM Plan

Statement of Measure	Management Objectives
7-2.1 The number of times the SFMP and associated annual reports will be communicated to the public for review and comment annually.	Annually, the SFMP and associated annual reports will be communicated to the public $\geq$ 1 time (0 variance).

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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This measure is one of a group of measures that will help to increase the overall understanding of sustainable forest management. The current SFMP is available for the public to view at Canfor’s website ([www.canfor.com](http://www.canfor.com)) and the BCTS certification website ([www.for.gov.bc.ca/bcts/areas/TSN\\_certification.htm](http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/bcts/areas/TSN_certification.htm)).

#### SFM Extension Activities

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
7-2.2 The number of opportunities provided for SFM extension activities per year.	Annually, sustain $\geq$ 4 sustainable forest management extension opportunities. (-1 variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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The goal of this measure is to increase the collective understanding of SFM by both the forest industry and the public. SFM extension activities that occurred during the reporting period included Project Forest Management at Echo Lake Bible Camp, the BCTS-TSN Certification website, Canfor external website and certification initiatives posting, MOFR office - SFM BCTS EMS Field Manuals, Booklets & Staff Guides, the BCTS SFM Booth at Forest Expo, 2 different PAG meeting Presentations on completed FIA projects, and the Riverside Park Wildlife Detective Event. These 7 sustainable forest management extension activities exceed the target for this measure.

### Increase the Level of Understanding of SFM Annually

Statement of Measure	Management Objectives
7-2.3 Increase the level of understanding of sustainable forest management annually.	Sustain an understanding index of $\geq 4$ with survey results. (-0.5 variance), measured every three years.

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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A survey to measure resident, stakeholder and First Nation satisfaction was adopted from UBC entitled the “Sustainable Forest Management Public Opinion Survey”, with the results of the survey summarized in the March 31, 2007 report, which demonstrated that the target for this measure had been met. On November 27, 2008 Howie Harshaw of UBC, presented the results of the late fall 2006 Public Opinion survey. It was recommended by the PAG, that this survey be reissues and results compared from 2006 to 2009. The FIA project to reissue the survey was completed in March 2009 and the continuing project to compare and contrast these survey results will be completed in March 2010. This will be reported out to the PAG at this time.

The LT will recommend that measure 7-2.3 is removed from the plan, since it is a duplicate of measure 7-1.5 and 8-1.3.

### Opportunities for First Nations to be Involved in the Planning Process

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
8-1.1, 8-3.1 The number of opportunities provided to Aboriginal people to be involved in planning processes and/or to provide input on operational plans related to Traditional Use.	Annually, sustain $\geq 12$ opportunities for Aboriginal people to be involved in the planning process. (-2 variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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Incorporation of Aboriginal people and their unique perspective into the forest planning process is an important aspect of sustainable forest management. Table 17 lists the opportunities provided by the members of the Licensee Team during the current reporting period.

Continual improvement will examine LT past performance relative to this measure and recommend revision to the target if warranted.

**Table17: Opportunities for Aboriginal People to be Involved in the Planning Process: April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009**

Opportunity Type	Number of Opportunities
Open House	0
Letters	50
Newspaper Advertisements	3
Pest Management Prescriptions	0
Individual Meetings	5
Other (FSP Referrals)	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>62</b>

### Review of PAG Terms of Reference to Recognize Aboriginal Treaty Rights

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
8-1.2 The SFMP PAG Terms of Reference will be reviewed annually to recognize that Aboriginal participation in the public process will not prejudice Aboriginal treaty rights.	Annually, the PAG Terms of Reference will be reviewed to ensure that the public process will not prejudice Aboriginal treaty rights 100% (0% variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met?	Yes
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As previously indicated, the PAG Terms of Reference underwent review over the course of this reporting period. This review also ensured that Aboriginal participation in the public process did not prejudice Aboriginal Treaty Rights. The Public Advisory Group and the Licensee Team Members both approved the new Terms of Reference on November 27, 2009.

The LT will recommend that measure 8-1.2 is removed from the plan, since not prejudicing Aboriginal Treaty Rights is an integral component of the PAG TOR, which is reviewed every 2 years under measure 7-1.3.

### Number of Socio-economic Opportunities Available to Aboriginal Persons

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
8-2.1 The number of socio-economic opportunities afforded to the First Nations annually.	Annually, sustain $\geq 10$ (-2 variance) socio-economic opportunities.

Was the Measure and Target Met?	No
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Providing business relationships, opportunities and cooperative working arrangements with Aboriginal people will help to provide mutual social, cultural and economic benefits to communities within the DFA. Licensee Team members tracked the opportunities made available and any achievements realized

throughout the reporting period. Table 18 lists the results of this tracking and demonstrates conformance with the target for this measure.

The LT will recommend that measure 8-2.1 is removed from the plan, since it is a duplicate of measure 4-3.1.

**Table 18: The Number of Socio-Economic Opportunities made Available to Aboriginal People: April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009**

Opportunity Type	Number of Opportunities
Training and Extension	0
Forest Management Employment	1
Silviculture Employment	2
Harvesting Employment	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>

**What Happened?** See detail in measure 4-3.1.

**Number of Forestry Management Operation Lost Time Accidents**

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
<b>9-4.1</b> The number of company related forestry management operation lost time accidents each year.	Annually, Zero lost time company related forest management accidents (+2 variance).

Was the Measure and Target Met? Yes

The health and safety of forest workers and members of the public is an important quality of life objective that is essential to sustainable forest management. The data for this measure is a summary of Licensee Team member's EMS incident tracking. This review showed that zero lost time accidents were recorded from April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009 within the DFA.

The LT will recommend this measure is removed from the SFMP, since the LT is safe company certified and the data associated with this measure is better obtained from that source.

**Forest Road Inspections that Meet Defined Safety Standards**

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
<b>9-4.2</b> The percentage of road inspections meeting defined safety standards.	Annually, sustain 100% of road inspections that meet defined safety standards. (-2 % variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met? Yes

Road safety involves maintaining road surfaces and access structures such as bridges at required safety standards. Licensee Team members reviewed Road inspection reports in order to identify safety issues. In respect of those road inspections undertaken during the reporting period, 98% met the defined safety standards. Provincial initiatives are currently underway to collectively address road safety issues through the establishment of district road safety committees. Expectations are that this initiative will begin locally in 2009.

The LT will recommend this measure is removed from the SFMP, since the LT is safe company certified and the data associated with this measure is better obtained from that source.

**DFA Prescribed Burns that Follow Smoke Management Guidelines**

Statement of Measure	Management Objective
<b>9-4.4</b> The percentage of prescribed burns that follow the smoke management guidelines.	Annually, sustain 100% of prescribed burns that follow the smoke management guidelines. (-10% variance)

Was the Measure and Target Met? Yes

Members of the Vanderhoof PAG identified smoke management as a public concern and a potential area of improvement for members of the Licensee Team. Smoke produced through forest management activities occurs during prescribed burning events and is regulated by management guidelines found in the Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation of the Environmental Management Act, 2003. Each Licensee Team member reported the results for adherence to the smoke management guidelines. Results show that all of the prescribed burns that occurred between April 1, 2008 and March 31, 2009 adhered to the smoke management guidelines.