



## **Forest Stewardship Plan**

2019 - 2024

Kaslo & District Community Forest Society  
Community Forest Agreement K3C

in the  
Selkirk Resource District

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**1. SIGNATURES**

**Signature of the Person Required to Prepare this FSP:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Steve Anderson, Chairperson  
Kaslo and District Community Forest Society

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature and Seal of Preparing Registered Professional Forester:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeff Reyden, RPF #4897

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*"I certify that the work described herein fulfills the standards expected of a member of the Association of British Columbia Forest Professionals."*

## 2 INTERPRETATION

### 2.1 Definitions under Acts and Regulations

Unless specifically indicated otherwise, terms used in this Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP) have the same meaning as they are defined in relevant British Columbia acts and regulations.

### 2.2 Definitions Specific to this FSP

**“FRPA Value”** means one or more of the following:

- (a) Soils
- (b) Visual quality
- (c) Timber
- (d) Forage and associated plant communities
- (e) Water
- (f) Fish
- (g) Wildlife
- (h) Biodiversity
- (i) Recreation resources
- (j) Resource features
- (k) Cultural heritage resources

**“Primary Forest Activities”** means timber harvesting and/or road construction and deactivation.

**“Qualified Professional”** means a person deemed by the Kaslo and District Community Forest Society (KDCFS) to be qualified, in terms of appropriate levels of education, training, and experience (skill sets), to conduct the activities describe. Where the activities fall within the scope of practice of members of a professional regulatory body this person will be a Qualified Registered Professional.

**“Qualified Registered Professional”** means a person who:

- (a) In the opinion of the KDCFS, has the appropriate education, training and experience to carry out the activity; and
- (b) Is a member of, or is licensed by, a regulatory body in British Columbia that has the legislated authority to regulate its members’ performance of the activity.

**“Reasonable opportunity for review and comment”** means a written referral (either mailed or sent electronically) or advertisement, provided by the KDCFS with a specified time (generally either 30 or 60 days) allowed for providing comments in order for comments to be considered.

## 2.3 Objectives, Results, Strategies and Measures

The Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA) requires that a FSP specify results or strategies in relation to objectives set by government and specify measures related to invasive plants and natural range barriers. With regard to these requirements, the following interpretations have been used in the preparation of this FSP:

**“Objective”** means an objective that is set by government, in legally established land use plans, in regulation, or enabled through regulation, for managing and protecting forest and range values.

**“Result”** means a description of measurable or verifiable outcomes for a particular established objective and the situations or circumstances that determine where the outcomes will be applied.

**“Strategy”** means a description of measurable or verifiable steps or practices that will be carried out to meet a particular established objective, and the situations or circumstances that determine where the steps or practices will be applied.

**“Measure”** means a course of action taken or planned to achieve a particular purpose. With regards to FSP’s, measures must be specified to (1) prevent the introduction or spread of invasive plants and (2) mitigate the effect of removing or rendering ineffective natural range barriers. Measures are intended to be reasonable and appropriate when considering what is likely to be effective and what is practicable.

**“Measurable”** means with respect to Results and Strategies to be able to be measured, qualified or calculated.

**“Verifiable”** means with respect to Results and Strategies to be able to be verified, proven, authenticated or demonstrated.

## 2.4 Common Acronyms Used in this FSP and in forestry

**BEC:** Biogeoclimatic Ecosystem Classification

**CHR:** Cultural Heritage Resource

**DDM:** Designated Decision Maker

**FDU:** Forest Development Unit

**FPC:** Forest Practices Code of BC Act

**FPPR:** Forest Planning and Practices Regulation

**FRPA:** Forest and Range Practices Act

**FRR:** Forest Recreation Regulation

**FSP:** Forest Stewardship Plan

**GAR:** Government Actions Regulation

**GWM:** General Wildlife Measure

**KBHLPO:** Kootenay-Boundary Higher Level Plan Order

**KDCFS:** Kaslo and District Community Forest Society

**LU:** Landscape Unit

**MFLNRORD:** Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

**NDT:** Natural Disturbance Type

**OGMA:** Old Growth Management Area

**QRP:** Qualified Registered Professional

**RMZ:** Riparian Management Zone  
**RP:** Road Permit  
**RPF:** Registered Professional Forester  
**RRZ:** Riparian Reserve Zone  
**SAR:** Species at Risk  
**SU:** Standards Unit  
**TSA:** Timber Supply Area  
**UWR:** Ungulate Winter Range  
**VIA:** Visual Impact Assessment  
**VQO:** Visual quality objective  
**WHA:** Wildlife Habitat Area  
**WTP:** Wildlife Tree Patch  
**WTRA:** Wildlife Tree Retention Area

### 3 REFERENCES

The following acts, regulations and higher level plan documents are relevant to FSPs and are specifically referenced in this FSP:

Forest Act

[http://www.bclaws.ca/EPLibraries/bclaws\\_new/document/ID/freeside/96157\\_00](http://www.bclaws.ca/EPLibraries/bclaws_new/document/ID/freeside/96157_00)

Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA)

[http://www.bclaws.ca/Recon/document/ID/freeside/00\\_02069\\_01](http://www.bclaws.ca/Recon/document/ID/freeside/00_02069_01)

Forest Planning and Practices Regulation (FPPR)

[http://www.bclaws.ca/Recon/document/ID/freeside/14\\_2004](http://www.bclaws.ca/Recon/document/ID/freeside/14_2004)

Forest Recreation Regulation (FRR)

[http://www.bclaws.ca/Recon/document/ID/freeside/16\\_2004](http://www.bclaws.ca/Recon/document/ID/freeside/16_2004)

Government Actions Regulation (GAR)

[http://www.bclaws.ca/Recon/document/ID/freeside/582\\_2004](http://www.bclaws.ca/Recon/document/ID/freeside/582_2004)

Kootenay Boundary Higher Level Plan Order (KBHLPO)

<https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/tasb/slrp/plan50.html>

## 4 APPLICATION OF THIS FSP

### 4.1 Term of the FSP

The term of this FSP is five years, commencing from the date of approval by the Delegated Decision Maker (DDM) for the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (MFLNRORD), or another date as specified by the DDM. The existing FSP expires on August 12, 2019.

### 4.2 Forest Development Units (FDUs) and Rationale

The existing FDUs (Table 1) at time of submission were defined by existing chart areas where KDCFS was permitted to operate under the Community Forest Agreement K3C.

**Table 1: Existing FDUs**

FDU Name	Geographical area
Cooper Creek	Landscape Unit K26
Davis Creek	Landscape Unit K26
Lost Ledge	Landscape Unit K26
Shutty Bench	Landscape Unit K12
McDonald Creek	Landscape Unit K12
Kaslo	Landscape Unit K12
Keen Creek	Landscape Unit K12
Kemp Creek	Landscape Unit K12
Bjerkness Creek	Landscape Unit K12
Fletcher Creek	Landscape Unit K12

Figure 1 contains a FDU map that shows one FDU has been created to cover all of the KDCFS operating (Chart) areas as well as some adjacent area. The area outside of KDCFS's operating area was included to avoid FSP amendments made to allow road access, licensee operating area switches and other logistical measures.

Where KDCFS is going to propose forest development within another licensee's operating area, consultations with the other licensee will establish a mutually acceptable agreement.



Appendix 1 contains maps identifying features required by the FPPR Section 14. Cutting Permits and Road Permits in effect are found in Appendix 3 and can also be viewed in iMapBC following the instructions below:

iMapBC link: <http://maps.gov.bc.ca/ess/sv/imapbc/>

Instructions to add cut block and road permit roads:

- Once in iMapBC, zoom to area of interest.
- Click on Zoom in and draw a box in area of interest
- Click on the *Map & Data Sources* tab
- Click *Add Provincial Layers*
- To the left of *Licenses and Permits*, hit the 'plus' sign to expand that category
- Check the boxes beside *Forest Cut Blocks* and *Forest Road Segments*
- Click *Apply*, then *OK*
- If layers do not appear, you may have to zoom in more

### **4.3 Collaboration within Shared Management Units**

Where KDCFS is operating within the same management unit as other Forest License or Agreement holders it is recognized that there is the potential for cumulative impact and that consistency of results and strategies are considered to ensure that objectives set by government will be achieved. These values include fisheries sensitive watersheds, community watersheds, old and mature forest, and ungulate winter ranges. The strategy to accomplish this will be through providing planning information, collaborate and coordinate with each License or Agreement holder.

### **4.4 Public Review and Comment Period**

Legal reference: Forest Planning and Practices Regulation sections 20, 21, and 22

The general public will be made aware the Forest Stewardship Plan is available for review and comment through notices placed in local newspapers and through referral notices that were emailed or mailed out to First Nations and potentially affected stakeholders.

The Forest Stewardship Plan will be made available for public review and comment on our website, through open houses and meetings arranged with any stakeholders if requested.

### **4.5 Public and Stakeholder Comments**

Summaries of the referrals sent, comments received and other communications cannot be completed until after the public consultation process and will be incorporated in the final version of the document.

## 4.6 Operating Plans

A FSP is a landscape level plan that indicates how KDCFS will be consistent with government objectives for managing and protecting forest and range values through the results, strategies and measures proposed in the plan. FSPs generally do not show forest development at an operational level (ie roads and cutblocks) as this is not a legal part of the FSP. This operational level consultation is carried out by the KDCFS to be consistent with the results, strategies and measures committed to within the FSP.

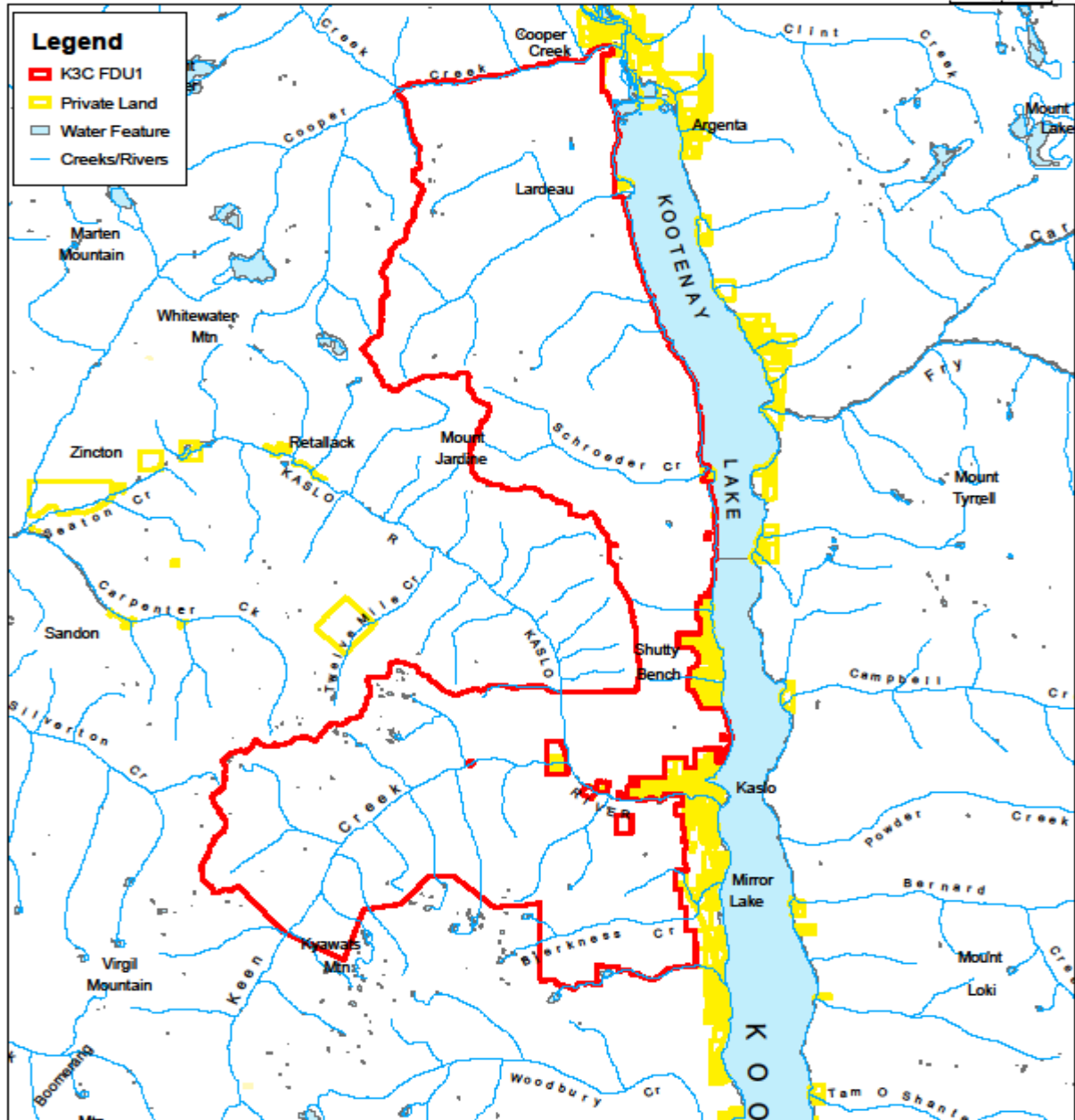
KDCFS is committed to working with First Nations, stakeholders and the public and will refer all forest development operating plans with potentially affected parties for a chance to review and comment. At least thirty days before conducting primary forest activities, operating plans will be referred to First Nations, stakeholders and made available to the public at open house meetings, on the KDCFS website and by meetings arranged with KDCFS management. All written comments received by KDCFS regarding operating plans and resource management are responded to in writing within ten days. Comments and concerns will be incorporated into operating plans to the extent practicable.

The KDCFS website is used to inform the public and stakeholders on a wide array of topics related to community forest and operations, including:

- Monthly Board meetings
- Community forest projects
- Forest development maps
- Field tours
- Open house meetings
- Locations of active operations
- Road and trail closures
- FSP and member information
- Downloadable geo-referenced Operating Area overview maps
- Forestry related news

# K3C FDU 1 OVERVIEW MAP

Scale: 1:200,000  
UTM 11 Nad 83  
Magnetic Declination 15 E  
0 2000 4000  
Meters



April 16, 2019 Project: K3C\_overview8.5X11.mxd

Map produced by Dave Collier, UPWEST GEOMATICS Kaslo, BC

Figure 1. K3C FDU overview map

## 5 RESULTS AND STRATEGIES OBJECTIVES SET BY GOVERNMENT

### 5.1 Land Use Objectives

The area under this Forest Stewardship Plan is within the scope of the Kootenay Boundary Higher Level Plan Order effective October 26, 2002 and all approved variances to it. Where there is a conflict between the Kootenay Boundary Higher Level Plan Order and objectives set by Forest and Range Practices Act and its regulations, the Kootenay Boundary Higher Level Plan Order objectives and strategies will prevail to the extent of the discrepancy.

#### 5.1.1 Biodiversity Emphasis

**Legal Reference:** KBHLPO Objective 1

**Objective:** To contribute to the conservation of biodiversity, through the assignment of biodiversity emphasis to each landscape unit.

**Results and Strategies:** KDCFS will undertake to comply with Objective 1 of Kootenay Boundary Higher Level Planning Order (KBHLPO).

#### 5.1.2 Old and Mature Forest

**Legal Reference:** KBHLPO Objective 2

**Objective:** To maintain mature and old forests to levels indicated in the Kootenay Boundary Higher Level Plan. The requirements of Objective 2 of the KBHLPO for old forest are considered to be fulfilled and managed with non-legal spatialized Old Growth Management Areas (OGMAs).

**Results and Strategies:**

KDCFS will undertake to comply with Objective 2 of the Kootenay Boundary Higher Level Plan Order and the following additional strategies.

It is the responsibility of KDCFS to determine existing seral stage distribution and levels of Old plus Mature Forest in which Landscape Unit they operate. KDCFS is a subscriber to the Higher Level Plan Objectives Reporting Suite application that allows users to produce reports reflecting the rules embodied in the Kootenay Boundary Higher Level Plan Order for meeting Old plus Mature Forest requirements. GeoData BC provides source planning data for the application; the reporting suite application models the source data and produces summary tables the licence holder will use to determine existing seral stage distribution and levels of Old plus Mature Forest.

KDCFS will utilize the most current BCGW OGMA layer, as amended by MFLNRORD from time to time, to ensure sufficient levels of mature and old forests are maintained. Over time KDCFS has harvested minor amounts of timber within an OGMA. These areas have been replaced spatially and the updated GIS layer submitted to MFLNRORD. If any future amendments to the OGMA layer occur, they will be tracked

spatially in a GIS layer, which will be sent to MFLNRORD by March 31<sup>st</sup> of the same year. If these modifications occur within shared landscape units, KDCFS will share these changes with the relevant licensees to ensure that LU targets are met.

The Old Growth Management Strategy allows the license holder to manage the Old Forest distribution based on current information. Alterations to the boundaries of established OGMA's can be implemented as long as the alteration is replaced by a commensurable area with similar forest attributes, or where a Qualified Registered Professional determines that a forest stand has sufficient biological value to be an Old Forest. Reasons for amending an OGMA boundary include:

- a. To address safety hazards associated with primary forest activities;
- b. The OGMA has been rendered ineffective due to damaging agents;
- c. To provide road access where no alternative practicable option for road location exists;
- d. To improve conservation of old growth values;
- e. To facilitate timber harvesting that will result in operationally practicable cutblock boundaries;
- f. To enhance or maintain an interpretive forest site, recreation site, recreation facility or recreation trail;
- g. To improve the overall spatial distribution of OGMA across the landscape

When amending OGMA's, replacement area will be identified at the development planning stage. Replacement areas that provide equal or greater ecological value in consideration of factors outlined in KBHLPO Objective 2 Footnote 'k' (see Appendix 4) will be chosen. Old Growth Management Area modifications will be assessed by a QRP, with a written rationale and an accompanying map detailing the modification, kept on file and referenced in the Site Plan. The written rationale will be supported by a field-verified assessment of both the harvest area and replacement area. The QRP will evaluate the stand and landscape level old forest attributes in existing and proposed stands considering the following:

1. Stand level attributes:
  - a. Stand age
  - b. Stand structure (density of large live trees, snags, CWD – where "large" is defined by ecosystem)
  - c. Lack of human disturbance
2. Landscape level attributes:
  - a. Patch size
  - b. Amount/proportion of patch that provides interior habitat (note that the smallest patch with "interior habitat" is a round polyon with an area of 3.14ha)

c. Connectivity

d. Rarity and Ecosystem Representation (site series or unusual structure)

The QRP will also focus on other important values such as wildlife habitat, rare ecosystems, recreation, First Nations cultural values and cultural values of communities within the Kootenays. In addition, there is a preference to locate replacement OGMA's where harvesting constraints provide the best long term potential for stands to develop old forest attributes associated with advanced age.

### 5.1.3 Caribou

**Legal Reference:** KBHLPO Objective 3 (replaced by variance Order KBHLP-04) and the addition of Variance 6, GAR's 9(2) and 12(1)

**Objective:** To retain seasonal habitats for Mountain Caribou in order to contribute to maintaining viability of the existing subpopulations according to forest cover requirements in the Kootenay Boundary Higher Level Plan.

**Results and Strategies:**

KBHLPO Objective 3 was cancelled and replaced with GAR order – Ungulate Winter Range #U-4-012 Mountain Caribou – Southwest Kootenay Planning Unit, under the authority of GAR section 9(2) and 12(1) February 12, 2009. Order Ungulate Winter Range #U-4-012 was subsequently replaced December 9, 2009.

The KDCFS FDU area is fully outside of identified caribou habitat areas as defined in UWR #U-4-012.

### 5.1.4 Green Up

**Legal Reference:** KBHLPO Objective 4

**Objective:** To establish green-up heights.

**Reference:** Section 5.2.8 of this document.

**Results and Strategies:**

KDCFS will undertake to comply with Objective 4 of KBHLPO.

### 5.1.5 Grizzly Bear Habitat and Connectivity Corridor

**Legal Reference:** KBHLPO – Objective 5

**Objective:** To maintain mature and/or old forests adjacent to important grizzly bear habitat and within connectivity.

**Results and Strategies:**

KDCFS will undertake to comply with Objective 5 of the KBHLPO.

### **5.1.6 Consumptive Use Streams**

**Legal reference:** KBHLPO Objective 6, FPPR Sec. 59 and Sec. 60

**Objective:** To reduce the impacts of forest development on streams licensed for human consumption.

**Results and Strategies:**

1. KDCFS will undertake to comply with Objective 6 of the KBHLPO. Additionally, at the planning and design stage for timber harvesting and road construction:

- a. A referral letter or email will be sent to each licensed water user, or a designated group representative, which will include a description of planned activities with an opportunity to provide comments and feedback. A field tour will also be arranged at the request of the water user.
- b. Measures for protecting the stream will be incorporated into the Site Plan and Logging Plans where consumptive use streams may be impacted. These measures will be from a QRP.
- c. Harvesting will not take place within 20m of a known consumptive use stream except for road or skid trail construction.

2. Excavated or bladed trails within the RMZ or within 50m on slopes > 50% of consumptive use streams will be rehabilitated post-harvest. Exposed mineral soil from rehabilitated trails and landings will be grass seeded and planted with trees. Exposed soil on cut and fill slopes of new roads will be grass seeded within 12 months of soil exposure. Grass seeding will utilize a high quality mix, such as Canada Common #1 Forage Mix or better grade, to ensure the introduction of invasive species is minimized.

### **5.1.7 Enhanced Resource Development Zones (ERDZ)**

**Legal Reference:** KBHLPO – Objective 7; FPPR sections 65(3)(a) and 65(3)(b)(ii)

**Objective:** To support forest management for the purpose of increasing volumes of merchantable timber and to reduce industry costs while maintaining adequate environmental stewardship.

**Results and Strategies:**

KDCFS will undertake to comply with Objective 7 of the KBHLPO.

### **5.1.8 Fire Maintained Ecosystems**

**Legal Reference:** KBHLPO – Objective 8

**Objective:** To restore and maintain the ecological integrity of fire-maintained ecosystem components in Natural Disturbance Type (NDT) 4.

**Results and Strategies:**

The map has not been established for this objective and therefore the fire maintained ecosystem objective is not in effect.

### **5.1.9 Visuals**

**Legal Reference:** KBHLPO – Objective 9, GAR Sec. 7(2)

**Objective:** To conserve the quality of views from communities, major waterways, and major highways by establishing areas known as scenic areas.

**Results and Strategies:**

See Section 5.2.10 of this document.

## **5.2 Objectives prescribed under FRPA sec. 149(1)**

### **5.2.1 Soils**

**Legal reference:** FPPR Sec.5, Sec.12.1(1)

**Objective:** The objective set by government for soils is, without unduly reducing the supply of timber from British Columbia's forests, to conserve the productivity and hydrologic function of soils.

**Results and Strategies:**

KDCFS will undertake to comply with Forest Planning and Practices Regulation section 35 and 36.

### **5.2.2 Timber**

**Legal reference:** FPPR Sec.6

**Objective:** To maintain or enhance an economically valuable supply of commercial timber while ensuring that delivered wood is competitive in relation to equivalent costs in relation to regulated primary forest activities in other jurisdictions.



### **Results and Strategies:**

KDCFS is exempt from the requirement to prepare results and strategies for an objective set by government for timber in accordance with FPPR Sec. 12(8). Information on provincial objectives for timber management can be found in the document entitled: *Provincial Timber Management Goals and Objectives* accessible from the following website address:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/managing-our-forest-resources/silviculture/timber-management-goals>

### **5.2.3 Wildlife**

**Legal reference:** FPPR Section 7 and GAR's 9-13

**Objective:** The objective set by government for wildlife is, without unduly reducing the supply of timber from British Columbia's forests, to conserve sufficient wildlife habitat in terms of amounts of area, distribution of areas and attributes of those areas, for the survival of species at risk, the survival of regionally important wildlife, and the survival of specified ungulate species.

### **Results and Strategies:**

In accordance with FPPR Section 7(3) KDCFS is exempt from the obligation to prepare results and strategies in relation to the objectives set by government for wildlife in FPPR Section 7(1) if the objective is addressed by objectives in relation to Wildlife Habitat Areas (WHAs), Ungulate Winter Ranges (UWRs), General Wildlife Measures (GWMs) or Wildlife Habitat Features. If KDCFS identifies an occurrence of species at risk outside its normal range, the findings will be forwarded to the Ministry of Environment, the Conservation Data Center and plans will be developed in consultation with a wildlife technician, biologist or qualified registered professional to protect the specie(s).

The only outstanding Section 7 notice that falls within KDCFS's FDU is for the Coeur d'Alene Salamander. If Coeur d'Alene Salamander habitat attributes, as described in the Section 7 notice, are found within the FDU, KDCFS will notify the Rare and Endangered Species Biologist for the Kootenay Boundary Region within one month of the finding.

### **5.2.4 Species at Risk, Regionally Important Wildlife, Ungulate Winter Range, Wildlife Habitat Areas and Wildlife Habitat Features**

**Legal Reference:** KBHLPO Objectives 3 & 5, FPPR Sec.7 and GAR Sec.9 to Sec.13

Notices given under FPPR Section 7(2) specify the amount, distribution and attributes of wildlife habitat required for identified species at risk (SAR), regionally important wildlife and ungulate species. Orders under the GAR Sections 9 to 13 establish WHAs, UWRs and WHFs and specify GWMs for specific species. In many cases the newer GAR orders establishing WHAs and GWMs have addressed and replaced the requirements of earlier FPPR Section 7(2) notices.

Section 7(2) Notices and GAR Orders in effect and applicable to the FDU of this FSP are listed in Appendix 2 of this FSP, including links to the individual orders and boundary maps, where applicable.

The locations of established UWRs are shown on the FDU map of this FSP and on the maps accompanying the respective GAR orders (links in Appendix 2). As of the commencement date of this FSP, no WHAs have been established within any portions of the FDU of this FSP.

In addition to the SAR identified in the above Section 7(2) Notice, KDCFS utilizes the Ministry of Environment B.C. Conservation Data Centre (CDC) database to assist with the identification of, and management strategies for, species designated as Red Listed (at risk of being lost - extirpated, endangered or threatened) or Blue Listed (of special concern):

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/plants-animals-ecosystems/conservation-data-centre>

GAR Orders establishing UWRs and specifying General Wildlife Measures relevant to this FSP are: U-4-001 - for Elk, Mule Deer, White-tailed Deer and Moose and U-4-014 - for Mountain Caribou (see Appendix 2).

### **Results and Strategies:**

1. As a result, KDCFS will construct a road or enter into an agreement that authorizes timber harvesting or road construction only where it is consistent with the requirements of the applicable Notices under FPPR Section 7(2) and Orders under the GAR Sections 9 to 13.

2. With regard to SAR, UWRs, WHAs and WHFs, KDCFS specifies the following additional strategies:

a. At the timber harvesting and road construction planning stage an overview assessment will be completed by a QRP which identifies the Notices related to SAR and the Orders related to UWRs and WHAs that are relevant to the proposed forest development

b. Site plans and/or associated document prepared by a QRP for each cutblock will describe how timber harvesting and road construction are consistent with the requirements of the Notices and Orders identified above;

c. Contractors who conduct forest development planning and layout activities will be trained in SAR awareness, including species identification, habitat attributes, best management practices and reporting;

d. Contractors who conduct primary forest activities will be trained in SAR awareness, and/or be provided with information regarding species identification and notification requirements. The training will take place prior to commencement of primary forest activities and will be documented in a training record.

e. Where a SAR is identified in relation to planned or active forest development activities, KDCFS will report the observed occurrence through the B.C. Conservation Data Centre (CDC) and undertake one or more of the following options:

- i) Follow existing management strategies and measures<sup>1</sup>;
- ii) Include the area in a WTRA, RRZ or other reserve area; and/or

- iii) Refer the area to a QRP for a professional assessment and implement the resulting recommendations;

f. Where a SAR is identified in relation to active primary forest activities KDCFS will cease or modify operations to the extent necessary to protect the SAR and associated habitat and undertake one or more of the options described in strategy 2e

<sup>1</sup> For the purpose of this section, 'existing management strategies and measures' are those identified in guidance documents such as: the Ministry of Environment's 'Accounts and Measures for Managing Identified Wildlife' guide (<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wld/frpa/iwms/accounts.html#second>) and/or existing reports prepared by QRPs.

### 5.2.5 Water, Fish, Wildlife and Biodiversity within Riparian Areas

**Legal reference:** FPPR Section 8, 12, 47-52, 55-58

Section 53 of the FPPR applies to designated Temperature Sensitive Streams. There are no designated Temperature Sensitive Streams in the FDU area at time of the commencement of this FSP.

**Objective:** The objective set by government for water, fish, wildlife and biodiversity within riparian areas is, without unduly reducing the supply of timber from British Columbia's forests, to conserve, at the landscape level, the water quality, fish habitat, wildlife habitat and biodiversity associated with those riparian areas.

**Results and Strategies:**

KDCFS will undertake to comply with FPPR Section 8, 12, 47-52, and 55-58 and the following:

1. When planning and designing primary forest activities in or adjacent to a Riparian Management Zone of a classifiable stream, a QRP will complete a Riparian Assessment report to support the Site Plan and will inform riparian retention levels in the prescription. The location and tree selection for the retention within a RMZ will be determined on a site specific basis by a QRP considering local conditions including:

- Wind firmness
- Insect infestations
- Wildlife habitat
- Large wood debris contribution to the stream
- Stream bank stability of trees
- Erosion potential
- Soil stability
- Landscape level requirements for wildlife tree retention
- Visual quality
- Shade requirements for streams
- Timber objectives and operational constraints

2. At the completion of harvesting, tree retention levels in RMZs within a cutblock, as prescribed by a QRP in a Site Plan or associated document, will:

- a. Be as specified in the table below. The exception will be on S6 streams in cable ground, where the minimum retention will be 0% of the basal area;
- b. Where trees are retained, be of the number, distribution, species, size(s) and characteristics as specified by the QRP;
- c. Where trees are retained, be either regularly or irregularly distributed as single trees or groups of trees.

Riparian Class	Minimum Retention within the Riparian Management Zone (RMZ)
S1-A, S1-B, S2, S3, S4	20-100% of the basal area (>12.5 cm DBH)
S5, S6	10-100% of the basal area (>12.5 cm DBH)
All classes of wetland and lakes	10-100%

- 3. For streams, wetlands or lakes that have a riparian reserve zone (RRZ), the RMZ will maintain the integrity of the RRZ by protecting important wildlife and biodiversity values in the RMZ and reducing the windthrow hazard.
- 4. For streams, wetlands or lakes with a RMZ and no RRZ, the RMZ will protect the integrity of the riparian area. This will be done through the protection of important values of water quality, wildlife habitat, fish habitat and stream bank and channel stability.
- 5. To maintain stream bank and stream channel integrity on all streams that do not have a riparian reserve zone, a minimum of 5 meter machine-free zone (MFZ) will be established along both sides of streams within harvest areas where ground-based equipment will operate.
- 6. Non-merch vegetation will be retained within 10m either side of channel, unless it presents a safety concern, in order to provide biodiversity and wildlife habitat.
- 7. When conducting timber harvesting the fall and yard/skid direction will be away from streams, wetlands and lakes, or parallel to streams, unless a safety concern prevents otherwise or is not operationally feasible.
- 8. Primary forest activities will minimize new coarse woody debris and sediment inputs into streams to the extent practicable. An assessment by a QRP will be conducted following primary forest activities and if the introduced slash may negatively impact wildlife habitat or stream flow, the slash will be removed where operationally feasible.

### 5.2.6 Water in Community Watersheds

**Legal reference:** FPPR Section 8(2), 59-63, and 84

**Information:** A community watershed is a watershed grandfathered into FRPA or established under FRPA because government has decided that special forest management is required in the watersheds to

protect water used for drinking. The principal management objective is to maintain the integrity of the watershed by protecting water quality for the long term.

**Objective:** The objective set by government for water being diverted for human consumption through a licensed waterworks in a community watershed is to prevent the cumulative hydrological effects of primary forest activities within the community watershed from resulting in a material adverse impact on the quantity of water or the timing of flow of the water from the waterworks, or the water from the waterworks having a material adverse impact on human health that cannot be addressed by water treatment required under an enactment, or the license pertaining to the waterworks.

The table below lists the community watersheds within the KDCFS operating area:

Community Watershed	Landscape Unit
Bjerkness	K12
Brooks	K12
Davis	K26
Fletcher	K12
Kemp	K12
McDonald	K12

**Results and Strategies:**

KDCFS will undertake to comply with FPPR sec. 59-63 and the following:

1. At least 60 days prior to carrying out or authorizing primary forest activities within an established community watershed, KDCFS will initiate a 30 day referral period for the proposed area of operations. The watershed committee will also be invited to a face to face meeting. KDCFS will address written concerns of stakeholders and the public in writing within 10 days.
1. Prior to constructing road or timber harvesting, a Hydrologist will assess the risk of those activities, including consideration of cumulative effects, causing:
  - a. Material that is known to be harmful to human health to be deposited in or transported to water diverted for human consumption by a licensed waterworks;
  - b. An increase in sediment delivery to the intake or causing sediment that is harmful to human health to enter a stream, lake or wetland from which the water is being diverted for human consumption;
  - c. Adverse impacts to water quantity and timing of flow.
2. If risk is low based on a Hydrologist review of the relevant and specific hydrologic information, the commitments below are not required.
3. If the risk is moderate or high based on the same information above, KDCFS will:
  - a. Before the commencement of harvesting or road construction, ensure that a ‘hydrologic

assessment'<sup>1</sup> is carried out by a QRP;

- b. Evaluate and incorporate recommendations from QRP into harvest/site plans which are established for all roads and cutblocks;
  - c. While conducting primary harvesting activities, a QRP will monitor, including documentation and inspection forms, to ensure that the works are conducted in accordance with the hydrologic assessment recommendations.
4. Results of Hydrologic Assessment will be shared with water user groups upon request.
  5. At least 48 hours before the commencement of any road construction or deactivation in a community watershed, KDCFS will provide written notification to the water licensee.
1. *For the purposes of this section, 'hydrologic assessment' is defined as an analysis, conducted by a QRP, of existing and/or potential forest and resource related development on water and water-related resources conducted at the site or watershed level which will include on or more of the following:*
    - *Overview of the watershed*
    - *A watershed snapshot or report card (a GIS analysis)*
    - *Hydrologic risks of proposed development*
    - *Review of cumulative effects of past and proposed activities*
    - *Specific recommendations for hazard mitigation*
    - *Drainage plan for roads and other related development*

## 5.2.7 Fish Habitat in Fisheries Sensitive Watersheds

**Legal reference:** FPPR Section 8.1

**Objective:** To conserve, at the landscape level, the water quality, fish habitat, and biodiversity associated with those riparian areas, without unduly reducing the supply of timber.

**Results and Strategies:**

There are no fisheries sensitive watersheds within KDCFS Forest Development Unit so the objective is not applicable.

## 5.2.8 Wildlife and Biodiversity – Landscape Level

**Legal reference:** FPPR Section 9

**Objective:** The objective set by government for wildlife and biodiversity at the landscape level is, without unduly reducing the supply of timber from British Columbia's forests and to the extent practicable, to design areas on which timber harvesting is to be carried out that resemble, both spatially and temporally, the patterns of natural disturbance that occur within the landscape.

**Results and Strategies:**

KDCFS will undertake to comply with sections 64 and 65 of the FPPR, except the 3m minimum height will be changed to 2.5m in sections 65(3)(a) and 65(3)(b)(ii). This reduction of minimum height will not be applied for areas within Community Watersheds, visually sensitive areas, ERDZs and fire maintained ecosystems.

**5.2.9 Wildlife and Biodiversity – Stand Level**

**Legal reference:** FPPR Section 9.1

**Objective:** The objective set by government for wildlife and biodiversity at the stand level is, without unduly reducing the supply of timber from British Columbia’s forests, to retain wildlife trees.

**Results and Strategies:**

In relation to the objectives set by government for wildlife and biodiversity at the stand level set out in section 9.1 of the FPPR, the intended results for the KDCFS are:

1. At the planning stage for timber harvesting, a QRP will establish Wildlife Tree Retention Area’s (WTRA’s). These WTRA’s will be mapped and the attributes documented in the Site Plan.
2. An area equivalent to a minimum of 7% of total cutblock area will be retained in WTRA’s using the following strategies:
  - a. The minimum area in WTRA’s will be calculated at the cutting permit level;
  - b. Areas of individual trees and clumps or patches of dispersed retention which are less than 0.25ha in size can be used to contribute to the required WTRA on the basis of the total basal area of the trees divided by the average basal area/ha of the stand;
  - c. The minimum area retained in each cutblock that contributes towards the WTRA requirements will be 3.5% of the total cutblock area.
3. Timber within a WTRA will not be harvested except for one or more of the following reasons:
  - a. To facilitate harvesting – for tail holds, guy line tiebacks, designated skid trails or yarding corridors;
  - b. For road construction where no other practicable option exists, or where another option would result in a greater risk to one or more FRPA values;
  - c. To address safety hazards;
  - d. Where timber is damaged as a result of wind, fire or forest health factors and, in the opinion of a QRP, the WTRA is rendered ineffective<sup>1</sup>
4. If timber is harvested in a WTRA, an alternate area of equivalent<sup>2</sup> size and similar wildlife attributes will be located within or adjacent to the block. The replacement area will be identified at

the development stage by a QRP, and will be rationalized and documented in the Site Plan. RESULTS will be updated within 60 days of WTRA amendment.

<sup>1</sup>For the purposes of this section, 'rendered ineffective' means, in the opinion of a QRP, as documented in a Site Plan or Support Document, damaged to a degree that the WTRA no longer has attributes consistent with a mature or old seral condition and considering the original intent of the WTRA (if known).

<sup>2</sup>For the purposes of this section, 'equivalent' means equal or greater in area and having similar or better habitat values, including attributes consistent with a mature or old seral condition and/or other high value wildlife tree patch attributes (e.g. undisturbed, signs of wildlife use, cavities, brooms, large trees/vets, snags, coarse woody debris, uncommon tree/vegetation species or stand characteristics, or unique features - raptor nests, caves, riparian, etc) where present.

### 5.2.10 Visual Quality

**Legal Reference:** FPPR Section 9.2, GAR Section 7(2)

**Objective:** To preserve VQOs established by Section 7(2) GAR order without unduly reducing the supply of timber from British Columbia's forests.

The objective set by government for visual quality in FPPR Section 9.2 establishes default objectives for visual quality in Scenic Areas where Visual Quality Objectives (VQOs) have not otherwise been legally established. Because VQOs have been legally established within KDCFSs FDU, FPPR Section 9.2 does not apply. With regard to KBHLPO Objective 9, where Scenic Areas or VQOs are established by Section 7 GAR Orders or other legal orders, these cancel and replace those established previously by the KBHLPO. Therefore, Objective 9 of the KBHLPO also does not apply.

#### **Results and Strategies:**

KDCFS will undertake to comply with GAR Order 7(2). Visual Quality Objectives will be achieved through road and cut block design and retention patches. KDCFS will complete a Visual Impact Assessment for planned development within a Scenic Area which will assess whether the proposed activities will achieve established VQO's, using the categories of visually altered forest landscape as defined in FPPR Section 1.1 and utilizing guidance from the Visual Impact Assessment Guidebook (2<sup>nd</sup>. Ed., January 2001). As a result, completed road construction and/or timber harvesting will achieve the VQO established for the area.

### 5.2.11 Cultural Heritage Resources

**Legal Reference:** FRPA Sec. 10, FPPR Schedule 1(4)

**Objective:** To conserve, or, if necessary, protect cultural heritage resources that are the focus of a traditional use by an aboriginal people that is of continuing importance to that people, and not regulated under the Heritage Conservation Act.



### **Results and Strategies:**

KDCFS is committed to continual information sharing and will refer all forest development plans with the appropriate First Nations. A written notification with a description of planned activities, along with a map, kml, and shape file showing the location of planned forest development, will be referred to the First Nations as indicated in the Consultative Areas Database (CAD). This referral will provide a minimum 30 day timeframe for First Nations groups to respond. KDCFS will respond in writing within 10 days of receiving comments/information. The objective of this notice is to provide First Nations with an opportunity to identify areas of concerns to ensure that concerns are addressed to the extent practicable prior to development of an area of crown land allocated for KDCFS's forest development activities. An invitation for a face to face meeting will be extended to discuss any concerns or to facilitate information exchange. KDCFS will document and keep on record any cultural heritage resource information provided by the First Nations, which will include how planned activities will or will not accommodate identified heritage resources. Any cultural heritage resource information received will be kept confidential unless otherwise requested by the First Nation.

If any evidence of cultural heritage resources is observed, becomes known, or is brought to the attention of KDCFS, the appropriate archaeological / heritage authority and First Nations, if appropriate, will be consulted. Should a cultural heritage resource become known, KDCFS commits to conducting an assessment of the development's impact on that particular cultural heritage resource consistent with the factors outlined in FPPR Schedule 1(4). If the assessment determines that it is necessary, KDCFS will alter the design and/or prescription of the cutblock and/or road to conserve, mitigate, or if necessary protect, the cultural heritage resource and communicate the outcome of the assessment with any First Nation whose culture heritage resource may be affected.

The current Archeology Overview Assessment model illustrates polygons with moderate, moderate-high and high potential within the FDU. These potentially archaeological sensitive polygons will be assessed by a QRP with an Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA), Preliminary Field Reconnaissance (PFR) or another archaeological assessment method. The recommendations of these assessments will be incorporated in Harvest / Site Plans.

It is understood that there is always a limited possibility that unknown archaeological sites exist in the FDU. The Heritage Conservation Act protects both known and unknown archaeological sites. If an archaeological site is encountered during operations, activities will be halted immediately, and attempts will be made within 5 business days to contact the appropriate archaeological / heritage authority and First Nations, if appropriate.

KDCFS respects all of the First Nation's Aboriginal Interests equally, and will work towards fostering productive long-term relationships.

### **5.2.12 Recreation Resources**

**Legal Reference:** FRPA Sec. 56, Sec. 180 and Sec. 181, FPPR Sec. 70(1), FRR Sec. 16

The Minister may establish an area as an interpretive forest site, a recreation site or a recreation trail and establish objectives for these. In addition, every area established or continued as an interpretive forest site, a recreation site or a recreation trail under the FPC is continued under FRPA, including

objectives for these. The following is a list of the recreation sites and trails established by government within or directly adjacent to the FDU of this FSP. These are also shown on the FDU map of this FSP.

Buchanan Lookout	Davis Creek Trail	Kaslo Interpretive Forest	Kaslo Horse Trail	Fletcher Creek Falls
Kaslo River Trailway	Milford Lake	Kaslo River Trails	Fletcher Lake	

**Results and Strategies:**

Where KDCFS constructs a road or conducts timber harvesting in an area where these activities may affect an interpretive forest site, a recreation site or a recreation trail, the following result (#1) and strategies (#2 to #7) are specified:

1. Road construction, timber harvesting and related activities will be consistent with any objective established for the interpretive forest site, recreation site or recreation trail.
2. Timber harvesting and road construction activities will proceed only with the authorization of a Recreation Officer.
3. Where an agreement or tenure exists with respect to a site or trail, at the planning and design stage for timber harvesting and road construction or deactivation, KDCFS will provide a referral to the agreement holder, describing the planned activities and allowing a reasonable opportunity for review and comment.
4. If KDCFS carries out primary forest activities within the area of a recreation site or trail that has an established objective that includes a reference to ‘motorized’ or ‘non-motorized’ use, this reference does not apply to industrial access or use of machinery for primary forest activities.
5. If KDCFS carries out primary forest activities within the area of a recreation site or trail that is intended as, or has an established objective that includes, ‘non-motorized’ access and new road construction provides motorized access, the road will to be deactivated and/or rehabilitated within one year following completion of primary forest activities, to a condition which re-establishes the degree of access to that which existed prior to the activities.
6. Unless otherwise approved or directed by a Recreation Officer, where KDCFS carries out primary forest activities within the area of a recreation site or trail the following measures will be implemented:
  - a. temporary signage will be erected to inform users of the activities;
  - b. activities will take place during periods of low recreational use, where practicable, as determined through consultation with a Recreation Officer and local user groups;
  - c. new roads to access timber will not be constructed across a trail unless there is no other practicable location, or unless another location would result in greater risk to one or more FRPA Values, and in such situations roads will be designed to bisect trails in a perpendicular fashion where practicable;

d. trails will be cleared of debris and have safety hazards removed concurrent with primary forest activities and the 'running surface' of trails will be re-established where damaged as soon as practicable and no later than 12 months following the completion of primary forest activities; and

e. activities adjacent to trails will minimize damage to natural understory vegetation, to the extent *practicable*.

1. For the purposes of this section, 'primary forest activities' means one or more of the following: (a) timber harvesting; (b) mechanical silviculture treatments; (c) road construction and deactivation.

## 6 MEASURES IN RELATION TO INVASIVE PLANTS AND NATURAL RANGE BARRIERS

### 6.1 Measures to Prevent the Introduction or Spread of Invasive Plants

**Legal Reference:** FRPA Sec. 47, FPPR Sec. 17

#### **Measures:**

KDCFS will ensure that staff and contractors who conduct forest development planning and layout activities in the field and primary forest activities will have training in invasive plant awareness, including information regarding species identification, reporting methods and implementation of control measures. Training will take place prior to commencement of forest development and primary forest activities and will be documented in a training record.

Should any of the priority invasive plants identified by the Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society (<https://ckiss.ca/species/invasive-plant-priority-lists/>) be observed outside of known infestation areas, KDCFS will use the Report-A-Weed website to inform the MFLNRORD within 30 days of discovery: <https://bcinvasives.ca/report/>

In an effort to reduce the introduction and spread of invasive plants, at the forest development or site plan stage, KDCFS will refer to the MFLNRORD Invasive Alien Plant Program (IAPP) database <https://bcinvasives.ca/resources/programs/invasive-plant-program-iapp> to identify the locations of known invasive plant infestations. This information will be used to plan activities, whereby, operational plans will be developed and used to communicate with contractors the location of known infestations. Where there are known infestations within 200m of development areas the following best management practices will be utilized and outlined in operational plans (ie Harvest Plans and Site Plans) to reduce the risk of creating new or spreading existing infestations:

- If feasible, avoid infested areas, otherwise, work non-infested areas first and infested areas last.
- If feasible, work infested areas during conditions of frozen soil or level of snowpack to limit scalping / seedbed creation.
- Contractors will be directed to inspect/clean equipment before moving to a new site with documentation of these activities being kept on file
- Minimize soil disturbance.
- Grass seed exposed mineral soil on new road cut/fill slopes, landings, rehabbed areas and trails

within 12 months of mineral soil exposure, except if the rehabilitated areas are to be revegetated through the planting of trees.

- Establish well-stocked stands of trees that will eventually suppress invasive plants.

**Grass seeding measures:**

- Grass seeding will be done in the spring and or fall when the climatic conditions are best for seed catch.
- Obtain certified grass seed (Canada Common #1 or better) from reputable suppliers to ensure premium quality free of invasive plant seed.
- Germination success will be reviewed the season following the seeding to ensure that the grasses are growing in a minimum of 30% of the seeded area. If <30% of the seeded area has not germinated, the area will be reseeded that season in the spring or fall.

## **6.2 Mitigating the Loss of Natural Range Barriers**

**Legal Reference:** FRPA Sec. 48 and Sec. 51, FPPR Sec. 18

**Measures:**

As of the date of commencement of this FSP there are no range tenures within any portion of the FDU and therefore the requirement to specify measures to mitigate the loss of natural range barriers does not apply. If a range tenure is awarded within the FDU, then the FSP will be amended to deal the appropriate results, strategies and measures.

## **7 Stocking Standards**

**Legal Reference:** FRPA Sec. 29(2), FPPR Sec. 16, Sec. 44 and Sec. 197

KDCFS will follow the requirements of FPPR Sec. 44 and use the established Stocking Standards for the Selkirk District. A copy of these stocking standards in effect at the time of the commencement of this FSP is submitted as an accompanying document. A copy can be obtained by request at: [manager@kaslocommunityforest.org](mailto:manager@kaslocommunityforest.org)

Wildland Urban Interface Stocking Standards are approved in the default standards and are located at: <https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/DKL/external/!publish/DSE Stocking Standards/>

## APPENDIX 1 – Maps

The KDCFS K3C detailed FDU maps have been uploaded to the MFLNRORD FSP Tracking Site in PDF format. They can also be viewed by contacting: [manager@kaslocommunityforest.org](mailto:manager@kaslocommunityforest.org) or on the website <https://kaslocommunityforest.org/>

## APPENDIX 2 - FPPR Section 7(2) Notices and GAR Orders

### 1) Species at Risk Notices – FPPR section 7(2)

NOTICE	Location/ Forest District	Date Notice Given	Species	Exemption from objective (Complete, Partial)	WHA Orders and Notices Providing Exemption
<a href="#">Kootenay Lake</a>	Kootenay Lake	Dec - 2004	Coeur d'Alene Salamander	Partial	<a href="#">Data Sensitive</a>
			Rocky Mountain Tailed-Frog	Complete	<a href="#">Order (PDF 109KB)</a>

### 2) Ungulate Winter Range – GAR Orders

Order	Species (Location)	Approved Objectives / General Wildlife Measures	Approved Boundaries
U-4-001	Elk, Mule Deer, White-tailed Deer and Moose (West Kootenay)	<a href="#">PDF</a> <a href="#">PDF</a> <a href="#">PDF</a> <a href="#">PDF</a>	<a href="#">Boundaries</a>
U-4-014	Mountain Caribou	<a href="#">PDF</a> <a href="#">PDF</a> <a href="#">PDF</a>	<a href="#">Boundaries</a>

3) Wildlife Habitat Features in the Kootenay Boundary Region – GAR Order

ORDER #	Wildlife Habitat Features	Date Order Takes Effect	Order	Field Guide	Field Cards
M213	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) a nest of a Bald Eagle (<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>)</li> <li>(b) a nest of an Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>)</li> <li>(c) a nest of a Flammulated Owl (<i>Psiloscopsjlammeolus</i>)</li> <li>(d) a nest of a Western Screech-Owl <i>macfarlanei</i> subspecies (<i>Megascops kennicottii macfarlanei</i>)</li> <li>(e) a nest of a Great Blue Heron (<i>Ardea herodias</i>)</li> <li>(f) a nest of a Lewis's Woodpecker (<i>Melanerpes lewis</i>)</li> <li>(g) a nest of a Williamson 's Sapsucker (<i>Sphyrapicus thyroideus</i>)</li> <li>(h) an American Badger burrow (<i>Taxidea taxus</i>)</li> <li>(i) a Grizzly Bear den (<i>Ursus arctos</i>)</li> <li>(j) a significant mineral lick</li> <li>(k) a significant wallow</li> <li>(l) a bat hibernaculum</li> <li>(m) a bat nursery roost</li> <li>(n) a hot spring or thermal spring</li> </ul>	July 1, 2018	<a href="#">PDF</a>	<a href="#">PDF</a>	<a href="#">PDF</a>

### APPENDIX 3 – Cutting Permits and Road Permits in Effect

Cutting Permits (CPs)	
Location	CP
Bjerkness	17, 38
Branch 3	29
Branch 7	11, 28
Buchanan	6, 14, 16, 23, 24, 39, 40
Cooper	37, 41
Hwy 31	21
Keen	36
Kemp	10, 18
Milford	13, 26, 27
Nashton	19, 20, 25, 30, 34
Nashville	22, 35

Road Permits (RP)	
Location	RP
Buchanan	R11400
Branch 3	R11512
Kemp Creek	R11834
Branch 7	R12159
Branch 8 (Milford)	R12400
Bjerkness	R17497
Keen / Nashville / Nashton	R17585
Cooper Face	R21222



## APPENDIX 4 – OGMA ATTRIBUTES

Additional information on the attributes listed in subscript k of the Kootenay Boundary Higher Level Plan Order.

<b>Subscript k</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Sources for additional data</b>
Stand age	Age-based definitions are listed in the HLPO and are based on the age of the dominant cohort in a stand, based on tree measurements	HLPO, Biodiversity Guidebook (1995)
Successional status	Describes the stand development status of a forest, including factors such as tree species composition,	LMH 25 (2010) describes both Successional status and Structural stages
Presence of old growth attributes	Old forest attributes are relative to the ecosystem (BEC variant and site series or group of site series). Typical old forest attributes include: many large live trees, snags, CWD; multiple canopy layers (from regen to dominants); canopy gaps; unique or well-developed plant communities.	The size of “large” and density of expected large attributes is described in a series of research projects that were completed in the Kootenay Boundary Region (1999-2006). These use an “index of old growthness approach” approach and are listed in Appendix 1, with “old growth score cards” for use in the field
Size of stand	Larger stands are preferred because they provide more habitat, more interior habitat conditions, and less edge habitat. The minimum legal size of an OGMA is 2 ha, but larger patches are encouraged and the intention is to maintain or increase patch size	The Biodiversity Guidebook provides information on historic patch size
Amount of human impact	Human impacts such as historic (or recent) selective harvesting, roads, trails, linear corridors, etc reduce the value of old forest stands	
Dispersion/connectivity of the stand	Landscape level connectivity allows for the flow of species, genes, and populations. Old forest retention planning should avoid fragmentation and creation of isolated patches.	The Biodiversity Guidebook provides information on landscape connectivity
Rarity of the stand	The range of ecosystems in a geographic area should be included in a network of OGMAs. Rare stands, either for the rarity of the site series or structural stage (e.g., very old forests) are often prioritized in OGMA selection	The Conservation Data Centre’s Ecosystem Explorer provides lists of Ecosystems at Risk; these are currently being reviewed and updated with incorporation of new BEC

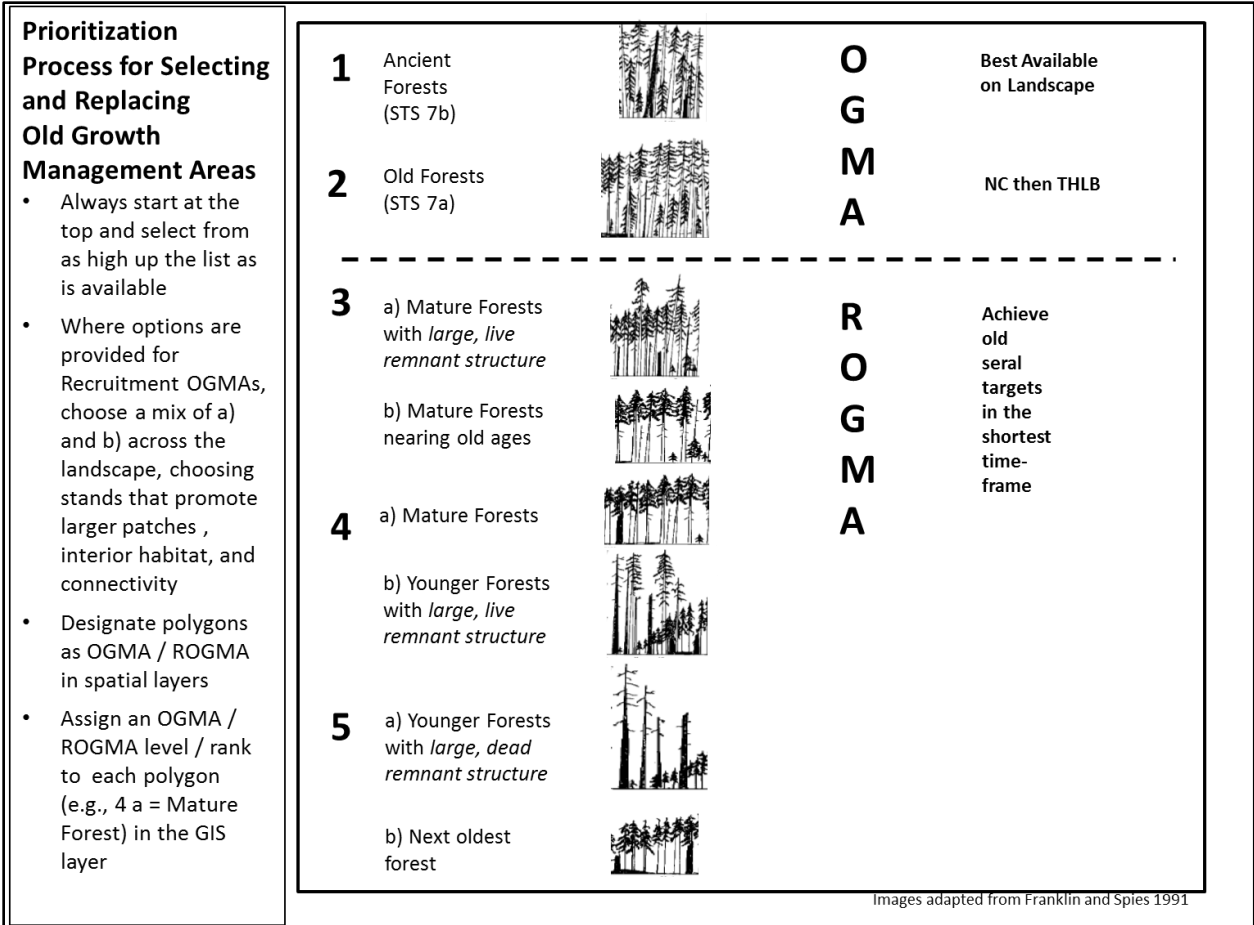


Figure 1. Process for prioritizing and rationalizing the selection of forest stands for old seral forest retention using existing, current policy. OGMA = Old Growth Management Area; ROGMA = Recruitment Old Growth Management Area. STS 7b = Structural Stage 7b (Very Old Forest); STS 7a = (Old Forest), as defined and described in Land Management Handbook 25 (2010).